

HAWAI'I WETLAND INFORMATION NETWORK

Wetland Site Description

JAMES CAMPBELL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE (JCNWR)

Island: O'ahu

Ahupua'a & Moku: Kahuku ahupua'a of the Ko'olauloa moku

USGS Watershed: Malaekahana Stream (HUC12: 200600000201)

HI DBET Watershed: 'O'io

HI DAR Watershed: Ki'i (means "image", #31027)

Lat/Long Coordinates: 21°41'33"N 157°57'41"W

Ownership/Management: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

NWI Wetland Types: Almost completely palustrine, with small areas of estuarine and marine at the outlet and outer makai edge of the refuge.

Fascinating Fact

James Campbell, for whom the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge was named, was born in Ireland in 1826.

Learn more...

Campbell ran away from home at the age of 13 and was later stranded on an island in the South Sea after his whaling vessel wrecked. After Campbell had the first artesian well bored in the Hawaiian Islands in 1879 near his ranch in Honouliuli, O'ahu, other wells were soon bored to provide water for sugarcane cultivation. He became an extremely successful businessman, owning much of Lahaina town on Maui and supporting the first electric-light and telephone companies in the Hawaiian Islands.

Ecological Significance

The two miles of natural dune and coastal beach strand habitat at JCNWR is one of last remaining undeveloped coastal dune areas on O'ahu. Protecting these habitats from development conserves resting habitat for the endangered 'ilio holo i ka uua (Hawaiian monk seal) and potential nesting habitat for a variety of seabirds and honu (green turtles).

Geography

James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge (JCNWR) is located north of Kahuku's Walkerville neighborhood, bordered by the Kamehameha Highway to the southwest and the Pacific Ocean to the northeast. JCNWR encompasses approximately 1,100 acres along 2 miles of shoreline and low elevation coastal upland and wetland habitats, extending 1 mile inland from the ocean. The refuge includes permanent, semi-permanent, and seasonal wetlands, shrublands, coastal beach strand habitat, sand dunes, and aquaculture ponds under lease from the Service. The refuge is within a nearly flat coastal floodplain approximately 3 feet above mean sea level (amsl) with higher elevation dunes along the coast. Elevations increase as you move inland toward the mountains.

The surficial geology of the refuge reflects the complex geological history of the island. Basaltic alluvium accumulated on the Kahuku coastal plain as streams transported sediments from the Ko'olau Mountains. Calcareous sand as well as lithified dunes and limestone formed as a result of marine

