

WEST HAWAI'I FISHERY COUNCIL
<http://westhawaiiifisherycouncil.org>

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE COUNCIL WEST HAWAI'I
FISHERY 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."

DRAFT Minutes for Thursday, May 18, 2017
Puakō Community – Out-station Meeting
Hokuola Church
5:30pm - 7:30pm
Presiding Chair: Charles Young

Call to Order: 5:45pm

- Reading and Interpretation of WHFC Mission Statement – Chad Wiggins read mission.
- Reiteration by the Chair of the meeting protocols from WHFC Policies and Operational
- Guidelines and posted at meeting.
 - All questions from Council members must be recognized by the Chair
 - All questions/statements will be limited to topic-oriented statements.
 - Note that a short time has been added after each agenda item to discuss each item.
 - Proxies: Each person asking someone to represent them by proxy will have to notify the administrator before the meeting as to who is going to represent them. There will be no call for proxies from the floor at the meeting.
- Introduction
 - Members: Charles Young, Dale Sarver, Chad Wiggins, Julia Rose (Ex-Officio), Alohi Nakachi, Malia Kipapa
 - Guest: Pi'i La'eha (Here to learn), John Kemick(Concerned about coral reef and changes), Gail Morris (concerned about coral reef), Jan Noris (Realtor – want to share about problems and incidents that are affecting our coral reefs), John Martin (represent daughter Christy Martin), George Robertson (Robby), Peter Hackstiddz (avid water person, big on cleaning

up the place).

- Approval of Agenda – Dale made a motion to approve the agenda; second motion by Alohi Nakachi – motion carried and approved by council.
- West Hawai'i Fishery Council (WHFC) Presentation – Chad Wiggins
 - How the fishery council was formed and why it was created to help assist DLNR to address the substantive community involvement, in 1998.
 - Management recommendations made to the State
 - Hawaii Management Fishery
 - Rule package for West Hawai'i including gill net rules
 - Accomplishments
 - Marine life conservation district – Kupuna can harvest wana
 - No smoking in Kahalu'u Bay
 - Youth Fishery Council was formed to establish the no smoking in Kahalu'u Bay.
 - Limited fish collecting allowed for harvest (White List)
 - Species of concerned (ban on harvesting)
 - No spearfishing with SCUBA in WHMFA
 - Next Steps
 - Recruiting members
 - Share with communities
 - Education
 - Support
 - Maintain the council duties
- Open Discussion with Puakō Community
 - Charley Young – emphasis on the Chapter 91 rule making process; I've heard of diminishing resources
 - Gail Morris – I wanted to share what I've noticed I have an ocean front house; back in April there were about 6 or 7 turtles in front of my house, I feel like there poaching at night and I saw this happen a year ago and a year before that.
 - Jane – about two and half weeks ago there were about 4 big trucks parked at around 11pm; he could see flashlights in the water from the house, he was about to take pictures of the truck but when he saw the turtles lifted by one of the divers he decided to not take pictures to start a confrontation. He saw them take three turtles. A week ago, there were five trucks parked, used the beach access and my yard as a toilet, they are there all night with a fire; they have been seen baiting the eel with squid and smashing their head with the rock. A person that sells fish, we call him customer – he is here everyday fishing – he has a black truck and says he is not selling it but people have said he is. A bon fire was started on the

beach and it smoked out my house. I do not want to get into a confrontation with the users it is mostly nighttime activities in the water.

- Dale – this is mostly police and DOBOR that you would need to deal with; I would suggest putting it in writing – these agencies are responsible for dealing with the law, if this does not work than send it to your representative (copies of the letters to those that enforce the law). This is a legal issue;
- Gail – What about octopus? Is that illegal?
 - Dale – it depends if you catch an octopus and sell it you're not supposed to, but if you eat it its different.
 - Julia – isn't there a designation for
 - George Robert – what is the regulation on the fish collecting?
 - Chad – they can use any gear except for aquarium fish collecting, nets can be used with legal holes
 - George Robert – we wanted to end night fishing or spearing at night, we made that request – the dark nights is when we see them out here, Puakō is a weak reef. Bruce considered it, but I think it depends on what you folks decide; our problem specifically is night fishing.
 - Charles – are they accessing through public access?
 - Peter – yes, County public access
 - Charles – so in Ho'okena we manage and control that access and monitor it until about 1am so people do not go in.
 - Jane – we do have the barricade up; its more about the night time activity
 - Charles – it is the behavior that needs to change, we have an active community and so if we see someone overfishing the community will say something. The community will need to go through the process.
- Peter – we have cameras but it doesn't show activity it just shows them offloading their trucks.
 - Dale – you need to pressure your representatives to get their attention.
 - Jane – so if I take a picture of someone holding a turtle above his or her head and placing it into a cooler would that work?
 - Chad – John can we use your daughter, because hearing this, this is a federal violation not state.
- Charles – if your association has a plan and say this is the reason, we could vet it and address this as a council; the council would need to vet it – but it has to be something that there is a consensus amongst the community – evidence needs to be

presented.

- Dale – if you are asking for something that has not been done before it will be hard.
- George – the rules for Wailea Bay is that you can fish using fish and hook. I think if Bruce pushes hard on this coral bleaching initiative, it will be good.
- Dale – rules take a while to get approved
- Alohi – act 306 minimum of 30%, and it's been 20-30 years so I think you have a good angle
- Dale – bill would be a good resource for data
- Chad – main thing is that you do not need the fishery council to write the rule for you folks you folk can do it. The enforcement of your apparent rules is not being enforced. Makai Watch.
- Jane – we use to have a makai watch guy but he hasn't been here for a while
- Chad – makai watch is about the community not just one ranger; you have programs in place and partners in place so we need to connect you folks too.
- George – so we should have like a neighborhood watch
- Charles – what kind of signage is posted?
 - Peter – near the access points there are signage
 - Alohi – there is a number for DOCARE on the brochure
 - Peter – we have called about illegal activity but nothing was done; I do what Randy the ranger use to do. Our community police officer will sometimes come at night to check out the beaches. There are homeowners that have video on shoreline accesses; we have speeding problem here.
 - George – I have something to read – wish Frances Ruddell was hear – quote from Kamakau – Hawaiian observer – 1869 – He'e is down by 50% - there use to be plenty of he'e before and possibly have declined because it has not been harvested during the seasons it supposed to.
 - Charles – this is a good time for communities to get the word out; can be community specific, in the last two years Ha'ena, Kaupulehu and now Mo'omomi. If you can come up with something specific. DOCARE do not get out until two hours. We are trying to do this on our own for now, but procedures wise the council is here to help.
- Dale – If you provide information with a letterhead to us presenting concerns and ideas on resolving matters, we can help and discuss ways we can help.

Announcements:

- Next meeting June 15, 2017 from 5:30-7:30pm at the West Hawai'i Civic Center, Rm TBD.

Adjourn at 6:58pm: motion to adjourn made by Malia; 2nd by Dale