

EA NEPA Compliance Summary

REVIEW FACTOR	MEETS STANDARD			REMARKS
	Y E S	N O	N / A	
<i>Interdisciplinary preparation</i>		X		Prepared mainly by DOFAW and USFWS
<i>Organization</i>	X			Well organized, easy to find information.
<i>Spelling & grammar</i>	X			Thoughtfully prepared.
<i>Clarity & style</i>	X			Written in a style and language easy for a lay person to understand
EA				
Format	X			Sections in different order, but still all there. Alternatives to proposed action placed after Background and description of environment.
Page limits	X			
Content	X			Could use more history of conservation efforts and why more aggressive conservation efforts were not taken earlier.
Cover sheet		X		Information spread over four pages. No individual named as contact, only agencies. No designation as Final EA. No abstract. Since this is the final EA, I assume no further comments were accepted and therefore submission date is not necessary.
Summary	X			Adequately summarizes target issue, conservation history, proposed action and rationale, as well as potential impacts.
Table of Contents	X			

Purpose & Need	X			While the immediate need for the action is to prevent extinction, this section neglects to mention why this bird is endangered and the lack of previous actions to protect the birds. Sections 1.5- 1.10 seem out of place.
Alternatives				
Reasonable choices	X			Options are limited since there are only 3 birds believed to exist.
Substantiation	X			Each option explained well. Pros and cons of each alternative presented clearly.
Outside jurisdiction		X		No evidence of "thinking outside the box".
No action	X			Business as usual option explained clearly.
Preferred	X			Clear explanation of preferred alternative and how it was a hybrid of 2 of the original alternatives.
Mitigation	X			Possible adverse effects of the proposed action include spread of invasive weeds which would be actively removed during monitoring. The only "mitigation" possible to lessen the effects of translocation is excellent training.
Affected environment	X			The EA does not mention how increasing the amount of fencing to exclude feral pigs would impact other animals in the area.
Environmental consequences				
Direct & indirect effects		X		Table 4-1 ; no indirect effects discussed

Conflicts		X		No conflicts due to land already being designated conservation area. A conflict could arise between managing for more than one endangered species. What happens if there is another endangered bird species in the area when trying to mistnet a Po'ouli?
Effects of alternatives	X			Table 4-1
Energy & conservation			X	
Resource requirements	X			Mention of resources required for field aviary. Also discussion of benefits to many species of increased management activities.
Important resources			X	
Mitigation			X	
FONSI				
Context	X			Since action consists mainly of continuing existing management activities, no further significant impact was expected. However, the translocation of birds does have the risk of mortality and therefore that is very significant. Also, a declaration of FONSI makes a more complete EIS unnecessary and I believe the project planning would greatly benefit from further study of the risks and benefits of translocation and captive propagation of eggs.
Intensity			X	
Mitigation		X		
List of preparers	X			
Appendix	X			
Data by reference		X		No real data. Just summarized reports on methods.

Length			X	
<p>Recommendation:</p> <p>Approve: _____ Disapprove: _____ Signature: _____</p> <p>Date: _____ Time: _____</p> <p>Comments:</p> <p>The issue that I wish had been addressed more clearly is why more aggressive actions to save this species were not taken earlier. The proposed action seems reasonable, but still imposes risks to the species and hardly offers much hope for success. The impacts to other species, especially other endangered birds, are not given much consideration. These birds may incur undue stress as “by-catch” during mist-netting activities. A more complete analysis in an EIS would hopefully address some of these issues as well as provide more detail about the particulars involved in a translocation. How will the agencies decide when a translocation is the best move to make? In the case of egg propagation, what measures will be taken to ensure successful hatching and fledging of the chicks and what evidence do they have that the program would have a greater chance of success than leaving the eggs in the wild?</p>				