Meeting Notes

‘Āhihi-Kīna‘u Natural Area Reserve Advisory Group’s
Working group for a 5 Year Reserve Management Plan
Kula Community Center, Lower Kula Road, Maui
Workshop Day 3, December 17, 2008
9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Purpose
A workshop of agency, advisory group, and community participants convened over three days to develop a foundation for a management plan for the ‘Āhihi-Kīna‘u Natural Area Reserve (NAR). The products of this work group will be folded into a management plan which will be available for public comment at three separate opportunities in 2009: ‘Āhihi-Kīna‘u NAR / Keone‘ō‘io NAR Advisory Group, Natural Area Reserve System Commission, Board of Land and Natural Resources (dates TBD). The first two days of the workshop were held at the J. Walter Cameron Center in Wailuku, November 12-13, 2008. These are the notes for the third and final day of the workshop held at the Kula Community Center.

In Attendance
Aimoku Pali (Ka Ohana O Kahikinui), Ann Fielding (Island Explorations), Betsy Gagne (NARS), Bill Evanson (NARS), Charles Maxwell, Russell Sparks (DAR), Lehua Pali (Ka Ohana O Kahikinui), Mark White (TNC), Declan McCarthy (Maui Prince Hotel), Kuhea Paracuelles County of Maui, Mayors Office), Miqe Klemme (Hawaii’s Eco Nature Society), Nicole Davis (NOAA), Cheryl King (KIRC), Meghan Dailer (UH, Dept of Botany), Mona Kapaku (DHHL), Pat Borge (Makena Stables) , John Cumming (DOFAW), Matt Ramsey (NARS)

Facilitation Team
Emily Fielding, Jason Sumiye, Manuel Mejia, Marion Ano, Russell Amimoto (The Nature Conservancy Hawaii). Notes compiled by: Emily Fielding

Agenda

Day 3	**Wednesday, December 17, 2008**
8:30	Registration, Coffee
9:00	Welcome, agenda overview, review results of previous meetings/site visit
9:30	Vision exercise wrap-up
10:15	Capacity exercise wrap-up
10:30	Break
10:45	Objectives and strategies
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Objectives and strategies, continued
2:00	Break
2:15	Objectives and strategies, continued
3:45	Public comment, next steps, evaluation, wrap up
4:00	Adjourn

9:00 am - Welcome, purpose, agenda overview, introductions and expectations
Charlie Maxwell opened the meeting with a pule. The pule was followed by introductions of new participants and a power point presentation of the highlights of Nov 12-13 meeting, the site visit on 12/5, and evaluation results from Nov 12-13. Our objectives for the third and final workshop day were:

1. Complete common vision statement
2. Complete capacity assessment
3. Complete objectives, strategies, and action steps to address at least two of the highest ranking threats
4. Discuss next steps for management plan development process

9:30 Vision Exercise Wrap-up
In plenary, the group worked with three visions statements to produce a common vision: the first was the statement the small group produced at the 11/13 meeting (see 11/12-13 meeting notes), the second was a revised version of that statement that took into account concerned raised at the 11/13 meeting, and the third was a new statement that attempted to cover the breath of subjects brought up during discussion on 11/13.

Approved by consensus, this vision focuses on respect and protection of natural and cultural resources, while emphasizing that human effort, in the form of kokua (help) and malama (care), is essential.

The phase aloha `āina which literally means "love of the land", is a central concept of Native Hawaiian thought, cosmology and culture. By using this phrase in the vision, the vision carries the Hawaiian legacy of caring for the land at both spiritual and physical levels. Aloha `āina is an addition, summary and translation of the vision statement.

Through kokua and mālama, the cultural and natural resources of ʻĀhihi-Kīnaʻu Natural Area Reserve are respected and protected as a living legacy. Aloha `āina.

10:30 Goal Development
Also in plenary, the group discussed and modified three draft goals statements, working from facilitator provided draft goals drawn from the 11/13 vision discussions. These goals were agreed to by consensus:

Resource Goal
Protect, maintain, and enhance native ecosystems, and natural and cultural landscapes.

Education Goal
Develop appreciation and understanding of the Reserve through education and interpretation.

Management Capacity Goal
Build and maintain the necessary resources to support effective management of the Reserve.

11:30 Capacity Assessment Wrap-up
Based on the capacity assessment discussion from Nov 13, the group reviewed a synthesis of the three categories of the assessment: people, internal resources, and external resources. The primary recommendation for capacity building for each category is:
People: Dedicated reserve manager
Internal Resources: Stable, sufficient funding (highest priority)
External Resources: Working advisory council providing expertise and support to implement plan

11:45 Review of Framework for Building Objectives and Strategies
To begin the exercise of building objectives and strategies, facilitators reviewed a framework for taking action (see page 6 of these notes). The framework describes how goals, objectives, strategies, and actions are nested under the vision and describe increasing levels of detail as you move from vision towards actions. This framework and the situation analyses were used to build objectives, strategies and actions to abate two of the priority threats following lunch. The group worked through lunch.

12:30 Objective and Strategy Development
After a quick game of ʻĀhihi-Kīnaʻu NAR Jeopardy, the first round of discussion began with the combined priority threats "current and future development". Group members reviewed and referenced the situation analysis, discussion notes, and draft objectives and strategies from the last meeting.

This threat was chosen first for discussion for example's sake, because it was thought that previous group work on objectives and strategies was largely complete, not because it was the highest ranking threat. However, the group decided to cut the discussion on this threat short in favor of spending more time on dealing with the impacts of too many people. Through discussion, some language on the situation analysis was modified.

A small group will continue to refine and expand on objectives and strategies for this threat. The draft objective and strategies to abate the threat of future development in the vicinity of the reserve are:

Objective 4: Work together with neighboring landowners, government, and private entities to address potential detrimental impacts of future development between Maluaka and Kanaloa Points.

> *Strategy: Acquire, trade, or obtain conservation easements of lands adjacent to the NAR to create a buffer from development.*
>
> *Strategy: Guide planning and building requirements*

Strategy: Establish best management practices for building in the area.

Strategy: Attend NARSC & BLNR meetings to influence governor and advocate for ʻĀhihi-Kīnaʻu NAR.

1:30 Objective and Strategy Development
Following the final game of ʻĀhihi-Kīnaʻu NAR Jeopardy, the second round of discussion focused on the threats that group members rank as urgent, "too many people and cars, lacking awareness". It was very helpful to have a broad range of expertise and perspectives participate in the discussion. While the discussion on objectives and strategies to address this threat was fruitful in coming to consensus on approaches to difficult issues, work will need to continue in the small group.

The draft objectives and strategies to abate these combined threats are:

Objective: Restrict/limit human use to designated areas beyond 2010.

Strategy: Develop a program to coordinate guided hikes and an education & outreach program in the designated restricted areas in accordance with a user fee schedule.

Strategy: Establish limits to people and cars in the NAR by constraining parking and a user fee schedule.

Strategy: Establish a resource monitoring program.

Objective: Establish a system of trails that have limited, controlled (w/ purpose driven activities, e.g. guided educational tours) access and use by Aug 1, 2010.

3:00 Next Steps
Small group meetings will be held to further refine and complete the objectives and strategies for each of the priority threats. A sign in sheet was circulated so that participants could sign up for any or all of five groups:

- Cultural
- Access and Use
- Land Development
- Impacts of ungulates
- Poaching and illegal activities

The working group will be notified by email and phone (for members without email) as to the small group meeting dates.

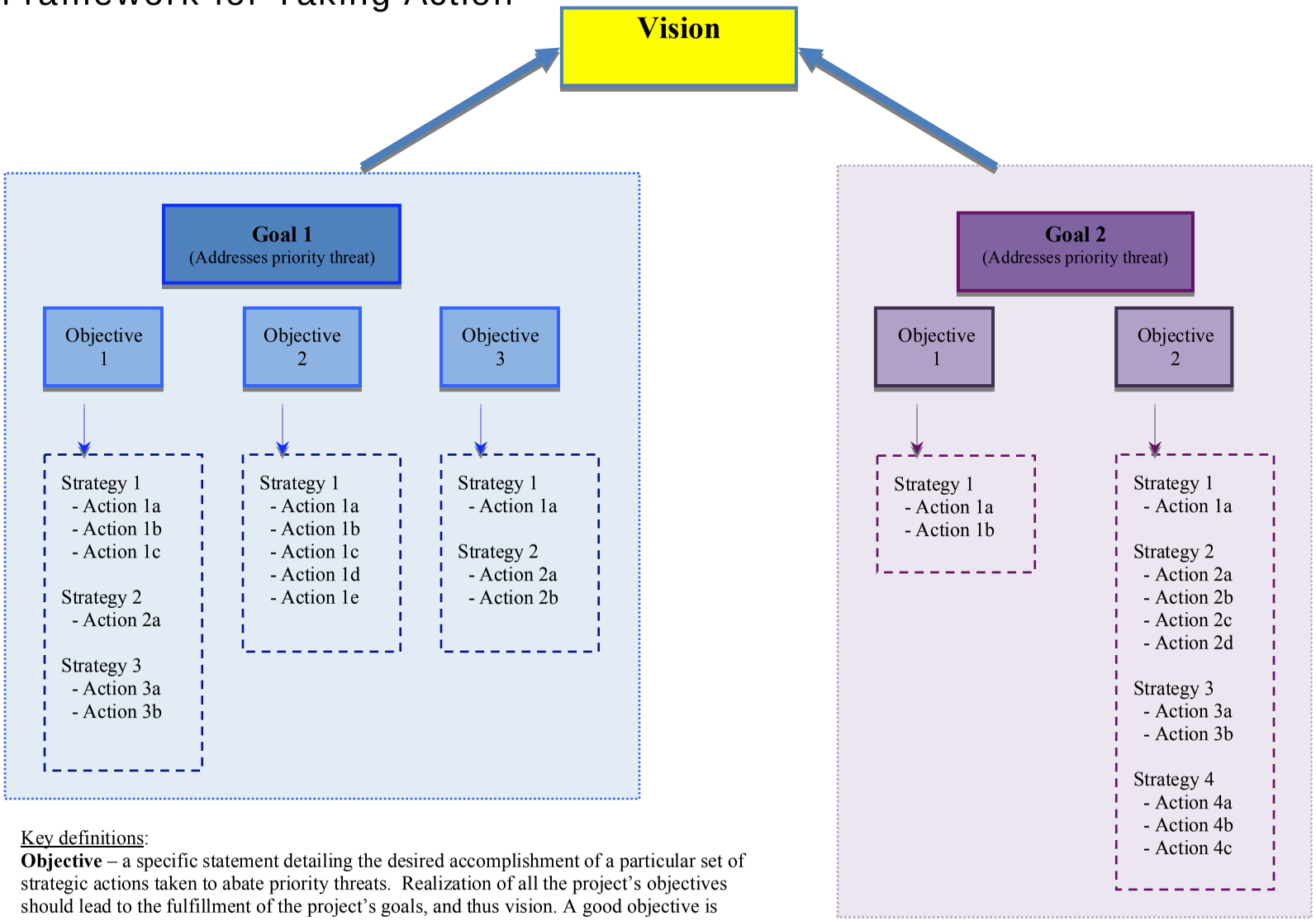
Current estimated timeline for management plan:

- February – small group work on threat abatement objectives and strategies
- March – compile draft plan
- April – present draft to Advisory Group/public in an interactive format for input
- May/June – Present draft and process to NARS commission
- June/July – Present draft to BLNR

Mahalo's were given all around, especially to the 18 participants who gave of their time to plan for increased resource protection for ʻĀhihi-Kīnaʻu NAR. The meeting closed with a pule by Aimoku Pali. Participants filled out an evaluation form before departing. Mahalo everyone!

3:30 Adjourn

A Framework for Taking Action



Key definitions:
Objective – a specific statement detailing the desired accomplishment of a particular set of strategic actions taken to abate priority threats. Realization of all the project's objectives should lead to the fulfillment of the project's goals, and thus vision. A good objective is SMART: specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time limited.
Strategy A strategic action is a broad or general course of action to reach one or more objectives.
Action – Activities undertaken to achieve the project's objectives. A good action meets the criteria of being: linked to objectives, focused, strategic, feasible, and appropriate.