



## Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary

23 February 2009

### NON-GOVERNMENT

(Voting)

Jim Coon  
*Business and Commerce*

David Hoffman  
*Citizen-At-Large*

Dale Hazlehurst  
*Commercial Shipping*

Louis M. Herman, Ph.D.  
*Conservation*

Liz Kumabe  
*Education*

Robert Bruck  
*Fishing*

Luana Howell  
*Hawai'i County*

William A. Friedl  
*Honolulu County*

James Yamamoto  
*Kaua'i County*

Cheryl Sterling  
*Maui County*

Pohai Kirkland  
*Native Hawaiian*

Teri Leicher  
*Ocean Recreation*

Adam Pack, Ph.D.  
*Research*

Michael Stanton  
*Tourism*

Reginald A. White  
*Whale Watching*

### GOVERNMENT

Marnie Meyer  
*DBEDT - OP*

Elizabeth Corbin  
*DBEDT Ocean Resources*

Athline M. Clark  
*DLNR - DAR*

Vacant  
*DOH*

Dean Watase  
*DOT - Harbors*

Gene Brighthouse  
*Fagatele Bay NMS*

Jerry B. Norris  
*OHA-Voting*

Jeff Pollack  
*NMFS - Law Enforcement*

Lisa Van Atta  
*NMFS - PIRO*

Aulani Wilhelm  
*Papahānaumokuākea MNM*

Eric Kingma  
*WESPAC-Voting*

Cindy Barger  
*US ACOE*

Eric Roberts  
*US Coast Guard*

Rebecca Hommon  
*US Navy*

Ms. Naomi McIntosh  
Sanctuary Superintendent,  
Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary  
6600 Kalaiana'ole Highway, Suite 301  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

RE: The Sanctuary Advisory Council's (SAC) support of the current HIHWNMS management plan review process.

Dear Ms. McIntosh:

In 2002, the sanctuary completed its first review by revising and updating the management plan. Among other things, the 2002 revised plan called for an assessment of marine resources that could be included in the sanctuary in addition to humpback whales. The sanctuary responded with the report "Assessment of additional marine resources for possible inclusion in the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary." Through a process including numerous public scoping meetings and consultations with the SAC, several marine resources including the Hawaiian monk seal, other whales and dolphins, sea turtles, and maritime heritage resources were identified.

As you know, the sanctuary has begun the next management plan review. This process will serve to evaluate the effectiveness of existing programs in place to protect humpback whales and their habitat and assess the sanctuary's capacity to address emerging resource issues related to the conservation needs of humpback whales. Additionally, the sanctuary will broaden the scope of the review to include public discussion of possible inclusion of Hawaiian monk seals, other marine mammals, sea turtles, and maritime heritage resources for protection under the sanctuary's mandate.

This letter represents the unanimous request of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council to endorse the sanctuary's plans for the current management plan review process.

Sincerely,

William A. Friedl  
Advisory Council Chair  
Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale  
National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

cc: Jeffrey Walters, Ph.D., Co-Manager, HI Humpback Whale NMS (Hawaii DLNR, DAR)