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Aloha. My name is Stephen Becker and on behalf of myself and my wife, Lisa Grove, and I would like to offer our perspective.

While we are new to Lana'i it is hard to imagine that we love it any less. From the moment we set foot on this island, we knew we had to live here. The people are incredible and as mountain bikers, surf kayakers and trail runners, having nature minutes away was a huge factor in our decision to move here.

For us, the Garden of the Gods feels like a very sacred place. When we bike out there in the early morning we call it "going to church."

It's the place we take every single visitor. Just yesterday, two sets of daytrippers sitting next to my wife on the ferry had the Garden of the Gods at the top of their list.

Then there's Polihua the beach so isolated and peaceful that our son actually picked up a coconut and starting talking to it once.

We camp at Avaloa and sled down big sand dunes on boogie boards, rejoicing in the fact that we can walk miles without any other trace of humanity except for what we see on another island.

It is these places that make us feel insignificant as humans so that our problems are even smaller. Nature's dominance is part of this sacred feeling and, as people who have traveled a lot, there are few places left like this.

So I ask, is so much destruction of nature truly sustainable? Is tampering with our lifeblood, our special places really the responsible thing to do?

Please think about the legacy we leave to our children. Are 20^{even 50} jobs worth the fact that our son Max will never ever be able to show his children and grandchildren the same beach, the same view, the same sacred place?

and your kids

We think not and it saddens us deeply that we are not considering our stewardship and legacy, especially when there are many other workable solutions. Let's make responsible decisions for today – and tomorrow.

Mahalo for your time.