



**GAIL MURAKAMI, B.A.**  
**Wood Identification Specialist, Senior Editor**  
**May 2015**



Gail M. Murakami has over 30 years of experience in identification of charred and uncharred wood samples found in archaeological contexts. She has set up the only Wood Identification Laboratory (WIDL) in the Pacific Basin region, with a reference wood collection from several Pacific island groups besides the Hawaiian Islands. Her understanding of ecological associations in Hawaiian vegetation has been applied toward environmental reconstruction at Kaho'olawe and other Pacific islands. In her capacity as the WIDL Manager, Ms. Murakami is responsible for the analysis of samples and the completion of technical reports for numerous Cultural Resource Management firms operating in Hawai'i and Micronesia, which resulted in the identification of woods from various Pacific islands, including Guam, Samoa, Palau, and the Hawaiian Islands. In consultation with the various Project Directors, Ms. Murakami oversees the completion of laboratory processing of all materials at IA and IARII and their final disposition and curation. In addition, Ms. Murakami has been Senior Report Editor for 15 years.

### **Education**

B.A., Botany, University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, Honolulu, 1972

### **Professional Positions**

Wood Identification Director, International Archaeology LLC, Honolulu, 2014-present

Wood Identification Laboratory Manager, International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu, 1993-present

Senior Report Editor, IARII, Honolulu, 2000-present

Research Assistant III/Archaeobotanical Specialist, Applied Research Group, BP Bishop Museum, Honolulu, 1988-1993

Archaeobotanical Consultant/Wood Identification Specialist, Independent Consultant, 1988-1993

Research Associate, University of Hawai'i, 1988, 1991

Laboratory Technician, Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, 1986-1987

### **Recent Pacific Charcoal Identification Projects**

Hawai'i Island: HAVO 2007, 2011; KAHO 2007; Mauna Kea 2009; Pohakuloa 2009, 2010; 2012, 2013; PUHO 2007, 2011; Kohala 2007, 2008, 2009; Kā'u 2007; North Kona 2009, 2010, 2011

Kaua'i Island: Hā'ena 2009, 2010; Kīlauea 2009; Miloli'i 2009; Poipu 2010; Wailua 2011; Hanalei 2011; PMRF 2009; Kealia 2012

Lāna'i Island: Mānele 2007

Maui Island: HALE 2005, 2008, 2011; 2012; Mū'olea 2009; Kula 2009; Punalu'u 2013; Pu'u Naio Cave 2013, Maui Wind Farm 2013

Moloka'i Island: Kalaupapa 2007; Mauna Loa 2009, 2010

O'ahu Island: Bellows 2009, 2011; Iroquois Pt. 2007; Windward H-3 1998; Barbers Point 1996; Maunawili 2012; Kailua 2012; Kaka'ako 2013; Kalihi 2013;

Kekaulike 1995; Schofield Barracks 2010; Kakaako 2010, 2011; Kailua 2011; Kahuku Training Area 2011; Waikiki 2010, 2011;2012; Mānoa 2011; Kualoa 2011; 2012; Punaluu 2012; Waikane 2012; Kawailoa 2012; Palehua 2012; Waipio 2012; Maunawili 2012

American Sāmoa: Tutuila 2003, 2007

Guam: Merizo 2009; Hagatna 2009; Ylig 2009, 2011; Dadi 2008

Palau: Babeldaob Island 1997, 1998, 2008, 2009, 2010; Tabelmeduu 2008

FSM: Kosrae 1991

Society Islands: Mo'orea 2008, 2009, 2010;2012; Apootaata Papetoai 2011

### **Ability to Carry Research to Completion**

Publication of 6 articles in scholarly journals; completion of over 200 technical reports



## Selected Reports

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- Allen, Melinda S., and Gail M. Murakami  
1999 Lānaʻi Island's Arid Lowland Vegetation In Late Prehistory. *Pacific Science* 53(1):88-112.
- Athens, J. Stephen, Jerome V. Ward, and Gail M. Murakami  
1996 Development of an Agroforest on a Micronesian High Island: Prehistoric Kosraean Agriculture. *Antiquity* 70:834-846.
- Kahn, Jennifer G., Timothy M. Rieth, Patrick V. Kirch, J. Stephen Athens, and Gail Murakami  
2014 Re-dating of the Kuliʻouʻou Rockshelter, Oʻahu, Hawaiʻi: Location of the First Radiocarbon Date from the Pacific Islands. *Journal of the Polynesian Society* 123(1):67-90.
- Kolb, Michael J., and Gail M. Murakami  
1994 Cultural Dynamics and the Ritual Role of Firewoods in Pre-contact Hawaiʻi. *Asian Perspectives* 33.
- McCoy, Mark D., Michael W. Graves, and Gail Murakami  
2010 Introduction of Breadfruit (*Artocarpus altilis*) to the Hawaiian Islands. *Economic Botany* 64(4):374-381.
- Murakami, Gail M.  
2012 *Carbonized Wood Species Analysis of Samples from the Adze Production Workshop (Site 50-50-11-2504), Haleakalā National Park.* Prepared for National Park Service, Pacific West Region—Pacific Islands Support Office, Makawao, Hawaiʻi. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.  
2012 *Carbonized Wood Species Analysis of Samples from Bubble Cave (Site 50-50-11-3606), Haleakalā National Park.* Prepared for National Park Service, Pacific West Region—Pacific Islands Support Office, Makawao, Hawaiʻi. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.  
2011 Identification of Charcoal Taxa. In *Palau Compact Road Archaeological Investigations, Babeldaob Island, Republic of Palau. Phase IV: Archaeological Monitoring. Volume IX: Planned Data Recovery Reports*, by H. David Tuggle, Tina M. Mangieri, and Jolie Liston, pp. 245-253. Prepared for Department of the Army, U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu, Fort Shafter, Hawaiʻi. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.  
2011 Identification of Charcoal Taxa. In *Palau Compact Road Archaeological Investigations, Babeldaob Island, Republic of Palau. Phase IV: Archaeological Monitoring. Volume XII: Laboratory Analyses and Synthesis*, by Jolie Liston, pp. 332-345. Prepared for Department of the Army, U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu, Fort Shafter, Hawaiʻi. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.  
2010 Charcoal Taxa Identification in a Sample from Kakaʻako, Oʻahu Island. Prepared for Cultural Surveys Hawaiʻi, Inc., Kailua.  
2009 *Carbonized Wood Species Analysis of Samples from Various Sites in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.* Prepared for National Park Service, Pacific West Region-Pacific Islands Support Office, Makawao, Hawaiʻi. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.



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- 2008 *Carbonized Wood Species Analysis of Samples from Kalahaku Adze Quarry (Site 50-50-11-2510). Haleakalā National Park.* Prepared for National Park Service, Pacific West Region-Pacific Islands Support Office, Makawao, Hawai'i. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.
- 2007 Identification of Charcoal Taxa. In *Palau Compact Road Archaeological Investigations, Babeldaob Island, Republic of Palau. Phase II: Archaeological Data Recovery. Volume VII: Laboratory Analyses, Syntheses, and Recommendations*, by Jolie Liston, pp. 126-139. Prepared for Department of the Army, U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu, Fort Shafter, Hawai'i. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.
- 2007 Taxa Identification in Charcoal Samples from the Pohakuloa Training Area Cave Core, Hawai'i Island. Prepared for Environmental Division, Pohakuloa Training Area, Hawai'i.
- 2005 Identification of Palau Core Woods. In *Palau Compact Road Archaeological Investigations, Babeldaob Island, Republic of Palau. Phase I: Intensive Archaeological Survey. Volume IV: Holocene Paleoenvironment and Landscape Change*, by J. Stephen Athens and Jerome V. Ward, Appendix C. Prepared for Department of the Army, U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu, Fort Shafter, Hawai'i. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.
- 2005 Charcoal Taxa Identification. In *Kikihale to Honolulu: From Village to City—Archaeological Data Recovery at Site 50-80-14-4875, Kekaulike Diamond Head Block, Nu'uuanu Ahupua'a, Honolulu, O'ahu, Hawai'i* by Conrad Goodwin and Jane Allen, Appendix D. Prepared for Mitsunaga & Associates, Honolulu. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.
- 2003 Charcoal Taxa Identification, Waiohai, Kauai'i Island. Prepared for Scientific Consultant Services, Inc., Honolulu.
- 2003 Charcoal Taxa Identification, Hōkūkano Ranch, Hawai'i Island. Prepared for Scientific Consultant Services, Inc., Honolulu.
- 2003 Identification of Charcoal Taxa. In *Archaeological Inventory Survey for the Tualauta County Phase IIB Sewerline Project, Tutuila, American Samoa*, by Ethan E. Cochrane, Mike T. Carson, and J. Stephen Athens, Appendix B. Draft report prepared for American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) Wastewater Division, Pago Pago, American Samoa. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.
- 2003 Wood Charcoal Identification. In *Archaeological Data Recovery of Site TN-1-691, West Tinian Airport Improvement Area, Island of Tinian*, by Boyd Dixon, David J. Welch, and Coral M. Magnuson, Appendix D. Prepared for Commonwealth Ports Authority, Saipan, CNMI. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.
- Murakami, Gail M., Michael W. Graves, and Charles H. Lamoureux  
*in prep* Recent Advances in the Identification and Interpretation of Archaeological Wood Charcoal from the Hawaiian Islands. To be submitted to Pacific Science.
- Weisler, Marshall, and Gail M. Murakami  
1991 The Use of Mountain-apple (*Syzygium malaccense*) in a Prehistoric Hawaiian Domestic Structure. *Economic Botany* 45(2): 282-285.