

Kīlauea Point National Wildlife Refuge

Trail Stabilization Project Update – March 31, 2016



With new infrastructure in place on the Refuge's popular walking trail, the existing concrete wall and shotcrete is being removed.

This is the third in a series of updates about a trail stabilization project at Kīlauea Point National Wildlife Refuge. The purpose of the project is to stabilize the walking trail between the visitor parking area and the Daniel K. Inouye Kīlauea Point Lighthouse.

Both aspects of the saying “out with the old and in with the new” are coming to fruition this month at Kīlauea Point National Wildlife Refuge. With much of the work completed on the newly supported trail leading to the Refuge’s iconic lighthouse, workers are busy this week removing the concrete wall and shotcrete that previously supported the

walkway. The existing wall is being broken into smaller pieces and hauled away to a staging area where it will later be removed by larger trucks.

A critical component of the new trail is a stormwater collection system that will redirect runoff from the trail to a new infiltration basin. A series of pipes and drains incorporated into the walkway, along with improvements to slope conditions, will manage runoff and reduce future damage. Previously, stormwater runoff flowed to the east side of the trail or into the parking lot and coconut grove. This contributed to the erosion and stabilization of the slope and walking trail. The new system will collect, convey, and discharge water to a new location,

where it’s less likely to cause erosion and damage to the trail.

The system also incorporates a high enough flow velocity that it will self-clean, thus avoiding plugging and minimizing future maintenance.

The stormwater drainage system was tested by a rain event this past week, following a long stretch of dry weather that has kept the project on schedule. The work is expected to be completed by April 30.

Captioned images showing various stages of the project can be found on the multimedia tab of the Refuge’s web site at <http://1.usa.gov/21RPesO>.