

**Report of PONC Site Visit to
“Connecting the Hōlualoa Royal Complex” (SUGG. 22-08)**

Hōlualoa, North Kona, Hawai‘i. Tax Map Key: (3) 7-6-021:016 and 017

Written by Deborah Chang

April 22, 2022

PONC Commissioners in Attendance: Alex Kelepolo, Deborah Chang, Diane Kaneali‘i, and Debbie Ward

Others in Attendance: David and Diane Blancett-Maddock, three of their friends (did not get their names), and County Councilwoman Rebecca Villegas.

The group first assembled at a stub-out of one of the public roads within the Kona Vista Subdivision that abuts TMK: 7-6-021:19, one of two major drainages on the nominated properties. The right arrow points to this drainage, which is owned by the County, on the portion of the FEMA flood corridor map below.



The second major drainage (TMK: 7-6-021:18), also owned by the County, is noted by the left arrow. The two red lines correspond to the upper and lower boundaries of the nominated properties (TMKs: 7-6-021:16 & 17, totaling 68.84 acres). The map shows that only small portions of the nominated properties are outside of flood-prone areas. The nomination is open to a fee simple purchase and/or a conservation easement. However, the landowners are not willing sellers to the PONC program. These properties have been nominated to the PONC program in 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Inability to enter the nominated properties make it impossible to examine the walls that the nominators are convinced mark the presence of an ancient trail and hōlua slide on the properties. Thus far archaeological studies of the area describe all remaining walls as “historic era ranch rock walls.” The nominators were advised to contact State Historic Preservation Division to share the information they have that they believe shows the presence of an ancient trail and hōlua slide on the properties.



This is a rock wall located on the makai side of Kuakini Hwy., which the nominators believe is part of the same rock wall that continues mauka on the nominated properties. They maintain that the rock wall denotes the presence of a significant ancient trail that at one time extended all the way to the ocean and up through the nominated properties.