

# The Environmental Notice

A SEMI-MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

JANUARY 8, 1998

## New Study for Napilihau Villages

The County of Maui Department of Planning has submitted a draft environmental assessment for the continuing development of the Napilihau Villages affordable housing project in the Lahaina district of Maui. The project was the subject of a November 1997 Supreme Court decision which ruled that an EA is required for the project. (See the Dec. 8 **Notice**).

A 1993 draft EA, prepared exclusively for the drainline of this project, received extensive public comment regarding impacts to the water quality of Ka'opala Bay. It was never finalized and the County approved permits for the project.

The new draft EA for the project now addresses the entire 296 unit project scope and proposes a drainage system which discharges entirely into the neighboring Keonenui Bay.

The draft EA includes color site photographs, a preliminary drainage and erosion control report, a final drainage report for phase I, an archaeological inventory study, a preliminary marine baseline study, historic preservation review letters, and a traffic impact report. Public comments are due on February 9, 1998. For more information, please see page 8.

### DLNR Exemption List

The DLNR's, Land Division, Land Management Branch has submitted a new exemption list for review and concurrence by Environmental Council. The deadline for comments is February 9, 1998. After public comments are responded to and any revisions are made, the Environmental Council will meet to consider approving the list. See page 15 to review the document.

### Conservation District Plan

The DLNR is conducting a statewide study to improve the management and regulation of land within the State Conservation District. The study will include a review of the existing Conservation District subzones and propose changes to the existing regulatory regime.

DLNR will conduct public informational meetings in each county to present preliminary findings and recommendations as contained in the Discussion Draft Conservation District Management Plan. For further information on the Plan, or scheduled meetings, please see page 10.

### Ala Wai Canal Dredging

The City Department of Transportation Services, State Department of Land and Natural Resources and Federal Highway Administration will hold a public meeting to solicit comments prior to the preparation of an environmental assessment for the proposed dredging of the Ala Wai Canal.

The dredging is planned to extend from the Ala Moana Boulevard Bridge to the Kapahulu Avenue end of the Canal, and along the Manoa-Palolo Drainage Canal up to the Date Street Bridge.

The dredging plan includes, dredging methodology, sediment transportation, sediment processing, sediment disposal or reuse and use of waters and shore-side lands for dredging support operations.

The meeting will be held on January 22, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ala Wai Elementary School Cafeteria. See page 17.

### Projects Withdrawn

EAs for HECO's Malae Communication Tower and a Western PCS cell site have been withdrawn. See page 6.



**BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO**  
GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY CONTROL**

GARY GILL  
DIRECTOR

The Environmental Notice  
reviews the environmental impacts of  
projects proposed in Hawaii

Other Resources  
available at OEQC . . .

- *Guidebook for Hawaii's Environmental Review Process*
- *Environmental Impact Study Resource Library*
- *Environmental Education Database*
- *Environmental Council Annual Reports*
- *Rules and Policies*
- *"How to Plant a Native Hawaiian Garden"*

### OEQC

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## Draft Environmental Assessments



### (1) Waimanalo Kupuna Housing Project

**District:** Koolaupoko  
**TMK:** 4-1-19:32  
**Applicant:** Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
711 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 500  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Contact: Stephen Morse (594-1905)  
and  
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands  
P.O. Box 1879  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96805  
Contact: Ben Wong (586-3823)

**Approving Agency/Accepting Authority:** Department of Hawaiian Home Lands  
P.O. Box 1879  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96805  
Contact: Ben Wong (586-3823)

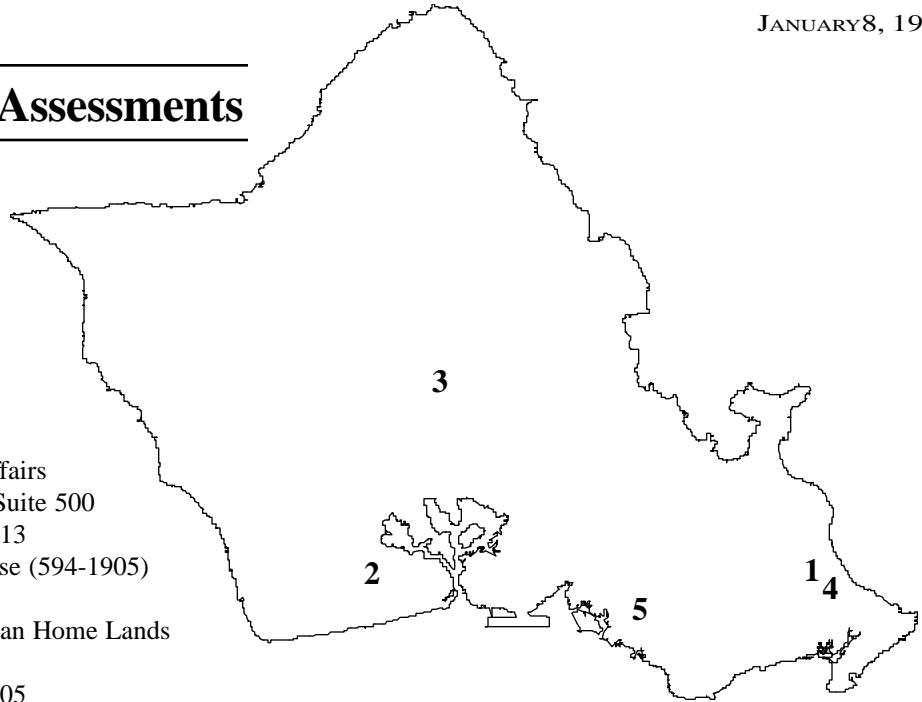
**Consultant:** PBR Hawaii  
Pacific Tower, Suite 650  
1001 Bishop Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Contact: Yukie Ohashi (521-5631)

#### Public Comment

**Deadline:** February 9, 1998  
**Status:** DEA First Notice pending public comment.  
Address comments to the applicant with copies to the consultant and OEQC.

**Permits Required:** NPDES, Sewer hookup

The Waimanalo Kupuna Housing Project is designed to accommodate the growing needs of the aging Hawaiian population -- to provide a residential environment for independent living with staff and services available on-site. The Master Plan for the project includes 83 kupuna apartment units, a new Community Center building which will include a Manager's residence, administrative offices, kitchen and library. In addition, the Master Plan envisions a 10,000 square foot Commercial Center. The Commercial Center is in a central location in the Waimanalo community along Kalaniana'ole Highway and is expected to generate income through lease rents to subsidize the operations of the kupuna housing.



The project is a collaboration between the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. OHA is serving as the Developer. The Kupuna Housing will occupy approximately 5.14 acres (of the 7.29 acre site) and will be accessed from Ilauhole Street through Nakini Street from Kalaniana'ole Highway. It consists of 13 buildings with six to eight apartment units per building and a Community Center.

The affordable rental housing will be made available to eligible Hawaiian kupuna who are currently on the DHHL list or residing in the homestead area but wish to relocate to be in a complex designed for elderly living. Secondly, OHA will also provide rental opportunity to part-Hawaiians, and finally, to the elderly within the general public, to fill any vacant apartments.

The municipal wastewater treatment capability of the Waimanalo Sewer Treatment Plant (STP) is at capacity. Consequently, the City Department of Wastewater Management has allowed hook-up of 51 units (e.g., 50 kupuna, one Manager's) of the 84 total units. Consequently, discussions are presently underway with the State Department of Health for the development of an on-site temporary sewer system consisting of a septic tank and leaching field for the remainder

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of the project (including the additional 33 units and commercial development) in order to build out the Master Plan. The septic system is intended to be temporary until the Waimanalo STP is upgraded in the future.

The project is scheduled to commence in Spring 1998; completion is scheduled for Fall 1998. Estimated development cost for the Waimanalo Kupuna project is \$6.2 million.

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## Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

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### (2) Honouliuli Water Reclamation Facility and Demonstration Project

**District:** Ewa  
**TMK:** 9-1-13:7 and 9-1-69:4  
**Applicant:** City and County of Honolulu  
Department of Wastewater Management  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Contact: Robert Miyasaki (527-5159)

**Approving Agency/Accepting Authority:** City and County of Honolulu  
Department of Wastewater Management  
650 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Contact: Robert Miyasaki (527-5159)

**Consultant:** Engineering Concepts, Inc.  
250 Ward Avenue, Suite 206  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Contact: Kenneth Ishizaki (591-8820)

**Public Challenge**  
**Deadline:** February 9, 1998  
**Status:** FEA/FONSI issued, project may proceed  
**Permits Required:** NPDES (DOH), Water Use Permit, Grading Permit

The City and County of Honolulu Department of Wastewater Management has proposed development of a water reclamation facility and pilot-scale aquifer recharge demonstration project at the Honouliuli Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Ewa.

The proposed water reclamation facility will treat up to 13 MGD of secondary effluent to the R-1 level for nonpotable water use. The initial phase will be designed to treat up to 6.5 MGD with expansion capabilities up to 13 MGD. Components of the water reclamation facility include construction of an influent pump station, contact filtration system, ultraviolet light (UV) disinfection system, effluent pump station and chemical storage building.

The proposed demonstration project will function independently of the proposed water reclamation facility, to produce and utilize up to 3 MGD of disinfected secondary effluent for nonpotable water for use within the WWTP and recharge of the caprock aquifer. System components will include a temporary influent pump station, temporary hypochlorination disinfection system, temporary conveyance and connection to the existing in-plant nonpotable water system, pilot-scale recharge trench system, and groundwater monitoring facilities. The groundwater monitoring program will assess the impact of the demonstration project on the underlying caprock aquifer and nearshore waters.

Construction of the project is estimated to cost \$11.9 million. Construction of the first phase of the water reclamation facility (up to 6.5 MGD) is anticipated to begin in January 1998 and require 15 months for completion. Construction of the demonstration project is anticipated to begin in February 1998 and require five months for completion. Construction activities will not proceed until the appropriate permits and approvals are obtained.



### (3) Waiawa Correctional Facility Improvements

**District:** Ewa  
**TMK:** 9-6-5:11  
**Applicant:** Department of Accounting and General Services  
Division of Public Works, Project Management Branch  
P.O. Box 119  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119  
Contact: Eric Nishimoto (586-0468)

## Approving Agency/Accepting

**Authority:** Department of Accounting and General Services  
Division of Public Works, Project Management Branch  
P.O. Box 119

Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119

Contact: Eric Nishimoto (586-0468)

**Consultant:** Wilson Okamoto & Associates, Inc.  
1907 South Beretania Street, Suite 400  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826  
Contact: Earl Matsukawa (946-2277)

## Public Challenge

**Deadline:** February 9, 1998

**Status:** FEA/FONSI issued, project may proceed

The State of Hawaii Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) proposes to build a 200-bed KASHBOX Drug Rehabilitation Program Compound at the Department of Public Safety's (PSD) minimum-security Waiawa Correctional Facility (WCF) at Waiawa, Oahu, Hawaii. KASHBOX stands for Knowledge, Attitude, Skills, Habits, Behaviors, Opinion and X -The Unknown Factors. In addition, DAGS has determined that various facilities constructed by the State at WCF since 1985, after the State acquired the property and converted it from a military reservation to a correctional facility, were not assessed and reviewed pursuant to Chapter 343, HRS. Interim infrastructure improvements currently under construction were also not assessed and reviewed. Therefore, the environmental assessment encompasses three general components: facilities constructed since 1985, which are assessed after-the-fact; the interim infrastructure improvements, some of which are currently under construction; and, the proposed 200-bed KASHBOX Program Compound.

The WCF currently houses approximately 280 minimum-security inmates in former Army barracks and as well as two temporary tent structures. By the time that the 200-bed KASHBOX Compound is scheduled to be occupied in January of 1999, the maximum population at WCF will be 334. This will be achieved as inmates are relocated, released or absorbed into the KASHBOX program to be housed in the 200-bed addition. The remaining 134 inmates in the general population will occupy the existing facilities.

No significant environmental and social impacts have resulted from the construction and operation of various improvements at the Waiawa Correctional Facility since 1985. Likewise, no significant impacts are anticipated from on-going and proposed construction activities and future operation of the expanded facility.



## (4) Waimanalo Homes Project

**District:** Koolaupoko

**TMK:** 4-1-22:100; 4-1-23:50-64; 4-1-28:5-22, 107-122

**Applicant:** Department of Human Services  
Hawaii Housing Authority  
1002 North School Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817  
Contact: Wayne Nakamoto (832-5920)

## Approving Agency/Accepting

**Authority:** Department of Human Services  
Hawaii Housing Authority  
1002 North School Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817  
Contact: Wayne Nakamoto (832-5920)

## Public Challenge

**Deadline:** February 9, 1998

**Status:** FEA/FONSI issued, project may proceed

Waimanalo Homes is a low income public housing project on approximately 7.385 acres of State lands in the Waimanalo area of the Koolaupoko District, Oahu, Hawaii off of Kalaniano'le Highway on Humuniki Street. The Hawaii Housing Authority proposes to demolish the existing public housing project on this site and to reconstruct 50 new units in a single family configuration.

The parcel is currently zoned R-5 and the State land use zoning is urban. Existing water, sewer, trash, schools, and police and fire protection will continue to serve this project.

Funding for this project is being provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Comprehensive Grant Program. This project will encompass several construction phases. Anticipated completion of this project is in the next two federal fiscal years.

No rare, threatened, or endangered species of flora or fauna are known to exist on this site. The proposed action will not destroy any natural or cultural resources and will not involve a substantial degradation of environmental quality.

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## National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (Draft EA)

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### (5) Punchbowl Crater Rim Stabilization, Punchbowl Cemetery

**District:** Honolulu  
**TMK:** 2-2-5:2  
**Applicant:** U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
National Cemetery System, Technical Support Service  
Architectural & Engineering Division (40181)  
810 Vermont Ave, Washington D.C. 20420  
Contact: Dennis Gerdovich (202-565-5906)

#### Approving Agency/Accepting

**Authority:** U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
National Cemetery System, Technical Support Service  
Architectural & Engineering Division (40181)  
810 Vermont Ave, Washington D.C. 20420  
Contact: Dennis Gerdovich (202-565-5906)

**Consultant:** Woodward-Clyde Federal Services  
1144 Tenth Avenue, Suite 200  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-2497  
Contact: James K.P. Kwong (737-5300)

#### Public Comment

**Deadline:** February 7, 1998  
**Status:** NEPA Draft EA

This Draft Environmental Assessment for Crater Rim Stabilization at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl Crater, Oahu is being performed by Woodward-Clyde under contract with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Punchbowl Crater is the property of, and construction funds will be appropriated by, the Federal government. The construction project is expected to take place in 1998, and cost \$1.2 million. A Finding of No Significant Impact is expected, and an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

The first progressive slope failure area to be stabilized is a section of the crater rim, approximately 700 feet long, at the southeastern portion of Burial Areas I and MB. Surface instability consisting of sloughing, erosion, and localized settlement were observed here. It is proposed that a 20-foot high, terraced and landscaped, reinforced earth retaining wall be constructed. The constructed wall would provide long-term slope protection, minimize potential disturbance to the burial sites, and reduce long-term maintenance efforts.

The second area to be stabilized is along the west side of Cemetery Drive from the cemetery entrance to the lookout area. Rock falls have occurred here. It is proposed that a rock fall barrier be constructed at selected areas along the base of the rock slope. The near-vertical slope behind the water tank and pump house should be protected by shotcrete. Raveling or rock fall debris from areas above the rock cut would continue unless the rock surface is protected.

In addition, it is proposed that a five-foot wide, approximately 1,400-foot long, asphalt concrete walkway be constructed, along the east side of Cemetery Drive from the cemetery entrance to the lookout area. Seven trees along the driveway would be removed and replaced. A prefabricated pedestrian bridge deck with a gate would be constructed at the existing cemetery entrance gate.

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## Notice of Withdrawal

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### Malae Communications Station Tower

HECO has withdrawn its Draft EA for the Malae Communications Station Tower Facility in Kaneohe (published in the November 23 **Notice**). HECO says it is deferring the project for about one year due to a recent reprioritization of all its construction projects.

### Western PCS II Communication Cell Site

Western PCS II Personal Communication Cell Site draft EA has been declared exempt and withdrawn by the Department of Land Utilization. It was published in the July 23, 1996 **Environmental Notice**.



## Draft Environmental Assessments



### (1) Cameron Center Expansion

**District:** Wailuku  
**TMK:** 3-8-46:15 & 27  
**Applicant:** Department of Housing and Human Concerns  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793  
Contact: Stephanie Aveiro (243-7805)

**Approving Agency/Accepting Authority:** J. Walter Cameron Center  
95 Mahalani Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793  
Contact: Audrey Rocha-Reed (244-5546)

**Consultant:** Munekiyo & Arakawa  
305 High Street, Suite 104  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793  
Contact: Michael Munekiyo (244-2015)

#### Public Comment

**Deadline:** February 9, 1998  
**Status:** DEA First Notice pending public comment. Address comments to the applicant with copies to the approving agency or accepting authority, the consultant and OEQC.

**Permits Required:** Special use, zoning change, grading, building permits

The J. Walter Cameron Center is proposing to expand their facilities by implementing master-planned improvements on a 3.7 acre parcel in Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii, identified by TMK 3-8-46:27. The expansion area is primarily vegetated with kiawe and koa haole and adjoins the existing 5.0 acre Cameron Center parcel (TMK 3-8-46:15). The proposed improvements include a child-care center and a Family Center for Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO). Access to the Cameron Center is provided by Mahalani Street, a two-lane County roadway. The Cameron Center leases the subject parcels from the County of Maui.



The Cameron Center provides comprehensive health, community, and cultural services to the general public, as well as individuals with physical, mental, social, and educational handicaps.

In addition to establishing consistency with the underlying Public/Quasi-Public Community Plan designation, an application for a Change in Zoning will be filed for both the Cameron Center and expansion area parcels.

The master-planned improvements which are proposed to be developed on the Center's 3.7-acre expansion area include an approximately 6,000 square foot child care center and the approximately 19,000 square foot MEO Family Center. The Family Center site will occupy about 1.2 acres of the expansion area, while the child care center will be developed on the remaining 2.5-acre portion of the site.

The single-story, 6,000 square foot child care center is anticipated to provide child care services for about 40 infants, toddlers, and pre-school children, while the one- and two-story, 19,000 square foot MEO Family Center will include administrative and counseling offices, as well as library, meeting, conference, and children's playroom facilities.

Construction of the MEO Family Center is targeted to begin by the summer of 1998, with completion estimated by mid-1999. Preliminarily, construction of the child care center is estimated to commence during the year 2000, with completion anticipated about six (6) to eight (8) months later.

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## (2) Napilihau Villages

**District:** Lahaina  
**TMK:** 4-3-3:108, 110, 122, 123  
**Applicant:** Napilihau Villages Joint Venture  
900 Fort Street, Suite 1560  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Contact: Kimo Lee (524-4065)

### Approving Agency/Accepting

**Authority:** Maui Planning Commission  
250 S. High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

**Consultant:** Munekiyo & Arakawa  
305 High Street, Suite 104  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793  
Contact: Michael Munekiyo (244-2015)

### Public Comment

**Deadline:** February 9, 1998  
**Status:** DEA First Notice pending public comment.  
Address comments to the applicant with  
copies to the approving agency or accepting  
authority, the consultant and OEQC.

**Permits Required:** NPDES, SMA, Grading

The Napilihau Villages Joint Venture is in the process of developing the 296-unit Napilihau Villages project located at Napili, Maui, Hawaii. Identified as TMK 4-3-3:108, 110, 122, and 123, the subject property encompasses an area of approximately 17 acres. To date, 64 of the 296 apartment units have been completed as part of the project's Phase I development. Phase I improvements which have been substantially completed include eight (8) townhouse buildings, offstreet parking, landscaping, and offsite drainage improvements, including the installation of a 36-inch drainline within the Napilihau Street right-of-way, a 6-ft. by 4.5 ft. box culvert within the Lower Honoapiilani Highway right-of-way, and an upstream 5.5 million gallon detention basin. Construction on a ninth Phase I building has also been initiated, with approximately 60 percent of the work completed.

Subsequent development phases will include 80 units in Phase II; 60 units in Phase III; and 80 units in Phase IV. Completion of all four (4) phases is projected for the year 2000.

On November 5, 1997, the Supreme Court of the State of Hawaii ruled that an environmental assessment, prepared and processed in accordance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is required for the project.

In addressing the Supreme Court's ruling, this environmental document has been prepared to cover the entire 296-unit project scope.





## Findings of No Significant Impact



### (1) Kahaluu Beach Resort Condominium

**District:** North Kona  
**TMK:** 7-8-14:86 & 87  
**Applicant:** Kahaluu Beach Partnership  
78-6980 Kaluna Street, #13  
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740  
Contact: Scott Church (322-4132)

**Approving Agency/Accepting Authority:** County of Hawaii, Planning Department  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Contact: Daryn Arai (961-8288)

**Consultant:** Robert Nespor (322-0000)  
P.O. Box 9003  
Kailua-Kona, HI 96745

#### Public Challenge

**Deadline:** February 9, 1998  
**Status:** FEA/FONSI issued, project may proceed  
**Permits:** Grading, SMA Use Permit

Kahaluu Beach Partnership, a Hawaii General Partnership, is seeking to develop a Multi-Family Resort Condominium Project on land owned by the Partnership in the Kahaluu Historic District, Kailua-Kona, Makolea Subdivision, Lots 1 and 2, at Kahaluu, North Kona, Hawaii.

The 33,966 square foot project site is located at the southeast corner of Alii Drive and Makolea Street intersection, across the street (mauka) from Kahaluu Beach Park (Open Zone Designation-0). The Keauhou Beach Hotel and the Kona Lagoon Hotel are located across Alii Drive and to the south of subject property, along with numerous condominium and the Kona Coast timeshare condominium further south.

Kahaluu Beach Partnership proposes to construct a 3-story building, approximately 37 feet high, consisting of approximately 27 one-bedroom dwelling units, and related uses. Landscaping, consisting of lawn areas, indigenous plants and canopy trees will be provided over approximately 33% of the project site.



The applicant will construct necessary off-site improvements such as County standard curbs, gutters, and sidewalks as well as placing existing overhead electrical lines underground along Makolea Street fronting the property.

The project site has been previously disturbed. Consequently, no adverse environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of the project. Furthermore, the proposed uses are consistent with the Urban State Land Use designation and resort-zoned district.



### (2) SoBay Condominium

**District:** North Kona  
**TMK:** 7-5-18:20  
**Applicant:** SoBay Hawaii, Inc.  
c/o Ala Kai Realty  
688 Kinoole Street, Suite 102  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Contact: Yukio Takeya (935-3378)

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## Approving Agency/Accepting

**Authority:** County of Hawaii  
Planning Department  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Contact: Susan Gagorik or Alice Kawaha  
(961-8288)

**Consultant:** Roy Takemoto Land Use Consultant (959-0189)  
P.O. Box 10217  
Hilo, Hawaii 96721

## Public Challenge

**Deadline:** February 9, 1998

**Status:** FEA/FONSI issued, project may proceed

SoBay Hawaii, Inc., a Hawaii corporation, proposes to construct a 21-unit 4-story oceanfront residential condominium on a site located along Alii Drive between Kailua-Kona and Keauhou. Currently, the approximately 0.68 acre site has two vacant single-story structures that would be demolished. The project requires a Shoreline Setback Variance and Special Management Area (SMA) Use Permit. Proposed activities within the shoreline setback area have been amended and include landscaping (with sand berms), filling a man-made cement-lined pool and repair of an existing seawall. A previously proposed driveway has been relocated outside the shoreline setback area and the two lanais and roof eaves that were projecting into the shoreline setback area were deleted. Instead of a 10' wide public access, a conservation easement will be created over the southern portion of the site fronting the sandy beach and offered for dedication to the County of Hawaii. The existing seawall fronting this conservation easement will be temporarily repaired and dismantled after completion of construction to enable the natural littoral processes to prevail in this area.



## Conservation District Management Plan Discussion Draft - Notice of Public Informational Meetings

The Department of Land and Natural Resources is conducting a comprehensive statewide study to improve the management and regulation of land use occurring within the State Conservation District. Specific objectives include review of the existing Conservation District subzones and formulation of proposed changes to the existing regulatory regime, based on a natural resource inventory. As part of the review process, the DLNR will be conducting public information meetings in each county to present the consultant's preliminary findings and recommendations as contained in the Discussion Draft Conservation District Management Plan. Copies of the Discussion Draft Conservation District Management Plan will be available for public review at all State Libraries, and at the DLNR Land Division Offices in Honolulu, Kauai, Maui and Hawaii.

Individual copies of the Discussion Draft Conservation District Management Plan are available and may be ordered directly from Island Printing Center, 737 Bishop Street, Suite 149, Honolulu, Hawaii. The cost of a copy of the full report, with tables and maps for all islands, is \$22.68. Postage is extra. To order, telephone James Rogers, District Manager, at (808) 523-0902.

Written comments on the Discussion Draft Conservation District Management Plan will be accepted at the scheduled public information meetings, or can be mailed to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Land Division, Planning Section, at 1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 220, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. All written comments must be received by the DLNR by March 15, 1998.

All of the scheduled public information meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. at the following dates and locations:

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Date:  | Thursday, January 22, 1998   |
| Place: | Washington Intermediate School Cafeteria<br><b>Honolulu, Hawaii</b>        |
| Date:  | Tuesday, January 27, 1998  |
| Place: | Mitchell Pauole Center<br><b>Kaunakakai, Molokai</b>                       |
| Date:  | Wednesday, January 28, 1998  |
| Place: | Maui Planning Department Hearing Room<br><b>Wailuku, Maui</b>              |
| Date:  | Tuesday, February 3, 1998  |
| Place: | State Office Building<br>Conference Rooms A, B, & C<br><b>Hilo, Hawaii</b> |
| Date:  | Wednesday, February 4, 1998  |
| Place: | Old Kona Airport State Park Pavilion<br><b>Kailua-Kona, Hawaii</b>         |
| Date:  | Monday, February 9, 1998   |
| Place: | State Office Building<br>Conference Rooms A, B, & C<br><b>Lihue, Kauai</b> |

For further information on the Conservation District Management Plan, or the scheduled statewide public information meetings, please contact Edward E. Henry at (808) 587-0377.

## Draft Environmental Assessments



### (1) Wapaa Road Realignment, Nawiliwili Harbor

**District:** Lihue  
**TMK:** 3-2-3  
**Applicant:** Department of Transportation, Harbors Division  
79 S. Nimitz Highway  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Contact: Carter Luke (587-1959)

**Approving Agency/Accepting**

**Authority:** Department of Transportation, Harbors Division  
79 S. Nimitz Highway  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Contact: Carter Luke (587-1959)

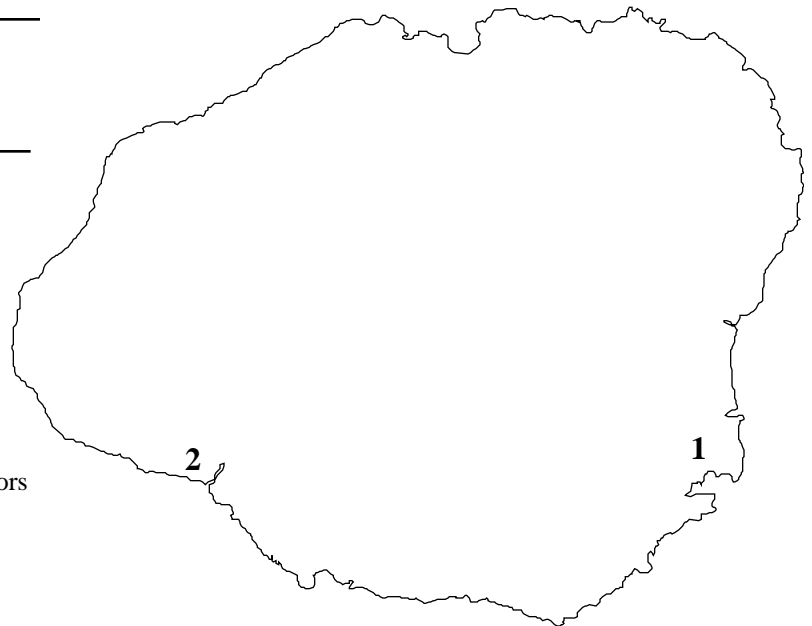
**Consultant:** Esaki Surveying and Mapping  
1610 Haleukana Street  
Lihue, Hawaii 96766  
Contact: Wayne Wada (246-0625)

**Public Comment**

**Deadline:** February 9, 1998  
**Status:** DEA First Notice pending public comment.  
Address comments to the applicant with copies to the consultant and OEQC.

**Permits Required:** Special Management Area

Waapa Road is the main interior road serving Nawiliwili Harbor, which is the central shipping port serving the island of Kauai. The proposed 500-foot realignment is located between the end of Pier 2 and the Honolulu Gas Company site adjacent to Pier 3. Proposed action is to straighten the bend in Waapa Road to meet the following design criteria: travel way of 24 feet, posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour, roadway centerline radius of 300 feet minimum, and sight distance of 200 feet minimum.



The purpose of the Waapa Road realignment project is to make the road safer for all vehicles traveling through this section of Nawiliwili Harbor. Presently, many vehicles traveling on Waapa Road through this area exceed the posted speed limit of 15 miles per hour. Both large delivery trucks and passenger vehicles use the road shoulders to avoid potential accidents.

The proposed alignment requires cutting back the rock slope mauka of the existing Waapa Road by approximately 20 feet. Mechanical equipment will be used to remove approximately 2,600 cubic yards of rock. The project will also involve relocation of existing water, drain, phone, and electrical lines. An asphalt concrete surface will be installed along the realigned roadway.

Construction is expected to begin in the summer of 1998, lasting about six months. The estimated construction cost is approximately \$1,000,000, which will be jointly funded between the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highways Administration and the State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation, Harbors Division. The project will require a Special Management Area (SMA) permit since a portion of the project is under the jurisdiction of the County of Kauai.

# Kauai Notices

JANUARY 8, 1998

## Findings of No Significant Impact



### (2) Waimea Visitor and Techno Center

**District:** Waimea  
**TMK:** 1-6-08:por. 06  
**Applicant:** Kauai Economic Development Board  
4334 Rice Street, Suite 204-B  
Lihue, Hawaii 96766  
Contact: John Isobe (245-6692)

#### Approving Agency/Accepting

**Authority:** County of Kauai  
Office of Economic Development  
4280 Rice Street, Suite A  
Lihue, Hawaii 96766  
Contact: Gerald Dela Cruz (241-6390)

**Consultant:** Group 70 International, Inc.  
925 Bethel Street, 5th Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Contact: Mary O'Leary (523-5866)

#### Public Challenge

**Deadline:** February 9, 1998  
**Status:** FEA/FONSI issued, project may proceed

The Kauai Economic Development Board (KEDB) proposes to develop a Waimea Visitor and Techno Center in an effort to stimulate the economy of West Kauai and Waimea. The 7,500 square foot single-story multi-purpose facility would serve as a regional orientation center for tourists and as a high technology office center. The project site is an approximately one acre portion of a 10 acre block, known as "Field 14" of the former Waimea Sugar Mill Company, located on the west edge of Waimea at the corner of Kaumualii Highway and Waimea Canyon Drive. The lot is owned by the Kikiaola Land Company which has agreed to lease the project site to the County of Kauai for fifty-five years with lease rent of one dollar per year for the first thirty years.

The project is funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant which is being administered by the County of Kauai Office of Economic Development and sub-granted to the Kauai Economic Development Board, a private non-profit organization. The Waimea Visitor and Techno Center will serve as a catalyst for economic development and promotion of the West Kauai region's unique natural and technological resources.



# Shoreline Notices

JANUARY 8, 1998

## Shoreline Certification Applications

Pursuant to §13-222-12, HAR the following shoreline certification applications are available for inspection at the DLNR District Land Offices on Kauai, Hawaii and Maui and at Room 220, 1151 Punchbowl St., Honolulu, Oahu (Tel: 587-0414). All comments shall be submitted in writing to the State Land Surveyor, 1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 210, Honolulu, HI 96813 and postmarked no later than fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of the public notice of the application.

Case No.	Date Received	Location	Applicant	Tax Map Key
HA-070	12/23/97	Por of Lot 1, being a Por of RP 7843, LCAw 7715, Ap 10 to Lota Kamehameha, Kaupulehu, N. Kona, Hawaii (Kailua-Kona, Hawaii)	R.M. Towill Corporation for Kaupulehu Developments	7-2-03:01
HA-192	12/22/97	Lot 27, Vacationland Hawaii, F.P. 814, Kapoho, Puna, Hawaii (Kapoho, Hawaii)	Toby Hazel for Toby Hazel	1-4-68:15
KA-128	12/17/97	Lot 1, Ld Ct App 932 (Map 2) and Lot 1-A, Ld Ct App 1578 (Map 2), Hanalei, Halelea, Kauai (5204 Weke Road)	Kodani Associates, Inc. for Kikiaola Land Company, Ltd & Peter and Mimi Buckley	5-5-02:12 & 13
MA-017	12/26/97	Por of RP 8213, LCAw 6715 to Hoomanawanui, Keauhou, Honuaula, Makawao, (Wailea, Kihei), Maui (Wailea, Maui)	Austin, Tsutsumi & Associates, Inc. for Wailea Resort Company, Ltd.	2-1-12:15
MA-191	12/16/97	Ld Ct App 4040 (Map 1) and Lot B Being L.P. 8190, LCAw 523 to Kekualaula and Lot C Being L.P. 8169, LCAw 83 to Thomas Phillips, Kooka and Alio, Lahaina, Maui (439 and 455 Front Street)	Akamai Land Surveying for Joseph Fedele	4-6-02:6, 21 & 22

## Shoreline Certifications and Rejections

Pursuant to §13-222-26, HAR the following shorelines have been certified or rejected by the DLNR. A person may appeal a certification or rejection to the BLNR, 1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 220, Honolulu, HI 96813, by requesting in writing a contested case hearing no later than twenty (20) calendar days from the date of public notice of certification or rejection.

Case No.	Date Cert/Rej	Location	Applicant	Tax Map Key
OA-643	Certified 12/26/97	Lots 76 & 77 of Pupukea-Paumalu Beach Lots, File Plan 256, Pupukea, Koolauloa, Oahu (59-181E & 59-181F Ke Nui Road)	Hawaii Land Consultants for James Kreytak	5-9-02:36 & 37
OA-652	Certified 12/26/97	Lot 1044, Ld Ct App 677, Kaneohe, Koolaupoko, Oahu (608 Milokai Place)	Robert Sing for Canterbury Enterprises, Inc.	4-4-39:6
*KA-073	<del>With-</del> <del>drawn</del> 12/26/97	Lot 6, Moloaa Hui Lots, Kawaihau, Kauai, Hawaii (3531 Moloaa Road)	Peter N. Taylor, Inc. for Emil E. Mansat, Jr.	4-9-14:15
		* [Certification previously published in the November 8, 1997 Environmental Bulletin]		

# Pollution Control Permits

JANUARY 8, 1998

## Department of Health Permits

The following is a list of some pollution control permits currently being reviewed by the State Department of Health. For more information about any of the listed permits, please contact the appropriate branch or office of the Environmental Management Division at 919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Honolulu.

Branch & Permit Type	Applicant & Permit Number	Project Location	Pertinent Dates	Proposed Use
Clean Water Branch, 586-4309, Water Quality Certification	Norma Lei Chang Noland, # 97-CW-WQC-12	Edward Y. Chang Estate, Wailuku, Maui	Comments Due: January 15, 1998	Stream Diversion Project to Obtain Water for Family Farm
CWB, Water Quality Certification	Gentry Homes, Ltd., # 97-CW-WQC-13	Waiawa, Oahu	Comments Due: January 18, 1998	Access Road Crossing the Panakauahi Gulch

## Submission Deadlines for 1998 Environmental Notice

SUBMISSION DEADLINE	ENVIRONMENTAL NOTICE ISSUE DATE	30-DAY COMMENT DEADLINE	45-DAY COMMENT DEADLINE
December 26, 1997	January 8, 1998	February 9, 1998	February 23, 1998
January 12, 1998	January 23, 1998	February 23, 1998	March 9, 1998
January 28, 1998	February 8, 1998	March 10, 1998	March 25, 1998
February 10, 1998	February 23, 1998	March 25, 1998	April 9, 1998
February 25, 1998	March 8, 1998	April 7, 1998	April 22, 1998
March 11, 1998	March 23, 1998	April 22, 1998	May 7, 1998
March 27, 1998	April 8, 1998	May 8, 1998	May 26, 1998
April 13, 1998	April 23, 1998	May 26, 1998	June 8, 1998
April 28, 1998	May 8, 1998	June 8, 1998	June 22, 1998
May 13, 1998	May 23, 1998	June 22, 1998	July 7, 1998
May 27, 1998	June 8, 1998	July 8, 1998	July 23, 1998
June 10, 1998	June 23, 1998	July 23, 1998	August 7, 1998
June 25, 1998	July 8, 1998	August 7, 1998	August 24, 1998
July 13, 1998	July 23, 1998	August 24, 1998	September 8, 1998
July 29, 1998	August 8, 1998	September 8, 1998	September 22, 1998

# Environmental Council Notices

JANUARY 8, 1998

## Land Management - Draft Exemption List

*The Department of Land and Natural Resources, Land Division, Land Management Branch has submitted a draft exemption list to the Environmental Council for review and concurrence.*

*Please review the following draft exemption list and submit your comments by February 9, 1998 to:*

- 1) Environmental Council, 235 S. Beretania Street, Room 702, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813; and*
- 2) Department of Land and Natural Resources, Land Division, Land Management Branch, P.O. Box 621, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809.*

**“Environmental Impact Statement  
Exemption List  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Land Division  
Land Management Branch**

Pursuant to Section 11-200-8 (a), Exempt Classes of Action, Environmental Impact Statement Rules, the following is the Land Management Branch’s exemption list:

**EXEMPT CLASS OF ACTION (1): Operations, repairs, or maintenance of existing structures, facilities, equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion or change of use beyond that previously existing.**

1. Use of existing roadways on State lands for land dispositions, including but not limited to easements, right of entries, revocable permits, leases, and licenses, if not expanded from its original size.

2. Use of State lands that previously existed with no interruption of use change.

3. Operations of existing structures, facilities or equipment with no change of use beyond that previously existing. The following are types that would be eligible, but not limited to, in this category:

- a. roadways
- b. bridges
- c. man made waterways
- d. offices
- e. warehouses
- f. farms

4. Repairs and/or maintenance of existing structures, facilities, equipment or topographical features that involves no expansion or change of use beyond that previously existing.

The following types that would be eligible, but not limited to, in this category:

- a. roadways
- b. bridges
- c. man made waterways
- d. streams
- e. offices
- f. warehouses
- g. farms
- h. farm dwellings
- i. single family dwellings
- j. vacant land (vegetation)

**EXEMPT CLASS OF ACTION (2): Replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located generally on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose, capacity, density, height, and dimensions as the structure replaced.**

1. This involves any existing structure and/or facility located on State lands that will undergo either a replacement or reconstruction project, that does not involve expansion of the existing size and change in use, and is generally located on the same site. Types that fall into this category are listed, but not limited to, in the preceding Exempt Class of Action (1) section.

**EXEMPT CLASS OF ACTION (3): Construction and location of single, new, small facilities or structures and the alteration and modification of the same and installation of new, small, equipment and facilities and the alteration and modification as same, including, but not limited to:**

**[A] Single family residences less than 3,500 square feet not in conjunction with the building of two or more such units;**

a. Either one (1) single family dwelling or accessory dwelling not more than 3,500 square feet in size constructed on one (1) parcel of State land.

**[B] Multi-unit structures designed for not more than four dwelling units if not in conjunction with the building of two or more such structures;**

a. Either one (1) duplex, triplex, or fourplex constructed on one (1) parcel of State land.

# Environmental Council Notices

JANUARY 8, 1998

**[C] Stores, offices, and restaurants designed for total occupant load of twenty persons or less per structure, if not in conjunction with the building of two or more such structures; and**

a. Either one (1) store, office, restaurant designed for a total occupancy of twenty (20) or less persons (square footage determined by respective County building codes) constructed on one (1) parcel of State land.

**[D] Water, sewage, electrical, gas, telephone, and other essential public utility services extensions to serve such structures or facilities; accessory or appurtenant structures including garages, carports, patios, swimming pools, and fences; and, acquisition of utility easements.**

a. Any public utility service extension to serve such structures or facilities; accessory or appurtenant structures, including, but not limited to, water collection, distribution and storage systems, garages, carports, patios, swimming pools, fences, driveways and swales.

**EXEMPT CLASS OF ACTION (4): Minor alterations in the conditions of land, water, or vegetation.**

1. Minor grading and grubbing of State lands in preparation for construction of structures exempt under Exempt Class of Action (3).

2. Maintenance of State lands regarding removal of vegetation, trash, etc.

3. One time, short term (14 days or less) use of State lands with the utilization of portable structures, facilities and/or equipment, if needed.

4. Minor cut, fill and grading of State land of less than 50 cubic yards of rock and/or soil where the vertical height of cut or fill does not exceed three (3) feet.

5. Maintenance and/or repair of State lands that contains a hazard that could be detrimental to public health and safety.

**EXEMPT CLASS OF ACTION (5): Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.**

1. Any data collection, research, experimental management and resource evaluation activity.

2. Any of the above that may require the placement of removable and/or temporary equipment of which no serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource (ground, water, vegetation, wildlife, etc.) is committed.

3. Appraisals of real property, including, but not limited to:

- a. land exchange proposals
- b. determination of acquisition/sales price
- c. rental fees
- d. royalty fees

**EXEMPT CLASS OF ACTION (6): Construction or placement of minor structures accessory to existing facilities.**

1. Construction or placement of any accessorial minor structures to existing facilities, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. farms - sheds, barns, warehouses, etc.
- b. pastures - fencing, sheds, corrals, etc.
- c. beaches - walkways, stairs, restrooms (with infrastructure in place), etc.

**EXEMPT CLASS OF ACTION (7): Interior alterations involving things such as partitions, plumbing, and electrical conveyances.**

1. Any interior alterations performed on structures and/or facilities located on State lands.

**EXEMPT CLASSES OF ACTION (8): Demolition of structures, except those structures located on any historic site as designated in the national register or Hawaii register as provided for in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Public Law 89-665, 16 U.S.C. Section 470, as amended, or Chapter 6E, HRS.**

1. Any demolition and removal of unusable structures from State lands, controlled by the State, that has been reviewed and approved by the Office of Historic Preservation.



# Environmental Council Notices

JANUARY 8, 1998

2. Removal of abandoned, private property and unauthorized improvements located on State lands.

**EXEMPT CLASS OF ACTION (9): Zoning variances except shoreline setback variances.**

1. Any zoning variances, except shoreline setback variances, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. building
- b. building setback
- c. conditional use

**EXEMPT CLASS OF ACTION (10): Continuing administrative activities including, but not limited to purchase of supplies and personnel-related actions.**

1. Any type of continuing administrative activity, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. purchase of office supplies
- b. vehicle maintenance
- c. rental of equipment
- d. purchase of equipment
- e. hiring of personnel
- f. travel
- g. enrollment fees for seminars, workshops, etc.

**NOTE:** As stipulated by Section 11-200-8 (b), Environmental Impact Statement Rules, "all exemptions under the classes in this section are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of planned successive actions in the same place, over time, is significant, or when an action that is normally insignificant in its impact on the environment may be significant in a particularly sensitive environment."

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR ALA WAI CANAL DREDGING

**AGENCIES:** City and County of Honolulu, Department of Transportation Services; State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources; Federal Highway Administration

**PUBLIC MEETING:** A public meeting to solicit comments prior to preparation of the Environmental Assessment (EA) will be held on Thursday, January 22, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ala Wai Elementary School Cafeteria, 503 Kamoku Street, Honolulu. During this meeting, an overview of the proposed action will be presented, and public comments on potential impacts of the project will be accepted.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 343 and the National Environmental Policy Act, the above agencies announce their intent to prepare an EA for proposed dredging of the Ala Wai Canal. The dredging will extend from the Ala Moana Boulevard Bridge to the

Kapahulu Avenue end, and along the Manoa-Palolo Drainage Canal up to the Date Street Bridge. The proposed action has six components: (1) limits of dredging; (2) dredging methodology; (3) sediment transportation; (4) sediment processing; (5) sediment disposal or reuse; and (6) use of waters and shore-side lands for dredging support operations (staging and material transfer). Various combinations of options comprise project alternatives.

A Notice of Availability will be published in the Office of Environmental Quality Control's **Environmental Notice** to inform interested agencies, individuals, and organizations of the means to review the Draft EA.

Any person with a hearing impairment desiring to attend the public meeting may request the assistance of a sign language interpreter provided such request is made at least seven days prior to the scheduled public hearing. Request for a sign language interpreter may be made by calling Molly Kihara at Belt Collins Hawaii at 521-5361.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Written statements and/or questions regarding the proposed action may be addressed to Ms. Molly Kihara, Belt Collins Hawaii, 680 Ala Moana Boulevard, First Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813; telephone (808) 521-5361; fax (808) 538-7819.

# Federal Notices

JANUARY 8, 1998

## Hazardous Waste Closures in 'Ewa

The Department of Health and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency are seeking comments on a revised closure plan for a hazardous storage area at Unitek Environmental Services in Campbell Industrial Park, 'Ewa (deadline **JANUARY 12, 1998**). Both agencies also accepted comments until **DECEMBER 26, 1997**, on a closure plan for Honolulu Wood Treating Company in 'Ewa; a decision on that closure plan is forthcoming. Copies are available for review at the Department of Health and the EPA Pacific Islands Contact Office. For more information, please call Paul Kalaiwa'a at 586-4226.

## Endangered and Threatened Species

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) announced that Bruce Koebele of Pearl City has requested a permit (No. 837010) to reduce and remove to possession specimens of the plants *Achyranthes splendens* var. *rotundata*, and *Chamaesyce skottsbergii* var. *kalaeloana* from the Naval Air Station, Barbers Point, O'ahu, in conjunction with scientific studies and the augmentation of existing populations for the purpose of enhancing their survival. The FWS also announced that Jimmy W. Meyer of Cantonment, Florida, requested a permit (No. 837326) to purchase in interstate commerce three pairs of captive bred Hawaiian nene geese (*Branta sandvicensis* or *Nesochen sandvicensis*) for the purpose of enhancing its propagation and survival. Written comments on the above applications must be received by the Chief, Division of Consultation and Conservation Planning, Ecological Services, Fish and Wildlife Service, 911 N.E. 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232-4181, FAX (503) 231-6243, by **JANUARY 22, 1998**. Please refer to the respective permit number when submitting comments (see, 62 F.R. 67089, December 23, 1997).

## Precious Corals Plan Team Meeting

The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council will hold a meeting of its Precious Corals Plan Team on **JANUARY 30, 1998**, from 9:00 A.M. at the National Marine Fisheries Service Honolulu Laboratory, 2570 Dole Street, Room 112, Honolulu. The team will discuss: the status of precious corals fishery and the recent survey of the Makapu'u Bed; a final draft of a management plan; the inconsistency of Hawai'i State and federal regulations for the harvest of precious corals; and other issues as required. For more information, please call Ms. Kitty Simonds at 522-8220 (see, 62 F.R. 66604, December 19, 1997).

## Radio Broadcasting Services, Ha'iku and Kaunakakai

Effective **JANUARY 26, 1998**, the Federal Communications Commission has issued final rules allocating Channel 293C to Ha'iku, Maui (as that community's first local FM transmission service) and allocating Channel 272C to Kaunakakai, Moloka'i (as that community's first local aural transmission service) in response to two petitions for rulemaking filed on behalf of Native Hawaiian Broadcasting (see, 62 F.R. 66294 and 66295, December 18, 1997).

## Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System (JACADS)

The Department of the Army announced that it has incorporated class I modifications to the JACADS Hazardous Waste Permit under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) to allow the continuation of facility operations and correct errors in the JACADS RCRA Hazardous Waste Permit. Any comments or questions should be sent to Mr. John Carroll, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, H-3-3, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, California 94105, telephone (415) 744-2064 (from, December 9, 1997, Public Notice, Department of the Army, Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization, Aberdeen Proving Ground).

## Final Rule on Geological and Geophysical Explorations of the Outer Continental Shelf

The Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service has determined pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, that a final rule, effective **JANUARY 23, 1998**, on geological and geophysical explorations of the outer continental shelf (30 C.F.R. Parts 250 and 251) does not constitute a major federal action affecting the quality of the human environment; therefore an environmental impact statement is not required (for details, see, 62 F.R. 67278, December 24, 1997).

# Letters of Notice

JANUARY 8, 1998

OEQC prints "Letters of Notice" to encourage public participation in our EIS system. Your views are welcome. We may edit letters due to limited space. The opinions presented do not necessarily reflect those of OEQC.

## Hawaii Audubon Comments on Saddle Road

*These are excerpts from a comment letter submitted by the Hawaii Audubon Society on the Saddle Road DEIS.*

### General Comments

The Hawaii Audubon Society expresses its general support for the project as outlined in the DEIS if the project can guarantee a net gain of suitable Palila habitat. We cannot recommend a particular route at this time as many of the social concerns affecting route selection are beyond the scope of the Society's conservation interests. However as a general policy, the Society does not condone the destruction of critical habitat for any endangered species, nor do we condone the destruction and fragmentation of intact native ecosystems. Should PTA-1 or PTA-3 be selected, we do wish to express our strong support for the overall mitigation measures as outlined, as well as the Palila mitigation plan in particular to offset the irreversible ecological impacts of road construction.

We also have the following questions and concerns that remain unanswered by the DEIS.

### Palila Mitigation Plan

Of primary concern is the financing structure for the Palila Mitigation Plan. As it is probably unknown how many Palila populations can be successfully re-established in formerly suitable mamane forest habitat, we strongly support the acquisition and restoration of as much mamane forest land as financially possible. For long-term recovery efforts to succeed, large enough areas with wide enough elevation ranges are required for Palila to seasonally utilize available food resources. However, the high cost of the Palila Mitigation Plan places the package at risk of not being fully implemented.

To avoid any net loss of critical Palila habitat, how will funding for the full Palila Mitigation Plan be guaranteed if the project is constructed incrementally? Will mitigation funds be tied solely to each separate segment, with Palila restoration efforts to run only concurrently with the impacts from constructed segments? What is the tentative timetable for implementing the Palila Mitigation Plan? A timetable for project implementation is included in the DEIS, yet no mention is made of implementing mitigation measures short

of recommendations by USFWS personnel that recovery efforts should begin as soon as possible with suitable habitat for initial translocation efforts to be made ready in the next twelve months. A detailed discussion of how these concerns will be addressed is needed before any FEIS. In short, the MOA for the Palila plan and the final Record of Decision must have ironclad provisions to ensure that net gains of Palila critical habitat are in fact made.

Again, the Society strongly supports the full implementation of the Palila Mitigation Plan as initially proposed, but we are extremely cautious of mere assurances that proposed mitigation measures will be honored.

### Impacts of Alien Species Following Fragmentation of Native Habitat

A fuller discussion is needed of the effects generated by the bisection of native forest and shrub land habitat. Edge effects from light, noise and the introduction of alien species will extend far further than the construction corridor. Additionally, roads are notorious avenues for the spread of ants and rodents given the presence of trash at parking areas, trail heads, scenic pullouts and in the PTA area, discarded MREs. Long-term mitigation and education efforts beyond the construction period are needed to prevent the further degradation of any native ecosystems impacted by the road. Funding for such long-term efforts could be financed by requiring toll fees for use of certain sections or the entire length of the road once construction is completed.

### Appropriate Areas of Public Access

We are further concerned that the considerable natural resources along the Saddle Road will not be readily accessible for appropriate public enjoyment and use. Attention needs to be given to providing suitable scenic pullout areas and parking for allowable recreational uses. By not providing appropriate areas for these uses (coupled with the necessary mitigation measures), road users will stop at inappropriate areas and only contribute to the degradation and not the conservation of the area's natural resources.

