

**WEST HAWAII FISHERY COUNCIL  
PO BOX 489 KAILUA KONA HI 96745**

**MISSION STATEMENT OF THE WEST HAWAII FISHERIES COUNCIL**

*"To effectively manage fishery activities to ensure sustainability; enhance nearshore resources; develop and implement management plans for minimizing resource depletion and conflicts of use; per legislative mandate to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide for substantive involvement of the community in resource management decisions; and encourage scientific research and monitoring of the nearshore resources and environment from Upolu Point to Ka Lae."*

**WEST HAWAII FISHERY COUNCIL**

**Minutes for Thursday, June 19, 2014 6:30-8:30 PM**

Presiding: Dale Sarver

**Call to Order:** 6:35 pm

Pule by Malia Kipapa

Reading of WHFC Mission Statement (Tina Owens)

**Members Present:** Dale Sarver (Chair), Tina Owens (Proxy for Donna Goodale), Patrick Cunningham, Charlie Young, JR Rosario, Bill Walsh (Ex Officio), Linda Preskitt, Malia Kipapa.

Introduction of Visitors

**Guests and Observers:** John Mueller, Amalia Mueller, Malia Chow, Sierra Tobiason, Dana Riddle, Paulette W. Smith, Cameron McDonald, Art Tarsa, Lee Fausak, Geof Walker, Doug Perrine, George Robertson.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Charlie made a motion to approve. Tina Second – motion carried and approved.

**Approval of minutes from last meeting:** Tina made a motion to accept. Charlie second – motion carried and approved.

**Guest:**

Malia Chow PhD

Sanctuary Superintendent

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary

NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

Dr. Chow discussed the upcoming proposals for updating the Management Plan for the Whale Sanctuary. PowerPoint presentation. 10 year plan; anticipate public

comment after election (November 2014), State has opted out to hear from communities.

**Presentation Highlights:**

- Issues and Interest (12,583 Public Comments)
  - o Water Quality
  - o Humpback Whale Protection
  - o Ecosystem protection
  - o Enforcement
  - o Marine animal assessment & response
  - o Ocean literacy
  - o Native Hawaiian Culture
  - o Maritime heritage
  - o Management effectiveness
  - o Offshore development
  - o Climate change
- Sanctuary Advisory Council
  - o Help to summarize comments and decisions
- Native Hawaiian Perspectives
  - o Aloha 'Aina Workshops
    - Reconcile western science and the Native Hawaiian practices.
- Education and outreach will be our main focus.
- Send us comments on thoughts of our reorganized proposal on Sanctuaries.
- Upolu to Keahole Pt (on Hawaii Island) is the current boundaries.

**Questions:**

- How is discharge from Puako housing being addressed? (Tina)
  - o Working on this for years.
  - o Coral Reef Alliance was given a check to take care of this problem.
- Open up to communities to apply for sanctuary designation; are you folks working with the State or are aware of the Ha'ena Subsistence fishing area designation? (Charlie)
  - o If we try to approach it from a federal government approach we will fail; so we are taking another approach, need to listen to the community first (e.g. Aloha 'Aina report).
- Any plans on replacement for the NOAA Agent here on Hawaii Island? (Tina)
  - o Yes, won't happen till next fall. The person would be part of the Habitat blueprint and from the community.
- Education, are you folks planning to integrate into schools here? (Pat)
  - o Currently working with schools on Maui and Kauai (DOE) and trying to integrate so that schools can achieve their minimum core requirements.

- Knowing that you folks are proposing new things as part of the management plan, we should expect more regulations? The plan is not just whales right? (Comment): this is what makes people nervous. (Dale)
  - Regulate aquaculture these are the two things NOAA is proposing:
    - No disturbance to the sea floor
    - Prohibiting discharge
      - Administrative wise we can regulate stricter rules for certain resources but we may or may not be able to enforce.
      - We hope to provide resources to help empower the communities.
  - What roles does the State hold right now? (Bill)
    - The governor has to approve or reject the rule package that NOAA is proposing. The State board does not have a role yet, only the Federals compact agreement with the State. Encourage everyone to voice their opinion so we have data and proof of support from different communities statewide.
    - Cayetano came up with the current sanctuary boundaries.
  - You can go to this website to get more information on proposed management plans\_www.hawaiiumpbackwhale.noaa.gov

**Budget:** (Tina Owens)

- Approval for budget adjustments for clerical work
  - Start Malia's work from April instead of May
    - Motion to approve made by Dale, a second motion made by Charlie - motion carried and approved.
  - \$169 for the website up and running
  - Purchased office supplies for Malia (dropped by \$500) printer ink, paper etc.
- Website: <http://westhawaiiifisherycouncil.org>
  - Tina went through website and pointed out regulations and rules that have links in which can be accessed from website.
    - Suggest that council members please go to the website and at the next meeting in July share comments or suggestions if any.
  - Dale
    - Will you have someplace that we can download articles?
      - Tina (Yes, pdf's can be posted)
      - Bill (maybe a library for papers?)
  - Linda
    - Is there a copyright that you folks will have to restrict any kind of downloading of papers or information?
    - Usually like Journal sites you Dale
      - need to pay a monthly fee.
  - Pat

- If you need photos, you can go to NOAA.gov you can use those photos.

**Legislative Update:** No Update

**New Business:**

Comments on the recent Hawaii Ocean Uses Atlas Project workshop.

Comments on the recent Ocean Tipping Points presentation.

- Dale
  - This is a really good product; distribution of coral/ocean resources; will be a fantastic tool, very detailed and will be more detailed after they have the rest of their meetings.
  - Power behind it is the offshore involvement
  - Webinar on tipping points – very broad concept; don't really have much yet
- Tina
  - We were broken up into three different groups where discussions could be carried.
  - I liked their sincerity of those proposed actions
  - The purpose of sharing is to let people know about plans they are proposing.
- Linda
  - Waves from the wave machine may have some negative impacts on whales.
  - Linda- North Kohala may be one area of testing

**Announcements:**

- Meeting Site Update: (Tina Owens)
  - Next meeting site for July meeting will be here in this room.
  - August meeting will be in the liquor commission room in building G.
- Dale Sarver
  - An App. that can be purchased so you can find out fishing regulations in your present area of fishing on the spot or in the field.
  - Ability for people to download on their mobile device. May help people better follow the fishing regulations if there is a place to check on rules.

**Motion to adjourn made by Tina Owens, second by Dale Sarver motion cared, meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.**