

February 6, 2025

MEMO TO: KA'Ā-1(2) File

F R O M: Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Chair   
Kōmike Aloha 'Āina

SUBJECT: **TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATIONAL DOCUMENT RELATING TO  
TRANSITIONING KALAWAO COUNTY TO MAUI COUNTY**  
(KA'Ā-1(2))

The attached informational document pertains to Item 1(2) on the Committee's agenda.

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Attachment

Received at KA'Ā meeting on 02/06/2025

# Kalaupapa Information Briefing

Saturday, October 5, 10:00am-12:00pm

Department of Health, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands,  
National Park Service, Department of Land & Natural Resources,  
Department of Transportation

# Agenda

- Welcome from the Department of Health
- Goals for the Meeting
- Big Picture Overview
- Current Agency Roles & Responsibilities
- Break
- Moderated Update Focused on the Interagency Working Group & Current Access Issues
- Next Steps

**Welcome from the Department of Health**



# Goals for the Meeting

# Meeting Focused on the Current Situation at Kalaupapa

- Clarify the current roles and responsibilities of each agency at Kalaupapa
- Lay out the work of the Interagency Working Group
- Address questions related to the Interagency Working Group and any concerns tied to current access
- Delineate which entity to go to for other questions
  - Please fill out the comment cards with your questions to be addressed in the moderated update time!

## Ground Rules

- Be respectful of everyone's mana'o, please do not interrupt.
- Please be aware of the air you take up in the room.
- Respect the viewpoint of others: non-agreement can be a respectful process.

Folks from the HACBED and DOH teams are ready to talk story with participants on a one-to-one basis should a participant overstep the first three bullets and appear the participant needs more time and space to share.

# Big Picture Overview

He mele he inoa no Kalaupapa,  
 Aina kaulana puni ka honua,  
 O ke ku kilakila a Hapuu,  
 Kuahiwi kaulana, moku a o Hina,  
 Alo ana Nihoa au i ke kai,  
 Oni ana e ka lae a o ka Ilio,  
 Kau aku ka manao no Hoolehua,  
 I ka papa konaue a Kaikilani.  
 Nani ka waiho mai a Waileia,  
 O ka hoapili a o Waihanau,  
 Hu mai ke aloha no Kalawao,  
 Aina i ka nuku a o Waikolu;  
 Ekolu no pua o ke onaona,  
 Kikonikoni lua i ka puuwai,  
 Kau ana Kalae i kuu maka,  
 I ke ala kikeekee i ka pali,  
 E o mai oe i kou inoa,  
 E ka papa konaue a Kaikilani.  
 Hainaia mai ana ka puana,  
 He mele he inoa no Kalaupapa.  
 BAY VIEW GIRL.  
 Kalaupapa.

Welina Aloha

"First there was 'āina...  
 then kānaka.

Then came a disease and  
 eventually a cure.

Today, the 'āina and kānaka remain,  
 and will forever remain in Kalaupapa."



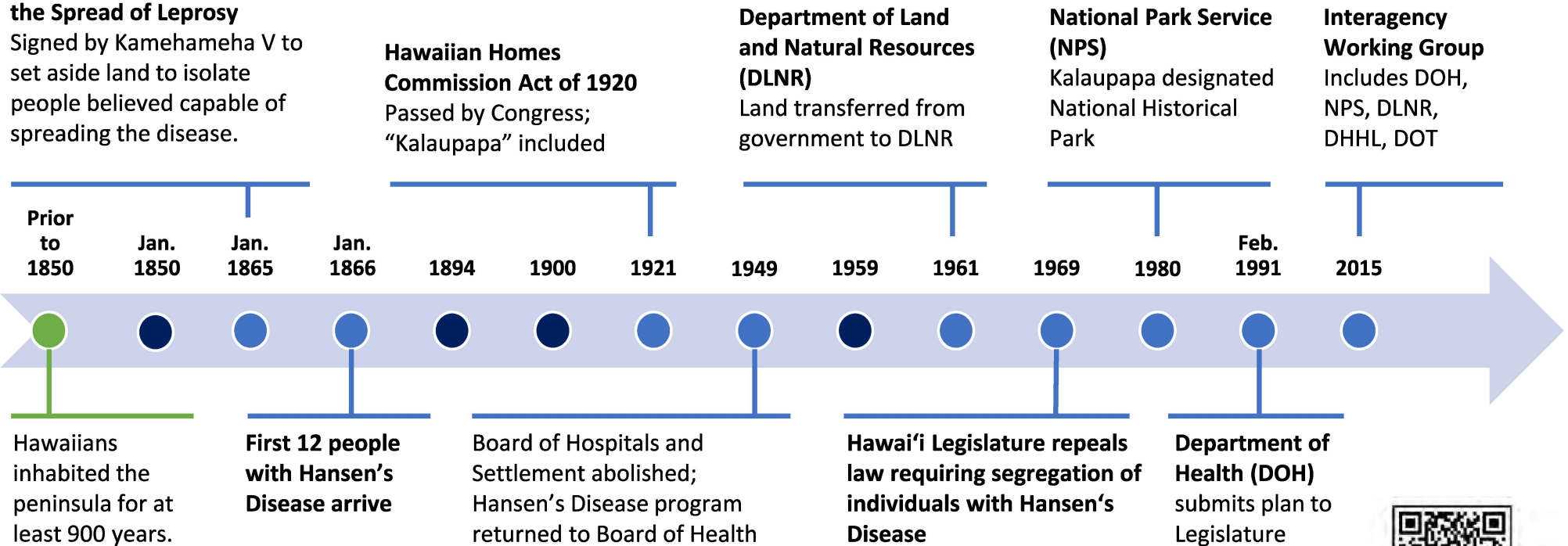


# Key developments in Kalaupapa management

## Act to Prevent

### the Spread of Leprosy

Signed by Kamehameha V to set aside land to isolate people believed capable of spreading the disease.



- **Jan. 1850:** Board of Health organized by Kamehameha III
- 1894:** Republic of Hawai'i | **1900:** Territory of Hawai'i | **1959:** State of Hawai'i

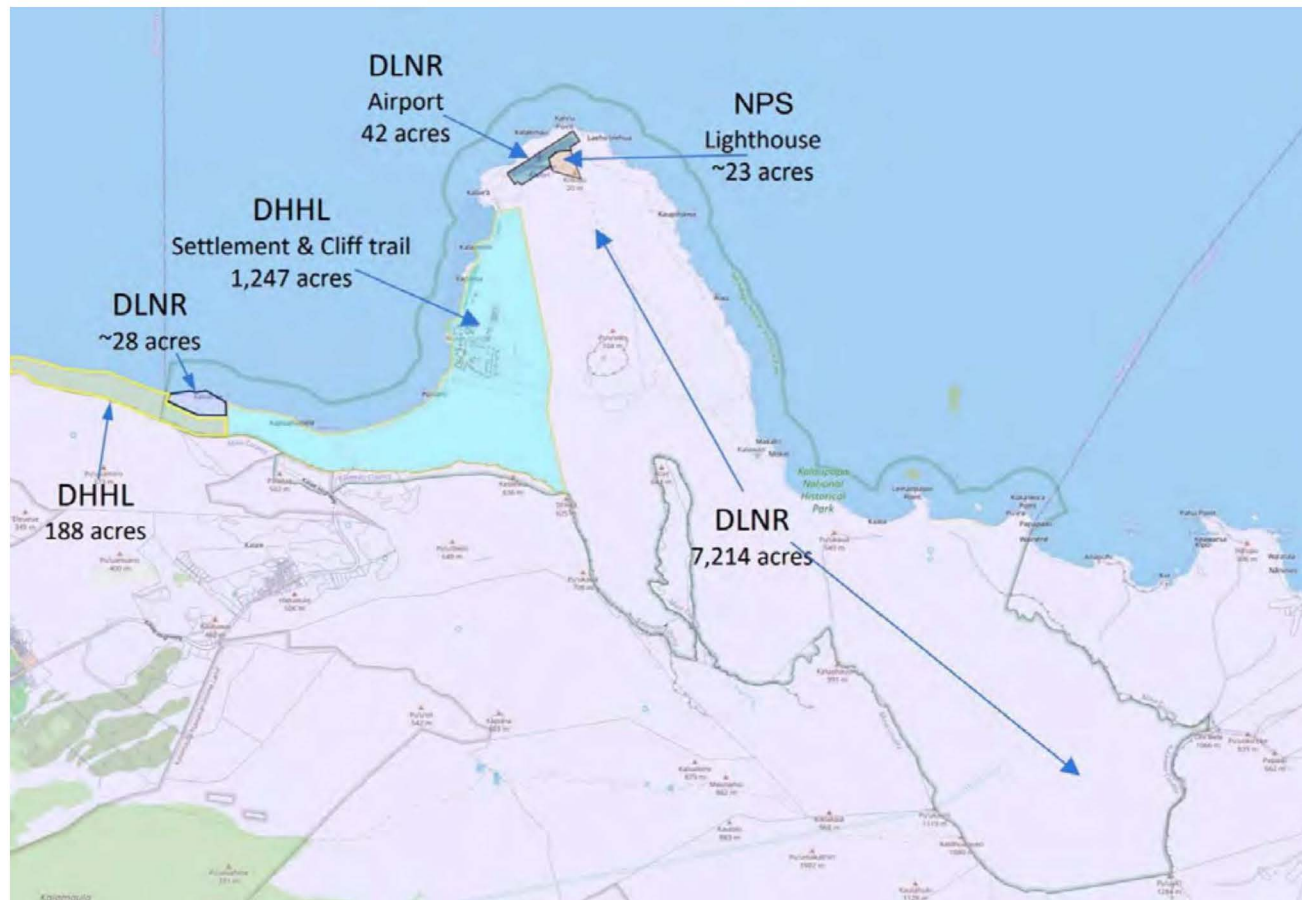


WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Scan the QR Code or visit  
<https://health.hawaii.gov/kalaupapaupdates>



# Map of Kalaupapa (can also be seen on DOH's website)





# **Current Agency Roles & Responsibilities**



# Community Informational Briefing

Overview: Kalaupapa Settlement  
Department of Health Roles and Responsibilities

**Baron Chan**  
**Chief, Hansen's Disease**  
**Branch**



# HEALTH AGENCY ROLE AT KALAUPAPA



**ISOLATE**

**TREAT**

**CARE**



### **“Kalaupapa Registry” patients**

7 patients

Ages: 83 - 100 years



### **DOH – Kalaupapa Annual Budget**

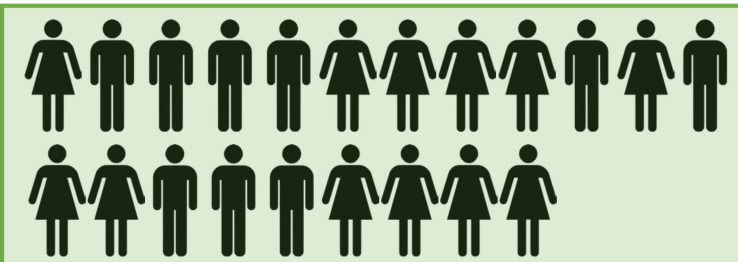
FY 24 - \$ 4.3 million

### **DOH Kalaupapa Employees**

33 positions

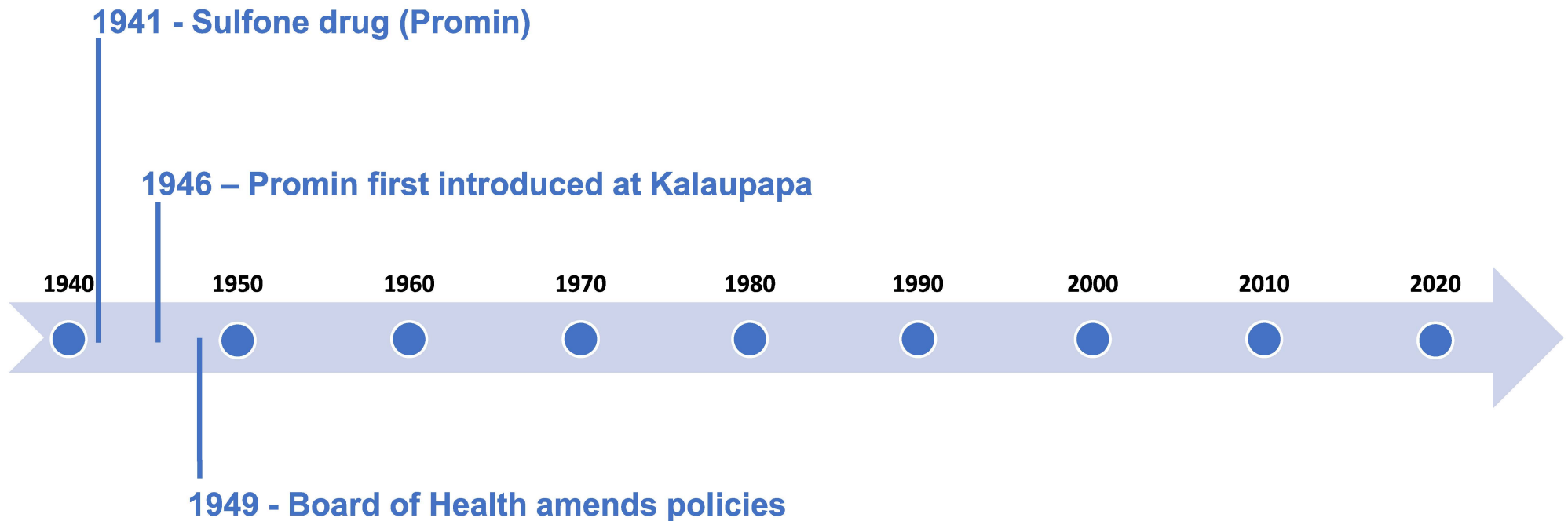


Direct patient care – personal homes/care home (12)

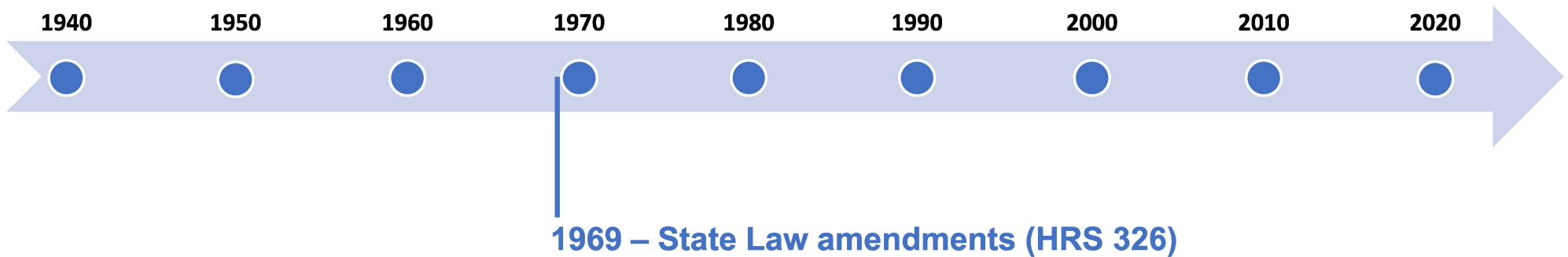


Administration, Construction/Maintenance,  
Food Services, Housekeeping/Janitorial (21)

# Key developments



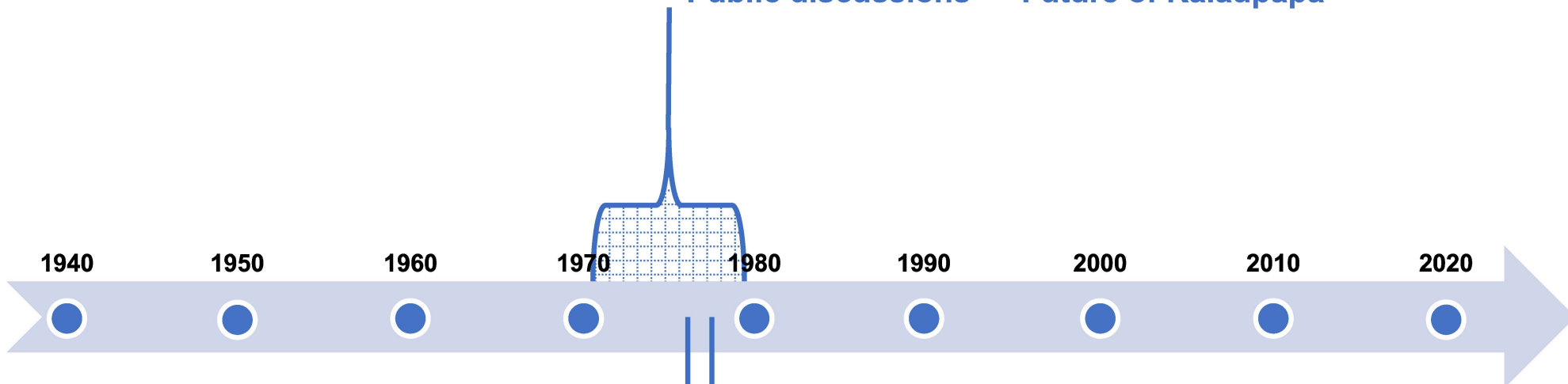
# Key developments



# Key developments



Public discussions – “Future of Kalaupapa”



1978 - NPS Feasibility Study

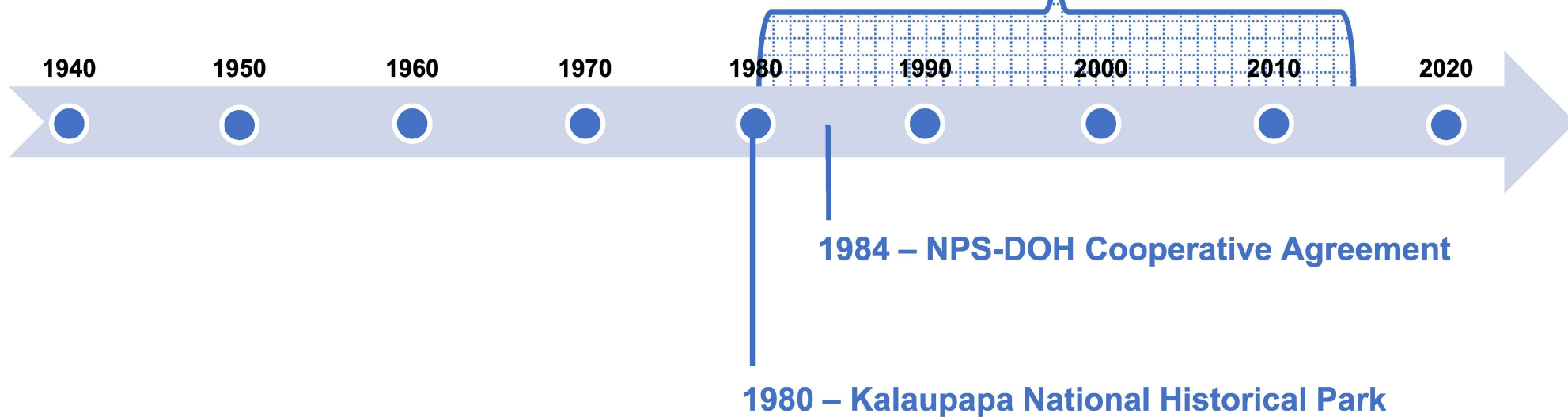
1977 – State Law amendments (HRS 326)



# Key developments



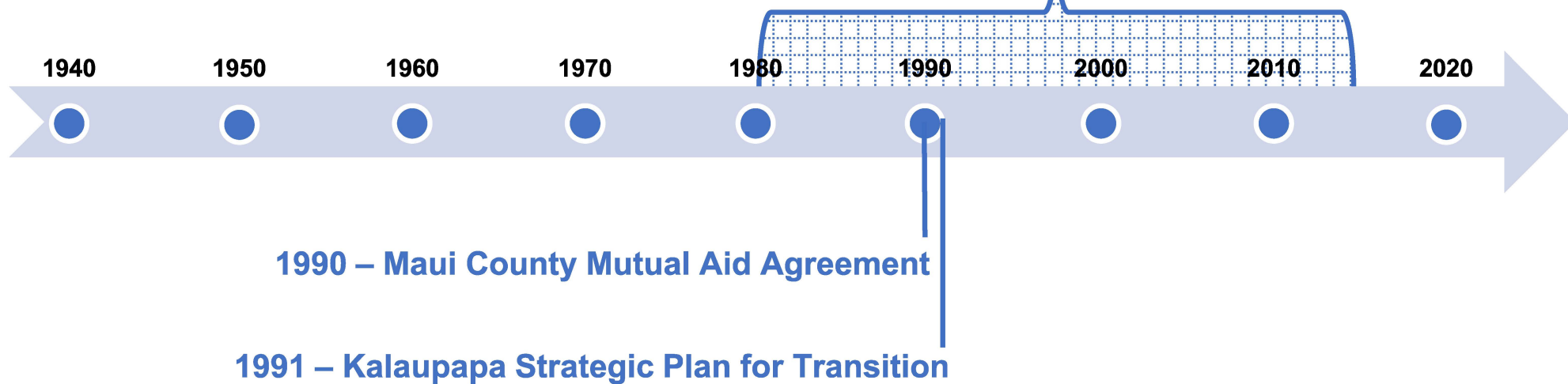
Regular DOH-NPS “transition” meetings



# Key developments



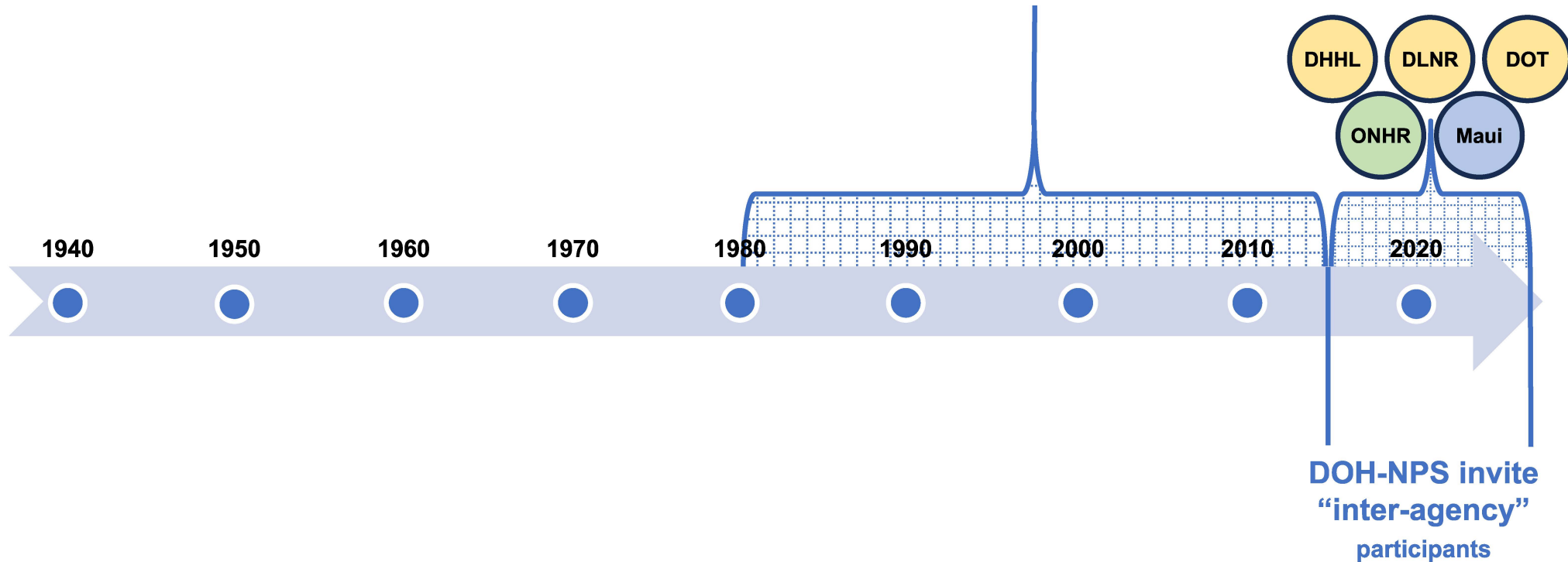
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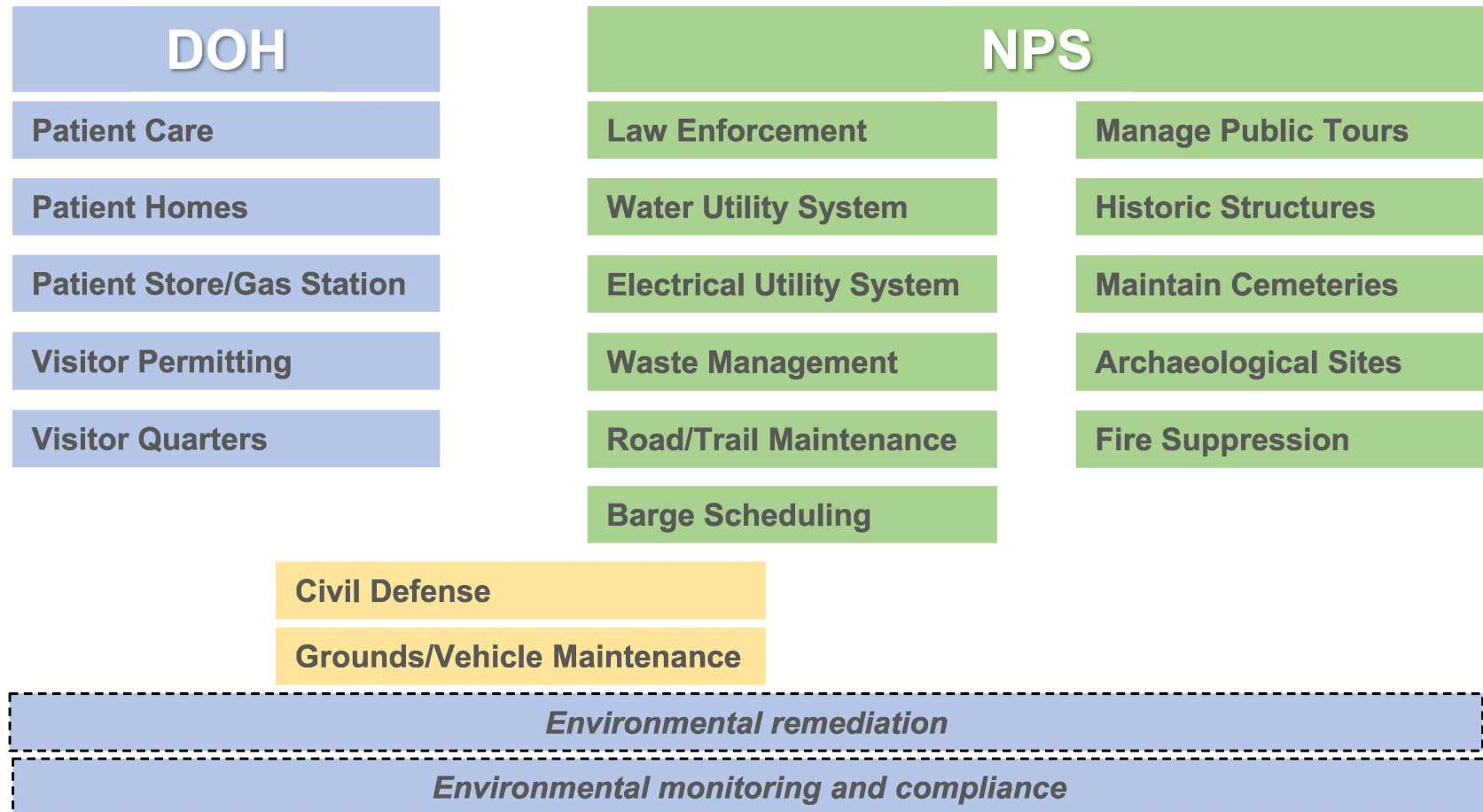
# Key developments



Regular DOH-NPS “transition” meetings



# DOH-NPS Cooperative Agreement “functions”



## Coordinating Operational Tasks

Emergency Services, Law  
Enforcement

Buildings/Facilities  
*Management  
Assignment*

Buildings/Facilities  
*Maintenance & Repairs*

Solid/Hazardous Waste  
Management

Utilities

Commercial Services  
(Tours, Store, Gas, etc.)

Animal Control

Road and Trail  
Maintenance & Repairs

Historical and Natural  
Resource Management

<https://health.hawaii.gov/kalaupapaupdates/important-information/>



WANT MORE INFORMATION?  
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# National Park Service FAQ

- **Preserve** for **Enjoyment, Education and Inspiration**
  - Exemplar sites that tell the collective U.S. Story
- Special Places = Mission Driven Staff and Stakeholders
- NPS sites are negotiated. They have a “road map” set by Congress and a limited budget.
- “Inherently governmental”, co-stewardship and partnerships
- Administer vs Assist
- NPS lead for Historic Preservation – Secretary’s Standards





The Congress declares the following to constitute the principal purposes of the park:

- (1) to **preserve and interpret** the Kalaupapa settlement for the **education and inspiration** of present and future generations;
- (2) to provide a **well-maintained community** in which the **Kalaupapa leprosy patients** are guaranteed that they may remain at Kalaupapa as long as they wish; to **protect the current lifestyle** of these patients and their individual **privacy**; to **research, preserve, and maintain** the present **character of the community**; to research, preserve, and maintain **important historic structures, traditional Hawaiian sites, cultural values, and natural features**; and to provide for **limited visitation by the general public**; and
- (3) to provide that the preservation and interpretation of the settlement be managed and **performed by patients and Native Hawaiians** to the extent practical, and that **training opportunities** be provided such persons in management and interpretation of the settlement's cultural, historical, educational, and scenic resources.



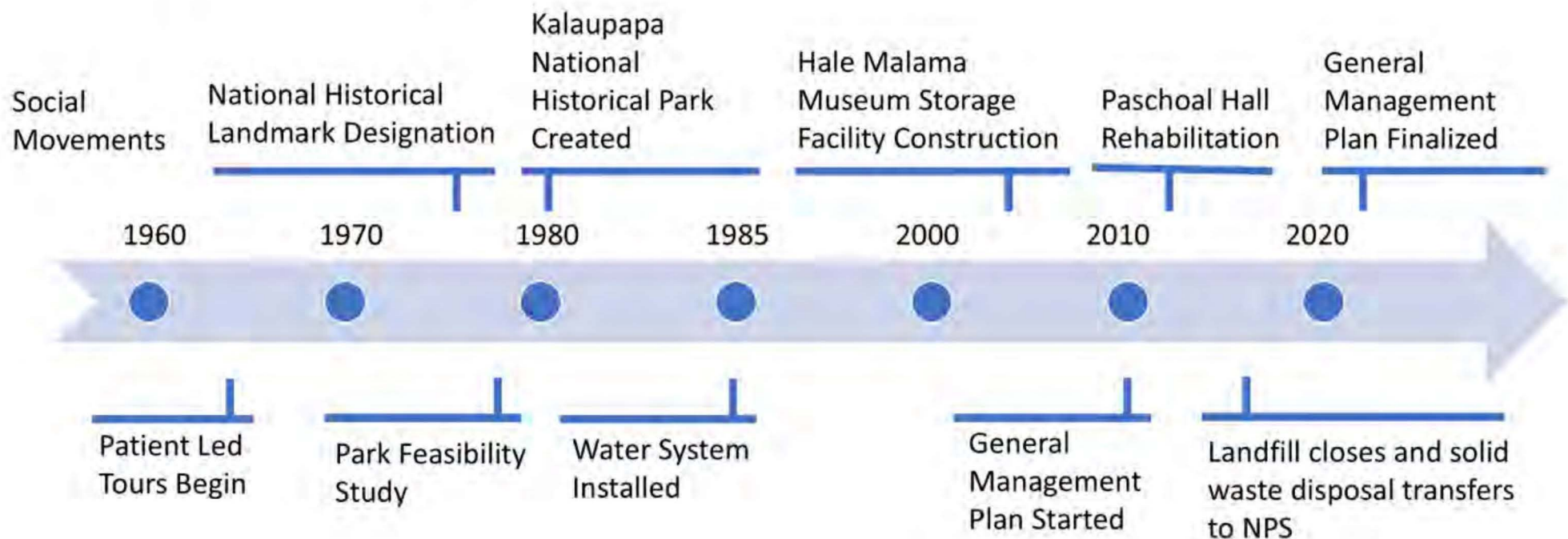
The Secretary **may...**

- **undertake critical or emergency stabilization of utilities and historic structures**, develop and occupy temporary office space, and conduct interim interpretive and visitor services **on non-Federal property within the park**.
- shall seek and may enter into **cooperative agreements with the owner or owners of property within the park** pursuant to which the Secretary may **preserve, protect, maintain, construct, reconstruct, develop, improve, and interpret sites, facilities, and resources of historic, natural, architectural, and cultural Significance**.
- **stabilize and rehabilitate structures and other properties used for religious or sectarian purposes** only if such properties constitute a **substantial and integral part of the historical fabric of the Kalaupapa settlement**, and-only to the **extent necessary and appropriate to interpret adequately** the nationally significant historical features and events of the settlement for the benefit of the public.
- Section 104 allows for **land exchange for DHHL property**. The Act of December 22, 1987, authorized the Secretary to **lease the DHHL trust lands until they could be acquired by exchange**.





## Key Developments





# Management Activities



## Health, Life & Safety

- Infrastructure – water & waste systems, electrical grid, roads
- Emergency response
- Enforcement



## Preservation

- Buildings & Grounds
- Endangered, Threatened & Sensitive Species
- Cultural Sites
- Museum Program



## Data Collection & Monitoring



## Planning

- Planning & Compliance
- Seek Funding
- Recruitment
- Reporting



## Visitor Use

- Service Learning
- Tours
- Education
- Special Use



## Health, Life & Safety



- Infrastructure – water & waste systems, electrical grid, roads
- Emergency response
- Enforcement

### Fun Facts

- Kalaupapa has award winning drinking water.
- Residents practice tsunami evacuation drills.
- Historically rocks were crushed onsite to maintain roads, now gravel is shipped in via the annual barge.

# 16mil

Cost for the rehabilitation of the electrical grid

# 3

Members of the Structural Fire Response Team

# 165

Thousand dollars collected in rent to support housing maintenance



## Preservation



- Buildings & Grounds
- Endangered, Threatened & Sensitive Species
- Cultural Sites
- Museum Program

### Fun Facts

- \$165,000 is collected in rent annually. These funds are used to maintain historic buildings used as housing.
- \$239,000 in federal funds were given to conservation partners this year to complete work in the park.
- Park staff mow and trim grass to maintain historic landscapes and create defensible space to minimize fire risk.

# 30+

Endangered, threatened or sensitive species in park

# 221

Thousand dollars spent this year on DLNR lands to protect native species

# 1mil

Dollars spent preserving and maintaining DHHL historic properties this year





## Data Collection & Monitoring



- Archeological Sites
- Marine Life
- Water Quality
- Rare Plants
- Cultural Features
- Building Conditions

### Fun Facts

- Data is collected in the same way over time to assess changes that inform decision making about use and to mitigate impacts.
- Data collection is conducted in collaboration with other agencies and organizations to contribute to island wide statistics.
- Waikolu Valley has one of the healthiest freshwater streams in Hawaii and is home to numerous rare inhabitants.

9

Monk seal pups born at Kalaupapa this year

36

Archeological Site Assessments completed this year

1

Extremely rare damselfly documented in 2024. First time since 2015.



## Planning



- Planning & Compliance
- Funding Requests
- Recruitment
- Reporting

### Fun Facts

- Planning articulates priorities and how work will be accomplished with available funds.
- The compliance process examines potential impacts to natural and cultural resources, communities and visitors, and establishes mitigations.
- First annual General Management Plan Programmatic Agreement Report completed and delivered in 2024.

**5**

Management plans and strategies in process

**43**

Projects sent through compliance this year

**10mil**

Dollars requested and received annually to support specific projects



## Visitor Use



- Service Learning
- Tours
- Education
- Special Use

### Fun Facts

- Patients have the first right of refusal for any commercial activity.
- The Kalaupapa Overlook at Pālā'au State Park is inside the park boundary, however the access to the Kalaupapa Pali Trail is not.
- Because of the limited physical access to Kalaupapa, the park continues to develop resources for digital visitors.

# 1960s

Patients started offering tours of Kalaupapa

# 85

Thousand unique visitors to Park website this year

# 2

Virtual Tours on the Kalaupapa National Historical Park App



## Budget

5 million Annual Appropriation  
10 million Annual “Project Funds”  
Federal Initiative Funds  
One-time Fund Sources & Grants



## 43 Staff

80% Native Hawaiian  
30% Vacant Positions  
Internships (KUPU, AmeriCorps, NCPE)  
Training & Development



## Funds to Partners

MoPEPP  
University of HI  
Sustainable Coastlines HI



## Services to Other Agencies

- Emergency Services
- Law Enforcement
- Infrastructure Maintenance, Repair and Preservation
- Data Collection

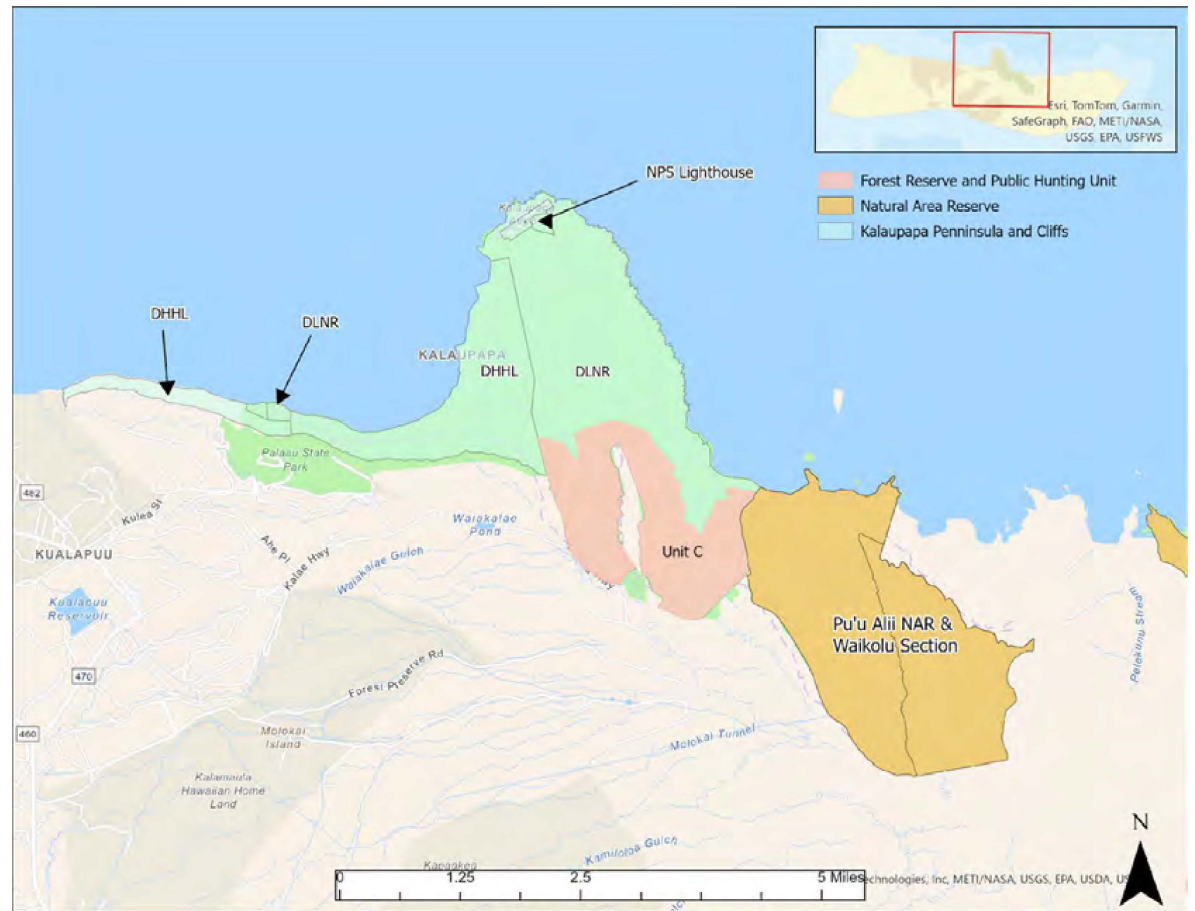


# Department of Land & Natural Resources



**Overview:** The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) plays a crucial role in the management and conservation of Kalaupapa's natural, cultural, and historical resources. DLNR oversees various divisions that work in collaboration with other agencies, including the National Park Service (NPS), to protect and maintain the area's unique landscapes and ecosystems.

# DLNR Jurisdiction: Kalaupapa



# **Cooperative Agreement Between NPS and DLNR**

## **NPS Responsibilities:**

- **Management and Operation:**
  - Operate and maintain park facilities, including utilities, roads, trails, cemeteries, and historic structures.
  - Manage visitor use.
- **Resource Protection:**
  - Conduct research, inventories, and studies on natural and cultural resources.
  - Manage the control of feral animals with DLNR.
- **Collaboration:**
  - Collaborate with DLNR on firefighting assistance, as articulated in a Mutual Aid Agreement.
  - Participate in joint planning and coordination with DLNR.

# **Cooperative Agreement Between NPS and DLNR**

## **DLNR Responsibilities:**

- Land and Resource Management:
  - Manage the Pu'u Ali'i Natural Area Reserve and other forest reserves within Kalaupapa.
  - Oversee public hunting and manage wildlife conservation in designated areas.
  - Maintain jurisdiction over aquatic resources, including nearshore waters and streams.
  - Manage land leases and permits for state lands in Kalaupapa.

# Cooperative Agreement Between NPS and DLNR

## Shared Responsibilities

- Co-manage terrestrial resources with NPS within the park boundaries.
  - Protect and preserve archaeological sites, native ecosystems, and endangered species in areas under CA.
  - Manage the control of feral animals with DLNR.
- Collaborate on fire suppression, as articulated in a Mutual Aid Agreement.
- Participate in joint planning.



# Land Division

- The Land Division does not actively manage any land within Kalaupapa. All lands not under the management or ownership of other State agencies, such as DOH, DHHL, DOT and DOFAW, are currently subject to a Cooperative Agreement with the National Park Service. The processing of permits, easements, etc., will be handled by the appropriate agency with management jurisdiction over the subject land.
- Key Responsibilities of Land Division:
  - Process the request for Kalaupapa Memorial land lease for state lands in Kalaupapa, subject to review and approval by the Board.



# Division of Forestry and Wildlife

- DOFAW is responsible for managing natural resources within Kalaupapa, focusing on ecosystem protection, watershed management, endangered species conservation, and public access to state lands.
- Key Responsibilities:
  - Native ecosystem protection, forest management, trails and access, public hunting, watershed management, invasive species control, wildlife management, endangered species, special use permits
  - Cooperative fire readiness and response
  - Regulatory functions for protected species and managed lands, including review and issuance of permits, as required by law.
- DOFAW Management Areas: Forest Reserves, Natural Area Reserves, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Public Hunting Areas, and Historic Trails

# Division of Aquatic Resources



- DAR manages and protects Kalaupapa's marine and freshwater ecosystems to ensure sustainable use and biodiversity.
- Key Responsibilities:
  - Enforcing sustainable fishing practices in Kalaupapa's nearshore waters.
  - Managing and protecting marine life, coral reefs, and aquatic habitats.



# State Historic Preservation Division



- SHPD ensures the preservation of historical and cultural sites in Kalaupapa.
- Key Responsibilities:
  - Review and approve projects within Kalaupapa to ensure compliance with historic preservation laws.
  - Ensure compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 6E, as appropriate.
  - Provide support to and partner with NPS for preservation programming, grants, training, etc.

# Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement



- DOCARE enforces state laws and regulations related to natural resources, public lands, and historic sites in Kalaupapa that are under DLNR jurisdiction and management.
- Key Responsibilities:
  - Enforce hunting, fishing, and marine regulations, and State conservation laws in areas under DLNR jurisdiction and management. Areas under NPS, DHHL, and County jurisdiction are handled by the respective law enforcement agency with jurisdiction and management responsibility.
  - Subject to appropriate mutual aid agreements, participate in emergency response activities in coordination with NPS.

# Department of Transportation (DOT)

- Terminals
  - Renovation
  - Clean Ups
- Runways
  - Upgrades
  - Lighting

# Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL)



DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

Land Management Division (LMD)  
manages General Lease No.231 (GL)  
approved by HHC and issued to NPS.

- NPS is authorized to use the premises as an integral part of the Kalaupapa National Park, as established by Public Law 96-565 and for the purposes expressed therein
- Ensures compliance with the terms and conditions of the GL
- Processes DHHL approvals for new NPS construction projects
- Processes approvals for contracts subject to DHHL consent
- Collects annual lease rent and coordinates determination of rental upon the five-year reopenings of the annual rent

Planning Office (PO) handles community outreach, planning processes, environmental review and consultation with other agencies

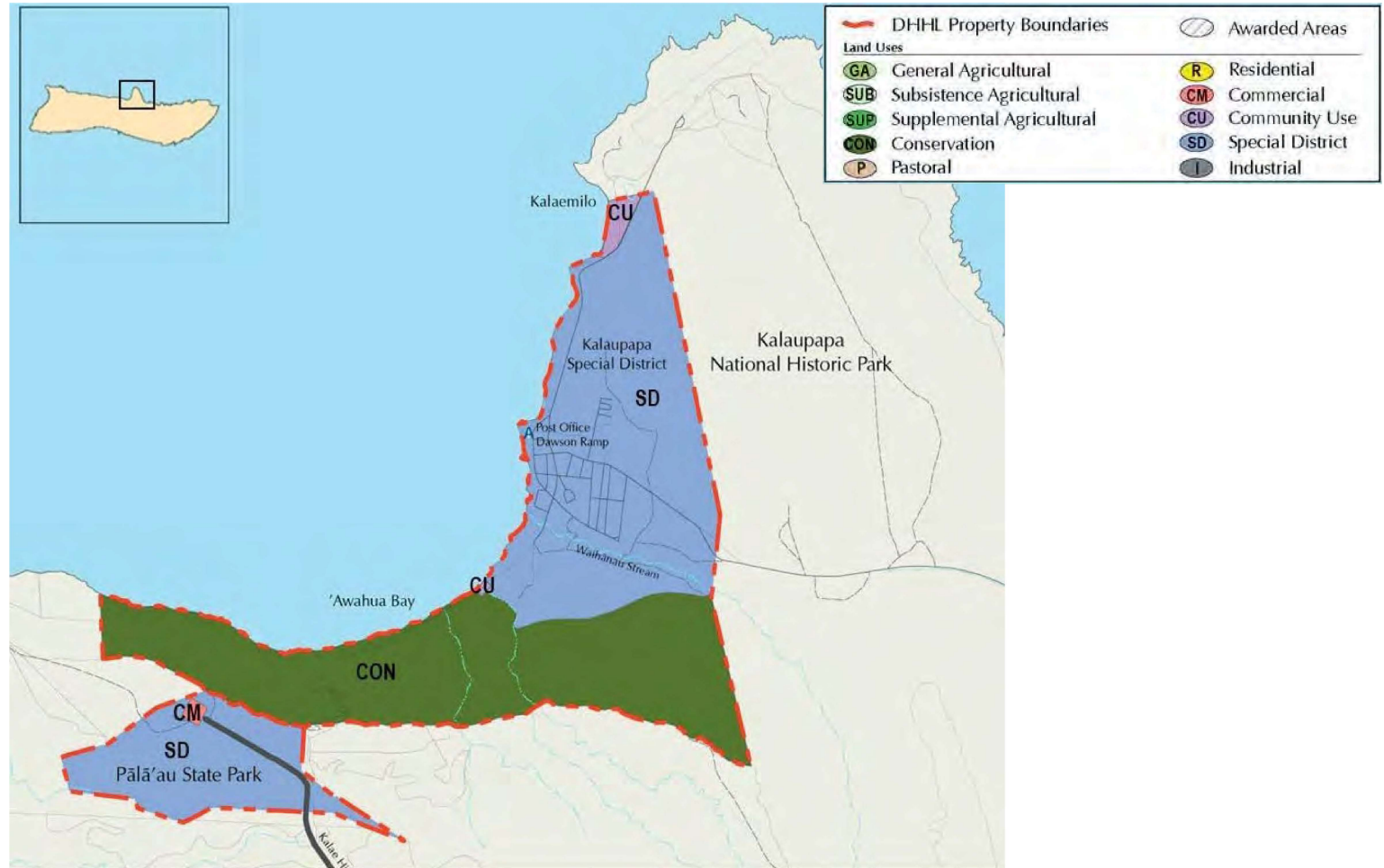
- Conducts beneficiary consultations (BC) and outreach, both Topside and in Kalaupapa
- Updates the Hawaiian Homes Commission on Kalaupapa BC and emerging issues
- Updates the Moloka'i Island Plan and Moloka'i Regional Plan
- Sets up site visits to familiarize Commissioners and staff with Kalaupapa and its unique issues
- Monitors HRS Ch. 343 and 6E compliance for new projects
- Works with DOH on environmental remediation projects
- Participates in Interagency Working Group meetings

# DHHL Moloka'i Island Plan (2005)

## Kalaupapa-Pālā'au (Apana 3) Land Use Plan



DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS



# Break

until...

We will be compiling questions  
focused on the Interagency  
Working Group and current access  
for the next section!



# **Moderated Update Focused on the Interagency Working Group & Current Access Issues**

# Interagency Working Group Related Questions

## General Information

- Comprises of government agencies with legal obligations
- Focuses on the following operational tasks:
  - Emergency Services / Law Enforcement
  - Building / Facilities
    - Management Assignment
    - Maintenance & Repairs
  - Solid / Hazardous Waste Management
  - Utilities
  - Commercial Services (Tours, Store, Gas, etc.)
  - Animal Control
  - Road & Trail Maintenance & Repairs
  - Historical & Natural Resource Management
- Not subject to Sunshine Law because not statutorily created

## Questions

- Is Emergency Management part of the IWG?

# Current Access Related Questions

## General Information

- Legal
  - Patient residents -- can host guests
  - Staff residents
  - Visitors -- permits through a guided tour
- Physical Access Points
  - Trail > Historic trail through Myers property (DLNR/NPS)
    - Managed by NPS under Cooperative Agreement with patient support
  - Air > Airport (DOT)
  - Ocean > Pier (NPS)

## Questions

- When will descendants of Kalaupapa patients be allowed access to enter Kalaupapa again?

## Other Questions

# By the Numbers: Managing Kalaupapa

- National Park Service (NPS): **\$5,000,000** annual budget (does not take into account project costs, estimated \$10,000,000)
- Department of Health (DOH): **\$4,000,000** annual current operating costs (does not take into account \$50,000,000 estimated for capital improvements)
- Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR): **\$475,000 - \$500,000** annual current operating costs
- Department of Transportation (DOT): **\$160,000** annual current operating costs + **\$150,000** payroll
- Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL): **\$0** annual current operating costs

NOTE: Does not include in-kind contributions of the above agencies and others in so many ways



# Next Steps

- HACBED team to synthesize feedback to be sent to for folks who are interested in follow up
- Upcoming engagement opportunities regarding the future of Kalaupapa
  - DHHL
    - Beneficiary Consultation: 2024-2025
      - Will include site visits to Kalaupapa
      - Results of BC will roll into the Moloka'i Island Plan Update
    - 2025-27: Moloka'i Island Plan Update
      - Currently in procurement process
      - Anticipate beneficiary outreach starting mid-to-late-2025

**Mahalo!**

# Appendix

# Map of Kalaupapa Land Ownership

