# FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN RELATIONS

# MAILI LAND EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS AND THE STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

#### A. INTRODUCTION

The Office of Hawaiian Relations of the United States Department of the Interior intends to review the land exchange between the DHHL and the State of Hawaii.

### B. STATEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

For the reasons stated below, I have determined that the Proposed Action would not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment under Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), and therefore an environmental impact statement is not required.

#### C. REASONS

This finding of no significant impact is based on the attached environmental assessment which identifies and discusses the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and no action alternative. It is not anticipated that the exchange will result in significant adverse environmental impact. The exchange has the potential to have positive impacts on the environment by putting people into homes with adequate sanitation facilities and discouraging dumping on the Maili property.

The Office of Hawaiian Relations finds that the Proposed Action would have no significant impact on the environment.

Robert G. Stanton

Deputy Assistant Secretary – Policy

and Program Management

### DECISION OF RECORD ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN RELATIONS

# THE MAILI LAND EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS AND THE STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

#### DECISION

It is my decision to review the Maili land exchange between the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) and the State of Hawaii as outlined in the Proposed Action contained in Environmental Assessment.

#### **RATIONALE**

The proposed exchange would implement the statutory requirements of U.S. Public Law 101-132, 103 Stat. 783 (November 3, 1989), and U.S. Public Law 104-52, 109 Stat. 468 (November 19, 1995), which required the Maili land be conveyed by the Administrator of the General Services Administration (GSA) to the State of Hawaii, with a simultaneous exchange to take place between the State of Hawaii and DHHL.

The proposed action allows for the use of the Maili property as a transitional housing project for the Leeward Coast, which includes a large contingent of Native Hawaiian families. The project includes five, two-story transitional housing buildings with 16 units each for a total of 80 units that can accommodate up to 300 people. It also includes a community learning center building with administrative offices, adult classrooms, a kitchen, dining/multi-purpose room, and a children's center with classrooms. There is also a receiving home named Hoomalu O Na Kamalii for children temporarily removed from abusive environments.

Failure to exchange the Maili property would have negative environmental impacts. In 2006, the State of Hawaii's Department of Health surveyed the Waianae coast of Oahu and found approximately 4,000 people, including women and young children, were living in compounds without adequate sanitation facilities. Raw sewage from these make-shift compounds found its way into the ocean, river and streams of Waianae, Hawaii. Following a no action alternative would push persons from transitional housing back to the homeless compounds that were polluting the environment.

Utilization of the Maili property by DHHL will also stem the vandalism, illegal littering/dumping, and random brush fires that damage the environment. Previous to the utilization of the property, GSA spent thousands of dollars each year protecting and maintaining the area.

Robert G. Stanton

Deputy Assistant Secretary – Policy

and Program Management