

HAWAI'I WETLAND INFORMATION NETWORK

Wetland Site Description

PEARL HARBOR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

HONOULIULI and WAIAWA UNITS

Island: O'ahu

Ahupua'a & Moku: The Honouliuli unit is in the Honouliuli ahupua'a, while the Waiawa unit is in the Waiawa ahupua'a, both of which are in the 'Ewa moku.

USGS Watershed: Honouliuli unit = Honouliuli Stream (HUC12: 200600000404)

Waiawa unit = Waiawa Stream (HUC12: 200600000402)

HI DBET Watershed: Honouliuli unit = Honouliuli

Waiawa unit = Waiawa

HI DAR Watershed: Honouliuli unit = Honouliuli (means "dark bay", #34011)

Waiawa unit = Waiawa (means "milkfish water", #34006)

Lat/Long Coordinates: Honouliuli unit 21°21'24"N 158°01'11"W

Waiawa unit 21°23'12"N 157°58'59"W

Ownership/Management: Owned by the U.S. Navy, but maintained and operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under a 1972 cooperative agreement.

NWI Wetland Systems: Palustrine and estuarine

Fascinating Fact

Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 by the Empire of Japan, 1,200-1,400 men and women of Japanese descent and about 100 local Germans and Italians living in Hawai'i were arrested and detained in at least 5 internment camps in Hawai'i. When one of the main camps on Sand Island, O'ahu closed in March 1943, the few hundred interns not already transferred to mainland internment camps went to a new camp in Honouliuli Gulch (21°23'29"N 158°03'36"W) located just 3.5 miles north of the Honouliuli unit of Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuge. Most of these interns were Hawaiian born Japanese who were leaders of their communities, now relegated to living in army-issue tents and wooden barracks surrounded by barbed wire fences until the end of the war in 1945. Efforts are ongoing to preserve the Honouliuli Internment Camp and open it to the public as a historic site.

Ecological Significance

The Honouliuli and Waiawa units of PHNWR are both in relatively urban areas located in close proximity to historic visitor attractions such as the USS Arizona and the USS Missouri. Given the widespread development across O'ahu, these units protect some of the last remaining wetland areas on the island. While these units are small, they are vital to endangered wildlife and sensitive habitats along O'ahu's coastal area.

Geography

Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuge (PHNWR) is composed of three separate units, all of which are located on O'ahu's south shore. The two wetland units are located in Pearl Harbor, with the Honouliuli unit bordering the western shore of Pearl Harbor's West Loch northeast of Ewa, and the Waiawa unit bordering the northeast shore of Pearl Harbor's Middle Loch just south of Pearl City on the Pearl City Peninsula. The dry coastal strand Kalaeloa unit is located on the coastal 'Ewa Plain at Barbers Point and is discussed on a separate webpage. The 36.5 acre Honouliuli unit and 24.5 acre Waiawa unit are mostly

