

REPORT TO THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
2013 REGULAR SESSION

RECOMMENDATIONS TO LEVERAGE COUNTY, STATE, FEDERAL, AND PRIVATE
FUNDING FOR AN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER AT THE HONOULIULI SITE
AND
STATUS ON DESIGNATING THE HONOULULI
INTERNMENT-PRISONER OF WAR CAMP SITE WITHIN HAWAII
AS PART OF THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



PREPARED BY:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

IN RESPONSE TO:
ACT 235, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2012

HONOLULU, HAWAII
JANUARY 2013

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BACKGROUND

Act 235, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, established a Honouliuli Park Site Advisory Group (Advisory Group) to develop recommendations to leverage county, state, federal and private funding for an educational resource center at the Honouliuli site on the Island of Oahu. The work of the Advisory Group is meant to complement the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii's (JCCH) goal of designating the Honouliuli internment-prisoner of war camp site and associated sites within Hawaii as part of the United States National Park Services (NPS).

The Advisory Group is comprised of:

1. A member from the Department of Land and Natural Resources' State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) – Pua Aiu, Administrator
2. A member from the University of Hawaii, West Oahu (UHWO) – Suzanne Falgout
3. A member from the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), Honolulu Chapter –Jacce Mikulanec
4. A member from the Historic Hawaii Foundation –Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director
5. A member from Monsanto – Alan Takemoto
6. A member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives – Ronald Ching
7. A member appointed by the President of the Senate – Carol Fukunaga

Mr. Paul DePrey of NPS also attends Advisory Group meetings in an advisory capacity.

The Act appropriated \$100,000 out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii for Fiscal Year 201-2013 for the activities of the Advisory Group.

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Preserve America Grant

SHPD and JCCH submitted a *Preserve America Grant*, to use unspent funds from the Ewa Villages Preserve America Grant. The purpose of the grant is to develop a teacher's guide and curriculum materials to accompany the film, *The 1800: The Untold Story of the Internment of Japanese in Hawai'i*. These materials would support the Hawaii World War II Confinement Site lesson plans that have already been developed and meet the Hawaii State Department of Education Benchmarks in Social Studies. The Preserve America Grant is for \$51,727 in state funds to be matched with \$51,727 in federal funds.

Develop a pre-needs assessment, maps and outreach materials

The Advisory Group plans to expend the remainder of the funds to develop a pre-needs assessment document, large format maps of the area and a photograph display to be used as outreach materials when seeking funding and to develop partnerships.

Use of funds

A request for release of funds (\$100,000) has been submitted, and as such, no funds have been expended to date.

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Meetings

The Advisory Group met on October 12, 2012, November 13, 2012, and December 11, 2012.

There is a site visit scheduled for January 11, 2013, and the next meeting of the Advisory Group is scheduled for January 15, 2013. The Advisory Group plans to continue meeting until funds are released and expended.

Activities

UHWO provides significant partnership and leveraging ability for this group. UHWO's mauka property lies immediately adjacent to the Honouliuli site. It is also centrally located and can provide parking for the site. UHWO has a robust faculty research and education project focusing on the hundreds of men, women, and children of Japanese, Okinawan, German, and Italian descent who were interned at the site during World War II (WWII). In addition, they are investigating the several thousand prisoners of wars of Okinawan, Korean, Japanese, Taiwanese, Filipino, and other origins who were imprisoned there. The UHWO Campus offers several related courses, including a summer archaeological field school held at the site. A special edited volume, *Breaking the Silence: Lessons of Democracy and Social Justice from the World War II Honouliuli Internment and Prisoner of War Camp in Hawai'i* is in progress. A new certificate program in Democratic Principles and Social Justice is undergoing approval, and an eventual Center to house it is under consideration. UHWO also houses 'Ulu'ulu, the Henry Guigni Moving Image Archive of Hawaii, which has an amazing inventory of photos and videos, as well as the ability to turn older formats into formats easily accessible with today's technology. Several other WWII-related stakeholders have also expressed an interest in locating their buildings and materials to UHWO's new campus site.

The partnership with NPS and potential ties to the Valor in the Pacific National Historic Site(s), also provide opportunities for expanding the potential to tell the story of Japanese internment in Hawaii. NPS is actively working on developing a planning document to submit to Congress as part of Honouliuli becoming a national park site. The Advisory group will continue to work with NPS and look for ways to complement their efforts.

JCCH is the lead agency in pushing for recognition of Japanese internment in Hawaii. They have been instrumental in identifying the Honouliuli site and recently identified to Kalaheo Stockade where Japanese on the Island of Kauai were briefly interned. In addition to working very hard on getting national park status of the Honouliuli Internment site, JCCH has developed many other materials, including a 60 minute documentary "The Untold Story: Internment of Japanese Americans in Hawaii." It was funded by NPS, JCCH, Island Insurance, Alexander Wallace Gerbode Foundation, and Honolulu JACL. A 25 minute teaching film has been developed from the full length documentary, and funds from this Act and NPS will be used to develop curriculum materials to go with the short film. JCCH will continue to bring their expertise and partnerships to the table.

Monsanto is also a contributor in that they are moving forward with the subdivision of their land, so that as soon as NPS is ready to accept the land, it would have already been subdivided. They are paying the cost for subdivision themselves and continue to be an active partner in helping to visualize what the Honouliuli Internment site will look like as a national park site.

The Advisory Group plans to bring in additional partners, including key Japanese-American and civil liberties organizations over the next three months to broaden the vision for Honouliuli. The materials developed will be used in outreach and fundraising efforts to continue to develop partners for the creation of a Honouliuli Japanese Internment Site National Park.

The Advisory Groups expects to be able to provide a follow-up report to the Legislature by March of 2013.