



James Campbell and Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuges

Planning Update Number 3, August 2010



Honouliuli Unit, Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuge / USFWS

Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plans Coming Soon!

This Planning Update is the third in a series distributed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to keep you informed about the development of Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCP) and Environmental Assessments (EA) for James Campbell and Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuges (Refuges).

Please feel free to contact Project Leader Dave Ellis if you have any questions. See page 8 for contact information.

Summary of CCP Planning Efforts

In November 2008, the Service planning team began the process of preparing CCPs for the Refuges. The planning team gathered comments and other

input from the public, and used this information to formulate two alternatives for the management of Pearl Harbor NWR and three alternatives for the management of James Campbell NWR. The Draft CCP/EAs are scheduled to be released for public review during the fall of 2010.

This planning update provides a preview of the Draft CCP/EAs. Included are management goals, as well as a summary of each management alternative designed to accomplish these goals. Continued public participation is key to a successful planning effort.

The final CCP Alternative selected by the Service will be determined, in part, by the comments received on the Draft CCP/EA. To aid in

planning for publication, we are now compiling a preliminary list of individuals and organizations requesting a copy for review. For information on how to sign up for your copy and where to submit comments, please see page 8 of this update.

In This Update:

- CCP Draft Development
- Revised Goals
- Management Alternatives
- Alternative Habitat Maps
- Planning Schedule
- How to Contact Us

Revised Draft Goals for the Refuges

Refuge goals are broad statements intended to provide direction for the future management of Pearl Harbor and James Campbell NWRs. They are based on the purposes of the Refuges, the mission and policies of the National Wildlife Refuge System, issues identified in the planning process, and public input.

The original draft goals for the Refuges were presented in Planning Update #1. These goals were based on the key issues of habitat and wildlife management, research and monitoring, and public uses. Since then, public input has been incorporated into the revised draft goals and a separate set of goals was developed for each Refuge. The following revised goals were used to develop objectives and strategies in the Draft CCP/EA.

Pearl Harbor NWR

- **Goal 1:** Protect and manage seasonal wetland habitats to meet the life-history needs of endangered Hawaiian waterbirds to promote their recovery and also for the benefit of migratory birds.
- **Goal 2:** Restore and protect coastal coralline plain habitat at the Kalaehoa Unit.
- **Goal 3:** Collect scientific information necessary to support adaptive management decisions.
- **Goal 4:** Provide interpretive and educational opportunities to enhance public understanding of and appreciation for the natural and cultural resources of Pearl Harbor NWR.
- **Goal 5:** Protect historic and cultural resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

James Campbell NWR

- **Goal 1:** Protect and manage seasonal wetland habitats to meet the life-history needs of endangered waterbirds to promote their recovery.
- **Goal 2:** Complete acquisition of the James Campbell NWR expansion to restore, protect, and manage habitats according to Refuge purposes and to meet Refuge staff facility needs.
- **Goal 3:** Restore and protect coastal strand/dune habitat to provide safe refuge for endangered Hawaiian monk seals and sea turtles as well as provide habitat for seabirds, shorebirds, and other migratory birds.
- **Goal 4:** Collect scientific information necessary to support adaptive management decisions in support of Goals 1-3.
- **Goal 5:** Provide wildlife interpretation and educational opportunities to enhance public understanding and appreciation of the value of the National Wildlife Refuge System and the ecology and management of James Campbell NWR.
- **Goal 6:** Protect historic and cultural resources for the benefit of present and future generations.
- **Goal 7:** Contribute to mitigation of flood damages in the local community.

Elements Common to All Alternatives

Implementation Subject to Funding Availability:

Under each alternative, actions will be implemented over a period of 15 years as funding becomes available. Routine maintenance, repair, replacement, and improvement of existing facilities will continue, also dependent upon funding.

Pearl Harbor NWR Draft Alternatives Descriptions

Under both alternatives, entry into the fenced portion of the Refuge units will continue by special use permit (SUP) only. The Betty Bliss Memorial Overlook will be constructed outside the fence at the Honouliuli Unit for year-round interpretation, wildlife viewing and photography. The coastal foot trail outside the fence at the Kalaeloa Unit will remain open to the public for shoreline fishing.

Alternative A: Continue Current Management

Honouliuli and Waiawa Units

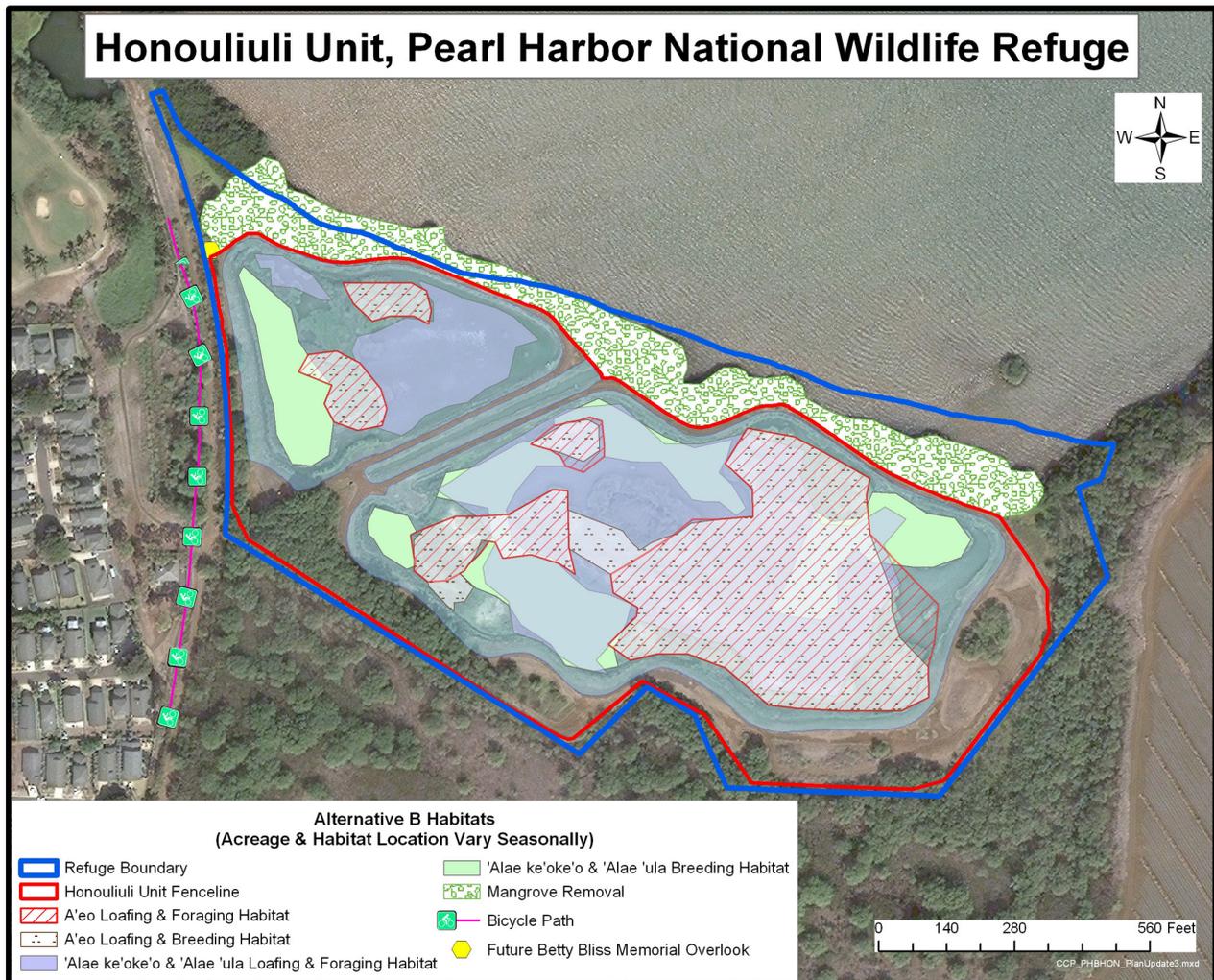
Management of threatened and endangered species would continue to focus on protection and production in the statewide effort to implement the Hawaiian

Waterbird Recovery Plan. Control of invasive plant species would be modest, and intensive predator control would continue.

Kalaeloa Unit

Restoration and management of endangered plants and control of invasive plants would continue at the current level. Protection would continue for the 14 existing anchialine pools at Kalaeloa but no additional pools would be restored.

Cooperation with Bishop Museum on cataloging avian and other fossil remains from the pools would continue.



Alternative B: Increase Native Habitat Restoration and Wetland Management

Under Alternative B, the Refuge would manage its resources to emphasize and increase native habitat restoration of the coralline plain at Kalaeloa Unit and wetland management at the Honouliuli and Waiawa Units. This alternative is the preferred management strategy. (See maps.)

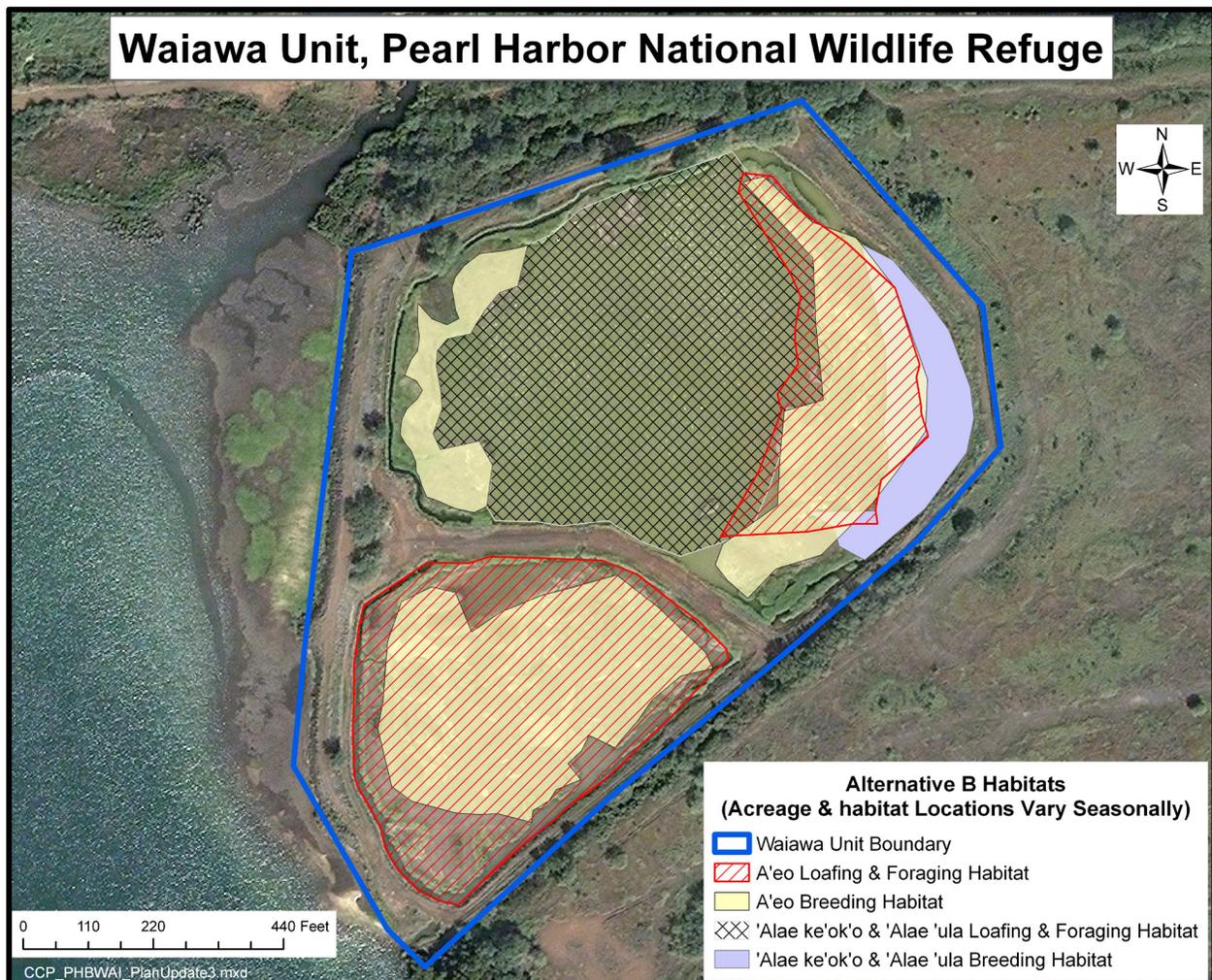
Honouliuli and Waiawa Units

The Refuge would manage its resources to increase the level of effort on wetland habitat management to augment capacity for endangered waterbirds.

Management of threatened and endangered species would focus on protection and successful nesting in the statewide effort to implement the Hawaiian Waterbird Recovery Plan.

The Refuge would pursue mangrove removal on 5 acres at Honouliuli to improve habitat and maintain the previously cleared intertidal flat at Waiawa. Installation and use of a predator-proof fence at Honouliuli may be pursued if determined feasible.

The Refuge would work with partners and adjacent landowners to determine the feasibility of developing an additional Refuge public overlook at Waiawa. A maintenance shed would be installed on one of the Units.





Kalaeloa Unit

The existing restoration area of 25 acres would be expanded to incorporate the full 37 acres of the unit. The Refuge would emphasize control and reduction of invasive plants and establishment of native plants, including two endangered species: the ‘akoko and ‘Ewa hinahina. A foot trail system would be developed to reduce ground disturbance, protect plants, and improve visitor safety.

Protection would continue for the 14 existing anchialine pools and up to 30 additional pool sites will be identified, evaluated, and restored. Viable anchialine pools will be evaluated to determine if translocation of endangered pinapinao (damselflies) is feasible.

We will be initiating additional onsite activities for volunteers that include such jobs as invasive plant removal, path clearing, and replanting of native species;

university students designing and conducting on-site research projects that correspond with Refuge management goals and objectives; and local high school students developing learning stations and an interpretive guided tour of Kalaeloa.

Refuge staff, working with Bishop Museum and the Smithsonian Institute, would pursue an indepth paleontological study of the entire unit.

James Campbell NWR Alternative Summary

Alternative A: Continue Current Management

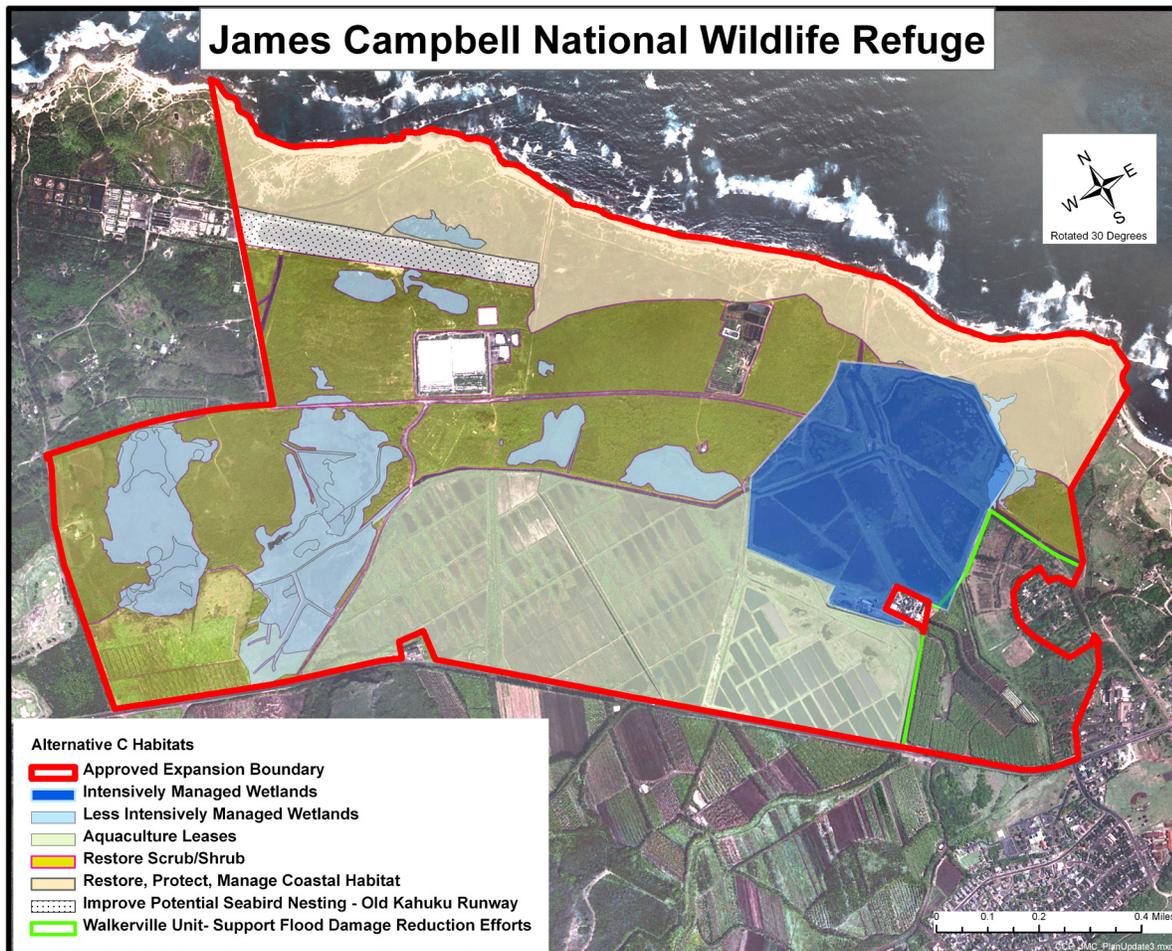
Management of threatened and endangered species would continue to focus on protection and successful nesting in the statewide effort to implement the Hawaiian Waterbird Recovery Plan. Public use programs would remain virtually unchanged. Units remain closed to the public except by SUP issued for environmental education, research, and other compatible uses on a case-by-case basis. Newly acquired expansion lands would receive custodial oversight only, no habitat restoration and no additional visitor services. Both current aquaculture leases will remain in effect until 2023 at which time, by prior agreement, they will expire.

Alternative B: Partial Restoration and Management of Refuge Expansion Lands

On expansion lands, highest priority wetlands and coastal dunes would be restored and fenced

to exclude large predators. Within 5 years of completed land acquisition, a Visitor Services Plan would be developed to address a variety of wildlife related public use activities. This plan will identify, evaluate, and carefully select sites and locations for infrastructure needed to fully implement a safe and meaningful program for the public. Infrastructure needs identified by the plan would include safe roads, parking areas, trails, overlook, etc. The plan would also identify and develop any new special regulations that may be needed to protect sensitive wildlife resources, fragile coastline, and the visiting public.

The Refuge would participate and partner with other agencies and the community of Kahuku to continue to develop, evaluate, and implement potential projects to mitigate flood damages to the local area. Both current aquaculture leases will remain in effect until 2023 at which time, by prior agreement, they will expire.



*Alternative C: Full Restoration
and Management of Refuge
Expansion Lands*

In addition to management actions identified in Alternative B, all wetlands, coastal dunes/strand and scrub/shrub habitats would be restored and managed. Trial use of predator proof fencing would be initiated on selected dune or wetland sites. Abandoned aquaculture facilities would be cleaned up and the habitat would be restored to natural conditions or other approved uses. (See map, page 6.)



'Alae ke'oke'o and chick / USFWS

Planning Schedule

<u>Planning Step:</u>	<u>Target Date:</u>
Planning Update 3 (Alternatives)	August 2010
Draft CCP/EA - Pearl Harbor NWR	September 2010
Public review/comment on Draft CCP/EA	September 2010
Draft CCP/EA - James Campbell NWR	Early 2011
Public review/comment on Draft CCP/EA	Early 2011
Planning Update 4 Issued	Early 2011
Final CCPs	Early 2011

Schedule dates are tentative and subject to change as CCP planning progresses.



O'ahu National Wildlife Refuge Complex
66-590 Kamehameha Highway, Room 2C
Hale'iwa, Hawai'i 96712

8

How to Contact Us

To provide comments, ask questions, or request information, please contact:

David Ellis, Project Leader
O'ahu National Wildlife Refuge Complex
66-590 Kamehameha Highway, Room 2C
Hale'iwa, Hawai'i 96712
Phone: (808) 637-6330

Comments may be faxed to (808) 637-3578
or emailed to: FW1PlanningComments@fws.gov.
Please include "James Campbell and Pearl Harbor NWR CCP" in the subject line.

To be included on the mailing list for the draft CCP/EA, please contact:

Laura Beauregard, Refuge Planner
E-mail: laura_beauregard@fws.gov
Phone: (808) 792-9558

Visit the Refuges' Official Websites:
<http://www.fws.gov/jamescampbell/>
<http://www.fws.gov/pearlharbor/>



Ae'o / USFWS