TESTIMONY AND RECOMMENDATION IN SUPPORT OF AGENDA ITEM E-1

BLNR Agenda Item E-1

Request Approval to change the name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pa’ula’ula State Historic Site, Makaweli, Waimea, Kaua’i. Tax Map Key: (4) 1-5-005:003

Aloha Chair Case and members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

The Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) strongly supports this agenda item!

On behalf of Manokalanipo (Island of Kaua’i), Moku O Makaweli and Moku O Waimea, we represent native Hawaiians and members of the Public Trust who are part of the Aha Moku traditional process, particularly in the Moku of Makaweli and Waimea.

Many of the people of these Moku and Ahupua’a are those with generational knowledge of the natural and cultural resources of the entire lands of Makaweli and Waimea. They are the people who have strived over the years to perpetuate and sustain the precious natural and cultural resources, particularly the native Hawaiian history that is so prevalent in this historic district.

Keith Robinson and the Robinson ‘Ohana are Kupuna and Konohiki of Makaweli. They are generationally connected to Makaweli and to this Wahi Pana.

Kane Turalde is a Kupuna of Waimea who learned his genealogy and lineage from his aunt, Alita Kauohi who is now in her 90’s, and is still active. They are both direct descendants of Ali`i Ai Moku Kaumuali‘i. This is the ‘Ohana who is responsible for the statue of Kaumuali‘i that today overlooks Waimea. In their life-
long service to their people, their deepest wish is to restore the original name of the site to Pa’ula’ula so that the mo’olelo of this wahi pana is shared and the ‘aina that cares for the iwi kupuna is honored.

The name of a wahi pana is powerful in its own right! Aha Moku supports this long sought-after name change from the Russian Fort Elizabeth to its rightful name of Pa’ula’ula!

Respectfully yours,

Keith Robinson
808-338-1856
niihauisland@hawaiian.net

Kane Turalde, Kahu Moku O Waimea
Hawaii State Aha Moku
808-651-5984
kaneswahine@aol.com

Kawaikapuokalani Hewett, Ka Mea Ho’okumu
Hawaii State Aha Moku
808-382-6043
kahalelehua@outlook.com

Leimana DaMate, Luna Alaka’i/Executive Director
Hawaii State Aha Moku
808-640-1214
Leimana.k.damate@hawaii.gov
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Cherith Andrade and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pā'ula'ula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualiʻi.

Please vote to approve this name change to Pā'ula'ula so that the true story of this area is restored and can continue on for generations to come. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Mahalo,
Cherith Andrade
Kekaha, Kauaʻi, Hawaiʻi
ASSOCIATION OF
HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS

A RESOLUTION
No. 2018 – 49

URGING THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
TO RENAME THE RUSSIAN FORT ELIZABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK IN
WAIMEA, KAUA‘I TO PĀ‘ULA‘ULA

WHEREAS, King Kaumuali‘i was born in 1780 at Pōhaku Ho‘ohanau at Holoholokū,
Wailua, Kaua‘i to Kamakahele and Kā‘eokūlani; and

WHEREAS, Pā‘ula‘ula is the traditional place name for the eastern bank at the mouth of
the Waimea river where Kaumuali‘i had his royal compound including a heiau; and

WHEREAS, in 1815, a Russian-American-Company ship “Bering” was shipwrecked on
the beach in Waimea, Kaua‘i; and

WHEREAS, a trading outfit known as the Russian-American Company sent Georg Anton
Schaeffer in December 1815 from Sitka, Alaska with the task of recovering the cargo from the
Bering; and

WHEREAS, an alliance was created between Schaeffer and Kaumuali‘i for the
construction of a fort at Pā‘ula‘ula using the rock from the heiau and a largely Hawaiian labor
force; however, the Russians were expelled from Kaua‘i in 1817 and the Hawaiian government
completed the half-finished structure and used the fort until 1864; and

WHEREAS, numerous names with different cultural significances were given to this
enclosure that are related to the place and it’s multicultural history like Pā‘ula‘ula, Fort
Elizabeth, stone fort, my fort, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Pā‘ula‘ula is a “term applied to the fort by Kahopuhopula, a Hawaiian
testifying before a Land Commission hearing” and “there are two other heiau in the Waimea
district of Kaua‘i known as Kapā‘ula”; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, the State of Hawai‘i acquired the 17-acre property encompassing
the fort structure to preserve the site and is officially named “Russian Fort Elisabeth State
Historical Park”; and

WHEREAS, the site was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and listed on
the Hawai‘i Register of Historic Places in 1981; and
WHEREAS, the 200th Anniversary of the fort was commemorated with a forum on Kaua‘i in 2017, and followed by the formation of a working group in March 2018 to discuss the future of the site and this working group consists of representatives from various cultural and historical organizations on Kaua‘i, government agencies, and the Russian-American community; and

WHEREAS, interim objectives of the working group include recognizing and sharing the Hawaiian history of the site as part of the larger history of Waimea and Kaua‘i from pre-contact time and develop interpretive ideas; and

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2018, members of the working group were tasked to reach out to the community to discuss the proposed name change options and to report on the results at the next meeting in December 2018 through resolutions, petitions, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Hawai‘i’s place names should reflect our cultural heritage and its historical and geographical integrity; and

WHEREAS, the Kaua‘i community representatives strongly feel that it is very important to include and honor the name Pā‘ula‘ula so that the mo‘olelo of this wahi pana is shared and the ‘āina that cares for our iwi kupuna is honored.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 59th Annual Convention in Kalapaki, Kaua‘i, in the malama of Welehu and the rising of ‘Olepa‘u, this 17th day of November 2018, urging the State of Hawai‘i Board of Land and Natural Resources to rename the Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park in Waimea, Kaua‘i to Pā‘ula‘ula; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that new interpretive signs, brochures, and websites be developed in the two official languages of Hawai‘i (Hawaiian and English) and that it reflects first the ‘āina of our ali‘i nui and also incorporate the rich multicultural history; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that funding also be provided for renovation and maintenance of existing restroom facilities and a new visitor’s center; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Division of State Parks work with the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service to update the nomination form for the National Historic Landmark so that it incorporates the Hawaiian place name, multicultural history of the site and findings of more recent research being conducted by both Hawaiian, American, and Russian scholars; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the State of Hawai‘i Board of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of State Parks, United States Department of the Interior National Park Service, as well as the Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, President of the State Senate, Speaker of the State House of Representatives, Chair of the State Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the State House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian
Affairs, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and all County Mayors.

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted in the malama of Welehu and the rising of ‘Olepau on the 17th day of November 2018, at the 59th Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs in Kalapaki, Kaua‘i.

Annette C. Amaral, President
BLNR Agenda item to change the name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pa`ula`ula State Historic Site, Makaweli, Waimea, Kaua`i. Tax Map Key: (4) 1-5-005:003

May 26, 2022

Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources

My name is Charles K. Kapua, President of the Pearl Harbor Hawaiian Civic Club and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pa`ula`ula State Historical Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kaua`i ali`i nui, including King Kaumuali`i.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pa`ula`ula so that the true story of this area can continue on for generations to come. It is our kuleana to make sure the stories are always true and accurate. The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs passed a resolution in 2018-49 URGING THE STATE OF HAWAI`I BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO RENAME THE RUSSIAN FORT ELIZABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK IN WAIMEA, KAU`I TO PA`ULA`ULA.

Mahalo for giving me the opportunity to testify on this.

Aloha,

Charles K. Kapua, President

Pearl Harbor Hawaiian Civic Club

P. O. BOX 66

Aiea, HI 96701
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Kim Blackburn and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site.

Place names matter!

This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kaua‘i ali‘i nui, including King Kaumuali‘i.

Thank you for your time,
Kim Blackburn
SUBJECT- Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of BLNR Agenda item E1- Change the name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site

Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Emily Cadiz and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualiʻi.

I have been facilitating our Na Kilo ʻĀina program at Waimea High School for the past 5 years, and every year we make multiple trips to Pāʻulaʻula and the West Kauaʻi Museum to learn about this wahi pana and its history. We have dedicated a lot of time to ensuring that our Waimea youth know about the proper names of these wahi pana that exist in their community. We also have worked closely with Aunty Aletha Kaohi for many years, as she has been persistent in her life’s work to Pāʻulaʻula among many other important sites in West Kauaʻi. It has been a dream come true for her, in her lifetime, to see the King Kaumualiʻi Statue go up, and now to one day see the proper name be put in place.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true story of this area can continue on for generations to come.

Mahalo nui loa,

Emily Cadiz
Na Kilo ʻĀina Program Coordinator, Na Maka Onaona
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

On behalf of the Hanalei Hawaiian Civic Club, I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualiʻi.

Please vote to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true moʻolelo (story) of this area can continue on for generations to come.

Mahalo piha,

Dr. Kapua L. Chandler (Kīlauea, Koʻolau, Kauaʻi)
Hanalei Hawaiian Civic Club, President

I ka ʻōlelo no ke ola, i ka ʻōlelo no ka make.
In language there is life, in language there is death.
- Mary Kawena Pukui
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Pua Chin and I am a resident of Hanapēpē, Kauaʻi. I am writing in SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Paʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualiʻi.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true story of this area can be perpetuated for future generations.

Mahalo,

Pua Chin
SUBJECT- Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of BLNR Agenda item E1- Change the name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site

Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Melody Cosma-Gonsalves, and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualii.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true story of this area can continue on for generations to come.

Mahalo,
Melody Cosma-Gonsalves

Sent from my iPhone
Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson  
and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
Via E-Mail Only: blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

Dear Chairperson Case and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources:

RE: MAY 27, 2022 BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM E. 1. REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF RUSSIAN FORT ELIZABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK TO PĀ‘ULA‘ULA STATE HISTORIC SITE, MAKAWELI, WAIMEA, KAUA‘I, TAX MAP KEY: (4) 1-5-005:003.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of renaming the Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park in Waimea, Kaua‘i, as “Pā‘Ula‘Ula State Historic Site.” My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a Member of the Kaua‘i County Council.

I support the long overdue sign and name change of Waimea, Kaua‘i’s State Park from Russian Fort Elizabeth to Pā‘Ula‘Ula State Historic Site. As a participating member of the Waimea Park Working Group, I observed that consensus was generally reached across all stakeholder groups roughly three years ago to accept a name change that better reflects the Hawaiian heritage of the park, now beautifully graced with the statue area of King Kaumuali‘i. The change is long overdue. Changing the sign ahead of the full implementation of the planned park improvements should be feasible.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via E-mail to cokcouncil@kauai.gov.

Sincerely,

Felicia Cowden  
Councilmember, Kaua‘i County Council

May 23, 2022
Aloha! My name is Randall Francisco and I am a resident of Hanapepe, Kauai. I am writing to support the name change and return to Pa'ula'ula State Historic Site from its current Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is C. Pōmaika‘i Gaui, and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pā‘ula‘ula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kaua‘i ali‘i nui, including King Kaumuali‘i.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pā‘ula‘ula so that the true story of this area can continue on for generations to come.

Mahalo,

--

C. Pōmaika‘i Gaui
Kumu Hula, Kēhaulani Hula Studio
707-975-7128 | www.kehaulanihulastudio.com
kehaulanihula@gmail.com

Create your own email signature
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Hayley K Ham Young-Giorgio and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pā'ula'ula State Historic Site. Recognition and Use of the original Hawaiian name is a significant gesture and acknowledgement to our indigenous Hawaiian people. Your vote to approve the change is greatly appreciated.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Aloha,
Hayley K. Giorgio

...in the field
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Fern Ā Holland and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site.

This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualiʻi.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true story of this area can continue on for generations to come.

Mahalo,

Fern

Fern Ānuenue Holland BSc.
Ecologist & Environmental Scientist
Community Organizer & Advocate
Ph: (808) 634-6242
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

I am Kumu Hula Leināʻala Pavao Jardin of Hālau Ka lei Mokihana o Leināʻala and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site.

This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualiʻi.

As a kumu hula who has done extensive research on mele of this area, Pāʻulaʻula is the inoa (name) of this wahi pana (sacred place) and it is only fitting that it is recognized as so. Please allow our ancient chants to serve as a foundation for your decision. Please allow to live on the voices and intention of those that named this area and walked this land long before us.

I humbly ask for your vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula. Now is the time to do what is pono for our kūpuna, keiki, and all those who visit this very special place.

Mahalo,

Kumu Leināʻala Pavao Jardin
(808)639-9033
May 25, 2022

SUBJECT- Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of BLNR Agenda Item E1 (BLNR Meeting, 5-27-2022) – Change the name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site

Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Kīhei de Silva and I am writing on behalf of the board of directors of the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club in our unanimous and unequivocal support of Agenda Item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site.

The name “Russian Fort Elizabeth” and its various iterations have given unfortunate precedence to a single, brief, marginally Russian event in the centuries-long history of our people’s presence in Waimea, Kaua‘i. Construction of the fort began in 1816 at the instigation of Georg Shaffer, an opportunistic surgeon and agent of the Russian American Company who hoped to secure a trading foothold for his company and nation. The fort, however, was built by Hawaiians under the direction of Kaumualiʻi, the ruling chief of Kaua‘i, who saw it as a bulwark in his defense of the island from invasion by Kamehameha I. By mid-1817, Kaumualiʻi had driven the surgeon and the RAC from the islands, completed the fort, and garrisoned it with his own warriors. For the next four decades, Kaumualiʻi and his descendants used the site as a command post, administrative center, burial ground, and prison (Peter Mills, Hawai‘i’s Russian Adventure: A New Look at Old History, University of Hawai‘i Press, 2002).

We know that the fort was built at the mouth of Waimea Stream in an area known as Pāʻulaʻula. A heiau and royal compound existed here long before the fort was built, and the heiau may have been the vantage point from which the prophetic chant “Ulei Pahu i ka Moku” was composed by a Waimea priest who foresaw the coming of the haole, the destruction of our temples, and the erasure of our traditions and people to the point where “You Hawaiians will be as nothing.”

...  
U hoohiolo ta aha.  
O te tu wale na ti,  
Our sacred councils will be no more  
The images will be useless
A tau mai ta Hailo. When the “Hailo” [foreigner] comes.
E manao holo i ta motu Many will yearn to travel
Ulili a ta haole. On the tall ships of the haole
E tu i ta hoe uli, I stop the boat with the hoe uli
I tohi i ta pale tai. And press it against the side
E poai i te toa I make fast the rope to the coral
A he utu toai wai. And circle my rope round and round
A he mea You are as nothing
A he mea oe! You Hawaiians will be as nothing

(Mary Kawena Pukui, *Ancient Hulas of Kauai*, Kauaʻi Historical Society, 1936. “According to Keahi Luahine Sylvester Gomes, my teacher and informant, this mele and prophecy was uttered in a heiau at Waimea, Kauai, just prior to the coming of Captain Cook. In the heiau were priests who were in charge of the images of various gods. While in council one night, a priest became possessed by the spirit of his god and he told of the coming of the foreigner in these words.”)

To give the name Pāʻulaʻula to what, for too long, has been the misnomer “Russian Fort” is to take an important step in our people’s efforts to reclaim place and identity, and to resist the you-are-nothing prophecy of “Ulei Pahu.” The Russians, in this case, were barely there. Why continue to elevate a presence that can be counted in days at the expense of a presence that can be counted in centuries?

ʻO au nō me ka haʻahaʻa,

Kihei de Silva
Director, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is John W. Kaohelaulii. I am writing in support of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pā'ulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River, which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualii. Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that this area's true story can continue for generations to come. Mahalo,

John W. Kaohelaulii
Kauaʻi, Hawaiʻi.
Aloha,

My name is Leatrice Maluhia Kauahi and I am submitting this written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of the name change of the Russian Fort on Kauai to its original name; Pa'ula'ula.

Please provide your support of getting Hawaii's place names back to its original indigenous name so our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and all our descendants will know them and be proud of their ancestors.

Mahalo in advance for your STRONG SUPPORT.

Leatrice Maluhia Kauahi.
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Sarah Peters and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualiʻi.

Please vote to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true story of this area can continue on for generations to come.

Mahalo,
Sarah K Peters
Kaumuali'i Hawaiian Civic Club
Waimea, Kaua'i, HI.
To: Chair Case and members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
From: Princess Kaʻiulani Hawaiian Civic Club  
Date: 24 May 2022  
Subject: Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of BLNR Agenda item E1 - Change the name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Paʻulaʻula State Historic Site  

Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Summer Keliʻipio, and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Paʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualiʻi.

Princess Kaʻiulani Hawaiian Civic Club includes members from across the state. The Civic Clubs have supported this name change since 2018, and will continue to support efforts to restore traditional Hawaiian place names. You wouldn’t go to Italy and see "Russian Ft. Elizabeth" instead of an Italian place name; it doesn’t make much sense for the same to exist in Hawaiʻi except for the fact that the power of colonizing nations tends to take precedence over the rights of indigenous people time and time again. Please do what is pono and logical.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true story of this area can continue on for generations to come.

Mahalo,

Summer Keliʻipio  
Permanent Member, Princess Kaʻiulani Hawaiian Civic Club
Aloha, Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

I am writing in support of Kaua‘i community members who were on a working group formed in March 2018 to discuss the future of this site, including its name change to Pā‘ula‘ula. This group, consisting of representatives from various cultural and historical organizations on Kaua‘i, government agencies, and the Russian-American community strongly feels that it is very important to include and honor the name Pā‘ula‘ula so that the mo‘olelo of this wahi pana is shared and the ‘āina that cares for our iwi kupuna is honored.

Accordingly, in respect to their good work, I am writing in strong support of Agenda item E1, requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pā‘ula‘ula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kaua‘i ali‘i nui, including King Kaumuali‘i.

Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony.

Leimomi Khan
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Terry Kimokeo and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Paʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualii.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true story of this area can continue on for generations to come.

Mahalo,
Terry Kimokeo
Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of BLNR Agenda item E1-
Change the name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State
Historic Site

Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

The Koʻolaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club adds its STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualiʻi.

Here in Kaneohe we were successful in getting the name of Kaneohe Beach Park changed to Naonealaʻa, complete with a new story board. We recognize the importance to native Hawaiians of recognizing wahi pana by their Hawaiian names.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true story of this area can continue on for generations to come.

Mahalo,

Frances Leialoha Kaluhiwa
President, Koʻolaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Kealakai Lindsey-Meyer and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualiʻi.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true story of this area can continue for generations to come.

Mahalo,
Kealakai Lindsey-Meyer
June 6, 2022

Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson,
and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources Land Board
Via E-Mail: blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

Re: Testimony in favor of State Parks Item “Request Approval to Change the Name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site, Makaweli, Waimea, Kauaʻi. Tax Map Key: (4) 1-5-005:003,” June 9, 2022 agenda.

Aloha kākou:

I am a professor of anthropology at UH Hilo, a former Hawaiʻi Historic Places Review Board member, and author of the UH Press book “Hawaiʻi’s Russian Adventure: A New Look at Old History.” (2002) which pertains to the state park being considered for renaming to “Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site.” I began my dissertation research on this site thirty years ago in 1992, and I have continued to participate in community efforts to improve interpretation and stewardship at this site.

The state park was the royal residence of King Kaumualiʻi in the early 1800s and the fort was just one part of that royal complex. Kaumualiʻi’s temporary Russian allies assisted with the fort’s design, but the people of Hawaiʻi built the fort for their Mōʻī, Kaumualiʻi. Hawaiians then occupied the fort for almost a half-century, fought an important battle there in 1824, and used it as their center for island governance. The unfortunate moniker “Russian Fort” has buried this significant Hawaiian heritage for generations.

My impressions are that most people still assume that Russians built the fort for themselves, and then Hawaiians took it over. One Russian scholar recently tried to claim in a 2017 Russkiy Mir news article that the “local population were just [a] labor force at construction,” as if the fact that Kaumualiʻi built this fort adjacent to his own royal residence is irrelevant. Hawaiians built the fort and Hawaiians occupied the fort.

“Pāpū [Fort] Pāʻulaʻula” is the name used by Hawaiian soldiers during the Māhele, and there is every reason to believe that Hawaiians used this name long before the Māhele. It is our own biases that have pushed this Hawaiian name for this Hawaiian place into obscurity. I commend the efforts of Hawaiʻi State Parks and many community members to support this name change.

Sincerely,

Peter R. Mills, Ph.D.
millsp@hawaii.edu
Date:  June 1, 2022

To:  Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson, and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources Land Board

From:  Moku o Manokalanipō, Kaua‘i Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs
        Malia Nobrega-Olivera, President
        malianob@gmail.com

Re:  JUNE 9, 2022 BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM E. 2. REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF RUSSIAN FORT ELIZABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK TO PĀʻULAʻULA STATE HISTORIC SITE, MAKAWELI, WAIMEA, KAUAʻI TAX MAP KEY: (4) 1-5-005:003.

I’m writing in STRONG SUPPORT of of this agenda item to approve the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This proposal is in alignment with the goals of Kaumuali‘i Hawaiian Civic Club, the Kaua‘i Council, as well as the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs. Since early 2018 we have been active members of the working group for Pāʻulaʻula that is convened by DLNR-Division of State Parks and the renaming of this historical site has been an agenda item that many of us are very passionate about.

Born and raised in the Kona moku of Kaua‘i and a proud graduate of Waimea High School in 1989 our ‘ohana would pass this wahi pana quite regularly with no interest or purpose to visit. Not until recently as a participant of the working group did I learn the mo‘olelo (story) of this historical site and since then we have organized numerous visits with friends, family, civic club members, hālau and visitors to the historical site to share the mo‘olelo and the significance of this space that greets us before entering into Waimea. Most recently, in May 2022 we hosted a hālau from Fremont, California who is preparing for a competition in November and will be doing a mele in honor of Queen Emma. Before heading up to Kōke‘e to experience the Alaka‘i Swamp we met up at Pāʻulaʻula to set our intentions together, to pule, and to honor our ali‘i and kupuna. It was the perfect site to begin our holoholo together.

The members of Kaua‘i Council also actively participated in our 59th annual convention on the island of Kaua‘i where the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs adopted resolution 2018-49, Urging the State of Hawai‘i Board of Land and Natural Resources to Rename the Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park in Waimea, Kaua‘i to Pāʻulaʻula. We also urge future action to update new interpretive signs, brochures, and websites with the new name, and that these communication assets be developed in the two official languages of Hawai‘i (Hawaiian and English).
Therefore, Moku o Manokalanipō respectfully requests your approval of this agenda item as a first step to honoring this historic site, this wahi pana, and the moʻolelo that we can continue to share with the generations to come.

The Hawaiian civic club movement was founded in 1918 by Congressional Delegate Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalanianaʻole with the creation of the Hawaiian Civic Club; the Association was formally organized in 1959 and in 1968, the Hawaiian Civic Clubs on the island of Kauaʻi organized Moku o Manokalanipō, the Kauaʻi Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs.
ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS

A RESOLUTION
No. 2018 – 49

URGING THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO RENAME THE RUSSIAN FORT ELIZABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK IN WAIMEA, KAUAI TO PĀ‘ULA‘ULA

WHEREAS, King Kaumuali‘i was born in 1780 at Pōhaku Ho‘ohānau at Holoholokū, Wailua, Kaua‘i to Kamakahele and Kā‘eokūlani; and

WHEREAS, Pā‘ula‘ula is the traditional place name for the eastern bank at the mouth of the Waimea river where Kaumuali‘i had his royal compound including a heiau; and

WHEREAS, in 1815, a Russian-American-Company ship “Bering” was shipwrecked on the beach in Waimea, Kaua‘i; and

WHEREAS, a trading outfit known as the Russian-American Company sent Georg Anton Schaeffer in December 1815 from Sitka, Alaska with the task of recovering the cargo from the Bering; and

WHEREAS, an alliance was created between Schaeffer and Kaumuali‘i for the construction of a fort at Pā‘ula‘ula using the rock from the heiau and a largely Hawaiian labor force; however, the Russians were expelled from Kaua‘i in 1817 and the Hawaiian government completed the half-finished structure and used the fort until 1864; and

WHEREAS, numerous names with different cultural significances were given to this enclosure that are related to the place and its multicultural history like Pā‘ula‘ula, Fort Elizabeth, stone fort, my fort, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Pā‘ula‘ula is a “term applied to the fort by Kahopuhopula, a Hawaiian testifying before a Land Commission hearing” and “there are two other heiau in the Waimea district of Kaua‘i known as Kapā‘ula”; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, the State of Hawai‘i acquired the 17-acre property encompassing the fort structure to preserve the site and is officially named “Russian Fort Elisabeth State Historical Park”; and

WHEREAS, the site was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and listed on the Hawai‘i Register of Historic Places in 1981; and
WHEREAS, the 200th Anniversary of the fort was commemorated with a forum on Kaua‘i in 2017, and followed by the formation of a working group in March 2018 to discuss the future of the site and this working group consists of representatives from various cultural and historical organizations on Kaua‘i, government agencies, and the Russian-American community; and

WHEREAS, interim objectives of the working group include recognizing and sharing the Hawaiian history of the site as part of the larger history of Waimea and Kaua‘i from pre-contact time and develop interpretive ideas; and

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2018, members of the working group were tasked to reach out to the community to discuss the proposed name change options and to report on the results at the next meeting in December 2018 through resolutions, petitions, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Hawai‘i’s place names should reflect our cultural heritage and its historical and geographical integrity; and

WHEREAS, the Kaua‘i community representatives strongly feel that it is very important to include and honor the name Pā‘ula‘ula so that the mo‘olelo of this wahi pana is shared and the ‘āina that cares for our iwi kupuna is honored.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 59th Annual Convention in Kalapaki, Kaua‘i, in the malama of Welehu and the rising of ‘Olepau, this 17th day of November 2018, urging the State of Hawai‘i Board of Land and Natural Resources to rename the Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park in Waimea, Kaua‘i to Pā‘ula‘ula; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that new interpretive signs, brochures, and websites be developed in the two official languages of Hawai‘i (Hawaiian and English) and that it reflects first the ‘āina of our ali‘i nui and also incorporate the rich multicultural history; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that funding also be provided for renovation and maintenance of existing restroom facilities and a new visitor’s center; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Division of State Parks work with the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service to update the nomination form for the National Historic Landmark so that it incorporates the Hawaiian place name, multicultural history of the site and findings of more recent research being conducted by both Hawaiian, American, and Russian scholars; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the State of Hawai‘i Board of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of State Parks, United States Department of the Interior National Park Service, as well as the Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, President of the State Senate, Speaker of the State House of Representatives, Chair of the State Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the State House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian
Affairs, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and all County Mayors.

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted in the malama of Welehu and the rising of ‘Olepa‘u on the 17th day of November 2018, at the 59th Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs in Kalapaki, Kaua‘i.

Annelle C. Amaral, President
Aloha

Please see a testimony for FRI 5/27/22- BLNR Agenda item to change the name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site, Makaweli, Waimea, Kauaʻi. Tax Map Key: (4) 1-5-005:003.

Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Anita Mae K. Naone, President Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu and I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kauaʻi aliʻi nui, including King Kaumualii.

It is important for the people of Hawaii to know and understand the appropriate history of the many Native Hawaiian Historical sites. Honoring and recognizing the true history is the proper things to do for all people in Hawaii and throughout the world.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāʻulaʻula so that the true story of this area can continue on for generations to come.

Mahalo,

Anita Mae K. Naone
President
Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu
Founded by Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaʻole on December 6, 1918
Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson
and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources
Via E-Mail Only: blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

Dear Chairperson Case and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources:

RE: JUNE 9, 2022 BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM E. 2. REQUEST APPROVAL
TO CHANGE THE NAME OF RUSSIAN FORT ELIZABETH
STATE HISTORICAL PARK TO PĀʻULAʻULA STATE
HISTORIC SITE, MAKAWELI, WAIMEA, KAUAʻI TAX MAP
KEY: (4) 1-5-005:003.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of renaming the Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park in Waimea, Kauaʻi, as “Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site.” My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a Member of the Kauaʻi County Council.

I support the long overdue sign and name change of Waimea, Kauaʻi’s State Park from Russian Fort Elizabeth to Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site. As a participating member of the Waimea Park Working Group, I observed that consensus was generally reached across all stakeholder groups roughly three years ago to accept a name change that better reflects the Hawaiian heritage of the park, now beautifully graced with the statue area of King Kaumualiʻi. The change is long overdue. Changing the sign ahead of the full implementation of the planned park improvements should be feasible.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188 or via E-mail to cokcouncil@kauai.gov.

Sincerely,

FELICIA COWDEN
Councillor, Kauaʻi County Council
Ms. Suzanne Case  
Chairperson  
Board of Land & Natural Resources  
State of Hawai‘i  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809  

Subject:  
05/27/2022 Board of Land and Natural Resources Meeting  
Testimony regarding Agenda Item #E1 - REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF RUSSIAN FORT ELIZABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK TO PĀ‘ULA‘ULA STATE HISTORIC SITE, MAKAWELI, WAIMEA, KAUAA‘I. TMK: (4) 1-5-005:003  

Dear Chairperson Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources:  

I am submitting this written testimony in strong support of the request to the BLNR to approve the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pā‘ula‘ula State Historic Site, Makaweli, Waimea, Kaua‘i  

Introduction and adoption of resolutions HR 100/SR 106 - URGING THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO RENAME THE RUSSIAN FORT ELIZABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK IN WAIMEA, KAUAA‘I, AS PĀ‘ULA‘ULA, were encouraged by the community in hopes of the official renaming could finally become a reality. I would like to commend the native Hawaiian community who have contributed their knowledge and history to justify this tremendous effort.  

Throughout the House and Senate committee hearings, there were overwhelming testimony in support of the resolutions. In addition, I humbly urge the DLNR as stated in HR 100 and SR 106, "to develop new interpretive signs, brochures, and websites for the site that are available in Hawaiian and English and primarily reflect the ‘āina of Kaua‘i’s ali‘i nui, as well as the rich multicultural history of the site" and "collaborate with the National Park Service to update the National Historic Landmark designation of the site and incorporate its Hawaiian place name and recent research findings by scholars of history and anthropology."
Chairperson Case and Members
Of the Board of Land and Natural Resources
May 23, 2022
Page 2

Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit this written testimony supporting the name change.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Daynette "Dee" Morikawa
House of Representatives
Majority Floor Leader
17th District – Ni‘ihau, Lehua, Koloa, Waimea
Ms. Suzanne Case  
Chairperson  
Board of Land & Natural Resources  
State of Hawai‘i  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

Subject: 06/09/2022 Board of Land and Natural Resources Meeting  
Testimony regarding Agenda Item #E2 - REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF RUSSIAN FORT ELIZABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK TO PĀ‘ULA‘ULA STATE HISTORIC SITE, MAKAWELI, WAIMEA, KAUʻAI. TMK: (4) 1-5-005:003

Dear Chairperson Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources:

I am submitting this written testimony in strong support of the request to the BLNR to approve the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pā‘Ula‘Ula State Historic Site, Makaweli, Waimea, Kaua‘i

Introduction and adoption of resolutions HR 100/SR 106 - URGING THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO RENAME THE RUSSIAN FORT ELIZABETH STATE HISTORICAL PARK IN WAIMEA, KAUʻAI, AS PĀ‘ULA‘ULA, were encouraged by the community in hopes of the official renaming could finally become a reality. I would like to commend the native Hawaiian community who have contributed their knowledge and history to justify this tremendous effort.

Throughout the House and Senate committee hearings, there were overwhelming testimony in support of the resolutions. In addition, I humbly urge the DLNR as stated in HR 100 and SR 106, "to develop new interpretive signs, brochures, and websites for the site that are available in Hawaiian and English and primarily reflect the 'āina of Kauaʻi’s aliʻi nui, as well as the rich multicultural history of the site" and "collaborate with the National Park Service to update the National Historic Landmark designation of the site and incorporate its Hawaiian place name and recent research findings by scholars of history and anthropology."
Chairperson Case and Members
Of the Board of Land and Natural Resources
June 3, 2022
Page 2

Thank you very much for the opportunity to submit this written testimony supporting the
name change.

Respectfully,

Daynette "Dee" Morikawa
House of Representatives
Majority Floor Leader
17th District – Niihau, Lehua, Koloa, Waimea
Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson
And Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources
Via E-Mail: blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

6 June 2022

Request Approval to Change the Name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pa‘ula‘ula State Historic Site, Makaweli, Waimea, Kauai. TMK: (4) 1-S-005:003

Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

On behalf of Na Kuleana O Kanaka ‘Oiwi, a Native Hawaiian Organization based on Kaua‘i, I am writing of our STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda Item E-2 requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pa‘ula‘ula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site, which includes the residence of several generations of Kaua‘i Ali‘i Nui, including King Kaumuali‘i.

Your vote to approve this name change to Pa‘ula‘ula will continue our community’s efforts to share the true story of this area for generations to come.

Mahalo piha,

Donna Kaliko Santos, President
Na Kuleana O Kanaka ‘Oiwi
PO Box 1541
Lihue, HI 96766
Get Outlook for iOS
From Russian fort to Pa ula ula I am supporting the name change I have no Russian relatives my genealogy is Chiefess Kamakahelei, king Kaumualii, Queen Deborah Kapule, Kaiana, lonoikamakahiki, Kapaekukui o kahilinae, Keawe Nui A Umi, make it happen get it done and do the name change our ancestors and kupunas are waiting you have the power to change it Thankyou for all you do. My name is Heneli Aulia Kanekula Schumacher. Mahalo have a great day.
May 25, 2022

Via Electronic Transmission: blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

Suzanne Case
Chairperson
Board of Land & Natural Resources
Kalanimoku Building
1151 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: 9:00 a.m. May 31, 2022 (previously scheduled for 9:00 a.m. May 27, 2022) Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) Meeting, Agenda Item – E1 Request Approval to Change the Name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park (Russian Fort) to Pa’ula’ula State Historic Site (Pa’ula’ula), Makaweli, Waimea, Kaua‘i, TMK (4) 1-5-005:003

Please accept this testimony in strong support of the above-referenced agenda item request to rename the Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pa’ula’ula State Historic Site, Makaweli, Waimea, Kaua‘i – TMK (4) 1-5-005:003.

In 2013, through inspiration by the non-profit group Friends of King Kaumuali‘i, then Kaua‘i Mayor Bernard Carvalho proclaimed 2013 – 2014 as "The Year of the King," to commemorate and cherish the life and legacy of Kaumuali‘i, the last King of Kaua‘i. Through their determination and dedication, the Friends of King Kaumuali‘i thereafter erected an eight-foot statue of King Kaumuali‘i on his birthplace at Pa‘ula’ula, the current site of the Russian Fort.

As set out in HR 100 and SR 106, the BLNR was urged inter alia to rename Russian Fort to Pa’ula’ula to "reflect the ‘āina of Kaua‘i's ali‘i nui, as well as the rich multicultural history of the area."
Thank you for your time and anticipated favorable consideration and if there are any questions with regard to the foregoing, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

RONALD D. KOUCHI
Senate President
Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Gayle Thompson and I am writing in very STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda Item E1 requesting to CHANGE the name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to the rightful name of Pāʻulaʻula State Historic Site. This name change will honor the true history of the site near the Waimea River which includes the residence of several generations of Kaua‘i ali‘i nui, which includes King Kaumuali‘i. I also believe, by restoring Paula‘ula to it’s rightful name will give the community a better sense of ‘ike…. Belonging, and it will allow this wahi pana peaceful rest knowing it will be called by it’s rightful name.

Please vote today to approve this name change to Pāula‘ula so that the true story of this special place can continue on for generations to follow.

Me ka haʻaha’a,

Gayle T. K. Thompson
Lifelong Kaua‘i Resident
Kalāheo, Kaua‘i
I fully support the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth to Pāʻulaʻula. I live in California, and love returning to Kauai, my proverbial happy place, with family and friends. I learned of the proposed name change of this historic site on a recent visit just a few weeks ago. Changing the name will not change or erase history; rather, it will more fully reflect the deep, cultural significance of this place—beyond the fort that was constructed on the site. The importance of an accurate, more complete history is paramount as we, throughout our country, are deluged with so much information in the absence of context.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. recognized that, “We are not makers of history. We are made by history.” Naming this area Pāʻulaʻula honors, indeed, truly values, the cultural heritage that made Kauai such a special place.

Debra L. Watanuki
Attorney at Law
(510) 921-8086 Mobile
(510) 692-4324 Fax
May 25, 2022

SUBJECT: Written Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of Changing the name of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pā‘ula‘ula State Historic Site

Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land & Natural Resources,

My name is Hau‘oli Wichman.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT BLNR Agenda item E1, requesting the name change of Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park to Pā‘ula‘ula State Historic Site.

This name change will honor the true history and heritage of this area, which includes the residence of several generations of Kaua‘i ali‘i nui, including King Kaumuali‘i.

Your vote to approve the name change to Pā‘ula‘ula will be greatly appreciated, so please vote to approve this name change to Pā‘ula‘ula so that the true heritage and history of this ‘aina can continue on for future generations.

Mahalo,
Hau‘oli Wichman
Aloha Chair Case and Members of BLNR,

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of Agenda item E1 requesting Russian Fort Elizabeth State Historical Park be rightfully renamed as Pā`ula`ula State Historic Site.

A name change would better honor and reflect the long Hawaiian history of the Waimea rivermouth area.

I write parts of the Fodor’s travel guide to Kaua‘i. For the 2022 edition, the site will be listed with its Hawaiian name first.

Mahalo,
Mary Friend Williamson
Kalāheo, Kaua‘i