

Haleakalā National Park



Kapalaoa

E komo mai i ka hale o Kapalaoa (welcome to Kapalaoa Cabin)

Long-term hikers to Kapalaoa will remember acre after acre of yellow evening primroses and daisies surrounding this cabin and growing along Keonehe`e Trail. Today, hikes in this wilderness area take people through those same acres where a native blue-silver bunch grass called *Deschampsia autralis* is now making a quiet come-back. While the evening primroses (*Onethera stricta*), and daisies (*Heterotheca grandiflora*) are pretty to some, they are invasive alien species most likely introduced via the cattle and horses that once passed through this cinder desert ecosystem.



A sea of weeds: before alien plant control.

These weeds were pushing out the native bunch-grasses and other plants important to native species such as *nēnē*. This transformation took decades and untold hours from a dedicated army of volunteers led by partners and park staff. Restoring areas of Haleakalā to its natural beauty is a long-term endeavor. Want to help? Contact our volunteer coordinator at 808-572-4487 or go to: www.nps.gov. [hale](#) and click on volunteer.



Native plants re-claim their territory.

When you leave this historic cabin and step back on the trail, you are re-entering a part of the national park designated as a Federal Wilderness Area in 1976. The Wilderness Act of 1964 provided federal land agencies with the opportunity to protect certain areas.

You can help protect this wilderness area:

- *Hike only on designated trails* shown on the park's official hiking maps.
- *Pack-out all your food and garbage.* Leave nothing behind to feed alien ants, wasps, roaches, mongooses, or rats.
- Keep them wild: *Do not give food or water to birds or other wildlife.*
- Use resources sparingly: water and compressed logs for the stoves are precious commodities in the wilderness area. *It is illegal to gather wood or kindling for burning.* Use fire-starters or newspaper to start a fire in the morning instead of burning several logs throughout the night. Reducing your carbon footprint begins at home, and at the cabin!