

## Contact Us

Management Plan Review

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Photo: Paul Wong

# 2012

Winter

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale  
National Marine Sanctuary  
Management Plan Review Newsletter

# Au O Ka 'Ike

Currents of Knowledge

## this issue

Updating the Sanctuary's Management Plan **P.1**

Advisory Council Working Groups **P.2**

By the Numbers **P.2**

Next Steps **P.3**

Contact Info **P.4**

Ko'ie'ie Fishpond, Kihei, Maui Photo: HIHWNMS



*The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the State of Hawai'i recognize the public as a key resource management partner.*

*This newsletter is part of the sanctuary's commitment to keep the public informed on the management plan review process and provide ongoing opportunities for the public to participate in this process.*

## Updating the Sanctuary's Management Plan

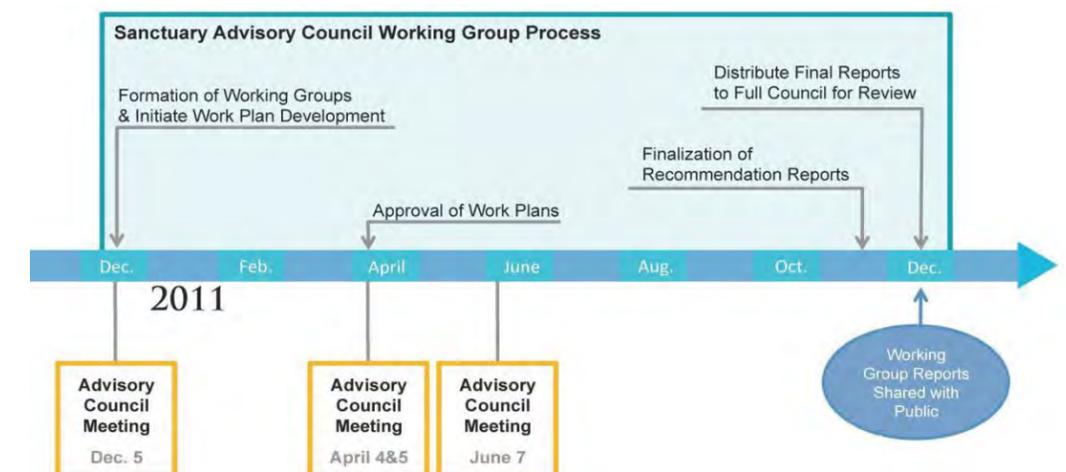
Nearly two decades have passed since the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary was created to protect humpback whales and their habitat in Hawai'i.

The sanctuary is engaged in an open public process to review and update its current management plan. The Sanctuary Advisory Council facilitated discussions on important issues affecting the current and future management of the sanctuary. The timeline below shows how the Sanctuary Advisory Council structured their involvement, with more detail in the following pages.

This has been an important opportunity for communities and partners to weigh in on how the sanctuary might evolve to address the marine resource protection needs of Hawai'i in the future. The momentum generated by the council's activities will benefit the review of the sanctuary management plan underway.

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### Working Groups & Respective Council Chairs

(Sanctuary Advisory Council seat listed)

#### Climate Change

Eric Kingma

Seat: Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council

#### Ecosystem Protection - Species & Habitats

Adam Pack

Seat: Research

#### Enforcement

Rebecca Hommon

Seat: U.S. Navy

#### Humpback Whale Protection

Jim Coon

Seat: Whale Watching

#### Maritime Heritage

Teri Leicher

Seat: Business/ Commerce Alt.

#### Native Hawaiian Culture

Kāhau Watson

Seat: Native Hawaiian

#### Ocean Literacy

Liz Kumabe

Seat: Education

#### Offshore Development

Phil Fernandez

Seat: Fishing

#### Water Quality

Robin Newbold

Seat: Maui County

## Advisory Council Working Groups

In 2010, the sanctuary conducted a 90-day public scoping and comment period to solicit input on its management plan review process. As a result, the sanctuary's advisory council formed nine working groups (see sidebar) to further examine priority issues and make management recommendations. Each working group was comprised of council members, local stakeholders, and technical experts.

To develop the recommendations, each working group reviewed the public comments received during the public scoping period. They also examined existing sanctuary programs and regulations. In their reports, the

working groups have identified gaps in existing marine conservation efforts, explored possible roles that the sanctuary could play moving forward, and developed recommendations to present to the full advisory council.

The opinions and findings of the working groups are products of the Sanctuary Advisory Council and do not necessarily reflect the position of the sanctuary, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or the State of Hawai'i.

### BY THE NUMBERS

The sanctuary advisory council established **9** working groups  
**153** participants including cultural advisors, community and stakeholder representatives, and state and federal agency representatives; **30** participated in two or more working groups

**66** conference calls, online presentation sharing, workshops, and face-to-face meetings were held to promote discussions between participants

Over **2,000** hours of volunteer professional service

## Next Steps

The Sanctuary Advisory Council will hold its 62nd meeting on January 17 & 18th, 2012 to discuss and vote on the recommendations put forth by the nine advisory council working groups. This meeting is open to the public.

Working group recommendations endorsed by the full council will be forwarded to sanctuary management and will be considered for inclusion in the next draft management plan.

### HOW TO PROVIDE INPUT

Interested members of the public may provide comments on the working group recommendations in several ways.

- 1) Talk with your Sanctuary Advisory Council constituent representative prior to the January 17-18 council meeting. A list of council members can be found here:

[http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/management/council\\_members.html](http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/management/council_members.html)

- 2) Speak during the public comment period at the council meeting. Those wishing to speak on agenda items may add their name to the sign-up sheet located outside the conference room on the day of the meeting. Public comment is limited to three minutes per person.

- 3) Submit written comments prior to the January 17-18 council meeting. Written comments received by January 12, 2012, will be distributed to the council members prior to the meeting. After January 12, 2012 it is the submitter's responsibility to provide sanctuary staff with a minimum of 40 copies of your comment for distribution to the council members.

Comments may be mailed to 6600 Kalaniana'ole Highway, Suite 301, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96825, faxed to (808) 397-2650, or e-mailed to: [Joseph.Paulin@noaa.gov](mailto:Joseph.Paulin@noaa.gov).

## VISIT US ONLINE

To receive more information on how you can get involved, visit us online at:

<http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov> or contact the sanctuary office in

Honolulu at (808) 397-2651 ext 257.

Find out more about each working group, including background information, meeting agendas and minutes, as well as other related documents:

[http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/management/working\\_group\\_reports.html](http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/management/working_group_reports.html)