



O‘ahu Na Ala Hele Trail and Access Advisory Council Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, August 19, 2025

TIME: 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm

PLACE: O‘ahu Division of Forestry and Wildlife Makiki Branch Office Conference Room. 2135 Makiki Heights Dr. Honolulu, HI 96822 and via Zoom

Members:

PRESENT: Skye Razon-Olds (Council Chair, Rock Climbing/Cultural Practitioner), Todd Cullison (Council Vice-Chair, Education/Hawaii Nature Center), Terry Galpin (OHV/Motocross), Dave Fahrenwald (Equestrian), Sean Goo (Off-Road 4x4 Vehicles), Yuko Barretto (Mountain Biking /HBL), Roy Kainoa (Pig Hunting/OahuPHA), Marian Yasuda (Trail Running/HURT)

Ex-Officio Members and Additional Guests: Aaron Lowe (Oahu Trails & Access Specialist), Kainoa ? (DLNR ADA Coordinator), Yvonne Yoro (Office of Rep Peruso), Mike Algiers, Curtis Motoyama, Clayton Kubo

I. Call to Order, Introductions, and Announcements: 4:02 p.m.

Meeting came to order at 4:02 p.m. Introductions were conducted.

II. Acceptance of Minutes: 4:10 p.m.

May Minutes were approved unanimously.

III. New Business: 4:12 p.m.

1. Helemano Working Group

- Skye Razon-Olds continues her involvement in the group and feels there is a good understanding that there is room for ideas on recreation. Mountain bikes, equestrians, and motorized vehicles are all being represented in this group.
- These meetings are not yet public, so there are no open records.
- The Oahu Council will receive the draft report for review and action before the land board receives it for approval.
- Clayton expressed interest in involvement in and connection to Oahu projects like this. Skye will reach out.

2. Honouliuli Contract and Access Update

- The benefits from opening up Honouliuli to recreation will assist with fuel management and fire suppression.
- Following a contract for road improvements and an MOU for access, there will be a permitting system for recreational use.
- Recreational opportunities include climbing, mountain biking, backpack camping, hiking, and trail running.
- Skye Razon-Olds expressed concern putting money into work on a road that is not open to the public.

3. HMA Lease Update

- Terry Galpin has had productive and positive interactions with the Military. Discussions continue and her organization hopes to have conditions such that their course will be open for riding more than in previous years.



IV. Trail and Access Specialist Staff Report

4:36 p.m.

Staffing Updates

- Aaron announced that Evan Broberg has joined Na Ala Hele as a Trail Technician. Unfortunately, his introduction to the Council was delayed due to wildfire duties. Evan will oversee daily field operations and contractor compliance monitoring.
- Michelle DiMeglio will be starting on September 29 as a Specialist. She will be able to assist moving forward the backlog of administrative duties. She brings bringing Pacific Crest Trail Association experience and dual degrees in English and environmental engineering.
- The Stewardship program has expanded to five employees managing high-use trail issues and public education

Program Projects and Ongoing Operations

- Kamana Nui Valley major clearing operation currently underway with heavy equipment
 - a. 68-unit contract established for Honoluliuli area trail restoration using both recreation and military improvement funding
 - b. Contract structured with four service units: hazard tree removal, vegetation removal, sustainable trail improvements, and road restoration
 - c. Contractor (Rousseau Services) actively clearing vegetation with daily oversight from new trail technician
- Manoa Cliff Trail major closure due to significant rockslide event
 - a. School bus-sized rock involved in slide traveling approximately 200-300 yards through forest
 - b. Engineering division requested to bring geological experts for debris stability assessment
 - c. Detour established maintaining partial system access while avoiding dangerous area
 - d. Critical impact on HURT 100-mile race course scheduled for January 2025
- Public Access Development & Challenges
 - a. Honoluliuli access negotiations progressing with Kunia Farms for permit system implementation
 - b. Key fob gate system currently restricts public access through private property easement
 - c. Memorandum of Agreement development needed before land board approval for permit access
 - d. Poamoho gate-style permit system proposed model for public access management
 - e. Road maintenance responsibilities, signage, and mapping requirements under negotiation
 - f. Council previously approved recreation activities: climbing, mountain biking, backpack camping, hiking, trail running (motorized vehicles excluded pending road capacity improvements)
- Maunawili Falls community working group tensions between neighborhood residents and broader recreation community
 - a. Cultural practitioners open to reopening with stewardship requirements: weekday access through community garden work, weekend toll booth/permit system proposed
 - b. Golf course partnership established for parking infrastructure addressing community concerns
 - c. Fencing planned to ensure proper trailhead entry and prevent neighborhood impacts
 - d. Environmental assessment planned for new trail alignment avoiding cultural site
 - e. Push-back on the project is not necessarily from the community; rather from those living in the Maunawili neighborhood. The community is all of Oahu.



V. Trail User Group Bi-Monthly Reports

5:08 p.m.

- Sky Razon-Olds (Rock Climbing/Cultural Practitioner): Continuing work with both Halemano and Maunawili working groups. Will find a way to reach Clayton Kubo.
- Roy Kainoa (Pig Hunters Assoc.): Pig eradication continues. Will be working on a story and photos about pig hunting with Hawaiian and Delta Airlines.
- Terry Galpin (OHV): Focusing on maintenance done by all volunteer crew. Trying to get Military assistance with California grass and road maintenance. They had their first wahine ride.
- Dave Fahrenwald (Equestrian): No report
- Marian Yasuda (Trail Runners): HURT cleared the Maunawili Demonstration trail with four groups over four weekends. The trail is in top shape right now. Concerned about the Manoa Cliff slide and will be pushing hard for the assessment and action. HURT will support in any way possible. HURT is collaborating with Hawaii Nature Center on a keiki run fundraiser on September 20.
- Sean Goo (4WD): All quiet (and dry) so no real report
- Todd Cullison (Education): Hawaii Nature Center: Finished up 10 weeks of our nature adventure camp, which MEANT we had 60 kids a week for 10 weeks. So really equates about 21,000 hours of kids being outside in nature. Would like to work with Curtis Motoyama on increasing trail accessibility for those with different abilities.
- Yuko Baretto (Mountain Biking/HBL): Connected with neighbor island MTB groups. Interested in trail building and learning about process and best practices. Suggested that **Ohana Trail as a program trail for Na Ala Hele be added to the next meeting agenda.**

VI. Other Business

5:25 p.m.

Next council meeting scheduled for July 15, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

5:27 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

— **Respectfully submitted,**

Marian Yasuda