



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Pacific Region



Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge American Recovery and Reinvestment Act FACT SHEET

Project Description

The Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge staff currently uses the 4,400-square-foot Pua ‘Ākala barn to store its heavy equipment, tools, and supplies to provide limited protection from the weather in this high elevation rain forest. Constructed in 1930 and never meeting building codes, the building is now dilapidated and close to collapse. The metal roof and siding panels are heavily corroded, and numerous holes exist. Many panels are loose and about to fall off the building, and all doors and windows are broken. Wooden wall and roof structural members are all rotten, and some are broken. Deterioration of the barn is so great that a major repair is economically unfeasible to stabilize the building.



Pua ‘Ākala barn

This project will remove the dilapidated barn and replace it with a new structure to be built near the Refuge’s Administrative Site, where power and water are readily available and other facilities are located. The new building will have four bays (three with gravel surface and a fourth with a concrete floor), office space, a restroom, and loft storage for supplies.

Project Benefits

This project will replace an unsafe, mission-critical asset in very poor condition in order to help maintain and restore upland habitat for 17 endangered species. Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1985 and protects eight endangered forest bird species, nine endangered plant species, and their rainforest habitat. Habitat restoration, including removal of invasive plants and cultivation and planting of native plant species, has been a major focus of both the refuge staff and a large number of volunteers. Protection of the equipment and supplies needed to conduct restoration activities is vital on the refuge, which can receive as much as 250 inches of rain annually. Moving its location to the Administrative Site will enhance operational efficiency and security. Removal of the existing structure is required to eliminate what has become a major safety risk.

Budget Information

Total funding = \$590,000

For More Information

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