

Reference Material: Presidential Executive Order No. 10436, Reserving Kahoolawe, 1933 February 20

Senator Daniel K. Inouye Papers
Kaho'olawe, Box KL4, Folder 13
<http://hdl.handle.net/10524/61088>

Items in eVols are protected by copyright, with all rights reserved, unless otherwise indicated.

UHM Library Digital Collections Disclaimer and Copyright Information

PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 10436

DATED: FEBRUARY 20, 1953

Reserving Kahoolawe Island, Territory of Hawaii, for the use of the United States for Naval Purposes, and placing it under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Navy

KAHOOLAWE, T. H.

REFER TO:

GL 2341 - Kahoolawe Ranch

Pres. Proclamation 1827 - Setting aside for lighthouse purposes land on Island of Kahoolawe

EO 308 - The Kahoolawe Lighthouse Station

EO 1528 - Cancelling GEO 308

RP 800

Memorandum of Agreement No 30

EXECUTIVE ORDER

RESERVING KAHOO LAWE ISLAND, TERRITORY
OF HAWAII, FOR THE USE OF THE UNITED STATES FOR NAVAL
PURPOSES AND PLACING IT UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WHEREAS it appears necessary and in the public interest that the Island of Kahoolawe, Territory of Hawaii, which comprises an area of approximately forty-five square miles, and which forms a part of the public lands ceded and transferred to the United States by the Republic of Hawaii under the joint resolution of annexation of July 7, 1898, 30 Stat. 750, be taken and reserved for the use of the United States for naval purposes, except that portion comprising an area of 23.3 acres, more or less, heretofore taken for lighthouse purposes by Proclamation No. 1827 of the President of the United States dated February 3, 1928 (45 Stat. 2937); and

WHEREAS it is deemed desirable and in the public interest that provision be made for the conducting of a program of soil conservation on the island while the reservation made hereby is in force, and that the area within such reservation be restored to a condition reasonably safe for human habitation when it is no longer needed for naval purposes:

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by section 91 of the act of April 30, 1900, 31 Stat. 159, as amended by section 7 of the act of May 27, 1910, 36 Stat. 447, it is ordered as follows:

1. The Island of Kahoolawe, Territory of Hawaii, except that portion taken by the United States for lighthouse purposes by Proclamation No. 1827 of February 3, 1928, is hereby taken and reserved for the use of the United States for naval purposes, and is placed under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Navy.

2. The Secretary of the Navy shall, within a reasonable period following the date of this order, eradicate from the island all cloven-hooved animals, or shall within such period and at all

times thereafter while the area hereby reserved or any portion thereof is under his jurisdiction take such steps as may be necessary to assure that the number of such animals on the island at any given time shall not exceed two hundred.

3. The Territory of Hawaii shall have the right, at its expense and risk, at reasonable intervals to enter and inspect the island to ascertain the extent of forest cover, erosion, and animal life thereon, and to sow or plant suitable grasses and plants under a program of soil conservation; Provided, that such entrance and inspection shall not interfere unreasonably with activities of the Department of the Navy or of the United States Coast Guard.

4. When there is no longer a need for the use of the area hereby reserved, or any portion thereof, for naval purposes of the United States, the Department of the Navy shall so notify the Territory of Hawaii, and shall, upon reasonable request of the Territory, render such area, or such portion thereof, reasonably safe for human habitation, without cost to the Territory.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

THE WHITE HOUSE,

February 20, 1953.

LAND USE POSSIBILITIES FOR KAOOLAWA

C. G. Lennox - Sept. 5, 1952

Physical Characteristics

The island is the smallest of the eight major islands in the Hawaiian Archipelago. It lies six and three quarters miles southwest of Maui and is eleven miles long and six miles wide with a total area of forty-five square miles, or, twenty-nine thousand acres.

The climate ranges from very dry to dry with an estimated annual rainfall of between fifteen inches and twenty-five inches. About one-third of the land area lies above the one thousand foot contour and is subject to high velocity hot dry winds.

Fresh water is depended upon catchment and storage of rainfall. Extensive geological surveys have revealed insignificant supplies of fresh ground water.

The soil conditions presently found on the island may be classified roughly as follows:

Approximately one-third, or fifteen square miles comprising the entire upper crown of the island is stripped of all surface soil and presently is a buff to reddish tan^{Hard pan} consisting partly of decomposed basalt.

Approximately one-third of the total area of deep soil held in place with rock outcroppings and covered with a fair stand of pili grass. This occurring on gentle slopes along westerly or leeward side of island. Such areas

cut by deep rocky ravines.

Approximately one-third deeply cut with ravines and covered with scrub brush and kiawe. This occurring along the north slopes.

History of Economic Uses Made of the Island

Between 1830 and 1850 a population of approximately eighty persons lived on Kahoolawe who were nearly all individuals that had been banished to the island for crimes which they had committed against society.

A survey made in 1858 by William F. Allen of the grazing potentials of the island revealed that approximately fifty natives were living there who obtained most of their food from the sea but did cultivate a few melons, sweet potatoes, pumpkins and sugar cane in the deep soil near the summit. The island had a population of wild goats and hogs which were kept in check by a large population of wild dogs.

The destruction of Kahoolawe started in 1863 when the first fifty year lease was signed for its use as a sheep ranch. During the course of this lease as many as fifty thousand sheep plus many goats were on the island at one time. The heavy grazing of the deep red soil overlaying the crown of the island removed its protection against the high dry winds and between two to eight feet of deep top soil was blown off leaving the present exposed hard pan. The condition of the island apparently became a Territorial scandal by 1909 as the House of Representatives passed a Concurrent Resolution that the

island should not be leased again.

The island was proclaimed a forest reserve in 1910 and remained as such until 1918. Lack of appropriations for cleaning up the wild goats resulted in a recommendation that it be again leased at a nominal figure with lease requirements which would remove the sheep and goats within one year of the commencement of the lease and also provide for conservation and rehabilitation practices for the damaged portions of the island. Good progress was made under the terms of this lease. A report in 1932 stated that the population of goats had been reduced to fifteen and sheep to twenty. It was estimated that thirty thousand goats had been killed at a cost of \$50,000.

A report in March 1939 estimated sheep at two hundred and goats at twenty-five with five hundred cattle and seventeen horses belonging to the ranching operation. In July 1941 all animals used in the ranching operation were removed from the island because of excessive drought conditions. Approximately nine hundred and forty cattle were removed and many were reported to have died from drought before removal. The island was therefore essentially free of domestic animals at the outbreak of war except for the feral sheep and goats.

~~The island~~ is under sublease to the U.S. Navy as a bombing and general target area which ends on October 30, 1952. The Navy has indicated that the Department of Defense has a continuing great need for the island for the same purposes.

Potential Economic Uses

A reliable supply of fresh water is the most serious limiting factor for an economic use of this island for grazing or any other purpose. On the assumption that research will develop economic means for removing the salt from ocean water we should examine the soil resources for feasible economic usage.

Based on present knowledge it is believed that the use of the island will be limited for many hundred years to come to grazing or the development of feral animals in a game reserve. This is conditioned on the fact that nearly all of the terrain suitable for intensive cultivation is now bare exposed hard pan which will take hundreds of years of protection from disturbing elements such as heavy grazing, wind and rain erosion to become deep soil suitable for tilling.

A grazing operation could only be carried on wherein the entire island was under one operator. This would be necessary even in case cheap irrigation water was available as the area suitable for irrigated pastures is limited and a rotation would be necessary of pastures to obtain a balance grazing operation.

Present Economic Uses

If there were no needs for the use of the island by the Department of Defense the question of profitable use of the resources available is worthy of examination.

Approximately one-third of the island carries a good stand of pill grass which could be safely grazed at the present time.

However, with this limited pasture, uncertainty of water supplies, the operation would be extremely hazardous unless the operator also owned sizeable land areas suitable for grazing on an adjoining island.

The entire island offers minor values for recreation in the form of game bird hunting and fishing. The hunting of game animals, which would require building up a game animal population, would not be compatible with a rebuilding of the island soil resources.

KAHOOLAWE NAVAL RESERVATION

Presidential Executive Order No. 10436

Control: U. S. Navy

Purpose: For naval purposes

Location: Island of Kahoolawe

Area: Approximately 45 square miles (28,800 acres)
less 23.3 acres used for lighthouse
purposes (Presidential Proclamation No. 1827)

Date: February 20, 1953

Authority: Section 91

Map Reference:

CSF 11526

Note: Area formerly covered by Revocable Permit No. 800

Key No. 25

24
PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION

NO. 1827.

DATED: FEBRUARY 3, 1928.

Setting aside for Light House purposes land
on the Island of Kahoolawe:

Reference:
P.L. 3341. Kahoolawe Light Station
Ex. O. D. 308. The Kahoolawe Light House Station
Ex. O. D. 1528 - Conveying Ex. O. D. 308.
Pres. Ex. O. D. 10436. Reserving Kahoolawe Island for the
use of the United States for Naval
purposes, and placing under the
jurisdiction of the Secretary of the
Navy.

Office of the
Commissioner of Public Lands

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

WHEREAS, it appears, that the land hereinafter described, ceded by the Republic of Hawaii to the United States of America, and in the possession, use and control of the Territory of Hawaii is necessary for the uses and purposes of the United States of America, to wit, for Lighthouse purposes.

Now, therefore, I, Calvin Coolidge, President of the United States, by virtue of the authority in me vested, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 91 of the Act of April 30, 1900, (31 Stat., 159,) entitled An Act to provide a government for the Territory of Hawaii, as amended by Section 7 of the Act of May 27, 1910, (36 Stat., 447,) do hereby declare and proclaim that the following described land be and hereby is taken for the uses and purposes of the United States, to wit, for Lighthouse purposes:

All that piece and parcel of land situated on the Island of Kahoolawe, in the Territory of Hawaii, described as follows, to wit:

Beginning at a point marked by $\frac{1}{8}$ " brass pin in a concrete block stamped "U. S. L. H. S.", said point bearing $139^{\circ} 00' 30''$ and distant 540.4 feet from triangulation station "Hope", thence by true azimuths and distances, as follows:

1. $264^{\circ} 34' 00''$ 1369.23 feet to a $\frac{1}{8}$ " brass pin in a concrete block stamped "U. S. L. H. S."; thence
2. $278^{\circ} 54' 00''$ 290.0 feet to a point on the seashore at highwater mark;
3. Thence along the meanderings of highwater mark at seashore to a point which bears $840^{\circ} 34' 00''$ and is distant 188.00 feet from the point of beginning; thence
4. $264^{\circ} 34' 00''$ 188.0 feet to the point of beginning, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 23.3 ACRES MORE OR LESS.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 3^d day of February, in the year of
[SEAL] our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight and of the
Independence of the United States the one hundred and fifty-second.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

By the President:

FRANK B. KELLOGG

Secretary of State

[No. 1827]