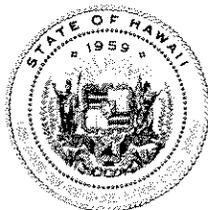


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



JUL - 8 2007

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INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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LAND
STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

June 8, 2007

Ms. Genevieve Salmonson, Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control
235 South Beretania Street, Suite 702
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the East Maui Watershed Fence Extension Project, TMKS (2)2-12-004-005; 2-12-004-007; 2-13-001-001; 2-14-001-001; 2-15-001-001; 2-16-001-005; 2-17-004-006, Hana, Island of Maui

Dear Ms. Salmonson:

The Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife has reviewed both the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and the public comments received during the 30-day public comment period which began on January 23, 2006. Based on these reviews, the Division has determined that this project will not have significant environmental effects and has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Please publish this notice in the next Environmental Notice.

We have enclosed a completed OEQC Publication Form and four copies of the Final EA. Please call Christen Mitchell or Christine Ogura at 587-0166 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Conry
Paul J. Conry
Administrator

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FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

EAST MAUI WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

FENCE EXTENSIONS IN THE

EAST MAUI WATERSHED

This document prepared pursuant to Chapter 343, HRS

Proposed by the:

EAST MAUI WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP

County of Maui
 East Maui Irrigation Company, Ltd
 Haleakalā Ranch Company
 Haleakalā National Park
 Hāna Ranch Partners, LLC
 State Department of Land and Natural Resources
 The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i

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 HONOLULU, HAWAII

June 2007

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ACRONYMS

BLNR	Board of Land and Natural Resources
DLNR/DOFAW	Department of Land and Natural Resources / Division of Forestry and Wildlife
DWS	Department of Water Supply
EA	Environmental Assessment
EMI	East Maui Irrigation Company
EMWP	East Maui Watershed Partnership
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
HRS	Hawaii Revised Statutes
NAR	Natural Area Reserve
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NSF	National Science Foundation
OEQC	Office of Environmental Quality Control
RC&D	Resource Conservation and Development
SHPD	State Historic Preservation Division
SLH	Session Laws of Hawaii
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Project Summary

The State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources/Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DLNR/DOFAW), in a cooperative effort with the partners of the East Maui Watershed Partnership proposes to construct fences through the Hanawī Natural Area Reserve (NAR), Ko'olau Forest Reserve, Hāna Forest Reserve, Waiho'i Valley and Kīpahulu Forest Reserve. The fences will connect into natural barriers and existing fences bordering Haleakalā National Park, the upper elevation fences in the Hanawī NAR, and fences constructed by the EMWP in accordance with the September 1996 Final Environmental Assessment for a Fence Project to Protect the East Maui Watershed. These fences will deter animals from moving into the upper elevation forest from the lower forests and prevent the continued degradation of the natural flora and fauna in East Maui's watershed and acceleration of invasive plants in the remote areas of windward and leeward East Maui.

The East Maui Watershed Partnership (EMWP) was formed in 1991 and current partners include the County of Maui, East Maui Irrigation Company Ltd., Haleakalā National Park, Haleakalā Ranch Company, Hāna Ranch Partners LLC, the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, and The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i. EMWP's supporting partners include the Kīpahulu Ohana, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Tri-Isle Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, Inc.

The proposed fence projects in the Hanawī Natural Area Reserve, Ko'olau Forest Reserve, Hāna Forest Reserve, Waiho'i Valley and Kīpahulu Forest Reserve will expand the protection of the East Maui Watershed by approximately 15,000 acres. Over 65 miles of fence have been installed in the East Maui Watershed area, including 60+ miles bordering Haleakalā National Park, the western boundary of Waikamoi Preserve and upper elevation forests in the Hanawī NAR.

The primary goal of the EMWP is the protection of the native forested watershed. Rare and endangered native flora and fauna inhabit the project area and over 60 billion gallons of water per year is harvested by East Maui Irrigation (EMI) Company for Central Maui's large-scale agriculture and via the Department of Water Supply (DWS) water distribution system, the domestic and agricultural users of Upcountry Maui.

This Final Environmental Assessment describes two project alternatives. The alternatives include:

Alternative 1 – Construct fence between 2,500-foot and 3,500-foot contour of the Hanawī NAR and continue eastward between the 3,000-foot and 4,000-foot contour of the Ko'olau Forest Reserve, Hāna Forest Reserve, Waiho'i Valley and above Manawainui Valley in the Kīpahulu Forest Reserve, between Kaupō Gap and Ka'apahu.

Alternative 2 – No action alternative.

The analysis of the proposed project conducted in this Environmental Assessment (EA) recommends a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The project is expected to have primarily positive effects on the resources in the East Maui Watershed. No significant negative

impacts are anticipated to the environment, archaeological features, view plans, or public access/use of the area during or after project implementation.

Project Name: Fence Extension Projects to Protect the East Maui Watershed

Project Location: All project locations are within the Hāna District, Maui County, Island of Maui, State of Hawai'i. See Table below.

Location	Tax Map Key (TMK)	Proposed Acreage above Fence Lines			
		2500 feet elevation	3000 feet elevation	3500 feet elevation	4000 feet elevation
Hanawā NAR	TMK 2:1-2-4-5	1,750	1,250	930	640
Hanawā NAR / Ko'olau Forest Reserve	TMK 2:1-2-4-7	6,850	5,450	4,490	3,500
Hāna Forest Reserve	TMK 2:1-3-1-1	N/A	3,250	2,670	2,050
Hāna Forest Reserve	TMK 2:1-4-1-1	N/A	1,460	820	230
Hāna Forest Reserve / Waiho'i Valley	TMK 2:1-5-1-1	N/A	1,830	600	300
Kīpahulu Forest Reserve	TMK 2:1-6-1-5	N/A	50	20	0
Kīpahulu Forest Reserve / Manawainui Valley	TMK 2:1-7-4-6	N/A	1,340	980	650
	Total Acreage	8,600	14,630	10,510	7,370
Alternative 1	Total acreage: Between 8,600 and 16,530 acres				
Alternative 2	No action: 0 acres				

Applicant: DLNR/DOFAW
 County of Maui
 East Maui Irrigation Company Ltd
 Haleakalā National Park
 Haleakalā Ranch Company
 Hāna Ranch Partners, LLC
 The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i

Approving Agency: State Department of Land and Natural Resources
 1151 Punchbowl Street
 Honolulu, HI 96813

Anticipated Determination: FONSI – Finding of No Significant Impact

Purpose of Environmental Assessment: All proposed fences described in the Fence Extension project are within the Conservation District and the fences will be built using federal, state, county and private funds. Construction within the Conservation District and the use of State and County funds trigger the need for an Environmental Assessment in accordance with Chapter 343, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS).

Environmental Assessment Preparation Information

Alex Michailidis, Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership
P.O. Box 431
Makawao, HI 96768
Phone: 808-573-6999 / Fax: 808-573-6991
Email: Coordinator@EastMauiWatershed.org

Project Background and Need

On November 23, 1991, federal, state, county and private landowners formed the East Maui Watershed Partnership (EMWP). Although the members of the partnership have different priorities, mandates, and constituencies, all share a common commitment, the long-term protection of the East Maui Watershed. The lands under the jurisdiction of the EMWP span over 100,000 acres of the Makawao and Hāna Districts of Maui.

East Maui's watershed is the largest harvested source of surface water in Hawai'i, providing more than 60 billion gallons of water per year to meet residential, commercial, and agricultural needs in upcountry, East, and Central Maui, and stream waters supporting farming and other uses throughout the windward coast. This area also comprises some of Hawai'i's richest remaining native rain forest, habitat for the world's greatest concentration of endangered birds, as well as several other plant and animal species found nowhere else on earth. Although portions of the watershed are actively protected (upper elevations in the Hanawī NAR, Haleakalā National Park, Waikamoi Preserve and the lands mauka of existing EMWP fence lines), over half of this forest continues to be degraded by feral pigs, introduced weeds, and other threats leading to species loss, accelerated erosion, and siltation of downstream and coastal waters. The area covered in native forest is shrinking and destructive pest species threaten to accelerate the rate of forest loss.

The EMWP has taken several steps to protect the watershed against feral animals and the spread of weeds, following earlier efforts taken by Haleakalā National Park, The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i (TNC) and State DLNR. These efforts have demonstrated that feral ungulates can be effectively removed from remote forests and that these protected forests can recover from previous feral ungulate damage.

One of the Partnership's long-range goals is to reduce feral ungulate damage in native forests and other habitats in upland areas and to limit animal activity in lowland native forests to levels that prevent the loss of forest cover. Removal of feral ungulates from upland areas and native forests will be carried out by EMWP staff and partner organizations. Trained volunteers may also be involved in some aspects of this work. In the lowland native forests of the Ko'olau Forest Reserve, feral ungulate damage is checked and controlled through increased access for hunters.

The fences proposed for construction in the Hanawī NAR, Ko'olau Forest Reserve, Hāna Forest Reserve, Waiho'i Valley and Kīpahulu Forest Reserve are needed to prevent feral ungulates from

moving upslope into the more sensitive, remote forests. The proposed fences are tall enough to stop pigs (about 40 inches tall), but are not intended to stop people from entering the upper forests. In each case, the proposed fence locations are very remote and isolated from areas used regularly by hunters. The proposed fences block no existing hiking trails. Ladders or gates will be installed in the fences wherever needed to ensure appropriate human access. One-way gates will be installed in areas where fences cross actively used pig trails. This will enable pigs to exit the upper reaches and proposed protected areas of the watershed and access the forest below the fence line.

Above the fences, trained forest managers from EMWP member organizations (Haleakalā National Park, TNC, and the State DLNR/DOFAW) will carry out pig removal. Additional fences may be installed above the lower elevation contour fences to assist in animal removal efforts, creating smaller and more manageable exclosures. By utilizing experienced staff, the risks of damage to the more pristine upland forest and injury to volunteers will be reduced. In some cases, hunters and other trained volunteers may be utilized. Community hunters have expressed interest in helping with animal eradication above the fences and have been used in past EMWP animal control projects. Pigs will be removed by the same combination of hunting and trapping methods that have proven effective in protected portions of the watershed. There are relatively few pigs in the upper forest area at this time, and the goal for this upper area is to keep pig numbers as close to zero as possible to minimize the number of animals that must be killed, and to protect the forest from all pig damage.

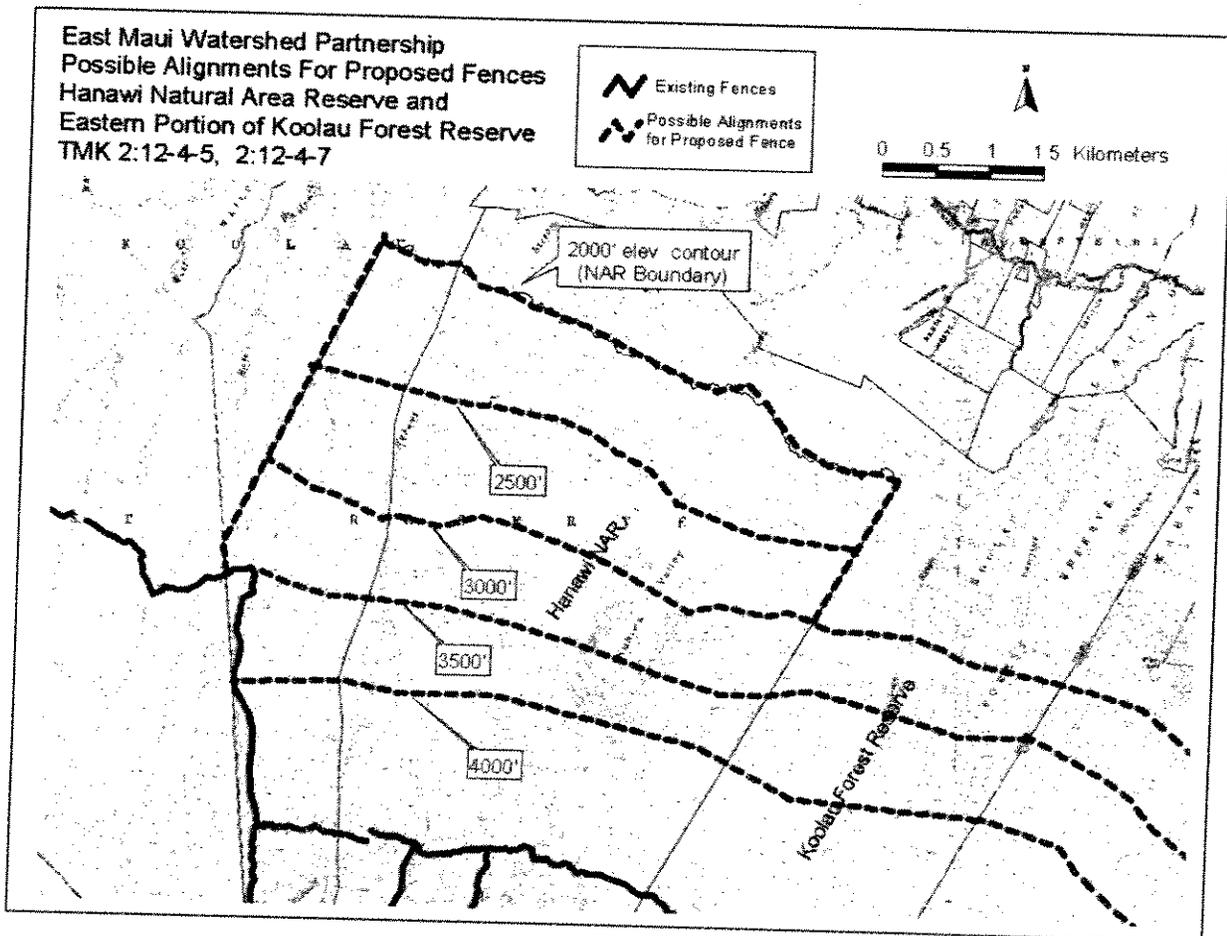
Below the fences, the State of Hawai'i and EMI have implemented a vehicular access agreement to improve access in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve for public hunting utilizing roads owned and maintained by EMI, and to provide State game management supervision of the expanded hunting program. This public hunting area makes up over half of the forested watershed (over 50,000 acres). Licensed public hunters are allowed to take pigs from the area on designated hunting days, which are not in conflict with EMI's operations, and in accordance with State hunting regulations. Licensed public hunters, in accordance with State hunting regulations are allowed to take pigs from the Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves seven days/week. The intention of the EMWP is to allow local hunters to continue to enjoy hunting in the areas and to provide meat for home use, while keeping the lowland pig population in check and preventing pigs from moving into the more pristine uplands.

In the September 1996 Final Environmental Assessment for A Fence Project to Protect the East Maui Watershed, the EMWP proposed two sections of fence (Phase 1 and Phase 2) to be constructed in the East Maui Watershed (TNC, 1996). The Phase 1 fence was completed in December 1999 and funded from a 1995 State budget proviso [Act 218, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 1995, Part II, Section 26]. Construction of the Phase 2 was completed in April 2006 with significant funding received from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), State of Hawai'i Natural Area Reserves Fund, and the County of Maui.

The sections of fence proposed in this Environmental Assessment are categorized as Phase 3, Phase 4, Phase 5, Phase 6 and Phase 7. A complete description of these fence sections/phases are provided below. Timeframes to complete each phase have been provided, however funding has not been secured to initiate and complete any of the phases proposed for construction.

The Phase 3 fence is proposed to occur in the Hanawā NAR. Under Project Alternative 1, fences will be constructed between the 2,500-foot and 3,500-foot elevation contour. Beginning at 3,600-foot elevation along the western border, the fence will head downward to the northwestern border of Hanawā at approximately 2,500-foot elevation. The fence will continue between the 2,500-foot and 3,500-foot contour to the northeastern border of Hanawā NAR and go upslope to connect with an existing DLNR fence in Hanawā at 5,200 feet elevation. Strategic fences may be placed within the NAR for management purposes. The amount of total fence to be installed will vary due to topography but based on best professional judgment, approximately 6 miles of fence will be constructed and take between two-three years to complete. Figure 1 provides possible alignments for proposed fences in the Hanawā NAR and Ko'olau and Hāna Forest Reserves.

Figure 1

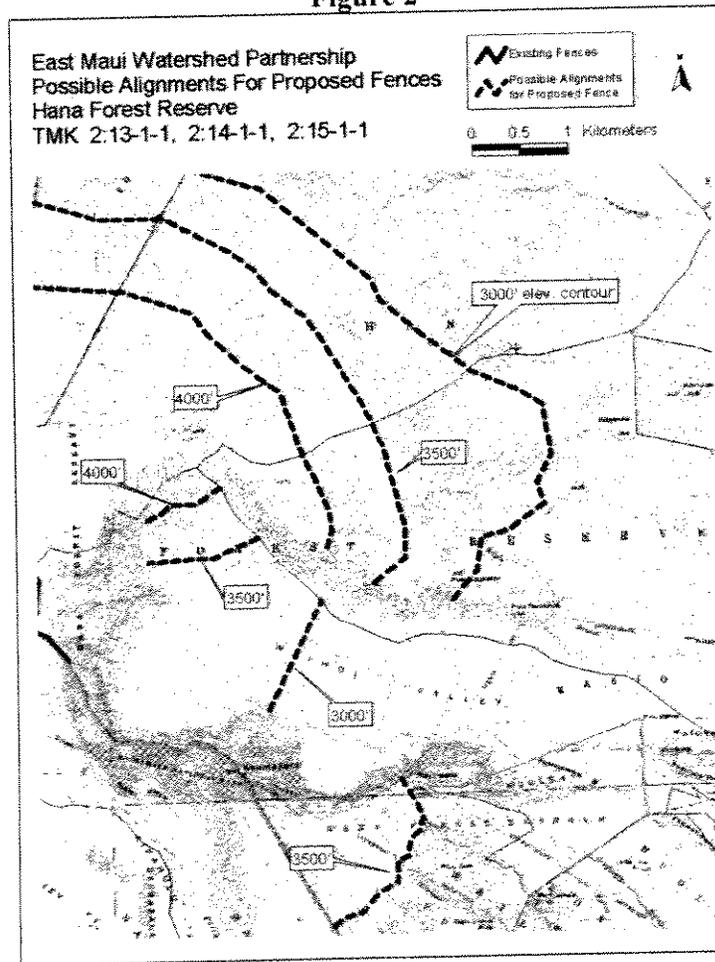


The Phase 4 fence is proposed to occur between the 3,000-foot and 4,000-foot contour through the eastern section of the Ko'olau Forest Reserve (bordering Hanawā NAR and the Hāna Forest Reserve). The fence will extend into the Hāna Forest Reserve and connect into natural barriers on the northern wall of the Waiho'i valley. Between 5-7 miles of fence will be constructed and take approximately two (2) years to complete.

The Phase 5 fence is proposed to be built between the 3,000-foot and 4,000-foot elevation contour of Waiho'i Valley and will tie into natural features on both the north and south walls of the valley. Up to 1.5 miles of fence will be constructed and take approximately six (6) months to complete.

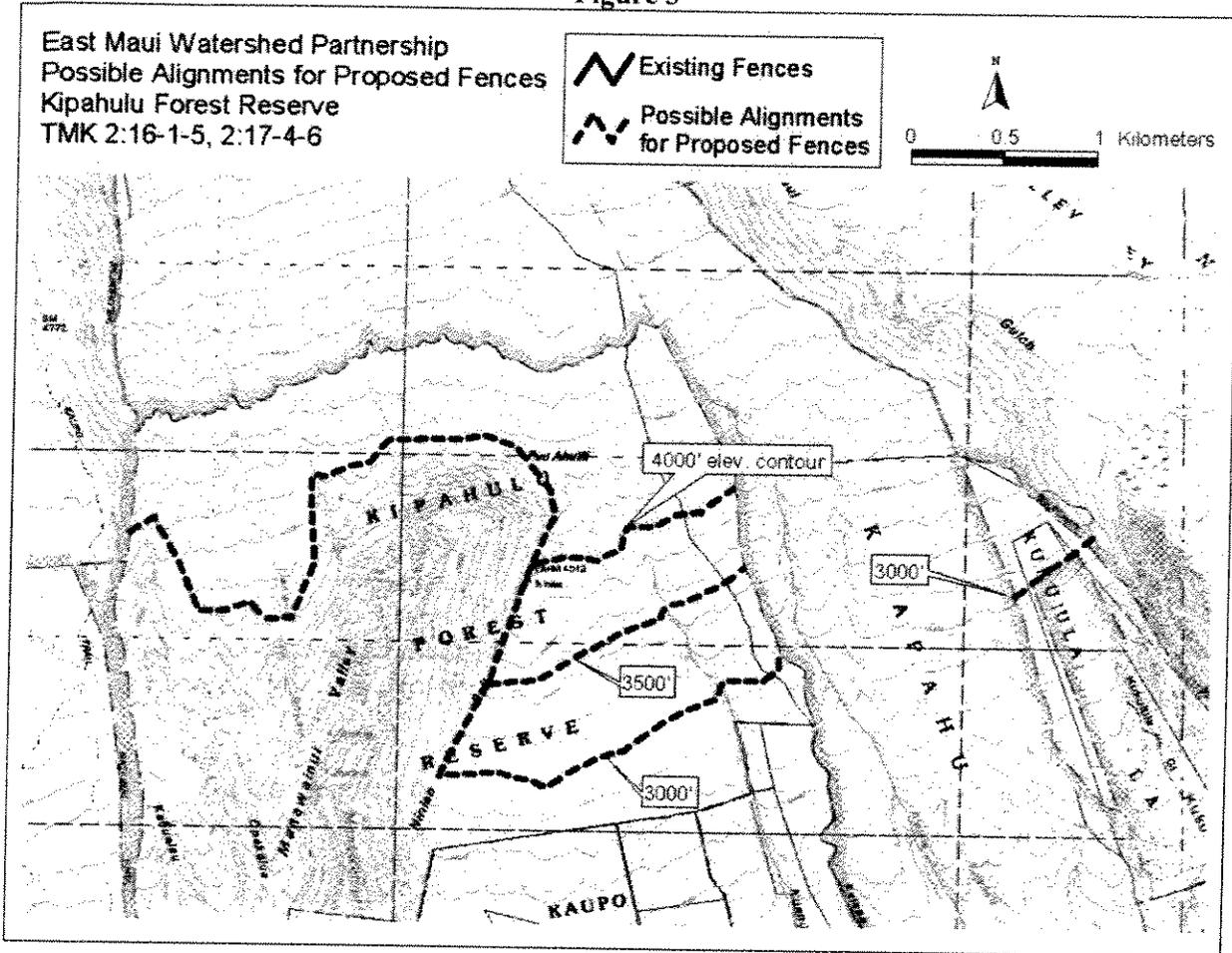
The Phase 6 fence is proposed to be built between the 3,000-foot and 4,000-foot elevation contour in the Hāna Forest Reserve between Waiho'i Valley and Kīpahulu Valley. The fence will tie into natural features on the south wall of Waiho'i Valley and Haleakalā National Park fences. Up to 1.5 miles of fence will be constructed and take approximately six (6) months to complete. Figure 2 provides possible alignments for proposed fences in the Hāna Forest Reserve and Waiho'i Valley.

Figure 2



The Phase 7 fence is proposed to occur in the Kīpahulu Forest Reserve, between Kīpahulu Valley and Ka'apahu and above Manawanui Valley and east towards the border of Haleakalā National Park fence lines in Ka'apahu. Between 2-8 miles of fence will be constructed and take approximately three (3) years to complete. Figure 3 provides possible alignments for proposed fences in the Kīpahulu Forest Reserve.

Figure 3



A map depicting EMWP landowners and all existing and proposed fence lines in the East Maui Watershed is provided in Appendix A.

Description of the Affected Environment

General Setting: For purposes of this project, the “East Maui Watershed” includes the wet, windward slopes of Haleakalā volcano from the Hāna Highway to the mountain’s summit and leeward slopes of the Kīpahulu Forest Reserve. All project lands in the Hanawā NAR, Ko‘olau Forest Reserve, Hāna Forest Reserve, Waiho‘i Valley and Kīpahulu Forest Reserve are within the Conservation District.

The entire project area is habitat for several endangered or threatened plants and animals (Appendix B). In fact, the East Maui Watershed as a whole is recognized as one of the most important conservation areas in the State largely because so much native habitat remains (L.L. Loope and A.C. Medeiros, 1995). Based on information previously compiled through the use of USFWS transect numbers 7-14, other agency activities and helicopter overflights across the windward side of East Maui, the proposed area of activity for the project phases 3, 4, 5, and 6 is primarily

classified as 'Ōhi'a wet forest with mixed canopies and under stories. The proposed area of activity for phase 7 of the project is mostly classified as Koa/'Ōhi'a Montane Wet Forest.

Hanawī Natural Area Reserve (Phase 3) – Vegetative Communities

Nine natural communities are represented in the Hanawī NAR. Of these, two are considered rare. The rare communities are the *Deschampsia nubigena* (Subalpine Mesic Grassland) and the Pūkiawe (*Styphelia tameiameia*) Mixed Subalpine Mesic Shrubland. The communities show generally well-defined altitudinal limits and relatively abrupt boundaries where dominant species and physiognomy change. At the highest elevation in the reserve, a *Deschampsia nubigena* Subalpine Mesic Grassland extends downward from the highest slopes. The grassland grades into a mesic shrubland dominated by pūkiawe (*Styphelia tameiameia*) at approximately 7,400 feet elevation. The diversity of the shrubland increases down slope, grading abruptly into an 'Ōhi'a (*Metrosideros polymorpha*) Subalpine Mesic Forest. This relatively simple forest increases in diversity down slope, and grades into an 'Ōhi'a Mixed Shrub Montane Wet Forest that dominates the flank of Hanawī downward to approximately 4,000 feet elevation. Mat ferns such as *Dicranopteris*, *Sticherus* and *Diplopterygium* (collectively referred to as uluhe) assume dominance in the under story from roughly 4,000 feet elevation to the bottom boundary of the reserve (2,100 feet elevation). At approximately 3,800 feet elevation and extending down to the lower reaches of the reserve at 2,400 feet, is a rare patch of Koa/'Ōhi'a (*Acacia koa*/*Metrosideros polymorpha*) Montane Wet Forest, with an under story of native mat ferns and shrubs. Near the bottom boundary of the reserve at or below 3,000 feet elevation, alien grasses, shrubs and trees degrade the 'Ōhi'a/Uluhe Montane Wet Forest.

The distribution of the smaller interspersed natural communities is determined more by topographic characteristics, rather than by strict altitude. Occasional patches of *Carex alligata* Montane Wet Grassland occur in the flatter and wetter portions of the reserve, especially on the flank east of Kūhiwa Valley. At the opposite extreme, the steepest portions of the reserve above 4,000 feet elevation are occupied by Mixed Fern/Shrub Montane Wet Shrubland, with 'āma'u (*Sadleria cyatheoides*) or uluhe dominant, and the upper 'ōhi'a forests are often occupied by stands of 'ākala (*Rubus hawaiensis*) Montane Wet Shrubland. Below 4,000 feet elevation, steep slopes are occupied by uluhe ferns, with scattered shrubs and trees.

Hanawī Natural Area Reserve (Phase 3) - Native Flora and Fauna

These sections are known from helicopter overflights, and monitoring done on USFWS Transects 7, 8 and 9, which crosses near the midpoint of the section that extends northwest from Hanawī NAR to Ko'olau Gap. This area contains wet 'ōhi'a (*Metrosideros polymorpha*) forest with native tree and tree fern subcanopy and a native shrub, vine, and mat fern understory (Jacobi, J.D. 1985). It varies from open to closed canopy. Aerial views west of Kūhiwa Valley indicate few weeds in a mosaic of native natural communities that include 'ōhi'a/uluhe (*Metrosideros polymorpha*/*Dicranopteris sp.*, *Sticherus sp.*, and *Diplopterygium sp.*) montane wet forest, uluhe lowland wet shrubland, 'ōhi'a/mixed shrub montane wet forest, and 'ōhi'a/'ōlapa (*Cheirodendron*) montane wet forest. Other common species include olomea (*Perrottetia sandwicensis*), uluhe, kawau (*Ilex anomala*), kōlea (*Myrsine lessertiana*), and 'alani (*Melicope clusiifolia*). Trees are thickly covered with native bryophytes and epiphytes. The more common species of the dense, closed under story include pilo (*Coprosma spp.*), pūkiawe (*Styphelia tameiameia*), 'ōhelo

(*Vaccinium* sp.), māmaki (*Pipturus albidus*), kanawao (*Broussaisia arguta*), na'ena'e (*Dubautia scabra*), manono (*Hedyotis* spp.), 'ape'ape (*Gunnera petaloidea*), 'oha wai nui (*Clermontia arborescens*), naupaka kuahiwi (*Scaevola chamissoniana*), and 'ākala (*Rubus hawaiiensis*). Native ferns include 'āma'u (*Sadleria* spp.), 'ae (*Polypodium pellucidum*), *Dryopteris wallichiana*, akōlea (*Athyrium microphyllum*), *Pteris excelsa*, *Pteris cretica*, *Athyrium sandwichianum*, and *Pneumatopteris sandwicensis*. Other ground cover species include *Carex alligata*, *Uncinia uncinata*, *Machaerina angustifolia*, pa'iniu (*Astelia menziesiana*), *Luzula hawaiiensis*, 'ala'ala wai nui (*Peperomia* spp.), *Stenogyne kamehamehae*, *Rubus macraei*, and *Elaphoglossum* spp. Hāpu'u are common, but not co-dominant.

According to DLNR/DOFAW's November 2003 Draft Resource Management guidelines, vegetation in the Hanawī NAR has been characterized as predominantly native and high quality native above the 3,000 foot-3,500 foot elevation contour. The entire Hanawī NAR is classified as restricted for outdoor recreation, due to hazardous conditions, fragile ecosystems, limited accessibility or other management practices. Similarly, the entire Hanawī NAR is designated for animal removal by State staff where resource protection is the primary objective with emphasis on native plant communities and watersheds. Regulations are designed for public hunting to reduce impacts to native resources.

Hanawī Natural Area Reserve (Phase 3) - Rare Communities, Plants, and Animals

Two natural communities in the project area are considered rare by the Hawai'i Natural Heritage Program: *Deschampsia nubigena* Subalpine Mesic Grassland, and *Sophora chrysophylla* Subalpine Dry Forest. Numerous large streams also course through the project area. (A portion of the water from most of these is harvested for irrigation and drinking water.)

Nineteen plants considered rare by the Hawai'i Natural Heritage Program have been reported from the project area (see Appendix B); four of these are on the federal list of endangered species, one is officially listed as threatened, and the USFWS has proposed another to be listed as endangered.

The project area contains important habitat for five species of endangered forest birds: 'ākohekohe, Maui parrotbill, nuku pu'u, 'ākepa, and po'ouli. Three other endangered animals, 'ua'u (Hawaiian petrel), nēnē (Hawaiian goose), and the 'ōpe'ape'a (Hawaiian hoary bat) have also been reported from the project area. According to the USFWS, fencing and the removal of ungulates above the 2,500-foot elevation in the Hanawī NAR is recommended to protect habitat and support the recovery of Hawaiian forest bird populations (USFWS, 2006).

Ko'olau/Hāna Forest Reserve (Phase 4) - Vegetative Communities

The Ko'olau Forest Reserve occupies 31,387 acres and extends from 200 feet in elevation to approximately 7,600 feet near the Haleakalā National Park boundary. The lower elevation areas of the Ko'olau forest reserve (below 2,500 feet) near agricultural lands are characterized by a mixed alien/'ōhi'a canopy that gives way to increased 'ōhi'a incidence with altitude gain. The middle elevations (3,000 feet-5,000 feet) of the reserve contain native wet forests dominated by 'ōhi'a with scattered areas of uluhe (*Dicranopteris linearis*) and other fern dominated shrublands. Between these elevations, the associated trees in the 'ōhi'a canopy include some species that do not extend higher, such as loulu (*Pritchardia*) and 'ohe 'ohe (*Tetraplasandra kavaiensis*). Also present in this

zone are kopiko (*Psychotria hawaiiensis*) and hāpu‘u (*Cibotium glaucum* and *C. chamissoi*) (Jacobi 1985; TNC, 1996).

From 6,600 feet to approximately 2,400 feet in elevation, the Hāna Forest Reserve is comprised of predominantly native vegetation interspersed with occasional bogs. Virtually every branch, trunk and log is carpeted with mosses. In the upper Hāna Forest Reserve, *Metrosideros polymorpha* (‘Ōhi‘a lehua) is most abundant and always comprises the uppermost layer of the canopy, which it sometimes shares with *Cheirodendron trigynum*. Beneath the canopy is a middle and understory composed almost entirely of native species. Consisting of mostly *Sadleria* tree ferns, the more common dispersed woody seedling and sapling species are *Cheirodendron*, *Vaccinium*, *Rubus*, *Melicope*, *Myrsine*, *Dubautia*, *Styphelia*, *Metrosideros*, *Broussaisia*, *Clermontia*, and *Coprosma*. Less common are *Hedyotis terminalis*, *Ilex*, *Labordia venosa*, and *Lysimachia kipahuluensis*. *Diplazium sandwichianum* as well as other large ferns are also found in the middle story. The under story of the Hāna Forest Reserve is made up of mostly three species of *Dryopteris* ferns, and in a few places thick tangles of *Broussaisia* and *Clermontia* are found so dense that the under story is virtually absent. Found as both diverse and well developed in most places, this under story consists of seedlings of woody species, native ferns, peperomia, and pa‘iniu. Often in undisturbed areas, mosses are found growing at the soil surface with small epiphytic ferns (e.g. *Xiphopteris saffordii*, *Grammitis hookeri*) growing in them (S. Anderson, 1994).

Ko‘olau/Hāna Forest Reserve (Phase 4) - Native Flora and Fauna

From sea level to about 1,200 feet the native forest cover was removed for agricultural uses and is currently used for grazing. Many non-native trees and shrubs grow in scattered to closed stands throughout the alien grasslands. From 1,200 feet to about 2,200 feet, mixed forests of native and non-native trees dominate. While guava (*Psidium* spp.) and eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus* spp.) are found in the lower limits, koa (*Acacia koa*) is the dominant native tree. From approximately 2,300 feet to approximately 3,400 feet the vegetation cover is characterized by open to closed koa forest with ‘ōhi‘a (*Metrosideros polymorpha*) and ‘ōlapa (*Cheirodendron trigynum*). Just above 3,500 feet elevation, ‘ōhi‘a becomes dominant, and above 4,100 feet koa disappears from the ‘ōhi‘a forest, and ‘ōlapa becomes more prevalent. At about 4,500 feet elevation, the ‘ōhi‘a forest becomes somewhat scrubby and closed on marshy to mucky soil. At 5,400 feet elevation, the scrubby ‘ōhi‘a forest becomes a large crowned, vigorous ‘ōhi‘a forest on steep slopes (TNC, 1996).

The USFWS has determined the Hāna Forest Reserve above 3000 foot elevation to be critical habitat for *Clermontia samuelii*. Above any proposed fence line to be constructed in the Hāna Forest Reserve, critical habitat has been designated for *Cyanea glabra* (USFWS 2003).

According to DLNR/DOFAW’s November 2003 Draft Resource Management guidelines, vegetation in the Ko‘olau and Hāna Forest Reserve project area has been characterized as predominantly native and high quality native above the 3,000-3,500 foot elevation contour. Outdoor recreation is limited to certain areas or occasional use due to impacts on resources or programs. Above the 3,000-foot contour, game management is an objective integrated with other uses. Above the 3,500 foot-4,000 foot contour, resource protection is the primary objective and such areas are designated for animal removal by State staff because of environmental sensitivity, remoteness or public safety.

Ko'olau/Hāna Forest Reserve (Phase 4) - Rare Communities, Plants, and Animals

With information indicating a need for protection, these areas have been evaluated by helicopter over flight and by the execution of USFWS Transects 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14.

The Hāna Forest Reserve provides habitat for two rare *Achatinellid* land snails, several Hawaiian forest birds, as well as three federally listed endangered native forest birds; the po'ouli, Maui parrotbill, and the 'ākohekohe. Additionally, a rare montane wet herbland community has been reported from the area (*Racomitrium lanuginosum* Montane Bog) as well as 13 rare plants, including one (1) federally listed endangered species (S. Anderson, 1994; TNC, 1996).

Waiho'i Valley/Hāna Forest Reserve (Phase 5/Phase 6) - Vegetative Communities

Difficult to characterize, Waiho'i Valley does not exhibit diverse and well-defined communities such as those of dryland forests. Up until 1972, the upper Waiho'i valley was relatively unexplored botanically and with its completion, the Waiho'i Valley Project identified a need for protection of this area from ungulate populations. Funded under the National Science Foundation's Student-Originated Studies Program, the Waiho'i Valley Project, hosted by the Entomology Department of the University of Hawai'i, was undertaken to produce a pattern of probable ecological changes in a Hawaiian rain forest that could be used in the development of an impact statement for any proposed action affecting the forest and investigate important ecological relationships so that a ground work could be built from which more specialized studies could be developed in the future.

Since then, the importance of the Waiho'i Crater Bogs has been specifically identified as an area rich in native communities. Consisting primarily of 'Ōhi'a Montane Wet Mixed Communities, the entire Waiho'i Valley area is extremely wet and vegetation ranges from low-stature forest with open shrubland, to closed shrub thickets up to 7 feet high, decreasing in stature near bog area margins.

Part of the Hāna Forest Reserve, the valley begins at 1,800 feet in what is known as the first bay. From 1,800 feet to 2,400 feet, the valley vegetation consists of a grass-sedge-guava-scrub 'ōhi'a complex that is mixed with open grass-sedge pasture. In the vegetative communities above 2,500 feet, the area known as the second bay, the vegetation becomes increasingly native and *Pritchardia* or loulou palms are found in scattered stands, with the entire upper valley incident to high Loulu distribution totaling over one hundred plants. Between 2,500 feet and 2,750 feet, uluhe occurs as the dominant ground cover up to the stream bank edges where it is taken over by grass, sedge and *Lysimachia* associations. Also found are *Pittosporum insigne* and *Wikstroemia* sp. with stands of *Machaerina mariscooides* and *Carex alligata* along wet disturbed areas of the stream banks. Additional species found in this area that are part of the stream bank are *Deschampsia nubigena*, *Isachne distichophylla*, *Garnotia sandwicensis*, and *Dubautia plantaginea*.

Between 2,750 feet and 3,100 feet, the vegetation changes to a dominant overstory of *Tetraplasandra*, *Psychotria*, and *Cheirodendron*. *Pipturus*, *Boehmeria grandis*, *Clermontia* and *Perrottetia* form a secondary story and in many places gives way to a continuation of the uluhe belt. Additionally, *Cyperus polystachyos*, *Sadleria squarrosa*, *Cyrtandra* spp., *Nertera granadensis*,

Bidens sp., *Gunnera mauiensis*, *Rubus hawaiensis*, and *Dubautia plantaginea* can be found with scattered *Cyanea aculeatiflora*, *Hedyotis*, *Coprosma*, and *Melicope*.

Vegetation communities at and above 3,300 feet, also known as the third bay, become increasingly dominated by native plants. With *Cheirodendron*, *Tetraplasandra*, and *Metrosideros* as the dominant tree cover, many more epiphytes become prominent. Several ferns, mosses and *Cyrtandra* are also found in this area along with *Gunnera*, *Pepperomia erythroclada*, *Marattia douglasii*, and *Clermontia*. At about 3,900 feet, uluhe becomes replaced by *Arthyrium sandwichianum* and *Pteris* sp. At this point (around 4,000 feet) the valley floor meets the back wall, ending in the Upper Hāna Forest Reserve (J. Kjargaard, 1972).

Waiho‘i Valley/Hāna Forest Reserve (Phase 5/Phase 6) - Native Flora and Fauna

Occupied by a grass-sedge-guava-scrub ‘ōhi‘a complex in its lower reaches, Waiho‘i Valley was historically used for cultivation and later as a water diversion where an iron water pipe tapped water from Papaahawahawa Stream for the Reciprocity Sugar Mill in Hāna. With the replacement of sugar with pastures, feral cattle have entered the lower areas of the valley and have consequently introduced exotic shrubs and grasses. As mentioned in the discussion of Waiho‘i Valley's vegetative communities, the areas above 3,000 feet are intact native forests and are dominated by *Cheirodendron*, *Tetraplasandra*, and *Metrosideros* as the dominant canopy. There are at least three native/endemic families of pulmonate gastropods (*Achatinellidae*, *Helicarionidae* and *Succineidae*) in Waiho‘i Valley, and while the population is not large, it does form an integral part of the valley ecosystem. Also found in Waiho‘i are at least 20 endemic mosses reliant upon the native ecosystem for their survival. In a past study, 166 endemic insects were also discovered through collection on 3 host plants, *Metrosideros polymorpha* (‘ōhi‘a), *Tetraplasandra meindra* (‘ohe ‘ohe) and *Cheirodendron trigynum* (‘ōlapa) as well as several aquatic and semi-aquatic insects collected in streams. The native bird life in Waiho‘i is very diverse, with ‘ua‘u (Hawaiian petrel), ‘amakihī, ‘i‘iwi, and ‘apapane sightings reported (J. Kjargaard, 1972).

According to DLNR/DOFAW's November 2003 Draft Resource Management guidelines, vegetation in Waiho‘i Valley and the southern portions of the Hāna Forest Reserve has been characterized as predominantly native and high quality native above the 3,000-foot elevation contour. Outdoor recreation is limited to certain areas or occasional use due to impacts on resources or programs. Above the 3,000-foot contour, game management is an objective integrated with other uses. Above the 4,000-foot contour, resource protection is the primary objective and such areas are designated for animal removal by State staff because of environmental sensitivity, remoteness or public safety.

Waiho‘i Valley/Hāna Forest Reserve (Phase 5/Phase 6) - Rare Communities, Plants and Animals

With the completion of the Waiho‘i Valley Project and information gathered from other ground studies and helicopter overflights, Waiho‘i Valley has been identified as diverse and threatened. Unique to the area, the Waiho‘i Crater bogs are the most significant feature of the valley. At an elevation of approximately 4,200 to 5,400 feet, the area is dominated by native natural communities. With many endemic plants, invertebrates and birds, the bogs are characterized by poorly drained acidic soils with a clay and impermeable ironstone substrate. Also containing a large

number of lobeliads, particularly *Lobelia gloria-montis*, *Trematolobelia macrostachys*, and *Clermontia tuberculata*, the bog shrubs are laden with the orange moss *Trachypodopsis auriculata* while the bog subtype is covered with a gray moss *Racomitrium* that is unique to the area. Holding high scientific value through exemplifying the stages of bog development, the bogs are State owned, and closed to the public. They may be accessed only by permit.

South of Waiho'i Valley in the Pu'uahaoa and Wailua drainages of the Hāna Forest Reserve, critical habitat has been designated for *Cyanea copelandii* spp. *Haleakalaensis* (USFWS, 2003). Directly adjacent to the Hanawī NAR, the presence of several of the area's federally listed endangered plants and vertebrates have also been reported in Waiho'i Valley. This includes the plant *Clermontia samuelii*, the Maui parrotbill, 'ākohekohe or Crested Honeycreeper, and the po'ouli (J. Kjargaard, 1972).

Kīpahulu Forest Reserve/Manawainui (Phase 7) - Vegetative Communities

Similar to Waiho'i Valley, the lower Kīpahulu Valley (1,200-2,200 feet) consists of mixed forest with native and non-native trees and under story plants. From 2,300 feet to 3,400 feet the vegetation is characterized by open and closed Koa forest mixed with 'ōhi'a (*Metrosideros polymorpha*) and 'ōlapa (*Cheirodendron trigynum*). Above 3,500 feet in elevation, 'ōhi'a becomes dominant with koa disappearing from the canopy at 4,100 feet, while 'ōlapa becomes more prevalent. At around 4,500 feet the 'ōhi'a forest becomes somewhat scrubby with a marshy mucky subtype. At 5,400 feet the scrubby 'ōhi'a becomes a vigorous crowned forest on steep slopes. Above 6,600 feet, the 'ōhi'a becomes scattered in a thick pūkiawe (*Styphelia tameiameia*) groundcover, while at 7,350 feet the ground cover gives way to native grasslands (*Deschampsia nubigena*) (TNC, 1996; Rodrigus, 2002).

Prior to 1976, no detailed scientific studies had occurred in the Kīpahulu Forest Reserve in the surrounding areas of Manawainui Valley. Funded under the National Science Foundation's Student-Originated Studies Program, the Manawainui Research Project, hosted by the Botany Department of the University of Hawai'i, was undertaken to conduct a basic resources inventory and investigate upland Hawaiian forests of geologic isolation and forest age as compared to neighboring Kīpahulu and Waiho'i Valley. Based on differences in vegetation type, extent of feral mammal impact, topography, etc., the project area was divided into zones for management considerations. Four (4) of these nine (9) zones are areas of the Kīpahulu Forest Reserve proposed for fencing. The zones include "Manawainui Valley", "Nu'anua'aloa", "Healani Ia", and "Inner Hihia".

Vegetation in the "Manawainui Valley" zone (950 feet elevation to 2,000 feet elevation) is predominantly composed of introduced species, including *Aleurites moluccana* and *Psidium cattleianum*. East of the Niniao Pali to Puu Ahulili and to the western border of Haleakalā National Park's Ka'apahu unit, referred to as the "Nu'anua'aloa" zone, vegetation communities consist of *Acacia koa*, *Metrosideros polymorpha*, *Psidium cattleianum* and mixed native plant communities (3,500 feet-3,800 feet elevation). Above 3,800 feet, *Acacia koa*, *Cheirodendron*, and *Metrosideros* communities with mixed native plants with mixed native plants become more dominant (NSF, 1976).

Vegetation communities in the "Inner Hihia" zone (above the 4,500 foot contour to the border with Haleakalā National Park and from the third unnamed stream east of Healan Stream to Haleakalā National Park border at Ka'apahu), include *Metrosideros*, *Cheirodendron*, *Acacia Koa*, *Dicranopteris*, *Styphelia* and mixed native plant communities. The "Healani Ia" zone is defined as the land area west of the third unnamed stream east of Healan Stream to the border with Kaupō Gap and between 3,000 feet and 5,000 feet elevation. Within this zone, vegetation communities include exposed soil with mixed introduced and native plants (along the western walls of the Kīpahulu Forest Reserve adjacent to Kaupō Gap between 3,000 feet and 4,500 feet elevation), *Acacia koa*, *Metrosideros* and open grassland (3,800 feet to 4,500 feet elevation east of Manawainui Valley), and *Acacia koa*, *Dodonaea*, *Styphelia* and mixed native plant communities between 3,800 feet and 5,000 feet elevation (NSF, 1976).

Kīpahulu Forest Reserve/Manawainui (Phase 7) -Native Flora and Fauna

An important native forest type in Kīpahulu/Ka'apahu, the Koa/Ōhi'a Montane wet forest canopy consists of koa, 'ōhi'a, 'ohe 'ohe (*Tetraplasandra kawaiensis*), kopiko (*Psychotria hawaiiensis*), 'alani (*Melicope* sp.) and 'ōlapa (*Cheirodendron trigynum*). The understory is dominated by a deep layer of uluhe, but also consists of shrub species such as 'ōhelo (*Vaccinium* spp.), pilo (*Coprosma* spp.), pūkiawe, pu'ahanui (*Broussaisia arguta*), ha'iwale (*Cyrtandra grayi*), manono (*Hedyotis terminalis*), kāmakahala (*Labordia tinifolia*), 'ōhā wai (*Clermontia arborescens*), 'alani, as well as saplings of the canopy trees. Native ferns are also well represented including *Dryopteris* spp., 'akōlea (*Athyrium microphyllum*), hō'i'o (*Diplazium sandwichianum*), *Elaphoglossum* spp., and 'āma'u (*Sadleria cyatheoides*). In the lowest layers of the canopy are native sedges such as *Carex alligata*, *Uncinia uncinata* and the herb 'ala'ala wai nui (*Peperomia* sp.).

Native Montane Wet Forest, dominated by 'ōhi'a, is found above the koa/Ōhi'a forest in the Kīpahulu Valley area. This forest consists of a mosaic made up of four sub-types: 'Ōhi'a/Hāpu'u Montane Wet Forest, 'Ōhi'a/Mixed Shrub Montane Wet Forest, 'Ōhi'a/Uluhe Montane Wet Forest and 'Ōhi'a/'Ōlapa Montane Wet Forest (TNC, 1996).

Native flora and fauna identified in the Kīpahulu Forest Reserve within and adjacent to Manawainui Valley are limited to areas where feral goats and feral pigs are infrequently found (NSF, 1976). These areas include lands above the 3,500 foot contour east of the Niniao Pali ("Nu'anu'aloa") zone and above the 4,400 foot contour in the Forest Reserve ("Inner Hihia" and "Healani Ia" zones).

This area contains wet koa/Ōhi'a forest with predominantly native understory and subcanopy species. The canopy ranges from open to interlocking and is comprised of mostly *Acacia*, *Metrosideros*, *Cheirodendron*, and *Mrysiine*. The understory and subcanopy are relatively diverse and include *Dicranopteris linearis*, *Diplopterygium pinnatum*, *Broussaisia arguta*, *Myrsine lessertiana*, *Melicope* sp., *Styphelia tameiameiae* *Perrottetia sandwicensis*, *Psidium cattleianum*, *Rubus hawaiiensis*, *Vaccinium calycinum*, *Scaevola chamissoniana*, *Ilex anomala*, *Coprosma* sp., *Labordia* sp., *Hedyotis terminalis*, *Sadleria cyatheoides* and *Dodonaea viscosa*. A number of epiphytes are also present including *Adenophorus tamariscinis*, *A. tripinnatifidus*, *Grammitis tenella*, *Sadleria pallida*, *Clermontia arborescens*, *Psilotum nudum*, *Lellingeria saffordii*, *Lepisorus thunbergiana*, and several *Elaphoglossum* species. The herb layer (<20 centimeters tall) varies

from scattered areas of bare ground to areas dominated by non-native grasses or mixed assemblages of native ferns and native/non-native juvenile plant species. Native species found in this layer include *Uncinia uncinata*, *Astelia menziesiana*, *Stenogyne sp.*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Luzula hawaiiensis*, *Peperomia sp.*, *Lycopodium venustulum*, *Deschampsia nubigena*, and *Vaccinium reticulatum*.

Native avifauna are found throughout this region as well and include 'amakihi (*Loxops virens wilsoni*), 'alauahio (Maui creeper, *Loxops maculate newtoni*), 'apapane (*Himatione sanguinea*), 'i'iwi (*Vestaria coccinea*) and the endangered 'ākohekohe (Crested honeycreeper, *Palmeria dolei*). In addition, the 1976 Manawainui Research Project identified 15 native snail species and over 50 native insect species. (NSF, 1976).

According to DLNR/DOFAW's November 2003 Draft Resource Management guidelines, vegetation in the project area of the Kīpahulu Forest Reserve has been characterized as predominantly native and high quality native above the 3,500-foot elevation contour. Outdoor recreation is limited to certain areas or occasional use due to impacts on resources or programs. Game management is an objective integrated with other uses.

Kīpahulu Forest Reserve/Manawainui (Phase 7) - Rare Communities, Plants and Animals

Investigations from frequent helicopter overflights, explorations on USFWS Transects 18, 19, 20 and 21 and previous fencing operations have identified the Kīpahulu/Ka'apahu area to contain several rare or endangered plant and animal species and the only prime high-elevation koa'ōhi'a forests in the State. *Cyanea asplenifolia*, the endangered clubmoss *Huperzia manii*, *Clermontia samuelii*, *Ctenitis squamigera*, *Cyanea glabra*, *Cyanea copelandii*, *Cyanea hamatiflora*, *Melicope ovalis* and *Plantago princeps* have all been identified. Also reported in this area is the presence of the endangered 'ākohekohe (Crested Honeycreeper), the rare and endangered Maui parrotbill, and at higher elevations the endangered nēnē (Hawaiian Goose, *Branta sanvicensis*). Additionally, it is believed that this area may be home to three endangered forest birds on the verge of extinction [nukupu'u (*Hemignathus lucidus*), 'ākepa (*Loxops coccineus*), and po'ouli (*Melamprosops phaeosoma*)], the 'ōpe'ape'a (Hawaiian Hoary Bat, *Lasiurus cinereus semotus*), and 2 rare land snails (Rodrigues, 2002; TNC, 1996;).

Rare plants and animals observed in the Manawainui Valley project sites include the 'ōpe'ape'a (Hawaiian Hoary Bat, *Lasiurus cinereus semotus*), and 'ākohekohe (*Palmeria dolei*). Nēnē (*Branta sanvicensis*) and pueo (*Asio flammeus*), have been observed, and are known from areas adjacent to the project site as well. It should also be noted that "...some of the rare species (of forest birds) such as the Maui 'akepa, (*Loxops coccinea ochracea*); the po'ouli (*Melamprosops phaeosoma*), the nukupu'u (*Hemignathus lucidus*) and the Maui parrotbill, (*Pseudonestor xanthophrys*) may find refuge in the higher elevation forests bordering Kīpahulu valley..." (NSF, 1976).

Archaeological Sites and Cultural Resources

The following steps were taken to determine the cultural and historical significance of the project area: (1) a general literature review to determine if there were any studies of the area or any myths or legends specific to the area; (2) helicopter overflights of the proposed fence routes to determine the presence of archaeological sites and (3) consultation with the State Historic Preservation

Division, Maui Island Burial Council and other appropriate agencies and individuals listed on page 28. Letters received during the pre-consultation period are provided in Appendix C. All comment letters received on the Draft EA and responses are provided in Appendix D.

The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) does not have any records of historic sites in the vicinity of the proposed fence lines. There are also no records of previous archaeological surveys or inspections in these areas; therefore, good predictive models for the project area are lacking. According to SHPD, available information indicates that certain types of sites, such as permanent habitation sites, extensive agricultural complexes, or large ceremonial sites, are not likely to occur at the elevations of the fencing project. The upper forest was likely “wao akua” or realm of the Gods. The common person did not visit the wao akua without good reason. As a result, any kind of more permanent sign of human habitation is rare. However, traditional trails, temporary shelters, small shrines, burials, and specialized agricultural features might occur. These features would leave little evidence in the present-day, as with limited use, they become reabsorbed into the landscape. The EMWP has constructed over 8 miles of fence in similar forested areas at similar elevations and to date, have not encountered any archaeological or cultural features.

Each fence line will be surveyed for rare species prior to construction. The EMWP will invite SHPD staff to participate in those visits to perform concurrent archaeological inspections. Should any cultural or traditional deposits be found during any ground disturbance associated with the project, work will immediately cease and appropriate agencies will be contacted pursuant to applicable law.

The fence will then be planned to avoid any historic sites that are found. The proposed fences will provide long-term protection for native forest that contains native plants, some of which were used historically by Native Hawaiians for ethnobotanical or medicinal purposes. Providing long-term protection for these native plants is anticipated to positively impact traditional and cultural practices.

Sensitive Habitats

The habitats and resources are regarded as sensitive. The intent of the proposed action is to provide long-term protection to these habitats and resources. Potential negative effects such as introduction of new weeds are recognized, and standard precautions will be taken to minimize the risks.

Description of Alternatives Considered

This environmental assessment considers the following project alternatives:

Alternative 1 (Preferred Alternative) – Construct fences between the 2,500-foot and 3,500-foot contour of the Hanawā NAR and between the 3,000-foot and 4,000-foot contour of the Ko‘olau, Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves, including Waiho‘i Valley.

Under Alternative 1, fences will be constructed along the western border to the Hanawā NAR from 3,600 feet to approximately 2,500 feet. Fences would then continue between the 2,500-foot and 3,500-foot contour through the NAR and continue between the 3,000-foot and 4,000-foot elevation contour of the Ko‘olau, Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves, including Waiho‘i Valley. Although

vegetation below the 3,000-foot and 3,500-foot elevation in the Hanawā NAR is not predominantly native, land above the 2,500-foot elevation has been recommended for fencing to protect several endangered forest birds. In addition, hunters have typically accessed the lower elevation forests of Hanawā, in particular areas adjacent to Kūhiwa Valley (personal communication, Jeffrey DeRego).

Alternative 2 - No fences to be constructed (No action alternative).

Under alternative 2, no new fences will be built. As in the past, ungulate control, in the form of periodic ground and aerial hunts might take place. Funding for these programs is year-to-year and not guaranteed. This type of ungulate control results in feral animals moving up into the native forests, causing further damage to currently intact and pristine native areas.

It is recommended that this alternative not be pursued, as it implies acceptance of the status quo and will lead to continued degradation of the native forest systems and continual erosion, resulting in sedimentation of East Maui near shore waters and coastal reefs. Continued degradation of the native forest will also reduce the quantity and quality of surface water harvested for domestic, commercial and agricultural uses in East and Central Maui.

Project Description – Preferred Alternative

Construction of these fences is expected to proceed as follows: First the fence corridor will be surveyed by botanists to locate any rare species or other special vegetation that should be protected. Then the exact fence route will be determined and cleared with hand tools and small power tools. This clearing will be done in a strip no more than 4 feet wide. Felling of large trees will be avoided wherever possible. The second phase is actual installation of the fence. Materials and workers will be flown in by helicopter, and all construction work will be done with hand and small power tools. This construction involves driving galvanized steel fence posts into the ground 10 feet apart and stretching 39-inch-high, galvanized hog wire along the posts. Where necessary, reinforced corner posts will be used to add strength at critical points, and additional hog wire sections will be anchored along the bottom of the fence to prevent pigs from digging under it. Metal anchor stakes will be added to ensure that the fence fits closely to the ground. Diagrams depicting the details of typical sections of fence are provided in Appendix E.

This work will be carried out by trained crews of four to six people who will live in temporary field camps along the fence line for several days per work session. These crews will be ferried to and from the work site by helicopter and will communicate with the outside via two-way radios. All work will be closely supervised by experienced forest managers.

For the first few years following construction, members of the partnership will inspect and maintain the fences at least quarterly to check for and repair damage. The inspection frequency for the following years has not been determined, but visits will be made at least semi-annually.

Potential Environmental Impacts of the Project

Implementation of the preferred alternative is not expected to have significant negative impacts on the environment of the project area. This project will benefit the environment by maintaining and restoring native ecosystems, preserving biological diversity, and ensuring continued water quality

and supply. These benefits far outweigh the expected and potential impacts described below. During pre-consultation and comparison with similar projects, the following areas of concern were identified as possible minor negative effects.

Vegetation

The clearing of the fence line and initial construction will cause disturbance to plants along a 4-6 foot wide corridor, around field camps, and on temporary trails used by the crew. Based on similar work in East Maui forests, this damage will be temporary and will heal naturally within a period of months. Temporary field camps will be set up in the forest, and a number of small helicopter landing zones (the number will be determined by the terrain) will be cleared. The fence line will be surveyed by a botanist to ensure that no rare or endangered plants are harmed.

Noise

Periodic increases in the noise level (due to helicopters and the use of small power tools) will be required for fence construction. Helicopter operations will typically last for one to two hours, two days a week and two-three times per month.

Wildlife

Construction of the fences is not expected to have much direct negative impact on native birds. Helicopter operations could disturb forest birds in the immediate vicinity of the fence. However, much of the construction will occur at the fringe of habitat for endangered forest birds. We do not anticipate any significant adverse effects on insects, snails, or other native fauna.

Historic Sites/Cultural Practices

There are no known historic sites in the project areas. Members of the East Maui community exercise traditional access, gathering and other rights within the project area as recognized by law. Fencing is not anticipated to alter these rights. However, as the intent of the fences is to protect and restore native natural resources, the long-term impact on traditional and cultural practices may be positive.

Economic

No significant economic impacts are foreseen by the project. Local labor will be used for construction of the fence and local vendors will continue to be used to procure any necessary equipment and raw materials needed for the project. Volunteer hunters will be recruited to remove animals from the enclosed areas and the recovery of meat will be encouraged.

Socio-economic

The proposed fences are needed to protect a stable water source for Maui's residents and businesses. Native vegetation is an essential component of this watershed system. Forest cover protects fragile mountain soils from erosion, and acts like an immense sponge that absorbs heavy rains. Water is gradually released into streams and groundwater aquifers, rather than running off the surface in torrents to the sea. Fence construction and the reduction in feral pig numbers will help ensure a stable water regime both within and below the project area by reducing the potential for rapid runoff from disturbed or degraded areas. In addition, this project will help protect and

preserve some of the best remaining habitat for endangered forest birds in Hawai'i, as well as federally endangered and threatened plants, and other endemic species.

Hunting is legally allowed on State lands both above and below the proposed fences. However, largely because the proposed fences are in such remote areas, it is rare for hunters to utilize the upper project area. It is the intent of the EMWP to remove all pigs from the upper project area. Much of the State-owned land below current EMWP fences and proposed fences in the Hanawā NAR is owned by the State and/or leased by EMI for water collection purposes, and contains roads and other structures owned by EMI. Vehicular access on EMI roads for hunters was restricted to members of a hunting club (Upcountry Hunter & Sportsman Club) but a vehicular access agreement between the State and EMI has improved access for public hunting utilizing roads owned and maintained by EMI. The State provides game management supervision of the expanded hunting program. This public hunting area makes up over half of the forested watershed (over 50,000 acres). Licensed public hunters will be allowed to take pigs from the area on designated hunting days which are not in conflict with EMI's operations, and in accordance with State hunting regulations.

In areas downslope of the fence that are used by pig hunters, neither the short-term nor the long-term effects on hunting can be predicted. The intention of the EMWP is to allow local hunters to continue to enjoy hunting in the area and to provide meat for home use. This should serve to keep the lowland pig population in check, while the fences prevent pigs from moving into the more pristine uplands.

Visual

There will be no negative visual effect of the fence. Existing fences within the watershed are invisible from any roads and as vegetation grows along current fence lines, they are increasingly difficult to see from helicopter overflights. The proposed fences are anticipated to have similar visual impacts.

Public Access

The fence is within public lands but in remote and typically inaccessible locations. The fencing might be considered to impede access along some historically used routes for hunting. Construction of these fences will interrupt existing travel routes used by pigs moving between upland and lowland areas. Therefore, one-way gates will be installed when the fence line crosses existing pig travel routes. The gates will permit pigs to leave the fenced area unharmed and move into the lower unfenced and more accessible portions of the watershed. The installation of one-way gates and implementation of pig control projects in coordination with fence construction will ensure that pigs do not cause severe forest damage once the fence is constructed. Volunteer hunters will be recruited to remove animals from the enclosed areas, thereby increasing access for hunters into a typically remote and inaccessible location.

Soil

Soil disturbance is expected to be temporary and confined to the fence line, campsites, and temporary trails. No changes in normal rainwater runoff or percolation are expected, and special care will be taken to avoid such problems as they would threaten the integrity of the fence. To

further reduce soil erosion during fence construction, work will not occur during periods of heavy precipitation.

Mitigation of Potential Impacts

In all of the sites disturbed by the fence construction and maintenance, strict protocols will be used to 1) clean all gear carried into the forest to prevent the introduction of new weeds or other pests, 2) monitor for and remove as necessary any weeds that become established or expand as a result of the disturbance, 3) prevent local increases in rats around field camps, and 4) remove all rubbish.

Fence construction could affect cultural or archaeological sites, if present. A recent review of State Historic Preservation Division maps revealed no sites in the vicinity of the proposed fences; however, it is likely that the area has not been surveyed by archaeologists. If any evidence indicating the existence of archaeological sites is found, work on the project will halt immediately until proper authorities can be notified and mitigation actions can be planned.

Anticipated Determination and Findings and Reasons Supporting the Anticipated Determination

It is not anticipated that this project will have a significant impact on the surrounding environment, and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is recommended. This determination is based on the evaluation of the project in relation to the following criteria identified in the Hawai'i Administrative Rules Section 11-200-12 and in the Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) Environmental Review Guidelines.

Involves an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resource.

The intent of this project is to benefit natural resources (native plants and animals) protected in the native forests of Hanawī Natural Area Reserve, Ko'olau and Hāna Forest Reserves, Waiho'i Valley and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves. Some common plants may be damaged during fence construction but not to any significant degree. Regeneration of vegetation after removal of feral ungulates is expected to more than offset damage incurred during fence construction. No archaeological sites have been identified in the immediate vicinity of the fence alignment. The project may indirectly benefit the preservation of sites in the area, as trampling and soil disturbance by hooved animals will be prevented.

Curtails the range of beneficial uses of the environment.

Appropriate public access to and use of the area will not be affected. The site will remain open space and managed as a watershed project. The end result will increase the beneficial uses of the environment.

Conflicts with the State's long-term environmental policies or goals and guidelines as expressed in Chapter 344, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), and any revisions thereof and amendments thereto, court decisions, or executive orders.

This project follows the mandate of the state Natural Area Reserve Law, HRS 195, recognizing Hawai'i's unique natural resources and encouraging that actions be taken which "...preserve in perpetuity specific land and water areas which support communities, as unmodified as possible, of the natural flora and fauna..." The proposed action is also consistent with Chapter 344 and with the State's mandate to conserve threatened and endangered species, as required by Chapter 195D, HRS.

Substantially affects the economic or social welfare of the community or State.

This project is not expected to have substantial impact on the economy, as there is no present economic use of the site, and funds for implementation are coming from government grants and private donations. Social impacts are expected to be minor, yet positive as the community will benefit from the protection and restoration of this unique example of East Maui's rapidly vanishing natural heritage, in the form of improved opportunities for nature appreciation, education, and research.

Substantially affects public health.

The project site is located in remote and inaccessible areas within the conservation district boundaries. Implementation of the proposed fencing project is not expected to create any off-site effects, other than short-term noise generated by small power tools, and the occasional use of helicopters.

Involves substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities.

No public facilities will be impacted. No change of population will result from this project.

Involves a substantial degradation of environmental quality.

The project will not degrade the environmental quality of the area. The intent of the project is to improve environmental quality by restoring a natural forest system. Off-site benefits may include reduced soil erosion and watershed enhancement, improving stream water quality, nearshore water quality, and the health of reef ecosystems.

Is individually limited, but cumulatively has considerable effect upon the environment or involves a commitment for larger actions.

This project is not expected to contribute to any negative, cumulative effects upon the environment. This proposed fencing project is planned independently of other conservation projects and does not involve a commitment for larger actions.

Substantially affects a rare, threatened or endangered species or its habitat.

The project will not negatively affect a rare, threatened or endangered species or its habitat. The purpose of the project is to protect a native Hawaiian rain forest and the plant and animal species

found therein. Numerous rare plant species in the project area are expected to benefit from increased protection, as could other native species if reintroduced into the area.

Detrimentially affects air or water quality or ambient noise levels.

Some noise will be generated during fence construction, primarily from small power equipment and hand tools, with occasional operation of helicopters. This activity will take place only during daylight hours, and far from any residential area. Over the long term, regional water quality may be improved when increased vegetative cover reduces soil erosion.

Affects or is likely to suffer damage by being located in an environmentally sensitive area such as a flood plain, tsunami zone, beach, erosion-prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary, fresh water, or coastal waters.

The project is designed to protect an environmentally sensitive area. Where gulches are crossed, natural barriers such as waterfalls will be used so that fences will not need to be built in stream channels.

Substantially affects scenic vistas or view planes identified in county or State plans or studies.

The project will not substantially affect scenic vistas or view planes of the area.

Requires substantial energy consumption.

The project will not require substantial energy consumption, but instead will consume small amounts of energy during construction through the use of small power tools and the transportation of materials and crew.

List of Permits Required for Project

Construction of the project requires approval from the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR). No other permits are anticipated at this time.

References

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- The Nature Conservancy, 1989 – Hanawī Natural Area Reserve Resource Information, Notebook 1.
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- United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 2006. Revised Recovery Plan for Hawaiian Forest Birds. Region 1, Portland, OR. 622 pp

Agencies and Individuals Consulted During FINAL EA Preparation

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency
US Department of Interior/Fish & Wildlife Service
US Department of Interior/National Park Service/Haleakalā National Park
US Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division

State

DLNR/ Division of Forestry & Wildlife, Maui District
DLNR/ Division of Forestry & Wildlife, O'ahu District
DLNR/ State Historic Preservation Division
Department of Hawaiian Homelands
State Council on Hawaiian Heritage
Native Hawaiian Advisory Council
Hawaiian Agencies and Organizations c/o Queen Lili'uokalani Center
Hawai'i Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism
Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Historic Hawai'i Foundation

Maui County

Department of Water Supply
Environmental Coordinator, Mayor's Office
Cultural Resources Commission
Maui Island Burial Council
Planning Department

Private

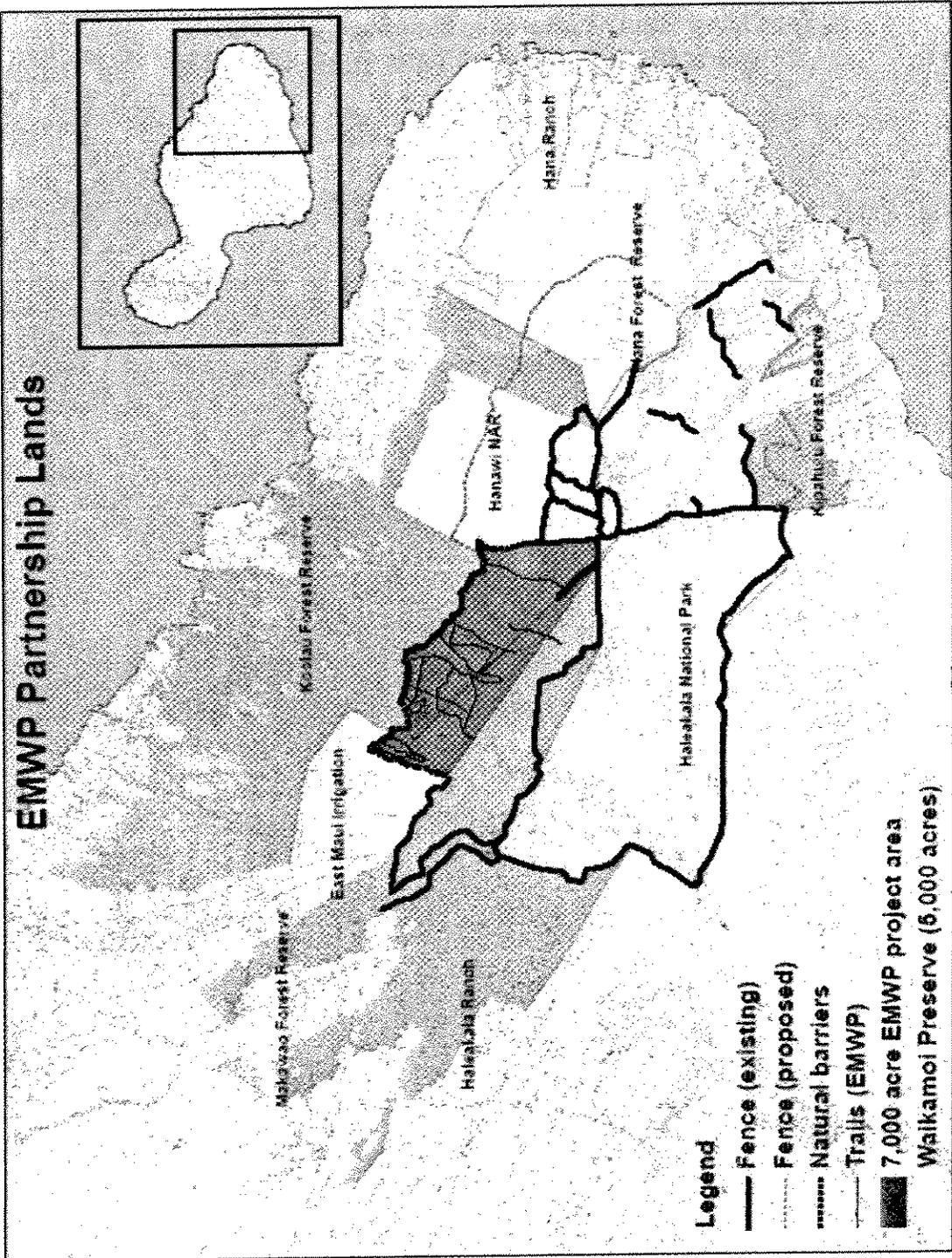
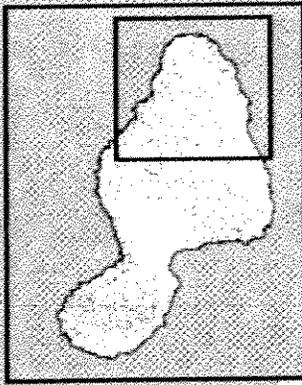
Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.
Darrell Aquino
Stephen Cabral
Central Maui Hawaiian Civic Club
Jeffrey DeRego
East Maui Irrigation Co.
Haleakalā Ranch Company
Hāna Ranch Partners, LLC
Bob Hobdy
Ka Ohana O Kahikinui
Kahikinui Game Land Management Ohana
Walter Kanamu
Kipahulu Ohana
Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group
Les Kuloloio
Living Indigenous Forest Ecosystems
Maui Nui Botanical Gardens
Kahu Charles Kauluwehi Maxwell
Na Kapuna 'O Maui
Na Moku Aupuni o Ko'olau Hui
Native Hawaiian Plant Society
Royal Order of Kamehameha
The Nature Conservancy, Maui Office

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Map of East Maui Watershed Partnership Lands (current and proposed fence lines)

EMWP Partnership Lands



Legend

- Fence (existing)
- - - - - Fence (proposed)
- Natural barriers
- Trails (EMWP)
- ▨ 7,000 acre EMWP project area
- Waikamoi Preserve (5,000 acres)

APPENDIX B

Rare Plants Reported from the Project Area¹

¹Not all of these species are expected to occur along the fence line. However, all of them have been reported (currently or historically) in the general vicinity of the proposed fences.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Heritage Global Rank (a)	Federal Status (b)
Plants			
<i>Argyroxiphium sandwicense</i> ssp. <i>macrocephalum</i> *	‘Āhinahina, silversword	G2T2	LT
<i>Argyroxiphium virescens</i> *	Greensword	G1	
<i>Asplenium hobdyi</i>		G1	
<i>Asplenium schizophyllum</i>		G1	
<i>Bidens campylotheca</i> ssp. <i>Pentamera</i> †	Ko‘oko‘olau, koko‘olau	G2T2	
<i>Calamagrostis expansa</i>		G2	
<i>Clermontia tuberculata</i> *	‘oha, ‘oha wai	G1	
<i>Cyanea horrida</i> *	‘oha, haha, ‘oha wai	G2	
<i>Cyanea kunthiana</i> †	‘oha, haha, ‘oha wai	G2	
<i>Diplazium molokaiense</i>		G1	LE
<i>Geranium arboreum</i> *	Hinahina, nohoanu	G1	LE
<i>Geranium multiflorum</i> *	Hinahina, nohoanu	G2	LE
<i>Lagenifera maviensis</i> †	Howaiulu	G2	
<i>Melicope orbicularis</i> †	‘alani	G1	
<i>Phyllostegia bracteata</i> †		G1	
<i>Plantago princeps</i> var. <i>laxiflora</i>	Ale	G2T1	LE
<i>Platanthera holochila</i>		G1	PE
<i>Ranunculus mauiensis</i>	Makou	G2	
<i>Wikstroemia villosa</i> †	‘Ākia	GH	
Animals			
<i>Branta sandwicensis</i>	Nēnē, Hawaiian Goose	G1	LE
<i>Hemignathus lucidus</i>	Nuku pu‘u	G1	LE
<i>Lasiurus cinereus semotus</i>	‘Ōpe‘ape‘a, Hawaiian Hoary Bat	G5T2	LE
<i>Loxops coccineus</i>	‘Ākepa, ‘Akepeu‘ie	G2	LE
<i>Melanprosops phyaeosoma</i> *	Po‘ouli	G1	LE
<i>Palmeria dolei</i> *	‘Ākohekohe, Crested Honeycreeper	G2	LE
<i>Pseudonestor xanthophrys</i> *	Maui Parrotbill	G1	LE
<i>Psittirostra psittacea</i> ^	‘Ō‘ū	G1	LE
<i>Pterodroma phyaepygia</i>	‘Ua‘u, Hawaiian Petrel	G2	LE

†Known only from Maui.

*Known only from East Maui.

^Now considered extinct on Maui.

(a) Key to Global Ranks as defined by the Hawai‘i Natural Heritage Program:

G1 = Species critically imperiled globally (typically 1 to 5 current occurrences).

G2 = Species imperiled globally (typically 6 to 20 current occurrences).

G5 = Species secure.

GH = Species known only from historical occurrences (not reported in the last 15 years).

T1 = Subspecies or variety critically imperiled globally.

T2 = Subspecies or variety imperiled globally.

(b) Federal Status

LE = Listed as endangered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

LT = Listed as threatened by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

PE = Proposed for listing as endangered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

APPENDIX C

Letters Received During Pre-Consultation

Written comments were received from the following agencies, organizations and individuals during the pre-consultation period:

- Michael Foley, County of Maui Department of Planning
- Clyde W. Nāmu'o, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Kahu Charles Kauluwehi Maxwell Sr.

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PHONE (808) 594-1888

FAX (808) 594-1865



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
711 KAPI'OLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 500
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

HRD05/2006

October 18, 2005

Alex Michailidis
Project Coordinator
East Maui Watershed Partnership
EA Pre-Consultation
P.O. Box 431
Makawao, HI 96768

RE: Pre-Consultation on Environmental Assessment for Protective Fencing: Ko'olau Forest Reserve/Hanawā Natural Area Reserve; Hāna Forest Reserve/Waiho'i Valley; and Kīpahulu Forest Reserve

Dear Alex Michailidis,

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) is in receipt of your August 29, 2005, request for comments on the above project, which would entail the fencing of up to 13,000 acres of State lands in the Conservation District to prevent feral ungulates from accessing the native forests of the East Maui watershed. OHA offers the following comments and recommendations.

OHA supports the concept of fencing to protect native, rare and endangered plants – further protecting the birds that depend on those plants – from ungulates. We also support weed control efforts and removal of existing, damaging ungulates from the areas to be enclosed.

We will rely on the applicant's assurances that the project will continue to afford Native Hawaiian gathering and cultural access rights to the area via the pass through gates created for hunter access.

OHA also will rely on assurances from the applicant that should this project go forward, and should iwi or Native Hawaiian cultural or traditional deposits be found during ground disturbance or excavation by and for transport vehicles/helicopters and during fence installation, work will cease, and the appropriate agencies will be contacted pursuant to applicable law. Please consult with our Maui Community Resource Coordinator (address below), the Maui

Page 2
Alex Michaelidis
October 18, 2005

Island Burial Council, Na Kapuna O Maui, the Central Maui Hawaiian Civic Club, and the Royal Order of Kamehameha for more information about cultural and traditional uses and resources in the area.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment at this time. We look forward to reviewing the forthcoming Draft Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions, please contact Heidi Guth at 594-1962 or e-mail her at heidig@oha.org.

Sincerely,



Clyde W. Nāmihō
Administrator

CC: Thelma Shimaoka
Community Resource Coordinator
OHA - Maui Office
140 Hooahana St., Suite 206
Kahului, HI 96732

N. M. ARAKAWA
Mayor

HAEL W. FOLEY
Director

NEA BOTEILHO
Deputy Director



COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

October 5, 2005

Mr. Alex Michailidis, Project Coordinator
East Maui Watershed Partnership
Post Office Box 431
Makawao, Hawaii 96768

Dear Mr. Michailidis:

RE: Pre-Consultation for a Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed Protective Fencing within the State Conservation District at TMKs: 1-2-004:005, 1-2-004:007, 1-3-001:001, 1-4-001:001, 1-5-001:001, 1-6-001:005 and 1-7-004:006, Island of Maui, Hawaii (LTR 2005/2336)

The Maui County Planning Department (Department) received your request for pre-consultation comments in preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) as required by Chapter 343, HRS, and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Department's comments are as follows:

1. The land use designations for the project are as follows:

a. State Land Use

All parcels are located in the State Conservation District. Compliance with §13-5, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR). "Conservation Districts," shall be rendered.

b. Hana Community Plan

All parcels are designated "Conservation" in the Hana Community Plan. The project must conform with the goals and objectives of the community plan.

c. Other Designations

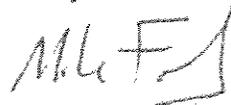
The project area is located outside of the Special Management Area and therefore does not require review in accordance with Chapter 205A, HRS, Coastal Zone Management.

Mr. Alex Michailidis
October 5, 2005
Page 2

2. Historical and Cultural Concerns
 - a. For information concerning known cultural sites in the upper elevation forests of the project area, please contact the Department of Land and Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Division (DLNR-SHPD). The Archaeologist for the Island of Maui is Dr. Melissa Kirkendall.
 - b. For information concerning historical and cultural significance of the project area relating to Native Hawaiian customs and traditional practices, the Department recommends consulting with State Office of Hawaiian Affairs, as well as Na Kupuna O Maui.
3. Please discuss the anticipated timetable for the construction phase of the project.
4. Please discuss mitigation measures for the construction phase of the project regarding soil conservation and prevention of runoff into nearby surface waters.

Thank you for your cooperation. Should you require further clarification, please contact Mr. Dan Shupack, Staff Planner, of this office at 270-7735.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL W. FOLEY
Planning Director

MWF:DBS:lar

c: Wayne Boteilho, Deputy Planning Director
Clayton Yoshida, Planning Program Administrator
Kivette Caigoy, Environmental Planner
Dan Shupack, Staff Planner
General File
K:\WP_DOCS\PLANNING\EA\PreConComments\2005\2336_EMWP_ProtectiveFencing.wpd

Alex Michailidis

From: charles MAxwell [kale@mooieo.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 08, 2005 10:13 PM
To: coordinator@eastmauiwatershed.org
Subject: Comments

CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL CONCERNS IN BUILDING PROPOSED EAST MAUI FENCES

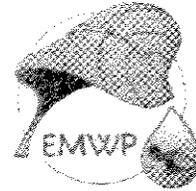
1. I am very supportive of the fencing of these areas to protect the fauna and flora from feral ungulates and damages of important cultural and spiritual sites.
2. The area being a "Wao Akua" or where the Gods Live and was not necessarily visited by commoners. Having said this, it is important that the proper chants and knowledge of these sacred place be observed by all who goes into these areas, which most likely would be workers who are constructing the fence line would be considered "commoners", however they and all others who tread in this "Wao Akua" should be versed in the sacredness of this place by a certified Cultural Specialist and a Kupuna with the knowledge of these special places. There are chants that should be done before and after leaving a cultural sensitive place like Hanawi, Waiho'i Valley and Kipahulu Forest Reserve.
3. There are potential of impacting burials in these remote areas as our Kupuna use to seek out places to bury there dead in the Wao Akua. A similar site is at Lele Iwi at the 9000 foot elevation of Haleakalā Crater, where Kupuna (ancestors) use to dispose there bones to be with the gods. It is my belief that a qualified archaeologist should do a study of the fence line foot print to make sure that no burials are impacted during construction.

Should you require to make contact with me call:

Kahu Charles Kauluwehi Maxwell Sr.
808-577-2038

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Kahu Charles Kairuwehi Maxwell Sr.
157 Alea Place
Pukalani, HI 96768

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mr. Maxwell,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

We appreciate your suggestion that a qualified archaeologist study the fenceline footprint to make sure that no burials are impacted during construction. We have shared the Draft EA with the staff at the State Historic Preservation Division. Based on the remoteness of the project area and the available information about the project area, there is no indication that there are burials within the project area. However, should these circumstances change, EMWP will take appropriate steps to ensure that no burials are impacted during construction.

We also welcome your suggestion that a certified cultural specialist and a kupuna administer proper protocol when staff enter the wao akua. The Partnership will continue to explore ways to instill appreciation for cultural traditions and incorporate appropriate protocols when managing the land.

Again, thank you for taking the time to submit comments on our project. We appreciate your support of fencing to protect the native flora and fauna of East Maui.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

APPENDIX D

Public Comment Received on Draft EA and Responses

Written comments were received from the following agencies, organizations and individuals during the public comment period:

- Aha O Maui Hikina
- Alan Arakawa, Mayor County of Maui
- Leiland Boteilho, Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG)
- Rodney Calasa Jr., KVHG
- Rodney Calasa Sr., KVHG
- Mele Carroll, House of Representatives
- Shane DeMattos, Department of Land and Natural Resources
- Catherine DeRego, KVHG
- Jeffrey DeRego, KVHG
- Darrell Duarte, KVHG
- Dr. Fern Duvall
- Paul Fasi, KVHG
- Michael Feiteira, KVHG
- Michael Foley, County of Maui Department of Planning
- Ranae Ganske-Cerizo, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Ernest Gumtang, KVHG
- Clayton Hema, KVHG
- Gabriel Kahaleuahi, KVHG
- Kulua Kaisa, KVHG
- Tony Keau, KVHG
- Chad Koga, KVHG
- Samuel Lemmo, Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands
- Chad Loui, KVHG
- Avery Maliikapu, KVHG
- Mike Minn, Kīpahulu Ohana
- Mavis Montalvo, KVHG
- Joshua Morreira, KVHG
- Clyde W. Namuo, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Hank Oppenheimer
- Ray Orta, KVHG
- Jason Otsuki, KVHG
- Norman Perry
- Brad Redd, KVHG
- Genevieve Salmonson, Office of Environmental Quality Control
- Areillio Torres Santos Bras, KVHG
- Bryon Stevens
- Lawrence Tabaco, KVHG
- Martin Tabaco, KVHG
- Donald Wallace, KVHG
- Patrick Wallace Jr, KVHG

- Candace Weaver, KVHG
- David Weaver, KVHG
- Rod Yadao, KVHG
- Unknown Commenter, KVHG

AHA O MAUI HIKINA
P.O. Box 207
Hana, Hawai'i 96713

April 19, 2006

To: East Maui Watershed Partnership
[County of Maui: East Maui Irrigation Company, Ltd.; Haleakala Ranch
Company; Haleakala National Park; Hana Ranch Partners, LLC; State
Department of Land and Natural Resources; The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i]
Alex Michailidis

Fr: Aha o Maui Hikina

Re: East Maui Watershed Partnership
Draft Environmental Assessment Presentation
Helene Hall, Hana
Tuesday, February 21, 2006

Mahalo for allowing Mr. Alex Michailidis to present in Hana. He did an excellent job in conveying your plans for the East Maui Watershed. Our group, an extension of the Aha o Na Wai Eha, expressed several comments, questions, and concerns at the February 21, 2006 meeting. Here are some of those concerns:

- This draft environmental assessment/proposal seems to be a conflict of interest in that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is part of this East Maui Watershed partnership and yet it is applying for this proposal to the approving agency which is it self.
- If indeed the primary goal of the EMWP is the protection of the native forested watershed, and even though the plan generally states that standard precautions will be taken to minimize the risks, the proposal lacks the fact that human beings pose the worst threat to these mauka areas described.
- Aren't Darrell Aquino and the Miconia Eradicator Group working to remove these introduced plants?
- At the Feb. 21, 2006 meeting, when asked about pigs in the uplands, it was mentioned by Mr. Michailidis that pigs did not constitute the major problem, it was other feral ungulates, such as, goats, deer, etc., The question was raised that fences with a 40 inch height would not block out goats and deer from going into the mauka areas.
- This led into questioning the real intent of EMWP's proposal for installing fences up in the East Maui Watershed. Is EMWP using the "protection of the native forested watershed's rare and endangered native flora and fauna" as a mask for their actual intentions?
- Has the EMWP looked into working with Earth Justice's advocate Kapua Sproat on this project? She should be consulted with her expertise in Environmental

Law and her interest in preserving natural resources that are culturally connected which is in fact listed as EMWP's primary goal.

- From 4" to 12" waterline pipes with 31 fire hydrants installed in Hana which costed \$4 million, to mayor Arakawa proposing to look at the East Maui watershed for the source of water for the development projects on the other sides of the island, to fences around the watershed raises many eyebrows questioning the intentions of all the entities/groups of EMWP.
- With humans in the area, workers and hunters, there will be a significant impact on the lower, as well as, the upper elevation forests. How did those introduced weeds get up in those forested areas in the first place? Humans.
- The current daily average water delivery through EMI's system is 160 million gallons of water per day, however, it is capable of capturing, especially during storms, 445mgd. To place this volume in perspective, all domestic water uses on O'ahu total 160 mgd. What of the natural resources and wildlife in the dried up streams? One such example is the O'opu . . . The gobies lay their eggs in the stream, and upon hatching, the larvae migrate downstream and are swept out to sea. After living in the ocean plankton community for a time, the postlarvae, called hinana, return to the adult habitat by migrating upstream, often climbing numerous waterfalls. This is impossible with the continual "harvesting" of water from the East Maui's watershed. What is being practiced here is contrary and blatantly in direct opposition to EMWP's primary goal . . . "the protection of the native forested watershed. Rare and endangered native flora and fauna inhabit the project area . . ." Is it okay to kill off the O'opu, Hihiwai, 'Opae Oeha'a, 'Opae Kuahiwi, but protect the Koa, Ohi'a, 'Ohe'ohe, 'Olapa, 'Akohekohe, Nuku Pu'u? Maintaining the natural patterns of water flow in streams is the single most important requirement for protection of native Hawaiian stream animals, la'au lapa'au, and cultural practices.
- These imbalances in the uplands caused by man have a direct impact on the ecosystems in the ocean by disrupting and further endangering life in the ocean.
- Has the EMWP looked into or reviewed the Gingerich-Wolff report which was completed for the state Commission on Water Resource Management?
- "According to a state aquatics biologist, Skippy Hau, who has been studying the health of stream fauna around Maui, advocates restoring as much water as possible to the streams to allow the native species to recover. The life cycle of most stream animals requires a connection to the ocean, Hau said. . . . Larvae hatch in streams and are carried to the ocean. They return as post-larvae and migrate upstream under normal flow conditions." [Maui News]
- "HC&S general manager Steve Holaday's high sounding "stewards of the land for many generations" rhetoric, the experience of Ke'anae and Wailuanui taro farmers has been that HC&S will do everything they can possibly do to delay releasing one drop of extra water back into the streams." [Hawaiian Independence Blog].
- "Having personally seen entire streams disappear into tunnels and ditches, leaving stream beds dry while all the water is transported by EMI ditches to Central Maui for sugar cane, my sense is that we should be focused on how to get more water back into East Maui streams, not take more water out of the watershed (and even

wells affect surface flow). I'll be interested to hear the reactions from folks like No Ke Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui." [Hawaiian Independence Blog]

- "State law already establishes that agricultural water being pulled from streams ought to be returned to the streams if it is not being used for agriculture." [Maui News]
- According to the Kumulipo, a genealogical chant of creation, Po gave birth to the world. From this female potency was born Kumulipo and Po'eke. And from these two, the rest of the world unfolded in genealogical order. That genealogy teaches us the ocean and everything in it with its counterpart on land and everything on/in it is the elder sibling and the people are the younger sibling meant to care for each other in a reciprocal, interdependent relationship. Humanity is reminded of his place with the order of genealogical descent. The foundational principle of the Kumulipo is that all facets of the world are related by birth. And thus, the Hawaiian concept of the world descends from one ancestral genealogy. In essence if we destroy the environment, our hiapo, we destroy ourselves, the muliloa.
- Malama 'Aina is the operating cultural principle that maintains Pono. The people and the land are of the same integrated ancestral lineage. As Kanaka Maoli, we maintain our inalienable rights to jurisdiction over, and management of our 'aina mai uka a i kai, mai kahi pae a kahi pae and assert our kuleana for future generations.
- We maintain our inherent right of self-determination, despite the oppression of colonization and illegal occupation of our land base since January 17, 1893 when our sovereign Kingdom of Hawai'i was overthrown by the military forces of the United States.
- Fences in the Kanaka Maoli sense were used to keep na mea such as flora and fauna inside. Fences in the western sense are used to keep things outside. No need fences!
- EMWP should really look at why is it that native forests are shrinking and destructive pest species threaten to accelerate the rate of forest loss?
- What about traditional rights to access?
- Specifically what "standard precautions" will be taken to minimize the risks of potential negative effects such as introduction of new weeds?
- "During pre-consultation and comparison with similar projects, the following areas of concern were identified as possible minor negative effects." [p 19] What similar projects? Can you elaborate and name them?
- "There are no known historic sites in the project areas." [p 19] Which Huna Kupuna did you consult with before making this statement?
- "The proposed fences are needed to protect a stable water source for Maui's residents and businesses." [p. 20] How will the people of East Maui be affected? How many residents and businesses in the East Maui area are you talking about? **This seems to be EMWP primary goal, not the protection of the native forested watershed. [To continually divert water for private gain].**
- The State of Hawai'i, the self-proclaimed provisional entities; officers, agents and provisional assigns of fraudulent matters need to demonstrate the transfers of

water at issue now and in the future are not injurious to the rights of the Kanaka Maoli.

- Should the EMWP be proposing this action with Na Moku Aupuni o Ko'olau's members who hold appurtenant, riparian, and customary rights to water from naturally flowing streams of the valley? Has a meeting been held in Wailua and Ke'anae regarding the EMWP intentions? Are they aware of this proposal?
- What is the status of the case – Na Moku Aupuni o Ko'olau Hui et al. vs. EMI?
- What did the Kipahulu 'Ohana and Kapahu Living Farms have to say about this proposal?
- Do not in any way interpret these concerns that we have as consulting our Aha. You do not have permission to utilize our name(s) as agency/group/individuals that you consulted during your draft preparation. We simply want our concerns answered and addressed.
- "Concerned about continued degradation of the native forest systems and continual erosion, resulting in sedimentation of East Maui near shore waters and coastal reefs. Continued degradation of the native forests will also reduce the quantity and quality of surface water harvested for domestic, commercial, and agricultural uses in East and Central Maui." [p. 18] The diversion of water from our streams done by EMI find our streams seldom gushing with an overflow of water and yet during stormy seasons, the rivers and streams may be dry. It seems like if EMI is in the mood to let the plug go, they do. When EMI chooses not to let our streams run, they leave the plug in and divert the water somewhere else. This inconsistent flow is partially the cause of continual erosion and sedimentation of the East Maui shoreline. This is causing the imbalance that is negatively affecting the biological diversity and native ecosystems mauka to makai.
- There really is no good reasoning for fences. The primary goal is for EMWP to continually divert water for the other side of the island, perhaps development projects that the public will not benefit from. The East Maui Watershed should be left alone.
- "Water is gradually released into streams and ground water aquifers rather than running off the surface in torrents to the sea." [p.20] This is not what we see currently happening, especially in Hana. If you ask the Kupuna of Hana if these streams were always this dry, they will tell you, "no!" And yet, during other storms, the silt and sedimentation from mauka will overwhelm the shoreline, ocean, and reefs visibly seen as a reddish-brown tinge that disrupts the ecosystems that exists mauka to makai.
- Fences should not be interpreted as part of the qualifications for future Quiet Title actions/claims within these lower forested and upper forested areas.
- It would be of utmost importance to identify the Ali'i or Konohiki and their heir names that were originally awarded these lands during the Great Mahele 1848-1890. Royal Patent lands are not in the jurisdiction of the State of Hawai'i. The Royal Land Patents is the only form of perfect title to land available in the United States and it is in fact. [Wilcox v. Jackson 13 PET(U.S.)498-10 L.Ed-264].
- Water rights and water jurisdiction are also identified on these Royal Patents. These families and their heirs need to be contacted before EMWP maha'oi and

put up their fences. The Royal Patent is intact in Hawai'i and stealing it, means depriving humans of their constitutional, statute and human rights, protected by law.

We will send a printed copy with signatures to Alex Michailidis. Thank you very much.

Solomon Ilo'opai Jr.

Benjamin K. Villiarimo

Mackey M. Cockett

Shanye N. Valeho-Novikoff

Sonia Helekaahi

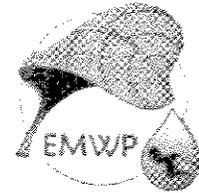
Harolyn Kaiwi

Patricia Villiarimo

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East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Aha o Maui Hikina
P.O. Box 207
Hāna, HI 96713

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Aha o Maui Hikina,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership (EMWP), I would like to thank you for submitting comments on the proposed project and the presentation EMWP provided to members of the Hāna community in February 2006.

Your letter expressed several comments, questions and concerns that were related to water harvesting, stream flow, and water rights and implied that the primary goal of the EMWP is to divert water for private gain. As explained during the meeting, the sole purpose of the EMWP is to implement a project that protects native forested areas of East Maui from non-native pest animals, weeds and other threats. Although the partners have different priorities, mandates and constituents, each share the common commitment to protect this resource. As a result, EMWP's project does not address water harvesting, stream flow or water rights. Therefore, the concerns you raised that do not pertain to the EMWP project will not be responded to.

In response to other comments and questions raised in your letter that directly pertain to the EMWP project, Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 343-5 require an Environmental Assessment (EA) to be prepared by an agency for actions involving State land, State funds or use in the Conservation District to determine whether an environmental impact statement shall be required. Although this conservation fencing project is proposed and will be implemented in cooperation with other partners of the EMWP, the proposed action is ultimately an agency action proposed by the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), and as such, DLNR is the appropriate agency under the law to be preparing the EA and evaluating whether there is a Finding of No Significant Impact.

EMWP agrees with your assertions that humans pose a threat to native mauka forested areas and users of the forest may have inadvertently brought introduced pests to these areas. However, ground disturbance caused by feral animals creates conditions that enable invasive and incipient plant species to become established. Such seeds typically enter the areas via wind, birds, or feral animals. Therefore, installing fences to prevent feral animals from accessing upper elevation forests and controlling the populations of feral animals above fence lines will ensure native plants and animals thrive in the fenced project sites. Feral pigs constitute the major problem in the Ko'olau and Hāna Forest Reserves and both feral pigs and goats being a major problem in the Kīpahulu Forest Reserves. Land managers are actively installing deer fences around the perimeter areas of windward and leeward East Maui to prevent deer from accessing these sensitive ecosystems.

All partners and the EMWP project have developed strict protocols to follow when accessing native-dominated landscapes. Gear is dedicated to project sites to prevent possible contamination and all staff ensure that all field equipment (materials and clothing) are free of seeds and inspected prior to any mission occurring. Upon installing management infrastructure (fence lines, monitoring transects, camp

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www.eastmauiwatershed.org

sites) staff frequently access these areas to inspect and identify if any invasive plant species have become established. This ensures that if an invasive weed enters the project site, staff immediately control it before a population becomes established.

Your letter requested clarification if the Miconia Eradication Group (Maui Invasive Species Committee – “MISC”) is working to remove introduced plants. MISC is actively working in the Hāna area to remove and control miconia and island-wide to control and eradicate populations of incipient plant species. Plant species that are already established, including clidemia, tibouchina, strawberry guava, kahili ginger, African tulip, Australian tree fern, etc., are not a part of MISC’s control program. These plants are commonly found in Maui’s lower elevation forests and EMWP’s intent is to fence off areas of native forest in East Maui and implement measures to prevent the spread of these plants from becoming established in upland forest sites. Both the EMWP and MISC projects and agencies and entities that comprise these projects are working to ensure that Maui’s native forested areas remain free of incipient and invasive plant and animal threats.

The fences are designed to prevent feral animals from accessing the project sites and in no way prevent traditional rights of access. Members of the community are still entitled to and permitted to access these areas for cultural purposes and gathering. The areas above the fence will still remain classified as public hunting and as practiced in the past, hunters will be escorted to the project sites to be given an opportunity to remove animals above the fence line. Once hunter’s interests have waned, staff programs to control animals will be implemented and signs will be posted indicating that hunting above fences may be hazardous to dogs. Typically, fences are constructed in very remote and inaccessible areas of the forest and hunters seldom reach fence lines during the course of the hunt. EMWP anticipates that any fences installed will rarely be encountered by visitors, gatherers, cultural practitioners and hunters.

On page 19 of the Draft EA (page 22 in the Final EA), you reference the statement pertaining to similar projects and possible minor negative effects. These projects include the fence projects undertaken by the State DLNR in Hanawi, National Park staff in Haleakalā National Park, The Nature Conservancy in Waikamoi and Kapunakea Preserves and similar projects implemented by resource management agencies across the entire State of Hawai‘i. In addition, EMWP made the assessment that no historic sites exist in the project area. This statement was based on a general literature review to determine if there were any studies of the area or any myths or legends specific to the area; helicopter overflights of the proposed fence routes to determine the presence of archaeological sites and consultation with the State Historic Preservation (SHP) Division, Maui Island Burial Council and other appropriate agencies and individuals listed on page 28 of the Final EA. EMWP will invite SHP staff to participate in proposed fence line surveys to perform archaeological inspections. Should any cultural or traditional deposits be found during any ground disturbance associated with the project, work will immediately cease and appropriate agencies will be contacted pursuant to applicable law. The Kipahulu Ohana and Na Moku Aupuni o Ko‘olau Hui were both notified of this project and the Final EA includes the comments received by the Kipahulu Ohana on the proposed project.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your concerns on the proposed project.

Sincerely,



Alex Michailidis
Project Manager, East Maui Watershed Partnership

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
County of Maui

200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-2158
Telephone (808) 271-7855
Fax (808) 271-7870
e-mail: mayors.office@co.maui.hi.us

February 21, 2006

Mr. Alex Michailidis, Project Coordinator
East Maui Watershed Partnership
P. O. Box 431
Makawao, Hawaii 96768

RE: Draft Environmental Assessment for the East Maui Watershed Partnership Fencing

Aloha;

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) document of your proposed fencing extensions project within the East Maui Watershed Partnership (EMWP) region. The County of Maui remains an active partner and funding supporter of the EMWP, and we believe the proposed project will enhance efforts to protect and restore native ecosystems in East Maui.

Having witnessed first hand the successful fencing projects by EMWP and other stewards of our watersheds and natural areas, I strongly believe this project will help to reduce damage to our native flora, and the fragile habitat of some of our endangered forest birds. The control of the destruction caused by feral ungulates can best be accomplished by fencing, and this, in turn, will benefit not only the health of the native forest, but indeed of the entire watershed.

While the approximately 8.0 miles of fencing proposed is an ambitious undertaking, it will undoubtedly serve for many years to come as the first and strongest line of defense against the spread of alien invasive plant and animal species. Limiting the spread of goats, pigs, and deer in this region will benefit the environment by helping to maintain biological diversity and ensuring the health of our water supply.

I lend my support and best wishes to your staff in achieving the goals set forth in this proposal. Should you need assistance from my office, you may contact Environmental Coordinator, Rob Parsons, at 270-7960.

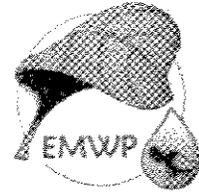
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan M. Arakawa".

Mayor Alan M. Arakawa

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Mayor Charmaine Tavares
County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793-2155

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mayor Tavares,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I am providing you a response to former Mayor Arakawa's comment letter on the EMWP's February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

The private partners and staff of the EMWP appreciate the County's support of our project and concur that the proposed project will enhance efforts to protect and restore the native ecosystems of East Maui. We look forward to sharing our accomplishments with the County and working together to protect the native forested watershed of East Maui.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

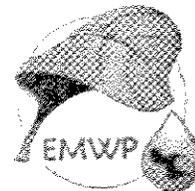
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

Richard S. B. B. B.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Leland Boteilho
P.O. Box 314
Makawao, HI 96768

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Leland Boteilho,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, posted signs warn hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

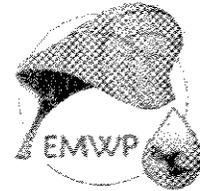
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Thank -you

Rodriguez Calaza Sr

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Rodney Calasa Sr.
1560 Kaupakalua Road
Haiku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Rodney Calasa Sr.,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

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Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

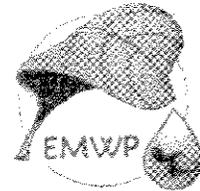
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Thank -you

Rodney Culasa Jr

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Rodney Calasa Jr.
1560 Kaupakalua Road
Haiku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Rodney Calasa Jr.,

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Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a faint circular stamp.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

January 30, 2006

Mr. Alex Michailidis, Project Coordinator
East Maui Watershed Partnership
PO Box 431
Makawao, HI 96768

Dear Mr. ~~Michailidis~~: *Alex,*

Thank you for the letter concerning the environmental assessment draft of the proposed fence installation project for the East Maui watershed. This is an area of deep concern, and I will certainly review the DEA in earnest and provide any comments I may have.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 586-6790.

Sincerely,



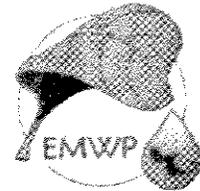
Mele Carroll
State House of Representatives
13th District

MC:ns

Representative Mele Carroll ~ Assistant Majority Floor Leader and Vice Chair Hawaiian Affairs
District 13: Paia, Keanae, Hana, Moloka'i, Kalaupapa, Lana'i, Kaha'olawe
State Capitol, Room 405 – Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: 586-6790 – Fax: 586-6779
Neighbor Island Direct Toll Free:
Maui: 984 – 2400 ext. 6-6790, Lana'i & Moloka'i: 1-800-468-4644
E-mail: repcarroll@capitol.hawaii.gov

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawaii / Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Representative Mele Carroll
House of Representatives
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 405
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Representative Carroll,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for your letter on the proposed project. We look forward to sharing our accomplishments with you as the project moves forward.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

Alex Michailidis

From: Shane.Demattos@hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2006 10:20 AM
To: coordinator@eastmauiwatershed.org
Cc: Meyer.L.Ueoka@hawaii.gov

Alex, just wanted to pass along some of my comments regarding the new draft environmental assessment for fence extension in the east maui watershed. One concern I have is the proposed elevation of fencing. I was wondering if a more defined route could be given. Why don't we keep it at the 3600 foot elevation, that seemed to work well. I understand that terrain may not allow one to stick to that 3600 foot elevation and some exceptions can be made. Discussions with Jeff DeRego also brought up concerns regarding such a big latitude (3000' - 4000') with regards to fencing. According to the States management guidelines, elevations between 3000'-4000' are set aside for game management and other uses.

Also hunting for pigs is not only done to provide meat for home use, it is a way of life for a lot of people and it is a tradition that has been passed on from father/mother to son/daughter, and from friend to friend and preserving/protecting this is just as important as saving the watershed. This statement of tradition and way of life should be included as a potential socio-economic impact.

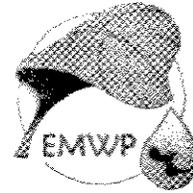
Again hunters should be given all the opportunity on state lands to have a first crack at pigs within the enclosed areas. After hunters have agreed that pig numbers are too low for hunting, other methods would be allowed to eliminate all remaining pigs. Protocols that have been established for the Koolau section should be maintained and continued. The respect of each individual partners mandates will go along way in helping the partnership accomplish its goals.

Lastly, the goal of the partnership should be the total elimination of all pigs in areas set aside for protection. By making the statement that getting pig numbers to as close to zero as possible is the goal of the partnership says that we are moving away from eradication and more toward toleration. To many of the partnership members, having even one pig, let alone a few in a protected area, would ruin the integrity of a watershed.

Shane De Mattos
Wildlife Biologist
Department of Land & Natural Resources
Division of Forestry & Wildlife
54 S. High St. Rm. 101
Wailuku, HI 96793
Tel (808) 243-4659
Fax (808) 984-8111
e-mail shane.demattos@hawaii.gov

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Shane DeMattos
Wildlife Biologist
DLNR/DOFAW
54 S. High Street, Room 101
Wailuku, HI 96793

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mr. DeMattos:

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership (EMWP), I would like to thank you for submitting comments on the proposed project.

In response to your concern with the proposed elevation of fencing and request for a more defined route, EMWP will continue to utilize best professional judgment, including extensive on-the-ground and aerial reconnaissance with partner agency personnel and residents of East Maui to determine exact fence routes through the forest reserves. Such activities began in 2006 and will continue as the project continues to progress in the next 12-24 months. As a result, a more defined route is not available at this time. Pending approval of the Environmental Assessment, Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Maui Natural Area Reserve System staff plan to begin construction in the Hanawā NAR in 2007/2008. Fence construction in the Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves, pending approval and the funding availability, is expected to begin in 2008/2009.

As you mentioned, current fences installed in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at the 3,600ft elevation have "worked well" with hunters. These fences are in remote areas and are either inaccessible or not typically accessed. EMWP has and will continue to consider existing routes of access for hunters and gatherers to the forest and focus fencing efforts to protect and preserve high quality and predominantly native forests, typically found in remote and inaccessible areas.

EMWP agrees with your sentiments that hunting is a way of life and tradition passed from generation to generation. EMWP's cooperative and collaborative efforts have provided more access and opportunities for hunters to hunt the lower elevation forests of the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. Utilizing the network of East Maui Irrigation's roads, hunters now have greater access to hunt throughout the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. State land above fences is still classified as public hunting, although EMWP partner agency control measures may make the area hazardous to dogs. Based on past and current observations from partner agency staff and members of the hunting community, most animals prefer the non-native and more disturbed lower elevation forests. Therefore, the installation of fences does not appear to have any socio-economic impacts. These areas above the fence are typically remote and inaccessible and it is the intention of the EMWP to protect the remote and inaccessible forests of the East Maui Watershed from feral animal damage. Protecting and preserving these areas will ensure that hunting continues as a way of life, thereby preserving these traditions that are passed down through the generations.

EMWP would consider supporting measures that increase access and opportunities for hunters in the lower portions of the forest reserve. The success of EMWP's conservation measures has and will continue to be dependent upon supporting and respecting the interests of all that really on the goods and

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
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www.eastmauiwatershed.org

services of East Maui's watershed resources

As you know, hunters are given the opportunity on State lands to have a "first crack" at pigs above fence lines. Throughout the history of the East Maui Watershed Partnership, hunters have been escorted above fence lines to assist in animal removal. The terrain is unforgiving and hazardous with limited amounts of animal sign observed. After several escorted hunts are conducted, hunters no longer desire the opportunity to hunt above fence lines and staff control measures are then implemented. This protocol established will be maintained and continued.

Again, thank you for your time to submit comments on the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Michailidis", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

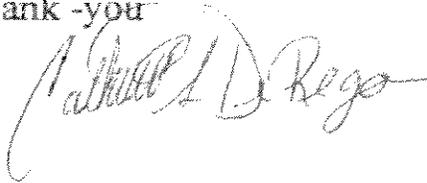
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February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

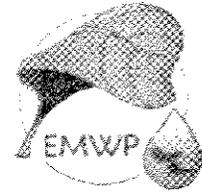
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark D. Rego". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Thank -you" text.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Catherine DeRego
133 A Ihea Place
Pukalani, HI 96768

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Catherine DeRego,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Koʻolau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Koʻolau Forest Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, posted signs warn hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

With respect to the fence line in the Koʻolau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Keʻanae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Koʻolau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Keʻanae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a faint circular stamp.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

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www.eastmauiwatershed.org

JEFFERY C. DEREGO

133A, Iheia Pl
Pukalani, HI 96768

808-573-1064

mauihunter@aol.com

February 22, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership
P.O. Box 431 Makawao, Hawaii 96768
Attention: Alex Michailidis

Dear EMWP,

I am very concerned about the draft of the environment assessment data on the future fence line from Hanawi through the Hana Forest Reserve to Kipahulu Valley. The elevation on which the fence will be constructed draws concern. Bringing the fence down from 3600ft to 3000ft elevation will have the hunters and native Hawaiians reaching the fence area while hunting and gathering. It was proven that in the Koolau Gap where the fence is at 2700ft elevation a lot of hunters and Hawaiians have reached the fence with no problem. It is my understanding that the fences in any of these areas where to be where the public can not reach them. In the Hana Forest Reserve I have reached the 3000ft elevation. It is necessary to make sure that a large buffer zone be between the fences and the hunting and gathering areas. It is also more adequate that when snaring and other methods of control above the fence begins, it is in areas where the public can not reach them. It is also my understanding from past meetings regarding other fences, that the hunters would have some say in the decision of where the fences be placed in the minimal areas of public hunting available. Hunting is away of life for us and we lose more areas than we want to. Sad to say we never get new areas of state land to hunt in. Yet some organizations are always waiting to take more land. When the whole fence line is completed we will have only 1/3 to hunt and enjoy while 2/3 will be protected. By holding the fence line at 3600ft to 4000ft it would not cost any more to build, but it would be something that the public hunters and native Hawaiians could be satisfied with. We as hunters do not ask for much and we would like to keep having a good working relationship with all those involved with the fence line and protection of our native forest. I love the beauty of the forest and I always do my part to protect and preserve it's natural habitat. I ask all of those involved to take this letter into serious consideration.

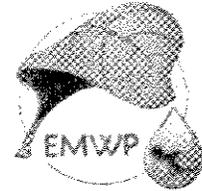
Sincerely,



Jeffery DeRego - President of Koolau Volunteer Hunters Group

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Jeffrey DeRego
President, Ko'olau Volunteer Hunters Group
133A Ihea Place
Pukalani, HI 96768

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mr. DeRego,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership (EMWP), I would like to thank you for submitting comments on the proposed project.

As you mentioned, fences installed in Ko'olau Gap at the 2,700ft elevation have been reached by hunters. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), the total time of each hunt in the Ko'olan Forest Reserve averages between 4-6 hours. EMWP project staff have confirmed that hiking/hunting from East Maui Irrigation's roads to the fence and back takes between 3-5 hours. Therefore, we recognize that the fence in Ko'olau Gap is accessed, however we don't agree that the fence is regularly reached.

EMWP has and will continue to consider existing routes of access for hunters and Hawaiian gathers to the forest and focus fencing efforts to protect and preserve high quality and predominantly native forests, typically found in remote and inaccessible areas. We concur that parts of the Hāna Forest Reserve may be accessible from the 3,000ft elevation and we will take this into consideration, along with continued discussions with East Maui residents, DLNR's guidelines, and extensive aerial and on-the-ground observations as the project continues.

EMWP's cooperative and collaborative efforts have provided more opportunities for hunters to access the lower elevation forests of the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. State land above fences is still classified as public hunting, although staff control measures may make the area hazardous to dogs. However, fenced areas remain open to public hunting and hunters have also been provided the opportunity to hunt above fence lines, typically inaccessible areas, during escorted hunts with EMWP agency and project staff.

EMWP would consider supporting measures that increase opportunities for hunters as the success of conservation measures will continue to dependent upon supporting and respecting the interests of all that rely on the goods and services of East Maui's watershed resources. Thank you for taking the time to submit comments on the project and your invaluable assistance to DLNR's public hunting program in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager, East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

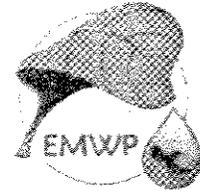
I am a native Hawaiian and I heard about a continuing fence line will be constructed from Hanawi to Kapahulu Forest Reserve. I heard that the fence line will be moved to a lower elevation from 3600ft to 3000ft. I understand that the previous fence line at 3600ft has ended and this new fence line is to be constructed. I don't want to see any fences at all. But I know that there will be fences no matter what. What I don't want is to be walking in the forest that is so peaceful and walk into a fence. That would be disturbing my hunting and gathering rights. I know that there are areas in Hana where I can walk to elevations of 3000ft. I disapprove of lowering the new fence to 3000ft. I would like to share this with you: As a Hawaiian I have the right to access undeveloped federal and state land. This is my right to access land in the state of Hawaii for traditional, spiritual, cultural, and subsistence purposes. For example; hunting and gathering of food, medicinal and ceremonial materials, for hula, religious gatherings and family occasions ect. These rights of Hawaii's indigenous people are protected by state and federal law and have been confirmed by a 1992 Hawaii Supreme Court Decision.

Thank-you,

David A. A. A.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Darrell Duarte
569 Kaupakalua Road
Haiku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Darrell Duarte,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian decent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve and Hanawī Natural Area Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, signs are posted, warning hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a faint circular stamp.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
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Dr. Fern P. Duvall II
PO Box 330940
Kahului, HI
96733-0940

30 March 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership
Alex Michailidis, Watershed Coordinator
PO BOX 1716
Makawao, HI 96768

RE: Draft Environmental Assessment East Maui Watershed Partnership Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Alex:

I thank-you for the opportunity to make comments on your DEA for the planned fencing on windward Haleakala. I make these comments as a personal citizen due too the fact that my agency and Division failed to request any professional commentary to the document. I, nonetheless herein, use my full professional judgment based on over twenty years as a Wildlife Biologist employed by the Department of Land & Natural Resources, Division of Forestry & Wildlife, and based on my intimate and extensive knowledge of the forests, and their functioning, biology, and the threats to them, on windward Haleakala.

I applaud the EMWP in its pursuit of its planned fencing against ungulate trespass, thereby protecting the watershed in its entirety from threats that would impact its basic function, its treasure chest of Hawaiian biological resources, and its long-term stability. If the watershed is to persist into the future and continue to provide the 60 Billion plus gallons of water annually, and to provide habitat for the Hawaiian biota, then fencing with subsequent elimination of ungulates is the correct choice. It has been repeatedly demonstrated that alien ungulates in Hawaiian rainforest ecosystems have diverse serious negative impacts, they:

- speed and enhance fragmentation of contiguous native vegetation regimes,
- increase soil loss and soil loading of mountain streams and watercourses draining to the ocean and reefs,
- create water retention basins in vegetation and the ground for mosquito breeding areas,
- trample, uproot and or forage on diverse native plants,
- decrease native plant cover, prevent native plant regeneration,
- spread alien invasive plant species, and open up areas of mineral soils for invasive plants to gain strongholds,

- trample bird burrows, disrupt nesting, and eat native ground nesting birds and their eggs.

Clearly, fencing has been shown to be the most efficient, economical method to exclude ungulates from forests. The positive effects of fencing with diligent and consistent subsequent removal of ungulates can be seen in Hanawi and other Natural Area Reserves, the Haleakala and Hawaii Volcanoes National Parks, Nature Conservancy of Hawaii reserves, etc., etc.

The revised Hawaii Forest Bird Recovery Plan has designated the forested area of windward Haleakala from 2,500' elevation to treeline to be part of the essential forestbird long-term recovery habitat for the endangered Maui Parrotbill, Akohekohe, Poouli. It seems, related to that, that the current fencing, as proposed in this DEA document, falls too high on the mountain for all of the proposed phases 3,4,5,6,and 7. However, not all of that forest is "good" in terms of *native* forest, native subcanopy, and native ground vegetation cover. I recommend another look at placement of fences – one that is based on vegetation characteristics of the forest, and in consideration of very long-term goals for maintaining forest watershed integrity and native species enhancement and recovery.

It is recommended that good native habitat areas be managed for native habitat, native species recovery, and native ecosystem functioning, whereas areas that are not now "native habitat", and which additionally, have little prospect of ever being restored, be managed as areas for hunting recreation

It is recommended that the EMWP, to best maintain the integrity of its native forested watershed and water harvesting, should ground truth the distribution and species make-up of forested areas of the EMWP especially at and above the 2500' elevation, which contain 10 percent *or less* non-native plant species (e.g. are *GOOD* native forest), and fence those, with subsequent removal of ungulates. Areas of good quality native forest must not be allowed to degenerate. DOFAW's management zone designations also have called for areas with 10% or less non-native species to receive special protection, and removal of ungulates.

NARs areas have a special role, not only do they need to be maintained as intact as possible, it is essential to actively undue whatever invasions can be undone. The Hanawi NAR should be fenced in its entirety, and restored with active management of the lower areas to the fullest extent possible. Even if the original condition, and original species' regime is not possible to restore, it will still provide the best buffer to the higher elevation areas which are nearly intact.

Thank-you again for the possibility to comment on this very important proposal, for a most important goal.

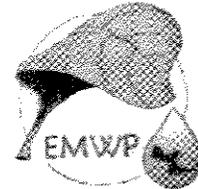
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Dr. Fern P. Duvall II

e-mailed, and signed original snail mailed

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Dr. Fern Duvall
P.O. Box 330940
Kahului, HI 96733

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Dr. Duvall,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

EMWP is pleased to hear that you are supportive of the project. We concur with your sentiments that fencing is the most efficient and economical method of excluding feral ungulates from forests and will utilize your expertise and intimate knowledge of East Maui's forests when planning our resource protection programs.

EMWP will also take your professional judgment under consideration when the exact locations of fence lines are being proposed. We agree that good native habitat areas should be managed for native habitat and species recovery and areas that are not currently native habitat and have little to no prospect for restoration, be managed as areas for hunting recreation.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and we look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a faint, illegible printed name.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager, EMWP

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

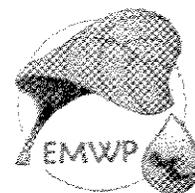
Thank -you



Ron Fasi

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Paul Fasi
643 Lower Kimo Drive
Kula, HI 96790

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Paul Fasi,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, posted signs warn hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,



Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

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February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

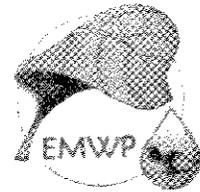
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Thank-you,

Michael Sutherland

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Michael Feiteira
370 Makawao Ave
Pukalani, HI 96768

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Michael Feiteira,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian descent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve and Hanawi Natural Area Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, signs are posted, warning hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

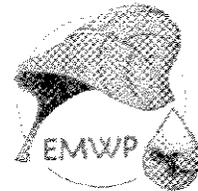
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

Michael Setkara

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Michael Feiteira
370 Makawao Ave
Pukalani, HI 96768

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Dear Michael Feiteira,

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With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alex Michailidis".

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor
MICHAEL W. FOLEY
Director
WAYNE A. BOTEILHO
Deputy Director



COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

February 13, 2006

Mr. Alex Michailidis, Project Coordinator
East Maui Watershed Partnership
Post Office Box 431
Makawao, Hawaii 96768

Dear Mr. Michailidis:

RE: Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Protective Fencing within the State Conservation District at TMKs: 1-2-004:005, 1-2-004:007, 1-3-001:001, 1-4-001:001, 1-5-001:001, 1-6-001:005 and 1-7-004:006, Island of Maui, Hawaii (EAC 2006/0004)

The Maui Planning Department (Department) is in receipt of your letter dated January 23, 2006, requesting comments on the above-referenced document. The Department's comments are as follows:

1. Discuss Alternative 2 in greater detail. What circumstances would lead to this alternative being pursued instead of Alternative 1?
2. Please provide pictures and/or diagrams showing typical sections and details of proposed fencing.

Thank you for your cooperation. Should you require further clarification, please contact Mr. Dan Shupack, Staff Planner, of this office at 270-5517.

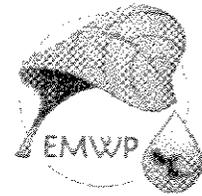
Mr. Alex Michailidis, Project Coordinator
February 13, 2006
Page 2

MWF:DBS:lar

c: Wayne Boteilho, Deputy Planning Director
Clayton Yoshida, Planning Program Administrator
Kivette Caigoy, Environmental Planner
Dan Shupack, Staff Planner
OEQC
Project File
General File
K:\WP_DOCS\PLANNING\EAC\2006\0004_EMWP_ProtectiveFencing\DEA_Comments.wpd

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Jeff Hunt
Planning Director
County of Maui
Department of Planning
250 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mr. Hunt,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to share with you our responses to Mike Foley's comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

In response to the Department's February 13, 2006 comments, we have included diagrams showing typical sections and details of proposed fencing in the revised document. Please refer to Appendix D.

The Department inquired on the circumstances that may lead to the Draft EA's Alternative #2 being pursued. The Draft EA outlined three project alternatives and the difference between Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 was fence locations in the Hanawā Natural Area Reserve (NAR).

Based on additional information received during the comment period and information obtained via aerial overflights, EMWP has revised the EA to include two (2) project alternatives. Alternative 1 (the preferred alternative) proposes fences in the Hanawā NAR between the 2,500ft and 3,500ft elevation and continuing east between the 3,000ft and 4,000ft elevation contours in the in Ko'olau, Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves. Alternative 2 proposes no new fences.

In regards to the Department's pre-consultation comments from October 5, 2005, EMWP contacted the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Division for information concerning known cultural sites. EMWP also sent pre-consultation letters to the State Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Na Kapuna O Maui and other agencies and individuals listed on page 28 of the Final EA. As requested, anticipated timetables for the construction phase of the project were addressed and included in the Draft and Final EA, along with a discussion of mitigation measures regarding soil conservation and prevention of runoff into nearby surface waters.

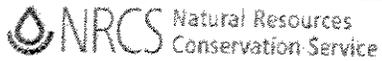
Thank you for the Department of Planning's comments on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager, East Maui Watershed Partnership

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United States Department of Agriculture



Our People...Our Islands...In Harmony

210 Ima Kala Street, Suite #209, Wailuku, HI 96793-2100

February 13, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership
Mr. Alex Michailidis
P.O. Box 431
Makawao, Hawaii 96768

Dear Mr. Michailidis,

SUBJECT: DEA for the "East Maui Watershed Partnership Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed"

We have reviewed the DEA for the "East Maui Watershed Partnership Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed" and highly support this project which will provide protection for the Hanawi Natural Area Preserve and Koolau, Hana and Kipahulu Forest Reserves.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

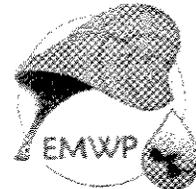
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ranae F. Ganske-Cerizo".

Ranae F. Ganske-Cerizo
District Conservationist

cc: Office of Environmental Quality Control

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Ranae F. Ganske-Cerrizo
District Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
210 Imi Kala Street, Suite 209
Wailuku, HI 96793-2100

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Ms. Ganske-Cerizo,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

EMWP appreciates NRCS' support of the project and looks forward to sharing our accomplishments and working together to protect the native forested watershed of East Maui.

Sincerely,

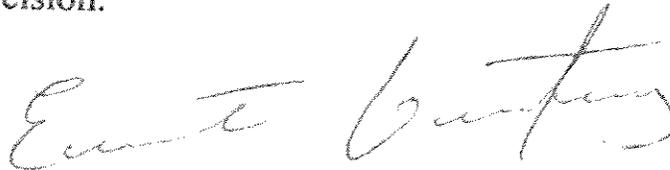
Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

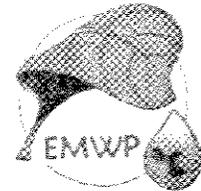
I am a native Hawaiian and I heard about a continuing fence line will be constructed from Hanawi to Kapahulu Forest Reserve. I heard that the fence line will be moved to a lower elevation from 3600ft to 3000ft. I understand that the previous fence line at 3600ft has ended and this new fence line is to be constructed. I don't want to see any fences at all. But I know that there will be fences no matter what. What I don't want is to be walking in the forest that is so peaceful and walk into a fence. That would be disturbing my hunting and gathering rights. I know that there are areas in Hana where I can walk to elevations of 3000ft. I disapprove of lowering the new fence to 3000ft. I would like to share this with you: As a Hawaiian I have the right to access undeveloped federal and state land. This is my right to access land in the state of Hawaii for traditional, spiritual, cultural, and subsistence purposes. For example; hunting and gathering of food, medicinal and ceremonial materials, for hula, religious gatherings and family occasions ect. These rights of Hawaii's indigenous people are protected by state and federal law and have been confirmed by a 1992 Hawaii Supreme Court Decision.

Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eunt Buntay". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the "Thank-you," text.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Ernest Gumtang
639 Loina Place
Paia, HI 96779

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Ernest Gumtang,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian descent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve and Hanawi Natural Area Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, signs are posted, warning hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

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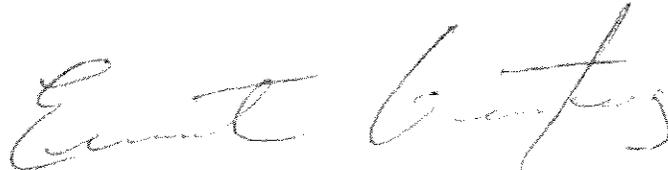
Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

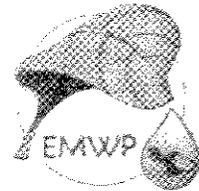
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ernest Cooper". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the "Thank -you" text.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Ernest Guntang
639 Loina Place
Paia, HI 96779

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Ernest Guntang,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

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Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

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Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

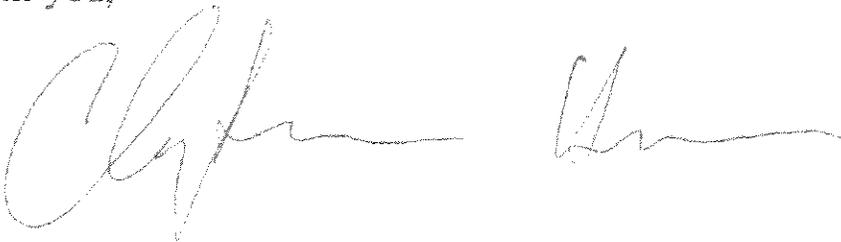
PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 21, 2006

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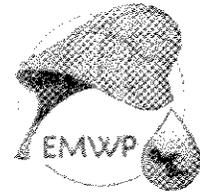
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Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly 'Alfonso' or similar, written in a cursive script.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Clayton Hema
338 Lanai Street
Kahului, HI 96732

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Clayton Hema,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

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Sincerely,

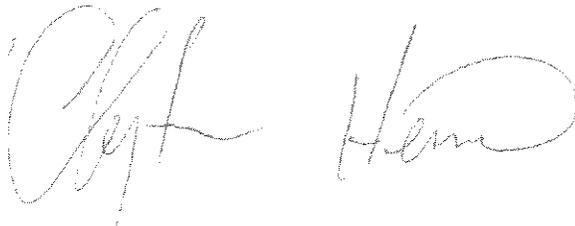
Alex Michalidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

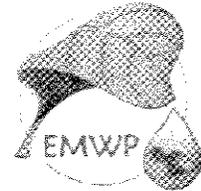
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Thank -you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cliff Hama". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Clayton Hema
338 Lanai Street
Kahului, HI 96732

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Clayton Hema,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

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Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

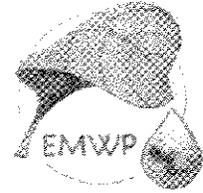
I am a native Hawaiian and I heard about a continuing fence line will be constructed from Hanawi to Kapahulu Forest Reserve. I heard that the fence line will be moved to a lower elevation from 3600ft to 3000ft. I understand that the previous fence line at 3600ft has ended and this new fence line is to be constructed. I don't want to see any fences at all. But I know that there will be fences no matter what. What I don't want is to be walking in the forest that is so peaceful and walk into a fence. That would be disturbing my hunting and gathering rights. I know that there are areas in Hana where I can walk to elevations of 3000ft. I disapprove of lowering the new fence to 3000ft. I would like to share this with you: As a Hawaiian I have the right to access undeveloped federal and state land. This is my right to access land in the state of Hawaii for traditional, spiritual, cultural, and subsistence purposes. For example; hunting and gathering of food, medicinal and ceremonial materials, for hula, religious gatherings and family occasions ect. These rights of Hawaii's indigenous people are protected by state and federal law and have been confirmed by a 1992 Hawaii Supreme Court Decision.

Thank-you,

Jahmil Kehala

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Gabriel Kahaleuahi
2864 Lemli Place
Haiku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Gabriel-Kahaleuahi,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian decent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve and Hanawī Natural Area Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, signs are posted, warning hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

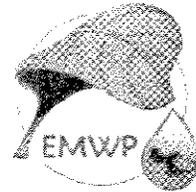
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

Gabriel Kahalewai

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Gabriel Kahaleuahi
2564 Lemi Place
Haiku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Gabriel Kahaleuahi,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

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With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

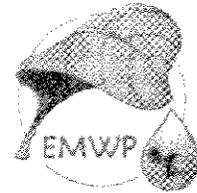
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kula Lasso". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the "Thank -you" text.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Kulua Kaisa
31 B West Waipuilani Road
Kihei, HI 96753

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Kulua Kaisa,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, posted signs warn hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHIG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

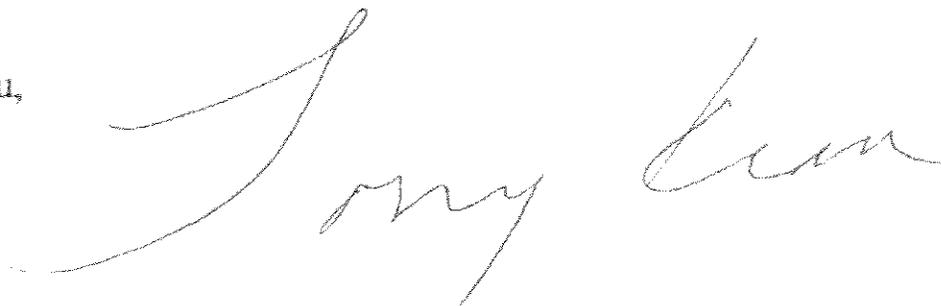
PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

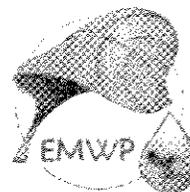
I am a native Hawaiian and I heard about a continuing fence line will be constructed from Hanawi to Kapahulu Forest Reserve. I heard that the fence line will be moved to a lower elevation from 3600ft to 3000ft. I understand that the previous fence line at 3600ft has ended and this new fence line is to be constructed. I don't want to see any fences at all. But I know that there will be fences no matter what. What I don't want is to be walking in the forest that is so peaceful and walk into a fence. That would be disturbing my hunting and gathering rights. I know that there are areas in Hana where I can walk to elevations of 3000ft. I disapprove of lowering the new fence to 3000ft. I would like to share this with you: As a Hawaiian I have the right to access undeveloped federal and state land. This is my right to access land in the state of Hawaii for traditional, spiritual, cultural, and subsistence purposes. For example; hunting and gathering of food, medicinal and ceremonial materials, for hula, religious gatherings and family occasions ect. These rights of Hawaii's indigenous people are protected by state and federal law and have been confirmed by a 1992 Hawaii Supreme Court Decision.

Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tony Leon". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed "Thank-you,".

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Haana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Tony Keau
311 Liniway
Makawao, HI 96768

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Tony Keau,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Haana and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian descent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve and Hanawā Natural Area Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, signs are posted, warning hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Michailidis", is written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

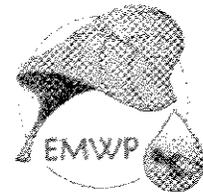
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you



East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Chad Koga
757 Pelenaka Place
Makawao, HI 96768

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Chad Koga,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpapulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

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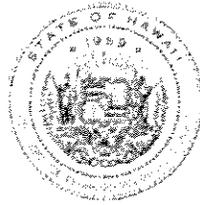
With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

LINDA LINGEE
CONSULTANT



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

PETER T. YOUNG
DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS

ROBERT K. MANUHA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DEAN MAKANGI
INTERIM DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MARK A. KANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
1505 ALI'OLE DRIVE, SUITE 100
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819
PHONE: (808) 586-1100
FAX: (808) 586-1101
WWW.DLNRS.STATE.HI.GOV

REF:OCCL:DH

Correspondence MA-06-170

Alex Michailidis, Project Coordinator
East Maui Watershed Partnership
P.O. Box 431,
Makawao, Hawaii 96768

MA-06-170

Dear Mr. Michailidis,

SUBJECT: Request for Comment Regarding Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for East Maui Watershed Partnership Fence Extension in the East Maui Watershed. Various Subject Parcels, Island of Maui

The Department of Land and Natural Resources' (DLNR), Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL) has received your letter, dated January 23, 2006, for Request for Comment Regarding DEA for the East Maui Watershed Partnership Fence Extension in the East Maui Watershed, Various Subject Parcels, Island of Maui.

According to your information, the DLNR/Division of Forestry and Wildlife in a cooperative effort with the East Maui Watershed Partnership proposes to construct fences through the Hanawai Natural Area Reserves (NAR), Hanawai NAR/Koolau Forest Reserve, Hana Forest Reserve, Waihoi Valley, and Kipahulu Forest Reserve to reduce feral ungulate damage to native forests and upland habitat areas, and to limit activity in lowland native forests to prevent forest cover. The fence project will expand the protection of the East Maui Watershed by approximately 13,000 acres.

The OCCL notes it appears that the proposed work will occur in the Protective, Limited, and Resource Subzones of the State Land Use (SLU) Conservation District:

- TMK: (2) 1-2-4-5 Hanawai NAR appears to lie within the Protective subzone;
- TMK: (2) 1-2-4-7 Hanawai NAR/Koolau Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Protective and Resource Subzone;
- TMK: (2) 1-3-1-1 Hana Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Protective and Resource subzone;
- TMK: (2) 1-4-1-1 Hana Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Protective and Resource subzone;
 - Departmental records indicate that Conservation District Use Application (CDUA) MA-1971 was approved by the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) 6/12/1987.

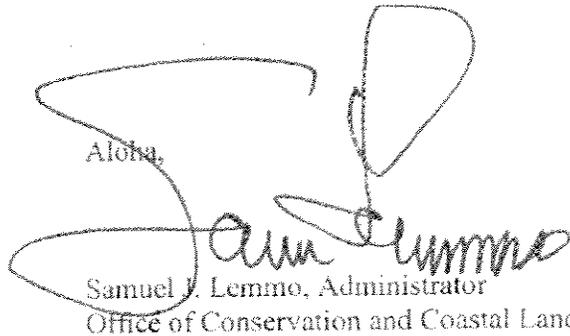
REF:OCC:DH

Correspondence: MA-06-170

- TMK: (2) 1-5-1-1 Waihoi Valley appears to lie within the Protective and Resource subzone;
- TMK: (2) 1-5-1-1 Hana Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Protective and Resource subzone;
- TMK: (2) 1-6-1-5 Kipahulu Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Resource subzone; and
- TMK: (2) 1-7-4-6 Kipahulu Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Protective and Resource subzone .

The OCCL notes that the proposed fence project is an identified land use in the Protective subzone as identified in Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), Section 13-5-22, P-7, D-1, SANCTUARIES, "plant and wildlife sanctuaries, natural area reserves (see Chapter 195, HRS) and wilderness and scenic areas, including habitat improvement under an approved management plan." This requires a Board permit. Therefore, a Conservation District Use Application (CDUA), Environmental Assessment, and Management Plan will be required for the proposed project. A public hearing is required pursuant to HAR, Section 13-5-40, HEARINGS, "on applications requiring a board permit in the Protective subzone."

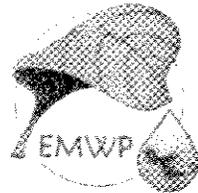
Should you have any questions, please contact Dawn Hegger of the Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands at 587-0380.

Aloha,

Samuel J. Lemmo, Administrator
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands

cc: Chairperson
MDLO
Maui County Planning Department
DOFAW -- Christen Mitchell
Christine Ogura

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Samuel J. Lemmo
Administrator
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, HI 96809

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed (Correspondence MA-06-170)

Dear Mr. Lemmo:

Thank you for your comment letter on the East Maui Watershed Partnership Fence Extension project. Your letter indicated the need for a Conservation District Use Application (CDUA), Environmental Assessment, and Management Plan, as well as a public hearing.

Based on previous discussions between your office and Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) staff, we were under the impression that a CDUA would not be required as the fencing project is located entirely on State-owned Conservation land (forest reserve and natural area reserve). This understanding was based on a memorandum by former Board chair Gil Coloma-Agaran, which included the following language:

"For work on existing DLNR Conservation lands, the Divisions would not be required to obtain a new CDUA (Reference section 13-5-22, Hawai'i Administrative Rules[HAR]), but would be required to comply with other applicable State requirements, such as 343, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), Chapter 13-5. HAR provides for 'allowable' uses within existing non-conforming facilities and also for facilities that have been approved under an existing Conservation District Use Permit (CDUP). Sections 13-5-22 (P-9 & 10) and 13-5-23 (L-7) HAR address and provide for these uses."

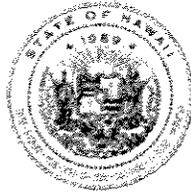
As a new CDUA would not be required, we were also under the impression that this action would not trigger a public hearing under 13-5-40. We would like to note however, that other applicable State requirements, such as HRS 343, are being met. If our interpretation is incorrect and you believe that this project does trigger a new CDUA, please contact me at 808-573-6999 or Christine Ogura, DOFAW Watershed Planner at 808-587-0058, to coordinate the appropriate next steps. Thank you for your assistance and comments on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

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LINDA LINGLE
COMMISSIONER



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

PETER F. YOUNG
COMMISSIONER
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMERCIAL WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
ROBERT A. MASE DA
COMMISSIONER
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
COMMISSIONER ON WILDLIFE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
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HAWAIIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
HAWAIIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
HAWAIIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
HAWAIIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MAY 14 2007

REF:OCCL:DH

Correspondence MA-07-225

Alex Michailidis, Project Coordinator
East Maui Watershed Partnership
P.O. Box 431,
Makawao, Hawaii 96768

Dear Mr. Michailidis,

SUBJECT: East Maui Watershed Partnership Fence Extension in the East Maui Watershed,
Various Subject Parcels, Island of Maui

The Department of Land and Natural Resources' (DLNR), Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL) has received your letter, dated April 10, 2007, for regarding clarification regarding clarification if a Conservation District Use Application (CDUA) for the East Maui Watershed Partnership Fence extension in the East Maui Watershed, Various Subject Parcels, Island of Maui.

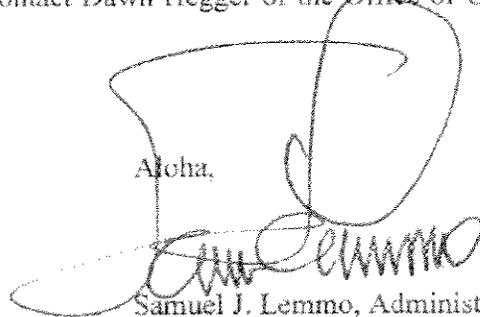
The OCCL notes it appears that the proposed work will occur in the Protective, Limited, and Resource Subzones of the State Land Use (SLU) Conservation District: 1) TMK: (2) 1-2-4-5 Hanawai NAR appears to lie within the Protective subzone; 2) TMK: (2) 1-2-4-7 Hanawai NAR/Koolau Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Protective and Resource Subzone; 3) TMK: (2) 1-3-1-1 Hana Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Protective and Resource subzone; 4) TMK: (2) 1-4-1-1 Hana Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Protective and Resource subzone¹; 5) TMK: (2) 1-5-1-1 Waihoi Valley appears to lie within the Protective and Resource subzone; 6) TMK: (2) 1-5-1-1 Hana Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Protective and Resource subzone; 7) TMK: (2) 1-6-1-5 Kipahulu Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Resource subzone; and 8) TMK: (2) 1-7-4-6 Kipahulu Forest Reserve appears to lie within the Protective and Resource subzone.

Because the proposed project is in partnership with the DOFAW, a CDUA will not be required as long as the proposed project will occur on forest reserve lands and is within the mandate of the Division of Forestry and Wildlife.

¹ Departmental records indicate that CDUA MA-1971 was approved by the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) 6/12/1987 for TMK: (2) 1-4-1-1.

Should you have any questions, please contact Dawn Hegger of the Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands at 587-0380.

Aloha,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Samuel J. Lemmo'. The signature is written over the word 'Aloha,' and extends downwards into the printed name below.

Samuel J. Lemmo, Administrator
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands

c: Chairperson
MDLO
Maui County Planning Department
DOFAW – Christen Mitchell and Christine Ogura

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

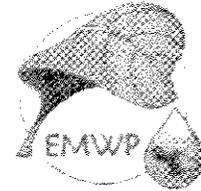
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Thank-you,

Chad Town

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hens Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Chad Loui
310 Lanai Street
Kahului, HI 96732

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Chad Loui,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian decent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve and Hanawi Natural Area Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, signs are posted, warning hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

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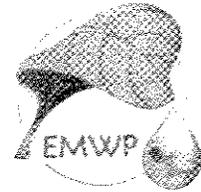
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Thank -you

Chad Loun

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

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Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

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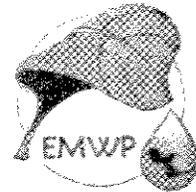
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Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chung W. Dinklage". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Thank-you," text.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Avery Maliikapu
640 Kalakaua Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Avery Maliikapu,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kipalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

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Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

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Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

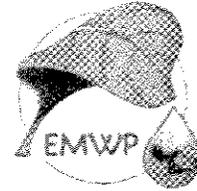
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Thank -you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amy W. Hartman".

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haloakalā National Park / Haloakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Avery Maliikapu
640 Kalakaua Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

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Dear Avery Maliikapu,

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With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Michailidis", is written over a light-colored background.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

April 8, 2005

Alex Michailidis, Watershed Managing Coordinator
East Maui Watershed Partnership
PO Box 431
Makawao, HI 96768

Re: Comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Aloha Mr. Michailidis,

Kipahulu 'Ohana, Inc. is an organization founded in 1995 by lineal descendants of the Kipahulu area, with a majority Native Hawaiian board of directors. Since 1995, we have had a Cooperative Agreement with Haleakala National Park to conduct 'ahupua'a management and educational activities within the Park. In addition to our efforts in the Park, such as restoration of ancient lo'i kalo, we are also conducting management and restoration activities in the native forest area on "Cable Ridge" in Kipahulu. With funding from U.S. Fish & Wildlife and in partnership with neighboring landowners, we have installed temporary exclosures to protect three endangered plant species from feral goat predation. We are also propagating native plant species, and developing a long-term management plan, including fencing, for this area, which is not far from the Ka'apahu area proposed for fencing in Phase 7 of your EA.

Overall, we are supportive of the fencing projects proposed in your EA, and would just like to provide a few comments, particularly regarding this area of the proposed fence.

1. Although you have assumed that there are no significant agricultural sites at this elevation (page 17), it is possible that in the Ka'apahu area there may be lo'i in the area of the proposed fenceline, and we would like to have the opportunity to accompany the fencing crew when scoping this terrain in order to help detect and avoid any if they are present.

2. In your mitigation plans (page 21) you mention the protocol for preventing contamination of remote areas with exotic weed seeds, and we would just like to emphasize the importance of this aspect. We have seen other fencing projects where weed colonies have been introduced and become established along the fence line, and want you to be very careful to avoid this impact.
3. In your discussion of economic impacts, you mention that local labor will be used for construction (page 20), and we would like to emphasize the importance of this, not only for the jobs it would provide, but also to employ local individuals who have some familiarity with the landscape and the issues involved, and who have a stake in the long-term success of the project because of their connection to the land and the community. Such individuals are more likely to be committed to ensuring that the project is done well, and to participate in ongoing monitoring of the area to ensure integrity of the fence and the forest it is protecting.
4. Finally, we would like to encourage you to seriously consider placing small cabins at strategic locations along the fence line that could be used by locals working in partnership with you to help monitor and maintain the fence, remove any exotic species that might attempt to colonize near the fence line, remove any feral animals that might remain mauka of the fence, propagate native species, and otherwise work to protect and restore the forest. Particularly in light of the uncertainty of sufficient funding being available for the long-term monitoring and maintenance of the fence line, this is one way that the EMWP can encourage and support volunteer efforts to further your goals.

Mahalo for your consideration of our input, and we look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

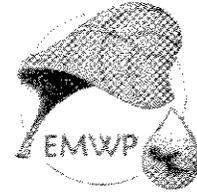


Michael Minn
President

cc: Office of Environmental Quality Control
235 S. Beretania Street, #702
Honolulu, HI 96813

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Michael Minn
President, Kīpahulu Ohana
P.O. Box 454
Hāna, HI 96713

RE: Response to Kīpahulu Ohana comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mr. Minn,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment and elaborating on some of the resource management projects the Kīpahulu Ohana has undertaken close to our proposed project sites.

EMWP is pleased to hear that the Kīpahulu Ohana is supportive of the project and will strongly consider your comments, suggestions and recommendations. As descendants of the Kīpahulu area, your members are intimately familiar with some of the areas EMWP has proposed for fencing and we would welcome assistance the Kīpahulu Ohana may provide with scouting fence lines or agricultural sites, endangered plant locations, invasive species migration and other resource management endeavors. We agree with your sentiments about preventing contamination of remote areas with new exotic weed seeds and follow to the best of our ability, protocols to prevent such introductions. This, coupled with regular monitoring of fence lines and any infrastructure established to support resource management initiatives, will prevent any accidental introductions of weeds from becoming established.

EMWP has been fortunate to employ several local members of the community to implement the field aspects of our watershed protection program. They have a connection with the landscape and are committed to preserving this area. It is our hope that when fencing projects begin in the Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves, we employ the services of East Maui community members to assist in accomplishing our watershed protection initiatives. Cabins, shelters or spike camps will be established in the project areas to permit access and assist implementation of resource protection measures. Under direction of project or partner agency staff, these areas could be used by volunteers to support our project goals.

Again, thank you for sharing your comments and we look forward to working with you and the members of the Kīpahulu Ohana to protect the East Maui Watershed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a faint circular stamp.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

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February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

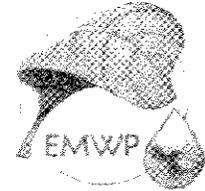
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Thank -you

Mauri A Montano

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Mavis Montalvo
921 Kapakalua Road
Haiku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mavis Montalvo,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

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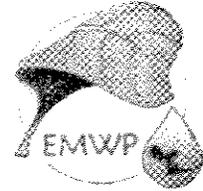
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Thank-you, Joshua morreira

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Joshua Morreira
1849 A-I Pihana Road
Wailuku, HI 96793

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Joshua Morreira,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

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Project Manager
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February 20, 2006

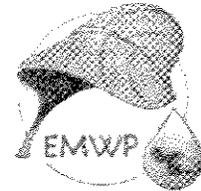
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Thank-you Joshua Moreira

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

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1849 A-1 Pihihana Road
Wailuku, HI 96793

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Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

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With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anāe Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anāe Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
711 KAPI'OLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 500
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

HRD05/2006B

February 13, 2006

Alex Michailidis
East Maui Watershed Partnership
P.O. Box 431
Makawao, HI 96768

RE: Draft Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Hanawā Natural Area Preserve and Ko'olau, Hana and Kipahulu Forest Reserves Fencing Project, Various Ahupua'a, Maui.

Dear Mr. Michailidis,

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) is in receipt of your January 23, 2006 request for comment on the above listed proposed project. OHA offers the following comments:

The East Maui Watershed Partnership proposes to install ungulate-proof fencing around 13,000 acres of Natural Area Reserve and forest reserve land in East Maui. Our staff concurs that issues regarding gathering access and historic preservation have been addressed and suitably mitigated. Please keep our staff updated as the project moves forward, we look forward to reviewing its progress.

OHA also asks that, in accordance with Section 6E-46.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes and Chapter 13-300, Hawaii Administrative Rules, if any significant cultural deposits or human skeletal remains are encountered, work shall stop in the immediate vicinity and the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD/DLNR) shall be contacted.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact Jesse Yorck, Native Rights Policy Advocate, at (808) 594-0239 or jessey@oha.org.

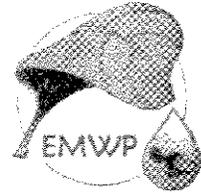
'O wau ilu nō,


Clyde W. Nāmu'o
Administrator

CC: Thelma Shimaoka
OHA Community Affairs Coordinator (Maui)
140 Hooohana St., Ste. 206
Kahului, HI 96732

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Clyde W. Nāmu'o
Administrator
Office of Hawaiian Affairs
711 Kapi'olani Boulevard, Suite 500
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mr. Nāmu'o,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank the State of Hawai'i's Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

EMWP concurs with OHA's letter of February 13, 2006 that issues regarding gathering access and historic preservation have been addressed and mitigated and we will keep OHA staff updated as the project moves forward. We will look forward to sharing our accomplishments with all interested parties.

As requested, and mandated by Section 6E-46.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes and Chapter 13-300, Hawaii Administrative Rules, if any significant cultural deposits or human skeletal remains are encountered, work will stop in the immediate vicinity and the State Historic Preservation Division will be contacted.

OHA's letter of October 18, 2005, in response to EMWP's pre-consultation letter on the Environmental Assessment requested that EMWP consult with several entities for information about cultural and traditional uses and resources in the proposed project area. Page 26 of the Draft EA (page 28 of the Final EA) lists all agencies EMWP consulted with.

Again, thank you for your time to share the Office Hawaiian Affairs' comments on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

Dear Mr. Michailidis,

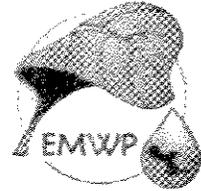
As someone who has worked with Maui's unique yet vanishing biota for many years, I wholeheartedly support the efforts of the East Maui Watershed Partnership. In particular, I find the draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed phases of fence construction to be well researched, thought out, and planned. Obviously, a lot of work has gone into producing this document. I agree that Alternative 1 is the preferred option. It seems that you have adequately addressed all concerns regarding negative impacts to flora & fauna, archaeological sites, erosion, etc. The naturally occurring native Hawaiian plant communities are undisputedly the best vegetation cover for the production of water. The proposed project will accomplish the goal of protecting this water source, while at the same time reducing erosion and protecting habitat for rare species. Judging from the Partnerships track record from recent similar projects, the outcome of these proposed phases when completed will only benefit Maui, and provide positive results for generations to come.

Aloha,

Hank Oppenheimer

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Hank Oppenheimer
34 Piina Place
Lahaina, HI 96761

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mr. Oppenheimer:

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

EMWP is pleased to hear that you are supportive of the project. We concur with your sentiments that naturally occurring native Hawaiian plant communities are the best vegetation cover for the production of water and that our efforts will also protect habitat for rare and endangered species.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a faint horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager, EMWP

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

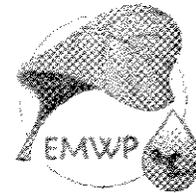
I am a native Hawaiian and I heard about a continuing fence line will be constructed from Hanawi to Kapahulu Forest Reserve. I heard that the fence line will be moved to a lower elevation from 3600ft to 3000ft. I understand that the previous fence line at 3600ft has ended and this new fence line is to be constructed. I don't want to see any fences at all. But I know that there will be fences no matter what. What I don't want is to be walking in the forest that is so peaceful and walk into a fence. That would be disturbing my hunting and gathering rights. I know that there are areas in Hana where I can walk to elevations of 3000ft. I disapprove of lowering the new fence to 3000ft. I would like to share this with you: As a Hawaiian I have the right to access undeveloped federal and state land. This is my right to access land in the state of Hawaii for traditional, spiritual, cultural, and subsistence purposes. For example; hunting and gathering of food, medicinal and ceremonial materials, for hula, religious gatherings and family occasions ect. These rights of Hawaii's indigenous people are protected by state and federal law and have been confirmed by a 1992 Hawaii Supreme Court Decision.

Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kumu Oka", written in dark ink.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Ray Orta
898 Makani Road
Makawao, HI 96768

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Ray Orta,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian descent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve and Hanawā Natural Area Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, signs are posted, warning hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Michailidis", is written over a horizontal line.

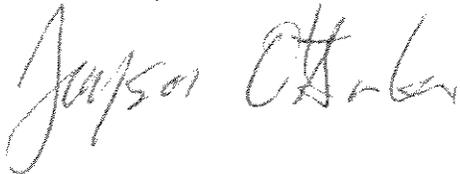
Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

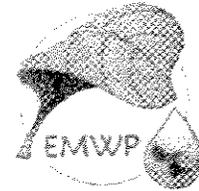
I am a native Hawaiian and I heard about a continuing fence line will be constructed from Hanawi to Kapahulu Forest Reserve. I heard that the fence line will be moved to a lower elevation from 3600ft to 3000ft. I understand that the previous fence line at 3600ft has ended and this new fence line is to be constructed. I don't want to see any fences at all. But I know that there will be fences no matter what. What I don't want is to be walking in the forest that is so peaceful and walk into a fence. That would be disturbing my hunting and gathering rights. I know that there are areas in Hana where I can walk to elevations of 3000ft. I disapprove of lowering the new fence to 3000ft. I would like to share this with you: As a Hawaiian I have the right to access undeveloped federal and state land. This is my right to access land in the state of Hawaii for traditional, spiritual, cultural, and subsistence purposes. For example; hunting and gathering of food, medicinal and ceremonial materials, for hula, religious gatherings and family occasions ect. These rights of Hawaii's indigenous people are protected by state and federal law and have been confirmed by a 1992 Hawaii Supreme Court Decision.

Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason O'Brien". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Jason Otsuki
71-A Kuleawe Street
Makawao, HI 96768

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Jason Otsuki,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian descent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve and Hanawā Natural Area Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, signs are posted, warning hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a circular stamp or seal.

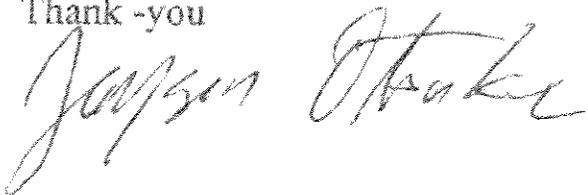
Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

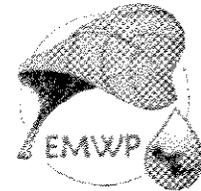
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jayson O'Hake". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Jayson O'Hake".

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Jason Otsuki
71-A Keleawe Street
Makawao, HI 96768

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Jason Otsuki,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, posted signs warn hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

N.K. Perry
P.O. Box 503
Mauna Kea 96713

EAST MAUI WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP
P.O. Box 431
MAKAHOUA HI 96768

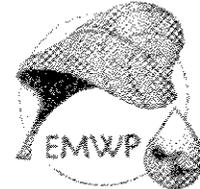
To whom it May Concern:

I am in favor of NO ACTION but realizing
that maybe something needs to be done. That I am
in support of ALTERNATIVE #2 this ALTERNATIVE
#2 is a straight 3,500 ft to WAHOOI VALLEY +
MOST RARE ^{PLANT} SPECIES ARE AT OR ABOVE THIS LINE.
Most People I've talked to support ALT #2.
or 3

Sincerely
Dann K Terry

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Norman Perry
P.O. Box 503
Hāna, HI 96713

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mr. Perry,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on your letter, you support no additional fences (Alternative #3) or additional fences installed between the 3,000ft-4,000ft elevation (Alternative #2). While we appreciate your acknowledgement that "maybe something needs to be done", portions of the Hanawā Natural Area Reserve (NAR) below 3,000ft still contain predominantly native vegetation and the landscape above the 2,500ft elevation has been identified as habitat for several native and endangered forest birds.

As a result of information received during the comment period and aerial observations of the proposed project sites, EMWP has revised the EA to include two (2) project alternatives. Alternative 1 (the preferred alternative) proposes fences in the Hanawā NAR between 2,500ft and 3,500ft elevation and continuing east between the 3,000ft and 4,000ft contour in the Ko'olau, Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves. Alternative 2 proposes no additional fences.

Again, thank you for your time to share your comments on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

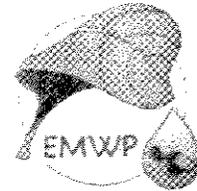
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you


Fred Redd

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Brad Redd
P.O. Box 1194
Puunene, HI 96704

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Brad Redd,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, posted signs warn hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'ānae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'ānae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Michailidis", is written over a horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

P.O. Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

LINDA LUKOLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



GENEVIEVE SALMONSON
DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

238 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
SUITE 202
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE (808) 586-4185
FACSIMILE (808) 586-4188
E-mail: oeqc@health.state.hi.us

January 23, 2006

Paul Conry
Department of Land & Natural Resources
Division of Forestry & Wildlife
1151 Punchbowl St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Attn: Christen Mitchell

We have the following comments:

Acronyms list: The abbreviation EMI was used on page 6 without the full name given. A list of acronyms used in the EA would be helpful for the reviewer. Please include such a list in the final EA.

Cultural impacts assessment: This assessment is required by Act 50 of the 2000 legislative session. This mandates an assessment of impacts to current cultural practices by the proposed project. In the final EA include such an assessment.

Contacts: If you received any correspondence during the preconsultation period, include copies in the final EA.

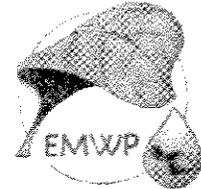
If you have any questions, call Nancy Heinrich at 586-4185.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Genevieve Salmonson in cursive.
GENEVIEVE SALMONSON
Director

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Genevieve Salmonson
Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control
235 South Beretania Street, Suite 702
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Ms. Salmonson,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank the State of Hawai'i's Office of Environmental Quality Control for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

In response to the Office of Environmental Quality Control's comments, we have included a list of acronyms used in the document. Please refer to pg. 3.

Based on extensive pre-consultation, discussions with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' Maui Community Resource Coordinator and the State Historic Preservation Division, an assessment of current cultural activities was made and no impacts are anticipated with the proposed project.

As requested, we have included correspondence received during the preconsultation period in the final EA.

Again, thank you for your time to share the Office of Environmental Quality Control's comments on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

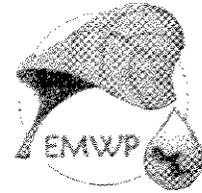
I am a native Hawaiian and I heard about a continuing fence line will be constructed from Hanawi to Kapahulu Forest Reserve. I heard that the fence line will be moved to a lower elevation from 3600ft to 3000ft. I understand that the previous fence line at 3600ft has ended and this new fence line is to be constructed. I don't want to see any fences at all. But I know that there will be fences no matter what. What I don't want is to be walking in the forest that is so peaceful and walk into a fence. That would be disturbing my hunting and gathering rights. I know that there are areas in Hana where I can walk to elevations of 3000ft. I disapprove of lowering the new fence to 3000ft. I would like to share this with you: As a Hawaiian I have the right to access undeveloped federal and state land. This is my right to access land in the state of Hawaii for traditional, spiritual, cultural, and subsistence purposes. For example; hunting and gathering of food, medicinal and ceremonial materials, for hula, religious gatherings and family occasions ect. These rights of Hawaii's indigenous people are protected by state and federal law and have been confirmed by a 1992 Hawaii Supreme Court Decision.

Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul [unclear]". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial letter.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Arcillio Torres Santos Bras
2710 Puuomalei Road
Hāiuku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Arcillio Torres Santos Bras,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian descent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve and Hanawī Natural Area Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, signs are posted, warning hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

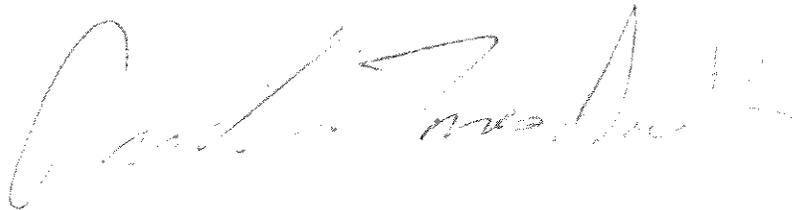
Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

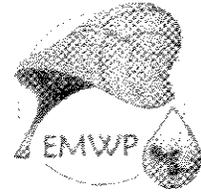
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul [unclear]". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial letter.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Areillio Torres Santos Bras
2710 Puuomalei Road
Haiku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Areillio Torres Santos Bras,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hana and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

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With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a faint circular stamp.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawae, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

Mr. Alex Michailidis
Watershed Managing Coordinator
East Maui Watershed Partnership
PO Box 431
Makawao, HI 96768

20 March 2006

Dear Mr. Michailidis,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft EA for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed. You have done an admirable job of outlining a comprehensive program to protect this hugely valuable natural resource.

I would like to offer the following comments regarding selection of a fence alignment. First of all, the large scale and associated costs of this project make it imperative that the greatest possible area of native vegetation and watershed recharge area be protected by this fence. Simply stated: get the most bang for the buck.

While political factors such as the desire to preserve hunting opportunities are important to consider, they should not be allowed to override the primary purpose of this project: to protect the native dominated forest areas, and their associated watershed value. If, as it states in the EA, public hunting is truly intended to "check and control" feral pig damage in the areas below the fence, then we should be sure that the areas left unfenced are adequately accessible by hunters, and that hunting pressure is actually keeping pig disturbance at an acceptable level.

Based on my experiences as Natural Area Reserves Specialist for the State of Hawaii, personal time spent in the area, and conversations with hunters who use the lower Koolau and Hana Forest Reserves, it appears that very little hunting takes place above the 2000' elevation throughout much of the project area. The dense vegetation and rugged terrain, as well as the abundance of swine at lower elevations, make it difficult and unnecessary for hunters to push very far up the mountain. Building the fence at too high an elevation will leave a belt below the fence where pig disturbance remains unchecked. If game production were the only use of these lands, it might be desirable to leave an inaccessible 'refuge' to allow for pig population replenishment. However, the elevational band between 2000' and 3000' also receives the greatest rainfall, and hence is most important for watershed recharge, as well as being highly susceptible to the erosion of disturbed soil.

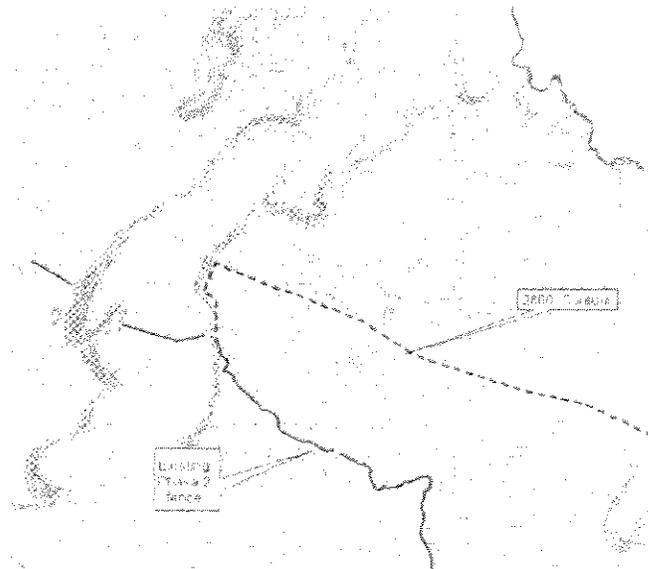
The elevation at which native dominated forest grades into exoric vegetation varies across the mountain, but most areas above 2500' elevation, especially those with a dense *uluhe* fern understory, are still intact native forest. These *uluhe* fields are not huntable lands, nor are they especially good habitat for pigs. Areas like these should be included within the fence whenever feasible. Conversely, those areas dominated by strawberry guava are excellent pig habitat, and should remain below the fence line.

A particularly fine example of intact forest at lower elevation lies below the recently constructed EMWP "Phase 2" fence, between Koolau Gap and Kopiliula stream. The choice to build this segment of fence at a relatively high (3500' - 3700') elevation was purely a political decision, and resulted in the exclusion of a large tract of high quality native forest. Forest, in fact, of better quality than that in the lower portion of the Hanawi NAR. The preferred alternative presented in the Draft EA would enclose this portion of the NAR despite the greater level of disturbance and weed invasion.

I recommend two modifications to the plan presented in the EA. First, that the alignment for the fence extension be nowhere higher than 2800' (to include the peak rainfall area), and that it dip lower (to about 2500') whenever feasible to include significant tracts of high quality native vegetation.

Second, the EA should allow for the eventual construction of another fence line below "Phase 2", at approximately 2800' elevation; between Koolau Gap and Kopiliula stream. See the map below. This would allow for the protection of another 2000 acres of high quality native forest. This area is too dense with *uluhe* fern to be traversed by hunters and there is no way to access the area without a helicopter. There is no justification for leaving this tract unprotected - the higher alignment chosen for the "Phase 2" fence was an unfortunate and misguided mistake.

Expansion of project to take in lower elevation forest between Koolau and Kopiliula



I feel that a line somewhere between 2500' and 2800' will end up being the best choice of elevation for this fence. This will capture the majority of the native-dominated forest and the peak rainfall areas, while leaving something like 25,000 acres at lower elevation (between Keanae and Kaupo) available for pig habitat and a public hunting program. The fence that crosses Koolau Gap was built at 2800', and hunting opportunities within the Gap have not suffered as a result, nor has vandalism been an issue.

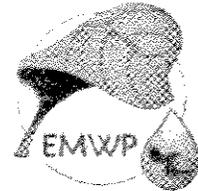
Finally: the lower the fence is placed, the safer, easier and cheaper it will be to build and maintain.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Rupa Sharma
Rupa Sharma

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Byron Stevens
772 Kekaulike Ave
Kula, HI 96790

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Mr. Stevens,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

EMWP is pleased to hear that you are supportive of the project. Based on your professional experience as a Natural Area Reserve Specialist with the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, we will take into consideration your suggestions for fence locations. As you know, many factors are considered when determining the fence route, including but not limited to ease in installation and maintenance, locations of predominantly native forests, hunter accessibility, etc... and we appreciate your input.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and we look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Michailidis", written over a horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager, EMWP

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February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

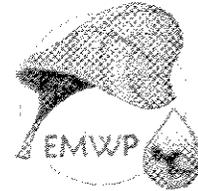
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Thank -you

Juanita Lopez

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Lawrence Tabaco
2123 Kokomo Road
Haiku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Lawrence Tabaco,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hana and Kipalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

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With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

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Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 20, 2006

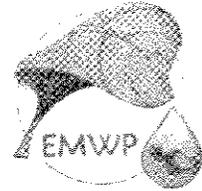
East Maui Watershed Partnership,

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Thank -you *Martin
Hubert*

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hana Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Martin Tabaco
2123 Kokomo Road
Haiku, HI 96708

Re: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Martin Tabaco,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

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With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

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Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

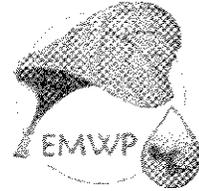
I am a native Hawaiian and I heard about a continuing fence line will be constructed from Hanawi to Kapahulu Forest Reserve. I heard that the fence line will be moved to a lower elevation from 3600ft to 3000ft. I understand that the previous fence line at 3600ft has ended and this new fence line is to be constructed. I don't want to see any fences at all. But I know that there will be fences no matter what. What I don't want is to be walking in the forest that is so peaceful and walk into a fence. That would be disturbing my hunting and gathering rights. I know that there are areas in Hana where I can walk to elevations of 3000ft. I disapprove of lowering the new fence to 3000ft. I would like to share this with you: As a Hawaiian I have the right to access undeveloped federal and state land. This is my right to access land in the state of Hawaii for traditional, spiritual, cultural, and subsistence purposes. For example; hunting and gathering of food, medicinal and ceremonial materials, for hula, religious gatherings and family occasions ect. These rights of Hawaii's indigenous people are protected by state and federal law and have been confirmed by a 1992 Hawaii Supreme Court Decision.

Thank-you,

*Sincerely,
Donald A. Wallace*

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Donald Wallace
965 E. Kūiaha Road
Haiku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Donald Wallace,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian descent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

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Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

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Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

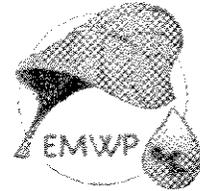
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Thank-you,

Patrick Walker Sr.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Patrick Wallace Jr.
P.O. Box 1261
Haikū, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Patrick Wallace Jr.,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

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Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

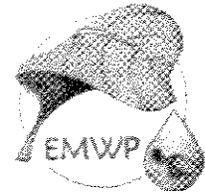
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Thank -you

Patrick J. Dallas

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

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P.O. Box 1261
Haiku, HI 96708

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Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

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Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

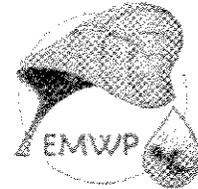
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alan White".

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Candace Weaver
99 Kane Road
Haiku, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Candace Weaver,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Koʻolau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Koʻolau Forest Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, posted signs warn hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

With respect to the fence line in the Koʻolau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Keʻanae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Koʻolau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Keʻanae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a circular stamp or seal.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

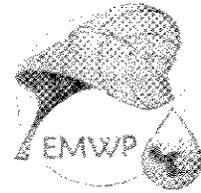
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. A. [unclear]". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

David Weaver
99 Kane Road
Hāna, HI 96708

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear David Weaver,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, posted signs warn hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'anae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'anae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Michailidis", is written over a horizontal line.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

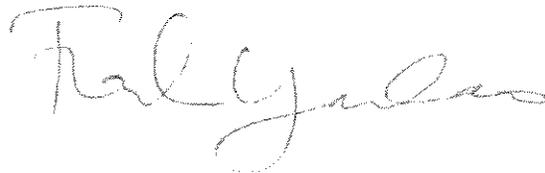
PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

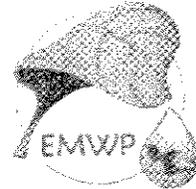
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karl G. Jones". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the "Thank -you" text.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Rod Yadao
3317 Akala Drive
Kīhei, HI 96753

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Rod Yadao,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpalulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, posted signs warn hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'ānae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'ānae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a light-colored background.

Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

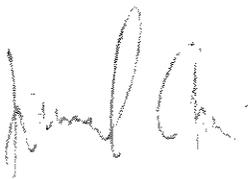
PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

February 21, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

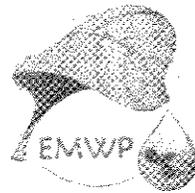
I am a native Hawaiian and I heard about a continuing fence line will be constructed from Hanawi to Kapahulu Forest Reserve. I heard that the fence line will be moved to a lower elevation from 3600ft to 3000ft. I understand that the previous fence line at 3600ft has ended and this new fence line is to be constructed. I don't want to see any fences at all. But I know that there will be fences no matter what. What I don't want is to be walking in the forest that is so peaceful and walk into a fence. That would be disturbing my hunting and gathering rights. I know that there are areas in Hana where I can walk to elevations of 3000ft. I disapprove of lowering the new fence to 3000ft. I would like to share this with you: As a Hawaiian I have the right to access undeveloped federal and state land. This is my right to access land in the state of Hawaii for traditional, spiritual, cultural, and subsistence purposes. For example; hunting and gathering of food, medicinal and ceremonial materials, for hula, religious gatherings and family occasions ect. These rights of Hawaii's indigenous people are protected by state and federal law and have been confirmed by a 1992 Hawaii Supreme Court Decision.

Thank-you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jimmie Ahe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakala National Park / Haleakala Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Draft EA Commenter
P.O. Box 3232
Wailuku, HI 96793

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Draft EA Commenter,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpapulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation are accessible and may be encountered during the course of hunting in these State Forest Reserves.

EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce the acreage of land typically hunted or prevent native Hawaiians from accessing these forested areas for traditional, spiritual, or cultural purposes. These fences will not prevent people from accessing these typically remote areas, but prevent feral animals from accessing these upper elevation forests and destroying the native ecosystem of cultural significance to people of Hawaiian descent. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve and Hanawi Natural Area Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that the fences are encountered, signs are posted, warning hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a circular stamp.

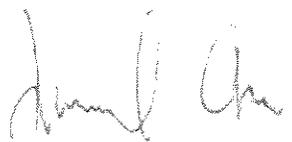
Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

February 20, 2006

East Maui Watershed Partnership,

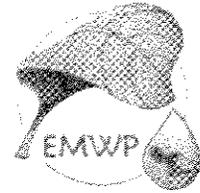
I am a concerned hunter and I understand that a new phase of fence is to be started. I also heard that the fence would be dropped to a lower elevation of 3000ft instead of the elevation of the original fence of 3600ft. Due to the steep grades and access roads from Hana Ranch and private individuals, the areas in Hana Forest Reserve it will be easier to reach a fence line at 3000ft. I also wanted to inform you that the fence line in the Koolau Gap is easily reached by me and many other hunters. According to estimates that fence is at 2700ft. So if a fence is to be made at 3000ft we will easily reach that fence as well. I feel that a fence line that is meant to protect the forest should not be accessible to the public. When we walk in the beautiful forest we don't want to see a fence line, this disrupts our way of life. I ask that you take my letter into consideration and keep the fence line at or above 3600ft elevation.

Thank -you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Donald A. ...".

East Maui Watershed Partnership

County of Maui / East Maui Irrigation
Haleakalā National Park / Haleakalā Ranch / Hāna Ranch
State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources / The Nature Conservancy



April 10, 2007

Draft EA Commenter
P.O. Box 3232
Wailuku, HI 96793

RE: Response to comments for Draft Environmental Assessment for Fence Extensions in the East Maui Watershed

Dear Draft EA Commenter,

On behalf of the partners in the East Maui Watershed Partnership, I would like to thank you for submitting comments on our February 2006 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Based on aerial overflights, on-the-ground reconnaissance and discussions with members of the East Maui community this past year, EMWP concurs with your sentiments that parts of the Hāna and Kīpahulu Forest Reserves at the 3,000ft elevation may be more accessible than the locations of fence currently installed at 3,600ft and 2,700ft elevation in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve. EMWP's intent of this project is to protect native forested areas, not reduce land typically hunted. Fences that have and will continue to be installed are in remote areas and typically inaccessible to hunters. Exact fence routes will be determined as the project continues to move forward and we will continue to seek input from individuals familiar with these areas before any fences are constructed.

State land above currently constructed fences in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve remain classified as "public hunting" and hunters are still permitted to enter these areas for subsistence purposes. In the event that fences are encountered, posted signs warn hunters that active animal control is in progress and that the area may be hazardous to dogs. Based on discussions with East Maui residents, fences above the 3,000ft elevation are unlikely encountered as animals are caught well before anyone needs to traverse higher up the mountain.

With respect to the fence line in the Ko'olau Forest Reserve at approximately 2,700ft elevation in Ke'ānae Valley, we recognize that hunters have reached this fence line. Based on data provided by members of the Ko'olau Volunteer Hunter Group (KVHG) to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, hunters who access the East Maui Irrigation (EMI) roads in Ke'ānae Valley typically hunt for 4-6 hours. Based on confirmation from project staff and partner agency personnel, hiking/hunting from the EMI road to the fence and back can take between 3-5 hours. Therefore, EMWP agrees that the fence may be reached, but given the typical length of hunt, it is unlikely that the fence is reached on a frequent basis.

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Michailidis', is written over a horizontal line.

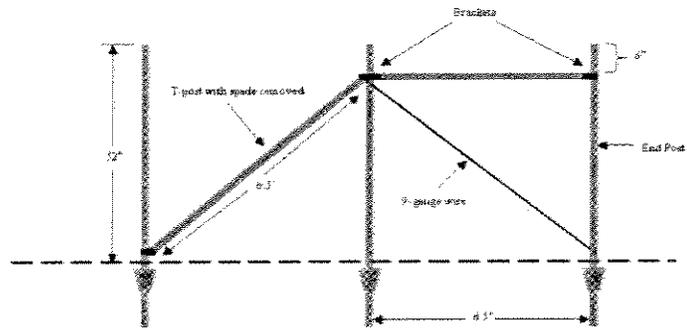
Alex Michailidis
Project Manager
East Maui Watershed Partnership

PO Box 431 / Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-6999 / 808-573-6991 (fax)
www.eastmauiwatershed.org

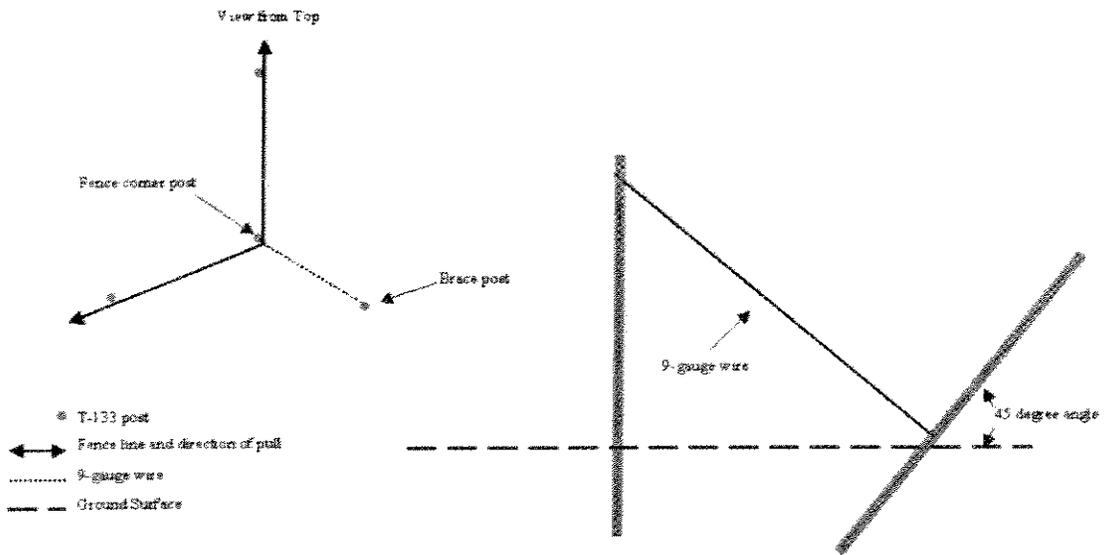
APPENDIX E

Fence Diagrams

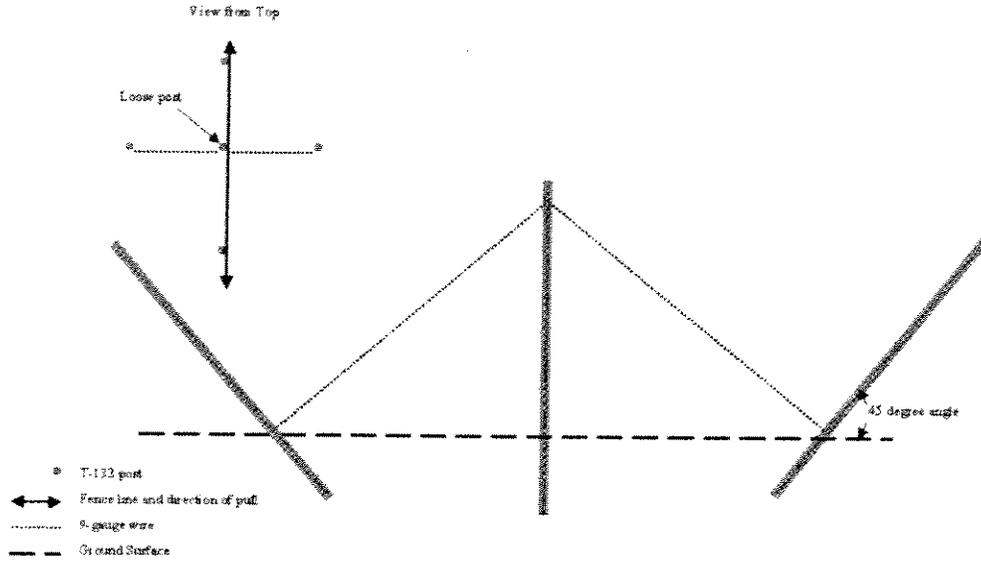
END POST BRACING SETUP



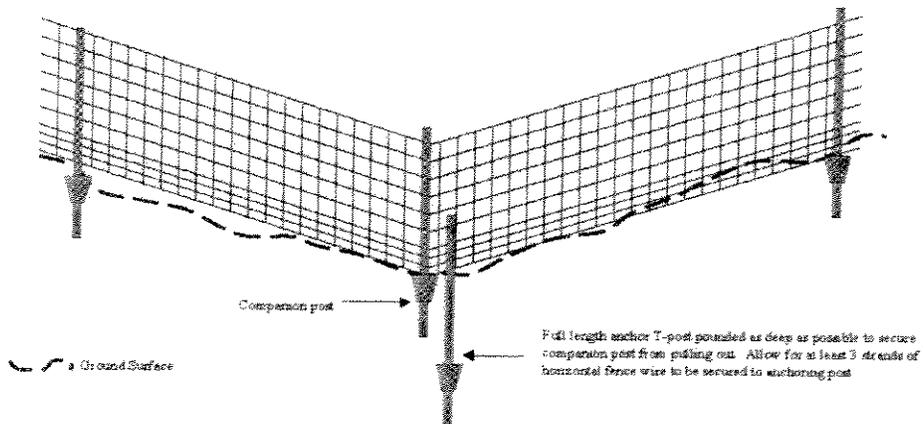
CORNER ANCHORS



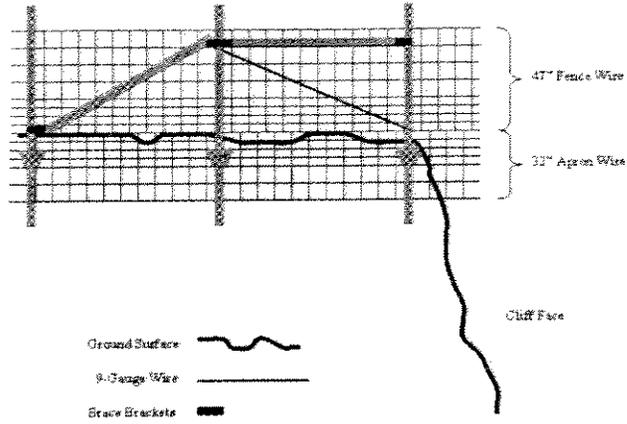
ANCHORING for STABILITY



ANCHORING TO KEEP POST FROM PULLING UP



TIE-IN TO CLIFF FACE



Not to Scale

