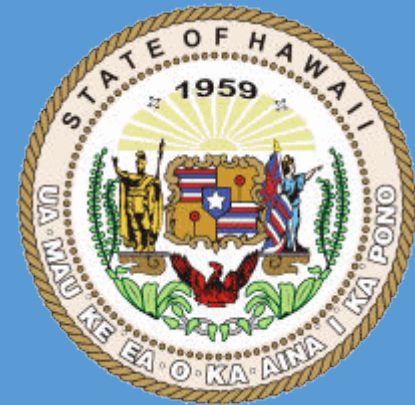


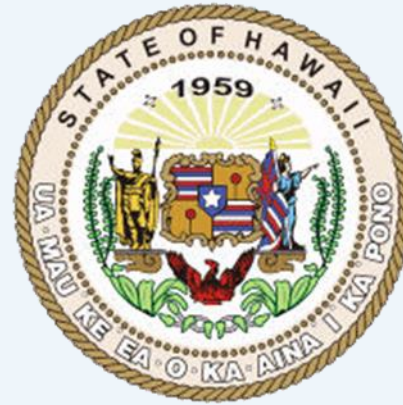
Hawaii Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force Act 015, SLH 2018



Office of Planning
State of Hawaii

Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force

The Hawaii State Legislature in the 29th Legislative Session, 2018, noted that climate change is real and poses a serious threat to the State's economy, sustainability, and natural resources.



It is undisputed that current agriculture, forestry and land use practices contribute to anthropogenic GHG emissions but we have the potential to sequester more than we emit!

The Legislature passed HB 2182, HD 2, SD 2, CD 1, relating to climate change, which was signed into law as **Act 15, SLH 2018**.



Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force

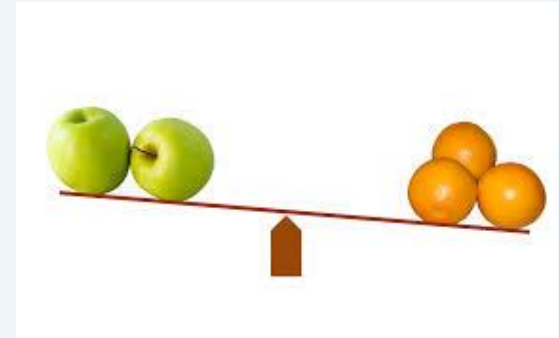
Act 15 created the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force (GHGSTF). The GHGSTF builds off the work of the Carbon Farming Task Force (CFTF), which was created by **Act 33, SLH 2017**.



Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force

Act 15, which created the GHGSTF, vs. **Act 33**, which created the CFTF

- **Act 33** established the CFTF in 2017 to gain a more thorough understanding of how agricultural land management practices can:
 - sequester carbon;
 - provide GHG benefits; and
 - decrease marine sedimentation.



- **Act 15** established the GHGSTF in 2018 with similar aims as the CFTF and repealed the CFTF. Additionally, Act 15:
 - Makes the GHGSTF permanent. (CFTF was to sunset on June 30, 2025, per **Act 33**);
 - Aligns the State's clean energy and carbon sequestration efforts with climate initiative goals; and
 - Adds to the GHGSTF mandates by having the TF examine opportunities to exploit carbon sequestering trees and vegetation to reduce urban temperatures and protect public health.



Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force

Pursuant to **Act 15**, the GHGSTF is charged with establishing:

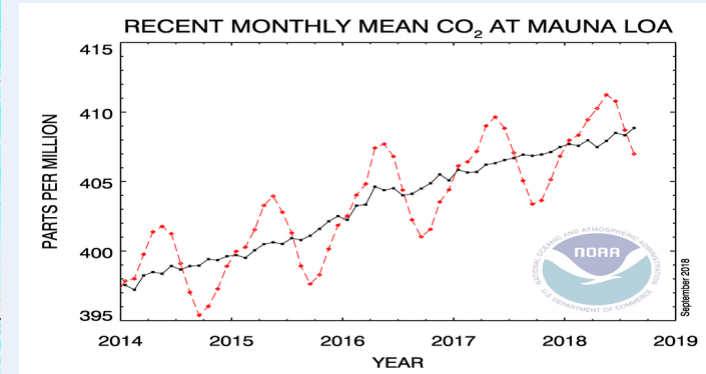
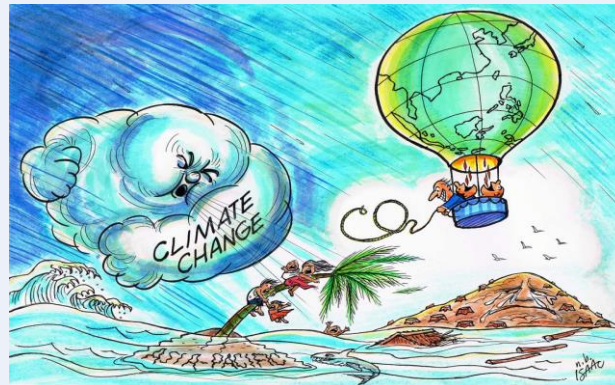
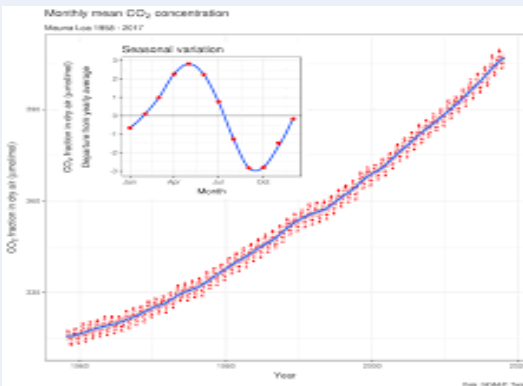
- A baseline for GHG emissions within Hawaii's agricultural and natural environments (newly added to **Act 15** and not found in **Act 33**);
- Short- and long-term benchmarks for increasing GHG sequestration in Hawaii's agricultural and natural environments (found in both Acts **15** and **33**);
- Criteria that may be used to measure (found in both Acts **15** and **33**):
 - Baseline levels and increases in GHG sequestration;
 - Improvements in soil health;
 - Increases in agricultural and aquacultural product yield and quality due to GHG sequestration and soil health; and
- Ways to increase the generation and use of compost and urban tree canopies (compost is found in both Acts **15** and **33**).



Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force

Greenhouse Gas Neutrality by 2045

- **Act 15** established a statewide target to sequester more atmospheric carbon and GHGs than emitted within the State as quickly as practicable but no later than 2045.
- Pursuant to **Act 15**, the GHGSTF is to look at short-term and long-term benchmarks that would indicate how effectively agricultural and aquacultural activities have been helping the State reach GHG neutrality.
- The GHG neutral goal is not found in **Act 33**.



Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force

Pursuant to **Act 15**, the GHGSTF (similar to the CFTF, **Act 33**) is tasked with promoting GHG sequestration, healthy soils, water holding capacity and increasing crop yields through:

- Incentives;
- Research;
- Technical assistance; and
- Educational materials and outreach.



Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force

The GHGSTF is to submit a Status Update of its progress and recommendations, including proposed legislation 20 days prior the convening of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session. The GHGSTF is to submit a Preliminary Report of its findings and recommendations with any proposed legislation to the Legislature and the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission 20 days prior the convening of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session.



The Task Force is to submit an Annual Report of its findings and recommendations with any proposed legislation to the Legislature and the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission 20 days prior the convening of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session.



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