



Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary

June 25, 2008

NON-GOVERNMENT
(Voting)

Dale Sarver
Business and Commerce

David Hoffman
Citizen-At-Large

Terry O' Halloran
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

James E. Coon
Whale Watching

GOVERNMENT

Marnie Meyer
DBEDT - OP

Elizabeth Corbin
DBEDT Ocean Resources

Athline M. Clark
DLNR - DAR

Vacant
DOH

Dean Watase
DOT - Harbors

Vacant
Fagatele Bay NMS

Jerry B. Norris
OHA-Voting

Jeff Pollack
NMFS - Law Enforcement

Chris Yates
NMFS - PIRO

Aulani Wilhelm
Papahānaumokuākea MNM

Eric Kingma
WESPAC-Voting

Cindy Barger
US ACOE

LCDR Mark Young
US Coast Guard

Rebecca Hommon
US Navy

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
1120 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20036

Subject: Letter of Support for "Aerial Survey to Map Marine Debris
in the Main Hawaiian Islands" Project

To Whom It May Concern:

The Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (Council) wholeheartedly supports the proposed project titled "Aerial Survey to Map Marine Debris in the Main Hawaiian Islands." The Council believes the project supports innovative and effective conservation and stewardship of the marine environment.

The value of this project to management issues related to humpback whales is evident. The Council recognizes that one of the primary threats to humpback whales is entanglement in marine debris and the proposed project would identify areas within the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary where whales are most at risk.

In addition to providing information that will help resource managers to understand the threat posed by marine debris to Hawaii's marine resources, the Council also believes that the project will provide invaluable information on the location of marine mammal species that are observed within the survey areas.

Collecting data on living marine resources as well as on the location of marine debris will lead to a better understanding of the overall problem of wildlife entanglement, will allow for the removal of marine debris, and will lead to better protection for critical resources and habitats.

We strongly urge you to fund this proposal. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W.A. Friedl". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

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