



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

News Release

Maui National Wildlife Refuge Complex

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Bids Solicited for Keālia Pond Headquarters/ Visitor Center Construction

Start sharpening your pencils – the solicitation for bidders to construct a 7,500-square foot headquarters and visitor center at Keālia Pond National Wildlife Refuge on Maui is now available and will close on March 8 at 11 a.m. HST. A prebid meeting for contractors interested in the project will be held at the refuge on February 22.

“We’ve been working diligently on the design and specifications for the building,” said Glynnis Nakai, project leader for the Maui National Wildlife Refuge Complex. “Needless to say, we’re excited the project is now out for bid, and look forward to the beginning of construction.”

The project is being funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and is scheduled for completion in June 2011. It will be located off the refuge’s entrance road at milepost 6 of Mokulele Highway on a parcel of land recently acquired from Alexander and Baldwin Properties, Inc.

In November 2006, fire destroyed the modular office at Keālia Pond. Since then, the refuge staff has been working from two trailers and three retrofitted metal shipping containers. The new building will include offices, an exhibit hall, and a multi-purpose room and will meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) criteria.

The solicitation is available at http://www.fws.gov/filedownloads/ftp_r1cgs_solicitations/10181rr314/, or go to <https://www.fbo.gov/>; search for Solicitation # 10181RR314. Questions regarding the construction project and the contract may be submitted to the contracting officer, Karl Lautzenheiser, at Karl_Lautzenheiser@fws.gov prior to midnight on February 23. Prospective bidders are encouraged to attend the prebid site visit on February 22 at 1:30 p.m.; questions regarding that meeting should be addressed to Glynnis Nakai at 808.875.1582.

Keālia Pond National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1992 to permanently protect wetland habitat for endangered waterbirds (primarily the ae‘o or Hawaiian stilt and ‘alae ke‘oke‘o or Hawaiian coot), provide dependable habitat for wintering migratory wetland birds, and provide wildlife-dependent public uses. The new facility will enhance refuge operations, increase energy efficiency, and significantly expand opportunities for the public to learn about and enjoy Hawai‘i’s native wildlife.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.