



January 12, 2024

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Chadd Paishon, and I am the Senior Captain and Executive Director of Nā Kālai Wa'a Moku o Keawe. I am writing in support of Agenda Item J.1:

J. DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

1. Cancellation of Revocable Permit No. 22, Nā Kālai Wa'a, Permittee; Request for Waiver of Requirement for Conducting Phase I Environmental Site Assessment upon Cancellation of Revocable Permit No. 22; Reissuance of Revocable Permit to Nā Kālai Wa'a for Vessel and General Storage, Maintenance of Improvements, Youth Programs, Education Programs, and Affiliated Community Programs Purposes, Situated at South Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor, Kawaihae, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, Tax Map Key: (3) 6-1-003:026 (por.) and Declare Project Exempt from Environmental Assessment Requirements of Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes and Title 11, Chapter 200.1, Hawaii Administrative Rules.

Na Kalai Wa'a's mission is to perpetuate our voyaging traditions through educational activities and programs "he wa'a he moku he moku he wa'a" the canoe an island the island a canoe, which we have done for the last 29 years and will continue to do. This has been supported by the utilization of this area, Hālau Kukui, and the permit granted to Nā Kalai Wa'a. In 2023, NKW provided programs to over 1,200 community members, over 600 who were youth from Hawai'i. Hālau Kukui served as a critical site to also do our Back-To-Basics crew training, a professional development opportunity for our community and crew to increase their skills as crew and canoe program support. Additionally, the area surrounding our buildings provides secure space for the vessels and vehicles of participants from both Nā Kālai Wa'a and our site neighbors YMCA.

Nā Kālai Wa'a has made a commitment for 7 generations and we are now 2 generations in. We are committed to our mission, our community, our families and to caring for this 'āina through this Permit.

Mahalo nui,

Chadd Paishon
Senior Captain-Executive Director,
Na Kalai Wa'a

mailing:
PO Box 748
Kamuela, HI 96743

office:
55-405 Hāwī Rd
Hāwī, HI 96719

email:
info@nakalaiwaa.org

phone:
808-885-9500

online:
www.nakalaiwaa.org
facebook.com/nakalaiwaa
instagram.com/
nakalaiwaa_mokuokeawe

wa'a (vessels):
Mauloa
Hōkūlī'ī'i
Makali'i
Alingano Maisu
(Alaka'i)

moku (sites):
Hoea Moku, Hāwī
Warehouse, Māhukona
Hālau Kukui, Kawaihae
Hālau Wa'a, Kalaemanō

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YEARS OF
WĀ'Ā CULTURE

Nā Kālai Wa'a is a
native Hawaiian
education based
501C-3 non-profit
organization
established in 1993.