

**From:** [Celeste Hilliard](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Against Kahana beach restoration  
**Date:** Thursday, October 21, 2021 5:46:14 PM

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Aloha,

I testified last year and am happy to add my voice in protesting beach restoration. The name is misleading and will destroy the current natural environment to give a false impression to short term tourists. This is apparent every where these types of projects have been done. The cause of the sand moving away from the area has more to do with the irregular shore development than not having enough sand on the beach. Dumping more sand is not a solution and very detrimental to the environment.

Please do not destroy what we already have trying for an impossible ideal image.

Mahalo,  
Celeste Hilliard



October 21, 2021

Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Attn: Board Members  
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 130  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Support of Ka'anapali Beach Restoration and Berm Enhancements FEIS

Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board:

My name is Fred Findlen and I am the General Manager of the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa. Hyatt Regency Maui recently celebrated its 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary. We stand in strong support for the project and will assist in any way that we can. We agree with the numerous points outlined in the testimony of Wayne Hedani, President and General Manager of Ka'anapali Operations Association.

We especially agree with the statements that Strategic Retreat is necessarily a long term and very expensive process. We have just completed a \$105 million dollar renovation and have a great understanding of the time and expense needed to plan and implement any significant changes. Beach restoration and berm enhancement is a necessary and viable short-term solution for the resort.

Seven years ago the resort encountered an erosion event that made necessary installing an emergency temporary erosion skirt which is still in place today. It is not meant to be in place for the long term. Hyatt continues to work with Sea Engineering for short term stability and we have worked with KOA, DLNR and Sea Engineering for this beach restoration project.

Between the efforts of DLNR and Sea Engineering over the years, Ka'anapali Beach is one of the most studied beaches in the state. The level of knowledge acquired makes us comfortable that the plan that has been developed will work and that there will be minimal impacts other than the short-term turbidity issues and the construction activity.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this very important project.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Fred Findlen", is written over a faint, light-colored signature line.

Fred Findlen  
General Manager  
Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa

**From:** [Paele Kiakona](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Kaanapali beach restoration and berm enhancement Testimony  
**Date:** Thursday, October 21, 2021 5:28:22 PM

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Aloha,

My name is Paele Kiakona. I am an environmentalist with a bachelors in environmental studies. Most of my life has been centered around the betterment of the environment. As an environmentalist I believe that this Kaanapali beach restoration and berm enhancement project is but a temporary fix to a broader problem and would be detrimental to the ecosystems surrounding this area. The area that will be harvested for this sand is home to a very complex ecosystem where fish such as nabeta reside. Harvesting from this area would mean detrimental casualties to these fish, which locals depend on for nourishment, and would cause irreversible damage to the ecosystem. Aside from this, due to the way the currents meet in this area it creates an area of stagnation allowing sand and other sediment to settle there. Due to the sediment settling at the bottom, with little aeration, an anoxic environment is created that is high in acidity and very high in nutrients and bacteria. If this area is harvested and placed on the beach multiple negative externalities will occur. One, the now exposed bacteria that made that area home, will be exposed to air. This will cause a putrid smell similar to that of sewer. This will take months or even years to clear and make an unpleasant experience for guests residing here. Aside from that, the excessive amounts of bacteria now exposed will pose health risks for people such as bacterial infections to open wounds. Aside from the health risk to people, as waves crash on the shore and carry this out onto the reef, adverse effects on reef ecology will be seen. With the already fragile and deteriorating reef, any added stress such as a release of acidity, bacteria and micro and macronutrients gathered over time from golf course runoff will accelerate the deterioration of these reefs and potentially cause massive reef culture die back and algal bloom. This would be detrimental to the local community who use these reefs as a source of food and will also be detrimental to the aesthetics of the ocean and reef which is obviously important to those proposing this project. Lastly this entire project will, literally, be washed away. With climate change and sea level rise, this project will only last a few years and we will be back to the drawing board. With what was stated above I greatly oppose this project. With the existing environmental issues and everything surrounding this area, this project will create a positive feedback loop and will speed up any degradation of this area.