

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park  
Air Tour Management Plan  
Public Meeting  
Kilauea Visitor Center  
April 18, 2011

In attendance: (See sign-in sheet)

40 public total =29 sign-in and 11 others who did not sign-in ; 7 NPS; 1 FAA; 1 Volpe

- "Put major adjoining residential settlements on maps."
- "Don't fly over major residential areas when feasible"
- "Adjust flights per route so they are varied"
- "Flights for emergencies and utilities-work only"
- "Alt 2 protects birds and wildlife the best and lessens noise impact"
- "Shorten flight times by having LZ (landing zone) close to volcanic/eruption feature."
- "Limit flight capacity #'s due to restricted paths"
- "Alt. 2 has the least noise impacts. More enjoyable for visitors. They should use alternative transportation."
- "Current regulation don't seem to work or not followed. Current conditions flights are too frequent and too low."
- "Wilderness impacted by over flights lessens experience."
- "Prefer no flights, why allow helicopters but restrict running events?"
- Alt 3: "Kahauale`a Natural Area Reserve -NO FLY ZONE!"
- Alt. 3: "Fly over unpopulated areas. Humans and animals are a concern."
- Alt. 3: "Threat to settlements neighbor to the park"
- "Place populated areas on alternative maps."
- "EIS should study routes to/from the park."

- “Require discrete transponder codes for air tours in order to track violators.” Enhance safety.”
- “Nesting Hawaiian forest birds (endemic) nest in the canopy-driven up there by rats-so vulnerable to disturbance from the air.”
- “Need nest monitoring. “
- “Should initiate research on forest birds and disturbance now for long-term as pending issue-not just for Hawai`i Volcanoes. This is interagency and Hawai`i Island concern with T&E recovery agreements. Focus on reproduction and reproductive failure.”
- “Seems like some of the alts. focus flights above Keauhou Bird Conservation Center (has the world’s entire population of Hawaiian crow!)”
- “Would be better if the maps showed sensitivities like birds or other natural wildlife like bats.”
- “ Comments on alt 5: Over flights disrespectful to cultural practitioners’ by circling and observing.”
- “Over flights create noise that disrupts residents. 1) noise on the phone 2) circling outdoor showers and bathing”
- “Filming during flights to and from lava flows=invading privacy”
- “Flights in transit can go over the ocean to avoid disrupting residents”
- “Residents are not a part of tours/Bird’s Eye View”
- “Put a helicopter pad closer to Volcano.”
- “ Comments Alt 5: Redirect flight path from lower Volcano to Puu OO to less populated area.”
- “Like caps on flights and quiet technology.”
- “Flying over ocean pref. over land .”
- “Should not fly over natural or residential areas.”
- “Higher agl is better to minimize disturbance to native birds-particularly when they are nesting. There are 6 endangered birds nesting in the park.”

- “All aircraft must have GPS transponder on at all times and each aircraft has an individual identifier code to enhance safety.”
- “Quiet technology is not quiet enough”
- “Quiet technology does not mitigate the problem to an appreciable level.”
- “Maps do not show where subdivisions are to evaluate impacts.”
- “Flight patterns go over nene nesting areas near Jaggar and the Hilina Pali.”
- “NPS needs to have a monitor for over flight fee payment compliance”
- “Air tours should not be in the wilderness”
- “I prefer alternative #2”
- “Who defines QT?” “How does a fixed wing meet QT?”
- “Is there consideration for flying places you can’t see by ground?”
- “A range of numbers ie 10%, 30% etc. and competitive bidding could be difficult for small operators who already respect the ground visitor park experience. “
- “As pilot, I try to share stories; geo; cultural; whole experience; bird’s eye view.”
- “Next meeting, let the public speak want to hear neighbors.”
- General Comments: “use language on aviation nautical maps and voluntary stand-off of 2500”
- “In areas where there are no ground visitors or resources, we should be allowed to fly.”
- “Map should include subdivisions.”
- “Information on this project should be provided to schools so kids could research and comment on the options and solutions.”
- Alt 4 Comments: “I like that all the routes avoid the park and residential areas.”

- Alt 4: “The Kahuku route includes flying over important native bird habitat including federal endangered HI petrel and creeper, recommend flying at lower elevations over paddocks and Kahuku”
- Alt 4: “Could there be a helipad closer to the park so that helicopter are flying shorter distances and less disruptive to residents on the ground.”
- Alt. 4: “This alt. avoids flying over the Mauna Loa strip which benefits native bird populations including potential T&E bird movements into the area.”
- Alt 4: “This route benefits visitor experience in the Kipuka Puauulu which is one of the few nature trails for visitors to experience.”
- Alt. 4: “Recommend coastal route is relocated to stand-off and away from shore to minimize annoyance to campers and hikers in backcountry and designated wilderness. (move route to voer ocean only)
- “Alt. 5 and existing alt. focuses helicopter flights over Keauhou Bird Sanctuary which may negatively impact endangered birds and captive breeding program.”