



First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: HAVO

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park is a vital part of America's national system of parks, monuments, battlefields recreation areas, and other natural and cultural resources. Our centennial vision is wrapped around the park purposes to: protect, conserve and study volcanic landscapes and the associated natural and cultural resources and processes; facilitate public use and safe access to active volcanism, scenic vistas, diverse geographic settings and wilderness for recreation, education and public enjoyment; and preserve native Hawaiian spiritual and inspirational values, carried out through the practice of traditional Hawaiian cultural activities in the park. Our centennial vision will position the park as a leader in sustainability, education and outreach through innovative partnerships and programs.

Partnering with The Mountain Institute our implementation strategy will engage our partners and volunteers to help us reach young, disadvantaged Americans and share the knowledge of the park's landscapes while highlighting the interrelationship of nature and culture, empowering them to improve their lives and better understand the scientific and cultural factors that shape the park. Leading by example we will partner with the State of Hawaii to pilot a demonstration clean energy shuttle system that tests innovation and new ways to conserve, harvest and store energy without creating pollution. The Environmental Protection Agency, we will develop interactive exhibits that will describe actions visitors can take to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Hawaii Natural History Association will support our efforts to develop an island-wide Junior Ranger Program that will connect children to four national park units on the island of Hawaii. Through the Junior Ranger Program we will create activities that will engage families in discovering the unique Hawaiian culture and landscapes that link the present and the past while cultivating future generations of park stewards. No where else on earth will they feel steam from one of the world's most active volcanoes, catch a glimpse of some of the world's rarest plants and animals, and experience first-hand an ancient culture that is alive today. Engaging volunteers recruited from the face of America will increase our capacity and allow underserved Americans to find value in our park by having hands-on experiences with nature. The stewardship of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park preserves and restores its natural and cultural treasures through the incredible power of volunteers who make the change by being part of the change. Their hands-on stewardship in saving the hawksbill turtles, the Hawaiian nene geese, and the Hawaiian petrel are actions that have prevented the extinction of these species.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Cindy Orlando, Superintendent

SITE: HAVO

STEWARDSHIP

Provide inspiring, safe, and accessible places for people to enjoy - the standard to which all other park systems aspire.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Provide a safe environment and experience for visitors and employees.

By 2008, the park will assess 70% of all interpretive programs for universal accessibility.

Programmatic upgrades are identified for interpretive exhibits, printed materials and audio-visual programs.

Work with US Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic Atmospheric Agency on engaging state of art exhibits for the new northwest Hawaiian Islands Monument.

Provide interpretive services/rangers to US Fish and Wildlife Service at Midway Atoll.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

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STEWARDSHIP

Improve the condition of park resources and assets.

Improve high priority assets to exceptible condition as measured by the Facility Condition Index.

Develop efficient and sustainable visitor facility.

By 2009, rehabilitate Visitor Emergency Operations Center to LEED platinum energy design. The new building will replace a seriously dilapidated building, reduce the operational costs and offer increased visitor service and visitor satisfaction.

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Restore native habitats by controlling invasive species and reintroducing key plant and animal species.

Alien (exotic) invasive plants are the most critical threat to the native ecosystems of the park. Develop and implement actions to mitigate resource threats and restore native habitat.

By September 30, 2009, One population (7% of 15) of Hawaii Volcanoes NP invasive animal species populations are controlled.

By September 30, 2009, 1170 canopy acres (10% of 11,741 acres) of HAVO lands infested with non-native plants are controlled.

By September 30, 2009, 19 populations (47% of 40) of HAVO federally listed species in the park are making progress towards recovery.

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ENVIRONMENT

Reduce environmental impacts of park operations.

Reduce the environmental impacts of park operations on air and water quality.

Serving as a model for climate friendly behavior within the park service, Hawaii Volcanoes NP has set a greenhosus gas emission reduction goal. By implementing the plan, the park will:

- * perform subsequent emission inventories to monitor progress.
- * identify additional actions to reduce GHG emissions and inform the public on climate change.
- * include additional actions to reduce GHG emissions in future Action Plans.

The park aims to reduce GHG emissions from the park's operations to 12.5 percent below 2006 levels by the year 2012 by implementing emission mitigation actions identified by the park. To meet this goal, the park will implement 3 strategies in the plan which are to reduce fuel use and GHG emissions from park facilities and operations; increase climate change outreach and education efforts; and develop management strategies to adapt to climate change.

Expand the park's recycling program in public use areas and interpret the environmental impact of our efforts.

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Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Reduce environmental impacts of park operations on air and water quality by:

- * Reduce the park's fleet

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ENVIRONMENT

- Inspire an environmental conscience in Americans.**

- Pilot hydrogen shuttle system to demonstrate and inspire leadership and innovation and environmental stewardship and green practice.**

Reduce fuel emissions and provide clean energy vehicles. Foster interagency and community participation to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and work toward a goal of Hawaii Island being energy self sufficient. The park would Lead by Example using clean energy vehicles to encourage commercial tour bus companies to follow this example and reduce size and emissions in future years.

Working with the World Heritage Alliance of the United Nations Foundation and the Travel and Tourism Industry, educate visitors to understanding sustainable use, visitation and stewardship of world heritage sites.

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RECREATION

- Encourage collaboration among and assist park and recreation systems at every level—federal, regional, state, local—to help build an outdoor recreation network accessible to all Americans.**

- Rehabilitate over 2,000 miles of trails within or connected to national parks, including trails accessible to those with disabilities.**

Realign park trail segments creating a sustainable trail system and reconstruct and preserve historic trails and structures, and perform critical deferred maintenance. Reconstruct trailheads and develop accessible parking. Address local demand for a seamless system of trail use by working with agency (Ala Kahakai Trail) and interagency (Three Mountain Alliance) partners on innovative leakages of park land and trails that offer recreation and educational opportunities accessible to a diverse public.

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RECREATION

- Expand partnerships with schools and boys and girls associations to show how national park experiences can improve children's lives.**

- Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

Promote outdoor skills and highlight interrelationship of nature and culture for grades 6th through 8th. Partner with The Mountain Institute to inspire young leaders to demonstrate environmental awareness and leadership abilities. The Landscape and Leadership project will target disadvantaged adolescents in an underserved district of Kau on the Island of Hawaii. The experience and expertise of The Mountain Institute in developing and implementing outdoor leadership programs for teachers and students is world renowned. The program will combine experiential learning with all aspects of Hawaiian studies ranging from geology and ecology to cultures and people.

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EDUCATION

- Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology.**

- Increase the number of web hits through the introduction of advanced, interactive features that attract young people to national parks.**

In partnership with Hawaii Natural History Association, the park will implement a Junior Ranger Program that connects children to all four Hawaii Island National Park Units. Creative activities will engage families in discovering the unique Hawaii culture and landscapes that link the present with the past and cultivate future generations of park stewards.

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SITE: HAVO

EDUCATION

- Impart to every American a sense of their citizen ownership of their national parks.**

- Increase visitors' satisfaction, understanding, and appreciation of the parks they visit.**

Foster volunteerism from the faces of America in a variety of resources stewardship activities within the park that will lead to conservation in their homes and communities.

Develop high quality interactive "Do Your Part" exhibits to educate and empower visitors to make a difference and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to address global warming.

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