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**From:** DLNR.BLNR.Testimony  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Pending Approval of new moorings in Makaiwa Bay

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**From:** Beth Biscardi <[bethbiscardi@gmail.com](mailto:bethbiscardi@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 5:27 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Statts, Meghan L <[meghan.l.statts@hawaii.gov](mailto:meghan.l.statts@hawaii.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Pending Approval of new moorings in Makaiwa Bay

Attn: Dawn N. S. Chang and other Land Board Members

It has come to my attention that the request for approval of the installation of two new boat moorings within Makaiwa Bay in the South Kohala area of the island of Hawaii is about to be approved.

While the applicant may have complied with the structural requirements of U. S. Army Corp of Engineers and has cited the Exemption List for projects not needing environmental assessment, there has been no consideration of the impact on other users of that bay. Not only would such an expansion of boat moorings adversely impact the many swimmers, snorkelers, kayakers and paddleboarders who frequent that bay for its unique situation, but it would also present unnecessary hazards to the outrigger canoes which enter the bay, limiting their possible approaches and exit paths.

I am copying the Administrator of the Division of Boating & Ocean Recreation with my concerns, in the hope that she will withdraw her submission to the Board once she understands that Ocean Recreation involves more than the commercial interests of the applicant, DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC.

Respectfully yours,  
Beth Biscardi  
Local resident and user of Makaiwa Bay

--  
Beth Biscardi

**From:** [Justin Ackerman](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] July 26, 2024 - Item J - Mooring Balls for Makaiwa Bay  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 4:39:04 PM

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Aloha Members of the BLNR:

I have read the recent submission by DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC, requesting 2 new offshore moorings at Makaiwa Bay at Mauna Lani.

I have recently retired from a 30yr career in Naval Special Warfare where I operated Combatant Craft up to 85' in various conditions and conducted operations on four continents. I know and understand craft better than most and what can happen with and near them. My wife and I now call The Villages at Mauna Lani home. Don't ruin this amazing place with more commercialized craft. Look what has happened on Maui in the last 18 months. Four 52 foot plus craft have run aground or came off their mooring. Let's not duplicate this here on the Big Island!

I swim and snorkel at this beach daily and have been using this location for over 13 years for Scuba diving, stand-up paddle boarding and canoeing.

There is no need for two additional mooring balls -- This area is extremely shallow, home to some of the last bits of healthy coral reef we have, and full of tropical fish — many of them juveniles, along with green sea turtles, spotted eagle rays, manta rays and an occasional Hawaiian monk seal.

This proposed mooring is dead set in the middle of an area where there are many swimmers and snorkelers, as well as a transit area for paddle boarders and kayakers, and snorkelers swimming to the nearby spot filled with pukas and underwater bridges, called “the Arches.”

In the winter this mooring ball would be in the direct line of the surf break that heads to shore between the Eva Parker Woods cottage and the old canoe house, impeding surfers' access to the break and posing a safety hazard.

It would also be a terrible addition to have a motorized boat moored there. Any diesel, oil leaks or sewage would damage the coral reef and marine life, not to mention the fumes would be an annoyance to nearby swimmers and snorkelers. With a large craft moored, there would be the need for a dinghy to be running back and forth which would cause a safety hazard for all users of the bay and shoreline. Use of a motorboat so close to shore would also be an unnecessary noise nuisance to beachgoers, and definitely a safety hazard to all those in its path. There has also been no information forthcoming from the applicant about the intended commercial purpose and frequency of use for these additional moorings. I see no value that these moorings would add to the health and beauty of this area -- only detriments. Kawaihae harbor is 15 minutes up the road and better suited to handle these kinds of craft.

I urge the Board to deny this request!

Mahalo,  
Justin Ackerman

CWO5 SWCC USN (ret)

**From:** [Tasha Shea Ackerman](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: July 26, 2024 - Item J - Mooring Balls for Makaiwa Bay  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 4:50:24 PM

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Aloha Members of the BLNR:

I have read the recent submission by DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC, requesting 2 new offshore moorings at Makaiwa Bay at Mauna Lani.

My husband and I vehemently OPPOSE! We pay for this beach. We do NOT need additional tourists polluting our bay. I know MLRA would like the extra income, but that's disgraceful. Shame on them for trying to profit from our tiny bay! There are plenty of other established moorings close that can be used.

Mahalo for your time,  
Tasha Ackerman

**From:** [Vivienne Aronowitz](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I oppose the mooring at the Mauna Lani Bay  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 9:52:17 AM

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Aloha,

The Mauna Lani Bay is a beautiful and relatively unspoiled bay. Adding mooring close in the disrupt that beauty and harm the sea life.

Mahalo.

Vivienne Aronowitz

Frequent swimmer and beach goer.

[viviennearonowitz.com](http://viviennearonowitz.com)

**From:** [Marty Borko](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.Testimony](#); [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [christyh@hawaiianprop.com](mailto:christyh@hawaiianprop.com); [Lilith Borko](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: New moorings at Maka'iwa Beach  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 7:39:41 AM  
**Attachments:** [Agenda-240726.pdf](#)  
[J-1-1.pdf](#)

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Dear Department of Land and Natural Resources.

We are homeowners on the Mauna Lani Resort at D103 Mauna Lani Terrace. Per the letter below we just found out about the Auberge "quietly" asking for approval for two moorings at Maka'iwa Beach. It is concerning to us as homeowners and owners at the Beach Club that the Auberge made this application without providing us with sufficient time for us to comment. As resort stakeholders we ask that you postpone the approvals scheduled for the July 26th Agenda until we as homeowners and our homeowners' association has had ample time to review and better understand their proposal

Best

Lilith and Marty Borko  
D103 Mauna Lani Terrace

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Lilith Borko** <[lilithb2000@aol.com](mailto:lilithb2000@aol.com)>  
**Date:** Thu, Jul 25, 2024 at 8:24 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: New moorings at Maka'iwa Beach  
**To:** Marty Borko <[pelicanboy.marty@gmail.com](mailto:pelicanboy.marty@gmail.com)>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Christy Hinds <[christyh@hawaiianprop.com](mailto:christyh@hawaiianprop.com)>  
**Date:** July 24, 2024 at 7:18:49 PM PDT  
**To:** Christy Hinds <[christyh@hawaiianprop.com](mailto:christyh@hawaiianprop.com)>  
**Subject:** **New moorings at Maka'iwa Beach**

Aloha,

Yesterday several of us became aware that the Auberge has been working quietly to get approval for two new moorings off Maka'iwa beach. The Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR) has scheduled a hearing for this Friday, July 26, 2024, in Honolulu to consider approving this proposal.

We feel that notice of this action has not been sufficient for other interested parties to comment. The Mauna Lani Resort Association just learned of this yesterday. We urge you to reach out to the DLNR and request that they postpone approval of these new moorings until all stakeholders have a chance to comment.

The Proposal and the DLNR agenda for Friday's meeting are attached. You can make your thoughts known to the DLNR via email at [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov) and/or attend the meeting via telephone or Zoom. Please see the attached DLNR agenda for details.

Mahalo,

MLT Board of Directors

**Thanks,**

**Christy Hinds, RS-80955, CMCA, AMS, PCAM**  
Director Property Management/Senior Portfolio Manager

Phone: 808-326-7170  
Fax: 808-326-7150  
E-mail: [christyh@hawaiianprop.com](mailto:christyh@hawaiianprop.com)

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"There is no technology that beats having lunch"

**Marty Borko**  
[pelicanboy.marty@gmail.com](mailto:pelicanboy.marty@gmail.com)  
310 420-5362

**From:** [Surinder Brar](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] New Moorings at Maka'iwa Beach  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 4:46:55 PM

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Dear DLNR:

I own a condo at 68-1399 Mauna Lani Drive, Unit K302.

I am opposed to any additional moorings at Maka'iwa Beach because:

- a. This area is very popular for snorkeling and any boats moored there would interfere with snorkelers and further destroy the reef. We snorkel there.
- b. Boats moored there would also interfere with the surfers trying to ride the waves, including all the way to the shore. Our son surfs there.
- c. Any boats moored there would interfere with the sunset views that the community flocks to this shoreline to see. We watch the sunsets there.

Seems like the applicant for these moorings have no community support and are hence trying to get approval for them surreptitiously.

The meeting must be postponed to get input from the community, and the application eventually rejected.

Thank you  
Surinderpal Brar  
Mauna Lani Terraces



## **BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Meeting July 25, 2024

### **DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION**

RE: Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Maka'iwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii

July 25, 2024

Dear friends,

I am offering this testimony on behalf of the I'i Brown family, for whom Maka'iwa Bay and the waters off Kalahuipua'a represent an ancient family heritage. Thank you for valuing our views.

We are the direct descendants of Francis Hyde I'i Brown, once owner of the family property at Kalahuipua'a, during the period from the 1950s until the time when Francis Brown sold the property to Tokyu Corporation (President Noboru Gotoh) in 1972. My father, Kenneth Francis Kamu'ookalani Brown, was instrumental in supporting Francis Brown's sale of the property to the Tokyu Corporation, and then in promoting the development of the hotel and condominiums, the preservation of the fish ponds, the cultivation and celebration of the traditional Hawaiian lifeways of those sites, and, underpinning those lifeways, the preservation of the waterfront and of Maka'iwa Bay. You might say that Kenneth Brown's ongoing efforts at Maka'iwa Bay were central to his life's work.

The venerable Hawaiian heritage of Francis Hyde I'i Brown—and especially Francis Brown's continued visibility today, in and around the resort area and hotels and of course the "Francis I'i Brown North and South" golf courses—should ensure that Francis Brown's connection with the lands of Kalahuipua'a, and with his home place at Maka'iwa Bay, as well as that of his extended Hawaiian family and his many local and international friends, will be respected—even honored. The proposed proliferation of moorings and then of vessels and traffic in Maka'iwa Bay, and the inevitable intrusions upon the ocean life, the natural setting, and the cultural tenor of Maka'iwa Bay that will result from that proliferation, are profoundly contrary to Francis Brown's values and heritage. Francis Brown and my father Kenneth Brown both worked to make a future for Hawaii that would affirm—not erase—the cultural heritage and natural beauty of our sea of islands. Time has passed for Kalahuipua'a, and Francis and Kenneth have passed away, but the natural and cultural impact of the site they revered is not diminished, as the ongoing testimony of visitors, locals, and of the community members soliciting your support today clearly affirm.

Please do not permit the installation of two new offshore moorings in Maka'iwa Bay. The cited consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, which noted no detrimental effect to the habitat or spawning ground of marine life, takes no account of the largest detrimental effect of this change: the loss to the natural setting that shores up the lasting presence of Hawaiian culture at Maka'iwa Bay. Please consider the testimony of this presence, and of the Brown family.

Yours,

Laura Brown  
3713 Diamond Head Road  
Honolulu HI 96816

**From:** [Thalia Carini](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Moorings off Maka'iwa Beach  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 7:30:40 PM

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Attention DLNR,

I am a resident at Mauna Lani and would like to request a postponement of the approval for two new commercial moorings off Maka'iwa Beach. We request that they postpone approval of these new moorings until all stakeholders have had a chance to comment.

The MLRA was just informed today regarding this proposal. This has been rushed through without allowing any input or comments from the stakeholders.

We have always appreciated that the Mauna Lani area has a protected, serene, natural beauty. Having two new moorings out there with more boat traffic and activity will create numerous negative changes to this environment.

We would very much appreciate you considering a postponement of this approval. Thank you, Thalia and Michael Carini

**From:** [Carl Carlson](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR Meeting July 26, Item J. 1 relating to Two New Offshore Moorings  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 10:59:23 AM

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Chair Chang and Members of the BLNR:

My name is Carl Carlson and I am a long term resident of West Hawaii residing in North Kona. I was born and raised on Maui, grew up surfing, paddling and diving and still do so to the extent that I am able. My wife Christine and I moved this Island in 1968 and have lived here ever since.

This testimony is presented in favor of the application by DHL Mahi OPC, LLC. I am one who recognizes the prominence of ocean recreation in the lifestyle of the residents of Hawaii as well as to the enjoyment of visitors. Recreational boating serves both the public and visitors. Having said that, protection of the nearshore resources is an important consideration. In the case of moorings, the State has mandated a process needed to comply with prior to issuance of mooring permits. In this particular application, compliance is necessary from both Federal and State Agencies. A positive recommendation for BLNR approval by the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation indicates that compliance.

Beyond that, it is important to consider that well engineered and located moorings serve the public interest. This is true not only for protecting the health of the reef and aquatic resources, but also for the safety and enjoyment of the public and guests who use the nearshore waters. These areas have multiple users, many with conflicting interests and appropriate government oversight is necessary for the benefit of all. That oversight is vested in you.

I would respectfully urge your approval of this application justified with the positive recommendation of the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation.

Sincerely yours,

Carl A. Carlson, Jr.

**From:** [Stephanie Carpenter](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re. Moorings off Makaiwa  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 5:17:37 PM

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Aloha

I am writing to express my concerns of Auberge hotel requesting new additional moorings for a pristine beach @ Mauna Lani along our coastline. I don't understand how you have given partial approval without requesting a hearing from residents that live nearby. There are many other locations along the seashore to have access for these diesel power boats.

Kawaihae is not that far.

Please listen to your residents, & those who care about keeping this area safe

Stephanie Carcenter

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Chuck Pfaff](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter of opposition to (2) new moorings at Makaiwa Bay  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 12:28:40 PM

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Chairperson & Members

Board of Land and Natural Resources Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 & Dawn N. S. Chang  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

To whom it may concern (Board of Land and Natural Resources):

I am writing in regards to the following proposition for Makaiwa Bay:

RE: DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
APPROVE INSTALLATION OF 2 (TWO) NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE OF  
AN ESTABLISHED OFFSHORE MOORING AREA, MAKAIWA BAY, KAMUELA,  
ISLAND OF HAWAII, HAWAII, FOR DHL MAHI OPCO, LLC

I am in opposition to the application for two new moorings in Maka'iwa Bay for exclusive use of DHL MAHI OPCO, LLC. Such moorings in their proposed locations pose a significant safety risk to ocean goers in that area. Makaiwa Bay is used by residents & visitors for swimming, snorkeling, diving, paddling, surfing, kayaking, paddleboarding. The addition of watercraft permanently moored in the bay & the traffic of these vessels in & out of the bay is dangerous for all. These proposed moorings & the activity that would follow, would also be detrimental to the reef & marine life & wildlife of this special area. The proposed inside mooring & its proximity to the makaha would have a negative impact on the sacred fishponds of Kalahuipua'a. The coastlines suffer from overdevelopment & these new moorings would carry that congestion into the ocean.

I urge your strong consideration in this matter of rejecting the new moorings at Makaiwa Bay which would benefit only the hotel & a very small group of tourists. I humbly ask that this matter receives fair review including island wide public knowledge & process rather than its current path of being slid through without community knowledge, input, or adequate time.

Mahalo nui for your consideration in this matter.

Charles Pfaff, Mauna Lani Resident

**From:** [Debby Ciambrone](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR](#); [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Statts, Meghan L](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Maka'iwa Bay Mooring Installation Dissent  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 7:17:08 AM

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As a full time resident of Big Island and frequent swimmer of Maka'iwa Bay, I reinforce and support the statements below in dissent of the mooring installation(s).

Respectfully,  
Debby Ciambrone

Attn: Dawn N. S. Chang and other Land Board Members

It has come to my attention that the request for approval of the installation of two new boat moorings within Makaiwa Bay in the South Kohala area of the island of Hawaii is about to be approved.

While the applicant may have complied with the structural requirements of U. S. Army Corp of Engineers and has cited the Exemption List for projects not needing environmental assessment, there has been no consideration of the impact on other users of that bay. Not only would such an expansion of boat moorings adversely impact the many swimmers, snorkelers, kayakers and paddleboarders who frequent that bay for its unique situation, but it would also present unnecessary hazards to the outrigger canoes which enter the bay, limiting their possible approaches and exit paths.

I am copying the Administrator of the Division of Boating & Ocean Recreation with my concerns, in the hope that she will withdraw her submission to the Board once she understands that Ocean Recreation involves more than the commercial interests of the applicant, DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC.

Respectfully yours,  
Beth Biscardi  
Local resident and user of Makaiwa Bay

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Cindy N. Pfaff](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Subject: Letter of opposition to (2) new moorings at Makaiwa Bay  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 12:26:14 PM

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Chairperson & Members

Board of Land and Natural Resources Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 & Dawn N. S. Chang  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

To whom it may concern (Board of Land and Natural Resources):

I am writing in regards to the following proposition for Makaiwa Bay:

RE: DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
APPROVE INSTALLATION OF 2 (TWO) NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE  
OF AN ESTABLISHED OFFSHORE MOORING AREA, MAKAIWA BAY, KAMUELA,  
ISLAND OF HAWAII, HAWAII, FOR DHL MAHI OPCO, LLC

I am in opposition to the application for two new moorings in Maka'iwa Bay for exclusive use of DHL MAHI OPCO, LLC. Such moorings in their proposed locations pose a significant safety risk to ocean goers in that area. Makaiwa Bay is used by residents & visitors for swimming, snorkeling, diving, paddling, surfing, kayaking, paddleboarding. The addition of watercraft permanently moored in the bay & the traffic of these vessels in & out of the bay is dangerous for all. These proposed moorings & the activity that would follow, would also be detrimental to the reef & marine life & wildlife of this special area. The proposed inside mooring & its proximity to the makaha would have a negative impact on the sacred fishponds of Kalahuipua'a. The coastlines suffer from overdevelopment & these new moorings would carry that congestion into the ocean.

I urge your strong consideration in this matter of rejecting the new moorings at Makaiwa Bay which would benefit only the hotel & a very small group of tourists. I humbly ask that this matter receives fair review including island wide public knowledge & process rather than its current path of being slid through without community knowledge, input, or adequate time.

Mahalo nui for your consideration in this matter.  
Cynthia Najarian  
Owner resident in Mauna Lani Resort



**From:** [Donald Claeys](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] strong objection to Mauna Lani moorings  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 9:21:56 AM

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I am aware that the Auberge Hotel has applied for additional mooring at the Makalwa Bay. This is a terrible idea for anyone who uses the beach. Big Diesel boats smelling and potentially polluting this sensitive area already overused by hotel guests and guests.

There is no need for two additional mooring balls -- especially as one is located quite close to shore, between the existing "Winona" mooring and the boat launch previously used by Mauna Lani Sea Adventures. This area is extremely shallow, home to some of the last bits of healthy coral reef we have, and full of tropical fish — many of them juveniles, along with turtles, spotted eagle rays, manta rays and an occasional Hawaiian monk seal.

This proposed mooring is dead set in the middle of an area where there are many swimmers and snorkelers, as well as a transit area for paddle boarders and kayakers heading towards Paniau, and snorkelers swimming to the nearby spot filled with pukas and underwater bridges, called "the Arches." In the winter this mooring ball would be in the direct line of the surf break that heads to shore between the Eva Parker Woods cottage and the old canoe house, impeding surfers' access to the break and posing a safety hazard.

It would also be a terrible addition to have a motorized boat moored there. Any diesel or oil leaks would damage the coral reef almost directly underneath, and the fumes would be an annoyance to nearby swimmers and snorkelers. Use of a motorboat so close to shore would also be an unnecessary noise nuisance to beachgoers, and definitely a safety hazard to all those in its path. There has also been no information forthcoming from the applicant about the intended commercial purpose and frequency of use for these additional moorings. I see no value that these moorings would add to the health and beauty of this area -- only detriments.

I urge the Board to deny this request, and remind the BLNR of its motto, to: "*enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural...resources held in public trust for current and future generations...*"

Granting this request to promote the interests of a single private-sector applicant over the general will of the community would be a violation of the public trust you and your Board are charged with protecting, and would negatively impact everyone who enjoys this unique, pristine and tranquil section of the Kohala coast, not just now..."*but for the generations to come.*"

Mahalo,

Donald and Kate Claeys  
Homeowner  
The Villages at Mauna Lani

**From:** [Anthony Cootey](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for J-1  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 12:04:42 PM

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Aloha, as a 20 plus year employee of the Mauna Lani Bay Hotel and a Kama'āina of Hawaii island I'd like to submit this letter of support for J -1. After reviewing the information pertaining to the proposed mooring I feel that it does not propose a negative impact to our reefs. Its seems as though there was due diligence in the planning of its location. I feel that it will positively affect the experience for our many guests many of whom are yearly returnees.

This hotel has always looked after the Aina as well as the people and have been great stewards for this sacred and precious property. I'd like to humbly thank you for considering my imput on this matter.

Mahalo,  
Anthony Cootey

**From:** [Nick Craig](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to proposed new moorings at Makaiwa Bay, Hawaii Island  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 9:29:55 PM

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Dear Chairperson Chang,

I would like to voice my strong opposition to the two newly proposed moorings being discussed for installation in Makaiwa Bay at the Mauna Lani Bay Resort.

Since 1979, I have been diving and snorkeling, as well as guiding and teaching folks to dive and snorkel all around the shallow reef where the proposed installations are planned. This is without question some of the most pristine and prolific reef environment on the entire S. Kohala coast.

In my opinion, the previously installed moorings in this area, many of which I personally helped put in, were carefully planned and involved a long and thoughtful process with a number of community hearings and consideration by all potential stakeholders. This does not appear to be the case with these newly proposed moorings.

Additionally, the word is that these new moorings will be limited for exclusive use for just a few selected folks connected directly to the resort.

Previous permanent and day use moorings were installed for the benefit of a broad number of stakeholders representing both the commercial interest of the resort as well as a large cross section of the shore based water sports and the boating community.

I can only hope that those DLNR representatives involved in the decision making process will reconsider these two new proposed moorings and, at the very least, delay the decision to provide time for All members of the Kohala Coast ocean users to be allowed to give input by opening up the process for a number of community based hearings.

Our shallow reefs and beach areas of the Kohala Coast are a precious and delicate public resource. Please don't ignore our community opinions in making such a consequential decision that will impact our beautiful coastline and potentially cause damage to Makaiwa Bay and it's

surrounding shallow reefs for generations to come.

Thanks in advance for your reconsideration of this proposal.

Sincerely yours with Aloha

Capt. Nicholas D Craig

**Capt. Nick Craig**  
**Director of Sales**  
**Ocean Sports**  
**(808) 938-3716 cell**  
**Group Sales Department: 808-886-6666 Ext. 2**  
**[ncraig@hawaii oceansports.com](mailto:ncraig@hawaii oceansports.com)**  
**[wetimages@gmail.com](mailto:wetimages@gmail.com)**



**From:** [Catherine Davis](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Testimony Against Moorings in Makaiwa Bay, Hawaii Island  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 6:33:11 PM

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Aloha BLNR,

I am concerned that residents were not notified of this installation before it was approved.

I have been swimming the Makaiwa Bay regularly for the past 6 years. I have found it to be one of the most pristine places on this island. A Bay and Kona pier have both been terribly spoiled by boat traffic.

Swimming the ocean and bays during the pandemic ( when there was no boat use) provided great opportunity for ocean environment of reefs, sealife, and coral to recover and grow.

Having commercial (diesel powered) boats anchored in the bay near the beach club and just off the reefs (where there already 2 moorings that are utilized several times a day), with the associated fumes from the engines and related noise, will irreparably damage the reef and interfere with the activities of those who swim, snorkel, kayak, or otherwise enjoy the generally unobstructed, natural area in front of the beach club and fishponds.

The areas where these proposed commercial buoys(3) are planned, are in a hazardous surf and heavy wind area, which could easily move the boats onto the reef causing irreparable harm. And we know with climate change and sea level changes this will always be an issue.

These boats would disrupt our beautiful environment and impede daily water activities--for one resort hotel owner's exclusive commercial use. The nearby Kawaihae small boat harbor, not Makaiwa Bay, should be used as a commercial port.

Please save our bay and island. !Please protect our beautiful Makaiwa Bay for all users instead of allowing commercial, single owner use mooring buoys (3)!!

Mahalo,

Catherine Davis, West Hawaii

**From:** [jefferson finney](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] DNLN Meeting D# 84698713263  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 8:00:55 AM

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RE: J. DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION 1. Approve Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Makaiwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, For DHL MAHI OPC), LLC.

ALOHA,

AS LONG-TIME HOMEOWNER(S) OF A BEAUTIFUL HOME IN MAUNA LANI, I AM PROVIDING WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF MY OHANA AND MYSELF, ASKING THAT APPROVAL OF INSTALLATION OF TWO NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE MAKAIWA BAY BE POSTPONED FOR THE REASONS STATED BELOW.

THIS BAY IS THE PIKO OF MAUNA LANI, AND THERE IS AN EXISTING MOORING IN PLACE WHICH, ALTHOUGH NO LONGER ACTIVELY USED, WAS UNTIL RECENT TIMES A SENSITIVE KAMA'AINA SMALL SCALE OPERATION SENSITIVE TO THE OUR HOA BEACH CLUB MEMBERSHIP. TO ADD TWO MORE WOULD FOREVER CHANGE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF THIS VERY SPECIAL SETTING IN MAUNA LANI FROM AN AUTHENTIC HAWAIIAN PLACE WHICH INCLUDES A FRAGIL BUT THRIVING BAY FOR SWIMMING AND SNORKELING, A CRESCENT SANDY BEACH FOR KEIKI AND TODDLERS TO SAFELY PLAY AT WATERS EDGE AND AN ADJACENT NETWORK OF ANCIENT SHORELINE FISH PONDS, ALL OF WHICH COMBINED CREATE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF SERENE AND TIMELESS BEAUTY WHICH MAUNA LANI IS UNIQUELY KNOWN FOR.

WE ARE AWARE THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY WAS COMPLETED HOWEVER IT SURELY DOES NOT TAKE INTO FULL ACCOUNT THE VISUAL AUDITORY AND EMOTIONAL IMPACT WHICH THESE MOORINGS WILL HAVE IN THIS TIMELESS SETTING. BY INTRODUCING COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC, WHICH NOT ONLY WILL INVOLVE THE MOORED BOATS BUT FAR WORSE, THE ONGOING ENVIRONMENTALLY DISRUPTIVE MOTOR AND OCEAN SHUTTLE TRAFFIC OF PASSENGERS TO AND FRO SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR.

OUR MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION RESTAURANT AND BEACH CLUB IS LOCATED ON THE LAND IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO AND OVERLOOKING THE BAY AND FISHPONDS, AND HUNDREDS OF HOMEOWNERS AND THEIR GUESTS WILL BE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY THE COMMERCIAL OPERATION THAT THESE MOORINGS WILL GENERATE. THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL WHICH WILL BE USING THESE MOORINGS IS LOCATED AT SOME DISTANCE FROM THIS SITE AND THE FULL IMPACT. OF THE OPERATION WILL BE TO

THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BEACH CLUB.

THE ONLY PUBLIC ACCESS WITHIN MAUNA LANI RESORT IS MAKAIWA BAY AND THE HEIGHTENED COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY WHICH THESE TWO ADDITIONAL MOORINGS WILL GENERATE WILL IMPACT BOTH OUR LOCAL FAMILIES AND OUR HOMEOWNERS WITH NO IMPACT TO THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL AND ITS GUESTS.

WE ARE WRITING AT THIS LAST MOMENT BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THIS APPROVAL HEARING UNTIL TODAY AND THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT AS MEMBERS OF THE MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, WE ALONG WITH THE PUBLIC, BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SHARING OUR COLLECTIVE CONCERN AND INPUT INTO THE PROCESS.

THANK YOU,

Jefferson Finney  
(808) 349-6015

THE FLANDERS/STAUB OHANA

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Earthlink Flanders](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: DLNR MEETING #846 9871 3263  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 7:12:25 PM

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**From:** Judith Flanders <jfperson@hushmail.com>  
**Date:** July 24, 2024 at 10:01:37 PM PDT  
**To:** Judith Flanders <jfpuna@earthlink.net>  
**Subject:** DLNR MEETING #846 9871 3263

RE: J. DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION 1. Approve Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Makaiwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, For DHL MAHI OPC), LLC.

ALOHA,

AS LONG-TIME HOMEOWNER(S) AND PART-TIME RESIDENT OF A BEAUTIFUL HOME IN MAUNA LANI, I AM PROVIDING WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF MY OHANA AND MYSELF, ASKING THAT APPROVAL OF INSTALLATION OF TWO NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE MAKAIWA BAY BE POSTPONED FOR THE REASONS STATED BELOW.

THIS BAY IS THE PIKO OF MAUNA LANI, AND THERE IS AN EXISTING MOORING IN PLACE WHICH, ALTHOUGH NO LONGER ACTIVELY USED, WAS UNTIL RECENT TIMES A SENSITIVE KAMA'AINA SMALL SCALE OPERATION SENSITIVE TO THE OUR HOA BEACH CLUB MEMBERSHIP. TO ADD TWO MORE WOULD FOREVER CHANGE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF THIS VERY SPECIAL SETTING IN MAUNA LANI FROM AN AUTHENTIC HAWAIIAN PLACE WHICH INCLUDES A FRAGIL BUT THRIVING BAY FOR SWIMMING AND SNORKELING, A CRESCENT SANDY BEACH FOR KEIKI AND TODDLERS TO SAFELY PLAY AT WATERS EDGE AND AN ADJACENT NETWORK OF ANCIENT SHORELINE FISH PONDS, ALL OF WHICH COMBINED CREATE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF SERENE AND TIMELESS BEAUTY WHICH MAUNA LANI IS UNIQUELY KNOWN FOR.

WE ARE AWARE THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY WAS COMPLETED HOWEVER IT SURELY DOES NOT TAKE INTO FULL ACCOUNT THE VISUAL AUDITORY AND EMOTIONAL IMPACT WHICH THESE MOORINGS WILL HAVE IN THIS TIMELESS SETTING. BY INTRODUCING COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC, WHICH NOT ONLY WILL



INVOLVE THE MOORED BOATS BUT FAR WORSE, THE ONGOING ENVIRONMENTALLY DISRUPTIVE MOTOR AND OCEAN SHUTTLE TRAFFIC OF PASSENGERS TO AND FRO SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR.

OUR MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION RESTAURANT AND BEACH CLUB IS LOCATED ON THE LAND IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO AND OVERLOOKING THE BAY AND FISHPONDS, AND HUNDREDS OF HOMEOWNERS AND THEIR GUESTS WILL BE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY THE COMMERCIAL OPERATION THAT THESE MOORINGS WILL GENERATE. THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL WHICH WILL BE USING THESE MOORINGS IS LOCATED AT SOME DISTANCE FROM THIS SITE AND THE FULL IMPACT. OF THE OPERATION WILL BE TO THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BEACH CLUB.

THE ONLY PUBLIC ACCESS WITHIN MAUNA LANI RESORT IS MAKAIWA BAY AND THE HEIGHTENED COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY WHICH THESE TWO ADDITIONAL MOORINGS WILL GENERATE WILL IMPACT BOTH OUR LOCAL FAMILIES AND OUR HOMEOWNERS WITH NO IMPACT TO THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL AND ITS GUESTS.

WE ARE WRITING AT THIS LAST MOMENT BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THIS APPROVAL HEARING UNTIL TODAY AND THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT AS MEMBERS OF THE MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, WE ALONG WITH THE PUBLIC, BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SHARING OUR COLLECTIVE CONCERN AND INPUT INTO THE PROCESS.

THANK YOU,  
Judith Flanders  
THE FLANDERS/STAUB OHANA

**From:** [Diane Gibson](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Moorings  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 1:25:32 AM

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We are completely AGAINST the new moorings by Auberge in Makaiwa Bay. Time to put our natural resources at the forefront rather than consumerism and greed.

We are shocked that this is even being considered. Time to step up and be advocates of our ocean.

Diane & John Gibson  
Fairways at Mauna Lani  
Sent from my iPhone. &

**From:** [Rachel Gillis](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter of opposition to (2) new moorings at Makaiwa Bay  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 12:28:25 AM

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Chairperson & Members  
Board of Land and Natural Resources Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 & Dawn N. S. Chang  
DLNR Main Office  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

To whom it may concern (Board of Land and Natural Resources):

I am writing in regards to the following proposition for Makaiwa Bay:

RE: DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
APPROVE INSTALLATION OF 2 (TWO) NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE OF AN ESTABLISHED  
OFFSHORE MOORING AREA, MAKAIWA BAY, KAMUELA, ISLAND OF HAWAII, HAWAII, FOR DHL  
MAHI OPCO, LLC

I am in opposition to the application for two new moorings in Maka'iwa Bay for exclusive use of DHL MAHI OPCO, LLC. Such moorings in their proposed locations pose a significant safety risk to ocean goers in that area. Makaiwa Bay is used by residents & visitors for swimming, snorkeling, diving, paddling, surfing, kayaking, paddleboarding. The addition of watercraft permanently moored in the bay & the traffic of these vessels in & out of the bay is dangerous for all. These proposed moorings & the activity that would follow, would also be detrimental to the reef & marine life & wildlife of this special area. The proposed inside mooring & its proximity to the makaha would have a negative impact on the sacred fishponds of Kalahuipua'a. The coastlines suffer from overdevelopment & these new moorings would carry that congestion into the ocean.

I urge your strong consideration in this matter of rejecting the new moorings at Makaiwa Bay which would benefit only the hotel & a very small group of tourists. I humbly ask that this matter receives fair review including island wide public knowledge & process rather than its current path of being slid through without community knowledge, input, or adequate time.

Mahalo nui for your consideration in this matter.

Rachel Gillis  
8088961130

**From:** [Mario Gonzalez](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Julie's Email email](#); [Christy Hinds](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mauna Lani Terrace  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 4:51:56 PM

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To whom it may concern ,  
I am the owner of unit D203 at the Mauna Lani Terrace condominium.  
We just learned that the Auberg hotel next-door has applied for additional moorings.  
All residents of the complex found out about these plans only yesterday.  
We respectfully request a delay of the hearing until such time as the permanent owners of the Mauna Lani Terrace have an opportunity to review and understand the proposed changes..  
Thank you

Mario Gonzalez, MD  
6096471423

**From:** [Corey Goodman](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] July 26 Agenda item J1 written testimony  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 4:49:28 PM

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Aloha,

My wife and I have owned a condo at the Mauna Lani Terrace for 7 years but have been renting at the Terrace and enjoying the Maka'iwa Bay for over 25 years. The Bay is what drew us to rent the neighbor's condo and then buy our own condo. It is what makes our environment so special. The Mauna Lani Terrace is closest to the proposed moorings of the Mauna Lani Resort, and thus we are surprised that we were not notified and asked to comment. We find it disturbing that the Mauna Lani Resort has been working behind our backs to secure two new moorings for two bouys in the Maka'iwa Bay.

Ask yourself who they never included the local community? The answer is obvious — because they were afraid we would oppose it for all of the obvious reasons. We ask you to please bring this process out in the open. We ask for transparency. We ask for proper public comment. This is not the time to let the special interest of an expensive hotel change our Bay and its natural beauty and coral reef in perpetuity.

There are many reasons for you to reject this proposal. At the very least, you need to allow the many users of Maka'iwa Bay to be adequately notified and allowed the opportunity to comment on this proposal. We ask you to allow due process. We ask that you not allow a special interest owned by wealthy investors who live elsewhere to roll over the rights of the local community and public who use the Bay.

Maka'iwa Bay is historically important to all of us in the community. It is heavily use by the community for swimming, snorkeling, surfing, and paddling. The coral reef that stretches from the Bay in each direction is an important natural resource for our community, and is enjoyed by the local residence and visitors and surrounding community alike. It is a special and historic natural resource, and not something to be changed behind closed doors without public comment. To suddenly allow a 42' motor yacht to be moored in the middle of this small Bay would forever change the character of the Bay and the character of our community. Ask yourself — what is the hotel's agenda? They are asking for two moorings. Why? We've only heard about one 42' yacht. Do they plan to add yet another yacht into our visual landscape and polluting our sacred waters?

We urge you to listen to the community and not the hotel. The impacts of what they are proposing could forever change this historic natural resource. We ask you to reject their proposal, or at the very least, to postpone your decision until the public

and local ownership is given the time to carefully review the proposal and comment. The hotel should be required to hold public meetings with each of the surrounding communities. This is a decision that calls for community involvement.

Thanks very much for being sensitive to the views of the local community.

Mahalo,

Corey Goodman and Marcia Barinaga

[corey.goodman@me.com](mailto:corey.goodman@me.com)

650 922-1431

July 24, 2024

Aloha Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I am responding to the recent submittal by DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC, requesting two new offshore moorings be installed at Makaiwa Bay at Mauna Lani Resort.

As a marine biologist educated and trained in the Hawaiian Islands where I spent all my formative years, I can say with confidence that I know this coastal ecosystem being addressed for additional marine development. Beginning in the early 1970's, I was hired as an employee of the Oceanic Institute to conduct a year-long environmental impact study describing the coastal marine and fishpond environment for the planned Mauna Lani Resort. My data acquisition allowed the original Mauna Lani hotel to be built and also informed my team at the Oceanic Institute to make the improvements to the Kalahuipuaa fishponds that have benefitted the residents of Mauna Lani to this day.

In addition to the EIS project, I spent several years taking data, photographs, and swimming these very waters to inform management of this fragile resource and how to sustain it. Many have joined this mission and are also concerned about what is now being asked to benefit a resort development's ambitions.

Throughout the years since my professional water quality and environmental assessments conducted in the 1970's, I have continued visiting and enjoying the remarkable ecosystem that is the coastal environment of the Mauna Lani Resort.

As an avid snorkeler, free-diver, SCUBA diver, and trained ocean conservationist, I must ask you to deny this proposal to add any additional moorings to the fragile and already impacted zone within Makaiwa Bay. Over these past few decades alone, with the exception of the Covid Pause, I have witnessed a palpable increase of human impact be it recreational activity, sun screen, siltation, and other resort development by-products to the marine environment under consideration.

Coral reefs are amongst the most biodiverse and valuable ecosystems on our blue planet. Globally, they support 25% of all marine life and almost one billion people depend on them for coastal protection, food, and livelihoods. They are astounding worlds of beauty and they need to be protected and preserved for everyone to enjoy, not just hotel guests.

Coral reefs are also some of the most threatened natural places on earth. Current restoration efforts are far too slow to make an impact on ecologically meaningful scales. 50% of coral reefs are already gone, and if we continue on our current trajectory, up to 90% are projected to be completely gone in less than thirty years.

Because of these facts about the fragility of our marine ecosystems, I have recently returned to the workforce, not only as a marine scientist and advocate, but as a seasoned fundraiser. I have

now dedicated my skills and passion to support an innovative global enterprise of [Coral Gardeners](#) dedicated to coral reef restoration. Our goals are audacious, we admit, and we know we don't have time to waste.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns and to respectfully ask for your agency to deny this proposal until further study and consensus building finds a better answer.

Sincerely,  
Deborah Goodwin  
Kamuela, Hawaii  
Deborah@coralgardeners.org  
Head of Philanthropy, Coral Gardeners



**From:** [Barbara Gordon](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mauna Lani Boat moorings comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 6:06:21 PM

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Aloha

As a full time year round homeowner at Mauna Lani, I am simply appalled at the request by Auberge ML to request something that is so environmentally unfriendly and unnecessary at the Mauna Lani Beach Club area. Swimmers, snorkels, divers, paddle boards and the most precious marine inhabitants do NOT want or need this unnecessary invasion. I vehemently suppose any and all new construction by Auberge hotel to the beach club area to cater to their hotel guests. I only found out about this today and it's my understanding Auberge just made the Mauna Lani resort association aware of it yesterday.

Sure seems very underhanded and sneaky to keep this hush hush until the last minute. Did Auberge put their plans in the paper or a public forum? NO. Did Auberge send an email to all the homeowners about their plans? NO. Why is that? Because they knew that a large majority of homeowners would reject this plan. And, in July when most of the seasonal owners aren't even on island to speak up against it. I find their behavior shameful and unacceptable. They knew well in advance what areas were grandfathered in to prevent future development within the area, yet they still are trying to get a special exemption. The residents who live in the resort along with local residents who utilize this beach often are all against this proposal. The owners at Auberge could have spoken to long time hotel employees to get educated about the area but they decided to be sneaky and try a work around. Please do not fall for their reasons and actions. Their projected wish list of plans should be fully and completely rejected for a variety of reasons.

This culturally sensitive area which includes the Eva Parker Woods cottage along with the priceless historical fishponds do not need any additional boat moorings at our beach club. PERIOD. The traffic and extra people would be overwhelming and place a huge negative impact on this culturally sensitive area. The current mooring that has been grandfathered in, is the ONLY boat mooring that should be there. We do not need a commercialized business ruining the peace and calm at our beach. Again, many locals enjoy this beach as well as homeowners, and this is not something anyone who lives here wants or needs.

Mauna Lani Sea Adventures had the Winona boat which offered cruises to locals and visitors alike. They were a family owned operation that everyone loved including hotel guests who enjoyed their services as well. When Auberge sent MLSA an untenable lease, they were forced to close their business. A mainland company bullying out a local business like Mauna Lani Sea Adventures that has enjoyed repeat business from hotel guests, visitors, MR owners and local Hawaii island residents alike for many years. Everyone was extremely upset and saddened to learn that they were no longer in business along with uncle Gary's beach rental business. The special things about Mauna Lani have been slowly slipping away since Auberge took over with their mantra of rebranding and now wanting to commercialize a very culturally and environmentally sensitive area where turtles, fish, eagle rays whales and many people swim daily.

Ever since Mauna Lani was as sold to Auberge, the hotel has turned their backs on locals and homeowners for the first several years to keep locals out of Auberge so they could focus solely on their hotel clientele instead of being inclusive and welcoming to all. The sentiment hasn't set well with many homeowners within ML as a result. And to now try to slip something this intrusive under the table without any notice is dastardly. No wonder many locals have a bitter taste about Auberge.

Making any special exceptions for Auberge for this new business venture at the Mauna Lani Beach Club area is totally unacceptable. Let them apply for a mooring at the hotel beach instead where it won't have ans much impact on locals and homeowners at the beach club. Let the hotel deal with the extra traffic (cars, boats and people) at Auberge. Then again, the hotel concierge can book their guests on boat trips located about 5 minutes away at A Bay Waikoloa. They're still offering a service to their guest without negatively impacting Mauna Lani beach club members.

I urge you to deny Auberge the opportunity to destroy the peaceful calm of the ocean, fishpond and beach area and

allow nature to prevail over big businesses gobbling up lands and creating chaos for ocean and beach goers simply to offer an amenity for their hotel guests (that's available elsewhere and close by). Walking the fishponds is like taking a step back in time. The waves crashing, the birds singing and palms rustling. We don't want to hear large crowds of people, and additional car and foot traffic at the beach club. This area is sacred. Please keep it this way.

Respectfully and sincerely,

Barbara and Paul Gordon  
Mauna Lani full time homeowners

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Brad Greider](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] proposed moorings at Maka'iwa Beach by Mauna Lani Resort.  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 8:20:57 PM

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Aloha,

I am surprised that this mooring issue has been proposed without considering how neighbors feel about this proposed change to our bay. This is an unsightly proposal and should be discussed with the community. There have been no discussions with other members of the community.

I have been swimming and snorkeling in the area of the proposed moorings for over 20 years and am very familiar with this area's underwater topography and marine life. The proposed sites lie directly in the path of snorkelers and swimmers that swim on the edge of the reef. Sea turtles, manta rays, and dolphins frequent this area and are vulnerable to boating. It is unsafe to marine life and people to introduce new commercial boating activity in this recreational activity area.

The existing mooring is in a sandy area a significant distance from underwater coral and lava formations and does not significantly interfere with how most people use this area. It would be safer for the moorings to be placed further out into deeper water so commercial boats will not interfere with swimmers, paddle boarders, canoes, and kayakers. There is also the issue of how many moorings should a given party have and will they be available to the public. Maybe one submerged mooring out beyond the existing one in deeper water? Not everyone finds beauty in seeing buoys out in the water.

This is a sacred area for native Hawaiians and for those of us who have a spiritual connection to this land and ocean. It does not appear to be culturally sensitive to introduce commercial moorings to this special bay that many of us cherish and respect. I don't see how the proposed moorings will benefit most of the local people who call this area home.

Brad and Lauren Greider  
Mauna Lani Terrace F-302

**From:** [bryanhao81@gmail.com](mailto:bryanhao81@gmail.com)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** "[Stephen Brussels](#)"  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Application: DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 5:07:59 PM

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Aloha Members of the BLNR:

We just received the application submitted by DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC, requesting two new offshore moorings at Makaiwa Bay within the resort at Mauna Lani. After reviewing the application, we are stunned that notice of this request was not first forwarded to the entire Mauna Lani community. As members of the Mauna Lani community for over twenty years, we are appalled that such an application could have traveled so far without input from a community that uses the bay, and its beaches, for recreation every day.

We regularly swim at this beach and after comparing my swim path, along with that of my neighbors, I see that these proposed moorings are in direct proximity to my swim pattern as well as that of so many of our friends and neighbors. It seems obvious that the applicant is unconcerned with the health of the coral reefs that encircle the proposed moorings and chooses not to avail themselves of existing moorings nearer to Kawaihae Harbor. Any boat activity, which no doubt will beget additional mooring requests, will serve only to degrade the coral reefs, and impact the serenity that we currently enjoy in the area.

Although we do not surf or paddleboard, we know that the area is utilized by many of our neighbors, none of whom would appreciate maneuvering around additional moorings. Anything motorized risks leaking oil or diesel damaging the coral reef almost directly underneath. Sound pollution would affect us all – certainly, something that guests of the hotel would be appalled to hear, interfering with the peaceful environment that currently exists.

For those of us who grew up on this island, places of quiet are disappearing – the environment is being polluted by the introduction of unnecessary accommodations such as this request. Experiences at the resort should first consider the residents who make Mauna Lani their home; guests of the hotel will come as they always have for the cultural activities envisioned and carried out by Danny Akaka and the hush and tranquility that attracted so many of our neighbors to Mauna Lani.

**We urge the Board to deny this request** – If granted, you risk damaging our community in a way that will be near impossible to repair. We all recognize the importance of preserving our environment. It starts with ensuring that new sources of damage are not introduced. These moorings are not necessary to enhance the experiences of Auberge's guests; but, their installation will surely affect the thousand homeowners who have chosen the Mauna Lani as their home. We hope that you will defer to the natural environment and allow it to flourish without additional threats. Mālama pono.

Mahalo,

Bryan K. Hao  
Homeowner  
The Villages at **Mauna Lani**  
Cell: 914-980-5977  
[BryanHao81@gmail.com](mailto:BryanHao81@gmail.com)

**From:** [Nohea Heinicke](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd:Makaiwa bay -Mooring  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 7:32:13 PM

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nohea Heinicke <noheadiverdown@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** July 24, 2024 at 7:30:02 PM HST  
**To:** Ikaika Vivas Maunalani <Ikaika.Vivas@aubergeresorts.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: final draft -Mooring

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nohea Heinicke <noheadiverdown@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** July 24, 2024 at 7:29:08 PM HST  
**To:** Mike Heinicke <noheadiverdown@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mooring

Aloha,

My name is Nohea Heinicke and has been a Dive Master / Boat Captain since 1996 on the beautiful Kona Coastline . I am one of the Boat Captains for the “Kalama Kai”

I believe as we all try to be Proactive in going “GREEN” caring for our Beautiful Resources of the Coastline.

I am in total Support for the 2 Moorings that are proposed at Makaiwa Bay. This will totally and tremendously reduce our Carbon footprint as we prepare for the day’s activities we have to travel 38miles one way from Honokohau Harbor to Makaiwa Bay pick our guests conduct our trip in which case it’s multiple trips a day once we’re done with our guest we then head back to Honokohau Harbor.

With the 2 moorings at Makaiwa Bay this will definitely reduce the impact on the Marine life and its Environment as it will lessen time traveling from point A to point B.

As we focus on reducing our Carbon footprint this will absolutely help the Environment and the beautiful Natural Resource that we are trying to save and protect.

Sincerely, Nohea Heinicke

808-785-3214  
noheadiverdown@yahoo.com  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nohea Heinicke <noheadiverdown@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** July 24, 2024 at 6:24:00 PM HST  
**To:** Mike Heinicke <noheadiverdown@yahoo.com>  
**Subject: Fwd: Mooring**

My name is Nohea Heinicke and have been a Dive Master / Boat Captain since 1996 on the beautiful Kona coastline. I believe as we all try to be proactive in going green and caring for our beautiful resources of the Coastline. I am in total support for the 2 Moorings that are proposed at Makaiwa Bay. This will totally and tremendously reduce our Carbon footprint. As we have to travel 38 miles one way from Honokohau Harbor to Makaiwa Bay pick our guests conduct our trip in which case it's multiple trips a day when head back to Honokohau Harbor.

With the 2 moorings at Makaiwa Bay this will definitely reduce the impact on the marine life. As we focus on reducing our Carbon footprint this will absolutely help the environment and the beautiful natural resources that we are trying to save and protect.

Sincerely, Nohea Heinicke

808-785-3214  
noheadiverdown@yahoo.com  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**STATE OF HAWAI'I**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION**  
**blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov.**

RE: Written Testimony in favor of

- Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Makaiwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, For DHL MAHI OPC),LLC.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am submitting this written testimony on behalf of the proposed moorings at Makaiwa Bay along the Kohala Coast of the Island of Hawaii.

I have recently retired as Director of Operations for the Kona Village Resort. Kona Village reopened in 2023 after being closed since 2011 due to damage from the Fukushima Tsunami. Prior to that closure, Kona Village had between 5 and 7 offshore moorings dating back to the early 1960's. The ability for Kona Village guests to enjoy recreational activities like fishing, sailing and snorkel/scuba diving was one of the main drivers to the resort's incredible success. The unique size of the Big Island and the long distances to small boat harbors, make moorings at resort locations critical. Resort guests much prefer to be able to board vessels directly from the resort they are staying at, rather than having to drive to boat harbors to board vessels there. There are long waiting lists for slips at small boat harbors on the Kona-Kohala coast and keeping a vessel so far from the resort leads to added fuel and labor costs. Resorts along the coast have had a history of installing their own moorings in order to provide service to their guests.

As part of their process to renovate and reopen, Kona Village began the process of making sure its legacy moorings were up to current design/code requirements and adequately permitted for commercial use. This process involved many years of efforts by Kona Village and a local ocean engineering firm at significant expense. After a lengthy review by federal and state agencies, Kona Village was granted the ability to use its renovated moorings and the resort will resume operating a limited number of vessels in the near future. Kona Village takes this responsibility very seriously and is grateful for the consideration given by DLNR.

Mauna Lani Resort has a very similar history to Kona Village in both a long tradition of offshore moorings as well as a long distance to the nearest small boat harbor. I would humbly suggest that the Board of Land and Natural Resources should approve the request detailed in agenda item J-1 on July 25, 2024.

Please consider this testimony and if I can provide any additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Mahalo

Michael Hoover  
[mshoover2@gmail.com](mailto:mshoover2@gmail.com)  
808-896-2479



**From:** [Tim Howard](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Maikawa Bay mooring boy application  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 8:23:09 AM

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My wife and I have been owners of property in Mauna Lani for the past 8 years, and have been coming to Mauna Lani for 20 years.

This Bay is not for commercial ventures as proposed by the Auberge Hotel. It is for all owners, renters and hotel guests. Please keep it pristine and deny this application.

We concur with Rick Oliver's excellent letter.

Tim Howard  
Beth Madill  
Golf Villas at Mauna Lane A-1



*Hui Aloha Kiholo*

Our mission is to protect, perpetuate and enhance the cultural and natural landscape of the Kiholo Bay area through collaborative management and active community stewardship.

Chairperson and Members  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
1151 Punchbowl St. Room 132  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

26 July 2024

**Subject:** Opposition to agenda item J-1 – Makaiwa Bay Moorings

Aloha Chairperson Chang and Members:

Hui Aloha Kiholo respectfully opposes agenda item J-1 concerning the installation of new mooring buoys at Makaiwa Bay.

Since our formation in 2007, Hui Aloha Kiholo has diligently partnered with State Parks to steward Kiholo Bay, managing camping, maintaining facilities, and leading educational and conservation initiatives across the expansive Kiholo State Park Wilderness Reserve. Our organization is deeply rooted in the traditions of our ancestors, and guided by the invaluable knowledge passed down through generations.

It is with this profound connection to the land and sea that we express our strong opposition to the proposed moorings at Makaiwa Bay. The decision to proceed with this project without engaging lineal descendants and consulting ocean stakeholders is deeply troubling. Such actions disregard our cultural heritage, the traditions of Kona, and the legal mandates outlined in the Ka Pa'akai o Ka 'Āina framework.

Makaiwa Bay holds significant cultural and ecological importance, serving as a critical part of the interconnected reef system along the Kona-Kohala coast. The proposed moorings are planned for a place that is important for cultural practices including fishing, paddling, surfing, sailing, and diving. All of these people and groups have important insight to inform the placement of new structures on the nearshore seafloor. Installing moorings without comprehensive consultation threatens not only their connection to place but sets a precedent that could affect coastal communities throughout Kona. This unilateral approach fails to uphold the principles of consultation and consent that have historically guided responsible stewardship of our oceans and coasts.

Moreover, the lack of engagement with native Hawaiians and affected stakeholders contradicts the collaborative spirit that has yielded positive outcomes in past initiatives. Our community has consistently demonstrated that inclusive decision-making leads to better environmental stewardship and more sustainable outcomes for all parties.

We urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to reconsider this proposal and engage in meaningful consultation with Hui Aloha Kiholo and other stakeholders at this time. A more respectful and inclusive process will not only honor our cultural heritage but also ensure the long-term health and vitality of our oceans and coastal communities.

Thank you for considering our perspective and prior experiences. We look forward to working together to find a solution that respects our traditions and protects our shared resources.

Respectfully Yours,

Chad Wiggins  
Executive Director

Laura Malia Hurtado  
PO Box 651  
Kamuela, Hi 96743  
maliahurtado@gmail.com

Email: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)

Re: Comments on Item J-1, July 26, 2024 Agenda

DBOR Request to Approve Installation of two (2) new offshore moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Maka`iwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawai`i, Hawai`i, for DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC

Dear Chairperson and Members:

Please accept this testimony relative to Item J-1 of the Board's July 26, 2024 agenda.

It is respectfully requested that the Board deny this request or, at minimum, defer action pending a more thorough review of the environmental, cultural, and potential cumulative impacts of permitting new commercial moorings in our nearshore waters.

We are members of the West Hawai`i community who live in close contact with the coastal environment. We are swimmers, surfers, divers, fishermen, and environmentalists. We are in contact with the ocean and the coasts on a daily basis. Many of us use the coastline to exercise traditional practices such as fishing, gathering, and spiritual renewal.

We were very surprised to learn that DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC has applied to place two new commercial moorings in Maka`iwa Bay and that the application is on the Board agenda for July 26, 2024. We had no idea this application was filed, were never contacted by the applicant or anyone acting on their behalf and were never invited to any public meeting, forum, or discussion group where the applicant's intent to apply for mooring was discussed. To our knowledge, there has been no community consultation, no effort to engage with or consult with traditional cultural practitioners in the area and no thorough environmental assessment or Ka Pa`akai analysis.

Board of Land and Natural Resources

July 24, 2024

Page 2

The potential moorings and the commercial activity they will generate could potentially have adverse effects on the ocean and coastline in this high resource area. The Board should require more thorough inquiry and analysis before it makes any decision. The applicant purports to rely on an exemption to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 343 by claiming that the two new moorings are "accessory to existing facilities" HAR 11-200.1-8. However, in the same document the applicant states as its "Reason and Justification for Request" that "There are no designated mooring areas in the vicinity of the two proposed new mooring locations." It is hard to see how the new moorings could be accessory to existing facilities if there are no facilities in the area. Further, the Board has the authority to require compliance with HRS Chapter 343 if the proposed action may have significant environmental and/or cumulative impacts. The Ka Pa`akai analysis is required even if the proposed action is exempt from Chapter 343.

This specific area has highly significant marine and coastal resources. This is an area frequented by whales, in season. In fact, whales come very close to shore in this area; close enough to get ensnared in mooring tackle.

There are important nearshore and offshore fishing in this area. There is a shelf off of Mauna Lani Resort which extends some distance out to sea. There are opelu koa on the shelf from the 20-fathom depth out to the 50-fathom depth. The area is intensely fished by local families to provide food and income. People fish for opelu at night and there is a risk of conflict between vessels moored offshore and fishing boats.

This area is exposed to strong winds and high seas. The wind patterns are very localized.

The existing mooring, the one used by "Winona," is located in a sheltered area just inside the windline that runs south from what fishermen call the "Puako Stot" area of strong offshore winds. Vessels on the proposed moorings could be subject to breaking loose and ending up on the point to the south. This could cause severe environmental damage.

Board of Land and Natural Resources

July 24, 2024

Page 3

This area is also exposed to high surf which may result in the mooring breaking and the vessels causing personal injury or environmental damage.

The ingress and egress from the shoreline to commercial boats moored on the proposed moorings would impact the loko at Kalahuipua`a. These fishponds are of the highest order of historical, cultural, and environmental value. All of Kalahuipua`a has native Hawaiian cultural and royal roots. The impact of increased commercial use of the coastal area would be detrimental to the fishponds. These impacts would be a direct result of increased commercial activity enabled by two new moorings and should be assessed by the Board before it approves the moorings.

If these moorings are approved, especially in the manner this application has come forward, we can expect several more similar applications. The South Kohala Coast includes several resorts and hundreds of very high-net-worth individuals who will also apply for moorings. This application will set a precedent. If resorts or rich people can apply for moorings without doing thorough environmental review, without Ka Pa`akai analysis and without consulting with the community, we can undoubtedly expect to see similar requests up and down the coast.

It is respectfully requested that this application be denied or, at minimum, deferred until a thorough environmental and cultural analysis is completed and the applicant has made a genuine effort to consult with the potentially impacted community.

Sincerely,



Laura Malia Hurtado

**From:** [Jon Staub](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 2:21:06 AM

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> ALOHA,  
>  
> AS LONG-TIME HOMEOWNER(S) OF A BEAUTIFUL HOME IN MAUNA LANI, I AM PROVIDING WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF MY OHANA AND MYSELF, ASKING THAT APPROVAL OF INSTALLATION OF TWO NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE MAKAIWA BAY BE POSTPONED FOR THE REASONS STATED BELOW.  
>  
> THIS BAY IS THE PIKO OF MAUNA LANI, AND THERE IS AN EXISTING MOORING IN PLACE WHICH, ALTHOUGH NO LONGER ACTIVELY USED, WAS UNTIL RECENT TIMES A SENSITIVE KAMA'AINA SMALL SCALE OPERATION SENSITIVE TO THE OUR HOA BEACH CLUB MEMBERSHIP. TO ADD TWO MORE WOULD FOREVER CHANGE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF THIS VERY SPECIAL SETTING IN MAUNA LANI FROM AN AUTHENTIC HAWAIIAN PLACE WHICH INCLUDES A FRAGIL BUT THRIVING BAY FOR SWIMMING AND SNORKELING, A CRESCENT SANDY BEACH FOR KEIKI AND TODDLERS TO SAFELY PLAY AT WATERS EDGE AND AN ADJACENT NETWORK OF ANCIENT SHORELINE FISH PONDS, ALL OF WHICH COMBINED CREATE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF SERENE AND TIMELESS BEAUTY WHICH MAUNA LANI IS UNIQUELY KNOWN FOR.  
>  
> WE ARE AWARE THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY WAS COMPLETED HOWEVER IT SURELY DOES NOT TAKE INTO FULL ACCOUNT THE VISUAL AUDITORY AND EMOTIONAL IMPACT WHICH THESE MOORINGS WILL HAVE IN THIS TIMELESS SETTING. BY INTRODUCING COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC, WHICH NOT ONLY WILL INVOLVE THE MOORED BOATS BUT FAR WORSE, THE ONGOING ENVIRONMENTALLY DISRUPTIVE MOTOR AND OCEAN SHUTTLE TRAFFIC OF PASSENGERS TO AND FRO SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR.  
>  
> OUR MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION RESTAURANT AND BEACH CLUB IS LOCATED ON THE LAND IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO AND OVERLOOKING THE BAY AND FISHPONDS, AND HUNDREDS OF HOMEOWNERS AND THEIR GUESTS WILL BE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY THE COMMERCIAL OPERATION THAT THESE MOORINGS WILL GENERATE. THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL WHICH WILL BE USING THESE MOORINGS IS LOCATED AT SOME DISTANCE FROM THIS SITE AND THE FULL IMPACT. OF THE OPERATION WILL BE TO THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BEACH CLUB.  
>  
> THE ONLY PUBLIC ACCESS WITHIN MAUNA LANI RESORT IS MAKAIWA BAY AND THE HEIGHTENED COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY WHICH THESE TWO ADDITIONAL MOORINGS WILL GENERATE WILL IMPACT BOTH OUR LOCAL FAMILIES AND OUR HOMEOWNERS WITH NO IMPACT TO THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL AND ITS GUESTS.  
>  
> WE ARE WRITING AT THIS LAST MOMENT BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THIS APPROVAL HEARING UNTIL TODAY AND THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT AS MEMBERS OF THE MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, WE ALONG WITH THE PUBLIC, BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SHARING OUR COLLECTIVE CONCERN AND INPUT INTO THE PROCESS.  
>  
> THANK YOU,  
Jonathan Staub  
> THE FLANDERS/STAUB OHANA

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Judith Jennet](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Makaiwa Bay Moorings.....  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 10:49:32 PM

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Previously submitted to dlnc but have been informed that this is the appropriate email address to use.

Aloha Ms Chairperson Chang,

I would like to express my disagreement with the proposal to install two moorings at Makaiwa Bay, inside of the existing mooring and in an area heavily used by residents of the island and guests of the hotels fronting this beautiful bay.

Makaiwa is beautiful, appears to be healthy, the reef is shallow and pristine. There is an existing approved mooring as well as public day use moorings located in this area. Additional boat traffic and vessels permanently moored in this area will be detrimental to the environment and the safety of the stakeholders who use this area for swimming, snorkeling, scuba diving, paddle boarding, kayaking, canoeing and other ocean recreation activities. These moorings would pose an added safety risk to an already congested bay and would only serve a select few guests of the hotel. I am concerned for the safety of all who use this bay.

I would hope that DLNR would solicit the input of recreational users in the area, especially local residents to ensure that the needs of all ocean recreation users is, at minimum, allowed to be voiced. It would be beneficial to ensure that stakeholders agree with this use rather than have it quietly approved without ample time to solicit public input. Our ocean resources are for everyone to use, not just a select few individuals.

Please consider all ocean users in the important decision. I strongly disagree with this proposal to install private moorings on state waters.

Mahalo for accepting my email.

Cordially,

Judith Jennet  
Resident and Ocean Recreation Participant

Judith Jennet  
President/CEO  
Nanea Kai, Inc. dba Ocean Sports  
[jjennet@hawaii oceansports.com](mailto:jjennet@hawaii oceansports.com)

**From:** [Kila Peterson](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: J. DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION 1. Approve Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Makaiwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, For DHL MAHI OPC), LLC.  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 9:12:42 AM

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ALOHA,

AS LONG-TIME HOMEOWNER(S) OF A BEAUTIFUL HOME IN MAUNA LANI, I AM PROVIDING WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF MY OHANA AND MYSELF, ASKING THAT APPROVAL OF INSTALLATION OF TWO NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE MAKAIWA BAY BE POSTPONED FOR THE REASONS STATED BELOW.

THIS BAY IS THE PIKO OF MAUNA LANI, AND THERE IS AN EXISTING MOORING IN PLACE WHICH, ALTHOUGH NO LONGER ACTIVELY USED, WAS UNTIL RECENT TIMES A SENSITIVE KAMA'AINA SMALL SCALE OPERATION SENSITIVE TO THE OUR HOA BEACH CLUB MEMBERSHIP. TO ADD TWO MORE WOULD FOREVER CHANGE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF THIS VERY SPECIAL SETTING IN MAUNA LANI FROM AN AUTHENTIC HAWAIIAN PLACE WHICH INCLUDES A FRAGIL BUT THRIVING BAY FOR SWIMMING AND SNORKELING, A CRESCENT SANDY BEACH FOR KEIKI AND TODDLERS TO SAFELY PLAY AT WATERS EDGE AND AN ADJACENT NETWORK OF ANCIENT SHORELINE FISH PONDS, ALL OF WHICH COMBINED CREATE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF SERENE AND TIMELESS BEAUTY WHICH MAUNA LANI IS UNIQUELY KNOWN FOR.

WE ARE AWARE THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY WAS COMPLETED HOWEVER IT SURELY DOES NOT TAKE INTO FULL ACCOUNT THE VISUAL AUDITORY AND EMOTIONAL IMPACT WHICH THESE MOORINGS WILL HAVE IN THIS TIMELESS SETTING. BY INTRODUCING COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC, WHICH NOT ONLY WILL INVOLVE THE MOORED BOATS BUT FAR WORSE, THE ONGOING ENVIRONMENTALLY DISRUPTIVE MOTOR AND OCEAN SHUTTLE TRAFFIC OF PASSENGERS TO AND FRO SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR.

OUR MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION RESTAURANT AND BEACH CLUB IS LOCATED ON THE LAND IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO AND OVERLOOKING THE BAY AND FISHPONDS, AND HUNDREDS OF HOMEOWNERS AND THEIR GUESTS WILL BE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY THE COMMERCIAL OPERATION THAT THESE MOORINGS WILL GENERATE. THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL WHICH WILL BE USING THESE MOORINGS IS LOCATED AT SOME DISTANCE FROM THIS SITE AND THE FULL IMPACT. OF THE OPERATION WILL BE TO THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BEACH CLUB.

THE ONLY PUBLIC ACCESS WITHIN MAUNA LANI RESORT IS MAKAIWA BAY AND THE HEIGHTENED COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY WHICH THESE TWO ADDITIONAL MOORINGS WILL GENERATE WILL IMPACT BOTH OUR LOCAL FAMILIES AND OUR HOMEOWNERS WITH NO IMPACT TO THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL AND ITS GUESTS.

WE ARE WRITING AT THIS LAST MOMENT BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THIS APPROVAL HEARING UNTIL TODAY AND THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT AS MEMBERS OF THE MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, WE ALONG WITH THE PUBLIC, BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SHARING OUR COLLECTIVE CONCERN AND INPUT INTO THE PROCESS.

THANK YOU,  
THE FLANDERS/STAUB OHANA  
E mālama. pono!  
Kila



**From:** [Tiga Kailimai](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mooring  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 5:05:06 PM

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I oppose any more moorings in the Mauna Lani resort area. The reef is taxed enough with humans and erosion run off.

**From:** [Lehua Kamaka](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposing moorings at Makaiwa  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 8:27:32 AM

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Aloha

My name is Sandra Lehua Kamaka. I am from Kona, Hawai'i.

I totally oppose this action to place 2 moorings in the bay of Makaiwa.

I grew up surfing and diving in the bay of Makaiwa. Save what is left in that space for marine life.

When is enough is enough? Enough is enough!!!

Damaging coral life for what? For the wants or pleasure of people? There is a life in existence under the sea. Please consider the everyday residents (the coral polyps, all types of i'a, the nutrients, the microorganisms, etc.) that depend on each other for their existence. Their existence sustains peoples food source for existence, not moorings, and private boats or yachts!

We in Hawai'i are rich in resources not in monies paid to be destructors of natural habitats of resources. We are to be the protectors.

Kona DAR office was not informed or consulted. No lineal descendants or community consultation was thought of to be done. Cultural impact not considered. Three important steps not considered. In my opinion, thats three strikes, you're out!

Shut it down and in my support for DAR, you have denied the language of Act 306 directing DAR to establish no anchoring areas.

Please reconsider this request for the 2 moorings at Makaiwa Department of Land and Natural Resources. Don't be the segway for destructors, be the protectors that you are within.

Mahalo nui.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Lehua Kamaka

**From:** [tk\\_blast](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Installation of 2 New Moorings in Makaiwa Bay  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 5:07:09 PM

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To: [blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)

Aloha,

My name is Timothy David Keanini. The Keanini family is from Moloka'i, I was born and raised on Oahu and now reside in 'The Villages at Mauna Lani'. I am writing to strongly oppose the installation of two new mooring buoys in Makaiwa Bay.

While my wife and I have only owned in Mauna Lani since 2019, however my father lived in Kona for the last 25 years of his life and I have seen a lot change, some for the better, some for the worse. We visit daily the 'beach club' and enjoy everything about Makaiwa Bay and this proposed installation is not for the good of the land or the people.

One of the Hawaiian values that I would like to call out is Kuleana and as my parents taught me, we need to take care of the land for 7 generations into the future. Nothing about this new mooring proposal contributes to anyone but this commercial interest and I feel we are all not practicing our Kuleana if we allow this to pass.

Please protect Makaiwa Bay for all users and reject the installation of these commercial mooring buoys.

Mahalo,

Timothy David Keanini  
68-1025 N Kaniku Dr, Unit 313  
Kamuela, HI. 96743  
mbl 415 328 2722

**From:** [matthew.klekner@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.klekner@gmail.com)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item J - boating and ocean recreation topic 1  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 9:32:30 PM

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Matthew Klekner  
68-1025 N. Kaniku Dr.  
Kamuela HI 96743  
808-518-2901

Dear DNLR,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the application to install two new commercial boat moorings in the middle of our small bay and to allow additional boat charters to operate in the area. As a resident of the Mauna Lani and local beach club member, I am deeply troubled by the potential impact these developments could have on our community and the character of our beloved Makaiwa Bay.

The expansion of commercial boat moorings and charter operations would significantly disrupt the atmosphere and take away from the natural beauty of our bay. The additional moorings and boats would occupy a substantial portion of the bay, limiting access for club members and the public and detract from our fair use of the bay. The additional moorings are directly in line with popular winter surf breaks and daily paddle board and open water swimming and snorkeling. It is a bustling bay enjoyed by many and should not be privatized.

Additionally, parking is already a significant issue in the area. The influx of visitors and activities associated with the added boat charters would exacerbate this problem, leading to increased congestion and difficulty for club members and local residents. This would not only be inconvenient but could also pose safety risks, particularly during peak times when parking is already scarce.

There is an existing commercial boat mooring that is currently not in use, so why do they need to add two more? The bay can barely support a single catamaran and now you want to allow even more? These new boat charters have never acted in good faith. Their current beach shack is already in violation of setback requirements for historical preservation and I do not trust them to be stewards of the environment.

Moreover, the environmental impact of these developments cannot be overlooked. Increased boat traffic and the presence of expanded commercial operations in the bay could lead to coral bleaching and the deterioration of our delicate marine ecosystem. The risk of fuel spills, waste discharge, and other pollutants entering the water would significantly degrade water quality, harming human and aquatic life and diminishing the natural beauty of the bay. It is crucial to preserve the ecological health of our bay for future generations and to make sure the nearby fish ponds, which are of great historical significance, are not unintentionally harmed.

I urge you to consider the impact that approving this permit would have on our community and the integrity of our beach. I respectfully request that you deny the application for the new commercial boat moorings and charter operations. Protecting the unique character and tranquility of our bay should be a priority. There are existing boat charters out of "A-Bay" just 10 minutes away and other charter activities at Kawaihai Harbor, just 20 min away. Outside of corporate greed, there is no reason to approve this. Without you to protect these lands and waterways, nobody will.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I appreciate your consideration and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Matthew Klekner

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Amanda Levin](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bureau of Land and Natural Resources Meeting - 7/26/24 Regarding Agenda Item J(1) Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 8:42:41 PM

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Dear Board of Land and Natural Resources Members:

I am writing as a family members of full time residents who, as daily users of Makaiwa Bay, enjoy surfing, open-water swimming, diving, and various other water activities along with thousands of others each year. I am deeply concerned about the proposal to add two additional commercial mooring buoys in this precious area.

Approving these buoys would be environmentally destructive. Makaiwa Bay, meaning "small bay" in Hawaiian, is a geographically unique and minimal natural resource already at its limits regarding coral and wildlife health due to existing activities. Contrary to the DNLN's assertion that mooring buoys do not impede fish spawning, the presence of three boats attached to these buoys, which may not be regularly moved, could have significant negative effects.

The significance of Makaiwa Bay extends beyond its environmental importance; it holds deep cultural value due to the ancient surrounding fishponds. These fishponds are a testament to the ingenuity and sustainable practices of Native Hawaiians, reflecting centuries-old traditions and the sacred connection between the people and their environment. This plan completely disregards the profound cultural significance of this sacred space, which would be violated by commercial uses.

One of the proposed buoys is in the surf break area, crucial for winter surfing. It is also directly in front of a Makaha linked to an ancient fishpond, serving as a channel for outflowing brackish water. Installing a commercial buoy here would dangerously impede surf activity and block the channel necessary for surfers to escape breaking waves. Additionally, it would encroach on the current buoy.

These commercial-use buoys, with boats attached, would be hazardous in rough surf if the boats are not relocated and would be an eyesore in our beautiful bay. They would also impede daily water activities for the exclusive commercial use of one resort hotel owner. The nearby Kawaihae small boat harbor, not Makaiwa Bay, should be used as a commercial port.

Our resort is expanding, with plans for nearly 3000 hotel rooms or residential units, making Makaiwa Bay the primary water activity area. Adding three large commercial craft and their associated activities would overwhelm this compact bay.

Please protect our beautiful Makaiwa Bay for all users. The bay does not need additional commercial mooring buoys, especially one in the surf break. Let's preserve this natural treasure and its cultural heritage instead of allowing it to be dominated by commercial interests.

Sincerely,

Amanda Levin  
[Amanda.levin@gmail.com](mailto:Amanda.levin@gmail.com)

**From:** [Bianca Lindsey](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Maka'iwa Mooring  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 4:59:43 PM

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Aloha!

I am born and raised on this piece of coastline and strongly oppose the new mooring. We use this area to surf, swim, dive, paddle, fish and teach our keiki from the loko i'a.

The bay is too small for another mooring not to mention the impact it will have on the reef, the fish and the surf spot. We as locals already have little to no access to this social piece of shoreline. Adding more boats, and more people will make it even more difficult to access this social place.

Not to mention the impact the pollution from more boats and people will bring. The reef is already suffering enough. Please do not allow this to happen.

Mahalo  
Bianca Lindsey  
808-222-6095

**From:** [Tami MacAller](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony Against Moorings in Makaiwa Bay, Hawaii Island  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 6:12:00 PM

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Aloha BLNR,

Firstly, I'd like to ask why wasn't the public (the people who live on this Island). notified of this installation BEFORE it was approved?

As a full time resident, I have been swimming the Makaiwa Bay weekly for the past 14 years. I have found it to be one of the most pristine places on this island. A Bay and Kona have both been terribly spoiled by boat traffic.

Swimming the ocean and bays during the pandemic ( when there was no boat use) provided great opportunity for ocean environment of reefs, sealife, and coral to recover and grow.

Having commercial (diesel powered) boats anchored in the bay near the beach club and just off the reefs (where there already 2 moorings that are utilized several times a day), with the associated fumes from the engines and related noise, will irreparably damage the reef and interfere with the activities of those who swim, snorkel, kayak, or otherwise enjoy the generally unobstructed, natural area in front of the beach club and fishponds.

The areas where these proposed commercial buoys(3) are planned, are in a hazardous surf and heavy wind area, which could easily move the boats onto the reef causing irreparable harm. And we know with climate change and sea level changes this will always be an issue.

These boats would an eyesore in our beautiful environment and impede daily water activities for one resort hotel owner's exclusive commercial use. The nearby Kawaiihae small boat harbor, not Makaiwa Bay, should be used as a commercial port.

Please save our bay and island. !Please protect our beautiful Makaiwa Bay for all users instead of allowing commercial, single owner use mooring buoys (3)!!

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Tami

Tami MacAller, West Hawaii



*Mr. Laird M. Malamed  
68-1399 Mauna Lani Dr Apt J203  
310 903-0886*

July 25, 2024

Chairperson Dawn N.S. Chang  
Board of Land and Natural Resources Commission on Water Resource Management  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu HI 96809

Re: July 26, 2024 Meeting of the Board, item J / Nationwide Permit Verification for DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC.,

Dear Chairperson Chang and Board:

I was just informed today by the Mauna Lani Resort Association, the master association for the Mauna Lani Property in South Kohala on Hawai'i, that the Auberge Resort is seeking a permit to add two commercial boat moorings in the harbor situated near our association's beach buildings and across from a beach active with swimmers, snorkelers and other water sports enthusiasts, including children, and teeming with wildlife.

I am opposed to the granting of this request for the following reasons:

1. A commercial mooring "winona" is already in place and is no longer in use as of last year as the Auberge no longer has a tenant for their "Sea Adventures" kiosk. With a mooring already in place, it is not clear why two more, including 1 of which being closer to land, are necessary.
2. The Auberge Resort has not previously shared the permit request or plans for these additional moorings. These moorings are located away from their property, separated by a number of beach areas and historic ponds. The implication is more traffic in the water to service the moorings and over land from the hotel across the shared areas to access launches out to the moorings.
3. At least three residential communities have views of this bay, and additional traffic and noise into and out of the area will diminish the tranquility of this special site. Further, if overnight moorings are allowed by private vessels, a possibility of excess noise late at night exists.
4. By increasing motorized water traffic in the area, there are increased risks to those using the beaches and waters around the bay for recreational use.

I request that the permit be denied. If that decision cannot be rendered, I ask that the decision be postponed for 90-days so that the association and related residential sub-associations be fully briefed on the commercial plans for these moorings so that a more complete response be granted. Further, should the Board decide to issue the permit, that permit should be controlled by the Mauna Lani Resort Association and not any specific property owner or operator within the Mauna Lani Resort area. If built, these moorings should be a community asset.

Kindest regards,

  
Laird M Malamed

**From:** [Marty Meth](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Boat moorings Auberge Hotel Mauna Lani Resort  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 7:16:30 AM

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We are daily users of Makaiwa Bay, enjoying surfing, open-water swimming, snorkeling, diving, and many other water activities the bay offers ourselves and thousands of users every year.

I am writing to state that two additional commercial mooring buoys in Makaiwa Bay are inappropriate relative to the overuse of a minimal natural resource in this area. The bay's name means Bird's Eye or Eye of the Iwa Bird, meaning "small" bay in Hawaiian, as many islanders have told me in years past. This tiny bay is geographically unique where current, constant activities already exist which have stretched the bay's limits relative to coral and wildlife health. I disagree with the DNLR letter where it stated that there is no proven impediment to fish spawning etc. caused by mooring buoys. This may be true for the buoy but not necessarily the negative effects of 3 boats attached that may or may not be moved regularly.

One proposed new, commercial, buoy is inappropriately located within the surf break area many use during the winter. Additionally, this commercial buoy is situated toward the shore directly in front of a Makaha related to the ancient fishpond that serves as the channel for outflowing brackish water. This area provides the "channel" needed to escape the breaking waves by surfers and will impede surf activity dangerously if installed with a moored, commercial vessel. It's also toward the shoreline and inside the current buoy that Mauna Lani Sea Adventures used for their Winona catamaran. Paragraph 5 in your letter is interesting as it seems to imply the applicant intends to take over that existing buoy also.

These are commercial-use buoys (3) with attached boats that would be hazardous in rough surf if someone did not relocate the boats. If nothing else, they would be an eyesore in our beautiful environment and impede typical daily water activities for one resort hotel owner's exclusive commercial use. The nearby Kawaihae small boat harbor, not Makaiwa Bay, should be used as a commercial port.

I strongly oppose the applicants request to install additional buoys in the bay.

Martin Meth

From: [chunks\\_angelsoa@icloud.com](mailto:chunks_angelsoa@icloud.com)  
To: DLNR, DLNR Testimony  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Makaiwa Bay Moorings  
Date: Thursday, July 25, 2024 12:27:43 AM

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To DLNR:

We are submitting testimony in opposition to the issuance of permits for the Auberge to put two moorings into **Makaiwa Bay**, as full time residents and owners in the Mauna Lani Resort Association.

In our opinion this will open the door for Auberge to turn **Makaiwa Bay** into their own Bay, and will allow Auberge to bring buses and have facilities built to accommodate them, adjacent to the Beach Club at **Makaiwa Bay** which is a separate entity from Auberge. This will also bring lots of foot traffic onto the Mauna Lani Beach Club which is separate from the Auberge and is owned by the **MLRA (Mauna Lani Resort Association)**.

Mooring #1 is very close in to where everyone swims, snorkels, kayaks, canoes, etc at the Beach Club. This is also an area where numerous endangered Honu, Spotted Eagle Ray's, and White Tip and Black Tip Reef Sharks regularly swim. It will be disruptive to have their yachts so close to the Mauna Lani Beach Club. Mooring #2 is also in a sensitive area for large Spotted Eagle Rays and Manta Rays, and should not be allowed.

Secondly, the Auberge has already caused multiple employees to lose their jobs, with the **Mauna Lani Sea Adventures**, who are the owners of the **Winona** mooring. **The Mauna Lani Sea Adventures** which is a local family run business, was forced off of the area by Auberge, after being there for 40 years, by giving them a lease renewal offer that was untenable. All of their numerous local employees, lost their jobs that they had for all those years.

At the same time, this permit would exempt Auberge from any **Environmental Impact Review** in building facilities, restrooms, bus stalls etc directly adjacent to the Mauna Lani Beach Club.

Mauna Lani Auberge has been disrespecting the historic 800 year old ancient fishponds of **Kalahuiipua'a** for years, for example by neglecting to fix the buckled entrance to the historic bedroom cottage of Francis H I'i Brown. A tree fell and buckled the concrete, approximately 4 years ago, and instead of fixing it, Auberge neglected it and just fenced the area off. Then a second and third tree came down and further buckled the bridge to this historic bedroom cottage. Auberge did nothing to remove the unsightly mess, including 3 very large tumbled trees, and to this day continues to neglect fixing the now completely buckled entrance to the Francis H I'i Brown bedroom cottage that people used to enjoy visiting. Enclosed are some pictures.





The Hale that houses the canoe, at the beach near the **Eva Parker Woods Cottage**, has fallen into complete disrepair since Auberge has taken over. This disrespects the ancient Hawaiian Ali'i that were the original inhabitants of that property, including King Kamehameha the Great.





The Auberge was approached by **Hawai'i Land Trust (HILT)** a couple of years ago in an effort to purchase the Eva Parker Woods Cottage, and remodel it, and open it as an educational center for future generations to learn about this sacred Hawaiian area. Auberge turned down this offer by HILT to revitalize the Eva Parker Woods Cottage, that is a replica of the original cottage that Francis H I'i Brown lived in for many years with his family. Francis H I'i Brown was the owner of all the land that the Mauna Lani Resort was built upon and was known as the last Hawaiian Ali'i.



In our humble opinion, the Auberge has shown a complete disregard for these sacred fishponds and Kalahuipua'a Historic Park, and to the ancient Hawaiians who have managed them for generations before them.

The Auberge continues to be poor stewards of the **Kalahuipua'a Historical Park and Fish Ponds**, and to disrespect the direct ancestors of Francis H I'i Brown.

Auberge should not be granted permits that will begin their intrusion into **Makaiwa Bay** that if granted, will permanently affect the enjoyment of the Mauna Lani Beach Club for all of the people who use that beach and swim in **Makaiwa Bay**. It will also cause stress to the endangered Honu, the reefs and all the other sea life that call **Makaiwa Bay** their home.

Auberge has their own Bay and should keep their yachts there next to their hotel, and not ruin **Makaiwa Bay** and the **Mauna Lani Beach Club**.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lee and Meredith Miller

**From:** [merrymiller1@icloud.com](mailto:merrymiller1@icloud.com)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Lee Miller](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Makaiwa Bay New Moorings  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 2:30:50 AM

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To DLNR:

We are submitting testimony in opposition to the issuance of permits for the Auberge to put two moorings into **Makaiwa Bay**, as full time residents and owners in the Mauna Lani Resort Association.

In our opinion this will open the door for Auberge to turn **Makaiwa Bay** into their own Bay, and will allow Auberge to bring buses and have facilities built to accommodate them, adjacent to the Beach Club at **Makaiwa Bay** which is a separate entity from Auberge. This will also bring lots of foot traffic onto the Mauna Lani Beach Club which is separate from the Auberge and is owned by the **MLRA (Mauna Lani Resort Association)**.

Mooring #1 is very close in to where everyone swims, snorkels, kayaks, canoes, etc at the Beach Club. This is also an area where numerous endangered Honu, Spotted Eagle Ray's, and White Tip and Black Tip Reef Sharks regularly swim. It will be disruptive to have their yachts so close to the Mauna Lani Beach Club. Mooring #2 is also in a sensitive area for large Spotted Eagle Rays and Manta Rays, and should not be allowed.

Secondly, the Auberge has already caused multiple employees to lose their jobs, with the **Mauna Lani Sea Adventures**, who are the owners of the **Winona** mooring. **The Mauna Lani Sea Adventures** which is a local family run business, was forced off of the area by Auberge, after being there for 40 years, by giving them a lease renewal offer that was untenable. All of their numerous and all local employees, lost their jobs that they had for all those years.

At the same time, this permit would exempt Auberge from any ***Environmental Impact Review*** in building facilities, restrooms, bus stalls etc directly adjacent to the Mauna Lani Beach Club.

Mauna Lani Auberge has been disrespecting the historic 800 year old ancient fishponds of **Kalahuipua'a** for years, for example by neglecting to fix the buckled entrance to the historic bedroom cottage of Francis H I'i Brown. A tree fell and buckled the concrete, approximately 4 years ago, and instead of fixing it, Auberge neglected it and just fenced the area off. Then a second and third tree came down and further buckled the bridge to this historic bedroom. Auberge did nothing to remove the unsightly mess, including 3 very large tumbled trees, and to this day continues to neglect fixing the now completely buckled entrance to the Francis H I'i Brown bedroom cottage that people used to enjoy



visiting.

The Hale that houses the canoe, at the beach near the **Eva Parker Woods Cottage**, has fallen into complete disrepair since Auberge has taken over. This disrespects the ancient Hawaiian Ali'i that were the original inhabitants of that property, including King Kamehameha the Great.

The Auberge was approached by **Hawai'i Land Trust (HILT)** a couple of years ago in an effort to purchase the Eva Parker Woods Cottage, and remodel it, and open it as an educational center for future generations to learn about this sacred Hawaiian area. Auberge turned down this offer by HILT to revitalize the Eva Parker Woods Cottage, that is a replica of the original cottage that Francis H I'i Brown lived in for many years with his family. Francis H I'i Brown was the owner of all the land that the Mauna Lani Resort was built upon and was known as the last Hawaiian Ali'i.

In this same manner Auberge continues to disrespect all the Ancient Hawaiian fishponds and surrounding area.

In our humble opinion, the Auberge has shown a complete disregard for these sacred fishponds and Kalahuipua'a Historic Park, and to the ancient Hawaiians who have managed them for generations before them.

The Auberge continues to be poor stewards of the **Kalahuipua'a Historical Park and Fish Ponds**, and to disrespect the direct ancestors of Francis H I'i Brown.

Auberge should not be granted permits that will begin their intrusion into **Makaiwa Bay** that if granted, will permanently affect the enjoyment of the Mauna Lani Beach Club for all of the people who use that beach and swim in **Makaiwa Bay**. It will also cause stress to the endangered Honu, the reefs and all the other sea life that call **Makaiwa Bay** their home.

Auberge has their own Bay and should keep their yachts there next to their hotel, and not ruin **Makaiwa Bay** and the **Mauna Lani Beach Club**.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lee and Meredith Miller

**From:** [Richard Morris](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed moorings at Maka'iwa beach  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 8:53:04 PM

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Dear Sir/Madam:

It came to my attention just today that the Auberge Mauna Lani is applying for moorings in Maka'iwa Bay without notifying or consulting with the more than 1000 homeowners and other stakeholders that have a legal right to utilize this beach and bay. Any given day there are hundreds of homeowners and Hawaiian residents that use this bay for swimming, paddle boarding, kayaking, snorkeling and other enjoyment. There is already one mooring on the site, which has been more than sufficient for the Mauna Lani Hotel and Sea Adventures to service the property for 40 years. Have the current owners tried to purchase or lease this mooring? I doubt it. With current beach use, I feel the bay is too small to have additional moorings and additional boats. This is a marine safety issue. At the very least, allow those of us who have an interest in this bay have a say.

I would also like to point out that this bay provides one of the premier marine environments along this coast. More boating will likely damage the reef here and certainly curtail public use of the beach and ocean.

I have been a homeowner here for 20 years and utilize this beach and bay extensively year around for snorkeling and swimming. I am currently teaching my 5 year old grandson to snorkel and hope that he too will be able to utilize this bay in the future without fear of being run over.

Sincerely,  
Richard A Morris  
68-1399 Mauna Lani Drive, B101  
Kamuela, HI 96743

**From:** [jMullen](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO VOTE for Makaiwa Bay Moorings - Numerous Reasons  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 5:11:02 PM

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Dear Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I beg you to vote NO on the request for additional moorings in Makaiwa Bay. If you choose not to then at the very least request an environmental impact study, which should have been requested with the initial proposal. It is incumbent on all of us to protect our limited resources and historical cultural sites. The only way to do that is by knowing the environmental impact.

As a full time resident of Mauna Lani, and with family roots in Hawaii since the 1920's I have personally seen many changes to our precious ocean resources. Allowing these moorings is sentencing Maikawa Bay to the fate we have seen befall the once magnificent Hunama Bay.

I have personally witnessed employees of DHL Mahi damaging coral and the extended reefs of Maikawa Bay by using drag anchors when taking paid hotel guests in outriggers to snorkel. When I asked if they were supposed to be anchoring in the area instead of using the permanent buoys I was told they can drop anchors where they like. This is the stewardship which goes with the buoys you would be approving. If these moorings are so important, why not place them north of the hotel where there would be greatly reduced risk to swimmers, and snorkelers. In the current proposed location you would guarantee unintended water craft and swimmer accidents. When just the Winona was moored here there were many near misses. As a frequent snorkeler and paddle boarder I have personal experience with avoiding the dingy used to shuttle guests out to just one boat, and can't imagine the public danger which would be created with larger and more motorized craft in the area.

DHL Mahi outriggers, Puako Dive boats and A-Bay catamarans already use the permanent buoys in front of the DHL property for commercial use. That means there would potentially be 5 vessels in the area at one time. Swimmer and recreational safety should be a priority. This is exactly why the local marinas say no swimming. Is the intent to turn this beautiful swimming bay into a commercial mooring site?

This area is also home to numerous young honu and is akin to a honu nursery due to the protected reefs in the area. What would the impact be to the green sea turtle population of the area if more motorized craft are permanently moored here. If you can't answer this question, then please ask for an environmental impact study. And what about the monk seals, whom we have seen more of the last two years? Will they still use the bay and adjoining areas if we have additional motorized craft?

Please visit this special place, or ask for local input before making a decision that will have consequences for generations to come.

Mahalo Nui for your thoughtful consideration,

Jean Mullen  
[559-281-1057](tel:559-281-1057)

**From:** [Blair Paterson](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] HO Concern  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 6:42:06 PM

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RE: J. DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION 1. Approve Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Makaiwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, For DHL MAHI OPC), LLC.

ALOHA,

AS LONG-TIME HOMEOWNER(S) OF A BEAUTIFUL HOME IN MAUNA LANI, I AM PROVIDING WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF MY OHANA AND MYSELF, ASKING THAT APPROVAL OF INSTALLATION OF TWO NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE MAKAIWA BAY BE POSTPONED FOR THE REASONS STATED BELOW.

THIS BAY IS THE PIKO OF MAUNA LANI, AND THERE IS AN EXISTING MOORING IN PLACE WHICH, ALTHOUGH NO LONGER ACTIVELY USED, WAS UNTIL RECENT TIMES A SENSITIVE KAMA'AINA SMALL SCALE OPERATION SENSITIVE TO THE OUR HOA BEACH CLUB MEMBERSHIP. TO ADD TWO MORE WOULD FOREVER CHANGE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF THIS VERY SPECIAL SETTING IN MAUNA LANI FROM AN AUTHENTIC HAWAIIAN PLACE WHICH INCLUDES A FRAGIL BUT THRIVING BAY FOR SWIMMING AND SNORKELING, A CRESCENT SANDY BEACH FOR KEIKI AND TODDLERS TO SAFELY PLAY AT WATERS EDGE AND AN ADJACENT NETWORK OF ANCIENT SHORELINE FISH PONDS, ALL OF WHICH COMBINED CREATE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF SERENE AND TIMELESS BEAUTY WHICH MAUNA LANI IS UNIQUELY KNOWN FOR.

WE ARE AWARE THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY WAS COMPLETED HOWEVER IT SURELY DOES NOT TAKE INTO FULL ACCOUNT THE VISUAL AUDITORY AND EMOTIONAL IMPACT WHICH THESE MOORINGS WILL HAVE IN THIS TIMELESS SETTING. BY INTRODUCING COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC, WHICH NOT ONLY WILL INVOLVE THE MOORED BOATS BUT FAR WORSE, THE ONGOING ENVIRONMENTALLY DISRUPTIVE MOTOR AND OCEAN SHUTTLE TRAFFIC OF PASSENGERS TO AND FRO SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR.

OUR MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION RESTAURANT AND BEACH CLUB IS LOCATED ON THE LAND IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO AND OVERLOOKING THE BAY AND FISHPONDS, AND HUNDREDS OF HOMEOWNERS AND THEIR GUESTS WILL BE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY THE COMMERCIAL OPERATION THAT THESE MOORINGS WILL GENERATE. THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL WHICH WILL BE USING THESE MOORINGS IS LOCATED AT SOME DISTANCE FROM THIS SITE AND THE FULL IMPACT. OF THE OPERATION WILL BE TO THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BEACH CLUB.

THE ONLY PUBLIC ACCESS WITHIN MAUNA LANI RESORT IS MAKAIWA BAY AND THE HEIGHTENED COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY WHICH THESE TWO ADDITIONAL MOORINGS WILL GENERATE WILL IMPACT BOTH OUR LOCAL FAMILIES AND OUR HOMEOWNERS WITH NO IMPACT TO THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL AND ITS GUESTS.

WE ARE WRITING AT THIS LAST MOMENT BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THIS APPROVAL HEARING UNTIL TODAY AND THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT AS MEMBERS OF THE MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, WE ALONG WITH THE PUBLIC, BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SHARING OUR COLLECTIVE CONCERN AND INPUT INTO THE PROCESS.

THANK YOU,  
Blair Paterson  
THE FLANDERS/STAUB OHANA

- Blair

**From:** [Dave Paterson](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] DLNR MEETING #D: 846 9871 3263  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 10:19:05 AM

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RE: J. DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION 1.  
Approve Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Makaiwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, For DHL MAHI OPC), LLC.

ALOHA,

AS LONG-TIME HOMEOWNER(S) OF A BEAUTIFUL HOME IN MAUNA LANI, I AM PROVIDING WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF MY OHANA AND MYSELF, ASKING THAT APPROVAL OF INSTALLATION OF TWO NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE MAKAIWA BAY BE POSTPONED FOR THE REASONS STATED BELOW.

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THE BAY AND FISHPONDS, AND HUNDREDS OF HOMEOWNERS AND THEIR GUESTS WILL BE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY THE COMMERCIAL OPERATION THAT THESE MOORINGS WILL GENERATE. THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL WHICH WILL BE USING THESE MOORINGS IS LOCATED AT SOME DISTANCE FROM THIS SITE AND THE FULL IMPACT. OF THE OPERATION WILL BE TO THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BEACH CLUB.

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WE ARE WRITING AT THIS LAST MOMENT BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THIS APPROVAL HEARING UNTIL TODAY AND THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT AS MEMBERS OF THE MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, WE ALONG WITH THE PUBLIC, BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SHARING OUR COLLECTIVE CONCERN AND INPUT INTO THE PROCESS.

THANK YOU,  
DAVE PATERSON  
THE FLANDERS/STAUB OHANA

**From:** [Patti](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Boat morning plan  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 10:33:11 AM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Patti <meth.patti@gmail.com>  
**Date:** July 25, 2024 at 4:26:12 PM EDT  
**To:** blnr.testmony@hawaii.gov  
**Subject:** Boat morning plan

Aloha,

We are residents at Mauna Lani and love the snorkeling, swimming and water fun at Makaiwa Bay and utilize the facility daily. We feel that adding 2 commercial mooring buoys in the bay will have a negative impact on marine life and coral. This will impact the geographic landscape and fish , and other marine life.

Furthermore, the ancient fish ponds will be affected which is a channel for the brackish water. It helps with the breaking waves and as a result will affect the local surfers and community. Besides the physical appearance of having this mooring with boats attached is an eyesore to our beautiful community.

As a result, I emphatically oppose the request to install any buoys in our bay here at Mauna Lani.

Mahalo  
Patti Meth

**From:** [Keala Peterson](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: J. DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION 1. Approve Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Makaiwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, For DHL MAHI OPC), LLC.  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 6:10:43 PM

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ALOHA,

AS LONG-TIME HOMEOWNER(S) OF A BEAUTIFUL HOME IN MAUNA LANI, I AM PROVIDING WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF MY OHANA AND MYSELF, ASKING THAT APPROVAL OF INSTALLATION OF TWO NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE MAKAIWA BAY BE POSTPONED FOR THE REASONS STATED BELOW.

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THANK YOU,  
Keala Peterson  
THE FLANDERS/STAUB OHANA



**From:** [Linda Pirri](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony for 7/26 meeting - Meeting ID: 846 9871 3263  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 7:37:24 PM

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As long-time residents of the Mauna Lani Resort, we are concerned about the proposed two buoys for Maka'iwa Bay on the agenda [July 26 J1](#).

Why has notice of this application been revealed to our community just a few days before this very crucial hearing? This decision will which affect our community for years to come. As property owners, our community feels we should have had much more advance notice so all interested parties could have the opportunity to express their concerns.

It is appalling that our community has just received notice of this impending decision which will effects our eco-sensitive historic bay and adjacent historic fishponds and shoreline which has already been greatly impacted by ever increasing numbers of swimmers and snorkelers. Those of us who have snorkeled here for years have seen a noticeable, concerning reduction in tropical reef fish. Is there an Environmental Impact study to address our concerns???

The discussion and eventual decision for this sensitive issue is of great concern to our community. We feel it should be delayed to allow the many users of Maka'iwa Bay to be adequately notified and allowed to comment prior to a decision. To receive information 3 days prior to a meeting to decide this issue is not adequate.

Maka'iwa Bay is a historic, important and heavily used community resource. It and the adjacent beach are the sole ocean access locally for this area. The bay, and the area proposed for the moorings, is heavily used for swimming, snorkeling and accessing surfing in the winter and summer months.

There is no clear understanding about what kind of boats will be here and what their use will be as well as how they will handle transporting their customers to/from the shore. Will there be possible conflicts with existing beach usage? Will it be dangerous to swimmers and snorkelers in the water? How will this increased boat traffic impact the extensive historic,

eco sensitive fish pond complex? These and other questions need to be addressed and answered before these moorings are approved.

The impacts on this historic community resource are significant and should be subject to careful community review and comments before granting usage.

Thank you for your consideration,

Linda Pirri and David Gross  
949 813-8657

**From:** [Roz Prober](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] new moorings at Maka'iwa Beach  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 11:39:10 AM

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Dear DLNR,

My husband and I are owners of A 203 in Mauna Lani Terrace MLT. This morning we were made aware in an urgent email that both the board of MLT and the MLRA, our resort association, just found out that on your agenda tomorrow is a request for new moorings at Maka'iwa Beach. Your possible decision in favour of this request will have a rather dramatic impact on all the many folks who use the beach everyday for ocean activities including Jay and myself.

The board of MLT are urging owners to write you immediately to request a postponement.

This email is, therefore, a request to postpone this application until those impacted will have a chance to catch their breath and offer comments on this very new to all owners proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalind and Jay Prober

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Keanu Ramos](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Division of boating and ocean recreation: mooring for Makaiwa bay, Kamuela, HI  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 7:29:05 PM

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Aloha my name is Keanu Ramos and I am a Kainalu Pro currently work for the auberge resort at Mauna Lani. I am reaching out in support for the approval on the installation and new mooring at Makaiwa bay. I feel this with be a much needed and beneficial addition to not just Mauna Lani but the kohala coast. The opportunities for a career as waterman or woman along the kohala coast is very limited. As a native Hawaiian born and raised on the big island the ability to have a life as a professional waterman is a very sustainable and healthy way of living. The addition of this mooring will allow more opportunities for work. I also work on the boat that will be using this mooring and it would greatly benefit the function and longevity of the program. We are currently driving 60 miles round trip from honokohau harbor in Kailua Kona up to Mauna Lani where business is ran from. This mooring would make for much better work environment not just for the crew but the vessel as well. I feel the business is taking the right steps to make this mooring something that will sustainably generate generational opportunity in many ways. Further more there moorings along the stretch of reef at Makaiwa that many other business utilize on a daily basis, this would be a much needed and beneficial addition to the area. I humbly ask for your consideration in the decision making of the approval of this new mooring. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Keanu Ramos

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Dr Malamed](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Christy Hinds](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] The Auberge at Mauna Lani request for two new moorings off Maka'iwa beach  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 4:12:40 AM

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Dear Ms. Chang,

For several reasons, I am deeply concerned about the request that the Auberge Hotel has submitted to add two additional moorings off Maka'iwa beach.

First, the Auberge has not given the Mauna Lani Resort Association anywhere close to adequate notice to review this request and provide comments to the Department of Land and Natural Resources. The MLRA only just learned of this application two days ago (on July 24). Not only is this not adequate notice but it also suggests that the Auberge is trying to get approval for these moorings in an unethical manner. The Auberge is part of a larger community and to not inform the MLRA of this application is inexcusable.

Second, I formally object to this application. Maka'iwa beach is directly in the line of sight of many homes at the Mauna Lani. More boats moored off Maka'iwa Beach will negatively impact all these homeowners. Not only will more boats moored at this location be unsightly for the homeowners, but they will also be unsightly for anyone walking or spending time on the Mauna Lani property. This includes all the individuals and families who live locally and choose to visit the Mauna Lani property to walk or spend time on the beach.

Third, the area that they propose to add these moorings is a small area that is not conducive to have multiple moorings. In the past, even with one mooring, the area around the beach was overwhelmed with people waiting to get on and off the boat. I can only imagine how unpleasant it will be to have so many more people waiting in this small area blocking access for anyone trying to walk along the water.

Finally, as I am sure you are aware, the Mauna Lani property (Kalāhuipua'a) is an exceptionally important Piko, which makes any changes of significance. Adding moorings simply for the commercial benefit of the Auberge Hotel is not appropriate. Furthermore, as mentioned earlier, the way the Auberge has approached this application does not reflect the uniquely positive spiritual energy of this location. The Auberge has a responsibility to preserve this sacred place and the very way they are approaching this application suggests that they have little if any understanding or respect for the deeply spiritual nature of this area.

Therefore, with the deepest respect, I request that this application be denied. At the very least, I request that this hearing be delayed in order to allow anyone interested in commenting the opportunity to do so.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Rebecca**

Rebecca Malamed MD

Online: [www.drrebecca.com](http://www.drrebecca.com)

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**From:** [noah@iunderstand.com](mailto:noah@iunderstand.com)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] J: DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION / Approve Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Makaiwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, For DHL MAHI OPC), LLC  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 11:41:51 AM

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Aloha Members of the BLNR:

I have reviewed the recent submittal by DHL Mahi OPCO, LLC, requesting two new offshore moorings at Makaiwa Bay at Mauna Lani.

As a swimmer, snorkeler and diver at this beach for over 20 years, I must express my strong opposition to the proposed moorings. The addition of two new mooring balls is unnecessary, particularly as one is proposed to be placed very close to shore, between the existing "Winona" mooring and the former boat launch used by Mauna Lani Sea Adventures. This area is extremely shallow and is home to some of the last remaining healthy coral reefs, tropical fish, turtles, spotted eagle rays, manta rays, and occasionally, Hawaiian monk seals.

Placing a mooring in this location would severely disrupt an area frequented by swimmers, snorkelers, paddle boarders, and kayakers heading towards Paniau or the snorkel spot known as "the Arches." In winter, the proposed mooring would obstruct the surf break between the Eva Parker Woods cottage and the old canoe house, impeding surfers' access and posing a safety hazard.

Additionally, the presence of a motorized boat in this sensitive area would pose significant risks. Diesel or oil leaks could damage the coral reef directly below, and the fumes would disturb nearby swimmers and snorkelers. Motorboat noise would also be a nuisance and a safety concern for beachgoers. Furthermore, the applicant has not provided any details about the intended commercial use or frequency of these moorings, which adds to the concerns about their potential impact.

I urge the Board to deny this request. The BLNR's mission is to "enhance, protect, conserve, and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural resources held in public trust for current and future generations." This request from a private-sector entity lacks a clear operating plan and has not sought community input, despite their claims of promoting "Malama `Aina" and their mission to protect and respect our island.

Granting this request would prioritize the interests of a single entity over the well-being of the community and the preservation of this pristine part of the Kohala coast. Such an action would not align with the public trust responsibilities of the BLNR and would negatively impact everyone who enjoys this area, both now and for future generations.

Mahalo, Noah

Noah Salzman  
I understand. Tools for Schools  
[www.iunderstand.com](http://www.iunderstand.com)  
Tel: 415.652.4804





**From:** [Julia Schwerdt](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Moorings in Makaiwa Bay  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 7:21:03 PM

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Voicing my concern about moorings being approved in Makaiwa Bay. This is such a beautiful, peaceful place that our family has enjoyed for many years. We are able to snorkel and swim with little fear of boats coming into the area. This is just a terrible idea for this quiet and beloved area off our shore.

Julia Schwerdt

**From:** [Michael Sheldon](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] New proposed buoys  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 9:18:05 AM

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We are residents of Gokf Villas and regularly enjoy the private beach.  
We agree with everything contained in Rick Oliver's letter  
Mike and Amie Sheldon  
714.801.1174  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [A.K. Shingle](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Makaiwa Bay new mooring proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 7:34:59 AM

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To whom it may concern (Board of Land and Natural Resources):

I am writing in regards to the following proposition for Makaiwa Bay:

RE: DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
APPROVE INSTALLATION OF 2 (TWO) NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE OF AN ESTABLISHED  
OFFSHORE MOORING AREA, MAKAIWA BAY, KAMUELA, ISLAND OF HAWAII, HAWAII, FOR DHL  
MAHI OPCO, LLC

I am in opposition to the application for two new moorings in Maka'iwa Bay for exclusive use of DHL MAHI OPCO, LLC. Such moorings in their proposed locations pose a significant safety risk to ocean goers in that area. Makaiwa Bay is used by residents and visitors for swimming, snorkeling, diving, paddling, surfing, kayaking and paddle boarding.

The addition of watercraft permanently moored in the bay and the traffic of these vessels in and out of the bay is dangerous for all. These proposed moorings and the activity that would follow would also be detrimental to the reef, marine life and wildlife of this special area. The proposed inside mooring and its proximity to the makaha would have a negative impact on the fishponds of Kalahuipua'a. The coastlines suffer from overdevelopment and these new moorings would carry that congestion into the ocean.

I urge your strong consideration in this matter in rejecting the new moorings at Makaiwa Bay which would benefit only the hotel & a very small group of tourists. I ask that this matter receives fair review including island wide public knowledge & process rather than its current path of being slid through without community knowledge, input, or adequate time.

Mahalo for your consideration,  
Alice Ka'eu'eu Shingle

**From:** [MARSHA SPECK](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] DLNR Attention: Makaiwa Bay 2 new mooring proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 9:35:31 AM

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> To: Board of Land and Natural Resources

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> RE: DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

> APPROVE INSTALLATION OF 2 (TWO) NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE OF AN ESTABLISHED OFFSHORE MOORING AREA, MAKAIWA BAY, KAMUELA, ISLAND OF HAWAII, HAWAII, FOR DHL MAHI OPCO, LLC

>

> It has come to my attention that an application has been filed for two new moorings in Maka'iwa Bay for exclusive use of DHL MAHI OPCO, LLC. Such moorings in their proposed locations pose a significant safety risk to ocean goers in that area. Makaiwa Bay is used by residents and visitors for swimming, snorkeling, diving, paddling, surfing, kayaking and paddle boarding.

> The addition of watercraft permanently moored in the bay and the traffic of these vessels in and out of the bay is dangerous for all. These proposed moorings and the activity that would follow would be detrimental to the reef, marine life and wildlife of this special area. The proposed inside mooring and its proximity to the makaha would have a negative impact on the fishponds of Kalahuihua. The coastlines suffer from overdevelopment and these new moorings would carry that congestion into the ocean.

>

> Please strongly review this application and reject the new moorings at Makaiwa Bay which would benefit only the hotel & a very small tourist groups vs the use of the waters by many locals/tourists for multiple activities.

What process will be used to review this proposal of 2 new permanent moorings? The public should have an opportunity to voice the negative impact of these proposed moorings before granting the application.

Mahalo for your review,

Marsha Speck, Ed.D.  
480-363-3586  
Sent from my iPhone

July 24, 2024

FROM: John (JK) Spielman  
PO Box 386  
Kamuela, HI 96743

TO: Chairperson and Members  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

To whom this may concern (Board of Land and Natural Resources):

This is in response to the following application-

RE: DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

APPROVE INSTALLATION OF 2 (TWO) NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE OF AN ESTABLISHED OFFSHORE MOORING AREA, MAKAIWA BAY, KAMUELA, ISLAND OF HAWAII, HAWAII, FOR DHL MAHI OPCO, LLC

I am writing to strongly oppose the application for two new mooring pins in Maka'iwa Bay. As a young boy and into my teens, I used to fish that coastline with my uncle Francis I'I Brown and spent many memorable days and nights with him there.

I know without hesitation that the overdevelopment on land, and now asking to encroach even more into the ocean, was not what he or Noburo Gotoh envisioned so many years ago. Kalahuipua'a is a sacred place- we must retain the beauty for future generations.

This would create a very dangerous precedence along this fragile and sacred coastline. There are so few places for local people to enjoy, on land or in the ocean. For hotels and wealthy homeowners to monopolize this is unacceptable. With humility, I ask for this application to be rejected.

Mahalo nui for your attention on this matter.

JK Spielman  
808-937-2759

**From:** [David Staub](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: J. DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION 1. Approve Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Makaiwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, For DHL MAHI OPC), LLC.  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 7:22:43 PM

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ALOHA,

AS LONG-TIME HOMEOWNER(S) OF A BEAUTIFUL HOME IN MAUNA LANI, I AM PROVIDING WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF MY OHANA AND MYSELF, ASKING THAT APPROVAL OF INSTALLATION OF TWO NEW OFFSHORE MOORINGS OUTSIDE MAKAIWA BAY BE POSTPONED FOR THE REASONS STATED BELOW.

THIS BAY IS THE PIKO OF MAUNA LANI, AND THERE IS AN EXISTING MOORING IN PLACE WHICH, ALTHOUGH NO LONGER ACTIVELY USED, WAS UNTIL RECENT TIMES A SENSITIVE KAMA'AINA SMALL SCALE OPERATION SENSITIVE TO THE OUR HOA BEACH CLUB MEMBERSHIP. TO ADD TWO MORE WOULD FOREVER CHANGE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF THIS VERY SPECIAL SETTING IN MAUNA LANI FROM AN AUTHENTIC HAWAIIAN PLACE WHICH INCLUDES A FRAGIL BUT THRIVING BAY FOR SWIMMING AND SNORKELING, A CRESCENT SANDY BEACH FOR KEIKI AND TODDLERS TO SAFELY PLAY AT WATERS EDGE AND AN ADJACENT NETWORK OF ANCIENT SHORELINE FISH PONDS, ALL OF WHICH COMBINED CREATE THE UNIQUE SENSE OF SERENE AND TIMELESS BEAUTY WHICH MAUNA LANI IS UNIQUELY KNOWN FOR.

WE ARE AWARE THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY WAS COMPLETED HOWEVER IT SURELY DOES NOT TAKE INTO FULL ACCOUNT THE VISUAL AUDITORY AND EMOTIONAL IMPACT WHICH THESE MOORINGS WILL HAVE IN THIS TIMELESS SETTING. BY INTRODUCING COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC, WHICH NOT ONLY WILL INVOLVE THE MOORED BOATS BUT FAR WORSE, THE ONGOING ENVIRONMENTALLY DISRUPTIVE MOTOR AND OCEAN SHUTTLE TRAFFIC OF PASSENGERS TO AND FRO SEVEN DAYS A WEEK, 365 DAYS A YEAR.

OUR MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION RESTAURANT AND BEACH CLUB IS LOCATED ON THE LAND IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO AND OVERLOOKING THE BAY AND FISHPONDS, AND HUNDREDS OF HOMEOWNERS AND THEIR GUESTS WILL BE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY THE COMMERCIAL OPERATION THAT THESE MOORINGS WILL GENERATE. THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL WHICH WILL BE USING THESE MOORINGS IS LOCATED AT SOME DISTANCE FROM THIS SITE AND THE FULL IMPACT. OF THE OPERATION WILL BE TO THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BEACH CLUB.

THE ONLY PUBLIC ACCESS WITHIN MAUNA LANI RESORT IS  
MAKAIWA BAY AND THE HEIGHTENED COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY  
WHICH THESE TWO ADDITIONAL MOORINGS WILL GENERATE WILL  
IMPACT BOTH OUR LOCAL FAMILIES AND OUR HOMEOWNERS WITH  
NO IMPACT TO THE MAUNA LANI HOTEL AND ITS GUESTS.

WE ARE WRITING AT THIS LAST MOMENT BECAUSE WE HAVE NOT  
BEEN INFORMED OF THIS APPROVAL HEARING UNTIL TODAY AND  
THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT AS MEMBERS OF THE  
MAUNA LANI HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, WE ALONG WITH THE  
PUBLIC, BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SHARING OUR  
COLLECTIVE CONCERN AND INPUT INTO THE PROCESS.

THANK YOU,  
[David Staub 707-787-0449 \(Son of Judith Flanders\)](tel:707-787-0449)  
THE FLANDERS/STAUB OHANA

Aloha,  
David

**From:** [Paul Stover](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] commercial mooring buoys in Makaiwa Bay  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 6:08:50 AM

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Aloha,

We are writing to **oppose** the construction of the proposed two additional commercial buoys in Makaiwa Bay on the Big Island. We live at the Villages development in the Mauna Lani resort and use the Beach Club quite frequently and believe these moorings would add to congestion and hazardous travel in an area which is heavily used by paddlers, snorkelers, swimmers, kayakers, and some surfers. We also believe the live healthy reef in the area could be endangered by the proposed moorings.

We also believe the aesthetics of the bay would be adversely affected by the proposed moorings. I would suggest Auberge should consider mooring directly in front of their hotel rather than a heavily used common area like our Beach Club. Perhaps they do not consider this a viable alternative due to their own concern of aesthetics.

Please consider our opposition to the proposed moorings. Than you

Paul and Deb Stover



**From:** [John S Tsai](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Installation of two (2) New Offshore Moorings outside of an Established Offshore Mooring Area, Makaiwa Bay, Kamuela, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii, For DHL MAHI OPC), LLC.  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 4:50:32 AM

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Aloha – I am a KaMilo owner in Mauna Lani and frequently swim at Napua Beach often going past where these moorings are being proposed. It is a beautiful swim and represents all that makes the Big Island special and precious with the abundance of sea life and stunning reefs. The placement of the moorings is too close to the beach. Especially Mooring 1. If Auberge must be granted a Mooring, it should only be one and it should be Mooring 2, which is further from the beach. Moreover, they should only be allowed to load customers from the boat ramp 3 times a day at the most, and they must make it safe for the fragile reef, sea life and swimmers that often swim NE of Napua. While tourism is important to the island, this is not critical to Auberge or Hawaii tourism but could have a significant negative impact on all that we cherish about the Big Island, makes it special for those who live here, on a full or part-time basis, and its sea life and ocean ecosystem.

Respectfully  
John S. Tsai  
BGJUBABA Ohana  
KaMilo 228  
713-829-5620

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

July 25, 2024

Aloha Chair Chang and Board Members,

I respectfully oppose agenda item J-1 regarding the request of installation of 2 new mooring buoys at Makaiwa Bay.

The decision to bring this agenda item before the Board without first engaging with lineal descendants, hoā'āina, and ocean users reveals a very flawed process.

Our West Hawai'i coastline is rich with diverse yet sensitive marine ecosystems. The hoā'āina (tenants, stewards) and visitors who are ocean practitioners should be consulted before such a project is brought before the Board.

An independent cultural impact (Ka Pa'akai Analysis) should be conducted with community outreach and discussions. Among the many stakeholders, West Hawai'i Fishery Council, DAR West Hawai'i marine co-managers, Kai Kuleana community network, and 'Aha Moku Hawai'i Island shall be consulted with.

The installation of these moorings will initiate and promote future marine activities in the area and it is that (unknown plans and impacts to the rich ocean culture of the place) that is worrisome and sets a very bad precedent when these changes are done without working with the communities.

Mahalo for considering my testimony.

U'ilani Naipo  
Miloli'i - Kapalilua

[Blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:Blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov)

Chairperson and Members

Board of Land and Natural Resources

State of Hawaii

Honolulu, Hawaii

Land Board Members,

We have only very recently been made aware of request for moorings at Makaiwa Bay offshore of Mauna Lani Resort. I was part of a small team that inventoried Kala hui pua'a Fishpond for Oceanic Institute before there WAS a Maunalani. I was born here before Statehood. My family has served Hawaii for over 100 years. We have snorkeled every week for five years in Makaiwa Bay and seen wondrous sea life throughout our time underwater. My wife has been struck by a boat moving through a group of 12 snorklers because of the morning sun and lumpiness of the water. What kind of speeds and for how far are under consideration? Will there be a crew minding the water swimmers as well as on board guests? Shall a business venture's request override Kama aina and Malihini alike who use the Napua Restaurent beach access when swimming far offshore when safety is a concern?

How much notification was given to the public for comment concerning these moorings?

What are the projected frequency and use schedules for these ventures?

Which dive shops were used to calibrate where moorings are to be situated? Over coral or in sand? Do the proprietors know of the seasonal surf in Makaiwa Bay? Where will they take their boats when they must leave?

I am against granting approval for this request until all concerns are met.

Cordially, Eric Witt

200 ton Master, AB Unlimited, BS Horticulture University of Hawaii, former head of Kawaihae Boaters Association, lifelong resident and waterman

**From:** [Laura HaaseYamada](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Laura Haaseyamada](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Item J on July 26, 2024 meeting  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 11:43:57 AM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I was just notified that you will be discussing and possibly approving two new moorings at Maka'iwa Bay, Kamuela, on the Island of Hawaii for DHL Mahi (Item J on the July 26, 2024 agenda). This area has a coral reef that is slowly re-growing and I am concerned about the boat traffic that these moorings will serve. Although DHL Mahi may tell you that this is in an offshore area, it is not and I highly recommend that you come out and visually observe the area before you approve this request. It is an area frequented by snorkelers, and paddle boards and is not appropriate for boat traffic. Further, we in the Mauna Lani community were not made aware of this and I think DHL Mahi has kept it quiet so that you would not hear opposition to it. They have come in to our community and changed up a lot of things and are generally not good neighbors. I fear the ocean life that will be destroyed by their money-making ventures and possible accidents with snorkelers or swimmers. Please do not approve this request!

Laura Haase-Yamada  
Kulalani at Mauna Lani