



# Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

## 79<sup>th</sup> MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 12, 2019 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Mokupāpapa Discovery Center, 76 Kamehameha Ave, Hilo, HI 96720

### NON-GOVERNMENT (Voting)

Thorne Abbott  
*Business Commerce*

James Kelleher  
*Commercial Shipping*

Barbara (Maka'ala) Kaaumoana  
*Conservation*

Judith Lemus  
*Education*

Myrick (Rick) Gaffney  
*Fishing*

Steve Turner  
*Hawai'i Island*

Maxx Phillips  
*O'ahu Island*

Nina Monasevitch  
*Kaua'i Island*

Solomon Pili Kaho'ohalahala  
*Lāna'i Island*

Robin Newbold  
*Maui Island*

Malia Akutagawa  
*Moloka'i Island*

Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka  
*Native Hawaiian*

Jim Coon  
*Ocean Recreation*

Mark Deakos  
*Research*

Greg Nielson  
*Tourism*

Tara Leota  
*Whale Watching*

Anabelle Padilla  
*Youth (non-voting)*

### GOVERNMENT (Non-Voting)

Mary Alice Evans  
*DBEDT – Office of Planning*

Cameron Black  
*DBEDT Renewable Energy*

Jeannine Rossa  
*Division of Aquatic Resources*

Alec Wong  
*DOH*

Sandra Rosseter  
*DOT – Harbors*

Keola Lindsey  
*OHA (Voting)*

Athline Clark  
*Papahānaumokuākea MNM*

Jeffrey Pollack  
*NOAA OLE*

Jeff Walters  
*NOAA Fisheries PIRO*

Eric Kingma  
*WESPAC (Voting)*

Linda Speerstra  
*US Army Corps of Engineers*

Maile Norman  
*US Coast Guard*

Janice Fukawa  
*US Navy*

### Attendance (\*Online)

**Primary SAC council members present:** Business – Kevin Kelly, Conservation - Maka'ala Ka'aumoana, Education - Judy Lemus, Hawai'i Island - Steve Turner, Kaua'i Island- Nina Monasevitch, Lāna'i Island - Sol Kaho'ohalahala, Maui Island - Robin Newbold, Moloka'i Island – Malia Akutagawa, O'ahu Island – Maxx Phillips, Native Hawaiian – Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka, Whale Watching – Tara Leota, Ocean Recreation – Jim Coon, Research – Mark Deakos, Energy Office – Cameron Black\*, Dept. Office of Planning – Justine Nihipali\*, WESPAC – Joshua DeMello, NOAA NMFS PIRO - Jeffrey Walters\*, PMNM – Moani Pai, U.S. Navy - Janice Fukawa\*, U.S. Coast Guard – Maile Norman\*, HIHWNMS Sanctuary Superintendent – Allen Tom and ONMS PIR Director – Kristina Kekuewa

**Alternate SAC council members present:** Business/commerce – Kevin Kelly and Fishing – Phil Fernandez

**ONMS Staff and presenters:** Cindy Among-Serrao, Ed Lyman\*, Marc Lammers\*, and Mokupāpapa Discovery Center staff

### Welcome

- Protocol was done to invite folks into the center and welcome to the place. Mahalo to Moani Pai, MDC staff and Native Hawaiian SAC representative Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka for protocol

### Council Business

- Review and approval of August 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes
  - Approved unanimously.
- Introductions of new SAC members
- In progress: SAC recruitment currently in progress with applications being accepted until December 17, 2019. Application reviews and the selection process will commence following last day to submit application

### Superintendent Update (Allen Tom)

- Brief update was provided by sanctuary superintendent regarding Ocean Guardian program with Kapa'a High School, upcoming Kaua'i, Ocean Discovery Center, how to get involved or support sanctuary initiatives and more. Detailed sanctuary highlights and activity reports since last meeting can be requested from [Cindy.Among-Serrao@noaa.gov](mailto:Cindy.Among-Serrao@noaa.gov) or found on our website.

### State of Hawai'i Update (Jeannine Rossa)

- Introduction of Jeannine Rossa our current Acting Sanctuary Co-Manager, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources State co-manager
- Brief updates were given on different projects happening with the state and quick status update on management plan



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- Visit website to learn more <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dar/>

## **Regional Director Update** (*Kristina Kekuewa*)

- Acting Pacific Islands Regional Director, Kristina Kekuewa provided a quick update on major events and updates within the region. Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa and Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument make up the Pacific Islands Region for the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
- Visit website to learn more <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/about/pacific.html>

## **History and Tour of Mokuāpapa Discovery Center** (*MDC Staff*)

- Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) staff provided SAC members with a tour of the Mokuāpapa Discovery Center allowing members to learn about the history and variety of displays depicting PMNM
- Visit website to learn more <https://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/>

## **Video: Explore the Blue: 360 Hawaiian Experience**

- SAC members got a first look at the 360 degree video that was created for HIHWNMS
- View the video at <https://youtu.be/cXD8aUb-Psg>

## **HIHWNMS Science/Resource protection Update** (*Marc Lammers/Ed Lyman*)

- Research Coordinator, Marc Lammers presented on the 2019-2020 whale season research activities such as: “the blob”, SanctSound project, Wave glider mission into PMNM, Vessel transect, tagging studies and more
- Natural Resource Specialist, Ed Lyman presented on the sanctuary health and risk assessment monitoring, and entanglement response programs which include topics on: continuation of health and risk monitoring cruises, community based transects, documentation and new tools/strategies, drone use for response efforts, entanglement response network trainings and more
- Copy of Ed and Marc’s presentations can be found on our website at <https://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/management/advisory/>

## **Upcoming Events** (*Cindy Among-Serrao*)

- Ocean Count: The 2019 ocean count events had over 1,300 volunteers who participated with over 2,286 members of the public stopping by during the events to learn more about the program, the sanctuary, and humpback whales. The 2020 event dates were presented in addition to the site leader volunteer training dates. The 2020 ocean count t-shirt design was shown and members of the SAC suggested adding our kapa whale tail to the design.

## **Next Steps**

- Potential 2020 SAC meeting dates were discussed (April 7, August 4, and November 17) and locations. Mutual consensus agreed that next meeting would be held on O‘ahu

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## Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

- Process for selection of new members led to the creation of a SAC recruitment review sub-committee. Five members volunteered to be a part of the sub-committee to ensure SAC participation during the initial selection process of the current recruitment
- Acknowledgements were made for departing members: Rick Gaffney, Sabra Kauka, and Judy Lemus

### Public Comment

- One member of the public provided a written letter for public comment. The individual could not stay for the entire meeting. Written letter expanded on how this meeting was a great opportunity to learn about the sanctuary and if there's interest for staff or SAC members to take part in his Sierra group. Scanned copy of letter will be added to this document.

### Additional Discussions/Questions during Meeting

- Potential future agenda and action items on:
  - The 5G drone project testing on Lānaʻi and what are the impacts to health and habitats of terrestrial and marine life including humans. Request to include as an agenda item for a future meeting to be more aware of the project and possible impacts
  - U.S. Navy work utilizing sonar and special operation activities cause for humpback whale and community concerns. Encourage more sanctuary and Navy coordination on activities done in and around sanctuary boundaries in addition to distribution of more info on Navy activities. Request to include as an agenda item for a future meeting
  - Concerns from Hawaiian cultural practitioners and community members regarding marine mammal responses. Request to include as an agenda item for a future meeting and to have NOAA PIRO present for discussion and questions
  - Incorporate more culture within sanctuary activities including research, outreach and more. On-going topic with plans to implement with the help of SAC members

### 3:01 pm Meeting Adjourned

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Kindly reply to

Nov. 12, 19  
Date

garys.gab@gmail.com

PUBLIC COMMENT

I am an active, life-long member of the Sierra Club. The local Hawaii Island chapter, the Moku Loa group, is having our annual gathering either in Jan. or Feb. 2020, hopefully at Mokupapapa, Hilo. Though the meeting itself is being planned, we are considering a panel. Panel attendee would be composed of local, environmentally-sensitive, NGO's, civic orgs, elected representatives, business owners, etc...

Presuming we do have this panel I would like to invite one or two members from the HIHWNMs (S.A.C.).

Purpose(s) of the panel  
Possible themes may include:

- 1) Marine Debris - Clean up Conservation action items (political, legislative)
- 2) Corporate responsibility for the manufacturing plastic containers/packing materials.
- 3) Reef fish protection
- 4) How our habits and lifestyle effect the Climate Crisis.
- 5) The U.S. military's contamination (sonar, radioactivity, fossil fuel usage and dumping) of marine and ~~terrestrial~~ (sp?) environments.

We will most probably have an extensive Q & A, public feedback component.

Gary Harrold

malalo and thank you