

**WEST HAWAII FISHERIES COUNCIL
POBOX 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 FISHERIES COUNCIL
DRAFT Minutes for Thursday, May 15, 2014 6:30-8:30 PM
Presiding: Chad Wiggins**

Call to Order: 6:30 pm
Pule by Cindi Punihaole

Reading of WHFC Mission Statement (Chad Wiggins)
Interpretation of WHFC Mission Statement (RJ Rosario)

Reiteration by the Chair of the meeting protocols from WHFC Policies and Operational Guidelines.

- All Questions from Council members must be recognized by the Chair
- Visitors may submit written questions to via designated council member and may address direct clarifying questions from members
- All questions/statements will be limited to agenda items. Note that a short time has been added after each agenda item to discuss that item

Members Present: (No proxies) Chad Wiggins (Chair), Tina Owens, Patrick Cunningham, Bob Hajek, Charles Young, JR Rosario, David Dart, Bill Walsh (Ex Officio), Sierra Tobiason (Ex Officio), Kim Koch, Malia Kipapa, Dale Sarver, Glennon Gingo (Ex Officio).

Guests and Observers: Linda Preskitt, Cindi Punihaole, Barbara Dalton, Mike Nakachi +2.

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

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

Presentation by Sierra Tobiason, Coordinator of the Kohala Coastal Partnership and Hawaii Island Extension Agent for University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program presented updates on implementation of the South Kohala Conservation Action Plan

- South Kohala Conservation Action Plan
 - Recognized working group of partnerships
 - Priority threats
 - land based sources of pollution
 - invasive species
 - unsustainable fishing practices
 - Strategies and Objectives
 - community partnerships
 - working with communities to achieve co-managed areas
 - fisheries management
 - sediment reduction
 - invasive species
 - additional threat analysis
 - Current progress
 - 50 projects currently happening in community now
 - Highlight current actions:
 - Roi round up efforts
 - TNC – 3 years of study and clearing of Roi from coral reefs (Chad); studies should be done before management decisions are made.
 - Special activities permit allowed for catching. (Bill Walsh)
 - Recreational purposes (intended for this type of round up) – Glennon
 - Puako – highest rate of ciguatera Roi
 - Test Kits (use to be prevalent – hard to find now)
 - Hawaii wildfire plans
 - Watershed restoration
 - Eyes of the reef

- Surveying and monitoring
- Current proactive action being taken by community
 - Puako Makai Watch
 - Engaging in makai resource management with community
 - Integrating local ecological knowledge to refine traditional fishing practices
 - Ungulate exclusion and sediment reduction
 - Mainly goats
 - Hunting is illegal on DHHL lands (Kailapa)
 - Stream Corridor Assessment
 - Wai'ula'ula Watershed (received a grant to do work)
 - Coral Settlement and Environmental conditions
 - Coral Health and Land Based Sources of Pollution
- Next Steps
 - Share information on how to move forward and looking for additional partnerships
- Contact:
 - Sierra Tobiason - tobiason@hawaii.edu

Business:

- Webpage Options
 - Tina – budget proposal passed around; \$5536.85 current budget and all must be spent before the end of the year, we have 7 meetings left before fiscal year ends.
 - Both sites have unlimited bandwidth, galleries, blogs, & email etc.
 - Squarespace – \$16 a month - sophisticated and fancy.
 - Ipower - on sale at \$3.95 a month
 - Charlie – how will we be controlling information that is posted on site?
 - Tina – one stop drop for what the situation is here, updates on meetings, announcements, archive minutes, DAR has made a photo page with fish on the white list.

- Chad – should we dedicate a discussion to website planning over email or designate a meeting to focus on this?
 - We will do discussion via email
 - Tina – made a motion that the Council agree that she move forward with a two year contract at \$3.95 a month for two years.
 - 2nd motion Charlie and RJ
 - Everyone agreed and motion was carried for Tina to move forward with website contract.
- Budget
 - Tina – summarized cost over two years (round figure)
 - Supplies would be over 2 year period to stock up.
 - Dale – whoever maintains the website they should be part of the design of the site
 - Linda Preskitt – I would suggest to go with the simplest site.
- Clerical Support
 - Need someone to take notes, keep an archive of notes, email minutes and agendas out to e-list for WHFC.
 - \$70 per month for work
 - David Dart– suggested Malia Kipapa – she agreed to take care of this responsibility.
 - E-Ads (Chad asked for clarification)
 - Public service amounts is free
 - Charlie – suggest setting aside a lump sum of money for advertisement.
 - Site use for Kona Civic Center is Free
- Tina – made a motion to accept budget proposal
 - 2nd motion Charlie - as long as we can get a monthly report on status of budget.
- Membership Application from Linda Preskitt
 - JR and Chad were able to meet and talk to her before meeting
 - From south Kohala, going on 16 years doing fishery work. Community management and has become a model for different areas around the state, expertise in public

education and biology work, and would like to share with the council

- Questions for Council:
 - Charlie – welcome to the council, did they grill you as they did me, I trust their decision.
 - Bill Walsh – scientific name for yellow tang; ask me limu.
- Call for a vote:
 - A motion made by Chad Wiggins to accept Linda Preskitt on the council
 - Everyone agreed to accept her on the council as a member; welcome Linda!
- Request for written WHFC statement on recent events (**taken off agenda because statement is not available right now per Tina Owens**)
- Kahalu'u Bay Conflict Resolution
 - Bill Walsh – Conflict is safety issue with spear fishing amongst young individuals in Kahalu'u bay; no real motivation or commitment from leadership roles.
 - Cindi Punihaole – I put a community group together that can focus on this issue. We receive a lot of complaints from ocean users because they feel threatened by spear fisherman; we run the Kahalu'u Education Center their and deal with these complaints. We don't want to remove it from the area but would like to work together in making this practice continue, we have had trouble getting the State to listen. Leaders (governor and DLNR chair (Aila) needs to be more supportive.
 - Glennon – it's more of a call by the lifeguards; jurisdiction issues. How do we enforce these safety issues with difficult people will always be a challenge.
 - Charlie – jurisdiction issues is hard and the community will need to take actions, possibly close the beach off as we do at Kauhako Bay (Ho'okena).
 - Chad – we should look at Kauai's Subsistence Fishing area rules (Mehana Vaughn) in Ha'ena.
 - Barbara Dalton – Malama Soloman and Cindy Evans are elected officials to address your

concerns, should not be blaming the leaders in position like the governor because there is a legislative process that needs to be done before these issues can be addressed.

- Tina – actions that you may be able to take is perhaps temporal separation (times), designating two zones specific for fishing and non-fishing, take action by removing the people from the water that are not practicing safe fishing.
 - Chapter 9 rule making process
- Bill – people power – legislatively and non-elected officials – the board is in charge not Aila, he is just an administrator.

Decisions-Made:

- Agreed as a Council
 - To accept proposed action made by Tina to move forward with the purchase of a two year contract with Ipower to establish a webpage for WHFC.
 - To accept budget proposal proposed by Tina.
 - Accepted by council with addition to having a monthly status report with an update on WHFC budget.
 - To accept Linda Preskitt as a member on the WHFC as a new member. Approved by council.

Updates:

- NOAA Habitat Blueprint selection of “West Hawai’i” [Keahole to Kawaihae] as a priority site (Chad Wiggins)
 - Looking to see an on the ground benefit to priority site within 3-5 years.
 - They were impressed with the directives of fishery council and members; will continue to share information about this forum.
- NOAA Hawai’i Ocean Uses Atlas Workshop June 2nd in Kona (Chad Wiggins)
 - Flyer passed around; Hugo Selbie is helping with this workshop.

- Bill - DAR staff is prohibited from attending this workshop.
- Dale - Do you think there is any under the table mapping?
- Tina - Legislative Bill (2 bills died down) clear and free for another year.
 - Bill all
- DOCARE –didn't talk about in meeting
- DAR – didn't talk about in meeting
- Barbara Dalton - Stan Roray is the new DLNR, Rob Pacheco is old rep.

Adjourn: 8:32pm

- Tina made a motion to adjourn and Chad second motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm.