



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail
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Dear Reader:

We are pleased to release the Final Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail Comprehensive Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement in an abbreviated format. Please note that this abbreviated format is not a full reprint of the original Draft CMP/EIS, and so it must be considered along with the Draft. We have undertaken this abbreviated format because comments on the draft CMP/EIS did not require significant changes in the final plan, but reflect editorial corrections and clarifications of the text. Also, this format saves considerably on printing costs.

This document includes revisions to the draft CMP/EIS, a summary of comments received, our responses to substantive comments, and copies of letters received. For your convenience, the draft CMP/EIS has been posted on the Web at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/alka>, and it is available at local libraries. A limited number of copies are available at the above address.

We appreciate the active role you have taken in this complex planning process. During the public comment period for the draft CMP/EIS, over 90 individuals attended public meetings and 48 individuals and organizations provided written comments during the 60-day comment period. Over the entire five-year planning process, your engagement and comments provided an important contribution to decision-making and have helped shape the long-term management decisions for the protection, development, and public use of the Ala Kahakai NHT.

The release of this final CMP/abbreviated EIS and the published Notice of Availability in the Federal Register will be followed by a 30-day no-action period. After the no-action period, the alternative or actions constituting the approved plan will be documented in a Record of Decision which will serve as the official approval of the plan and the selected management alternative.

A presentation plan of the CMP will be published after the Record of Decision. The presentation plan will contain only the approved alternative. Other elements of the EIS will not be replicated. However, the EIS will be maintained in the administrative record. The presentation plan, which will include full-color maps and photographs, will be the working document that will guide the administration of the Ala Kahakai NHT and management activities on-the-ground over the next 15 years.

We offer our sincere gratitude for your dedication, interest, and participation in this process. We initiated this planning process with the intent that the final comprehensive management plan would reflect and perpetuate the values, culture, and stories of the ancestors and their descendants, who built, continue to care for and use these historic trails in their daily lives. We offer special mahalo (thank you) to our ancestors and kūpuna (elders) for inspiring and teaching us how to live in pono (balance) with ourselves and the land.

Sincerely,

Aric Arakaki
Superintendent