



KAUA'I PLANNING & ACTION ALLIANCE

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Repairs for Kalalau Trail Coming

Lihu'e, Kaua'i, HI – 6/4/2012. The State of Hawai'i's Board of Land and Natural Resources, on behalf of the State Parks Division, has awarded a Grant In Aid (GIA) to Kaua'i Planning & Action Alliance (KPAA) for work in the Napali Coast Wilderness State Park. The purpose of this GIA is to identify specific sections of the nine miles of Kalalau Trail between Hanakapi'ai Beach and Kalalau Beach and then improve and reconstruct the high priority areas. The Hawai'i State Legislature initiated the award of \$1.053 million in 2009, and Gov. Abercrombie recently released the funds.

State Parks and KPAA staff will soon review and document the present status of the Kalalau Trail between Hanakapi'ai Beach and Kalalau Beach to determine precisely the areas most in need of trail restoration and reconstruction. Preservation of archaeological assets along the trail corridor will factor into the work plan. KPAA will then publish a formal Request For Proposals (RFP) for the trail improvement and reconstruction services.

KPAA is the coordinating nonprofit organization that was awarded a similar GIA in 2007 by the State of Hawaii. That award led to KPAA's collaboration with Pono Pacific Land Management, LLC and Native Hawaiian Conservation and Hiking Expeditions in 2009-2010 to rehabilitate and stabilize the two-mile section of the Kalalau Trail connecting Ke'e Beach to Hanakapi'ai Beach.

Napali Coast is steep, rough, and severely eroded into deep gullies. This world renowned and spectacular landscape is State land reserved for watershed, wildlife, and recreational purposes. Bidders for this next phase of trail reconstruction work will be required to demonstrate mastery in the rehabilitation techniques appropriate for

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severely eroded wilderness trail systems. All the trail reconstruction will be planned in accord with environmentally friendly protocols, each trail feature worked on will be configured to increase public safety, and all the improvements will be required to maintain a rustic appearance that aesthetically blends in with this special wilderness park.

KPAA maintains an office in Lihu'e, and its mission is to bring together diverse organizations for collaborative planning and action to achieve targeted community goals. The improvement of the island's parks was a goal set by its membership in 2003.

More information on KPAA is available at www.KauaiNetwork.org.

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