



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

September 27, 2011

Mr. Steve Prokop
Superintendent
Kalaupapa National Historic Park
P.O. Box 2222
Kalaupapa, HI 96742

Aloha Superintendent Prokop:

Subject: Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Comments on
Preliminary Alternatives, Kalaupapa General
Management Plan

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments on the
Preliminary Alternatives identified as part of Kalaupapa
National Historic Park's General Management Plan.

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) owns
approximately 1,247 acres of land in Kalaupapa, which
encompasses the settlement area along the peninsula and
portions of the cliffs. We currently have a 50 year lease
(expiring in 2041) with the National Park Service (NPS) at an
annual lease payment of \$230,000.00.

As landowners, DHHL intends to work with NPS and participate
in its long range planning and management efforts for our
lands in Kalaupapa. DHHL understands that there are various
opportunities and constraints that exist in Kalaupapa, such
as:

- Perpetuating the legacy of Kalaupapa
- Respecting and honoring the patient community
- Protecting significant cultural and natural resources

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- Recognizing the impact of canonization of Father Damien & beatification of Mother Marian Cope
- NPS interest in long term perpetuation of area
- Limited access by trail, plane, and barge
- Expensive maintenance, improvement, and new development costs
- Multi-jurisdictional management of Kalaupapa

The Preliminary Alternatives do a good job at addressing these opportunities and constraints, but after conducting Beneficiary Consultation meetings on Moloka'i and discussions with DHHL staff related to the proposed preliminary alternatives, the DHHL has these comments to offer:

MOLOKA'I ISLAND PLAN

1. The Department developed the Moloka'i Island Plan in 2005 that identifies two (2) areas (3.5 acres each) in Kalaupapa for Community Use (see attached map). DHHL recommends that the preferred alternative identify these community use areas as gathering places for cultural practices and access of native Hawaiians.
2. Identify potential existing facilities within these areas for adaptive reuse to serve the functions listed above.
3. These areas could be licensed to an organization of native Hawaiian patients or our Homestead Association(s) to manage and operate.

ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL ALTERNATIVES

1. *Resources*
 - Continue to hire, train, and provide internships to engage native Hawaiians in resource management efforts
 - Work with native Hawaiian schools and students (Moloka'i Schools, Kamehameha Schools, Hawaiian Immersion and Charter Schools) to provide educational experiences and opportunities in Kalaupapa

2. *Traditional Collection, Hunting, and Fishing*

- Allow for native Hawaiian gathering/access in Kalaupapa

3. *Visitor Experience*

- Identify a special access (2-3 days/weekend) period, determined by resources, to allow exclusive native Hawaiian access to Kalaupapa, while still enforcing cap of 100 visitors per day.

4. *Concessions*

- Ensure native Hawaiian preference on all concessions, contracts for goods and services, and commercial uses at Kalaupapa

5. *Facilities, Access, Transportation*

- Allow native Hawaiians preference for access/transportation via mule, foot, trail, plane, boat
- There is no mention of long term use of facilities, access, and transportation. Management, operations, and jurisdiction of these resources needs to be further defined.

6. *Management Structure, Partnerships and Agreements*

- Develop a task force made up of landowners, stakeholders, and community leaders to determine best long term management options
- Once last patient passes, explore potential utilization of health facilities for rehabilitation, kūpuna assisted living, or health care programs since facilities already exist

PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVE SUPPORTED BY DHHL

Preliminary **Alternative B** seems to support the short and long term desires of patients, beneficiaries, and Department staff

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related to the management of Kalaupapa with a few additions and edits:

- Kalaupapa is a Special Hawaiian Place. All components (resource management, cultural resources, natural resources, marine resources and fishing, traditional collection and hunting, visitor use, interpretation and education, facilities, access and transportation, concessions and commercial uses, etc.) of any alternative needs to highlight the benefits and inclusion of native Hawaiian people, history, culture.
- As a Hawaiian place, stewardship and access to natural and cultural resources is essential to our beneficiaries and native Hawaiian communities to protect and preserve cultural practices, traditions, and protocols. Please incorporate a unique native Hawaiian stewardship component for both individuals and groups into Preliminary Alternative B.
- Hire native Hawaiian Cultural Consultants made up of cultural practitioners and residents of Kalaupapa or Moloka'i to properly advise NPS on management initiatives with a "native Hawaiian lens"
- Enforce the visitor cap of 100 people per day to restrict general public, but ensure native Hawaiian preference on access.
- In the long term, allow for overnight visitation to stewardship individuals or groups only.
- Work with DHHL beneficiary community and the Department to establish a visitor information and cultural facility at Pālā'au State Park
- Long term use of facilities, primarily houses, should be investigated for potential DHHL residential uses, possibly homesteading
- Include as part of education, interpretation, and outreach, pre-settlement native Hawaiian history by hiring native Hawaiian cultural practitioner guides or previous native Hawaiian residents of Kalaupapa
- Provide management level job opportunities for native Hawaiians
- Develop a Sustainable Kalaupapa Community

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We thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. Kalaupapa is a special place that must be cared for by the Department, our beneficiaries, and all of Hawai'i.

If there are any questions you can contact Mr. Kaleo Manuel of our Planning Office at 620-9485 or by email at Kaleo.L.Manuel@hawaii.gov.

Me ke aloha,



 Albert "Alapaki" Nahale-a, Chairman
Hawaiian Homes Commission

Attachment

cc: Commissioner Tancayo, Molokai
DHHL Molokai District Office

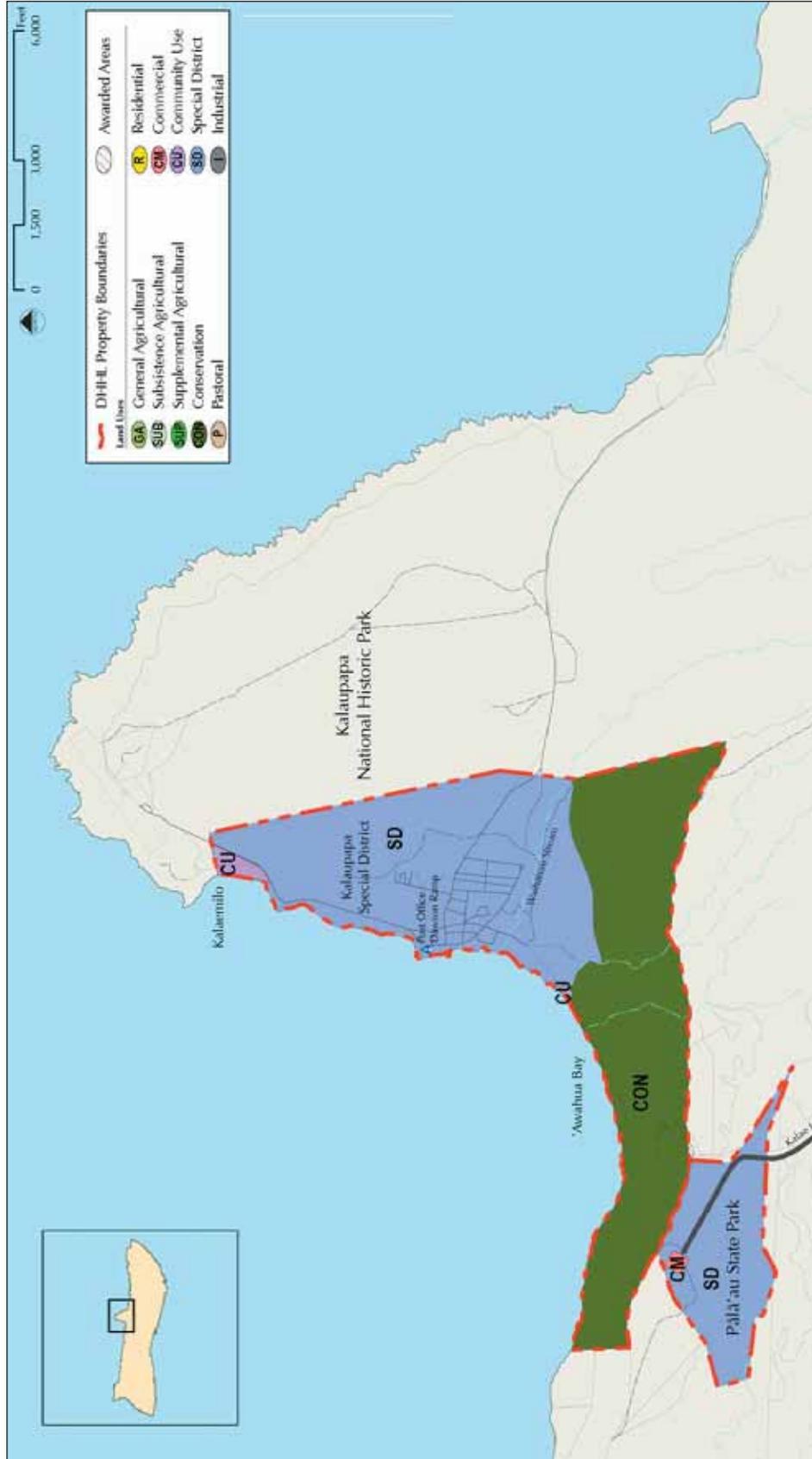


Figure ES.6 - Kalaupapa and Pālā'au (Apana 3) Preferred Land Use Plan

