

Kalaupapa National Historical Park

General Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement

Scoping Follow-up Meeting Notes

<u>Meeting Location</u>	<u>Day, Date, Time</u>	
Kalaupapa, Moloka'i	Tuesday, December 8, 2009, 1:00pm-3:00pm	1
Kaunakakai, Molokai	Wednesday, December 9, 2009, 6:30pm-8:30pm	5
Honolulu, O'ahu	Thursday, December 9, 2009, 6:30pm-8:30pm	9

Note to readers:

These notes were transcribed as precisely as possible to the participants own words. For the vast majority of comments, names are attached to the comment. In a few places in these notes, the meaning of a statement may be obscured or lost; this is a result of manual transcription and/or human error.

Kalaupapa, Moloka'i

Tuesday, December 8, 2009, 1:00pm-3:00pm

Boogie

- So far the newsletter seems quite accurate

Meli

- Follow-up with policy and rules including settlement rules for visitation.
- National Park Service is doing a good job.

Ivy

- Concerned about visitation
- Keep Kalawao the same and keep Kalaupapa the same to each time period.
- Keep the Saint Damien and Mother Marianne story alive.

Pauline

- Keep the age limitation the same.

Father Felix

- I feel the age restriction should be 14 years old to be able to bring in entire youth groups. (Lowering the age limit).
- Keep in mind and never lose the fact that we are on sacred ground.

Gloria

- Not in favor of changing the age limit rule now or currently. In the past it was changed but was abused.
- The youth and some others were not following the other visitation rules, such as skateboarding.
- When there is no longer a patient community it would be okay to change the age limit rule.

Meli

- When there are no longer patients, the age limit policy would come under the National Park Service; it would be up to the National Park Service to decide the age limit. Keep the same age limit (16 years and older) even when patients are gone.

Pauline

- Continue age limit even when patients are gone.

Gloria

- Keep the age limit now, can change afterwards. It's National Park Service's kuleana.

Winnie

- Doesn't care about the age limit.
- She mentioned that earlier there was a long discussion about Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and National Park Service cooperation. It was supposed to also address educating the people about Native Hawaiian culture. Taro production was an example.

Sol

- Hawaiian legislature created Kalawao County. It's up to the people to provide input to the legislature regarding jurisdiction of Kalawao County. It's not a National Park Service or patient decision; it's up to the legislature.

Gloria

- She wants to maintain Kalawao County as a separate county. Federal funds contribute to the county.

Julie

- Need public relations marketing person especially for topside contacts.
- Missionaries can volunteer, paint, and clean yards.
- Need a National Park Service contact as well. Link to Maui and Moloka'i visitor and tourism association websites.
- Rules and regulations should be known and there should be consideration of privacy of patients.
- Regarding the pali trail, inform people of the condition of the trail so they understand what they are getting into.
- Inform people of conditions at Kalaupapa, limited access, and lack of medical service for visitors.

Val V.

- preservation of historic structures is a sustainable practice as opposed to construction of new buildings.
- Global warming is an issue. National Park Service should do what it can to mitigate impacts.
- It is projected that there will be a 6 foot sea level rise this century.

Carol

- Need a real infirmary with a first aid station
- There needs to be a better effort to provide information, such as a kiosk or a welcome messaging area.
- There needs to be better access for all including those who are hearing or sight impaired.
- Need to help families find grave markers.
- Need to respond to family requests.
- Clear overgrowth of invasive species, which are over the rock walls and cemeteries.
- There should be opportunities to educate youth groups to connect to land, culture and traditions.
- The information and education should cover both Hawaiian and leprosy eras.

Randall

- Main points brought up in the community meeting were talked about in the newsletter.
- There is so much transition going on in the community and he is worried about the patients right now.
- There is state turmoil with funding.
- Need to focus on the present.
- Want National Park Service to work closer with the state.
- Patients are the most important and delicate resource.

Richard

- The spirituality and serenity of Kalaupapa comes from the people, including the past.
- There is uplift to the community to have projects related to preservation.
- Buildings are tangible and contribute to the story.

Scott

- There needs to be a focus on education.
- There should be a visitor center topside.
- It would be good to incorporate patient stories now.
- The community topside wants to know what's happening at Kalaupapa.
- It would be good to have patients provide interpretive information.
- Also could use buildings at Kalaupapa for interpretation and education.

Sister Rose

- "I commend the report (newsletter); it's very inclusive."
- Factual information - Mother Marianne came approximately 120 years ago. 61 of our sisters have served here in Kalaupapa.
- Bishop Home could be a future meditative place for all denominations.
- Educate the young people about Kalaupapa.
- "I never realized until I joined the convent what Kalaupapa was all about."
- Youth groups, publications, teachers, and outreach.
- Have an educational site.
- Don't bar youth from this place. They can be well chaperoned.
- Educate not just topside but nationwide.
- Kalaupapa could be for more people than now. "Not to protect for our own use."

Sister Theresa

- Agrees with a lot of the comments, including that residents want to keep it as is.
- In the future don't limit access to Kalaupapa. National Parks are for everyone.
- National parks have an emphasis on education including history.
- From the religious point of view, Saint Damien and Mother Marianne make this place holy.
- Would like for religious groups to come here.
- Kalaupapa is a place of sacrifice as related to Saint Damien and Mother Marianne and the patients.
- Story of Mother Marianne is not as emphasized as Saint Damien, but should be told.
- Push education.
- National Park Service is doing a great job.

Liz

- Even though I read about Kalaupapa, it wasn't until I traveled here that I understood it.
- An educational station at the top of the pali to distribute valid information about Kalaupapa is needed now.
- Information regarding access, regulation, and history is pivotal.
- Spiritual reaction to both here and Carville is similar.
- Have Native Hawaiians leading tours and giving interpretation to field questions with accuracy and authority.
- Provide both walking and driving tours.
- Liz has fielded requests regarding buried relatives and has experience with locating medical records and cemetery grave markers.

Boogie

- No paved road to Kalaupapa.

Meli

- Keep Kalawao and Kalaupapa the same as they are now.
- Saint Philomena and Saint Siloama Churches - keep them clean, take care of Saint Damien's grave, and keep all the grave yards clean.

Ivy

- Agrees with comments about Saint Damien and Mother Marianne regarding education and spirituality.

Randall

- Agrees with Father Felix and Sister about importance of place and what it represents - the sacrifice that occurred.
- Kalaupapa is a “cradle of Christianity.”
- We can teach the world.
- Kalaupapa is the only place qualified to teach the story.
- Pass on lessons by patients and the church.

Father Felix

- In the past years, we've lost Richard, Bernard, others.
- Put the stories of the remaining patients on tape to preserve them for future generations.

Sol

- Regarding the Environmental Assessment for the memorial - asked for clarification about the process and evaluation of the two sites - Baldwin Home and Judd Park. Is Judd Park an alternative location and how was that decided.
- There should be caution in discussing the design of the memorial, because it has not yet been discussed within the team.

Carol

- Asked about the development of the trail topside.
- A future growth of the curatorial program is an important component to the General Management Plan.

Meli

- Keep or include maintenance of Father Damien and Mother Marianne's graves.

Gloria

- Agrees with Boogie that there shouldn't be a paved road to Kalaupapa down the pali.

Kaunakakai, Molokai**Wednesday, December 9, 2009, 6:30pm-8:30pm****Dan**

- His uncle was a patient at Kalaupapa.
- He is interested in the burial aspect.

Edwina

- List the Memorial Project meeting attendance at Kulanao'wi in the newsletter to show the Moloka'i support; concern with not showing accurate representation of total participation by people of Moloka'i.
- Concern over potential size of the Memorial.
- Glad that blasting won't occur at pier.

Margaret

- Concerned about "down there."
- Would like to attend the lighthouse – 100 years old.
- Would like to be the first female Department of Hawaiian Home Lands commissioner of Moloka'i.
- Wants to know if the National Park Service will kick people out.
- Cost is \$500 for flight to Kalaupapa; it's unreal; can National Park Service help with this?
- Contact Zita Cupchoy, Friends of the Iolani Palace.
- Share the mana'o.

Walter

- Impressed with the 'Ohana and wants to congratulate them; glad they are taking care of the sacredness of the place.
- Biggest concern is with the Native Hawaiians that were in that area first. They were forced to move out and were relocated.
- Priorities should be to find out which families were relocated (families there prior to those with Hansen's disease)
- Early Hawaiian history should be told as well
- Homesteaders had to give up that land; therefore for 50 years (because of the lease) they will not be allowed?
- For the alternatives development, suggests that National Park Service follows the ORMP (Ocean Resource Management Plan) which covers both mauka and sea
- Use aha moku and aha kiole structures so people become part of decision-making; therefore, be part of the management mechanism

Henry

- Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Commissioner for Molokai
- Supportive of National Park Service management; The National Park Service is the one with the money and the ones that can make things happen right now. We fully support what they are doing, but we'll be there to make sure everyone stays happy

Pat

- Husband's family is kama aina of Makanalua.
- She has been researching family history.
- The kama aina helped the patients and interacted with them.
- "My interest is personal."

Bo

- Kalaupapa is very spiritual, not the same as Yellowstone or Denali.
- Kalaupapa has natural beauty, greenery, and scenery, but also keep in mind the spiritual part.
- The National Park Service is the conduit to writing the plan.

DeGray

- This year is his 15th year as Santa Claus at Kalaupapa.

- Disappointed at looking at comments on National Park Service web site because there are no names attached to them.
- When the memorial is completed at least a few patients will be alive to see it.
- Would like to see comments from memorial meeting.
- Would like to see comment letters on the web site; include names attached to them.

Dan Murphy (reporter, no comments)

Esther

- Patients come first.
- Respect the people of Kalaupapa
- Are we going to do anything with the lighthouse?
- Father used to work at the lighthouse

Meli

- Kalaupapa is now clean because the National Park Service has worked so hard; Kalawao and graveyards used to be covered in koa. Now you can see the graveyards there and at the crater.
- "Right now, it's so nice and clean."
- National Park Service is going to keep the place clean.
- "Now we have good water because of National Park Service" "It's the best we ever had."
- Let National Park Service take care of what is now.

Randall

- Kokua for 29 years.
- Kalaupapa is very special – I get more than I give.
- Newsletter is very good.
- Finances with Department of Health is tough; hours are being cut and services are being curtailed.
- National Park Service, through General Management Plan, could work closer with Department of Health.
- Need to focus on "now" because of these issues, work is not being done.

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- Had pleasure of going to Rome with patients.
- Nephew was laid off down at Kalaupapa.
- Everyone is working hard for the patients.

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- Member of St. Damien parish.
- Building relationship with people of Kalaupapa is most valuable.
- Has/had family at Kalaupapa – connection.
- Wants to continue relationship/connection with people at Kalaupapa.

Pat

- Lived topside since 1993; grew up in Venezuela near Lake Miracaibo (leper settlement).
- On Board of Arizona Memorial Museum Association.
- Encouraged to hear comments on the interest of an outreach program.

Dan

- Main concern with burial areas at Kalawao, crater, and beaches

Walter

- Pala'au State Park – Department of Hawaiian Home Lands land license coming up soon; homesteaders have key interest in park; hope there is no conflict with National Park Service on who gets the land.
- Would like more homesteaders hired; hopes Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to monitor the hiring.
- Would like to allow homesteading activities at Kalaupapa – Waikolu Valley.
- Coming of the seals – Kalaupapa – "king of birthing of the seals."
- Kalaupapa to play a huge role to reverse their decline.

- Looking past this, if there are more seals to come, how do you deal with their disease instead of putting them in a pen at Sea Life Park?
- Concern over long-term management/protection of seal population.

Margaret

- How can we share water from Waikolu? – good quality
- There are issues with water quality top side.

Henry

- There's a lot of water problems that need to be taken care of.
- Aware of topside water problems; it's been a long time.
- Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is in support of National Park Service planning process.

Bo

- Global focus for canonization of St. Damien; started in 1977, beatified in 1995, canonized in 2009.
- Blessed Marianne was beatified in 2007, canonization will happen soon and will bring in more global attention.

DeGray

- General Management Plan is a long process but No. 1 priority is the memorial. Ka 'Ohana are the ones who approached Congress and got it passed. Memorial to include all 8000 names.
- There is a tremendous amount of work with searching the archives and finding the names.
- Where does it stand? What is the schedule for the memorial?
- Where are the comments?
- National Park Service and the 'Ohana are working together (referenced PBS). How does the National Park Service see 'Ohana taking a leading role for connecting families? Where does this fit in the General Management Plan?
- Comment letters – can they be put on the web site? They should be public information. It would be helpful for others to see them. He wouldn't mind having his letter on the web site. Comments are key information to share.

Margaret

- Apologizes for being rude earlier. Thanks to Moloka'i commissioner Tancayo; would like to be commissioner.

DeGray

- The Department of Health has been transitioning buildings – seems to be trying to exit. Are the buildings automatically national landmarks / on the national register?
- Can you explain the transition process?
- Are there guidelines we use for restoration of buildings?

Meli

- Thanks to everyone.

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- Spiritual place at Kalaupapa, would like more people at Molokai to experience this.

Walter

- Maui effort to restore stream flows, state requirements/standards.
- 27 streams at Hana.
- Petitioned for 6 streams (Waihanou) in Moloka'i.
- Both have tunnels (Myers's land).
- Empties at Pali's place (gully) and is wasted.
- Kalaupapa is diverting water from top side.
- Waikolu – National Park Service is diverting water.
- The water is being taken way up; wants to protect the river.

- Intake is outside boundary.

Honolulu, O'ahu**Thursday, December 9, 2009, 6:30pm-8:30pm**

Sharon

- Separation of Families
- Patients would hide children
- Family took care of children
- Promised parents that they would never let anything happen to people of Kalaupapa
- They would "always have a voice."
- "Damien frenzy" – finding out about family connections to Kalaupapa
- Their voices will never die. Family to provide voice.

Charen

- Had relatives at Kalaupapa
- Support Hawaiian ways of doing things
- Cherish them
- Support them

Ka'ohulani

- Supports what patients want
- Everyone can work together

Dolores

- Heard – asked about changing name of St. Philomena Church to Damien Church?

Monica

- Family wants to make sure that Kalaupapa is preserved as much as possible
- Remember people – through the memorial

Sister Alicia

- Family of patients should have special consideration for going to Kalaupapa
- There should be someone to meet family members to help them
- Blessed Marianne - will also be saint; need to address how to interpret along with Saint Damien

Charlie

- Speaks for Piolani Mota
- Fred Robbins Family connection
- Placement of Memorial
- Overlook place of original landing significance has to do with placement of it memorializing where people were put
- Kalawao – original settlement, where received
- Place were buried
- Like being in a cathedral – quiet
- Place where people originally suffered
- Memorialize the place – the spot means something

Pat

- Reinforce support for Ka 'Ohana position paper

Annette

- Led group of volunteers to clear graves
- Wants to see that feeling is the same
- Restrict visitation – 100 is too many
- Restrict demand w/ St. Damien

Boogie

- Good comments at Hale Mohalu & Kalaupapa
- Graveyards used to be maintained by Department of Health
- Not enough personnel to accommodate the issue
- ‘Ohana – families could take care of burials, hard to identify graves
- Could have a marker with multiple names
- Hawaiians were there before – they relocated from Kalaupapa, gathering rights need to be regulated

Mary

- Sister of Elaine – was the only one who got sick
- She was bitter, but also kind
- She was proud when Mary came to visit her at Kalaupapa
- Visited Belgium in 1995

Jason, Office of Hawaiian Affairs

- Support ‘Ohana & position paper

Nancy

- Many friends – not heard from ‘Ohana; get to them on a one-on-one basis, allow them to contribute their input
- There are different opinions on the memorial
- Want to carry on their voices

Owen

- Airport
- Make sure boundary adjustment is made
- Address the safety of the airport

Nancy

- Assisted with arts and crafts center
- Raised \$, worked w/nuns
- Has written about Kalaupapa
- Offers information – from her journals

Rev. Kaupu

- Hopes that the final plan affirms wishes of patients

Val

- Remembers first visit to Kalaupapa – didn't want to leave
- Originally wanted to leave, but feelings changed
- Love it up there, love the people, will always love Kalaupapa
- Met husband there, they were married at Siloama Church
- They take their children there to visit
- Wants Kalaupapa to stay Kalaupapa, no modern buildings, beautiful the way it is, even with lack/missing grave markers

Milo

- Worked at National Park Service in building assessments
- Being there for 6 months was very special
- Getting to know people there

Lorraine

- Kalaupapa is a very special place
- Likes what she's hearing

- Important to get more stories from patients, ‘Ohana – relate to buildings, important information for planning
- Understanding what buildings were all about
- Who lived there, what happened, personal stories
- Important for education

Laurie – Office of Inspector General

Glenn

- Agreement w/what was said
- “Feels lonely” – fewer patients left
- Plan completion in 2012 is long, will use very precious resources
- Would like to preserve certain things, Bernard’s House, Richard’s house, if converted to workers’ houses, the mana will be lost
- Stories from patient residents alive today– Boogie – are very important
- It’s about the people of Kalaupapa
- The patients alive, voices right now is the most precious thing about Kalaupapa

Meli

- Take care of Kalaupapa
- Right now nice and clean not like before
- Can see all the graveyards at the crater & Kalawao
- St. Philomena & Siloama churches are clean
- Water is the best water in Hawaii, taste like sweet
- How we get that water, National Park Service work on the water
- Waikolu – treated, More healthy
- National Park Service works hard for everyone in Kalaupapa
- Keep Kalaupapa where it is now

Boogie

- thanks for caring

Wally

- Happy to see that Bernard’s home is being considered as a link to Hale Mohalu struggle as an interpretive site also recognizing Bernard as a leader in that struggle

Jerome – Office of Hawaiian Affairs

- Descendent of patient, if we follow the patient mana’o along w/assistance w/National Park Service it can’t fail

Glenn – Department of Health

- Primary responsibility is taking care of patients, more and more the National Park Service is taking over essential functions i.e. maintenance/water supply/buildings

Randall

- Brochure/Newsletter good summary of meetings
- Always a challenge to come up w/\$ funding/staff people
- Now even more, state has other challenges, hard to ask for help, work that needs to be done now
- So much that needs to be addressed now & the Kupuna suffer
- The Ka ‘Ohana was instrumental in setting up dialysis at Kalaupapa

Jan

- I didn’t know there were 8000 – All need to be there
- Names – spelling correctly is a concern

- On memorial include date of birth, when they arrived, date of death, similar to Vietnam memorial, design aspects as well, a lot of public input so important
- Reference Korean War memorial

Cousin of Monica Bacon – Hutchinson relative

- Concern over progress of memorial
- Is there a possibility of a Letter of Agreement with ‘Ohana

Sister Marion

- Proud and privileged to be part of conversation
- To add point about blessed Marianne, include her in the conversations about Kalaupapa; talk about Damien and Marianne the same.
- Thanks National Park Service to allow us to expand our presence there – 2 volunteers & to continue
- Sisters have been there since 1888 & would like to be there into the future

Rev. Fujii– United Congregation of Christ

- One of few non-residents privileged to visit
- “Inspired my own life” “Honored to be permitted to remain part of the community”
- Honor Damien and Marianne, but, we have many other people & lives to honor

Bobbie, volunteer

- Bishops commission - Damien and Marianne - importance of honoring people of past and present & traditions of the place; add my support for that
- Looked at land map, there are competitive interests
- This is a testament that we can all come together & find the right thing to do
- Invasive Species – reclaiming the land for native species

Cynthia

- Support ‘Ohana’s interests of what they would like to see
- Time line too long so residents get their say, believe it can be shortened
- Environmental Assessment for memorial done in year that it was committed
- Would not want Kalaupapa to turn into a media circus
- Pressure to visit Kalaupapa, there needs to be caution exhibited on what’s promoted, control the access, but trying to accommodate the visitor experience
- No revolving door so it doesn’t compete w/what is down there

Pauline

- Nothing to add, we’ve been talking about this for years; hearing the same things, feel like we are going backwards, not forward fast enough
- What they said are still with us
- Existing patients, but past patients are equally important, other people need a chance to speak their hearts
- Have to have trust this will go forward. I’ll be patient

Val

- Visited Kalaupapa for over 20 years
- Meetings in April – reassuring that people are on the same page: keeping Kalaupapa sacred
- Move along as fast as possible so residents can see what’s going to happen
- “Ohana did get the dialysis machines – Randall, we can try to help “We can try our best”
- Thanks to Anna for the newsletter, nice summary of comments

Kelley

- Fortunate to work with Erika. Support ‘Ohana to keep memories alive

Gary– no comments

Bryan

- Suggest General Management Plan consider asking state to retain HRS 326. Part of the history

Mark

- Ku‘ulei’s nephew support for position paper
- Glad to see ‘Ohana - the homes were discussed in the newsletter & preserving the homes of Bernard and John especially

Charmaine

- Trip to Kalaupapa w/ ‘Ohana – many family members were born there
- House and store preservation - support the ‘Ohana

Rev. Kaupu –

- Chaired study commission
- Argument as National Park Service status, the very uniqueness of that place is its people
- One resident said reason why National Park Service should have Kuleana is that she would know the ‘aina would be preserved for the future, affirming the people & the sacred place to take ownership of that place so resident patients would be “heard” “respected” & “affirmed”

Will

- First patient’s child to get married there
- General Management Plan should have more emphasis on educational endeavor – more people should know about it
- Emphasis on Education, Religious organization could help?
- Photos of Damien’s grave in Honolulu
- Process taking too long
- Limit visitation - 100 sounds like a nice number, 200 at best
- “It’s a sacred site to visit, not a tourist attraction.”

Margaret

- Being at Kalaupapa is a transformational experience; echo comments to move process along

James

- Photo – Family connection
- Preserving cemeteries – database indexing graves & people (Latter Day Saints)

Frank, NPS

- Lorraine’s point – make sure stories of individuals connect w/ the buildings
- Making use of the buildings will be key for their preservation
- Find ways to transfer/share the experience to those who can’t visit

Randy, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Natural Area Reserves

- Look forward to continuing partnership with National Park Service & protecting the entire North Shore