

From: [Zimpfer, Jeff F](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Cc: [Foster, Dan A](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kaloko-Honokōhau NHP comments for the Kaloko Heights Project
Date: Monday, April 10, 2023 10:42:54 AM
Attachments: [2023 04 12 KAHO cmmnts 4 LUC signed.pdf](#)



Aloha,

Attached please find our comments for item IV (A81-525 Y-O LIMITED PARTNERSHIP) on the LUC's April 12 agenda.

~Jeff

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage



United States Department of the Interior

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

L54 2023-01

April 10, 2023

Aloha e Chair Giovanni and members of the State Land Use Commission:

Mahalo for providing Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park (park) the opportunity to provide comments regarding the Kaloko Heights Project (Project).

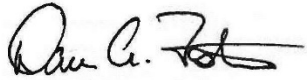
Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park was authorized in 1978 by Congress to preserve, interpret, and perpetuate traditional native Hawaiian activities and culture (Public Law 95-625). The park contains two large ancient Hawaiian fishponds with large associated wetlands, more than 180 known anchialine pools, and 596 acres of marine waters, including coral reefs. The pools and fishponds are significant cultural resources that define the park, and also provide habitat for four federally listed species under the Endangered Species Act.

The park water resources are fed by, and in the case of the anchialine pools and `Aimakapa Fishpond, are solely dependent upon, ground water inputs to maintain these ecosystems. `Aimakapa and Kaloko Fishponds and wetlands are also core habitat for the recovery of two endangered waterbird species, the Hawaiian stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus Knudseni*) and the Hawaiian coot (*Fulica americana alai*) and are important habitat for migratory waterfowl. Protection of these resources is of critical importance to Hawaiian culture, as well as providing sanctuary to a variety of water and wildlife resources. These resources are fragile and changes or disturbances to the ecosystem in which they exist and operate in may lead to impacts from which recovery is impossible.

In addition to these water resources, the park preserves and documents a portion of the Hawaiian culture of the makai (food gathering and living area) and mauka (watershed, timber, and hunting area) regions of the area, and the connectivity between the two, that still exists in culture and nature. The Project is approximately 2.5 miles mauka from the park, which could affect the connectivity mauka to makai that is important for preserving Hawaiian culture and relates to the legislative purpose of the park.

We appreciate the opportunity to share information about the unique and important resources at Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park for consideration in the Commission's review of the Kaloko Heights Project. Please contact me at (808) 329-6881 x 1201 or by email at Dan_Foster@nps.gov with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan A. Foster", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dan A. Foster
Acting Superintendent