

**From:** [Melody Cosma-Gonsalves](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F-2, Melody Cosma-Gonsalves  
**Date:** Thursday, June 22, 2023 8:05:12 AM

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In STRONG [SUPPORT](#) of Kipahulu Moku Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area

Mahalo for your time,  
Melody Cosma-Gonsalves  
(808)2645739



June 22, 2023

**Agenda Item F-2: Written Testimony in Support of the Kīpahulu CBSFA BLNR Hearing on June 23, 2023**

Welina me ke aloha,

My name is Kauwila Hanchett and I am a lineal descendant of Kaupō and Hāna that had the great privilege of being born and raised in East Maui and on the island of Moloka'i. These rural Hawaiian communities remain two of Hawai'i's last kīpuka (strongholds) of traditional subsistence lifestyles. My father, Michael Paki Hanchett, is a fisherman, hunter, farmer, and all around jack-of-all-trades, like many of his generation. He was born and raised in Hāna and comes from the Haia lineage.

As a child growing up in Kaupō, our family of 10 had very limited financial resources and received much of our sustenance from the land and the sea. I recall countless experiences with my dad going "holoholo," and remember in awe how he could always see and identify the myriads of sea creatures where I saw only choppy ocean. I think a part of me always believed there was a bit of magic at work in my dad's ever-present dark glasses. He would sit for what seemed like hours, as still as a stone, watching the sea, moving slowly in harmony with the elements and Kaupō's rugged landscape. Although I'm sure there were periods of time we couldn't buy food, I never went hungry—the 'āina and kai always provided.

Now I am raising my daughter here on our family 'āina in Kaupō. Although the world she is growing up in is very different from the one I grew up in, our lifestyle remains much the same. Yet, even here, in rural communities like ours, we have witnessed the increased pressures from "outside" and the diminishing of our ocean and 'āina resources. We understand that our very life and livelihood is dependent on our oceans remaining abundant, that we can only take as much as can regenerate, and that we are custodians of our beloved 'āina and kai for future generations.

The Kīpahulu 'Ohana has been working for over a decade to establish the Kīpahulu CBSFA so that we, as Native Hawaiian communities, might continue to live as our ancestors, grandparents, and parents did. They do this work so that our children might have the opportunity to build pilina with the land and sea and all that dwell within these realms—the family of life that share this land as our home. They have pressed on through countless challenges so that Kīpahulu and Maui Hikina might remain a stronghold of our traditional Hawaiian ways of life. **Kīpahulu CBSFA must be approved, our very way of life and the inheritance of future generations depends on it.**

Mahalo nui loa,

*Kauwila Hanchett*  
Kauwila Hanchett  
Executive Director

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

June 22, 2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

Aloha, my name is Valerie Mapuana Kalani 'ōpio-Cook, and I'm from Hāna, Maui.

My grandmother, Mary Ann Pihana Koko was born and raised in Kīpahulu. During her lifetime, her stories cemented our pilina (connection) of her life and other family members growing up in Kīpahulu. Life was not easy during those days, but it was satisfying to those who lived there. Fishing and gathering along the coastline was part of life. Food was shared and families were close-knit and for the post part, blood-related. Growing up in Hāna, we used to go to Kīpahulu to visit 'ohana and when we did we went swimming and fishing along the coast of Kīpahulu. Although some of the areas were dangerous, we went with adults who knew the places well. We mostly enjoyed swimming in the pools of 'Ohe'o and hiking the Pipiwai trail learning about the history and plants from aunties and uncles. When my husband and I moved to Paehala, family land located about two miles north of the Hāleakala National Park in Kīpahulu, we took our children to these same places and shared with them the importance of these places and why we need to preserve and mālama them. We live off-the-grid, we value a sustainable lifestyle, we have various lo'i and have a variety of fruit trees. Water comes from Kakiweka and Hahalawe, it provides water to lo'i and our hale. We are mindful of our responsibility to care for our home and this special place.

Mahalo for this opportunity. I am testifying in support of the rules package for Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area.

The Hawaiian community of Kīpahulu are generational stewards of their place and are lineal descendants that can trace their genealogy to pre-western contact communities that were established throughout the area of East Maui. Their intimate knowledge of place, their traditional practices on how to care for place must be protected. Today, they continue to ‘auamo their kuleana to mālama ‘āina & kai, caring for the ‘āina and marine resources of their place.

In July 2016, Kipahulu ‘Ohana submitted a Letter of Intent to DAR formally requesting to pursue a CBSFA designation for Kipahulu moku. In 2019, Kīpahulu ‘Ohana represented their moku, and submitted their official Kipahulu Moku CBSFA Proposal and Management Plan, along with their Administrative Record of supporting documentation. Through 2020-2022, Kipahulu Ohana and DAR hosted numerous informational and scoping meetings and fisher consultations to gather feedback on the CBSFA proposal. In September 2022, Kipahulu Ohana submitted a revised [Kipahulu Moku CBSFA Proposal and Management Plan](#) which includes their rules package, along with the updated [Administrative Record](#), incorporating the feedback received through the scoping meetings and consultations. Today, I am here providing testimony in support of the rules package.

Their traditional and customary fishing practices are reflected in the rules package, placing kapu on unsustainable harvest methods.

Kīpahulu held extensive outreach, through public scoping, community meetings, individual and family interviews, talk story sessions, and educational tables and local events with various communities, partners, and colleagues from fishery networks to share their knowledge and concerns of Kīpahulu’s marine health, needs for a marine management plan, and proposed rules.

- Between 2013 and 2023, over 260,000 people reached through education outreach, publications, and media:
- 685 east maui residents signed the petition of support for this CBSFA designation
- 200+ keiki have been reached through field trips, classes, and volunteering around this management effort.
- 170+ outreach efforts engaged east maui communities, kupuna, students, DLNR, legislators, and the public.

Grounded in a common goal to provide protection for ‘āina and natural resources, Kīpahulu cultivated respectful and trusted relationships with agencies, partners, and communities that reflect their strong sense of mālama ‘āina and supported other communities alike throughout the pae ‘āina such as Miloli‘i (Hawai‘i Island), Hā‘ena (Kaua‘i), Mo‘omomi (Moloka‘i).

Kīpahulu is consistent in its narrative, proposed CBSFA rules package and practices, and further demonstrates their preparedness to co-manage and co-govern the CBSFA with agencies and partners.

Kīpahulu ‘Ohana will represent the community’s place-based knowledge and narrative, continuing their traditional methods of area monitoring and surveying and incorporating modern methods and data.

I support this subsistence fishing community in their kuleana to mālama i ke kai and feed people now and into the future. This rules package reflects the sound rationale of their traditional fishing practices and expresses their intimate relationship they have with their ‘āina and kai.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide this testimony of support for the Kīpahulu CBSFA, aloha!

Aloha,

V. Mapuana Kalaniopio-Cook

**From:** [Jerome Kekiwi Jr.](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony in Strong support of Kipahulu Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA)  
Agenda Item F-2  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 11:39:58 PM

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Aloha mai kakou,

My Name is Jerome Kekiwi Jr, I am the president of our non-profit organization Na Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui (Na Moku) located in the Ke'anae-Wailuanui Ahupua'a in the Ko'olau Moku.

Thank you for this chance to testify.

I am in Strong support of the Kipahulu Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA).

For years Kipahulu has paved the way for Maui Hikina (East Maui) community's being a role model for Subsistence living and education. I believe the Kipahulu ohana knows the best gathering practices to use in their Moku and can be a great example of Pono Lawai'a. Being so isolated, Kipahulu depends on their mountains and oceans to provide the mea'ai (food) they need to feed their families.

I am asking that you support Kipahulu in their efforts to designate their Moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA). They have worked long and tirelessly for years to put forth this action. With This Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA), it will allow the ohana's of and within Kipahulu to ensure generational food security and fulfill the wishes of the Kipahulu Kupuna. Once again thank you for this chance to testify.

Mahalo,  
Jerome Kekiwi Jr  
Email: [kanakakalo@gmail.com](mailto:kanakakalo@gmail.com)  
Mobile (808)264-9702



June 22, 2023

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Letters of Support Designation

Aloha Kāua,

Please see the attached 30 Letters of Support for the Kīpahulu Moku CBSFA Designation (Agenda Item F-2 on June 23, 2023 BLNR Meeting).

Mahalo nui,

*Kamalei Pico*

Kamalei Pico  
Executive Director  
Kīpahulu 'Ōhana Inc.  
P.O. Box 454  
Hāna, HI 96713  
(808) 269-3668  
ohana@kipahulu.org



Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

May 2nd, 2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

As Executive Director of Ala Kukui, I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, founded based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would "come up to smell your spear" and "pāpio would come when you snap under water." Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,

Kau'i Kanaka'ole, Executive Director — Ala Kukui

May 22, 2023

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DINR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha Chair Chang,

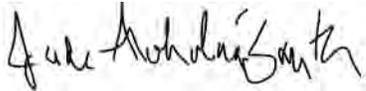
As the Former Representative of Aha Moku O Kaupo and a Resident of Kaupo, I'm very honored to write this letter in support for the proposed designated Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) In the Moku (District) of Kipahulu. I have worked hand in hand with the Kipahulu Ohana Inc for years and admire the work they do in managing the traditional Hawallan agriculture and shoreline projects.

The traditional knowledge of Kipahulu Is passed down to the Generations that John and Tweety Lind nurtures for preservation. Our Youths have grown up inspiring others in the importance of Ike (knowledge), being active and Involved In managing our areas and proving their ability to teach.

We appreciate the collaborative Partnerships they have established and to which has been extended to our Kaupo Moku (district). We highly believe in this process and that it will assist us in protecting our natural resources and traditional lifestyle that our Communities live upon.

Our Smith Ohana are in full support for formal designation for the CBSFA In Kipahulu under the Kipahulu Ohana Inc. Please help to expedite their process for a prosperous outcome.

Sincerely,



Jade Alohani Smith  
Kaupo Resident  
33275 Pillani Highway, Kaupo, HI 96713  
P.O. Box 1269, Kula, HI 96790  
808-870-2820

April 28, 2022

Chairperson Dawn Chang  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku CBSFA Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang:

On behalf of the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA), I write in strong support of Kīpahulu ‘Ohana’s efforts to designate Kīpahulu Moku’s nearshore waters as a Community- Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA). Not only would such designation offer an additional layer of protection to roughly 5.7 miles of coastline and 1,650 acres of submerged land, but it would also further the state’s Marine 30x30 Initiative as well as effectuate the state’s affirmative duty to protect and preserve Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices.

As a reference, The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement is a member-based 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a mission to enhance the cultural, economic, political, and community development of Native Hawaiians. Headquartered in Kapolei, CNHA is a Native Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) certified by the U.S. Treasury department and a HUD-Certified Housing Counseling agency. CNHA provides access to capital, financial education and individualized financial counseling services with a focus on low and moderate-income families. CNHA serves as a National Intermediary, providing grants and loans targeting underserved communities in Hawai‘i.

Kīpahulu is home to kama‘āina families who continue to maintain a significantly subsistence-based lifestyle. Steadfast in their traditional fishing, farming, and hunting practices, these families are determined to pass these traditions on to future generations. This kuleana, which is itself a traditional practice that stems from time immemorial, helps to ensure that future generations will be able to know the abundance of their kūpuna.

In more recent memory, the Kīpahulu ‘Ohana has been working to ensure the proper stewardship of Kīpahulu’s natural resources for nearly 25 years. In 2011, they promulgated the Mālama I Ke Kai Community Action Plan, which identified unsustainable harvest of fish, limu, and ‘opihi as one of the priority threats contributing to the degradation of the marine environment. With the community becoming increasingly frustrated with the noticeable decline in abundance, the Kīpahulu ‘Ohana reached out to DAR in 2016 to consider CBSFA designation and submitted an official CBSFA Proposal and Management Plan in 2019.

CNHA expresses great appreciation to the Kīpahulu ‘Ohana for all their hard work and effort. The proposed rules for the Kīpahulu Moku CBSFA were developed over a decade of conversations with Kūpuna, East Maui residents, fishers, state and county agencies, and science experts. Additionally, in furtherance of the proposal, Kīpahulu ‘Ohana spent several years conducting outreach activities to gather input and grow support for the designation, including community meetings, individual and family interviews and talk-story sessions, and educational tables at local festivals and other events.

CBSFA designation, along with a collaborative management plan, will provide Kīpahulu with an invaluable tool to help reduce, and hopefully eliminate, unsustainable harvest by changing human behaviour and allowing fish populations to stabilize and recover. Moreover, designation would serve to acknowledge and reinforce the kuleana that this community holds, and it would also empower them to have a greater say regarding the management of the resources that have sustained their families for countless generations.

Accordingly, CNHA stands in strong support of the proposal to designate Kīpahulu Moku as a CBSFA, and we urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.  
Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide this letter of support.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a,



J. Kūhiō Lewis  
Chief Executive Officer  
Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement



May 8, 2023

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based  
Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) Designation

Aloha Chair Chang,

As Regional Program Director for the Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL), I would like to express my strong support for Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI) and their pursuit of the Kīpahulu Moku CBSFA Designation. I first worked with the pono fishers of Kīpahulu community back in 2007 while at The Nature Conservancy. Back then, KOI already had a clear vision of how to bring back the abundance of marine resources so that their community could thrive. Rather than focusing on prohibitions, they focused positively on the abundance of what marine resources they wanted to see more of. Through their vision of abundance—more fish, more limu and more opihi, I have seen the Kīpahulu community come together around protecting the natural and cultural resources of Kīpahulu moku's coastline and have inspired other communities in Hawaii and across the Pacific region to do the same. It is rare to find a strong sense of kuleana *and* leadership with aloha together and this community organization has both and has worked very hard to get to this stage. It has been a long journey for them, and they have come a long way in further refining their stewardship plans in a very collaborative spirit and in close and respectful consultation with the DLNR through DAR Maui. The only thing they need now is the strong support of DLNR to recognize their good work via CBSFA designation, and in doing so, fulfill its mandate (via HRS §188-22.6) to work with communities as valued partners in protecting natural resources, and reaffirms and protects traditional and customary practices for subsistence and culture.

KOI has diligently worked through their internal processes within their community and have collaboratively engaged with DLNR (DAR Maui) and with fair, transparent and open public outreach over the years. The Kīpahulu community is a cultural kīpuka as they have always generously shared their fishing knowledge and Aloha 'Āina values with other communities across Hawai'i and the wider Pacific. One of the beloved and revered kūpuna in Hawaii, the late Uncle John Lind, mentored so many stewards of the land and sea that it is clear from his legacy that the true wealth of any community is its relationship with place and its ability to care for one another. The reason that KOI is pursuing support via this designation is so that this vital and reciprocal relationship between people and the place that feeds them can continue. In essence, perpetuating the well-being of Hawaii's people and protecting the culture of mālama 'āina from threats that deplete our resources. The Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area designation was designed specifically to protect places like Kīpahulu and as such, I fully and strongly support this CBSFA designation.



The people of Kīpahulu are generational stewards of their place and are lineal descendants that can trace their genealogy to pre-western contact communities that were established throughout the area of East Maui. Their intimate knowledge of place, their traditional practices on how to care for place must be protected. I believe their designation package reflects these traditional practices and knowledge on sustainably managing their coral reef fisheries—a truly complex system that has much to offer the rest of Hawaii and the world in terms of lessons in sustainability. I support this subsistence fishing community in their kuleana to mālama ‘āina and feed people now and into the future. This designation reflects the sound rationale of their traditional fishing practices and expresses their intimate relationship they have with their ‘āina. Moreover, the entire state will learn tremendous lessons from this CBSFA and will contribute significantly to the State’s Holomua initiative.

Under the leadership of Kīpahulu ‘Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way. KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua‘a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time. Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, have since declined indicating that we must all pursue improved management. This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai‘i’s nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making. Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai‘i’s cultural and natural heritage. Through their perseverance and diligence, KOI has not left any stone unturned in this process and have followed state guidelines. KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo for allowing me this opportunity to provide this written testimony in full and strong support of the Kīpahulu Moku CBSFA designation.

Sincerely,

Manuel Mejia  
Regional Program Director-Hawai‘i  
Coral Reef Alliance (coral.org)  
Email: [mmejia@coral.org](mailto:mmejia@coral.org)

Council Chair Director of Council Services  
Kelly T. King Maria E. Zielinski



Vice-Chair  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore

Tasha Kama

Councilmembers  
Riki Hokama  
Alice L. Lee  
Michael J. Molina  
Tamara Paltin  
Shane M. Sinenci  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
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WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

May 18, 2023

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land & Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair Chang,

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR CBFSA FOR KIPAHULU ‘OHANA**

My name is Shane Sinenci and I am the County Council Representative for East Maui. I am a Cultural Practitioner and also the East Maui Representative for “Aha Moku.” As such, I would like to express my sincere support for the proposal to designate the Moku of Kipahulu as a Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA).

Kipahulu Ohana is a long established, dependable non-profit organization which represents their ahupua’a in many different ways with CBSFA as their most current project. They are a group many others look up to regarding making their ahupua’a more independent and sustainable. There is much concern regarding East Maui’s resources; resources that many in our community need to sustain their families. East Maui still has many families who hunt and fish to subsist, given the lower

income status and the high cost of living. Through Kipahulu Ohana, there are at least three other ahupua'a interested in and attending workshops towards designating their own ahupua'a as CBSFA also.

As East Maui's Representative, I hope to assist with placing more Moku in East Maui and the whole Maui Nui into a CBSFA program assuring our future generations will always have food to sustain their livelihood and way of life for generations to come.

I fully support Kipahulu Ohana in their effort to designate Kipahulu Moku as a Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area and urge you to please move forward with this process. You are welcome to call me if you have any questions or need further information.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane M. Sinenci". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'S'.

Shane Sinenci, Councilmember  
Maui County Council  
East Maui Representative

cc: Kipahulu 'Ohana

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Date: 4/27/2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

As residents, I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, founded based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would "come up to smell your spear" and "papiro would come when you snap under water." Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,  
**Diane M. Kanealii & Roger M. Kanealii, Jr.**  
**Kawaihae, Hawaii**



# HALE HULU MAMO

## Hana Senior Center

P.O. Box 567 Hana, HI. 96713 (808) 248-8833  
Fax (808) 248-8803



April 27, 2023

Hale Hulu Mamo  
PO Box 567  
Hana, HI 96713

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha Chair Chang,

I am writing in complete support of Kipahulu ‘Ohana and their efforts to create a Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA). Kipahulu ‘Ohana has the tremendous *kuleana* of maintaining and managing one of our most significant and sacred places; Kipahulu Moku. This near shore waters is valuable and sustains important resources for our community. I submit this letter of support for Kipahulu ‘Ohana and their (CBSFA) to continue the culturally-appropriate management and protection of this special place.

The coastline of Kipahulu Moku has been a resource for our community in many ways. By perpetuating many varieties of Hawaiian fish, limu and opihi, they serve as a storehouse to provide “food” to our people who come back to the ocean and wish to fish these places once again. Having a bountiful shoreline, the Kipahulu ‘Ohana have shared harvest and allowed for fish population to stabilize and recover from their moku. We at Hale Hulu Mamo have assisted Kipahulu ‘Ohana in whatever ways we can, especially with building and maintaining the connections between the Kupuna of Hāna and Kipahulu Moku. The preservation and maintenance of Kipahulu Moku’s near shore waters as a CBSFA for future generations of Kanaka Maoli is vital to the Kupuna of Hāna and Hawai’i nei. As cultural practitioners of today we still gather from the ocean, *la’au lapa’au*, traditional medicines, food for our people and *sustenance* physically, spiritually and emotionally.

Please consider the proposal submitted by Kipahulu ‘Ohana with my support and that of the Kupuna of Hāna. Thank you for this opportunity to share our letter of support and the voices of our Kupuna.

Me ke aloha,

Sheila Roback  
Hale Hulu Mamo  
Senior Center Director



## Hāna Business Council

P.O. Box 856, Hāna, HI 96713

Email: [hbc@hanabusinesscouncil.com](mailto:hbc@hanabusinesscouncil.com)

Websites: [www.HanaBusinessCouncil.com](http://www.HanaBusinessCouncil.com) & [www.HanaMaui.com](http://www.HanaMaui.com)

Phone: (808) 435-2755

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

### Re: In **STRONG** Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

May 9, 2023

Aloha e Chair Chang,

On behalf of the **Hāna Business Council (HBC)**, with approval from our Board of Directors, we write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, founded based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would "come up to smell your spear" and "papio would come when you snap under water." Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,

Heidi Lea, HBC Executive Director

**Hāna Business Council**

[hbc@hanabusinesscouncil.com](mailto:hbc@hanabusinesscouncil.com)

The HBC Mission Statement: *Hāna Business Council exists to support business endeavors, create business and employment opportunities within the special culture and traditions of aloha, for the health and welfare of our East Maui area.*

Hāna Business Council is a nonprofit tax-exempt IRS 501(c)(3) organization. Federal Tax ID #99-0313784.  
Your donation is U.S. tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Date: April 26, 2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

As General Manager of Hana Maui Resort, I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, founded based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would "come up to smell your spear" and "papio would come when you snap under water." Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,



Jon Benson  
General Manager

Hana Maui Resort  
5031 Hana Hwy, Hana, HI 96713  
808-270-3250

May 18, 2023



Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, founded based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
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- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,  
  
Kauwila Hanchett  
Executive Director



P. O. Box 115  
Hāna, HI 96713  
contact@savehanacoast.org

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

May 2, 2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

As a Director and Vice Chair of Ke Ao Hāli'i - Save Hāna Coast, a non-profit based in Hāna, Maui, I am happy to write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, founded based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would "come up to smell your spear" and "papiro would come when you snap under water." Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I strongly urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

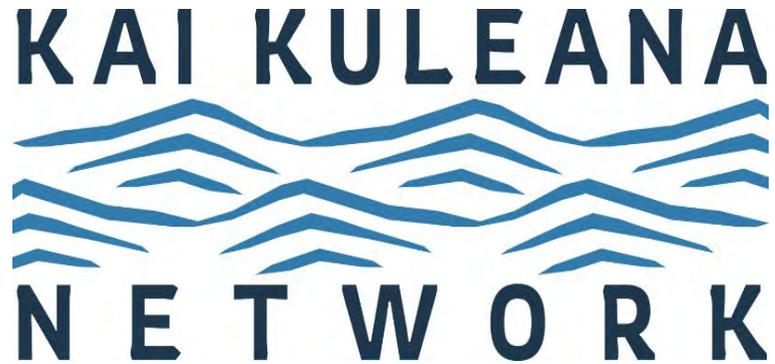
Mahalo,

*John "Irish" O'Hara*

John "Irish" O'Hara  
Ke Ao Hāli'i – Save the Hāna Coast

The Kai Kuleana Network  
PO Box 1056  
Kamuela, HI 96743

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813



Date: May 3, 2023

Re: Support of the Kīpahulu Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation and Management Plan

Aloha e Chair Chang,

The Kai Kuleana Network supports the efforts of the Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), in cooperation with the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and community members, to restore abundance to the Kīpahulu reefs and nearshore waters through their proposal to establish a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) designation and management plan.

The Kai Kuleana Network is composed of 15 communities in West Hawai'i, from South Kona to North Kohala, that are actively engaged in place-based conservation for people and nature to thrive, and collectively supports efforts to engage in solution-oriented community actions to promote 'āina momona (healthy vibrant places with engaged communities). The network aims to support one another in the perpetuation of traditional practices through active stewardship, capacity building, and place-based management that is intimately connected with the kai (sea).

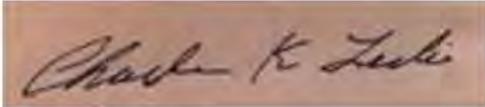
The KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work collaboratively with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and demonstrated their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time. The CBSFA application and draft management plan have been thoughtfully developed over 10 years, engaging many stakeholders, gathering over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way. Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would "come up to smell your spear" and "papiro would come when you snap under water." Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.

The Kai Kuleana Network encourages the Board of Land and Natural Resources to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously. This effort aligns with place-based pillar of the Holomua Marine Initiative, and the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community stewardship. Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage. The Kai Kuleana Network would like to praise the Kīpahulu 'ohana on their thoughtful approach to place-based management to ensure the marine resources are well cared for and thriving into the future.

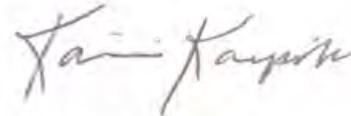
Mahalo for the opportunity to share our perspectives from the communities in West Hawai'i.

Signed on behalf of the Kai Kuleana Network by lineal descendants and representatives from Miloli'i, Ho'okena, Napo'opo'o (Kealakekua), Pahoehoe, Kahalu'u, Keauhuou, Kauhola, Kohanaiki, Ka'upulehu, Kūki'o, Kīholo, Puakō and Kawaihae, as well as kako'o organizations from Moana 'Ohana.

Mahalo,



Charles K. Leslie  
Kupuna Lawai'a  
Nāpo'o'opo'o, Hawai'i



Ka'imi Kaupiko  
Miloli'i, Kapalilua, Hawai'i



  
**REGGIE LEE**  
Manager, Shoreline and Public Areas  
Kohanaiki Service Company LLC

  
**KOHANAIKI**

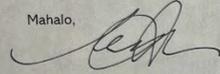
Mobile: 808.987.7213  
Office: 808.854.2817  
Email: rlee@kohanaiki.com  
[www.kohanaiki.com](http://www.kohanaiki.com)

Mail: PO Box 9015, Kailua-Kona HI 96745  
Courier: 73-2055 Ala Kohanaiki, Kailua-Kona HI 96740



**Ho'āla Kealakekua**

Mahalo,

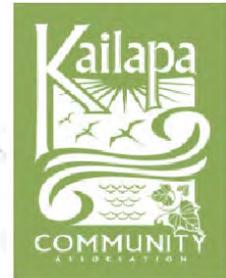


Alayna DeBina, VP/Secretary  
Ho'āla Kealakekua  
[hoalakealakekua@gmail.com](mailto:hoalakealakekua@gmail.com)  
808.987.6519

George Fry III  
Puakō Community Association  
Puakō, South Kohala, Hawai'i Island

Māhala nui:

Shawna K. Kaulukukui  
K.  
Shawna Kaulukukui-President  
Kailapa Community Association – Board of Directors



Diane and Roger Kanealii, Jr  
Kawaihae, Hawai'i

Jeffrey K. Coakley  
Kauhola, North Kohala, Hawai'i Island

Malia Kipapa  
Kipapa 'Ohana, Pahoehoe, Kahalu'u, Keahuou

Hannah Kihalani Springer  
Ka'upulehu Marine Life Advisory Committee

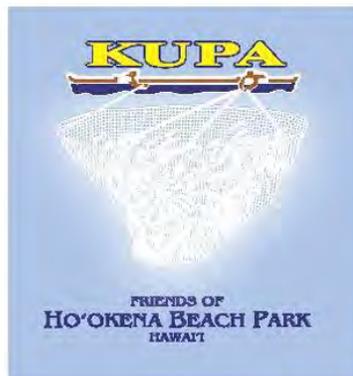
Charles Young  
KUPA Friends of Ho'okena Beach Park

Mike Nakachi, Moana 'Ohana

Ku'ulei Keakealani  
Lineal Descendant of Kekaha, North Kona  
Cultural Director  
Hui Aloha Kiholo



*Hui Aloha Kiholo*





*He Lawai a no ke kai papa u, ne pokoie ke ano; He Lawai a no ke kai  
hohonu he loa ke aho” “A fisherman of shallow seas uses a short  
line; a fisherman of the deep sea uses a long line.”*

## **KALANIHALE**

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

May 10, 2023

Re: STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

As Executive Director of Kalanihale, I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the designation of a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for Kīpahulu Moku, based on the following:

- Kīpahulu Moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including improper and overharvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would “come up to smell your spear” and “papiro would come when you snap under water.” Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua‘a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu ‘Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai‘i’s nearshore cultural and natural resources with community-based indigenous knowledge and leadership to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai‘i’s cultural and natural heritage.

89-1831 Milolii Road  
Captain Cook, HI 96704

Phone: (808)937-1310  
Fax: (866)265-6376

[kalanihale@gmail.com](mailto:kalanihale@gmail.com)  
[www.kalanihale.com](http://www.kalanihale.com)



*He Lawai a no ke kai papa u, ne pokoie ke ano; He Lawai a no ke kai  
hohonu he loa ke aho” “A fisherman of shallow seas uses a short  
line; a fisherman of the deep sea uses a long line.”*

## **KALANIHALE**

Milolii was fortunate to be the second community to receive CBSFA Status, Kīpahulu will be just the third to receive such a designation with rules and a management plan. I am hoping to see a favorable decision from the board as we continue to see more communities stand up for their culture and practice.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu Moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,

Kaimi Kaupiko  
89-1831 Milolii Road.  
Captain Cook, HI 96704

**Ka Pa'akai Consulting**  
1722 Kaiao St., Hilo, HI 96720  
(808) 384-6363  
kapaakaiconsulting@gmail.com

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Lā'aukūlua, Welo - May 9th, 2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

I am writing this letter in strong support to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu. I have worked alongside the 'ohana in Kīpahulu for a decade to support their fisheries monitoring efforts. They have been working tirelessly on these efforts and I can personally attest that the CBSFA should be founded based on the following:

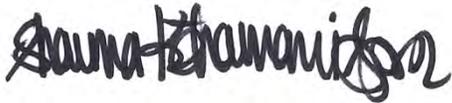
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fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.

- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

In closure, KOI has my **FULL SUPPORT** in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I respectfully ask for the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously. The future depends on our choices and actions today, let's do what is needed and let's do what is pono.

Na'u

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shauna Kēhaunani Springer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with some overlapping letters.

na Shauna Kēhaunani Springer  
Founder & Executive Director  
Ka Pa'akai Consulting  
Moku o Keawe

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Date: May 8, 2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

As the Vice President of Kaupō Community Association, Inc., I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, founded based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
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- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,  
Tara Apo-Priest



**Kipahulu Community Association**

HC 1 Box 168 • Hana, Hawaii 96713

May 17, 2023

Ms. Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha Chair Chang,

The Kipahulu Community Association, Inc. (KCA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1993 whose membership is comprised of all residents of Kipahulu area. The purposes of the KCA include: to help meet the needs and promote the affairs of Kipahulu; to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information; to promote self-sufficiency and conservation; and to preserve the natural beauty and rural agricultural values of the community.

At a general membership meeting held on April 22, 2023, attended by 29 community members, the KCA voted to reaffirm our support for the designation of Kipahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, as proposed by the Kipahulu 'Ohana, in order to protect the resources and the traditional lifestyles upon which our members depend.

The KCA's members include several Hawaiian families who have lived in the area for many generations and are practitioners of traditional subsistence fishing.

Our members participated in the Mālama I Ke Kai planning process that the Kipahulu 'Ohana led in 2010-2012 that set a priority to "Designate Kipahulu as a local management area under DLNR," and also in the development of the proposed rules that are part of the Kipahulu Ohana's CBSFA application.

As the proposed CBSFA is considered for formal designation, we wish to continue supporting this process, including being a partner in the management plan as appropriate to help to effectively implement the rules once the CBSFA is established.

Sincerely,



Janan Brown  
Secretary



Christopher E. Bird  
Department of Life Sciences - College of Science and Engineering  
6300 Ocean Dr. Unit 5802  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412-5800  
P: 361-825-6024 - F 825-2742

May 3, 2023

Ms. Dawn N. S. Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Dear Chair Chang,

I would like to express my **strong support** for Kīpahulu 'Ohana Inc.'s (KOI) proposal and management plan to adopt place-based regulations and designate the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (KM-CBSFA). My relationship with KOI began in 2008, over 15 years ago, when they (and The Nature Conservancy's Maui Marine Program) requested my assistance in monitoring their 'opihi populations while I was a postdoctoral fellow at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology, and after earning my Ph.D. at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa studying 'opihi. I continue to work with KOI and TNC through to the present day.

There are three primary reasons why I support KOI's application for the KM-CBSFA:

- 1) Through our monitoring efforts, we found a decline in 'opihi abundance from 2010-2014, and it's no secret that 'opihi declined substantially over 100 years ago. In the early 1900's, the commercial catch was up to ~150,000 lbs per year. From 2001-2021 (the latest records available), the commercial catch has averaged 9,856 lbs which is about the same average as for 1944-2021.
- 2) In over 40 years of 'opihi management by the State of Hawai'i (size regulation adopted in 1978), there has been no evidence of recovery, but in three short years of management by KOI, 'opihi were recovering without the benefit of legal enforcement. I have attached a copy of the thesis documenting this for your review. Imagine how successful KOI would be in managing their fisheries with the explicit support of the State of Hawai'i in the form of a CBSFA.

Through education and outreach, alone, KOI has successfully launched a program that encourages fishermen to voluntarily comply with 'Opihi Rest Areas where 'opihi can live and reproduce without being harvested. The 'Opihi Rest Areas, which began in 2014, have been successful in increasing the abundance of 'opihi in the Rest Areas and down-current in actively harvested areas. The results of this action are detailed in a Master's thesis written by my former student, Ms. Brenda Bennett, and passed the critical review of three committee members at Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi.

- 3) The future of Hawai'i's fisheries rests with the State and organizations like KOI and the State of Hawai'i should embrace, support, and partner with these local organizations. KOI is highly-organized, has demonstrated dedication to the sustainable extraction of marine resources in East Maui, is well-supported by The Nature Conservancy under the direction of Ms. Emily Fielding and now Mr. Scott Crawford, and has intricate knowledge and fishing practices that have been patiently acquired and passed down by multiple generations, including that of the current generations of fishermen. As you surely know, KOI is focused on managing their whole moku, not just 'opihi, and has been successful in the majority of their endeavors.



Christopher E. Bird  
Department of Life Sciences - College of Science and Engineering  
6300 Ocean Dr. Unit 5802  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412-5800  
P: 361-825-6024 - F 825-2742

I recognize the longstanding efforts of KOI as they continue to care for the natural and cultural resources of Kīpahulu Moku and East Maui. I fully support KOI and the Kīpahulu community's initiative to protect its natural and cultural resources by designating the moku of Kīpahulu as a CBSFA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chr. Bird".

Christopher E. Bird, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Director, Genomics Core Laboratory



## MARINE RESOURCE COUNCIL

April 24, 2023

Dawn Chang, Esq., Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Dear Chairperson Chang,

On behalf of the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council (MNMRC) I'm writing this letter in **strong support** of Kīpahulu 'Ohana Inc.'s (KOI) proposal and management plan to designate the Kīpahulu Moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area and adopt place-based regulations for the area. MNMRC, through its involvement with the Maui Nui Makai Network (MNMN), has worked with KOI since 2012 when the Network was formed. We have supported them as they have grown into a highly respected community managed conservation organization.

The founders of KOI embody aloha 'āina in all they do. From teaching youth about the ecological sustainability of traditional kalo farming systems, to working to preserve cultural sites within the Kīpahulu moku, to influencing the local community to support an opihi resting zone, KOI has had a huge influence in helping both the local and visiting community understand the importance of sustainable subsistence practices. KOI's founders and managers possess intricate knowledge of traditional farming and fishing practices, passed down to them over multiple generations and carefully refined through both the study of historical documents and research on aquatic ecosystems and effective fisheries management. KOI is highly respected in the local community and therefore uniquely positioned to propose and govern bottom-up pono fishing practices that will ensure culturally sensitive and effective fisheries management in Kīpahulu moku. KOI has also acted as a leader, reaching out to other East Maui communities and sharing experience and tools to empower them in the management of their own areas.

Maui Nui Marine Resource Council recognizes the longstanding efforts of KOI as they continue to care for the natural and cultural resources of Kīpahulu moku and East Maui and serve as a model for Maui and the state. MNMRC is in full support of KOI and the Kīpahulu community's initiative to protect its natural and cultural resources by designating the moku of Kīpahulu as a CBSFA.

Sincerely,

Michael Fogarty  
Acting Executive Director  
Maui Nui Marine Resource Council

# MAUI OCEAN CENTER

*Our Mission: To foster understanding,  
wonder and respect for Hawaii's marine life.*

Dawn N.S. Change, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

04/27/23

RE: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Dear Chair Chang,

My name is Tapani Vuori and as General Manager at the Maui Ocean Center and a President of the Board at the Maui Ocean Center Marine Institute I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, Maui. CBSFA application and draft management plan submitted by Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI) has been many years in the making and garnered much support not only in Kīpahulu but also in neighboring communities far and wide.

It is disheartening to witness the degradation to near shore marine eco systems in many of our communities as demonstrated by ample data and research but also anecdotally as we all have heard the stories from our kūpuna how things used be. The community of Kīpahulu has become increasingly concerned about the continued decline of natural resources in their area and the perceived disconnect with the regulations that are supposed to protect them. Here we have a community that has recognized the importance getting involved and becoming engaged with an existential issue of having ability to manage, or rather mālama, natural resources in their community.

Papahānaumokuākea and Kahekili Herbivore Fisheries Management Area and 'Āhihi-Kīna'u reserve are great examples already here on Maui what is possible with regards to protecting our natural resources. These and other Marine Protected Areas (MPA) give us a window to most likely outcome with the CBSFA designation for Kīpahulu community. Data shows that within MPA's not only are there benefits marine life with regards to biomass, resiliency, numerical density and organism size but also financial benefit has been documented. Then there is a well-



192 Ma'alaea Road Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793 • [mauiocceancenter.com](http://mauiocceancenter.com) • 808.270.7000

documented “spillover” effect that positively impacts the areas around the MPA’s. Empowering the local community to take care of their natural resources is a very powerful multiplier in our collective efforts to safeguard the natural resources for the future generations.

I applaud DLNR in your first designation in the State of Hawaii of the Miloli’i Community as a Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA), on Hawai’i Island. This demonstrates that this is doable and the level of excitement about this has been palpable Statewide. Both Miloli’i and Kīpahulu have many things in common but again most importantly they both have communities that are engaged and committed to protecting the natural resources in communities, and they are very passionate about this.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha,



Tapani Vuori

808.561.2022

[tvuori@mauiocenter.com](mailto:tvuori@mauiocenter.com)

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Date: 04/27/2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

My name is Jerome Kekiwi Jr President of our 501©3 non-profit organization Na Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui located in the Ke'anae-Wailuanui Ahupua'a of the Ko'olau Moku, I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, founded based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would "come up to smell your spear" and "papiro would come when you snap under water." Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,





*P.O. Box 824 • Hana, Hawaii 96713*

May 5, 2023

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**RE: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation (CBSFA)**

Dear Chairperson Chang,

On behalf of the Board and families of Nā Mamo O Mū'olea, we offer our strongest support of the proposal and management plan of Kipahulu Ohana Inc. (KOI) to adopt place-based regulations and designate the Kīpahulu Moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area.

Founded in 2006, Nā Mamo O Mū'olea is a non-profit organization dedicated to perpetuating traditional 'ahupua'a management of the Mū'olea 'ahupua'a in East Maui, and to restore and maintain the area's natural, cultural, scenic, historic and marine resources for the benefit, education and enjoyment of our community and future generations. We manage a 72-acre area of coastal land that is owned by the County of Maui through a 50-year lease agreement, including various shoreline management and educational projects.

Nā Mamo O Mū'olea and Kipahulu Ohana, Inc. have worked in partnership on our makai efforts since both organizations started to put a particular focus on this aspect of our programs around 2010. Both organizations are part of the 'Opihi Partnership and manage voluntary 'opihi rest areas in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy and Texas A&M University Corpus Christi. We share our 'opihi survey methods that were developed through the work of the Partnership, and support each other in our rest area efforts. In addition, both organizations were co-founders in 2013 of the Maui Nui Makai Network, bringing together communities on Maui, Moloka'i and Lāna'i that are actively engaged in culturally- and community-based makai management projects to encourage and support each other's efforts.

Kīpahulu Ohana, Inc. has demonstrated an enduring commitment to ahupua'a management and education programs, from the mountain to the sea, based on the generational traditional knowledge of the Native Hawaiian practitioners of the area, and supported by appropriate science and technology.

As all of our communities in East Maui, we know that the traditional fishermen and practitioners of Kīpahulu have witnessed a decline in the abundance and diversity of their nearshore fisheries over the years, and are concerned about the impact of overharvesting and inappropriate harvest methods and other pressures that will continue to degrade the fisheries over time without intervention.

Although Nā Mamo O Mū'olea has chosen not to pursue CBSFA designation for the area we manage at this time, we support the co-management model to protect traditional and customary practices that the CBSFA designation embodies, and we believe Kīpahulu moku is very appropriate region to protect and manage in this fashion.

We offer our continued support for the Kīpahulu 'Ohana in their ongoing makai management efforts, and strongly encourage the Department to support the application and management plan for the designation of Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Claudia W. Kalaola". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a light gray rectangular background.

Claudia W. Kalaola  
Director, Kūpuna Practitioner



# United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Interior Regions 8, 9, 10, and 12  
Haleakalā National Park  
P.O. Box 369  
Makawao, HI, 96768

IN REPLY REFER TO: *HALE A.1.2; 10.A*

April 25, 2023

Dawn Chang  
Chairperson, Board of Land  
and Natural Resources DLNR  
Main Office, Kalanimoku  
Building 1151 Punchbowl  
Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Chang:

During the consideration of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation, we are writing to highlight the benefits that would result from Kīpahulu 'Ohana's resource protection through the Kīpahulu Moku Malama I Ke Kai program.

The National Park Service (NPS) first entered into a partnership agreement with the Kīpahulu 'Ohana ("Ohana") in 1995 for the management and interpretation of Kapahu Living Farm, a traditional wetland taro farm located within Haleakalā National Park. For the last few years, the 'Ohana has taken the initiative on several shoreline management projects, including the voluntary 'Opihi Rest Area adjacent to the park. The Kīpahulu Campground that the NPS manages is the access point for hundreds of residents and visitors to enjoy the Kīpahulu shoreline, and both the NPS and the 'Ohana have worked hard to educate users regarding makai resource management issues. Prominent among these issues is the establishment and promotion of the community-based voluntary 'Opihi Rest Area spearheaded by the 'Ohana as part of the 'Opihi Partnership. The Partnership's co-members include the National Park Service as well as other key state and federal agencies and private organizations. NPS staff have worked with the 'Ohana to place "No Take" signs along key access points on the shoreline, participated in the design of an educational poster at the campground and visitor center, participated in 'opihi biological surveys, received training and provided information to campground and other shoreline users to encourage voluntary compliance within the 'Opihi Rest Area.

The goals of the Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) program align with the conservation mission of the National Park Service, to "conserve the scenery and the wild life therein and provide for the enjoyment of the same in such a manner as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." We place value on education and training of NPS staff so they can communicate to visitors the traditional and customary practices of the area. As the CBSFA proposed by the Kīpahulu 'Ohana is considered for formal designation, we are happy to continue providing

INTERIOR REGION 8 • LOWER COLORADO BASIN\*  
INTERIOR REGION 9 • COLUMBIA—PACIFIC NORTHWEST\*  
INTERIOR REGION 10 • CALIFORNIA—GREAT BASIN  
INTERIOR REGION 12 • PACIFIC ISLANDS

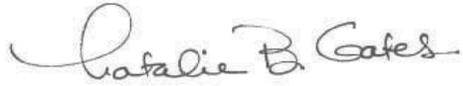
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AMERICAN SAMOA, ARIZONA\*, CALIFORNIA, GUAM, HAWAII, IDAHO, MONTANA\*,  
NEVADA, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, OREGON, WASHINGTON

\*PARTIAL

input and partnership in this process. Protection of the shoreline areas adjacent to Haleakalā National Park benefits not just the immediate community but the entire island community. Please let us know if we can provide any additional information or perspective on this important topic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Natalie B. Gates". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Natalie B. Gates  
Superintendent



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
737 IWILEI ROAD, SUITE 200  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

May, 23, 2023

Ms. Dawn N. S. Chang, Chairperson and  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha e Chair Chang and members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

It is my privilege, in my personal capacity as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), to offer this letter of support for the Kīpahulu 'Ohana's request for Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) designation.

I wish to commend the BLNR for its enduring effort in CBSFA designation, which have served as a place-based and community-driven framework for the State to uphold its kuleana to protect traditional and customary Native Hawaiian practices as a matter of law, the public trust, and 'ceded lands' trust.

It is my understanding that the Kīpahulu 'Ohana is asking for CBSFA designation to ensure the sustainability of the Kīpahulu moku's fisheries and the traditional and customary Native Hawaiian practices that are interconnected with the ecosystems comprising this 'āina. In light of this request, OHA has taken a position in strong support of Kīpahulu's CBSFA designation.

Native Hawaiians, i ka wā ma mua, of the time before, imparted the wisdom for the need for sustainability and self-sufficiency that the world now recognizes as critical for the perpetuation of humankind. As the climate crisis, often described as the greatest existential threat to our existence, unfolds before us, it becomes ever-so imperative to nānā i ke kumu, to look to the source, for solutions that advance not just our survival, but our means to thrive – one of the most evident of these solutions that are rooted in time-proven tempered tradition is through the preservation and protection of cultural resource infrastructures in CBSFA designation.

I humbly ask that the BLNR considers a formal hearing for the designation of Kīpahulu as a CBSFA and offer my most sincere gratitude for the Board's time and consideration. Mahalo nui loa.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carmen Hulu Lindsey".

Carmen Hulu Lindsey  
Maui Trustee and Chairperson,  
Board of Trustees, Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Hulu

**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Mayor

**KEKUHAUPIO R. AKANA**  
Managing Director



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.maui-county.gov](http://www.maui-county.gov)

May 19, 2023

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Chang:

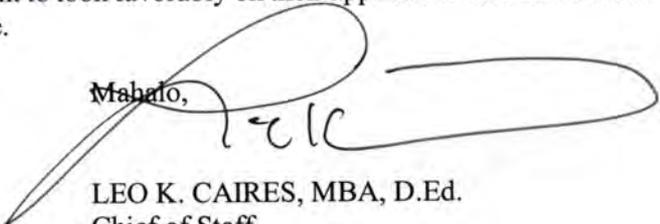
Re: Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

As Chief of Staff, I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu. Our support is also based on the following:

- Supporting an organization which conducts projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They aim to work in a collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time which is important in seeking this designation.
- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under pressure from overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would "come up to smell your spear" and "pāpio would come when you snap under water." Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.
- The effort of this organization aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would support an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has asked for support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and we are extending our support to the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously as possible.

Mahalo,

  
LEO K. CAIRES, MBA, D.Ed.  
Chief of Staff

**Patrick Springer**  
1722 Kaiao St., Hilo, HI 96720  
(808) 345-3322  
Pat96785@gmail.com

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Lā'aukūlua, Welo - May 9th, 2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

My name is Patrick Springer and I am a resident of Hawai'i Island. My 'ohana and I frequent the shorelines of the Hawai'i island monthly for i'a, limu, and pa'akai. While we do not subsist solely off what we gather, we do supplement our family meals with what our 'āina and kai provide for us.

I am writing this letter in **FULL SUPPORT** to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu. I have frequented Kīpahulu and met lawai'a and 'ohana from there and I can personally attest that the CBSFA should be founded based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would "come up to smell your spear" and "papiro would come when you snap under water." Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.

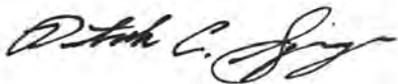
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

I also share that many people in Kīpahulu and East Maui rely heavily on subsistence fishing for survival. There are not many economic opportunities for its residents. Conservation and community-based stewardship of natural resources is not only needed, but essential to the preservation of their way of life. The CBSFA has the potential to become a prime example of community responsibility, ownership, and management for the rest of Hawai'i.

The COVID-19 pandemic shows how dependent and vulnerable our remote islands are to supply chain disruptions. The rules package is critically important ensuring that neighbor island residents can live, thrive, and endure global crises. On this note, Hawai'i is also facing an unprecedented financial crisis. The CBSFA rules package increases financial and operational effectiveness of the Division of Aquatic Resources by decentralizing enforcement, outsourcing community outreach, and decreasing manpower requirements on the State budget.

In closure, I **FULLY SUPPORT** KOI in their efforts to designate Kīpahulu moku as a CBSFA and I respectfully ask for your support as well. Please take a moment to reflect upon the opportunity we all have for our children's children to look back and say we left a legacy for them.

Na'u

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick C. Springer".

na Patrick Springer  
Moku o Keawe  
pat96785@gmail.com

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

May 6, 2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

As Conservation Manager at Pacific Whale Foundation, I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, founded based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would "come up to smell your spear" and "pāpio would come when you snap under water." Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has our full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,  
Susan Frett  
Conservation Manager  
Pacific Whale Foundation



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

May 19, 2023

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

*Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation*

Aloha e Chair Chang,

As Representative for House District 13, I am pleased to write this letter urging support to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu, based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua`a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnerships with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
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Representative Mahina Poepoe  
House District 13  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 331  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
(808) 586-6790 reppoepoe@capitol.hawaii.gov

- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,



Representative Mahina Poepoe  
District 13  
Pā'ia, Ha'ikū, Nāhiku, Kaupō, Hāna, Kīpahulu,  
Molokini, Kaho'olawe, Lana'i, Molokai

Representative Mahina Poepoe  
House District 13  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 331  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
(808) 586-6790 reppoepoe@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dawn Chang: Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

06/01/2023

Aloha Chairperson Chang,

My name is Samuel Ahling Akoi IV. My father's 'ohana is from the Keanae side of the Hana Coast and my Mother's is from Kipahulu and Kaupo. My Grandchildren trace their Kipahulu heritage back 8 generations to the Pio family.

I recently moved back to Kipahulu after nearly 20 years of being away, working, getting my children through school and generally, "making a living".

But you know, it didn't really feel like, "making a living", it felt like just getting by.

While living, "outside", I would come, "home" often. I would come home to fish, hunt and gather. But I also needed to come home to nourish and nurture my soul. I needed to come home to, "fill myself up" with the good, with the real of who I truly am.

As a child we lived in Hana town, but came to Kipahulu on weekends, school breaks and for the summer. My Grandfather was the Kipahulu Ranch Manager and all of my Aunties, Uncles and Cousins would come as an 'Ohana to reconnect, gather and be together.

One of the things I remember doing regularly was surrounding akule at Lelekea. I'm in my 50's now, I'm back in Kipahulu, I go down to Lelekea, my Grandparents are gone, my mother is gone, many of my Uncles are gone, and the akule are gone.

In their place there are trophy fisherman from outside, camping at Lelekea with numerous poles per fisherman in the water, leaving opala, toilet paper and their own human waste, posting pictures on instagram and bragging at fishing tournaments about where their prize ulua came from.

I walk each morning from my house near Kukulula, Kipahulu to Kalepa and back. Most mornings there are fisherman camping at Lelekea and most weekends at Hanawi as well.

I make it a point to talk to the fisherman and let them know the mana'o behind this area and our traditional practices. I ask them to take their rubbish away with them, to remind them to take

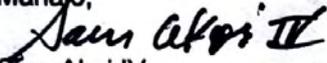
only what they need to eat. I ask them to please not post the location of their catch online. I ask them to please give back to this area and to be thankful for what they received.

I feel so blessed that when I get hungry for fish, instead of driving to the market and buying my dinner, I grab my throw net and catch my dinner. This is subsistence living. This is what Kipahulu still is today.

If Kipahulu was designated as a Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA), this precious lifestyle would be protected and be available for future generations. When I went on my walks in the morning I would not only be suggesting that this area be treated respectfully and used in a pono way; it would be the legal mandate.

Please support Kipahulu 'Ohana and the people of Kipahulu in our continued Malama 'Aina of our home and wahi Pana.

Mahaio,



Sam Akoi IV

PO Box 993

Hana, HI 96713

[uluponomauka@gmail.com](mailto:uluponomauka@gmail.com)

(808)281-4259

**OFFICE OF MILILANI B. TRASK  
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - HAWAI'I ISLAND TRUSTEE  
MAY 30, 2023**

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office, Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community - Based  
Subsistence Fishing Area Designation**

Aloha e Chair Chang,

I applaud Kīpahulu 'Ohana's efforts to create a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu. My family has strong ties to the area. I am a descendant of the Maui Chiefs of the Pi'ilani line. I trace my genealogy to the High Ali'i Lonohonuakini, the grandfather of King Kekaulike of Maui. My maternal grandmother Iwalani Haia is a lineal descendant of Hana and was a well-known kilo i'a of akule fishing. Stewardship is an important teaching and practice by the Haia-Cooper family of Hana. My two brothers were Captains of commercial fishing and passenger cruising. My surviving younger brother Michael is the harbormaster in Hilo Bay.

I offer all of this personal information to demonstrate why the efforts of Kīpahulu 'Ohana resonate with me and why I am proud to support them. They understand what it means to cherish and sustain community and hold dear to Hawaiian traditional practices. They know what community means in Hawaiian culture and what it demands of each of us.

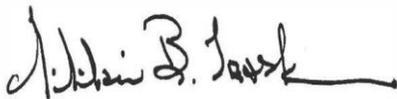
They have spent many many years using various means to engage many stakeholders. They have amassed over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents and reached over 260,000 people here and around the world. In doing so, they listened to input from many. I am impressed by their experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They can work effectively with all kinds of agencies and organizations.

**OFFICE OF MILILANI B. TRASK**  
**OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS - BOARD OF TRUSTEES - HAWAI'I ISLAND TRUSTEE**  
**MAY 30, 2023**

Kīpahulu moku suffers from over-harvesting and improper harvesting. Fishery abundance and biomass have declined. They are doing something about what they kilo. They deserve to be supported.

As someone who has developed a model for indigenous entrepreneurship, I am delighted to see this grassroots effort to elevate Hawaiian traditional knowledge in the co-management of our marine resources. It is in step with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports more community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

I urge you to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area and approve it without delay. It is a step in the right direction, and it will help our families thrive.



Mililani B. Trask  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
Board of Trustees Vice Chair  
Hawai'i Island Trustee

Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

26 April 2023

Re: STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

As Program Administrator for Miloli'i Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, I am very pleased to write this letter urging support for the designation of a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for Kīpahulu Moku, based on the following:

- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including improper and overharvesting of marine resources. Local fishers have described abundant fishery resources present in Kīpahulu 30-40 years ago, noting that fish would “come up to smell your spear” and “pāpio would come when you snap under water.” Since then, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, suggesting room for improved management.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore cultural and natural resources with community-based indigenous knowledge and leadership to inform decision-making.
- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has my full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu Moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, and I urge the Department to look favorably on their application and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,

  
U'ilani Naipo



June 16, 2023

**ATTN:** Ms. Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St., Room 132  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Submitted *via Email* at [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)

**SUBJECT:** Letter of Support for Agenda Item F-2, Request for Approval to Hold Public Hearings to Adopt a New Chapter as Hawai'i Administrative Rules, Title 13, Chapter 60.11, "Kīpahulu Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, Maui," BLNR Meeting, 9:15 a.m., June 23, 2023

Aloha pumehana kākou:

Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA) submits this letter in **strong support** for the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) to hold public hearings to adopt new rules for establishing a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) in the Kīpahulu Moku of Maui.

KUA was founded in part by kūpuna of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI) to empower communities to improve their qualities of life by caring for their biocultural (natural and cultural) heritages. We work to increase our communities' resiliency, adaptation, and transformation through community-based biocultural resource management, currently supporting three major networks of: (1) almost 40 mālama 'āina (caring for our 'āina or "that which feeds") community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together); (2) over 40 loko i'a (fishpond aquaculture systems unique to Hawai'i) in varying stages of restoration and development, with caretakers, stakeholders, and volunteers known as the Hui Mālama Loko I'a ("caretakers of fishponds"); and (3) the Limu Hui made up of over 50 loea (traditional experts) and practitioners in all things "limu" or locally-grown "seaweed." Our shared nu'ukia (vision) is to once again experience what our kūpuna (ancestors) referred to as 'āina momona – abundant and healthy ecological systems that sustain our communities' resilience and well-being.

Over the years, KUA supported (and continues to support) similar efforts to establish CBSFAs in places like Hā'ena, Mo'omomi, and Miloli'i through our network and capacity building activities. We were also founded in part by members of the Hui Mālama o Mo'omomi, which inspired the creation of CBSFA law over twenty years ago, paving the way for the efforts here in Kīpahulu Moku. In addition, our E Alu Pū council has prioritized supporting the development of CBSFAs over the last decade. KUA will continue to assist CBSFA and fishery management-focused communities to build their capacities and share their 'ike (insights) of both the successes and struggles, consequently empowering each other in this long daunting process.



We recognize the longstanding efforts of KOI as they continue to protect and promote their biocultural heritage in Kīpahulu Moku and East Maui through this endeavor. To witness the broad community outreach and partnerships developed through this CBSFA venture is both uplifting and exciting. Indeed, just as efforts in Hā'ena and Mo'omomi encouraged the work at hand for Kīpahulu, KUA could not be prouder to kāko'o (support) establishment of this new CBSFA that will likely serve as inspiration for other communities across Hawai'i.

Similar to their predecessors before them, the time and energy spent by Kīpahulu community members to reach this phase in the process far exceeds efforts generally expended by DLNR staff themselves to identify, develop, and execute State management plans. As shown in their impressive administrative record, KOI started drafting the proposed rules at hand over ten years ago, and during this time they led extensive community outreach including circulating a petition, holding public meetings, presenting at various local events, working with DLNR staff, conducting school visits, and ultimately implementing the feedback and constructive criticisms they received into their proposed rules and management plan.

KUA applauds KOI's tireless hana (work) thus far and thanks them for further expanding our shared movement to reestablish 'āina momona and best mālama our kō Hawai'i pae 'āina (island home) now and forever.

We urge the Chair and BLNR members to hold public hearings to adopt rules to establish a much-needed CBSFA in the Kīpahulu Moku of Maui.

**Pūpūkahi i holomua e ho'okanaka!**

*Let us all unite to better the human condition*

Me ka mahalo a me ka 'oia'i'o nō,

Kevin K.J. Chang  
Executive Director

Alex Connelly  
E Alu Pū Coordinator

Olan Leimomi Fisher  
Kua'āina Advocate

**From:** [Mary McClung Law](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Agenda item F-2 : In STRONG SUPPORT of the Kipahulu Moku CBSFA Designation  
**Date:** Thursday, June 22, 2023 4:06:52 AM

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Dawn Chang, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources

Date: June 21, 2023

Re: In **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Kipahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang,

A long time resident of Kipahulu, I am deeply concerned about the current state of and outlook for local ocean resources especially as it overwhelmingly affects current and future Native Hawaiian populations. Area specific measures under the proposed CBSFA with the Kipahulu Ohana would be a wise choice moving forward.

It is my sincere hope you will welcome the opportunity to approve this designation and place the Kipahulu Ohana as the area team. The Ohana, (affectionately nicknamed in the area) has consistently had broad support from the Kipahulu and East Maui populations over decades. Their presence, projects and actions have time and again well served the community, culture and future generations at junctures of need. They know the ocean, seaweeds, different sea creatures and various areas better than anyone else. Their concern to protect the resources is tangible, as this is their community they are planning for and culturally these all hold importance of tremendous magnitude. I hold great regard for the work they have done and continue to do and proffer them as deserving of this important opportunity with assistance from the BLNR.

I wholeheartedly support their efforts to designate the Kipahulu moku as defined under the proposal. As such, I take the opportunity to write this letter urging your approval and support to move forward to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kipahulu, and can relay the following points:

~ Kipahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including climate change, over harvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources. Since 30-40 years ago, fishery abundance and biomass has been observed to decline, pointing to the need for increased management.

~ Kipahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI) is a well-established and respected organization with over 20 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have consistently proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.

~ Such a designation would be in line with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

~ This effort aligns with and would fill the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.

~ Under the leadership of KOI, the CBSFA application and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.

But we cannot wait to act any longer. In consideration of the above discussion, I strongly urge the Department to look favorably on this proposal today and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously. I daresay looking back, you will be proud to have played a part in creating the remarkable legacy to come from this designation at this pivotal time.

Sincerely and Mahalo,

Mary McClung Law

**From:** [william.mae-huihui](mailto:william.mae-huihui)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [kamalei@kipahulu.org](mailto:kamalei@kipahulu.org); [Kekoa, Edward L](#); [KUAHAWAII-Kevin](#); [Olan KUA](#); [Uilani Naipo](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda F-2 In Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 8:21:43 AM

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**Testimony of**  
**William K. Mae-Huihui**  
**Miloli'i Makai Watch Coordinator**  
**Agenda F-2**  
**SUPPORT**

Aloha mai kakou, my name is William Ma'e-Huihui. I am a lawai'a practitioner, kako'o to Kalanihale, and Coordinator for Miloli'i Makai Watch.

As Miloli'i nears the one year mark for our CBSFA (Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area) it brings great joy to have our sister community have the opportunity to protect and bless their lands and oceans with pono rules to help revitalize their area as well as the surrounding areas.

It shows that with the hard work and dedication from the community they are on a pono path to conserve and preserve traditional practices of their area, and continue sharing pono traditions of harvest and land use. With their amazing team work and dedication Kipahulu CBSFA will make an amazing addition to the CBSFA ohana.

In conclusion I stand in full support of Kipahulu CBSFA. I stand with their community in praise and love for this is a new chapter for an amazing community.

Mahalo nui loa

William Ma'e-Huihui  
Miloli'i Makai Watch

Sent from my iPhone



**MĀLAMA  
PŪPŪKEA-WAIMEA**  
PROTECTING OUR OCEAN'S RESOURCES

**Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea**  
Post Office Box 188  
Hale'iwa, HI 96712

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**Staff**

*Jenny Yagodich,  
Director of Educational  
Programs & Community  
Outreach*

**Federal Nonprofit Organization**  
501(c)(3) FEIN 27-0855937

Testimony for June 23, 2023 BLNR Hearing  
[blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)

Dawn Chang, Chair & Members of the Board  
Board of Land & Natural Resources  
1151 Punchbowl Street Room 330  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

June 21, 2023

Re: **SUPPORT regarding Agenda Item F-2:** Request for Approval to Hold Public Hearings to Adopt a New Chapter as Hawai'i Administrative Rules, Title 13, Chapter 60.11, "Kīpahulu Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, Maui,"

*BLNR Meeting June 23, 2023, 9:15AM; Kalanimoku Building and via ZOOM and YouTube*

**Aloha Chair Chang and Board Members,**

Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea (MPW) is the grassroots, community non-profit that actively works to care for, educate about, and protect our fragile, near-shore marine ecosystems of Pūpūkea and Waimea. Our mission is "working to replenish and sustain the natural and cultural resources of the Pūpūkea and Waimea ahupua'a for present and future generations through active community stewardship, education, and partnerships."

We **strongly support** Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc.'s (KOI's) efforts to establish a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA), with public hearings being a critical next step in this long and complicated process. KOI has demonstrated their readiness for public hearings through their impressive administrative record: starting this CBSFA process over a decade ago in 2010, and since then conducting broad community and public outreach estimated at engaging over 260,000 people. They have also shown that they are receptive to critical feedback, able to find common ground and understanding among the various differing voices at the table. We have no doubt that KOI will continue their steadfast efforts throughout the public hearings process with integrity and aloha, while not compromising any of their community's goals to establish this long-awaited CBSFA. In addition, we look forward to collaborating with them on their Makai Watch program to educate their community and help enhance DOCARE's work.

For the above reasons, MPW strongly urges the BLNR to approve holding public hearings regarding the proposed CBSFA for the Kīpahulu Moku. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Mahalo nui,

Jenny Yagodich  
Director of Educational Programs &  
Makai Watch Coordinator



Board of Land and Natural Resources  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

May 24, 2023

Re: In STRONG Support of the Kīpahulu Moku Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation

Aloha e Chair Chang and Members of the Board,

As Chair of the Maui Nui Makai Network, I am very pleased to write this letter on behalf of the Network members, urging support for the proposal to designate a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) for the moku (district) of Kīpahulu.

Founded in 2013, the Maui Nui Makai Network is a group of nine community organizations across Maui Nui (Maui, Lāna'i, Moloka'i, and Kaho'olawe) who are exerting our kuleana (responsibility) to care for the ocean in a way that honors our kūpuna (ancestors), and the traditional and cultural practices of our places. We work to protect and restore healthy coastal and marine ecosystems for the people of Maui Nui using powerful place-based, collaborative strategies.

Our support for the Kīpahulu Moku CBSFA is based on the following:

- Under the leadership of Kīpahulu 'Ohana, Inc. (KOI), the CBSFA proposal and draft management plan have been over 10 years in the making, engaging many stakeholders, amassing over 600 signatures of support from East Maui residents, reaching over 260,000 people locally and globally with information regarding their management efforts, and allowing many different opportunities for community input along the way.
- KOI is a well-established and respected organization with over 25 years of experience conducting projects for ahupua'a management, including traditional Hawaiian agriculture and shoreline management. They have proven their ability to work in collaborative partnership with agencies and organizations for co-management efforts, and their capacity to sustain projects and programs over time.
- Kīpahulu moku, while rich in history, culture, and resources, is also under threat from various influences, including overharvesting and improper harvesting of marine resources.
- This effort aligns with and greatly supports the need for co-management of Hawai'i's nearshore resources by elevating indigenous community leadership and insight to inform decision-making.

- Such a designation would be consistent with Executive Order 18-06 (relating to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals) that supports an increase in community management of marine resources and the protection of Hawai'i's cultural and natural heritage.

KOI has the Network's full support in their efforts to designate the Kīpahulu moku as a Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area and enter into a co-management partnership with the Division of Aquatic Resources, and I urge the Board to look favorably on their application and approve the request for public hearing, and move the administrative rule-making process forward expeditiously.

Mahalo,  
Solomon Kaho'ohalahala  
Maui Nui Makai Network Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Solomon Kaho'ohalahala". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Testimony in **Support** of  
Kīpahulu Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area, Maui Request for Public Hearing

Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) Meeting — June 23, 2023  
Agenda Item F-2

June 21, 2023

Aloha e Chairperson Chang a me nā lālā o BLNR,

I am U‘ilani Naipo, lineal descendant of Miloli‘i, ‘āina a Kapalilua o Kona Hema, moku o Keawe.

I lend my leo in **strong support** of approving Kīpahulu ‘Ohana’s request for public hearing to adopt the Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area designation, proposed rules, and Marine Management Plan in Kīpahulu, Maui.

Kīpahulu ‘Ohana has worked long and hard over 10 years to create the proposed rules and management plan for the stewardship of their place and to meet the subsistence needs of their community. Kīpahulu ‘Ohana has briefed you on their extensive work to be before you, and with strong confidence, to say they are mākaukau to move forward in this process for CBSFA designation.

Please **approve** Kīpahulu ‘Ohana’s request.

Mahalo to each of you for your service for our Hawai‘i, our ‘āina, our ocean, and our ea.

Me ke aloha a me ka ha‘aha‘a,

U‘ilani Naipo  
Miloli‘i CBSFA Administrator



# SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

Testimony to  
**BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

June 23, 2023

9:15 AM

Room 132

**In SUPPORT of F-2:**

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS TO ADOPT A NEW CHAPTER UNDER HAWAI'I ADMINISTRATIVE RULES ("HAR") AS TITLE 13 CHAPTER 60.11, "KĪPAHULU MOKU COMMUNITY-BASED SUBSISTENCE FISHING AREA, MAUI" (KĪPAHULU CBSFA) TO: OUTLINE THE PURPOSE OF THE KĪPAHULU CBSFA AND ITS SUBZONES; PROVIDE DEFINITIONS FOR KEY TERMS THROUGHOUT THE CHAPTER; ESTABLISH AND DELINEATE THE BOUNDARIES FOR THE KĪPAHULU CBSFA AND THE KUKUI BAY SANCTUARY AND 'OPIHI REST AREA SUBZONES; PRESCRIBE THE PERMITTED AND PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE KĪPAHULU CBSFA, INCLUDING RESTRICTIONS ON TAKE AND/OR POSSESSION OF AKULE, 'ŌMILU, KALA, KOLE, MOI, 'OPIHI, ULA (SPINY LOBSTERS) AND ULA PĀPAPA (SLIPPER LOBSTERS), 'ALAKUMA (7-11 CRAB), AND NATIVE LIMU SPECIES, RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF GILL NETS FOR SURROUND NET FISHING, BAG NETS, THROW NETS, AND FISHING POLES, LINES, AND HOOKS, PROHIBITIONS ON TAKING MARINE LIFE WITH SCUBA GEAR, NIGHT DIVING, TAKING 'OPIHI WITHIN THE 'OPIHI REST AREA SUBZONE, AND TAKING OF ANY MARINE LIFE WITHIN THE KUKUI BAY SANCTUARY; RECOGNIZE THAT NATIVE HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY RIGHTS RECOGNIZED BY THE HAWAI'I STATE CONSTITUTION SHALL NOT BE ABRIDGED; CARVE OUT AN EXCEPTION FOR VESSELS WITH RESTRICTED SPECIES OR GEAR IN ACTIVE TRANSIT THROUGH THE KĪPAHULU CBSFA; ESTABLISH THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS CHAPTER; AND RECOGNIZE THE STATE'S ASSET FORFEITURE AUTHORITY

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Aloha Chair Case and Members of the Land Board,

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i, on behalf of its 20,000 members and supporters, strongly urges the Board of Land and Natural Resources ("BLNR") to **APPROVE** the staff recommendation in agenda item F-2, to move forward with the administrative rulemaking process for the Kīpahulu CBSFA Community-Based Subsistence Fishing Area rules. **The public trust doctrine requires the proactive protection of our nearshore resources, including and particularly for the**

**protection of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary and subsistence practices,<sup>1</sup> and both our constitution and dire need for climate resilience counsel the BLNR’s approval of this long-awaited recommendation without any further undue delay.**

First, the Hawai‘i State Constitution makes clear that our natural and cultural resources, including our nearshore marine resources, are subject to the public trust doctrine, to be “held in trust for the benefit of the people.”<sup>2</sup> The constitution also requires the protection and enforcement of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, many of which rely upon healthy and abundant nearshore resources, and which have also been recognized as a “public trust purpose” afforded a high degree of protection under the trust.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, as the principal agency responsible for upholding the state’s public trust obligations with respect to our marine and aquatic resources,<sup>4</sup> the BLNR’s constitutional responsibilities and fiduciary obligations strongly counsel its support of proposals that can both restore and sustain our nearshore resources for the benefit of Hawai‘i’s people, and perpetuate the constitutionally protected traditional and customary practices and ways of life that rely upon them.

The recommendation in this agenda item provides the BLNR with the opportunity to better uphold its public trust and constitutional obligations in the proactive protection of our nearshore resources in East Maui. As demonstrated by the extensive administrative record provided to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (“DLNR”), the proposed administrative rules reflect the community-driven, culturally focused management approach, informed by traditional ecological knowledge, that may be key to ensuring that our nearshore resources and associated Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices are protected for the benefit of present and future generations. **Notably, the Hawai‘i State Legislature itself has long recognized the need for the department to facilitate the adoption of such community-based fisheries management proposals – although the statutory authority it has granted to the BLNR has been utilized only twice in the last three decades.**<sup>5</sup>

Second and relatedly, climate destabilization threatens to further disrupt our already impaired ecosystems ma uka to ma kai. The impending threats of the climate crisis include the insecurity of tropical fishery resources both presently and for future generations;<sup>6</sup> unfortunately, unmanaged overfishing under “modern” Western fisheries policies has impaired the nearshore ecosystems and resources we need to build a resilient, self-sufficient, and food-secure future.<sup>7</sup> In light of long standing reports and concerns by both Western and Native Hawaiian scientists, community members, and master fishers regarding the continuous decline of our nearshore fisheries, the BLNR today has the opportunity and obligation to correct the longstanding, systemic neglect of sustainable Kānaka ‘Ōiwi stewardship practices, to restore long proven, successful methods of community-based nearshore ecosystem management.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See *In Re Water Use Permit Applications*, 94 Hawai‘i 97 (2000).

<sup>2</sup> HAW. CONST. ART. XI SECS. 1, 6.

<sup>3</sup> Haw. Const. Art. XII Sec. 7; *In Re Water Use Permit Applications*, 94 Hawai‘i 97 (2000).

<sup>4</sup> HAW. CONST. ART. XI, SEC. 2; HRS § 187A et. seq.

<sup>5</sup> HRS § 188-22.6.

<sup>6</sup> Lam, V.W.Y., Allison, E.H., Bell, J.D. et al. "Climate change, tropical fisheries and prospects for sustainable development." *Nature Reviews 1 Earth & Environment* 440-454 (2020).

<sup>7</sup> Friedlander, Alan et al. "Human-induced gradients of reef fish declines in the Hawaiian Archipelago viewed through the lens of traditional management boundaries." *Aquatic Conservation: 28 Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* 146-57 (2017).

<sup>8</sup> See, e.g., Office of Hawaiian Affairs, A Resolution Supporting Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designation and Rules, Feb. 27, 2014.

Given its constitutional public trust responsibilities, it is incumbent upon the BLNR and the Department to facilitate crucial proposals, including this instant agenda item, that can help shift the trajectory of our dangerously changing planet and the future of our islands. The facilitation of this Kānaka 'Ōiwi-informed proposal in particular will not only help recreate flourishing ecosystems for the waters of Kīpahulu and East Maui, but also provide an opportunity for the community to restore, perpetuate, and model the positive relationships with the environment and with each other that can build a foundation of true resilience for generations to come. With their urgently needed and effective contributions to our growing climate crisis, communities like Kīpahulu can no longer be made to wait for years or decades to obtain the BLNR's support.

Accordingly, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i strongly urges that the BLNR adopt the proposed recommendation and allow the Kīpahulu CBSFA rules to move on to the next step in the administrative rulemaking process.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this matter.

## A Resolution of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

### *A Resolution Supporting Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area Designations and Rules*

**WHEREAS**, less than 200 years ago, the eight main Hawaiian islands and their resources sustained a thriving and substantial Native Hawaiian population close to contemporary population numbers through a resource governance system founded on observational, experiential knowledge and tried and true, centuries-long practices; and

**WHEREAS**, recent research affirms that Native Hawaiians sustainably caught 50% more fish than modern Hawai'i fishers catch and harvested three times the maximum sustainable yield for island nations worldwide today (12 metric tons of fish per square kilometer of reef annually from the years 1400 to 1800)"; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices for sustaining fisheries were based on time tested intimate knowledge of ahupua'a resources which included the fishery, were adaptive and included kapu or lāhui on certain species (flora and fauna), temporary fishery closures, harvest limits on certain species, size, sex characteristics, natural celestial cycles and spawning times; and

**WHEREAS**, the gear used by kupuna were less wasteful; and

**WHEREAS**, the gear used today is unsustainable and detrimental to the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices and systems include aspects of community-based management and/or co-management in which the community of resource users itself takes part and is active and accountable in shaping the relationship with and management of their land and ocean resources; and

**WHEREAS**, Hawai'i's near shore fisheries play a key role in household subsistence, the statewide socio-economic fabric and the quest for food security in Hawai'i; and

**WHEREAS**, beyond the provision of food, subsistence fishing contributes to largely unquantifiable and extremely valuable benefits, including: cultural and environmental ecosystem services; upholding long held community practices, values and virtues such as generosity, sharing, industriousness, self-reliance skills and practices; healthy social status and networks; communal reciprocity; and community and societal insurance, especially for Hawai'i's rural communities that serve as kīpuka, or oases of our most cherished cultural legacies; and

**WHEREAS**, current near shore ocean resources and systems have been compromised by overfishing, abuse of highly efficient fishing technologies, low enforcement capacity or legal infrastructure, coastal development, local and global pollution, conflicting ocean uses and purposes, invasive species, continent-focused and/or over-centralized resource management paradigms and climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, current governmental regulatory agencies are often under-funded and under-resourced during a time when of rapid human population expansion and exploitation of ocean resources are at its peak; and

**WHEREAS**, top-down, centralized decision making processes -though necessary in some contexts- are often insufficient, ineffective, and too simplistic as a one-size-fits-all management approach to complex and unique place-based ecosystems that would greatly benefit from local and indigenous knowledge and traditional resource management; and

**WHEREAS**, current studies estimate that the people of Hawai'i are now dependent on outside resources for 85-90% of our food supply with only weeks if not days left should food imports cease; and

**WHEREAS**, Hawai'i's communities are concerned, possess much capacity, many resources, knowledgeable individuals and are eager to enlist these assets in collaboration with appropriate government agencies in the effort to mālama our resources; and

**WHEREAS**, our collective values and traditions passed down intergenerationally, by our kīpuna, are renewed, practiced, and perpetuated as essential to our cultural identity, sense of place, and sustainability as ka pae'āina o Hawai'i (Hawaiian archipelago); and

**WHEREAS**, at the turning of the century, Hawai'i lost many of its distinguished, treasured, and masterful mākuā and kūpuna who held important 'ike (knowledge) such as: Uncles Eddie Ka'anana and Walter Paulo of Miloli'i (Hawai'i), Kumu John Ka'imikaua (Moloka'i), Aunty Kalehua Ham-Young Pfeffer and Uncle Jackie Hashimoto (Kaua'i), Uncle Walter Kamana (O'ahu) and many more; and

**WHEREAS**, the founding law that set forth Community Based Subsistence Fishing Areas (CBSFA), Hawai'i Revised Statutes 188-22.6, was passed in 1994, "(F)or the purpose of reaffirming and protecting fishing practices customarily and traditionally exercised for purposes of native Hawaiian subsistence, culture and religion" though yet to be implemented remains relevant and of strong interest in our community today; and

**WHEREAS**, a two-year pilot project managed by Hawaiian Homesteaders and integrating indigenous ecological knowledge and complementary western scientific approaches to management of Mo'omomi and Kawa'aloa Bays on Moloka'i inspired eight communities to establish their own traditional management structure and rules customized to their unique place under the CBSFA process for which they are awaiting State approval; and

**WHEREAS**, the founding CBSFA law inspired other laws specifically designating areas in Miloli'i (2005; Hawai'i island) and Hā'ena (2006; Kaua'i island) and the current interest and active pursuit of CBSFA designation by many other communities including Ho'okena, Kīholo and Kalapana (Hawai'i Island), all of Moloka'i and Lāna'i, Kīpahulu, Mū'olea, Polanui and Wailuku (Maui) and Kahana (O'ahu), and Ni'ihau; and

## A Resolution of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

**WHEREAS**, the Hui Maka'āinana o Makana with the support and participation of the larger communities in the moku of Halele'a has been working diligently with stake holders and the broader community since 2006 to create a management plan and draft rules for the Hā'ena ahupua'a, through surveys, scientific research and nearly 50 small and large community meetings with community members, commercial interests and government officials including the Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; and

**WHEREAS**, Hui Mālama o Mo'omomi has been pursuing a designation and rule package for over 20 years and has begun a renewed process of drafting and preparing rules for the fishery there;

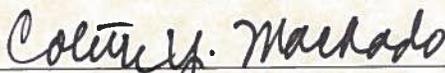
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs that we call upon governmental policymakers for continued progress towards streamlining and making the process more user friendly for enlisting communities to carry out the work of sustainable community based subsistence fisheries by integrating place based and Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices and values with the best practices and methods developed by contemporary science through the creation of community based subsistence fishing areas and rules and approaches that will benefit present and future generations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call upon policymakers to promote policies and strengthen institutional frameworks that develop cooperation and coordination, in a spirit of partnership among government at all levels with local populations and community groups; and that when there is flexibility in interpreting statutes in favor of community based subsistence resource management, to interpret it as such; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that state resource policy should be consistent with the state's public trust duties and the precautionary principle; that communities applying traditional ecological knowledge and management approaches not be unduly burdened with proving with scientific certainty in accordance with western methodologies of proof; rather that indigenous, traditional knowledge be respected on its own merit and acknowledged for its centuries proven effectiveness in restoring and maintaining natural resource sustainability, health, and abundance; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawai'i, President of the Hawai'i State Senate, Speaker of the Hawai'i State House of Representatives, State Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, State House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs, All County Mayors and County Councils, the State of Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources, the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, and the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and any other entity which may be interested in or supportive of efforts to develop CBSFAs.

**ADOPTED** this 27th day of February, 2014, island of O'ahu, State of Hawai'i, by the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in its regular meeting assembled.



**Trustee Colette Y. Machado**  
Chairperson



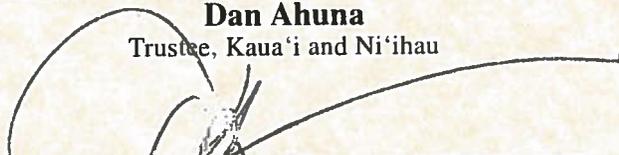
**Trustee Oswald K. Stender**  
Vice-Chairperson



**Dan Ahuna**  
Trustee, Kaua'i and Ni'ihau



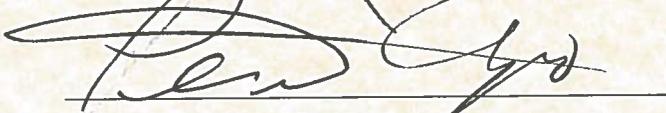
**Carmen Hulu Lindsey**  
Trustee, Maui



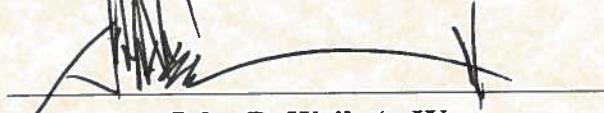
**Rowena Akana**  
Trustee, At-large



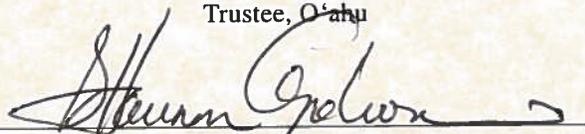
**Robert K. Lindsey Jr.**  
Trustee, Hawai'i



**Peter Apo**  
Trustee, O'ahu



**John D. Waihe'e IV**  
Trustee, At-large



**S. Haunani Apoliona, MSW**  
Trustee, At-large



Date: February 27, 2014