



## Aloha Friends,

The National Park Service (NPS) is conducting a "Special Resource Study" of Hawai'i's World War II confinement sites to determine the best way to preserve the sites and share their history. The U.S. Congress, under Public Law 111-88, directed the NPS to carry out this study because of the importance of the confinement story of Hawai'i's Japanese Americans and European Americans forcibly confined during World War II. Mainland sites such as Tule Lake and Manzanar, California and Minidoka, Idaho, tell part of the story of the Japanese American Internment during WWII. However, Hawai'i's unique part of that history is only told on a limited scale.

Preliminary studies have identified 13 sites in Hawai'i where individuals were confined for varying lengths of time between the start of the war in 1941 and its conclusion in 1945. The 13 sites are located on six of the Hawaiian islands. The largest of all the sites in Hawai'i was Honouliuli Gulch, located near Ewa, on O'ahu, where more than 1200 individuals were confined between 1943 and 1945. These individuals were primarily leaders of the Japanese American community, but also included German Americans and Italian Americans, and a number of prisoners of war. Both men and women were interned. Also on O'ahu, hundreds of individuals were processed through the U.S. Immigration Station in Honolulu and temporarily housed on Sand Island, prior to the construction of a larger internment facility at Honouliuli.

Other sites include the Wailua County Jail on Kaua'i, the Wailuku County Jail on Maui, and the Kilauea Military Camp on Hawai'i Island. The sites are in diverse ownership and the NPS will work with owners to identify ways to commemorate this history, if interested.

Most of the sites were used only briefly and few people were held in those temporary locations. In many cases, little remains of the sites and the significant roles they played in the lives of the people involved.

Many people have shared the individual and collective stories of this important part of United States and Hawaiian history, with the express purpose that it become permanently documented as part of World War II's epic history.

As we begin this study, we would like to know more about your vision for the preservation and commemoration of Honouliuli Gulch and other locations throughout Hawai'i, and for sharing of stories relevant to the internment history.

Public information and comment meetings (called "scoping sessions") will be held in February and March to receive public input. After the public scoping sessions have been completed, the NPS will develop a set of preservation alternatives and recommendations, which will be presented to the public for comment and then forwarded to Congress next year.

We hope you will take the time to let us know your thoughts and ideas. There will be other opportunities for public input throughout this study process and we invite you to follow the process on the Honouliuli website (listed below) and participate with your comments. You can check the schedule of meetings at the website and send your comments and suggestions to the e-mail address or mailing address in Honolulu, at the links listed throughout this newsletter.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Mahalo!  
The NPS Study Team

Newsletter #1 • February/March 2011



A sketch of the women's camp at Honouliuli in 1943 by Dan Toru Nishikawa, JCCH Collections.

## About the National Park Service

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The NPS cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The national park system is comprised of many types of park units. Administration of park units occurs in many ways, from traditional units which are federally managed, to non-traditional units, which rely on partnerships and may have little, if any, federal landownership.

## Newsletter Contents

This newsletter provides an introduction to the special resource study, including:

- What is a special resource study?
- Why is the NPS conducting this special resource study?
- Frequently asked questions
- Study area map and description
- Study process
- How you can participate
- Comment Form
- Public meeting schedule

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is a Special Resource Study?

The purpose of this special resource study is to determine whether any portion of the Honouliuli Gulch and associated confinement sites in Hawai'i are eligible to be designated as a unit of the national park system. For the NPS to recommend a new national park unit, an area must meet the following criteria: (a) contain nationally significant natural or cultural resources, (b) be a suitable addition to the national park system, (c) be a feasible addition to the national park system, (d) require direct NPS management, instead of alternative protection by others.

The study process provides an opportunity for the NPS and local communities to think creatively about how to care for the resources that they value; how to tell the stories of the important events that occurred there; and how to protect significant resources. Study recommendations may consider the entire study area or only portions of it.

## Why is the National Park Service conducting this special resource study?

This confinement and internment experience in Hawai'i has been recognized as a significant part of World War II history that has not been fully documented or recognized. On Oct. 30, 2009, P.L. 111-88, Division A, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, was signed into law. Title I, Section 125, "Honouliuli Special Resource Study," authorized the Secretary of the Interior to complete a special resource study of the Honouliuli Gulch and associated sites for consideration of including the sites as a national park unit.

## How will this study affect local communities and private property?

In this study, the NPS will only consider management alternatives that respect and retain the authorities of existing local, state and federal agencies. The NPS seeks to work collaboratively with local communities and agencies.

This study will not consider any alternatives that would adversely affect private property rights. A new national park unit designation, if recommended by this study and authorized by Congress, would not give the NPS any regulatory authority over private land. If the study recommends any NPS land acquisition, it will stipulate that land will only be acquired from willing sellers.

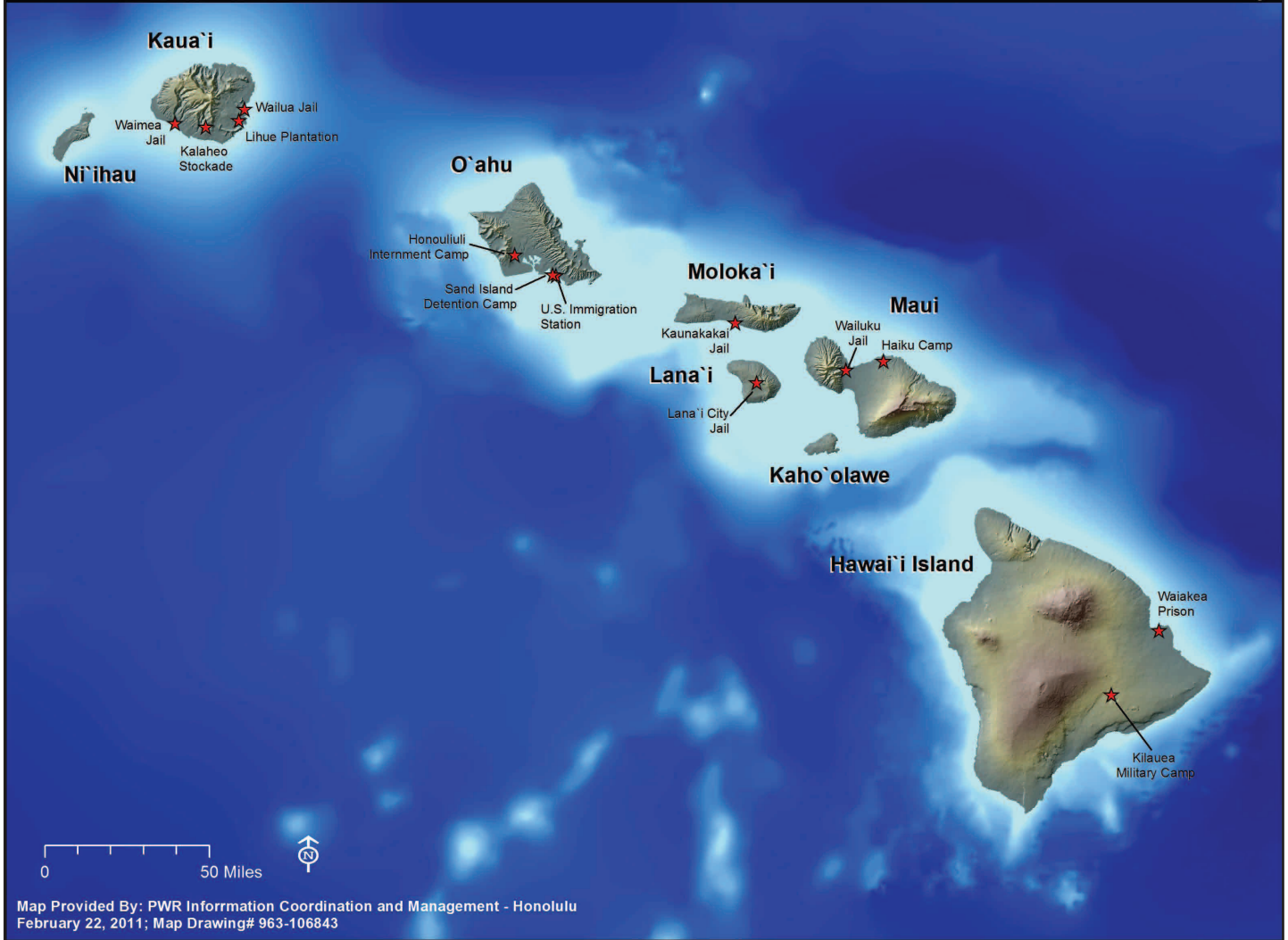
## What are some of the possible outcomes of the study?

The study will explore many issues including: preservation of the Honouliuli Gulch internment site and preservation or recognition of other sites in Hawai'i that were part of the confinement period; interpretation of the confinement period history through plaques, markers, interpretive displays; technical assistance and outreach to others involved in the documentation and interpretation of this part of history.

The alternatives will include the option of continuing the current management of the area (which is the "no action" alternative). Other alternatives will be developed collaboratively with local stakeholders and focus on a range of opportunities and management strategies. Ultimately, the study will consider options or alternatives that explore ways that federal, state, local and private entities can protect and interpret these important cultural resources and provide more access to educational and outreach opportunities.

Over the last 20 years, less than one-third of the special resource studies that have been authorized by Congress have found that the area under study is eligible for inclusion in the national park system. Many studies determine that existing management, technical or financial assistance, or local, state or private initiatives are preferable to the establishment of a new national park unit. The final product of the study process will be a report to Congress that will include a recommended course of action to protect resources and provide opportunities for public use and enjoyment of the area. Please follow the progress of the study on the Honouliuli website and send comments to the e-mail address: [pwr\\_honouliuli@nps.gov](mailto:pwr_honouliuli@nps.gov).

# Hawai'i Confinement Sites



Honouliuli Internment Camp, R.H. Lodge photograph, courtesy of Hawai'i's Plantation Village.

## About the Study Area

The known historic resources associated with the Japanese American internment include seven primary sites, where at least ten internees were confined, and six secondary sites, where fewer internees were confined. In most cases, because of the immediate roundup and arrests, existing facilities, including jails, schools, and military installations were used to confine the internees. One facility on O'ahu, at Honouliuli Gulch, was constructed specifically for the internment of civilians and to house prisoners of war.

The thirteen identified sites are the Wailua County Jail, Kalaheo Stockade, Lihue Plantation, and Waimea Jail on Kaua'i; the Honouliuli Gulch Internment Camp, U.S. Immigration Station, and Sand Island Detention Camp on O'ahu; the Kaunakakai Jail on Moloka'i; the Lana'i City Jail on Lana'i; the Wailuku County Jail and Haiku Camp on Maui; and the Waiakea Prison Camp and Kilauea Military Camp on Hawai'i Island.



## The Study Process

1. Public Start-up of the Study Process
2. Resource Analysis: Significance and Suitability
3. Feasibility Analysis
4. Development of Alternatives
5. Analyze Environmental Impacts
6. Draft report
7. Final Report / Transmittal to Congress



Honouliuli Internment Camp, R.H. Lodge photograph, courtesy of Hawai'i's Plantation Village.

## Public Meeting Schedule

**Tuesday, February 27, 2011**

**Honouliuli Day of Remembrance**

Japanese America Citizens League  
Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i

**Tuesday, March 1, 2011**

**3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. @ Kona Outdoor Circle**

76-6280 Kuakini Highway, Kaula-Kona, HI 96740

**Thursday, March 10, 2011**

**3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. @ Hawaii Japanese Center**

751 Kanolehua Avenue, Hilo, HI 96720

**Thursday, March 17, 2011**

**3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. @ Mitchell Pauole Center**

90 Ainoa Street, Kaunakakai, Moloka'i, HI 96748

**Tuesday, March 22, 2011**

**3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. @ Lana'i High & Elementary School**

555 Fraser Avenue, Lana'i City, HI 96763

**Thursday, March 24, 2011**

**3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. @ Nisei Veterans Center**

Kahului Beach Road (where Kahului transitions with Wailuku),  
Kahului, Maui, HI 96733

**Tuesday, March 29, 2011**

**3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. @ Kaua'i Veterans Center**

3125 Kapule Hwy #1, Lihue, Kaua'i, HI 96766

**Thursday, March 31, 2011**

**6-8 p.m. @ WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument**

Education Center & Lanai (Pearl Harbor Visitor's Center)  
1 Arizona Memorial Road, Honolulu, HI 96818

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## Contact Information

**Mail:** National Park Service  
Honouliuli Special Resource Study  
300 Ala Moana Blvd, Ste. 6-226  
PO Box 50165  
Honolulu, HI 96850

**Project Manager:**  
Suzanne Bott, PhD  
(808) 541-2693 ext. 737

**E-mail:**  
pwr\_honouliuli@nps.gov

**Website:**  
<http://www.nps.gov/pwro/honouliuli>