

From Mikko Kinkki <mikko.kinkki@gmail.com>
Sent Saturday, October 16, 2010 8:57 pm
To hihwmanagementplan@noaa.gov
Subject Opposition to expansion of whale sanctuary



To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Mikko Kinkki. I have lived on Kaua'i all of my 33 years of life. I have fished and spear fished, if it be by boat or from the shore or in the fresh water from the deepest Valleys of Kaua'i to the deepest ocean 15,000 feet deep all around Kaua'i, Ni'ihau, Lehua and Ka'ula. Along with being a licenced captain running fishing and sightseeing tours all around the island of Kauai, I also am a commercial hook and line fisherman. My life-long home sits only a stones throw from the ocean. When I say my whole life, I mean it.

First I would like to say the public of Kauai is very upset over these proposed changes and additions to the sanctuary. We have lived and fished along side whales our entire lives and have seen the whole life cycle beginning to end. We the people of Hawaii are aware of the laws that protect the whales and the capitalistic motive that put humpbacked whales on the endangered species list. The facts are they were whaled until it became unprofitable to whale them. **LOOK HERE YOU ARE STILL CALLING THESE SPECIES MARINE RESOURCES.** All your focus needs to go to keeping the national ban on whaling in effect. We do not hunt or have any desire to hunt whales. Hawaiians never hunted them; we are Hawaiians and we still have no desire to hunt them. We are on board to protect them and help in the efforts to disentangle, educate all whom interact with these whales. I feel there should be no expansion of the boundaries for the simple reason that the whales are doing well. Their numbers are growing to the point of delisting of the endangered species list in the foreseeable future. As long as the national ban stays in place.

As for the Northwestern Hawaiian Island monk seal they are doing very well for an introduced species to the Hawaiian islands. Their numbers are growing rapidly as well. It may be a mystery to people whom don't know the ways of the Hawaiian ocean and have not lived here their whole lives; I am talking about the people that depend on the ocean for their livelihood and to keep food on the table. We do not hunt the Northwestern Hawaiian Island monk seal we do not recognize it as a main Hawaiian Island species. We still obey the protection laws. We care we care we care and if you did not hear me **WE CARE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!** I strongly see no need for its placement of the Northwestern Hawaiian Island monk seal into the sanctuary.

Other cetaceans: we do not hunt them. They are doing very well, they are already protected by federal laws. I strongly see no need for the placement in the sanctuary.

Coral reefs my goodness now that's a big one for all the people that use the ocean. The coral reefs are all so different on all the different islands. Coral reefs are already protected by state and federal laws. No more laws!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I strongly see no need for corals to be placed in the sanctuary.

Historical sites????????????? You don't say where we need to know more we need to access the ocean. For these simple reasons I strongly see no to adding historical sites to the sanctuary.

Education is the key to the proliferation of all species on this planet as well a humans we need to work together stop fingering the fishermen as the culprits. We are just feeding our families and protect our way of life and our culture.You need to educate the public and they will be the worker bees.We are the working class here on this island. We are not big business out to get all they can and as much as they can. And here you are trying to put together a plan that will stop us from accessing the ocean. While capital America is RAPING the ocean; look at our tuna, ALL the tunas Raped! Not by Hawaiian hook, but buy foreign netting as well as United States netting. Hook and line fishermen need to be protected. We use the most ethical and responsible technique of fishing as well as sustainable.That is a fact.Protect us, help us fight corporate and national over fishing by massive netting operations.

Mikko Kinkki