

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Land Division
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

July 26, 2024

Board of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii

PSF 24MD-081

Maui

Rescind Prior Board Action of August 11, 2023, Under Agenda Item D-2, Approving Right-of-Entry Permit to Na Wahine O Ke Kai, for Annual Canoe Race Start Events, Hale O Lono, Kaluakoi, Molokai, Tax Map Key (2) 5-1-002: 012 por.

The reason for the rescission is that Na Wahine O Ke Kai no longer exists as an entity, having filed Articles of Dissolution with the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs on May 1, 2024. Additionally, the September 24, 2023 race event approved by the Board in its prior action was canceled on August 15, 2023 after the wildfire disaster in Maui.

Issuance of Right-of-Entry Permits to O'ahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Hawaii for Annual Canoe Race Start Events from 2024 to 2028 to be held each Year in the Months of September and October at Hale O Lono, Kaluakoi, Molokai, Tax Map Key (2) 5-1-002: 012 por.

APPLICANT:

O'ahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Hawaii (OHCRAH), a Hawaii domestic non-profit corporation and an Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Section 171-55, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

LOCATION:

Portion of Government lands of Kaluakoi situated at Hale O Lono, Molokai, identified by Tax Map Key (2) 5-1-002: 012 por., as shown on the attached map labeled Exhibit A.

AREA:

Total: 6,700 square feet, more or less

4,500 sq. ft. (canoe staging area)

1,500 sq. ft. (portable toilet area)

100 sq. ft. (event stage)

600 sq. ft. (shoreline area at the east side of the harbor facility)

CONSIDERATION:

Total rent for each annual event: \$1,340.00 (one-time payment at \$.05 per sq. ft. per day).

Area of requested use 6,700 sq. ft. x \$.05 = \$335.00 per day

\$335.00 x 4 days of use = \$1,340.00

In other words, the rental charge will be \$1,340.00 per race event per year, or \$2,680.00 per year for both annual events (Na Wahine O Ke Kai and Molokai Hoe), for a total of five years. The total rent paid for all ten races over five years will be: \$13,400.00.

EXHIBITS:

Exhibit A- Tax Map of the subject area,

Exhibit B - Aerial photo showing areas to be marked off and access restricted,

Exhibit C- Applicant's land use map identifying location of event activities,

Exhibit D – OHCRAH Economic analysis of proposed activities.

ZONING:

State Land Use District: Conservation (G)

TRUST LAND STATUS:

Section 5(b) lands of the Hawaii Admission Act

DHHL 30% entitlement lands pursuant to the Hawaii State Constitution: NO

CURRENT USE STATUS:

Unencumbered

CHARACTER OF USE:

Canoe storage / staging, event amenities and support services.

TERM OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY:

Four (4) days per event. Includes event activities, prior to race day, subject to the terms and conditions cited herein. Events will begin on a Thursday and conclude with the race start on a Sunday morning at 7a.m. Annual race start events listed below are scheduled in the months of September and October of each year through the year 2028:

Na Wahine o Ke Kai

Molokai Hoe

September 29, 2024
September 28, 2025
September 27, 2026
September 26, 2027
September 24, 2028

October 13, 2024
October 12, 2025
October 11, 2026
October 10, 2027
October 08, 2028

In the event any of the above races need to be canceled due to inclement weather or other reason beyond applicant’s control, the race may be rescheduled at any time in September or October of the event year, provided that applicant deliver written notice of such date change to the Department at least three days before the rescheduled event date.

CHAPTER 343 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

In accordance with Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), Section 11-200.1-15 and the Exemption List for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, approved by the Environmental Council and dated November 10, 2020, the subject request is exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to General Exemption Type 1, that states “Operations, repairs or maintenance of existing structures, facilities, equipment, or topographical features, involving minor expansion or minor change of use beyond that previously existing” and Part 1, Item No. 44, that states “Permits, licenses, registrations, and rights-of-entry issued by the Department that are routine in nature, involving negligible impacts beyond that previously existing.”

DCCA VERIFICATION:

Place of business registration confirmed: YES X NO ___
Registered business name confirmed: YES X NO ___
Applicant in good standing confirmed: YES X NO ___

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant shall be required to:

- 1) Obtain required permits from the DLNR Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation for the ocean water portion of the event;

- 2) Upon completion of the event the area shall be cleared, and all temporary structures removed in their entirety;
- 3) Identify and mark off restricted areas to prohibit use of derelict concrete piers and pilings as well as to identify areas necessary for loading and off-loading purposes; and
- 4) Provide 24-hour security during event to enforce compliance within restricted areas.

REMARKS:

At its meeting of August 11, 2023, under agenda Item D-2, the Board approved the issuance of a right-of-entry permit to Na Wahine O Ke Kai (NWOKK) for annual canoe race start events at Hale O Lono, Kaluakoi, Molokai, for the years 2023 through 2027. However, the annual race event scheduled for September 24, 2023 was canceled because of the Maui wildfire disaster that occurred the previous month. Subsequently, NWOKK filed Articles of Dissolution with the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs on May 1, 2024 and is no longer a legal entity. By electronic message dated May 18, 2024, received from Molly Mosher-Cates, representing NWOKK, she advised the DLNR Maui District Land Office that NWOKK would like to rescind the Board's prior approval of the right-of-entry permits for the race events given at its meeting of August 11, 2023, under Agenda Item D-2, because the management of the women's race would now be handled by another canoe racing organization.

In NWOKK's place, O'ahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Hawaii (OHCRAH), has requested the use of Hale o Lono located at Kaluakoi, Molokai island for the starting area of the annual and historic Na Wahine O Ke Kai women's canoe race and Molokai Hoe men's canoe race, across the Kaiwi channel, from Molokai to Oahu. Both events have been held for years dating back to the 1960s for the Molokai Hoe and the 1980s for Na Wahine o Ke Kai.

Both events have been in abeyance since 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Lahaina wildfires of August, 2023. Beginning this year 2024, OHCRAH will be managing both the women's and men's races.

The women's race typically attracts 50 to 65 nine-person crews along with escort boats that assist each crew on race day while the men's race attracts up to 75 crews and related support personnel and equipment.

Participants come from all over the world with the majority from the main Hawaiian Islands. Event organizers consider this event to hold great cultural significance and the race serves to honor, preserve, and perpetuate the combined culture, science, tradition, protocol and innovation of the outrigger canoe within Hawaii and around the world.

OHCRAH has requested use of 6,700 square feet of government lands for storage, staging and related event support services. Event organizers will begin setting up Thursday with the race taking place on each Sunday morning at 7:00 am. The event staging area shall be cleared by sunset on Sunday.

For many years, events were consistent in scale and production and, therefore, to better accommodate future planning of this ongoing worldwide event, on September 8, 2017 under agenda item D-4, the Board approved rights-of-entry for multiple race events. Because each event will have a separate right-of-entry permit, there is no concern with the right-of-entry duration extending beyond the one-year limit specified by law. Furthermore, in 2017 the Board approved the rent reduction whereby consideration due to the State of Hawaii was cut in half from the standard \$0.10 per sq. ft. per day fee to \$0.05 per sq. ft. per day, subject to the following conditions being met:

- Applicant is a nonprofit 501(c)(3), IRC, and serves a public purpose or the public versus serving a specific membership or group (OHCRAH is also an Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) tax exemption organization as verified by staff);
- No major commercial element;
- Having the activity at the chosen location would not result in any significant interference with public use of that area;
- The activity is basically recreational; and
- There are no major State maintenance expenses for the location.

Hale o Lono is not a functioning small boat harbor and was not designed to accommodate vessels for recreational purposes. There are no slips, parking or reserved areas and it is not a designated mooring area for vessels. Furthermore, lack of maintenance results in many structures within Hale o Lono being rendered derelict, in disrepair, and not suitable for use. As a result, in the interest of safety, the applicant shall mark off dangerous areas to prohibit access. For areas the applicant identifies for essential event purposes such as loading and off-loading of escort boats, the applicant shall clearly mark off these areas and provide sufficient personnel to oversee and ensure the safety of all users. To prevent use of closed areas of the harbor, staff recommends that twenty-four (24) hour security be provided by the applicant throughout the term of the right-of-entry permit. A map of areas to be marked off for use and non-use shall be provided to the DLNR Land Division, DOBOR and DOCARE no less than one week prior to the event. OHCRAH shall coordinate with DOBOR and obtain any necessary permits related to any portion of this event which shall be occurring within ocean waters.

Finally, OHCRAH has reached out the Molokai community to better coordinate its events

and to minimize any adverse impacts of the events. Molokai residents have expressed concerns with over-fishing along Molokai shorelines and other related impacts. On April 29, 2024 OHCRAH representatives met with Molokai residents in a community meeting to discuss concerns and actions to mitigate issues. Findings of the meeting are attached as Exhibit E.

Land Division staff finds that these events will probably have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and supports the issuance of right-of-entry permits for each event.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board:

1. Rescind its prior action of August 11, 2023, under Agenda Item D-2.
2. Declare that, after considering the potential effects of the proposed disposition as provided by Chapter 343, HRS, and Chapter 11-200.1, HAR, this project will probably have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and is therefore exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.
3. Authorize the issuance of right-of-entry permits to O'ahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Hawaii, for this year's race and for future races scheduled through the year 2028, covering the subject area under the terms and conditions cited above, which are by this reference incorporated herein and further subject to:
 - a. The standard terms and conditions of the most current right-of-entry permit form, as may be amended from time to time;
 - b. Applicant shall notify the community in advance of the scheduled event regarding the temporary use of public lands; and
 - c. Such other terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Chairperson to best serve the interests of the State.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ebony V. Butihi
Documentation Specialist

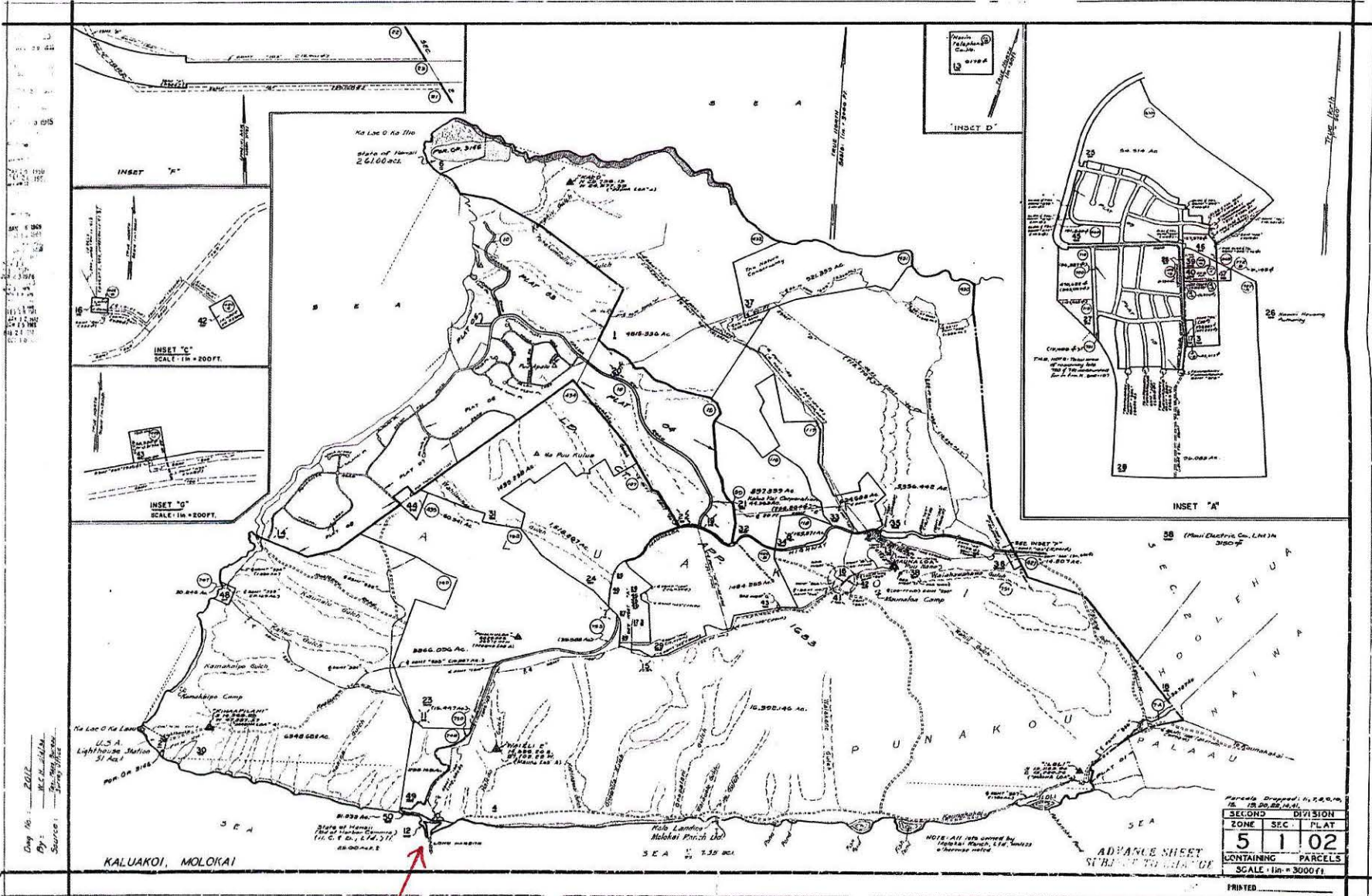
RT 

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



Dawn N.S. Chang, Chairperson

EXHIBIT A



SUBJECT AREA

Parcels Shaded in 1950, in 1955 (see also 1950)		
SECOND	DIVISION	
5	1	02
CONTAINING PARCELS		
SCALE 1 IN = 3000 FT		
PRINTED		

Drawn by: ZOLL
 By: W.C. B. J. J.
 Source: [illegible]

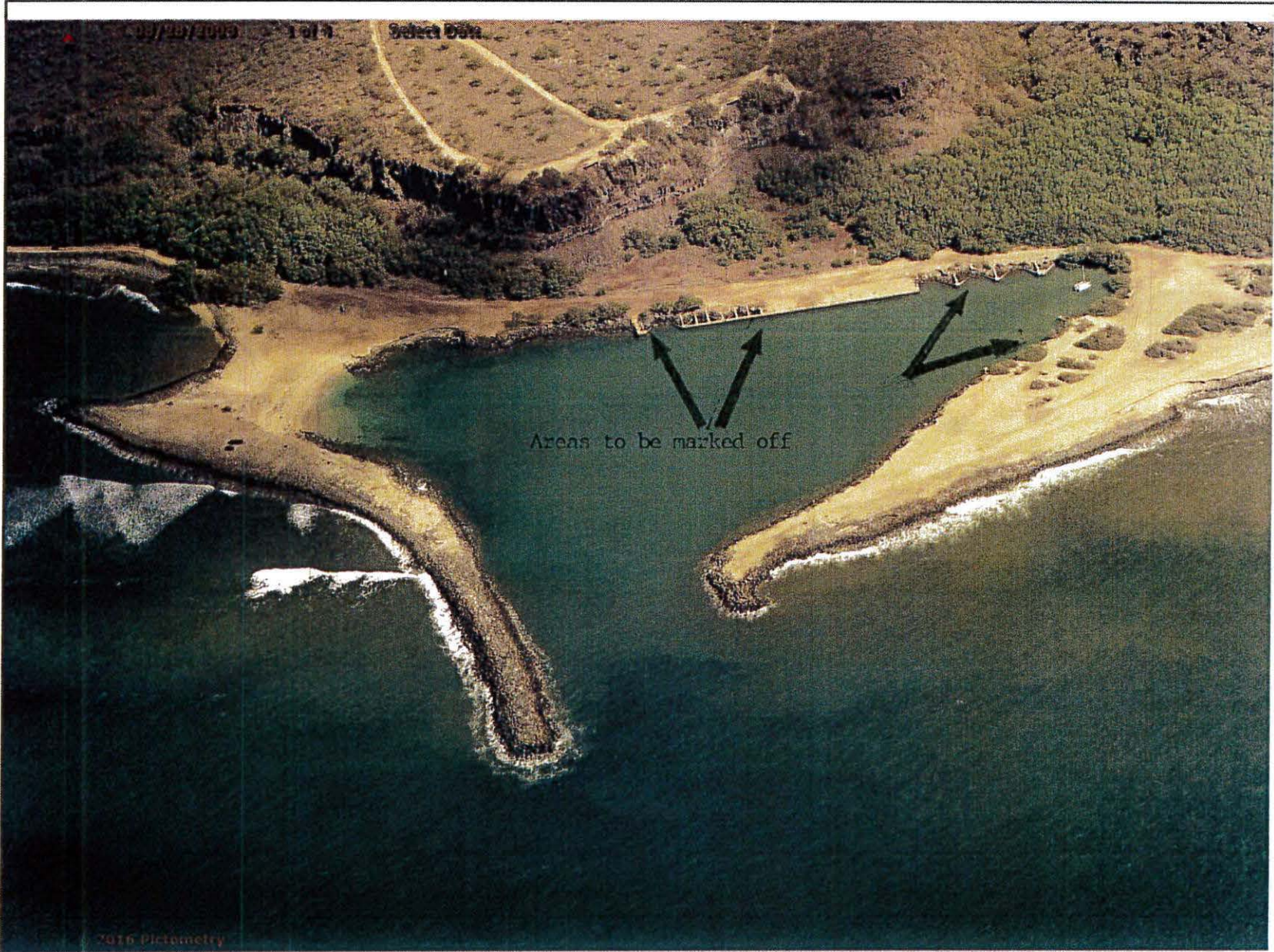
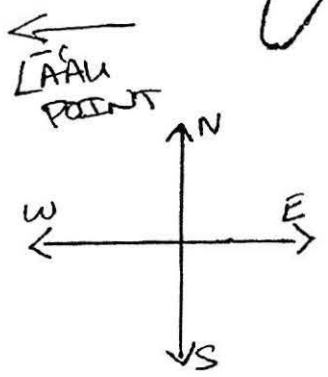
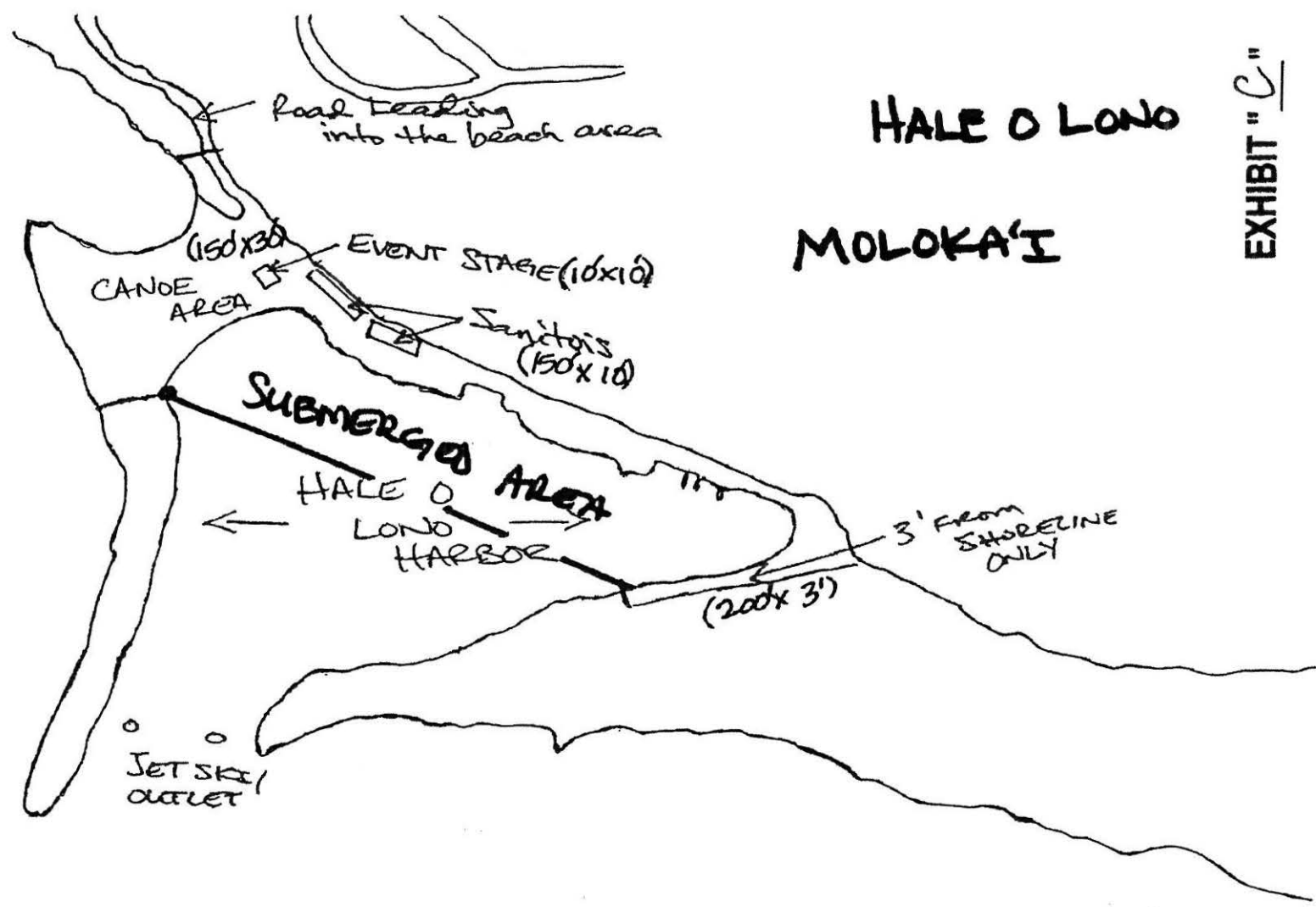


Exhibit B

HALE O LONO

MOLOKA'I



KAUNAKAKAI
→

Are you interested in learning more about
the 2024 Molokai Channel races?

Community Meeting

Let's Talk Story.. Join us for a special
community meeting where you'll have
the chance to meet with organizers, ask
questions, and explore potential
community partnerships.

Monday, April 29th Time: 4:30 PM
Location: DHHL Conference Room,
Kalama'ula (Kulana 'Oiwi)

hosted by Molokai Canoe Festivals KULĀĪA.

EXHIBIT "D"



Nā Wahine & Molokai Hoe Economic Impact to Molokai



EXHIBIT "E-1"

Economic Impact: Na Wahine O Ke Kai & Molokai Hoe

Overview

The Na Wahine O Ke Kai (NWOKK) and Molokai Hoe (MH) Canoe Races have a substantial economic impact on the island of Molokai. These races bring a significant influx of visitors, including paddlers, coaches, and support crews, who contribute to various sectors of the local economy. This high-level projection estimates the economic benefits to Molokai from accommodations, transportation, food services, and local events associated with the races. It is important to note that this projection does not include expenditures on air and boat travel to Molokai, race programming spend, or the economic impact on Oahu. Despite these exclusions, the economic activities related to the NWOKK and MH races still represent a considerable investment in Molokai's economy.

Na Wahine O Ke Kai Race Impact on Island

OHCRA is anticipating 75 crews of paddlers, each crew consists of 12 paddlers who will arrive on Molokai between 2-4 days prior to the race. The influx of participants occurs through commercial and private charter flights, as well as chartered boat passages. *(For the purposes of this projection travel to Molokai is not included.)*

Accommodation and Transportation

Crews are accommodated in various settings, including hotel and condominium-style accommodations, as well as groups paying to stay in personal friend, and extended family homes. This diverse range of lodging supports the local hospitality industry. Additionally, the crews rely on car rentals, Turo cars, group bus and shuttle services, and private family transportation, this projection includes a refill on gas.

- **Accommodations:** With 75 crews of 12 paddlers each, totaling 900 paddlers, staying an average of 3 days, at an estimated \$150 per night:
 - Total Accommodation Value: 900 paddlers x 3 nights x \$150 = \$405,000
- **Transportation:** Estimated transportation costs per crew for car rentals, Turo cars, bus, and shuttle services, averaging \$500 per crew:
 - Total Transportation Value: 75 crews x \$500 = \$37,500

Food and Groceries

- **Meals and Groceries:** Assuming an average of \$50 per day/per paddler for local catering and meal, grocery, fluid orders/delivery services *(Incidentals not included.)*:
 - Total Food and Groceries Value: 900 paddlers x 3 days x \$50 = \$135,000

Kulaia Festival

- **Festival Spending:** Estimated spending on food, crafts, and entertainment per paddler during the festival at \$50. This estimate doesn't include total generation for funding on island as a result of this event.
 - Total Festival Spending: 900 paddlers x \$50 = \$45,000

Molokai Hoe Race Impact on Island

The Molokai Hoe (MH) Canoe Race is another significant event contributing to the local economy of Molokai. With an expected 100 crews of men, each crew consisting of 10 paddlers, an escort boat, and a coach, the race brings in a substantial number of visitors, all of whom require various local services. *(Again, for the purposes of this projection travel to Molokai is not included.)*

Accommodations:

- **Hotel and Condo Stays:** With 100 crews of 10 paddlers each, totaling 1,000 paddlers, plus escort boats and coaches, the total number of visitors is estimated at 1,200. These visitors will stay an average of 3 days on the island. Assuming the average cost per night for accommodations is \$150, the estimated total expenditure on accommodations is:
 - Total Accommodation Value: 1,200 visitors x 3 nights x \$150 = \$540,000

Transportation:

- **Car Rentals and Turo Cars:** Many crews will rely on car rentals and Turo cars for transportation. With an average transportation cost of \$500 per crew (including 1 refill on gas) for the duration of their stay, the total expenditure on transportation is:
 - Total Transportation Value: 100 crews x \$500 = \$50,000
- **Group Bus and Shuttle Services:** In addition to private transportation, group bus and shuttle services will also be utilized. Assuming an additional \$200 per crew for these services:
 - Total Bus and Shuttle Value: 100 crews x \$200 = \$20,000

Food and Groceries

- **Meals and Groceries:** Assuming an average of \$50 per day/per paddler for local catering and meal, grocery, fluid orders/delivery services *(Incidentals not included)*:
 - Total Food and Groceries Value: 1,200 visitors x 3 days x \$50 = \$180,000

Festivals of Aloha

- **Dinner and Parade:** Estimated spending on food, crafts, and entertainment per paddler during the festival at \$50. This estimate doesn't include total generation for funding on island as a result of this event.
 - Total Dinner and Parade Spending: 1,200 paddlers x \$50 = \$60,000

Molokai Logistics and Starting Line Expenditures

One-Time Expense:

OHCRA is proud to work collaboratively with Molokai Ranch Properties (MPL) to ensure the maintenance and repairs of the road to Hale O Lono. Historically, OHCRA has contracted local vendors for repair and tree trimming services and remains committed to supporting local businesses. Additionally, this year OHCRA has partnered with Ed Sniffen and the Hawaii Department of Transportation's Molokai team to address more challenging road repair work affected by the more than four years without races, which typically included annual road work sponsored by OHCRA. This work is slated for the end of the summer prior to the race, but will support long term community use and access to Hale O Lono.

- **Site & Road Prep:** The preparation of Hale O Lono, the starting point for both races, includes site preparation with tree trimming for canoe trailering, site preparation for sanitation delivery roadwork.
 - Hale O Lono Site Preparation and Roadwork: \$30,000

Recurring Race Expenses:

- **Canoe Trailering:** This covers the logistics of unloading canoes for each race from Wharf and transporting canoes safely and efficiently to Hale O Lono to be unloaded on the beach and staged.
 - Canoe & Equipment Transportation: 2 races = \$35,000
- **Required Security Services:** Ensuring the safety and security for both Kaunakakai Wharf Official Boats (as required by permitting) and of participants and spectators at Hale O Lono is crucial. Allocated funds for security are estimated at \$25,000 per race.
 - Total Security Value: 2 races x \$25,000 = \$50,000
- **Sanitation:** Maintaining cleanliness and sanitation at the race site involves expenses for port-a-potty, handwashing, and roll-off containers, estimated at \$15,000 per race.
 - Sanitation & Roll-Off: 2 races x \$15,000 = \$30,000
- **Hale O Lono Starting Line & Ceremony:** The races feature starting line ceremonies and entertainment including sound, stage, musicians, protocol and décor to enhance the experience estimated at \$15,000 per race.
 - Starting Line Ceremonies & Entertainment: \$30,000
- **Paddlers Inn & Hotel Molokai:** The 3-day venue for coach's meetings and race registration is crucial for coordination and organization. The estimated cost is \$10,000 per race.
 - Coach's Meeting/Race Registration Venue: \$20,000

Total Estimated Logistics and Starting Line Expenditures: \$195,000

Overall Economic Impact on Molokai

Combined Economic Impact for NWOKK and MH Races

- **Molokai Accommodation:** \$405,000 (NWOKK) + \$540,000 (MH) = \$945,000
- **Molokai Transportation:** \$37,500 (NWOKK) + \$70,000 (MH) = \$107,500
- **Molokai Food and Groceries:** \$135,000 (NWOKK) + \$180,000 (MH) = \$315,000
- **Molokai Festival Spending:** \$45,000 (NWOKK) + \$60,000 (MH) = \$105,000
- **Molokai Operational Support:** (NWOKK + MH) = \$195,000

Total Estimated Economic Impact: \$1,667,500

Community Give Back

Finally, OHCRA is deeply committed to supporting our community by dedicating a portion of paddler registration fees to our esteemed partner non-profit, the Friends of Molokai Middle School and High School. This initiative underscores our dedication to fostering educational opportunities and enhancing the well-being of the youth in our community. By contributing to the Friends of Molokai, we aim to support the growth and development of students, ensuring they have the resources and opportunities needed to thrive academically and personally. Our collaboration with the Friends of Molokai reflects our belief in the power of community and the importance of giving back to the next generation.

Conclusion

In summary, the NWOKK and MH canoe races bring an estimated total economic impact of more than \$1,687,500 to Molokai, supporting a wide range of local businesses and enhancing the community's economic resilience. Through accommodation, transportation, food services, cultural festivals, and operational logistics, these races foster a vibrant local economy and enrich the cultural fabric of the island. And while current calculations do not include transportation to the island, conservative values assigned to transportation to Molokai exceed \$300,000 in travel fees for both races.



Memo

To: State Department of Land and Natural Resources

From: Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association (OHCRA)

Date: June 12, 2024

Subject: Efforts and Actions to Address Community Concerns for the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai Races

Introduction

Over the past two years, OHCRA has hosted and participated in multiple community meetings to engage with and gather feedback from the Molokai community. This memo outlines the concerns shared during these meetings and the actions OHCRA has taken to address them, ensuring the races honor the community's needs and heritage.

Community Engagement and Positive Feedback

The tone and spirit of aloha in every meeting on the island have been warm and welcoming. The most broadly attended meeting was in concert with OHA and included over 100 attendees and was recorded for long term viewing. Community members have unanimously supported the return of these two races, highlighting their historical and cultural significance. Since 1952, the Molokai Hoe has grown from a local competition to an international event, celebrated by paddlers worldwide and honoring the winning first crew hailing from Molokai. The return of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races is not just a sporting event but a cultural celebration that brings together paddlers, community members, and visitors to honor the rich history and traditions of canoe racing.

Community Integration and Economic Impact

OHCRA has collaborated with over 40 community leaders and island businesses to enhance community integration and economic impact. These events and collaborations not only provide economic benefits to the island but also strengthen the bonds between the paddling community and Molokai residents. The return of the races is a celebration of the island's rich history and a testament to the enduring spirit of canoe racing.

- **Kulaia Festival and Na Wahine O Ke Kai:** Participating and supporting the downtown Kaunakakai block party and vendor fair with food, arts, crafts, music, and entertainment.
- **Festivals of Aloha and Molokai Hoe:** Incorporating paddlers in dinner show at Hotel Molokai, and vendor fair at Mitchell Pauole for the men's crews – the annual planned parade through Kaunakakai is still pending.
- **Local Engagement:** Encouraging paddlers to engage with local vendors for personal rentals, catering, and transportation, fostering community relationships and economic benefits.

Addressing Specific Concerns

Escort Boat Fishing Concerns

Escort boat fishing concerns have been a longstanding issue that OHCRA has diligently addressed over the years. We recognize the importance of preserving the marine environment and respecting the local fishing practices of Molokai. To this end, OHCRA has implemented



several measures to ensure that the actions of escort boats align with the community's expectations and environmental standards.

- **Prohibition of Shore Fishing:** Strictly enforced rules against fishing on Molokai shores, with patrols conducted by OHCRA officials.
- **3-Mile Buffer Zone:** Implementation of a 3-mile buffer zone around the island, incorporated into the rules of participation and the Escort Boat Code of Conduct.
- See Website Notice: [OHCRA - Be Pono](#).

Escort Boat Mooring & Anchoring

Escort boat mooring and anchoring have been carefully managed to ensure the smooth and respectful operation of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races. While near-shore anchoring has been an issue with other races, it is not a primary concern for these events. Escort boats for the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai primarily moor at Hale O Lono Harbor and Kaunakakai Wharf under OHCRA permits. Many OHCRA officials' boats access the harbor from Maui and Lanai on the morning of the race. By coordinating mooring locations and securing necessary permits, OHCRA aims to maintain an organized and respectful presence in Molokai's waters.

- **Permitted Mooring Locations:** Escort boats for the races primarily moor at Hale O Lono Harbor and Kaunakakai Wharf under OHCRA permits. Officials' boats will access the harbor from Maui and Lanai.
See Website Notice: [OHCRA - Be Pono](#).

Road to Hale O Lono

For the past 15 years of races, OHCRA has funded the restoration and improvements of the road access to Hale O Lono. This year, due to a five-year hiatus and deferred maintenance, the endeavor will be larger and more comprehensive. Ensuring safe and smooth access to Hale O Lono is crucial for both race participants and local residents, and OHCRA is committed to collaborating with local contractors to achieve this goal.

- **Restoration Efforts:** Collaboration with local contractors/agencies and MPL to improve road access to Hale O Lono for both race participants and local residents.

Transportation, Air Travel and Community Benefits

Ensuring efficient transportation to Molokai is essential for the success of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races. To this end, OHCRA has coordinated various travel options to accommodate all participants while providing benefits to the local community.

- **Increased Flights by Mokulele Airlines:** Additional flights have been arranged with Mokulele routing through Molokai. Increased fares will be paid by paddlers covering deadhead flights inbound into MKK. Discounted outbound flights for Molokai residents will be offered. This initiative is promoted through The Molokai Dispatch.
- **Mokulele Reserved Flights:** Mokulele is holding a number of flight options for local resident emergencies and last-minute needs.
- **Travel by Boat:** Some crews will travel to Molokai by boat, ensuring flexibility and additional capacity for participants and also a cost-effective option for crews routing through Maui.
- **Private Air Charters:** Many crews have secured private air charters, providing tailored travel options to meet specific needs.



Race Entry Cap

To ensure the safety, organization, and overall quality of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races, OHCRA has implemented a cap on race entries. This measure helps manage the logistical complexities of the events and ensures a positive experience for all participants.

- **Monitoring Entries:** Committing to a cap of 100 crews, while recognizing that travel costs will likely limit participation naturally.

Community Give Back

The idea of partnering with a nonprofit and giving back to the community was an initiative led by OHCRA, reflecting our commitment to supporting the local youth and schools. As part of this effort, OHCRA has pledged a portion of race proceeds to the Friends of Molokai Middle School and High School, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to supporting the physical needs of the school, teams, and sports activities. This initiative ensures that the races contribute positively to the community, fostering growth and development for future generations.

Ongoing Communication and Transparency

OHCRA maintains regular communication with the Molokai community through the Molokai Community Advisory Council and frequent meetings with local leadership including Senator Lynn DeCoite. A meeting with the Senator is scheduled for June 19th to plan the opening ceremonies. Our commitment to transparency and ongoing dialogue ensures that we continue to address the community's needs and concerns effectively. *This offer was extended to Keani Rawlins-Fernandez for June, July and August meetings but she rejected.*

Celebrating Our Heritage

The return of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races is a significant milestone, celebrating the rich history and cultural heritage of canoe racing on Molokai. Since the first race in 1952, these events have symbolized the strength, endurance, and unity of the paddling community. By honoring the traditions and respecting the needs of the Molokai community, we continue to uphold the spirit of aloha and the legacy of our sport.

Conclusion

OHCRA is dedicated to honoring the rich heritage and cultural significance of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races. We remain committed to transparency, community engagement, and addressing the concerns of Molokai residents to ensure the continued success and respectful celebration of these historic events.

Mahalo,
Lapule Schulz, President
Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association (OHCRA)



OHCRA ORGANIZED MOLOKAI COMMUNITY MEETINGS

MOLOKAI ISLAND COMMUNITY MEETING – OHA

Monday, July 10, 2023 - 6:00 P.M.

Lanikeha Community Center - 2200 Farrington Avenue Ho'olehua, HI 96729

Public Notice & Agenda -

<https://calendar.ehawaii.gov/calendar/attachment/111281329/07102023%20BOT%20MOLOKAI%20COMM%20MTG%20AS%20AMENDED.pdf>

Meeting Minutes –

<https://www.oha.org/wp-content/uploads/Final-BOT-Minutes-MKK-Comm-07102023.pdf>

OHCRA Held Paddling Community Meetings

Tuesday & Wednesday July 11 & 12, 2023

- Jerome Kalama, Wa'akapaemua
- Ron Kimball, Wa'akapaemua
- Penny Martin, Wa'akapaemua
- Liko Wallace, Molokai Canoe Club
- Marshall Rosa, Community Member
- Rex Kamakana, Harbor Trailer
- Stacy Helm Crivello, Community Advocate
- Shirley Rawlins – Rawlins Texaco
- Moku Buchanan, Molokai Security
- Harley Tancayo, Harbor Agent
- Shawna Pua'a-Kahookana, Harbor Security Young Brothers
- Peter Pale, Young Brothers
- Ipo Davis, Young Brothers
- Frank Keoho, Island Petroleum
- Keani Rawlins Fernandez, Maui County Council
- Zhantell Lindo, Maui County
- Keo Hirata, Maui County
- Mac Poepoe, Community Advocate
- Raquel Dudoit, Festivals of Aloha & Transportation
- Bill Dudoit, Alamo Car Rental
- Kim Svetin, Friends of Molokai Middle School & High School
- Keola Kino, Molokai Ranch

OHCRA ROAD AND HARBOR INSPECTION – HALE O LONO

Wednesday, January 4, 10:00 A.M.

- Hale O Lono Road – Keola Kino, Molokai Ranch
- Communication – Todd Svetin, General Manager Molokai Ranch

MOLOKAI PADDLING COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 12, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.

Paddlers Inn - 10 Mohala Street, Kaunakakai, HI, 96748

- Lori Buchanan, Aha Kiole
- Moku Buchanan, Molokai Security
- Liko Wallace, Molokai Canoe Club
- Michael Helm, Paddlers Inn
- Lorilei Rawlins Crivello, Kulaia Festivals, Aha Kiole
- Invited but declined: Keani Rawlins Fernandez, Maui County Council
- Siana Austin Hunt NWOKK/MH – Co-Race Organizer
- Ikaika Rogerson NWOKK/MH – Co-Race Organizer
- Luana Froiseth, NWOKK/MH Race Director



KAUNAKAKAI WHARF / HALE O LONO ROAD & HARBOR INSPECTION –

Tuesday, March 13, 2024 – 9:00 A.M.

MOLOKAI CHANNEL RACE FESTIVALS MEETING

Tuesday, March 13, 2024 – 11:00 A.M.

Kuha’o Business Center - 2 Kamoi St., Ste. 600, Kaunakakai, HI 96748

Present:

- Tylor Tanaka – Maui OED, Economic Development Specialist
- Lorilei Rawlins Crivello – Kulaia Festival Director
- Raymond Hiro – Festivals of Aloha Director
- Siana Austin Hunt NWOKK/MH – Co-Race Organizer
- Ikaika Rogerson NWOKK/MH – Co-Race Organizer
- Luana Froiseth, NWOKK/MH Race Director

MOLOKAI ISLAND COMMUNITY MEETING – ALL RACE ORGANIZERS

Monday, April 29, 2024 – 4:30 P.M.

DHHL Conference Room – Kulana ‘Oiwī - 2001, Kauahikaua and Chun. HI 460

Attended via Zoom – Ikaika Rogerson & Siana Hunt – Co-Race Organizers

Meeting Announcement – See Attached

Meeting Sign-In – See Attached

Meeting Minutes/Summary – See Attached

- Mike Takahashi, M20 Race Organizer
 - Jim Foti, Kanaka Ikaika Race Organizer
 - Ikaika Rogerson, NWOKK/MH Co-Race Organizer
 - Siana Austin Hunt, NWOKK/MH Co-Race Organizer
 - Clare Albino, Molokai Holokai Race Organizer
 - Manny Kulukulualani – Pa’a Race Organizer
 - Kealani Bartlett, M2M Race Organizer
 - Lorilei Rawlins Crivello, Kulaia Event Organizer
-
- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| • Gordon Albino | • Kekama Helm | • Keani Rawlins |
| • Robert Espaniola | • Kahiki Helm | • Fernandez |
| • Keola Kingsley | • Luana Alapa | • Tylor Tanaka |
| • Marshall Rosa | • Pohai Ryan | • Penny Martin |
| • Camie Kimball | • Byron Espaniola | • Kalei Pestrana |
| • Ron Kimball | • Moku Buchanan | • Kaleo Crivello |
| • Torrey Goodman | • Lori Buchanan | • Kawika Crivello |
| • Timothy Paul | • Liliana Napoleon | • Kai Bartlett |
| • Cindy Manaois | • Chad Lima | • Stacy Helm Crivello |
| • Jerome Kalama | • Clint Labrador | • Jimmy Austin |
| • Liko Wallace | • Chris Mangca | |

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



DAWN N. S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA
LAND DIVISION

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

July 26, 2024

EXEMPTION NOTIFICATION

Regarding the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to Chapter 343, HRS and Chapter 11-200.1, HAR

Project Title: Rescind Right-of-Entry Permit to Na Wahine O Ke Kai, for Annual Canoe Race Start Events Approved by the Board on August 11, 2023, Under Agenda Item D-2,

and

Issuance of Right-of-Entry Permit to O'ahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Hawaii (OCHRAH) for Annual Canoe Race Start Events from 2024 to 2028 to be held each Year in the Months of September and October at Hale O Lono, Kaluakoi, Molokai, Tax Map Key (2) 5-1-002: 012 por.

Project / Ref. No.: 24MD-081

Project Location; Hale o Lono, Kaluakoi, Molokai, TMK: (2) 5-1-002: 012 por.

Project Description: Use of 6,700 sq. ft. of government lands for four (4) days for canoe storage / staging, event amenities and support services related to a one-day race start events scheduled for the months of September and October for the years 2024 to 2028.

Chap. 343 Trigger(s): Use of State Land

Exemption Class No.: In accordance with Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), Section 11-200.1-15 and the Exemption List for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, approved by the Environmental Council and dated November 10, 2020, the subject request is exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to General Exemption Type 1, that states "Operations, repairs or maintenance of existing structures, facilities, equipment, or topographical features, involving minor expansion or minor change of use beyond that previously existing" and Part 1, Item

EXHIBIT "F"

No. 44, that states "Permits, licenses, registrations, and rights-of-entry issued by the Department that are routine in nature, involving negligible impacts beyond that previously existing."

Cumulative Impact of
Planned Successive
Actions in Same Place
Significant:

No. This race event is not held on a routine or regular basis (i.e., daily, or weekly). This event is a one-time annual activity.

Action May Have
Significant Impact on
Particularly Sensitive
Environment:

The requested area is a portion of State coastal land visited by tourists and residents and is used for recreational activity. In addition, based on the analysis below, staff believes there would be no significant impact to sensitive environmental or ecological receptors.

Agencies Consulted:

DLNR: Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands and Division of Aquatic Resources and Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation have no objections to the subject events.

Analysis:

The Board has permitted similar events in the past. The proposed activity is of a similar type and scope of coastal activities that periodically occurred and continues to occur on this and other coastal areas across the State. Such activities have resulted in no known significant impacts, whether immediate or cumulative, to the natural, environmental and/or cultural resources in the area. Staff also believes that the request would involve negligible or no expansion or change in use of the subject area beyond that previously existing.

Recommendation:

That the Board find this project will probably have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and is presumed to be exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.