Appendix 1

OMB Control No. 0596-0143
Expiration Date: 3/31/98

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVERS COVER SHEET FOR NOMINATION PACKET

To be considered, nomination packets must be received by 7:00 pm Eastern Standard Time on December 10, 1997.
Mail your completed nomination packet to:

American Heritage Rivers
Executive Office of the President
Old Executive Office Building, Room 360
Washington, DC 20503

Or fax to: (202) 456-6546
Or to e-mail: See instructions on American Heritage Rivers web site at http://www.epa.gov/rivers

#127
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1. Name of proposed American Heritage River: Hanalei River, Hawaii

2. Nominating Organization(s): The Hawaii Stream Research Center

3. Primary Point of Contact: Michael H. Kido
Title: Director

Organization: University of Hawaii

Street Address: 7370 A Kuamoo Rd.

City: Kapaa State: Hawaii ZIP: 96746

Phone: Work (808) 822-4984 ext. 235 Home: (808) 828-1029
FAX (808) 822-2190

4. Certification and Signature of Primary Point of Contact:
To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this Nomination Packet is accurate.
Name of Contact (print): Michael H. Kido

Title: Director

Signature and Date: Michael H. Kido

Limit nominations to 15 pages of 10-point text or larger, using one-inch margins, excluding letters of endorsement of the nominated area. Letters of endorsement should include names, addresses, and phone numbers of the supporters. Letters of endorsement should also indicate the level of support to be given to the American Heritage River plan of action by the individual or organization writing the letter. Letters of endorsement must be included in the nomination packet; letters of endorsement sent separately will not be considered. Due to constraints on the review and selection process, additional materials, such as videos, photographs, and plans, will not be accepted; however, photographs may be embedded in the text if the total length does not exceed 15 pages.

Facsimile (FAX) of nomination packets will be accepted. Fax to (202) 456-6546.

Nomination packets may be submitted electronically. See instructions on the American Heritage Rivers web site at http://www.epa.gov/rivers.

If faxing or sending electronically, please also complete and mail the cover sheet along with any letters of endorsement.

The nomination packet must be received by 7:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on December 10, 1997.

Information supplied on the nomination cover sheet will be used to determine eligibility for American Heritage River designation and is required to receive program benefits.

Estimated burden for preparing this application is 32 hours per response. If you have comments on this burden estimate, contact American Heritage Rivers c/o Council on Environmental Quality, Executive Office of the President Executive Office of the President, Old Executive Office Building, Room 360, Washington, DC 20503. Information supplied on the nomination cover sheet is public and may not be held confidential. An agency may not contact or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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Nomination for Hanalei River, Kauai Island, Hawaii
to the American Heritage River System

1. Description of the proposed American Heritage River area for Hanalei.

The Hanalei River, on the north shore of Kauai Island (Fig. 1), is located in one of the most scenic, biologically unique and culturally significant regions of the country. At its most visible points along the public thoroughfare, the river is nestled between pasture land and taro farms in a peaceful valley ringed with the dramatic cliffs and mountains common to Kauai's windward areas. In its upper reaches, the Hanalei River collects rainwater from the highest points on the island and flows through native forests where native Hawaiian plants, forest birds, and a unique assemblage of native invertebrates are still found. Within the waters of the Hanalei River itself are found species of native stream fishes as well as an assortment of uniquely Hawaiian stream-adapted molluscs and crustaceans. In the terminal (most seaward) portions of the Hanalei River, the water becomes brackish and this estuary functions as a nursery area and habitat for a number of commercially important marine species. The river, therefore, also plays a critically important supportive role for nearshore fisheries in the highly productive marine waters of crescent-shaped Hanalei Bay.

The Hanalei River is the only river in the State or Hawaii that ranked as "Outstanding" in aquatic, riparian, cultural, and recreational/scenic values in the Hawaii Stream Assessment (Hawaii State Commission on Water Resources Management, 1990). It is the second largest river in the State based on annual flow discharge and the sixth largest watershed on Kauai encompassing an area of about 15,139 acres (23.7 square miles). The river itself descends nearly 16 miles to sea-level from the base of Kauai's eroded central caldera (Mt. Waialeale) beginning at an elevation of nearly 3,500 feet (Fig. 2). The river valley varies in width from 1 to 3 miles. Annual rainfall in the Hanalei watershed varies from 100 inches near Hanalei Bay to about 450 inches at the head of the valley on the northern flank of Mt. Waialeale, the reknown wettest spot on earth.

The proposed Hanalei American Heritage River Area would include the entire watershed of the Hanalei River beginning at its headwaters (Fig. 1), but focusing on the issues and concerns of the community in the vicinity of the lower 5 miles of the Hanalei River.

2. Description of the notable resource qualities in the Hanalei watershed.

The proposed Hanalei American Heritage River Area is a unique and significant cultural, recreational, biological, and economic area for our nation. It is a place where uniquely Hawaiian plants and animals (many endangered) are cared for and viewable by the public. It is a place where Hawaiian cultural traditions and practices persist, where citizens can still experience uncrowded white-sand beaches and pristine wilderness areas that are uniquely Hawaiian. Through its agricultural and visitor-related activities, Hanalei is also fast-becoming an important economic area for the State presenting its resident

1-HI-HAN

community with a unique set of management challenges.

The following are brief descriptions of notable resource qualities in the Hanalei area:

1. The Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge, located adjacent to the lower reaches of the Hanalei River (Fig. 3), provide essential habitat for endangered Hawaiian waterbirds. Through innovative cooperative agreements with wetland farmers, growing areas provide protected habitat for endangered Hawaiian stilts (*Ae 'o*), ducks (*Koloa*), gallinules (*'alae 'ula*), and coots (*'alae 'ke 'oke 'o*).
2. The Hanalei River supports and abundance of native amphidromous stream animals consisting of five native gobies (*'o 'opu*), two crustaceans (*'opae*) and an edible snail (*hihiwai*). In the upper reaches of the river is found, one of only five, known Kauai locations of the unique stream-adapted Newcomb's snail currently proposed by the US Fish & Wildlife Service as an endangered species.
3. One of the largest and most significant cultural/recreational fisheries for the native stream goby, the *'o 'opu-nakea*, is found in the lower reaches of the Hanalei River.
4. Numerous historic sites such as the Hanalei Bridge, Haraguchi Rice Mill, and Waioli Church and Mission House are found in the Hanalei area.
5. Abundant natural resources provide unlimited opportunities for hiking, photography, kayaking, camping, fishing, surfing, snorkeling, hiking, etc. as well as for environmental education.
6. Hanalei is perhaps the most important growing area in the State for wetland taro. Hanalei produces over 60 % of the State's supply of this traditional Hawaiian staple.
7. Many archaeological sites, including ancient taro agricultural fields, irrigation canals (*auwai*), house sites, and religious structures (*heiau*) still exist in the Hanalei area.

3. Description of the the community's Plan of Action

Community Vision

As in many communities in the U.S., Hanalei is struggling with the inevitable conflicts which will arise over the use and management of natural resources by a rapidly expanding population base. The challenge is to hold on to traditional local lifestyles and value-systems which are inextricably linked to uniquely Hawaiian natural resources in the face of escalating economic pressures to survive as an island society. These are important components in the vision of the American Heritage River Program. Our unified vision is to develop a community-based management plan for the Hanalei River in partnership with local, state, and federal government. To utilize the skills and resources of our community to assist government agencies in their regulatory and managerial responsibilities to achieve economic stability of the Hanalei River area in the context of natural resource and environmental protection as well as historic and cultural preservation.

2 - HI-HAN

To accomplish this, we have selected as a model the "Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) Process" which has been successfully applied in the Lower Deschutes River in Oregon (Lower Deschutes River Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement - Volume 1, January 1993, State of Oregon). The State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and it's Kauai-based Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) member Lynn McCrory introduced this planning process to the Hanalei community through a week-long conference held in the area in December 1997. Despite a long and controversial history of community conflict in Hanalei over economic use of public resources vs environmental/cultural protection, the process was embraced as a viable mechanism for the development of an effective, community-based management plan. This plan would embrace the social, environmental, economic, and cultural components of the Hanalei community to set resource-use limits, monitor change, ensure private property rights, maintain the economic base, and protect/enhance the natural resource qualities of the area. While most of the human-based use of the Hanalei River area is concentrated in its seaward five miles, the mid to upper portions of the river/watershed represent a significant biological reserve for native aquatic and terrestrial species; therefore, provisions for long-term management of these areas as critical habitat must also be considered in the plan.

Products and Projects

Designation of the Hanalei River Area as an American Heritage River would serve as the catalyst to initiate the LAC process. The State DLNR will begin the process by assembling a core group of "stakeholders" who will be selected by their respective interest groups peers. Government stakeholders will also be included in the core group. These interest groups were preliminarily identified in the LAC conference. The "River Navigator" position will serve as the initial staff person for the core group and assemble a technical staff which will assist the core group in the development of the management plan. The core group will define the duties of the River Navigator so as to maximize the effectiveness of the planning effort. The management plan developed will:

1. Identify existing social, cultural, economic, and biological data as well missing data necessary for the development of an effective long-term management effort for the Hanalei River and develop a plan for filling data-gaps.
2. Identify issues and alternatives for the long-term protection and/or enhancement of natural and cultural resources, recreational activities, public safety/services, and economic stability in the Hanalei River management area.
3. Adopt a set of management guidelines which will achieve the goals and visions set forth for American Heritage Rivers and protect/enhance the natural/biological, recreational, cultural, and socio-economic values of the Hanalei River management area.
4. Adopt an implementation plan which will move the plan forward by:
   a. setting strategies, roles and interagency responsibilities for:
      1. land acquisition and public access
      2. expenditure of funds
      3. data collection, monitoring, and evaluation

3 HI HAN

4. specific agency implementation and jurisdiction responsibilities

b. determining development and maintenance costs for the management area

c. establishing a system of monitoring and evaluation in conjunction with community-developed limits of acceptable change for resource values

d. establishing a system for updating the management plan and a process for amendment of the plan.

The products of the process will be:

1. A community-based Hanalei American Heritage River Management Plan (HAHRMP).
2. A strategy and plan for creation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the HAHRMP.
3. A strategy and plan for transforming management guidelines into administrative rules to provide a mechanism for enforcement.
4. A prioritized list of projects necessary to achieve the vision and goals of the American Heritage River designation and the HAHRMP.
5. Develop and implement a plan for public education and comment as well as a plan/schedule for the formal public hearing process for the HAHRMP.

Expected Federal Role

The federal role will be a significant one as recognition of Hanalei as an American Heritage River and the allocation of funds for the "River Navigator" will serve to initiate the community-based process to develop the HAHRMP. Once the management plan is adopted and finalized through public review, a prioritized list of management projects will be available. It is hoped that the federal government would then assist the community in locating funds for specific prioritized management projects (e.g. for data collection, monitoring, scientific research, public education, historic/cultural restoration, etc.). The Hanalei community, however, fully intends this process to be self-perpetuating and people-based; therefore, while federal assistance will certainly be appreciated, it cannot be exclusively relied upon.

Schedule or timeline

Upon designation, it is expected that the products and projects described previously will be completed in three to five years.

Citizen Involvement

The LAC process is community-based and dependent for its successful completion upon the involvement of representatives of the social, environmental, economic, and cultural sectors which make up the community. The process also develops through partnering with representatives of state and local government agencies who already have regulatory/enforcement responsibilities for the resources in the area but who may be limited by internal manpower and fiscal restraints.

Public Education

All sectors of the Hanalei community must contribute in the LAC process;

4 H I HAN

therefore development of an effective and ongoing public education program is key to the successful outcome of the process. In additional to informational efforts, emphasis is also directed at involving students and teachers from Hanalei Elementary School and Kauai Community College (University of Hawaii) in various aspects of the process to provide "hands-on" learning opportunities. The community will also rely heavily on the scientific community (including the Hawaii Stream Research Center [University of Hawaii], The Nature Conservancy, US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bishop Museum, etc.) to provide information and guidance on island natural resources management issues.

Logistical Support, operating procedures and policies

The logistical model provided by the LAC process in the Lower Deschutes River will be adapted for use in the Hanalei River area. The model provides fairly specific guidelines for policy development both in terms of citizen involvement as well as government participation and action.

Prior Accomplishments and relationship to existing plans and projects in the area

Conflicting and arbitrary management plans for controlling expanding commercial activity in the Hanalei area have become a constant source of community strife. No comprehensive management plan for natural resource, cultural, or social values of the Hanalei area has been developed despite their recognized significance to the nation. The "Hanalei Project" completed in 1988's summarized the results of extensive surveys which defined the values that make this area socially, culturally, and environmentally unique. Through this project a Cultural Resources Management Plan was created for Hanalei. The HAHRMP will evaluate and incorporate useful components of existing plans but ultimately develop a comprehensive community-based management for the entire river area designed to protect resource values in perpetuity for the Nation's future.

Challenges to community action

The primary challenge to the Hanalei community is to resolve long-standing conflicts over increasing commercial use of public resources and its perceived lowering of rural lifestyle quality. There is also a history of public disagreement with government's handling of these management issues. It will take a process such as LAC to overcome these hard-feelings and build community consensus in partnership with government to develop an effective management plan for the Hanalei River area.

Measures of performance

The LAC process builds the management plan through discrete measures of performance. In overall terms, timely completion of the products of the process are direct performance measures. In terms of management activities, "limits of change" are established and evaluated against baseline measures (past or present). Monitoring and data collection are integral to the management process and used to evaluate the performance of specific management goals. Management goals are enacted into law through rule-making and therefore legally enforceable. The ultimate evaluators of performance will be the Hanalei community which has its livelihood and lifestyle at stake.

5 th HAN

4. An illustration of who supports the nomination and plan of action.

Leaders from the social, environmental, economic, and cultural sectors of the Hanalei community support the nomination of the Hanalei River as an American Heritage River. Represented are public educators, environmental groups, economic/business interests, large and small landowners, farmers, the scientific community, domestic and agricultural water-users, and the native Hawaiian community. In addition, the County of Kauai and the State's Department of Land and Natural Resource strongly supports the nomination as Hanalei's selection will initiate the development of a long-needed management plan for the special resources in the area.

Letters of Support for the nomination of Hanalei River from the following individuals are included in the Appendix:

1. Maryanne W. Kusaka, Mayor of the County of Kauai.
2. Lynn P. McCrory, Pahio Management, Inc., Princeville Kauai
3. Barbara Robeson, The Hanalei Project
4. Nichols Beck, President, Kilauea Point Natural History Association
5. Marsha Erikson, Executive Director, Kokee Natural History Museum
6. David S. Boynton, Environmental Education, Kauai School District
7. Victoria J. Newberry, President, Hawaii Environmental Education Association
8. Donald E. Heacock, aquatic biologist
9. Judy Dalton, Conservation Chair, Sierra Club Kauai Group
10. Jack Peterson, Hanalei resident

6 HI·HAN