

# Executive Director's Report

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*Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission Meeting  
June 26, 2023*

## **Budget, Finance, and Funding**

**FY23 Expenditure Report and Budget Variance:** See attached.

## **Plans, Policies and Procedures**

**Long-range Scheduling:** See the attached long-range schedule.

## **Administration, Staffing and Personnel**

**Commissioner Status Update:** The following KIRC Commissioners' current terms will expire at the end of FY23.

Commissioner Lindsey (OHA Seat): Her term expires June 30, 2023. This will be the completion of a second term and will be term limited. Request OHA nominate a replacement to Boards & Commissions.

Commissioner Mataafa (Maui Seat): His term expires June 30, 2023. This is his completion of a first term, and he is eligible for reappointment to a second term. The Maui County Mayor has been notified by letter requesting reappointment.

Commissioner Kaakua (PKO Seat): His term expires June 30, 2023. This will be the completion of his second term and thus will be term limited. The PKO Point of Contact and Representative has been notified and has recommended Kahale Saito as a replacement. Staff is currently awaiting the Governor's appointment.

### **KIRC Staff Status Update:**

Update on New Staff Positions: Act 248 SLH 2022 added two full-time-equivalent positions (2.0 FTE) to the KIRC's authorized manpower, HB300 SLH2023 provided full time funding for these positions. A KIRC reorganization has been approved and staff is currently establishing the new positions. After the positions have been established, a request to redescribe the authorized Cultural III positions to the Reserve Operations Manager and the authorized Culture II position to the Culture Resources Project Coordinator will be submitted.

Temporary KIR II Specialist Departed: A temporary KIR Specialist II was hired and funded from the latest Department of Health grant. Grant funding for this position ended in December 2022, but we have been continuing the funding from trust funds with the possibility that a currently general funded position may open with the addition of the two full-time equivalent positions identified above. The current candidate chose not to continue with the KIRC, and funding for the KIR Specialist II position in FY24 will be discontinued.

## **Public Information, Outreach and Government Relations**

**Upcoming Legislative Activities:** The Senate Ways and Means Committee is planning to tour the Kihei location for a briefing on the proposed Operations and Education Center. This is being

currently scheduled for July 26-28, 2022. Staffers for the committee requested that a site tour of the property and a briefing on our proposed plans for the facility and upcoming budget request be conducted.

Also on the schedule for this summer is a House Water and Land Committee on-island trip planned for September 6 to 8, 2023. This access is being hosted by Representative Amy Perruso and members of the House Water and Land Committee. A short two-night access has been added to the current schedule and the group will be escorted by program managers and the ED.

## **Capital Improvement, Reserve Operations and Logistics**

**Update on the On-island Freshwater System:** The Honokanai`a desalination system was damaged this past summer due to large south swells which destroyed the seawater intake and forced the base camp staff to truck water from the Luamakika water catchments to Honokanai`a for camp use. The desalination system uses a seawater intake line to pump saltwater into an on-shore holding tank and then uses a reverse osmosis (RO) unit to extract fresh water from the seawater.

During the December 2022 access, KIRC staff was able to make repairs to the seawater piping and restore the RO's seawater system, but when the base camp was reopened during the January 2023 access, staff discovered that another storm swell had detached the new piping from the newly installed coupling.

During the May 2023 access KIRC Ocean and Operations staff were able to splice both ends of the pipe back together with a flex hose and the repair will be tested this week during the June access. Installation of a pair of new ocean pipes is planned in the near future as a permanent replacement for the current repair.

**Update on 'Ōhua Repair Status:** Recently, the KIRC landing craft, 'Ōhua, has been experiencing jet drive problems with its drive shaft and water seals, causing excess vibration in the engines. The October access and part of the November access were canceled while the jet drive repair tech assessed the problem. Replacement parts were installed and the 'Ōhua had returned to service for the December 2022 access. When the 'Ōhua dropped off volunteers for the January 2023 access, the 'Ōhua crew noticed an unusually loud noise on the newly repaired jet drive and returned to Maui on one engine. The rest of the January 2023 access was completed with a borrowed boat and through the generous support of the Trilogy Company coming to pick up volunteers from Honokanai`a.

The 'Ōhua crew is currently replacing bearings on the port jet drive that will hopefully return the boat back to service. KIRC staff canceled volunteers for the February access and is using a borrowed boat to mobilize the Base Camp and KIRC staff to Honokanai`a to support the PKO's closing Makahiki ceremonies and to finish the marine debris removal from Hakioawa.

The transmission rebuilt was to be completed on June 14<sup>th</sup>, but the bearing cage the shop received was damaged a new one was ordered. The new delivery date for all repairs to be completed is June 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Update of Honokanai's Base Camp CIP Project:** The FY23 Administration budget included \$500,000 in CIP funds for upgrade and repairs for the Honokanai's Base Camp. The current list of projects include: 1) Improving rainwater collection in Base Camp by applying an elastomeric roof coating to all buildings, installing gutters and downspout collections, installing on-island water tanks; 2) Improve potable water distribution by replacing all freshwater distribution piping; 3) Building upgrades including replacement of camp boardwalk; exterior building painting, replace air conditioning units with STAR efficient unit; replace Hut 10 windows; and 4) Replace LZ-1 shelter.

The KIRC staff in coordination with DLNR Engineering staff has already begun the process of releasing the funding and beginning the design and procurement process. A request has been submitted to State Budget & Finance requesting the release of funds and staff is currently waiting for the release of funds.