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A welcoming cup of green tea

Surfing champion Carissa Moore and her nonprofit Moore Aloha Charitable Foundation on Tuesday hosted their first Japan-U.S. Global Exchange. Above, Moore watched a tea ceremony at Honolulu Hale welcoming dignitaries and 14 Japanese students who will participate in the exchange, which will run through Friday. At left, with the aid of translator Masayori Sudo Hasegawa, center, Makinohara Mayor Kikuo Sugimoto showed Mayor Rick Blangiardi a map of Makinohara, which is known for its tea plantations.

Reinstated water official Manuel leaving post

By Timothy Hurley
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The state water official who was reassigned in a controversial move following the Lahaina fire disaster and then reinstated two months later is apparently leaving his job.

Hawaii island state Sen. Lorraine Inouye issued a

the Commission on Water Resources First Deputy," Inouye said in a news release. "Kaleo Manuel has had an outstanding track record as the CWRM First Deputy, and he will be truly missed. He was always fair and balanced in his approach to making water conservation decisions. As the CWRM First Deputy, he al-

Chang previously said that the state attorney general had requested that Manuel be deployed to another Department of Land and Natural Resources division while an investigation of personnel events related to the Aug. 8 wildfires was completed.

At the time, both DLNR and the Attorney General's Office declined to elaborate



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reinstatement.

Manuel was transferred to the state Historic Preservation Division by Chang a week after the Aug. 8 firestorm marched across Lahaina town, killing at least 100 people, destroying more than 2,200 structures and causing nearly \$6 billion in damage.

Manuel's transfer came after a letter was sent to him