Hawaiian course rerouted to protect four endangered plant species

KEALAKEHE, Hawaii — The Kealakehe golf course, which will serve as a leach field for a new county sewage treatment plant, is back on track after being re-routed to protect four threatened plant species.

Eugene Ban, president of Trans Pacific Land Corp., said the golf course lake will be ready to receive effluent by May, when the plant is scheduled to begin pumping. That deadline was threatened by the discovery of four aupaka plants, a native shrub last documented on Hualalai in 1870 and thought to have been extinct. The plants were in direct line with the planned course and a widening of Queen Kaahumanu Highway.

The Kealakehe project's master plan calls for single- and multi-family residential areas, affordable housing, small commercial areas, a public high school and the semi-public golf course.

LPGA golf community runs afoul of NAACP

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — The local branch of the NAACP has added its voice to an effort that would require developers of the proposed 4,000-acre Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) project to create affordable housing for low-income employees working at the golf course and housing development.

The golf community, planned for a parcel near the intersection of I-4 and I-95, is expected to create more than 21,000 jobs. Homes in the LPGA development are expected to cost between $90,000 and $250,000, which would put them out of reach for the maids, clerks and other low-income employees, according to Central Florida Legal Services, Inc.

The project developer, Consolidated Tomoka Land Co., has insisted there is adequate affordable housing near the proposed community.

Local NAACP branch President William Robinson said his organization intends to ensure that minorities get equal representation in the education and business opportunities connected with the LPGA development.

The 1990 census shows minorities account for 30 percent of the population in Daytona Beach.

New land-use regulations in Oregon pose major threat to future golf development

MEDFORD, Ore. — Local officials say a state land regulation barring construction of golf courses on high-value farm and forest land could kill new golf development in Oregon — but they expect several proposed Rogue Valley projects to dodge the bullet.

The administrative rule, adopted in concept by the state Land Conservation and Development Commission last November, is designed to protect prime farm and forest land after 1995.

According to Ashland City Administrator Brian Almquist, most of the land available for golf courses in Oregon would be ruled out because the land classifications are so broad. Jackson County Commissioner Sue Kupillas agreed. "It shuts down options for tourist development," she said.

Bill Haas, executive vice president of the Medford/Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, said a recent study indicated the need for at least four more 18-hole courses in the southern Oregon region.

Luckily, several golf course projects currently under consideration won't be affected.

• The long-delayed Clear Springs Resort proposal, including an 18-hole golf course south of Ashland, should be completed before 1995.

• Another 18-hole proposal, which is part of the Alta Vista residential development in Eagle Point, falls within city limits.

• An 18-hole project on open land in Medford's Whetstone Industrial Park remains a possibility because the land is zoned for industrial use.

• And an 18-hole project being considered by the city of Ashland for the 150-acre Billings Ranch, could be included within Ashland's boundaries, said Almquist.