
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, LAND DIVISION, TO ASSEMBLE VARIOUS STATE, COUNTY, AND COMMUNITY AGENCIES TO MEET AND DEVELOP A HANAPEPE SALT POND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

1 WHEREAS, the Hanapepe Salt Ponds, on the southwestern coast
2 of Kauai at the mouth of the Hanapepe Valley, are home to
3 ancient authentic Hawaiian salt ponds; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Hanapepe Salt Ponds are listed on the State
6 Historic Preservation Register and are an extremely important
7 cultural resource to the community; and
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9 WHEREAS, salt from the Hanapepe Salt Ponds is created by
10 accessing underground saltwater from a deep ancient source
11 through wells and transferring the saltwater to shallow pools
12 called wai ku, then into salt pans that are shaped carefully
13 with clay from the area, and dried with brine shrimp that add
14 sweetness to the salt; and
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16 WHEREAS, this type of salt-making is unique and authentic,
17 and the harvested traditional Hawaiian sea salt mixed with
18 'alaea, a form of red dirt from Kokee, is used for traditional
19 Hawaiian ceremonies to cleanse, purify, and bless, as well as
20 for healing rituals for medicinal purposes; and
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22 WHEREAS, over the years, the Hanapepe Salt Ponds have been
23 burdened by the surrounding uses of land, which pollute surface
24 water runoff that flows into the salt ponds; and
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26 WHEREAS, Hanapepe Bay or Harbor was placed on the federal
27 Clean Water Act Section 303(d), 2004 final list of impaired
28 waters in Hawaii for its excessive levels of total suspended
29 solids, nutrients, and temperature, and toxic substances; and



1 WHEREAS, the development of an airfield runway, a heavily
2 used beach park, a road cutting through the salt beds, a
3 makeshift beach access route blocking drainage, and the cutting
4 down of the kiawe forest (which provides evapotranspiration),
5 and runoff from the cane fields and highway, have all
6 potentially contributed to the decline of the health of the salt
7 ponds; and

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9 WHEREAS, a close examination of the watershed, moku, and
10 ahupua'a to identify the sources of pollution is needed to
11 recommend projects to reduce the sources of pollution and create
12 a comprehensive resource management plan to revitalize the
13 Hanapepe Salt Ponds; and

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15 WHEREAS, the Hanapepe and native Hawaiian communities are
16 eager to assist in planning for ways to ensure the long-term
17 protection and management of the Hanapepe Salt Ponds; and

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19 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian community possesses unique and
20 inherent rights (i.e. konohiki and genealogical) and claims to
21 the Hanapepe Salt Ponds; and

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23 WHEREAS, a prudent comprehensive resource management plan
24 should encompass coastal zone management and ocean resources
25 management planning, as the Hanapepe Salt Ponds are affected
26 both by tidal influence and land activities; and

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28 WHEREAS, the development of a comprehensive resource
29 management plan would require:

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31 (1) The identification and assessment of the problems and
32 issues;
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34 (2) The involvement of all applicable stakeholders,
35 government agencies, and the Hawaiian community to
36 ensure the plans are workable and acceptable to all
37 parties; and
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39 (3) The identification of the source of the salt and brine
40 shrimp, and explanation of how they migrate to the
41 area; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
3 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
4 Land and Natural Resources, Land Division, is requested to
5 assemble various state, county, and community agencies, rights
6 holders, and stakeholders to conduct meetings to develop a
7 comprehensive Hanapepe Salt Ponds Resource Management Plan
8 (Management Plan); and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the meetings include
11 representatives of the:

- 12 (1) Office of Hawaiian Affairs Kauai Trustee;
- 13 (2) Department of Land and Natural Resources, State
14 Historic Preservation Division;
- 15 (3) Department of Transportation, Airports Division;
- 16 (4) Department of Planning of the County of Kauai;
- 17 (5) Office of Planning;
- 18 (6) Hui Hana Pa'akai O Hanapepe (two members);
- 19 (7) Hui O Pa'akai (two members); and
- 20 (8) Aha Kiole Advisory Committee, to be replaced by the
21 Aha Moku Council, when established; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Management Plan include:

- 32 (1) Identification of the watershed, moku, and ahupua'a of
33 Hanapepe/Makaweli;
- 34 (2) Identification of all sources of pollution,
35 particularly those that affect coastal water quality
36 and cultural and historical resources in the area
37 surrounding the Hanapepe Salt Ponds;
- 38 (3) Preparation of a watershed implementation plan
39 (Implementation Plan) similar to those prepared by the
40 Department of Health Polluted Runoff Control Program
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1 in other areas of the state, to include identification
2 and recommendation of small-scale, local projects that
3 can be undertaken to reduce sources of pollution in
4 the watershed;

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6 (4) Consultation with local Hawaiian practitioners and
7 kupuna in the Waimea moku about local best management
8 principles and practices, and documentation of the
9 principles and practices in a report, to be integrated
10 with the Implementation Plan;

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12 (5) Identification of Hawaiian community rights holders,
13 such as Konohiki, genealogical, or other inherent
14 Hawaiian rights, and stakeholders, and results of
15 meetings therewith;

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17 (6) Protection measures for the Hawaiian community
18 presently mining salt, and protection measures for
19 rights in perpetuity to genealogical ties and user
20 rights to the salt ponds;

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22 (7) Preparation of a comprehensive resource management
23 plan for the Hanapepe Salt Ponds; and

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25 (8) Recommendations for long-term protection measures; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
28 Natural Resources, Land Division, is requested to submit to the
29 Legislature a preliminary report of the Management Plan and the
30 Implementation Plan, including best management practices and
31 principles and recommended legislation, no later than 20 days
32 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009, and a
33 final report no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the
34 Regular Session of 2010; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
37 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
38 Board of Land and Natural Resources.

