Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Disaster Recovery Project  
February 24, 2022, 6 PM HST Virtual Meeting Transcript

Rhonda Loh – NPS: My name’s Rhonda Loh, I’m the superintendent at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. And mahalo nui loa for joining us tonight. If you didn’t hear it at the beginning, I think most of you did, we are taping this meeting. And then we will be having a presentation on the proposed actions and that’ll be followed by comments and questions from you, the participants, that we’ll answer. If you want to provide verbal comments, please put your name in the chat and you will be put on the list and called on when it is your turn. And we are monitoring the chat for comments and questions, and we’ll address verbally as time allows. So to begin, I want to recognize, since 2018, many of you have been following the park’s progress in repairing and reopening areas on Kilauea that were impacted by the volcanic eruption and collapse of the caldera. The actions proposed the National Park Service and US Geological Survey to replace damaged buildings and relocate their functions further from the rim of Kilauea Caldera is the next phase in this recovery process. Many of you provided your mana’o, your input, in June 2020 when the two agencies first went out to the public with some preliminary concepts. Mahalo nui loa, your feedback helped guide us to where we are today. And we look forward to sharing our proposed actions and hearing further from you.

Joining me today is National Park Service and US Geological Survey staff who have been working on this project. And individuals from Otak and SWCA, who are contracted to help us develop the design concepts and assist us throughout this process. And with that, I’d like to hand this over to Dr. Ken Hon, scientist in charge at Hawaiian Volcanos Observatory, Ken.

Ken Hon – USGS: Thank you Rhonda, yeah, I’d just like to echo some of the things that Rhonda said, which is, we’re really pleased with the community interest. HVO has always tried to have close contact with the community and ya know, developed a better understanding of what community needs are. And we’re particularly happy that we are going to be able to have a new building within the park and continue a century old partnership with the National Park Service trying to, not only, look at the hazards that the two volcanos, Kilauea and Mauna Loa, pose, but also to try to better understand these volcanoes. So that everybody can have a deeper understanding of the islands we live on and that visitors can see these remarkable features that the Park Service takes such good care of. So thank you all for coming out and we look for to hearing from you.

Rhonda Loh – NPS: Thank you, Ken. And with that, I’m moving on to Chad Weiser from Otak, who will be presenting on the proposed actions, Chad.

Chad Weiser – Otak: Great thank you, Rhonda. Aloha to everyone. My name is Chad Weiser. I’m a project manager and principal with Otak; we’re primary consultant to the National Park Service supporting with early planning for disaster recovery, and now transitioning into design of of some of the project features that we’ll be talking about tonight. So I have the pleasure and the honor of presenting some of that information. So I’m going to begin to share my screen.
Um, on the screen now, you should be seeing a title page of a document that’s online. It’s called a story map, it’s an online tool to communicate information about projects, it integrates maps and graphics. So this is accessible to anyone really that’s on the call by going through the park’s website into the documents associated with this project. And you can get a link to this and even following this meeting, if you want to peruse the story map yourself online to gain more information, you’re welcome to do so. So I’m going to move through this and get you introduced.

As was mentioned by Rhonda, all of the project elements and components that we’re going to talk about tonight is all directly related to recovering from the 2018 eruption. In association with that, so I move forward there, really four primary areas that we’re going to talk about within the park. I’ll go through them quickly.

Number 1 on the map is the Uēkahuna area, just along the crater. This is the area where most of the damage occurred to existing facilities. So what you’ll see when we go through this section is a lot of what’s proposed in this location is actually removal of some of those facilities due to their damage, but also the evaluation of long term resiliency of maintaining those facilities at that particular location. As such, areas 2, 3, and 4 on this map represent the locations in which the National Park Service, as well as the USGS, is looking to relocate some of the facilities that were at Uēkahuna. Number 2 is related to the USGS operation, it will be a field station location to support their research and monitoring operations, and it will be located near the Kilauea Military Camp. Number 3 is the existing Kilauea Visitor’s Center area, where there would be, you’ll see a new facility proposed that would be a visitor’s center replacing many of the functions of the Jaggar Museum that is currently located at Uēkahuna and was also one of the damaged facilities. And then lastly, to support some of these changes, some proposed transportation improvements near the entrance to create safer conditions and reduce congestion. So I’ll walk us through each of these areas and try to illustrate what is part of the proposed action for this project.

So starting at Uēkahuna bluff, I’ll first I guess reiterate that this event created significant impacts at this site resulting in the desire to reconsider some of the infrastructure that’s in this location. And really it also provided an opportunity to really kind of reevaluate the man-made presence that maybe is appropriate at this site due to the cultural sensitivity being the most prominent point at Kilauea. You can see in this photo, kind of the prominence of these facilities as they exist.

As we move into a proposed site plan that illustrates what the future condition would be. You can see in green are significant areas that would essentially be reclaimed and revegetated that currently is where some of these buildings reside. In addition, there will be an expanded overlook that is in the proximity of the existing overlook and the Jaggar Museum. The intent is to maintain public access to this location. It’s an amazing viewing location into the caldera and that’s something that the National Park Service would like to maintain.
I’ll show you a bit more details of the overlook area. This area right in here is representative of the existing overlook. There’s a stone wall that surrounds the edge and then you can see a light banding that represents an expanded portion of the overlook and is also representative of the current footprint of the Jaggar Museum. So this creates a lot of expanded access for the public, more room to gather in high visitation periods, also creates some seating and there’s also an imprint within the pavement that honors and represents the history of the Jaggar Museum in this location. Along with this visitor access, there would be maintaining this comfort station facility on site, along with a replacement of a water tank that serves water for this site, as well as the campground down the road. And we’ll be maintaining similar amount of parking, as well as looking at some additional potential trail connections to the Crater Rim Trail. But for the most part, you’ll see a significant change in the context of this site and the amount of the built infrastructure.

To give you a sense of that, as we go through this presentation and as you have an opportunity to look at the story map, you’ll see that we have a number of images that are essentially a before and after representation of what current conditions are and what they may be with the implementation of the proposed action. In this graphic, this is a long-distance view from the Volcano House area, across the caldera. Here’s the Uēkahuna bluff area, and you can see the small, very small building in this view, but what amounts to a very large building up close. It is visible across the caldera, and if this proposed action moves forward, you can see that that essentially removes most of the man-made elements that might be within that viewshed. So again, as you go through this, you’ll have an opportunity to look at each one of these and what the potential visual impacts are for any and all of the proposals.

This is a similar, but much closer, view of the Okamura Building. This is the current context from the Crater Rim Trail. Our proposal is to remove that building. As part of that, some of the berm that currently exists there would be used to fill in the basement of that facility and so we’re currently looking at continuing to make some adjustments here to even better screen the remaining water tank and comfort station that may be located at this site. So if you have any comments on some of those features, please let us know. And that is the primary elements at Uēkahuna.

So, we’re going to move forward to the USGS field station. As was identified in early concept planning, the proposed site for the USGS field station is near the existing ball field and adjacent to the Kilauea Military Camp, in the yellow as shown on this graphic. To clarify, the USGS field station is, in part, a replacement of function of what occurs currently for the Hawaii Volcano Observatory, which is housed in the Okamura Building in the geochemical building, or geochemical annex building adjacent to the bluff. Those two facilities are primary sources for USGS staffing and research functions. As this event happened, the organization has looked at how might they approach their research work and where they would like their facilities to be located. As a result, they have determined that they would have two sites and locations, one is a forward field station that supports all of their field work but is not a primary office or research facility. Those functions would relocate to Hilo and would be combined with the Pacific Island Ecosystems Resource Center that is also housed partially in the park. That will provide a
little bit more efficiency for their agency, and we can certainly talk a little bit more about that if there's questions.

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As we move through looking at the design of this facility, the intent here was to, again, scale down the size of the facility being that they'll have some facilities in Hilo, and to reduce the footprint in this particular area to minimize impacts. This would be a two-story building to provide the functions needed. There is a small water tank to provide water service, and parking to support primarily administrative staff parking. The building would be nestled into an area of existing Ohia trees that we believe were not naturally growing but planted in association with the Kilauea Military Camp many, many years ago. And we'll have some graphics to sort of reflect how this fits into that landscape area.

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So first, the building exterior. As you'll see with this building, as well as the visitor center building that we'll be showing you, there's been a lot of sensitivity and thought brought to the choice of materials, the form, and compatibility of these new buildings in association with the historic context that is all around the park in these areas. As such, you'll see use of native stone, as well as siding materials that have a compatibility and color choice that match some of these facilities, as well as gabled roof styles.

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This is a view from the front of the facility, and this is a view from the back where the administrative parking is located.

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In addition, I mentioned that this facility would be nestled into the trees. This is a view from a roadway on the Kilauea Military Camp site. The Crater Rim Drive roadway is off to the left of this photograph. You can see there's a large grove of trees in between the roadway and where this facility would be located. This represents how the facility would be nestled into the trees and therefore visually very unobstructive in its impact. So that covers the proposed action for the USGS facility.

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I'd like to move on to the next area, which is number 3 on our original map. And that is the visitor's center. I think there's been some questions about the visitor's center. Again, I want to reiterate that the intent of the visitor's center is primarily to replace the functions that were at the Jaggar Museum, up at Uēkahuna bluff. Those primary functions were providing interpretive and orientation exhibits, and also to provide retail sales for the Hawaii Pacific Parks Association. In addition to that as we looked at siting, we determined that best siting for many, many reasons and factors was to locate this facility near the existing Kilauea Visitor's Center, which is this building right here. It would be just to the east and it would include some additional parking to provide capacity for the increased visitor use in this particular area of the park. It would be in part, located on some existing parking, but then we would be replacing that with an expansion parking, which is represented to the right here.

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And one of the other things, as was mentioned with the USGS facility, is really studying and thinking about the size and scale of this new facility, how it fits into the historic context of this historic district. There are several facilities in and around in this context. Off to the left of the image would be the current Volcano House. At the top of the image is the 1877 Volcano House. And then this facility is the
Kilauea Visitor’s Center, all of which have historic significance. Therefore, the placement of a new facility in that context is very, very important to think about the design and approach.

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So, this is the proposed action site plan for this particular area of the park. Again, to orient you, this is the existing Kilauea Visitor’s Center, so just immediately to the east is the proposed location of the new visitor’s center. And I’d like to just kind of clarify the functions, and we’ll look at a floor plan briefly, but there are some functions that are in the Kilauea Visitor’s Center that we would relocate to this visitor’s center here. And that unoccupied space, or the space that would be vacated would be used for special events, would be used for other programming, including K-12 type programming. The site plan provides an opportunity, and we’ll talk a bit more about the transportation improvements, but an opportunity to provide another access point for parking for visitors. And also it creates some interconnectivity of all the parking as a parallel circulation along Crater Rim Drive to help with some of the congestion.

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This you’ll see the proposed floor plan for the visitor’s center. This is oriented in a similar fashion to how you just saw it on the graphic. North is to the top of the sheet, east is to the right. As such, the two primary entry points would be from the parking that would be to the east, coming into a new covered lanai that provides circulation, but also will provide opportunities for outdoor exhibits, orientation style exhibits as well as interpretive exhibits. There’s also a bus drop off area that would be right in front of the facility and that’ll provide an opportunity to drop off and go to the primary entrance point of the building. All of these exterior areas will be covered. There is an option, based on funding availability, for an expanded lanai for even more outdoor exhibits that would also be covered. As you get into the building, there will be an orientation space, a ranger desk for interaction between park staff and visitors. And then this exhibit space would be for essentially replacement exhibits to what was out at the Jaggar Museum, as well as what was in the kind of orientation area of the KVC currently. In addition to that, off the orientation area, and also with a separate entrance, is a sales area for HPPA, again replacing functions that were both in the KVC as well as the Jaggar Museum. There’ll be a small administrative space, although most of the admin space is in the other half of the KVC that is currently used for that function. Last big element of this floor plan is the public restrooms, which essentially will just create greater restroom capacity for this particular part of the site.

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So again, with all of these, it’s important to look at the character of these facilities. This is a view from the bus parking area. This is the main entrance. As you can see, there’s covered lanai space. The higher roof here is essentially the roof for the optional covered lanai if fundings available. This is an additional separate entrance to the sales area. The project does integrate photovoltaics to support offsetting energy use for the building. In addition, the parking lot will have electric vehicle charging spaces and the opportunity to expand that in the future. You can see the material choices again are very similar and compatible with existing facilities.

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This is a view from the parking lot coming in, again, towards the entrance. Here’s representation there may be exhibits on the wall. Restrooms are over on the right. Expanded covered lanai on the left.
As with the others, there’s some slider views here. I had mentioned, I should point out the KVC would be off to your left off the screen. I mentioned that the building would be located in part within the existing parking lot, so this is showing you where that would be located. That parking would be replaced with some of the new parking that we’re adding. On each of these slider views as you go through the story map, just not that there’s a graphic that illustrates where these views are very specifically, if that’s not clear.

And then this is a view from further west on Crater Rim Drive. Here’s the Kilauea Visitor’s. This one is interesting in that you can see the building in the distance, it’s very subtle. Again, with the vegetation that’s out on this site, from different points of view, it will not be very impactful to existing views. Alright, so that’s the visitor’s center.

As I mentioned, there’s some transportation improvements as well. I wanted to kind of explain this a little further as to, how this fits into the whole project. There’s been some ongoing challenges with regard to safety and with regard to congestion in this area of the park, and if anything, may be exacerbated by how we’re having to address relocation of facilities and just having lost, many years ago, the ability to loop Crater Rim Drive and have it function in the way it was originally intended. So, the primary safety concerns are that this entrance station has two lanes. In very, very peak visitation times, those lanes can back up and queueing can back up onto Highway 11 on the right side of the screen, creating a very large safety issue. So we wanted to look at addressing that. In addition, this leg of Crater Rim Drive south that goes to the chain of craters, has become a choice of more visitors, as far as when they come in the park. And right now, because of the location of this intersection, it creates another safety issue with regard to left turning movements. As a matter of fact, one of the lanes because of the proximity to the entrance station, is restricted from taking a left turn. It’s forcing some visitors to drive into areas that may be congested at times, looking for a way to turn around and creates disorientation. Then after people exit the entrance station in peak periods, they’re also experiencing congestion along this roadway that has a lot to do with the activity through this stretch right here and how there’s limited access points to parking, confusion on where visitors go, and also pedestrian traffic flowing back and forth between the Volcano House and the KVC. So, there’s quite a few challenges to deal with there, and so many alternatives were reviewed with regard to how that might be addressed. So, we have a proposed action that we want to share with you.

The result of that, I’ll walk you through the key means of which we tried to address the concerns. The result is we have in here a proposed third lane. No expansion of the existing building for the third lane, in other words, not a third booth, but it is intended to be more of an administrative function. There’s a lot of administrative traffic that’s related to park staff, USGS staff, staff working at the Kilauea Military Camp, as well as commercial staff who work for the retailers or the Volcano House, and other functions on site. Technically they go through with administrative privileges, but right now they’re stuck in the entry fee lanes with all of the visitors. So, we think that creates additional queueing capacity and also an ability to process those vehicles through here more quickly. With regard to the intersection, mentioned that this intersection is really located in a poor location in relation to the entry station. As a result, this proposal is shifting the location of where that would intersect with the main Crater Rim Drive. And we
changed the function of that intersection a roundabout to provide more free flowing opportunity for visitors to make choices and to create a lot more signage and clarity about where visitors can go and so they can make choices that allow more free flowing and solving some of the congestion issues. It also solves some of the safety issues with regard to left turns. This takes away a lot of left turn conflicts by entering into the roundabout and essentially coming through and not having to cross traffic. In addition the realigned area would be revegetated. We do include an improved parking area for staff that staff the entry fee booths and creates better circulation for them entering and exiting their workplace. So, with all of those, we think we’re creating a much safer, free flowing, hopefully congestion free approach to this. We do know there’ll be times where there’s a lot of vehicles. We think we’re creating a much improved result and function out of this design.

If you want to learn more about some of the details, you can click on this image as you go through the story map.

And I wanted to show some other graphics to just illustrate the changes. This is a view from Highway 11, right here is the expanded lane that’s proposed for administrative function. This area here is a more designated pull off area, as there are visitors now as they exit realize that they haven’t fully determined where they’re going, if they’re new to the area. And sometimes try to pull over and block traffic in their effort to determine where’s their next destination. So this creates a safer opportunity for them.

This is a view of the roundabout from the opposite side of the entry station. This leg is going to the west and Crater Rim Drive. This is to the south, and this would be the new access point to the new parking lot. It gives you a view of that.

And then lastly, we did prepare a video simulation to better illustrate how this would function. There was a lot of discussion about different options. We felt this was a good tool to communicate what changes would be. If you, you may or may not be seeing this roll very well just depending on your internet connection, as well as kind of how mine is functioning since I’m sharing my screen. But if you do go to the story map, you’ll be able to see this more directly and it might function better if you’re not seeing it right now very well. But with that, that kind of takes us through all the different elements of the project.

I have another slider here of what the roundabout will look like, so that’s a pretty significant change in that location providing access to that new parking lot.

But that again, and this is a reminder, and we’ll remind you all through the rest of this call that we want to hear your comments tonight, but you also have the opportunity to continue to comment through March 11th. And you can do it by phone, you can do it online, there’s multiple ways to communicate with the Park Service and USGS about your feelings and thoughts about the proposed actions. So with that, I’m going to turn it back over and see if there were any people who identified that they wanted to comment.
Rhonda Loh – NPS: Thank you Chad, and Amanda, I haven’t checked the chat. But we’re definitely open for comments and to hear your mana’o.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: Currently no questions, comments, and no one has signed up to provide a verbal comment.

Rhonda Loh – NPS: Alright Chad, that must have been a very clear presentation you provided. No questions.

Chad Weiser – Otak: Oh, people are thinking, they’re about what they want to ask and that’s all fine. And I just want to let anybody know if they want to see a particular graphic pulled up off the story map to help support their question, I’m ready here to provide that.

Rhonda Loh – NPS: Great, thank you.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: We do have some people who joined, it looks like by phone only. So if you cannot put your name in the chat but you would like to provide a comment, feel free to take yourself off mute.

Rhonda Loh – NPS: Do they need to do anything special to go off, to take themselves off mute, the phone people?

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: No, they should just be able to unmute, just like normal.

Unknown speaker: Amanda, is it like a star-6 to unmute? I’m thinking it’s like Teams, Teams we have to do that, I don’t know about Zoom, sorry.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: I will double check, hold on. Oh, huh... Star-6, sorry about that. I guess I’ve never called into a Zoom meeting.

Chad did you talk about the reuse of the tree on this one, I don’t remember if you did or not.

Chad Weiser – Otak: Yeah there’s a...

Rhonda Loh – NPS: We have a question from Nancy.

Chad Weiser – Otak: Oh ok.
Unknown speaker: Nancy Locke has a comment, go ahead Rhonda.

Rhonda Loh – NPS: Alright, “Many National Parks on mainland are instituting no personal car policies in park, making visitors use park supplied buses. Please think into future if Hawaii Volcanoes National Park might need to limit cars, how to manage bus loads, etc.” That is something we have been thinking about, it’s not the focus for this proposed actions, but I believe down the line we are looking at a corridor management plan for the Kilauea Summit Area, is that right Danielle?

Danielle Foster - NPS: Yes, hopefully in the next year or two we’ll have funding for that to be able to do it. And we will go out to the public to get their input prior to doing it and then also after we develop something.

Rhonda Loh – NPS: Yeah, we’re going to look at all the options out there for managing visitor flow and access through the summit area. Thank you. … And thank you, mahalo, for the well prepared presentation

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: So we’ll be staying on the full hour so if people think of questions, but you can also be comfortable with the silence. But again, Chad’s got that scrolling through if you have any questions or want to look at something a little closer, feel free to let us know.

Rhonda Loh – NPS: And again, if you need more time, if you’re like myself, I usually need the night to sort of think things through. You can always send your comments and questions online, or by phone. There will definitely be more opportunities through March 11th.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: Comment from Nancy’s hubby. Hi Nancy’s hubby! It says, “Great job on all, and love the roundabout solution”.

Rhonda Loh – NPS: Great thank you. We definitely looked at a lot of different options and got quite a bit of public comment the first round in 2020.

Phone call in: Aloha, yes, wondering about the new USGS building and if it’s going to be adjacent to the ball park, why not just put it on the ball park, if it’s a cleared area?

Rhonda Loh – NPS: Summer, did you want to respond, or? Summer’s our archeologist, deputy cultural resource manager.

Summer Roper - NPS: Hello, the ball field is historic and part of the cultural landscape at the Kilauea Military Camp and part of it’s contributing to the National Register Nomination that’s in draft right now. And so we decided to keep it intact and to preserve that historic resource.
Rhonda Loh – NPS: Thank you, Summer.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: And we did have somebody recently join on the phone and you may not have heard. If you want to provide a verbal comment, to take yourself off mute, it’s star-6, and since you can’t access the chat, feel free to take yourself off mute, if you want to.

Rhonda Loh – NPS: And if you missed the presentation but were able to read up on the proposed actions online and had questions, it’s a great opportunity to ask those questions now.

And while we’re waiting, if there’s any additional comments, if you’re open to conversation, I’d be curious Nancy and Nancy’s hubby if you’re familiar with the park and the entrance area? It sounds like you’ve had some experience with that area and the roundabout, the idea of the roundabout. And you don’t have to answer either.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: Rhonda, to put you on the spot again, do you want to share what you are most looking forward to?

Rhonda Loh – NPS: I’m really excited to see the Uēkahuna area. If the proposed go forward, I think it’ll be a very different experience. Yeah, I think that’s one of the highlights, I think. Ya know we talk about resiliency, I think in the General Management Plan and EIS, when we work with the public, the communities out here, back in 2016 was when we completed that General Management Plan, GMP, and we identified some of these areas where we had infrastructure very close to the edge, right on the rim, and that if they were to get damaged in the future, we would take a really hard look on whether we would relocate them. And sure enough, we didn’t think it was going to happen right off the bat, it was more of an idea and two year later, boom, that scenario played out and we’re here today. So it’s kind of interesting to see that initial idea and then that pre-planning engagement with the public several years ago, then the actual event happened and we’re able to build off that early planning process to get us where we currently are. So, really interested in hearing what people think about these proposed actions.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: What about you, Ken?

Ken Hon – USGS: Well I mean we’re excited to have a presence, a continued presence within the park. And we’re also excited about putting the two units of the USGS together. The new site will be great for us and I think we’ll be accessible to people in the park and it’ll give us a great platform to work off of. Ya know, I was one of the first occupants of the Okamura building when it was built out there on the edge of the Uēkahuna bluff and I can tell you, everybody whose ever worked in that building has really special feelings for that building and that area. And it’s been pretty traumatic for most USGS staff to have to leave that building, but I also, as a person who lives here on the island, and raised my kids here on the island, I look forward to seeing the bluff restored and that kind of more natural experience, because it’s much more powerful when you’re out there and experiencing it the way that you don’t feel like you’re in civilization. Right, I mean, the volcanic experience is so powerful, and it is so neat. So, I think it will
open up a new experience from that bluff for people and I’m really supportive of what the Park Service is doing with that site.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: Great.

Ken Hon – USGS: But I’ll sure never have another office like the one I had there. It was a pretty incredible place to work.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: Yeah, I bet!

Ken Hon – USGS: But I did sit there and look out the window and was always wondering what would this be like in the 1790 explosion where all those big rocks that ended up on the edge of the caldera, ha, and you’re just looking right out at it and thinking, hm, maybe this isn’t the smartest place to have a building, but it sure was beautiful.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: Yeah, I think I’m most excited about that piece, it’s going to be really nice if the decision is to move forward.

Chad Weiser – Otak: Definitely going to look different, a lot more open

Ken Hon – USGS: Can I give a little advertisement for our afternoon status reports, Rhonda?

Rhonda Loh – NPS: Sure.

Ken Hon – USGS: So I know that a lot of you guys follow events in the park very closely, and the volcano observatory has been putting out morning updates on Kilauea since these eruptions began in December of 2020. We’ve also for the last few months been giving informal reports to the Park Service about what the activity might be like for the coming evening. So what we’ve done is incorporate those now into an afternoon status report that will come out somewhere around 3 o’clock each afternoon. We started those on Tuesday, and you can get those through the volcano notification service of the USGS. Just sign up for HVO and sign up for all the reports that we hand out and you’ll get those. And so they have a little bit about the intermittent kind of pause activity that we’ve been having where the eruption will pause for a day or two and then start up again. So, it’ll give you a good idea of what the lava activity is at the summit. We can’t promise lava viewing because that includes the weather, but we try to give you an idea if this is a good evening, or maybe you want to put off your trip to another evening if it’s paused.

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: Gimme a second, where are those?

Ken Hon – USGS: Well they come out through our volcano notification service and we haven’t quite figured out how to import them to our website yet. But anybody can subscribe to the volcano notification service. And we have several different levels of things, we have volcano activity notice,
which is if there’s been a big change in eruptive style when an eruption starts, or at the stop of an eruption, then we have the daily updates, and the status reports are meant to be shorter things that fill during the course of an eruption. So, you have to subscribe to those right now, so you can go to the USGS volcano notification service and sign up and then you’ll get those sent to you, either email or text messages to you.

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Rhonda Loh – NPS: Thank you Ken.

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Ken Hon – USGS: Hey, thank you.

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Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: I put a link in the chat to where you can go in and subscribe to the notification services.

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Ken Hon – USGS: Thank you.

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Rhonda Loh – NPS: It must have worked pretty well because I noticed on Tuesday there was a lot of vehicles coming up to the park at 4:30 in the afternoon, which is I kind of thought was interesting.

00:55:04
Ken Hon – USGS: And tonight, we’re coming out of one of the pauses and it’s slowly climbing up, we said it probably wouldn’t, nothing before 9, but it’s getting close to where it looks like it could restart, but it’s still got a little ways to go. So early viewing won’t be so great tonight. Most likely sometime later evening or early morning it’ll restart again.

00:55:50
Rhonda Loh – NPS: Alright we’re getting close to the hour, so we’ll do one last quick call for anymore comments or questions from this group. And if you’re on the telephone, I believe it’s star-6 to unmute.

And before we close out, I do really want to thank all of you for joining us and taking the time, sacrificing your evening to come to this and learn and hear more about our proposed actions and to weigh in. You care about the park, we all care about these special places, and they mean a lot to us, so we really value your input and we’ll let you know as this process proceeds, I think after this public scoping phase we go back and refine the proposed actions, and that will probably come out, I don’t know, Danielle, if we have a proposed timetable. Is it ideally 6 months from now, or less?

00:57:29
Danielle Foster – NPS: Oh, it’s less. We’ll review all the comments and see how we address them and where they apply or respond or whatever, it just depends on the comment. And then after that, we’ll work on the Environmental Assessment to go with that and sent that out for review eventually, probably three months or so.

00:58:06
Rhonda Loh – NPS: I want to thank all of the presenters too, and the staff that are here to help field any questions or comments. And of course, all of you who attended this meeting and we’ll continue to stay in touch. Mahalo and a hui ho. Take care everyone.
Ken Hon – USGS: Many thanks to everybody!

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: Bye all!

Ken Hon – USGS: Thank you Amanda, great job!

Amanda Childs – SWCA Environmental Consultants: See you soon.