

### HFIA AGM Field Trip

On Saturday March 26th HFIA members and guests met to enjoy a tour of Siglo Forest at Kapoaula on the Big Island.



Siglo Forest is a 570 acre forest and mill project, situated between Waimea and Ahualoa, with an objective to reforest pastureland back to the original mixed native koa -'ōhi'a forest with an emphasis on silviculture and tree improvement research. The resulting forest will be used for both conservation and commercial harvest over the long term. The site visit was led by HFIA director and Manager of Paniolo Tonewoods Nicholas Koch.



Participants gathered outside one of the large Koa progeny test plots to learn a bit about the project prior to entering.



Nick discussed methodologies used, goals set, success rates, future plans, and current obstacles Siglo Forest faces.



Members and guests discussed their own experiences with outplanting endeavors from seed selection to growth successes to protection from ungulates.



The group enjoyed a bento lunch (Peter with the best seat in the house) out of the rain after visiting the outplanting sites.

Participants L to R: Andie Gill, Peter Simmons, Jana Bryan, Lisa Zhu, Don Bryan, Katie Friday, Nicholas Koch, Heather Simmons, Ron Wolfe, Billie Jean Garcia, Michael Amado, Aspen Billiet

By Aspen Billiet, Membership Outreach