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Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park News Release

For Immediate Release: December 1, 2015

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National Park Service Announces Availability of Mālama 'Aimakapā: 'Aimakapā Fishpond Wetlands Restoration Management Plan and Environmental Assessment for Public Review and Comment

KAILUA-KONA, HAWAI'I – Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park Superintendent Tammy Duchesne announced the availability of Mālama 'Aimakapā: 'Aimakapā Fishpond Wetlands Restoration Management Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA) for public review and comment. The plan is available on the National Park Service (NPS) Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/kaho.

The EA evaluates two alternatives. Alternative 1, the No-Action Alternative would continue existing management and programs established under the 1994 Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park General Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement. Alternative 2, the NPS Proposed Action, establishes a framework for wetlands restoration and management, increased planning and monitoring, selective use of vegetation and predator control methods, management of existing hydrologic conditions, enhanced community involvement, active restoration of native plants, and aquatic invasive species control.

The plan establishes a programmatic framework to guide the restoration and management of 'Aimakapā Fishpond and wetlands. The purpose of the management plan is to improve wetland ecosystem integrity, recover native plant, endangered waterbird, and other native species populations, protect cultural resources, and interpret the fishpond's ecology and Hawaiian cultural history. This plan is intended to have a 15-year life span, from 2015 to 2030 at which time it will be reviewed and adapted as needed.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, calls on federal agencies to consider environmental issues as part of their decision making process and to involve interested parties in the process. The NEPA process and consultation under the National Historic Preservation Act were initiated in September of 2012 with a public meeting to solicit issues and concerns on preliminary Proposed Action components. Responses to these scoping efforts were used to guide preparation of the Management Plan and EA.

A physical copy of the Management Plan and EA can be reviewed at Hale Ho'okipa, the Park's Visitor Contact Station on Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway, at the Kailua-Kona Public Library, 75-

138 Hualalai Rd, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740, and at Park Headquarters, 73-4786 Kanalani St., #14, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740.

Public comment may be submitted on the NPS PEPC website (the preferred method) by clicking on the 'Open for Comment' tab, or may be directed to the park in writing by mail, hand delivery, or fax to the address below. Comments will be accepted through December 30, 2015.

Address for comments:
Superintendent
Attn: Mālama 'Aimakapā Plan/EA
Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park
73-4786 Kanalani Street, Unit 14
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740