State of Hawai`i
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Forestry and Wildlife
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813

September 15, 2008

Chairperson and Members
Natural Area Reserves System Commission
State of Hawai`i
Honolulu, Hawai`i

NARS Commission Members:

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON RENEWAL OF A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FOR COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT IN PU`U ALI`I NATURAL AREA RESERVE, MOLOKA`I.

Background and Discussion: Kalaupapa National Historical Park, Kalawao County, Moloka`i, was established in 1980, making provisions for administration and management of the Park through cooperative management agreements of not less than 20 year’s duration to preserve, protect, maintain, construct, reconstruct, develop, improve, and interpret sites, facilities, and resources of historic, natural architectural, and cultural significance.

All of Moloka`i is part of Maui County; with the exception of Kalaupapa peninsula and adjacent State lands, which comprise Kalawao County, under jurisdiction of the State of Hawai`i Department of Health. In 1985, 1,330 acres of Kalawao County was established by Governor’s Executive Order as Pu`u Ali`i Natural Area Reserve. The Board of Land and Natural Resources requested assistance from the Park Service with resource management (specifically ungulate control), resulting in the attached Cooperative agreement entered into in 1989.

The Park Service is seeking to renew the Cooperative Agreement, and this serves as a preliminary notice to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission and Board of Land and Natural Resources that this process will be taking place over the next year, prior to expiration in 2009. This is not for decision-making at this time, but simply for your information. Staff will keep you apprised of the process prior to presenting this to the Commission for decision-making.

Respectfully submitted,

BETSY H. GAGNÉ, NARS Commission Executive Secretary
Division of Forestry and Wildlife