

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

# PARKS AND AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

September 19, 2003

Committee  
Report No. 03-105

Honorable Chair and Members  
of the County Council  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Parks and Agriculture Committee, having met on September 4, 2003, makes reference to a Miscellaneous Communication dated August 20, 2003, from the County Clerk, referring the matter relating to the National Parks Service's Plan to acquire Nu`u Ranch, Kaupo, Maui, Hawai'i for expansion of Haleakala National Park.

Your Committee notes that on August 19, 2003, the Council adopted Resolution No. 03-131, entitled "SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE'S PLAN TO ACQUIRE NU`U RANCH, KAUPU, MAUI, HAWAI'I, FOR EXPANSION OF HALEAKALA NATIONAL PARK". The purpose of the resolution is to express the Council's support for the National Park Service's proposed acquisition of 4,340 acres on the southern slope of Haleakala Crater, in the district of Kaupo, Maui, for the expansion of Haleakala National Park. The matter relating to this plan was referred to your Committee.

At its meeting, your Committee met with Art Medeiros of the United States Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center.

Your Committee received testimony from John Cumming, who read correspondence dated September 4, 2003, from Michael G. Buck, Administrator of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife, supporting the acquisition of Nu`u Ranch.

Your Committee viewed a computer-generated slide show entitled "Leeward Haleakala Watershed Restoration Partnership (LHWRP)" presented by Mr. Medeiros. The slide show presented an overview of the LHWRP, which includes the property known as Nu`u Ranch.

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Mr. Medeiros informed your Committee that the acquisition would facilitate the preservation of precious environmental and cultural resources. In addition, he noted that the acquisition of Nu`u Ranch would allow Haleakala National Park to play a major role in the LHWRP's undertaking to restore the belt of koa forest across Haleakala's south slope from Kaupo to Kula.

After a brief discussion, your Committee voted to recommend filing the Miscellaneous Communication.

Your Parks and Agriculture Committee RECOMMENDS that the Miscellaneous Communication be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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