

HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK
LAND PROTECTION PLAN

Finding of No Significant Impact


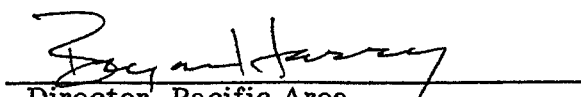
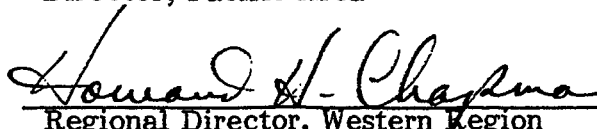
In accordance with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (Federal Register, Volume 43, No. 230, November 29, 1978), and the National Environmental Policy Act Guideline, September 1982 (NPS 12), an environmental assessment was prepared on the Land Protection Plan for Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii.

The Western Regional Office, early in the development of the plan, notified the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the State Historic Preservation Officer of the intent and purpose of the plan and asked them to participate in its development. Neither of these agencies chose to comment.

The draft Land Protection Plan recommends that certain lands within the proposed boundaries of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park be acquired. Acquisition is judged necessary because of the inadequate existing level of protection and, in the instance of one important parcel, because of the threat of geothermal development. Most of these lands are to be acquired in fee.

Upon notification of the availability of the draft plan in the local press, a 30-day public review period was held commencing March 26, 1986. The review period was subsequently extended beyond the 30 days by the Superintendent to ensure that all interested parties had ample time to comment on the plan. Copies of the plan were furnished to the affected property owners, members of the Hawaii Congressional delegation, selected members of the State legislature, Federal, State, and local government officials, special interest groups and organizations, and interested citizens. All of the comments received during the public review period supported plan recommendations. None of the comments required making any changes in the plan. Consequently, the draft version is being submitted for approval as the final plan.

As a result of the nature of the comments received on the draft plan, it is concluded that no substantial controversy exists and that the recommendations do not have the potential to cause significant impacts on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, based on this conclusion, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared and no additional environmental compliance steps are necessary prior to the implementation of this plan.

Recommended:	 _____ Superintendent, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park	<u>June 11, 1986</u> Date
Concurred:	 _____ Director, Pacific Area	<u>6/13/86</u> Date
Approved:	 _____ Regional Director, Western Region	<u>7/30/86</u> Date