



Sanctuary Name Working Group

Reviewer Meeting - Minutes

Date: 4/24/2013

Start Time: 3:00 pm

End Time: 4:30 pm

Meeting Method: Go-To-Meeting (conference call and webinar)

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Introductions

Maui – Sol Kaho‘ohalahala* (working group chair), Ka‘au Abraham (Sanctuary Maui Island Coordinator)

O‘ahu – Keoni Kuoha*, John Clark, Pelika Bertelmann, Blane Pomaika‘i Benevedes, Chuck Burrows “Doc”, Kaipo Perez, Liz Kumabe*, Brenda Asuncion (sanctuary staff support for the working group, notetaker)

Hawai‘i – Kēhau Springer, Hōkūlani Pihana, Kanani Frazier (Sanctuary Hawai‘i Programs Associate)

*asterisks indicate working group members

Background

Brenda Asuncion provides background about the sanctuary, including the original purpose of designation (i.e., protection of humpback whales and their habitat in Hawai‘i), and the current management plan review process which is evaluating ecosystem-based management as a new approach for the sanctuary. She also explains the role of the Sanctuary Advisory Council (council) and how working groups function for the council as sub-units with a specific task. This Sanctuary Naming working group was established with a task to develop recommendations for a possible new name for the sanctuary.

Sol Kaho‘ohalahala adds that at the same meeting when the working group was established (January 2012), the council acknowledged the Kumulipo as a description of our ecosystem, and that these concepts of ecosystem-based approaches are already talked about in our past.

Working Group Progress Thus Far

Keoni Kuoha explains how the working group developed a rubric to guide discussions about potential names for the sanctuary. He describes the rubric categories as well as the color-coding on the rubric spreadsheet, which is simply meant to be a visual guide to compare names against the criteria of the rubric categories.

Working group members emphasize that this meeting is not the final selection of the name to present to the full council. Rather, it is just the first meeting to get feedback from invited reviewers, who are also welcome to provide suggestions of new names. The working group will provide recommendations to the full council, which will then provide recommendations to the sanctuary management.

Comments and Feedback from Reviewers

John Clark remarks that the phrase “Nā Kai‘ Ewalu” came to his mind when he was first approached about participating in this review process. He prefers the option “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu National Marine Sanctuary”, noting that this phrasing makes it mirror the phrasing of Papahānaumokuākea Marine

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National Monument. He notes that based on a search in Hawaiian language newspapers, there were about 30 references with the single word “Nā kai ‘ewalu”, which were personal names, and there were a few hundred references with the three words, referring to the islands. The earliest occurrence in a newspaper was in 1834 in a kanikau for a Maui chief named Ke ‘eaumoku. John also provided his notes typed and printed.

Chuck Burrows, “Doc”, remarks that he likes “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu Hawai‘i State and National Marine Sanctuary” and “Lāhui Kai o Hawai‘i National Marine Sanctuary” is another possibility because they don’t only include the Hawaiian name, but also “Hawai‘i” and “National Marine Sanctuary” for those not familiar with Hawaiian. Doc adds that he likes “Lāhui Kai o Hawai‘i National Marine Sanctuary”, especially “Lāhui Kai” as an ocean community which includes humans.

Blane Benevedes also thought of “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu” when thinking about this process, and prefers “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu Hawai‘i State and National Marine Sanctuary”. He shares his concern about the pronunciation of “‘ewalu”, which he suggests could be addressed with a well-crafted outreach campaign.

Liz Kumabe wonders why people commenting so far prefer having “Hawai‘i” in the middle of the phrase rather than at the end.

Doc remarks that a shorter version of “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu Hawai‘i State and National Marine Sanctuary” could be “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu o Hawai‘i National Marine Sanctuary”. John notes that he did find that phrase, “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu o Hawai‘i” in newspapers.

Blane agrees that in the structure of Hawaiian language, “Hawai‘i” would be at the end, e.g., kai Hawai‘i.

Hōkūlani Pihana prefers “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu National Marine Sanctuary” because there seems to be too many words in “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu Hawai‘i State and National Marine Sanctuary”.

Pelika Bertelmann agrees that a shorter iteration of the name would be preferred, and that having “Hawai‘i” at the end could provide opportunities to refer to the sanctuary more informally when people talk about it (e.g., Nā Kai ‘Ewalu sanctuary that’s in Hawai‘i).

Kaipo Perez asks for more clarification about the working group’s vision and goal for what they want people to take away from the name.

Sol emphasizes that working group members would like the name to embrace ecosystems and the relationships within ecosystems, and that our kupuna have already realized the value in that.

Kaipo comments that he prefers “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu National Marine Sanctuary”, and that “o Hawai‘i” might add repetitiveness in the identification of the place, so the important talking point is about “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu”. He wonders if using “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu” as a prominent name would make it almost like a buzz word, diminishing its value.

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Sol remarks that by using ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, we have the opportunity to give it life. He adds that we should be prepared for the consequences of advocating for any given names, and that it’s our responsibility to ensure their proper use.

Kēhau Springer remarks that she prefers “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu National Marine Sanctuary” because it is straightforward, referring to the channels and ocean that connect us, and connect land and people to the ocean.

Hōkū agrees that “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu National Marine Sanctuary” is all-encompassing, reflecting the connection to our islands, to our ocean, and to our kupuna islands.

Sol asks if anyone has new suggested names to discuss.

Blane comments that he had been thinking more about the concept of interconnectivity. He suggests a new name, “Kaiāulu”, which could mean community as well as the sea where growth takes place. He notes that people should be aware that the second definition could be interpreted with implications of turbulence. He also suggests “Kainohopapa”, a sea frequently resided by ancestors.

Kēhau comments that she was also thinking about “Kaiāulu”, and its relation to where we dwell.

Hōkū also likes “Kaiāulu” and notes that it would be unique so it would stand out a bit more and also have a deeper meaning.

Pelika remarks that “Kaiāulu” brings a message of growth, and the “ā” stresses an extreme state of that existence.

Sol asks people to comment on their preference of names again, given the addition of two new suggestions.

Keoni wonders if there would be a “Nā” added to be “Nā Kaiāulu National Marine Sanctuary”, to make it more focused.

Pelika notes that the intention of the name is to communicate unity, and that she would prefer not to pluralize it.

Blane comments that it could be “Kaiāulu Hawai‘i National Marine Sanctuary”.

Pelika notes her preference for “Kaiāulu Hawai‘i” rather than “Kaiāulu o Hawai‘i”, to communicate a Hawaiian rich ocean, rather than the rich ocean of Hawai‘i.

John notes that he likes the idea of “Kaiāulu”, and that it’s unique and portrays our ideas well. However, he remarks that “Nā Kai ‘Ewalu” is an inoa kupuna – we know that our kupuna were using it before contact with Western civilization, and that this is an opportunity to carry it into the future.

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Keoni remarks that based on the discussion, it seems like there will be ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i in the name, and if so, there will be a need to interpret appropriately. He suggests providing a recommendation from the working group for the sanctuary to hire a Native Hawaiian specialist to bring capacity in sanctuary’s new management direction, including outreach about the sanctuary name.

Sol notes that the working group could provide this recommendation alongside any recommendations for names.

Closing Thoughts

Kaipo asks for clarification on the council’s recommendations in January 2012 for the sanctuary to be ecosystem-based.

Sol confirms that the council strongly recommended for the sanctuary to pursue ecosystem-based management, and noted that the sanctuary’s reflection of that intention would be in the draft management plan.

Brenda provides information about the next steps, noting that the working group will consider all input from reviewer comments and compile their recommendations (multiple names rather than a single one) to the full advisory council. At the next council meeting (date TBD), the advisory council will discuss the recommendations and collectively decide what to forward to sanctuary managers, which could be a single name or several names. Sanctuary advisory council meetings are open to the public and there is a public comment period during the meeting, so this is an opportunity for broader input. If sanctuary management decides to include any suggested names in the draft management plan, this is another opportunity for public input during the official public comment period.

Sol closes the meeting, emphasizing his appreciation for everyone’s participation, and noting that he hopes this process can have the insight and foresight for future generations ahead of us.