

**From:** [CONSTANCE BROZ](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Presley Wan](#); [Mark Soppeland](#); [Tom Broz](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR Agenda Item E.1  
**Date:** Saturday, June 25, 2022 5:51:32 AM

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Constance Broz  
5-8304-L Kuhio Hwy, Hanalei  
Ha'ena. HI 96714  
United States

June 25, 2022

Attention:  
Board of Land & Natural Resources  
Via e-mail: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

**Subject: BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka‘āinana o Makana at Hā‘ena State Park, Kaua‘i**

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Maka‘āinana O Makana (Hui).

I support this initiative that will entrust the land to caring and skilled individuals for the sustainability of the community.

Aloha, your name here.

Constance Broz

Sent from my iPhone

# OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR



June 23, 2022

The Honorable Suzanne D. Case, Chair  
and Members of the Board  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE: Authorize the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of State Parks to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka'āinana o Makana, an Eleemosynary Organization, for Natural & Cultural Resource Enhancement, Park Maintenance, Education, Onsite Visitor Management, and Management of a Reservation System for the Collection of Parking and Entry Fees and Shuttle Service at Hā'ena State Park, Kaua'i, Hawai'i, Tax Map Key: (4) 5-9-001:022 portion and (4) 5-9-008:001 portion.**

Dear Honorable Chair Case and Members of the Board:

The County of Kaua'i supports the request for Hui Maka'āinana o Makana to enter a five-year lease with State Parks to maintain and manage the Hā'ena State Park on Kauai's north shore. Thirty years ago, the members of the Hui along with other community members and cultural practitioners began working with state officials to develop the Hā'ena State Park Master Plan which was finalized after the floods of 2018.

Hui Maka'āinana o Makana has worked incessantly to restore and protect the natural and cultural resources of this sacred area. As we, as a county and state, are burdened and challenged with the wake of visitors to our islands, the work, the ethic, and aloha the Hui brings in managing the Park is unparalleled. The reservation system, which allows Hawaii residents to easily access and enjoy the beach and trails, limits the number of visitors, and provides the opportunity to educate them about the cultural significance of the area.

Expanding the lease from a one-year to a five-year contract will allow the Hui to strategize more effectively the continued restoration and preservation of the cultural practices while balancing the management of recreational components of the Park.

The Hā'ena State Park Master Plan is a model for the state and other areas concerned with protecting and managing their cultural and natural resources. This next step in expanding the lease is a necessary component for the continued success of the Hā'ena State Park management.

With warm aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek S.K. Kawakami".

Derek S.K. Kawakami

**From:** [Neil Dana](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR Agenda Item E.1 - 5 year lease - testimony  
**Date:** Thursday, June 23, 2022 8:32:34 AM

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June 23, 2022

Board of Land & Natural Resources  
Department of Land & Natural Resources

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Maka'āinana O Makana (Hui).

I love how organized and clean the parking lot and parks have been and hope that this can continue. I think giving a 5 year lease will help promote positivity and security in your organization and for all the people involved in our community.

Mahalo for your support. We really appreciate it.

Aloha,

Neil Dana  
7356 Alealea Rd, Hanalei, HI 96714

Sarah Dooley  
5293 A Kawaihau Road  
Kapaa, HI 96746

June 23, 2022

Board of Land & Natural Resources  
Via e-mail: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

Subject: BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a  
Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka‘āinana o Makana at Hā‘ena State Park, Kaua‘i

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the  
Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui  
Maka‘āinana O Makana (Hui).

I love knowing that the people of Kauai have successfully protected this special area, that a  
well-run system is in place that speaks to the values that the residents hold. Kauai is setting an  
example which others may follow and that is a source of pride for all of us. Kauai took  
advantage of the flooding disaster and made something beautiful out of it. I'm so grateful to  
have this program in place. Please keep it so. Mahalo.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SD' with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sarah Dooley

**From:** [Hayley K Giorgio](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka‘āinana o Makana at Hā‘ena State Park, Kaua‘i  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 9:32:19 AM

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Maka‘āinana O Makana (Hui).

As an ‘Ohana council member of the Hui and generational native resident of Wainiha-Ha'ena, I hope to highlight the value of our current lease renewal request. It has become a positive change for our community and has significantly improved the past frenzy of the park prior to the management implementation. With this lease agreement there are jobs available to our local community, enabling a direct connection for visitors to our place, Hanalei to Ha'ena.

The organizational relationships involved in this lease agreement - the Hui, Hanalei Initiative, Waipa Foundation - provides us resources and the ability to directly manage the ever-evolving park use, giving us more opportunity for resiliency and understanding of our resident and non-resident kuleana. It has been 20+ years for our Hui to be steadily working toward this goal. We are committed to the parks restoration and have proven competent in upholding our lease agreement and stewardship of Ke'e.

Please vote in SUPPORT to issue this 5-year lease to our Hui Maka‘āinana O Makana.

Mahalo nui for your time,

Hayley Kamalamalama Ham Young-Giorgio  
POB 1669 Hanalei, HI 96714  
(808) 482-0289



Joel Guy  
Executive Director  
5-5161 Kuhio Highway, Suite e-205  
Hanalei, Kauai, Hawaii 96714  
(808) 635-2074  
hanaleiinitiative@gmail.com  
www.hanaleiinitiative.org

June 21, 2022

Board of Land & Natural Resources  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

Via e-mail: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)

Ref: State Parks - Item E.1. Authorize the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of State Parks to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka'āinana o Makana, an Eleemosynary Organization, for Natural & Cultural Resource Enhancement, Park Maintenance, Education, Onsite Visitor Management, and Management of a Reservation System for the Collection of Parking and Entry Fees and Shuttle Service at Hā'ena State Park, Kaua'i, Hawai'i, Tax Map Key: (4) 5-9-001:022 portion and (4) 5-9-008:001 portion.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Maka'āinana O Makana (Hui) described in the submittal for Agenda Item E.1.

The Hanalei Initiative (THI) is a 501(c)3 non-profit in Hanalei, Kaua'i established in 2018. Our vision is to bridge people, opportunities, and resources together to make Kaua'i's north shore a great place to live, work and play. Our organization accomplishes this by identifying needs and executing effective networks and partnerships to develop and implement practical solutions for Kaua'i's north shore. Attached for the board's information is a fact sheet about THI with a link to our website.

First of all, we would like to thank Division of State Parks (DSP) and the Board for giving the Hui and THI the opportunity last year to deviate from State Park's successful established online reservation system to develop an integrated operational plan to allow a seamless, visitor-friendly reservation system for the shuttle, as well as the onsite-parking and entry for anyone wishing to visit Hā'ena State Park (HSP). Given the past year's success of our integrated operational plan, we are extremely grateful for DSP's recommendation for a 5-year general lease.

THI is extremely proud and honored to be a subcontractor to the Hui to implement key components of the Haena State Park Management Plan, managing the online reservations system for the shuttle, parking and entry pass and entry management while the Hui conducts mālama 'āina activities and resource enhancement in the park. All these activities are being sustained by revenues generated from the shuttle and parking operations while 100% of the entry fees goes to the State. Another shuttle benefit realized is easing traffic congestion taking off the road an average of 150 vehicles per day from the six mile stretch from Waipa to HSP, which is narrow and crosses several one lane bridges. Since July 2021, it equates to over 50,000 cars removed from the shuttle route to HSP.

The DSP's adaptive park management strategy for HSP is rooted in our community's values of kuleana and mālama and we welcome responsible and mindful travelers who appreciate Hawai'i's natural resources and authentic cultural experiences. This almost 30 year planning effort and its implementation is the forerunner to the Hawai'i Tourism Authority's Malama Ku'u Home strategic efforts for the implementation of destination management action plans. Now, HSP is often discussed as a model for other communities throughout the state. The ability to incorporate an economic component to make the important mālama ā'ina activities of the Hui to be self-sustaining has been extraordinary and would not have been possible without the forward looking leadership of State Parks and the Board willing to take a different approach to resource management. A 5-year lease will allow both the Hui and THI to make longer term decisions which may improve operations, which can result in a greater reinvestment into HSP's cultural and natural resources for today as well as the benefit of future generations.

Your favorable consideration in this matter is deeply appreciated.



Joel Guy  
Executive Director



Hermina Morita  
President, Board of Directors



Joel Guy  
Executive Director  
5-5161 Kuhio Highway, Suite e-205  
Hanalei, Kauai, Hawaii 96714  
(808) 635-2074  
hanaleiinitiative@gmail.com  
www.hanaleiinitiative.org

## FACT SHEET

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### Vision

Bridging people, opportunities, and resources together to make Kaua'i's north shore a great place to live, work and play.

### Mission

Identify needs and execute effective networks and partnerships to develop and implement practical solutions for Kaua'i's north shore.

### History

The Hanalei Initiative is a 501(c)(3) non-profit established in 2018.

### Goals & Actions

***Parks & Environment*** – clean, safe environment and outdoor places for the community to enjoy

- Hanalei Children's Playground (in progress)
- Waioli Town Park Basketball Court (completed)
- Waioli Town Park field maintenance (on-going)
- Hanalei Pavilion (in progress)
- Wastewater/water quality improvements (in progress)

***Transportation*** – solutions to alleviate traffic & congestion issues

- North shore parking study (in progress)
- Kaua'i' North Shore Shuttle (operational)

***Economic Development*** – diversify Kaua'i's economy and create sustainable business opportunities through community-based economic development

- Hanalei Initiative Creative Center (operational)
- Children First Program (completed)
- Hā'ena State Park Access Management (operational)

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Chandra Bertsch  
Co-Owner & General Manager  
P.O. Box 50940  
Ele'ele, HI 96705

June 22, 2022

Board of Land & Natural Resources  
Via e-mail: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

**Subject: BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka'āinana o Makana at Hā'ena State Park, Kaua'i**

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Maka'āinana O Makana (Hui).

The trial for this new system seems to be a great success, it is very important this model continues in the Ha'ena community and hopefully can be implemented in other areas of our islands.

The system reduces traffic and congestion, creating a better experience for the visitors and supporting residents' simple needs to access their community.

It provides funding to the community and state parks system and supports jobs for community members in this unique rural area.

Most importantly, it perpetuates Hawaiian culture and practices and provides an avenue to educate visitors and inspire future generations to embrace the learnings of the past and weave that into the paths of the future.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Chandra Bertsch  
Co-Owner & General Manager

**From:** [Jared Jones](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka‘āinana o Makana at Hā‘ena State Park, Kaua‘i  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 11:19:23 AM

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Jared Jones

4684 Hauaala Rd

Kapaa, HI 96746

June 22, 2022

Board of Land & Natural Resources  
Via e-mail: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Maka‘āinana O Makana (Hui).

I am concerned that a possible change in management at Hā‘ena State Park may result in a degradation in the condition of the park. I have been a resident of Kaua‘i for several years now and still recall my first hike to Hanakāpī‘ai falls and my awe at the vast beauty of the landscape. I also recall my disappointment in the evidence of mistreatment by fellow hikers/visitors. Since that hike I began carrying out as much trash as I could find/carry whenever I hiked anywhere on the island. I was finally able to return to the trail this last year and was very impressed by the difference, not only less foot traffic but also better maintained trail with not a single item of trash to be found. I am happy with the sustainability efforts of the current management and would strongly encourage the board to issue the 5-year lease.

Aloha, Jared Jones.

**From:** [kanoe0523@gmail.com](mailto:kanoe0523@gmail.com)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR Agenda Item E.1- Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka'āinana O Makana at Hā'ena State Park,Kaua'i  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 8:51:09 PM

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify and I Support Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks staff recommendation to issue a 5- year general lease to Hui Maka'āinana O Makana (Hui).

Thank you for the previous opportunity that got us here! Mahalo

Sent from my iPhone



June 22, 2022

Board of Land & Natural Resources  
Via e-mail: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

**Subject: BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka‘āinana o Makana at Hā‘ena State Park, Kaua‘i**

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Maka‘āinana O Makana (Hui).

I have been witness to the incredibly dedicated work of Hui Maka‘āinana O Makana (Hui) over many years, but especially in the past 5 years where they have made a tremendous difference for the North Shore of Kaua‘i. The Hui's expanded role in partnering with State Parks for the management of Hā‘ena State Park has been an important step for the paradigm shift in adaptive resource management and the development of community-based economic enterprises. Community led, government supported has been a great model for managing a unique part of our island.

The proposed 5 year lease agreement is a win-win for the State and our community. It will ensure that Hā'ena State Park is cared for and that the natural and cultural resources in the park are restored and protected by the community. It also ensures that State Parks will have a secure source of income that they can use to support other parks in their system.

Mahalo nui loa in advance for your time and consideration.

With Aloha,

Susan A. Kanoho  
Executive Director  
Kaua‘i Visitors Bureau



June 24, 2022

Board of Land Natural Resources  
1151 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
[blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)

**Re:** Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo's (KUA) Letter of Support of Item E-1 to Authorize the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of State Parks to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka'āinana o Makana, an Eleemosynary Organization, for Natural & Cultural Resource Enhancement, Park Maintenance, Education, Onsite Visitor Management, and Management of a Reservation System for the Collection of Parking and Entry Fees and Shuttle Service at Hā'ena State Park, Kaua'i, Hawai'i, Tax Map Key: (4) 5-9-001:022 portion and (4) 5-9-008:001 portion.

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

Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA) enthusiastically submits this letter in support of agenda item E-1 which would authorize the Division of State Parks to directly negotiate a 5-year lease with the Hui Maka'āinana o Makana (the Hui) a State of Hawai'i 501c3 to better manage and care for the original lands of their ancestors at the end of the road in Hā'ena State Park.

Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo means "grassroots growing through shared responsibility," our acronym KUA means backbone. KUA works to empower communities to improve their quality of life through caring for their environmental heritage together. We employ a community-driven approach that currently supports a network of more than 36 mālama 'āina (care for that which feeds) community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), over 40 fishpond restoration projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a (HMLI; the group that cares for fishponds), and the Limu (seaweed) Hui made up of limu loea (experts) all from across the state.

The foundational vision and work to create KUA has deep roots in the Native Hawaiian community of Hā'ena, their curatorship with State Parks, their lo'i restoration and CBSFA effort. In the late 90's and early 2000's ohana there began to reach out to similarly situated communities across the state to manage their places from mauka to makai. Some unborn and others who sat at their elders' feet now carry that vision forward. KUA exists because of those 'ohana. We are here because of the belief, faith, work and perseverance of their generations behind us and the new generation of Hā'ena today whom carry forward the vision of their ancestors. We are here because of the kuleana and 'āina momona they wish to grant to future generations. This too is the kuleana of the BLNR.

With Item E-1 we are again at the precipice of even greater evolution in the way we better manage Hawai'i's resources, community and culture together. For Hā'ena as it has been for all of our founding communities there is a desire to grow stronger in co-management and evolve in responsibilities and partnership in cultural restoration and community and environmental governance. Item E-1 is yet another great step our State can take with the Hui.

Approval of Item E-1 transitions from the Hui's successful one-year Revocable Permit pilot to a 5-year lease agreement that allows it continue to work with its partner non-profit The



Hanalei Initiative (THI) to manage an integrated shuttle, parking and entry system as well as manage the cultural landscape and restore taro growing in the ancient lo'i This agreement will also extend the Hui's kuleana to a larger area of the park.

This lease will also allow the Hui's 1999 Curatorship Agreement with State Parks to evolve into a deeper practice of co-management relationship with State Parks something the Hui has pursued for decades on their own and as a part of the CBSFA and Hā'ena State Park Master Plan. This will also ensure that the 25+ jobs created during the one-year revocable permit will continue for the foreseeable future. The synergies are real, the potential for customary and traditional practice, conservation, historic preservation, community resiliency and economic integrity are happening all in the same place

Throughout the ten years of KUA's organizational existence to support community-based natural resource management a continued evolution in kuleana and capacity for the network and its members has been a priority. Today the Hui continues to show leadership at the statewide and local level. It takes leadership in E Alu Pū's governance council and Lawai'a Pono Hui (focus group). They educate their youth, connect them to their place and are building on a modern vision of kauhale for Hawai'i now recognized globally.

Our founders in the 'ohana of the Hā'ena and the moku of Halele'a continue to perpetuate the practices of their ancestors in their mālama of the area for their subsistence, cultural practice, and well-being. This benefits Hawai'i and our larger State and is a prime example of the direction we are going in Destination Management. Allowing State Parks to begin direct negotiations for a 5-year lease affirms that and our state's constitutional kuleana, its interest and investment in a citizenry, and Native Hawaiian community and ethic that not only thrives on the abundance of nature but cares for and works with our state to restore our special places so they once again can be more provident.

As climate and natural resource concerns grow globally so does the understanding that indigenous and local environmental governance is a key part of citizenship in our care for island earth. Indeed, building stronger, cohesive and environmentally mindful communities is an indicator of resilience. A 5-year lease builds on Hawai'i's status as an influential global conservation leader.

Please pass Item E-1.

On behalf of team KUA.

Pūpūkahi i holomua e ho'okanaka  
(Let us unite to better the human condition)

Kevin K.J. Chang  
Executive Director



**From:** [Rachel Nelson](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] support of Agenda Item E-1  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 2:51:20 PM

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I support a 5-year lease of parking and surrounding area to Hui Makaainana o makana for the following reasons:

- cultural and environmental care by the people who live and have ancestral connections to a place must be perpetuated and protected
- strengthens community and our greater community's ability to support, volunteer, and care for this area
- I recommend a 100 year lease to the Hui, long term, so further preservation, proliferation, revitalization, and protection projects can be maintained indefinitely by the Hui.

Thank you,  
Rachel Nelson  
PO BOX 932  
Hanalei,  
HI  
96714  
808-855-5033

**From:** [Neal Norman](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Haena state park lease  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 11:12:10 AM

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June \_22\_, 2022

Board of Land & Natural Resources  
Via e-mail: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

**Subject: BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka‘āinana o Makana at Hā‘ena State Park, Kaua‘i**

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Maka‘āinana O Makana (Hui).

Nothing has improved our haena park functionality better than the current group who manages and operates the gate, shuttle, beach and trail access

We live very close to the entry gate and find it to be run extremely well, and a huge improvement to what was going on there previously

We urge and hope you will grant the 5 year lease to the current group

Mahalo and Aloha,

Neal Norman

Neal Norman  
Director I Hawaii Life I  
808.651.1777  
[www.hl1.com](http://www.hl1.com) [www.nealnorman.com](http://www.nealnorman.com)

Sent from my iPhone

**PAL Kaua'i**  
Permanently Affordable Living Kauai

POB 37 Kilauea, HI 96754  
Anahola Marketplace  
4523 Ioane St. Suite A-1 Anahola, HI 96703

Phone: (808) 720-1011

Email: [info@pal-kauai.org](mailto:info@pal-kauai.org)

501(c)(3) Affordable Housing Non-profit Organization | EIN:83-2662028



**Board of Land & Natural Resources**  
**Department of Land & Natural Resources**  
**P.O. Box 621**  
**Honolulu, HI 96809**

June 23, 2022

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Maka'āinana O Makana (Hui).

The management of Hui Maka'āinana O Makana (Hui) has been critical in protecting the sensitive ecosystem at Haena state park from overcrowding, mitigating traffic congestion, and, most importantly, perpetuating the mo'olelo and cultural practices of sacred Haena.

As a Kanaka born and raised on the North shore of Kaua'i, I have seen the devastation that over-tourism and mismanagement can cause. I believe the biblical flood in 2018 was a wake-up call and blessing that allowed the 'aina to cleanse and rest. At Haena state park, it gave the community a chance to rebuild and rethink a system for this place. Combined with Hui Maka'āinana O Makana's stewardship of Haena state park, we as a community are witnessing life being brought back to this place. Flourishing native plants, revived lo'i, abundant reef life, and a decrease in trail erosion on na pali.

Before 2018, as much as we wanted to dive in the lagoon, smell the laua'e baking in the afternoon sun, and watch the sun dip below the horizon. We didn't because it was too much of a hassle to find parking and deal with the flocks of sunscreened tourists. NOW, my 'ohana makes Ke'e a daily visit, with much gratitude to the partnership between the State and Hui Maka'āinana O Makana

Me ka mahalo nui,

Taylor Kaluahine Reid  
Associate Executive Director, PAL Kaua'i





## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

June 21, 2022

Board of Land and Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

Dear Chair Case and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

RE: Hui Maka'ainana o Makana

I write in strong support of the DLNR, Division of State Parks directly negotiating a five year lease with Hui Maka'ainana o Makana (Hui) to enhance natural and cultural resources, maintain the park, educate residents and visitors, manage visitors to the park, maintain the park reservation system, and collect all parking, entry, and shuttle fees at Hā'ena State Park.

The Hui has **demonstrated** through their actions a clear commitment to this very special place. They have helped to develop the Hā'ena State Park Master Plan, cleared the area of invasive species, restored lo'i, and hired local residents to manage this resource. Most importantly, they have built a strong community dedicated to their mission:

To perpetuating and teaching the skills, knowledge, and practices of our kupuna through the interpretation, restoration, care, and protection of natural and cultural resources in Hā'ena, Kaua'i

The Hui was instrumental in creating a special parking zone along Kuhio Highway fronting the Hā'ena State Park, supporting legislation to increase parking fines leading to Hā'ena State Park, and allowing the County police department to assign other county employees to help enforce parking violations along remote state highways. All of these actions took much thought, coordination, and advocacy. All of these tools, along with the visitor limits, shuttle, and parking reservation system, help to manage this popular destination.

Office of Representative Nadine K. Nakamura

14<sup>th</sup> District | Hanalei | Princeville | Kilauea | Anahola | Kapa'a | Wailua

Hawai'i State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Room 442 | Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 | PH 808-586-8435

A five year lease will give the Hui additional flexibility to carry out its mission and give the DLNR Parks Division the ability to replicate this model in other parts of the State. I appreciate your favorable consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nadine K. Nakamura", followed by a horizontal line.

Nadine K. Nakamura  
State Representative, District 14

Office of Representative Nadine K. Nakamura

14<sup>th</sup> District | Hanalei | Princeville | Kilauea | Anahola | Kapa'a | Wailua

Hawai'i State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Room 442 | Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 | PH 808.586.8435

**From:** [santo.dckauai.com](mailto:santo.dckauai.com)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Maka'āinana o Makana at Hā'ena State Park, Kaua'i  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 11:08:05 AM

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Maka'āinana O Makana (Hui).

I have been a resident of Ha'ena since 2009 and have volunteered at the taro patch for the past 8 years. The progress this little organization has made in that time is beyond impressive and has been beneficial to first the LAND, the people of Ha'ena, Kauai and all Hawaii and even the visitor experience. I strongly urge the Board to Approve Agenda Item E-1 and I'd like to reference the Master Plan approved by this board in 2018:

**The Master Plan states in section 1.4 OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES “Implement community-based adaptive management policies and procedures in operating the park”. The management of the park by the Hui fits directly with ALL of the 5 stated main goals of the Master Plan.**

- Recognize that the entire park is culturally significant
- Restore Ha'ena State Park as a living place...cleanse, restore and revive cultural practices again.
- Involve the original families and reconnect the local community to the place.
- Uphold State Parks' responsibility for the public's safety, access and welfare.
- Balance the provisions of recreational opportunities with the preservation of the significant natural and cultural resources.

Thank you for your consideration and time.

Aloha!

Santo Giorgio  
808 634-0637



June 22, 2022

Board of Land & Natural Resources  
Via e-mail: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

**Subject: BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Makaʻāinana o Makana at Hāʻena State Park, Kauaʻi**

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Makaʻāinana O Makana (Hui).

The Waipā Foundation's board, management and staff are proud to have been a partner in this very successful one year initiative to better manage access to the Hāʻena State Park through the integrated shuttle, parking and entry system and provide for better management of the cultural landscape and ancient loʻi field system at Keʻe. The entire system has been a great benefit to the State Park, the communities of Hāʻena and Kauaʻi's entire north shore, and our organizations. Not only has the shuttle removed hundreds of cars each day from our narrow roads between Hanalei and Hāʻena, but the effective management of the system, including the hiring of local community members, has vastly improved the experience and perception of the area by longtime residents.

We at Waipā provide the parking for cars of those who ride the shuttle to access the park. The additional revenue stream from this activity has been significant in supporting our management and restoration of the ahupuaʻa of Waipā as a living learning center, and our ʻāina-based programming with children, youth and ʻohana, focusing on those who are at-risk and/or with multigenerational ties to our North Shore communities. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with Hui Makaʻāinana as our work is very similar, and the Hanalei Initiative as they expertly manage the system, with aloha. We recently completed a long range Master Site Development Plan for Waipā which calls for maintaining the current parking lot, as permanent parking, over the long term (20 year) timeframe of the plan.

We strongly believe that the 5-year lease of the Park to the Hui will just continue creating positive impact in our community and provide the opportunity to further develop systems such as this, which improve the community-ʻāina-visitor relationship. Of course it will also bring the community closer to realizing the key objectives and goals outlined in the Park's master plan, and also is an important step for the paradigm shift in adaptive resource management and the development of community-based economic enterprises.

Mahalo for your consideration and support,

Stacy M. Sproat, Executive Director

## Hui Maka'āinana O Makana



*The Hui Maka'āinana o Makana is a non-profit organization dedicated to perpetuating and teaching the skills, knowledge, and practices of our kūpuna (ancestors) through the interpretation, restoration, care, and protection of natural and cultural resources in within the Hā'ena State Park.*

23 June 2021

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

I am testifying today in strong support of Agenda item E-1. REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A REVOCABLE PERMIT THAT WILL BE NEGOTIATED AND EXECUTED BY CHAIRPERSON FOR MANAGEMENT OF A RESERVATION SYSTEM FOR THE COLLECTION OF PARKING AND ENTRY FEES, SHUTTLE SERVICES AND RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT AT HĀ'ENA STATE PARK, KAUA'I, HAWAI'I, TAX MAP KEY (4)-1-4-001:007 PORTION

I am one of the five community leaders who incorporated the Hui Maka'āinana o Makana in 1999 and have served on either their Board of Directors or on their Ohana Council ever since. This past Saturday I was elected to a new 2-year term as the Secretary of the Hui's Board. I have also worked for the past 45 years at the National Tropical Botanical Garden and currently hold the position of President overseeing five gardens and five preserves and over 100 employees. Furthermore, I have personally spent over 20 years working with other community leaders and State Parks planners and consultants to develop the Master Plan for Hā'ena State Park.

The co-management of Hā'ena State Park has been a long-held dream of our community. Both current Master Plan which was adopted by the BLNR on May 25, 2018 following the huge flood event, as well as the previous draft plan that was developed by Keith Companies but never completed or presented to the Land Board, had community co-management as a community preferred option for the long-term future of the Park. The Hui has proven itself to be a trusted partner providing thousands of hours of volunteer support annually which has transformed the Park from an infested tangle of alien trees covering over a dozen rusted hulks of junked cars ... into a spectacular cultural landscape highlighting the ancient lo'i kalo that have fed our community for over 600 years!

We chose the name "Maka'āinana" to reflect that our community is full of expert lawai'a and mahi'ai (fishermen and farmers) and we are indeed the people of this land that have had a close familial relationship with the 'āina for countless generations. Knowing what we are and what we are not, we have partnered with another amazing community-based nonprofit called The Hanalei Initiative to develop an integrated entry, parking and shuttle solution which will not only fulfill the vision set forth in the Master Plan but will create meaningful jobs for members of our community and equally important an improved visitor experience. I plan to participate in the BLNR meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> via zoom and will be happy to answer any questions you might have about the plan being put before you today.

## Hui Maka'āinana O Makana



*The Hui Maka'āinana o Makana is a non-profit organization dedicated to perpetuating and teaching the skills, knowledge, and practices of our kūpuna (ancestors) through the interpretation, restoration, care, and protection of natural and cultural resources in within the Hā'ena State Park.*

The development of the submittal that is before you today at item E-1 was a team effort developed over many weeks of zoom calls and included all of the staff in State Park's office. We are truly approaching this as a "community-led government-supported" partnership and I am honored to be part of this precedent setting paradigm shift that is creating a living model of regenerative tourism for our State.

The vision and operating plan that the Hui and THI have developed over the past six months for Hā'ena State Park is framed around the 'olelo no'eau that our ancestors put forth which captures our relations to Hā'ena: *He Ali'i Ka 'Āina, He Kauwā Ke Kanaka*. The 'āina is "da boss" and it's our kuleana to help create the balance that will protect it and in doing so we as a community will thrive.

I leave you today with one more prophetic saying: *I ola 'oe, i ola mākou nei* which poetically describes our relationship with the natural world. It is not something to exploit it is something sacred that we need to protect and love.

Mahalo for giving our community the opportunity to fulfill our kuleana to Hā'ena by approving the Revocable Permit for the Hui Maka'āinana o Makana!

Me ka ha'a ha'a,

Chipper Wichman, Secretary  
Hui Maka'āinana o Makana

**From:** [Chantal Zarbaugh](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Makaʻāinana o Makana at Hāʻena State Park, Kauaʻi  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 22, 2022 2:28:50 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image001.png](#)

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Chantal Zarbaugh  
Business Development Officer  
Kauai Federal Credit Union

June 22, 2022

Board of Land & Natural Resources  
Via e-mail: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)  
Department of Land & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

**Subject: BLNR Agenda Item E.1 – Authorize the DLNR to Directly Negotiate a Five-Year Lease with Hui Makaʻāinana o Makana at Hāʻena State Park, Kauaʻi**

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Agenda Item E-1 which is the Division of State Parks' staff recommendation to issue a 5-year general lease to Hui Makaʻāinana O Makana (Hui).

My Ohana has been involved from the start of Hui Makaʻāinana o Makana, the proposed five-year lease to the Hui is something our community has been working towards for over 20 years.

This will ensure that the 25+ jobs created during the one-year revocable permit will continue for the foreseeable future.

Aloha,

*Chantal Zarbaugh*

Chantal Zarbaugh | Business Development Officer | Kauaʻi Federal Credit Union

c: (808) 651-8913 | [chantal@kauaicreditunion.org](mailto:chantal@kauaicreditunion.org) | [kauaicreditunion.org](http://kauaicreditunion.org) | [f](#) [@](#)

*NOTICE: Kaua'i Government Employees Federal Credit Union is now Kaua'i Federal Credit Union.*