

‘ĀHIHI-KĪNA‘U NATURAL AREA RESERVE Management Plan Development Process

In 2008 a diverse and representative community and government working group began the process of developing a draft management plan for ‘Ahihi-Kina‘u Natural Area Reserve. The plan they crafted aims to preserve and protect the Reserve’s unique natural and cultural heritage by addressing both new and long-standing issues well into the future.

The planning process was supported and guided by a unique partnership between DLNR’s Natural Area Reserve System, The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, and the ‘Ahihi-Kina‘u NAR/Keone‘o‘io Advisory Group - a stakeholder group that provides guidance to DLNR regarding the management of the Reserve and Keone‘o‘io.

The 20-member working group worked together and consulted with experts in more than 15 meetings from 2008 to 2010 to establish the vision, priority resources, threats, goals, objectives and strategic actions for preserving ‘Ahihi-Kina‘u NAR.

The working group finalized a draft plan in December 2010 after considering and incorporating public comment. Comments on the draft plan were invited during the open comment period: October 20 - November 20, 2010. A public meeting was held on November 3, 2010, which provided the public with another opportunity to provide input and comments.

In January 2011, the working group presented the draft plan to the public and the ‘Ahihi-Kina‘u NAR/Keone‘o‘io Advisory Group. The Advisory Group recommended the plan be moved forward to the Natural Area Reserves Commission, who reviewed the draft management plan and implementation plan at their meetings on March 7, 2011 and June 4, 2012.

At the June 4, 2012 Meeting, the NARS Commission recommended the plan move forward for approval to the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Once the Board approves the draft management plan it will become final.

Management Plan Development Process

