



NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
National Ocean Service  
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

Pacific Islands Region  
726 S. Kihei Rd. | 6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy., Suite 302  
Kihei, HI 96799 | Honolulu, HI 96825  
<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/about/pacific.html>

November 30, 2012

Mr. William J. Aila, Jr.  
Chairperson  
State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources  
PO Box 621  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

Aloha Mr. ~~Aila~~, William:

Thank you for your letter dated November 19, 2012 requesting that the State of Hawaii's Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) be added as a Joint Lead Agency to the proposed Environmental Impact Statement for the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHW).

In order to further our co-management partnership and assure a well-coordinated approach not only within the various departments within the State of Hawaii but for the larger community outreach and discussion, I welcome the DLNR as a Joint Lead Agency. Developing the proposed Environmental Impact Statement for the HIHW should be a complete partnership between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the State of Hawaii and I hope demonstrates to other federal programs in Hawaii how joint management can be accomplished.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that all requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act and the State of Hawaii's Revised Statute Chapter 343 requirements are met throughout this process.

Although Malia Chow, Sanctuary Superintendent, serves as the lead for the sanctuary management plan review process, please do not hesitate to contact me at 1-800-831-4888 ext 25 with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Allen Tom  
ONMS Pacific Regional Director

Cc: Dan Basta  
Elia Herman  
Malia Chow

National Marine Sanctuary  
of American Samoa  
P.O. Box 4318  
Pago Pago, AS 96799  
<http://faqatelebay.noaa.gov>

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale  
National Marine Sanctuary  
6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy., Suite 301  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
<http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov>

Papahānaumokuākea  
Marine National Monument  
6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy., Suite 300  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
<http://hawaiireeef.noaa.gov>

