

## **Na Ala Hele (NAH) Maui Advisory Council**

### **Minutes of March 18, 2015**

Present: Russell Reinertson, Bruce Faulkner, Dave Brown, Sue Guille, Tom Cannon, Kevin Jenkins, Donna Clayton

Absent: Bob Hobdy, Nick Saussy

Ex-Officio: Torrie Nohara

Guests: Shane Dematto, Wildlife Biologist, Adam Lottig, Flow Farm, John Kreag, Haleakala Ranch Rep.

#### Call to Order, Public Notice, Quorum

Russell called the meeting to order. Public notice was posted and quorum was met.

#### Review of Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2015

The January 21 minutes were approved as submitted.

#### Review of Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2015

The February 18 minutes were approved as submitted.

#### NAH Staff Reports:

Scott Fretz: No Report

Trails and Access Technician: Volunteer/Intern Update: Jon Hoopii has joined the Na Ala Hele program as an AmeriCorps intern and has completed 432 hours since joining the crew on December 12, 2014. He has been a big help to the program and we look forward to working with him during his term with us.

The Na Ala Hele trail crew has an additional crew member who started on February 9, 2015. He has shown the crew that he enjoys the hard work, loves to hike and be outdoors and gets along well with others. The crew is very grateful to have an extra hand on board.

Since trees have finally been cleared from trails in Kula Forest Reserve and tread work is being completed on Polipoli and Plum Trails as well as Haleakala Ridge, the crew has advanced to doing work on clearing and cutting back on small vegetation on other trails in Kula Forest Reserve. So far Mamane, Lower Waiohuli and Boundary trails have been completed.

The crew is currently working on Redwood trail where part of the trail had to be rerouted due to hazard trees blocking the existing trail. The crew is also working on exposing the trail in certain areas along the trail that has been covered by debris from trees using McClouds and rakes and making it a lot more visible to hikers.

For the next month the crew has planned to continue doing small trail projects on Kula Forest Reserve Trails as well as hoping to get up to par with our other trail duties mainly on the west side of the island.

#### NAH Specialist:

1. Torrie reported John Merrill left the program due to a job opportunity.
2. Torrie circulated photos of before and after cleanup work in Kula Forest Reserve.
3. Waihee Ridge Environmental Assessment ("EA") is going nicely. Currently the gates are closed by a contractor at dark and the Boy Scouts open the gates in the morning. The new electronic gate is on hold until Allen Mendez turns in his paper work. The Boy Scouts lease the road and the parcel between the road and their property and have the right to allow a separate trail gate for the Waihee Ridge Trail. A separate parking area for the trail is also planned.

Shane Dematto: Shane has been working for the last couple of years on a Game Management Area ("GMA") on the South Side of Maui, Kanaio area – a former training area of 6,000 acres under Land Management jurisdiction currently, plus 1,500 acres of Ulupalakua Ranch land adjacent to the 6,000 acres. An EA over the entire area is needed and he estimates a cost of \$80,000 to \$100,000. David Penn, Acquisitions and Access Coordinator, is doing the preliminary work. Clean up of the former training area is estimated for completion in 2017. The portion under Land Management jurisdiction is planned to be turned over to Wildlife by executive order. The goal is 6,500 acres of new hunting land perhaps by summer of 2018. Shane hopes the GMA will curb the heavy motorcycle use in the area. There are 5 kuleanas in the area that will require agreements. He is hoping the hunting community will strongly support this project. Firearms will only be allowed during bird season. Archery will be allowed and perhaps crossbow. There are deer, goats and birds in the area.

Torrie suggested Shane include a couple of trails in the EA.

#### Old Business:

1. Proposed New Trail from Maalaea to Honolua Update: Torrie circulated copies of the Agreement for Construction Services between Kapalua Land Co. and Northwest Trails Inc. for Phase II of the Kapalua Coastal Trail & Trail Hub from Fleming Beach Park to Mokuleia Bay, dated December 19, 2008, that she received from Rob Parsons. She and Scott Fretz are trying to set up a meeting with Paul Brown of West Maui who is involved in this project.

2. Kahakapao Recreational Area: Adam Lottig, Update: Adam reported Trails Unlimited spent most of February working in this area. They have GPS'd 4 pickup point locations for helicopters to drop in and lower a cable for rescues. They worked on the lower parking lot to lower skills area after Torrie, John, Justin and Adam flagged it. Next is to reshape advanced skills area. Jason Wells was in the last week of Feb. and oversaw 2<sup>nd</sup> half of work. Going forward Adam will work with volunteers to finish up the hand work needed. Jason is returning in April. The grand opening might take place in May. They also addressed complaints Torrie had received from trail users. The new work will slow traffic and separate user groups. The lower parking area repairs are underway. IMBA continues to work on signs and the management plan. Torrie asked for a meeting of the sign subcommittee to review needed signs and finish up the sign decisions. Signs must be in the ground before the grand opening. Torrie asked for help with the grand opening and Donna and Sue signed up.
3. Kula Forest Reserve Update: Trails Unlimited will be back in August for one month. Projected opening for the forest is April 3. Lots of game has been seen in the area. 2.8 miles of trail corridor through the Jack Straw trees is completed, plus tread recuts and installed drainage features and more.
4. Na Kula Potential Access Routes: Nothing new.
5. Waia'ilio Trail Potential: The group agreed the next step is field research. It would be a good idea to get this trail into the Kanaio EA. Torrie will talk to Moana to see when she can come over for a site visit. Tom circulated maps showing the trail.
6. Kanaio Recreation Area: See Shane Dematto's report above.
7. Maui Motocross Adjacent Parcel: The next step according to the Parks Dept. is for the President of the Maui Motocross Association to create a proposal with details on the expanded area.
8. State Land Parcels: Torrie has the inventory maps ready and suggested a meeting of the subcommittee to review them. The Public Access Land System has helpful info too and Torrie will try to get access for us. Tom, Sue, Donna, Bruce and Russell agreed to meet at 12:30 pm just before the next council meeting. They will also review the CD and print out of parcel list prepared by Sue and Bruce.

#### New Business:

1. Suggestions for new Na Ala Hele trails:
  - a. Dave suggested that the council continue to discuss the Circle-Island Trail, given recent public interest. He recalled seeing a map noting known trail sections. Torrie will try to locate it.

- b. Dave suggested opening the Ke Ala Laloa Rd. below the Lahaina Pali Trail. People are hiking it now and there is a sign giving a DLNR number for access. Torrie will look into the potential to open the road.
2. Agenda Items for next meeting: All old business will be carried forward plus the addition of the Circle-Island Trail and Ke Ala Laloa Rd.
3. Date of next meeting: April 22, 2015 at 2pm, at the same location – 1955 Main Street, Suite 400. Subcommittee on TMK maps to meet at 12:30 pm.

Public Testimony on All Agenda Items: None

Adjournment at 4:00 pm