

# News Release

Kaua'i National Wildlife Refuge Complex  
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Date: February 12, 2015  
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KPNWR 15-05

## **Public Comment Sought on Draft Management Plan for Kīlauea Point National Wildlife Refuge** *Comments accepted until March 27, 2015*

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is asking the public to comment on the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment (CCP/EA) for Kīlauea Point National Wildlife Refuge. The draft plan describes a vision for the Refuge and presents goals, objectives, and strategies for management over the next 15 years.

The draft plan includes an analysis of four management alternatives for the Refuge. Actions for protecting and sustaining the Refuge's natural and cultural resources; addressing transportation needs and priority public use programs including wildlife observation, wildlife photography, environmental education, interpretation, and fishing; and law enforcement were evaluated in the draft plan. Under all alternatives, traditional Hawaiian fishing at Kīlauea (East) Cove and access to Kāhili Quarry for fishing, boating, and stream, beach, and ocean uses would continue.

Under Alternative D, our preferred alternative, long-term protection and enhancement of migratory seabird and nēnē populations and native plant communities would be expanded at Crater Hill and Mōkōlea Point. Monitoring programs would be expanded and additional interpretive and environmental education programs are proposed. The Refuge's small size and high level of visitation creates operational, access, and safety issues; and impacts endangered species. In the short to medium term, operational and infrastructure changes would be evaluated such as reconfiguration of traffic flow and signage. In the longer term, we are proposing to further evaluate developing new facilities off of current Refuge lands, to provide public parking, access, visitor information, and orientation; facilitate public uses; and function as the administrative and maintenance facility.

Staff from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will present the draft plan and answer questions at two public open house meetings:

Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2015  
Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Place: Kīlauea Neighborhood Center  
2460 Keneke Street  
Kīlauea, HI 96754

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015  
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Place: Kīlauea Elementary School  
2440 Kolo Road  
Kīlauea, HI 96754

The Service invites the public to review the draft CCP/EA and encourages active participation. The full draft plan may be downloaded from our website:

[http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Kilauea\\_Point/what\\_we\\_do/planning.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Kilauea_Point/what_we_do/planning.html). Printed copies and CD's can be requested from the Kaua'i National Wildlife Refuge Complex office at (808) 828-1413. Printed copies are also available for review at the following locations: Princeville, Līhu'e, Kapa'a, Koloa, Hanapēpē, and Waimea public libraries.

Comments on the draft plan should be received by March 27, 2015 and emailed to: [FW1PlanningComments@fws.gov](mailto:FW1PlanningComments@fws.gov). Please include Kīlauea Point NWR CCP in the email subject line. Comments can also be mailed or faxed to: Mike Mitchell, Deputy Project Leader, Kaua'i National Wildlife Refuge Complex, P.O. Box 1128, Kīlauea, HI 96754, (808) 828-6381 (fax). Public comments will be analyzed and addressed in a final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment. The final CCP will guide the management of the Refuge for the next 15 years, and actions will be implemented as funding becomes available.

*The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov), or connect with us through any of these social media channels:*



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