

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, August 16, 2018

West Hawai'i Civic Center

Kealakehe, Kona

5:30pm - 7:30pm

Presiding Chair: Chad Wiggins

Call to Order: 5:30pm

Council Attendance: Chad Wiggins, Dale Sarver, Lisa Vollbrecht, Chris Funada, Bill Walsh (Ex-Officio), Krista Davis (Proxy for Chuckie Leslie), Nikki Sanderlin (Ex-Officio), Malia Kipapa (Proxy Donna Goodale & Charlie Young).

Guest: Susan Kim

- Reading and Interpretation of WHFC Mission Statement Malia Kipapa
 - o Malia needs to update into new mission schedule
- Reiteration by the Chair of the meeting protocols from WHFC Policies and Operational Guidelines
 - o All questions from Council members must be recognized by the Chair
 - o All questions/statements will be limited to topic-oriented statements
 - o Note that a short time has been added after each agenda item to discuss each item.
 - o 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.
- Approval of WHFC Meeting Agenda
 - o Add Mo'omomi update on agenda
 - o Add Kaupulehu update by Chad
 - o Malia made motion to approve the agenda, Dale 2nd and motion carried and approved
- Approval of July 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes
 - o Chad
 - Change Julie to Julia in the minutes
 - o Lisa made a motion to approve the minutes and Dale 2nd – motion carried and approved.

Business

- Update on letter to Ige (Big Island Representative)?

- Susan Kim – forwarded all the information to DLNR – the governor will review the Mo’omomi rules and visit Molokai on September 7th with BLNR folks.
- Krista – it would be good to hear from folks on Molokai the next week when we go.
- Chad – Kailapa community is the driving force for the exchange on Molokai. Effective community in getting things done, Diane Kanealii representing Kailapa Community.
- Dale – what is the next step after the meeting in Molokai?
 - Susan Kim – the date just moved so I think he is going to just hear from the community.
- Update on our WHFC Vision
 - Chad – Charlie and I have been working on this and so open to comments
 - “truly sustainable fishery and ocean livelihood supporting a thriving culture, flourishing marine life and empowered communities”
- Membership
 - Chad – Nikki you can turn it in
 - Nicki – whats the difference between the ex-officio and member?
 - Chad – you just don’t have a voting seat.
 - Dale – having you as a member is better though.
 - Nikki – I’ll send my application to Malia again
 - New Chairs
 - Chad – would you folks like to vote for someone or just try to mentor folks to move up as chairs.
 - Lisa – will you folk just come out of the chair seat but just be members?
 - Chad – I think it would be good to have new people and others that can commit to this responsibilities.
 - Krista – I like having the mentoring of new chairs
 - Chad – we can come up with responsibilities first at our next meeting and make a decision from there.

Discussion:

- Aquarium Fishing Status & EIS & DAR Update
 - Bill – applicants for Aquarium fish collecting will need to abide by the Environmental policy act based on an activity happening in state waters, activity occurring in conservation zones, need applicant approval needs a discretion by DLNR. A lobbying group that protects animals they said that if they get paid to do the study to conduct an Environmental assessment – in July they found no significant impact (cost \$50,000). Suzanne Case wants an EIS to be done for this matter. There may be a lawsuit that may argue with broader use in state waters, conservation districts and are discretionary – agency may subject to an EIA or EIS.
 - Dale – suit against?

- Bill – suit meaning for example aquaculture license/permit may be subject to an EIS.
- Dale – if that happens who submits the suit?
- Susan Kim – I think that was the fear.
- Chad – what was the used to determine no significant impact?
 - Dale – it was a big list
- Hat – how come there
 - Bill – you can't fish in this fishery and export it
- Dale – I don't know the difference between the EIS and EA; how do you go from having something small to now a big job
- Bill – if you go to OEQC website there is a flow chart with steps on how to conduct one.
- Dale – who makes the next step?
- Bill – if the AQ collectors can pay for an EIS to be done then they can't collect anymore; they need a West Hawaii aquarium permit and state permit in order to collect AQ Fish collecting. This is the only place in the state that requires both permits.
- Dale – the others collecting on the other side of the Island can just collect?
- Bill – they can't use the small mesh net to collect AQ fish.
- Chad – anything on the 30 by 30 plan
- Bill – nothing tangible yet; DAR will be introducing legislation to propose non-commercial marine recreational fishing license; essentially legislation is giving DAR to write up the designation (2023 – no more than \$10).
- Krista – fish catch reports required?
- Bill – no but we hope that they will share their information.
- Dale – any legislature supporting it?
- Bill – maybe David Tarnas; Statewide comparison of % of total fishery program revenue from fishing license fees (Hawaii is the lowest); support that a daily saltwater fishing license was required to go charter fishing in Hawaii. Would you be willing to pay this fee to be able to fish for one day? Survey said 82% would pay \$5, 62% would pay \$25 and 34% would pay \$50, 32% \$100 and 5% would pay \$250.
- Chris – started an online discussion with fisherman (FB)
- Dale – I think hunting license changed
- Chris – yes it's like \$15-\$20 whether its birds or sheep
- Dale – in the mainland I pay \$475 per deer hunted
- Chad – who would come up with the list of what the funds would be used for?
- Dale – right now similar to Dingle Johnson for example I couldn't get federal money to study opihi because it doesn't have fins.
- Bill – the funding is specific to requirements and so the funding is

- dependent on what funding is designated for.
 - Lisa – when will this open for public comment
 - Bill – maybe after the session in February of next year
 - Chad – Bruce Anderson used to come to our meetings would Brian Neilson be able to come out for our meetings?
 - Bill – he lives on Oahu so probably not
 - Susan Kim – maybe he can call in
 - Niki – I think the non CML was the big thing
- Funding for the WHFC
 - Bill – what happened with PEW?
 - Dale – Charlie's been following up on this.
 - Chad – we can continue to follow up on this; Carolyn from Makai Foundation that the discretionary fund wasn't going to be available.
 - Susan Kim – is it Barbara or Donna?
 - Man with hat – maybe David Tarnas might be able to advocate for funding too
 - Chad – would be good to check with him.
 - Susan Kim – did you folks get funding before?
 - Chad – yes Harold Castle Foundation and HI County Council dicretoinal funds.
- Updates announcements
 - Dale – I think we should wear our shirts more often so people can ask questions.
 - Chris – someone from Florida is trying to set up a diving business for shark diving.
 - Niki – we did hear from Chad said that they didn't have a diving boat operating license so we passed it over to DOBOR; I would think that the whole thing would not work.
 - Guy with hat – if the viewing operation is operating right there they wouldn't have to feed them.
 - Chad – Kaikea is doing some research and he might be able to share some information about this.
 - Lisa – Chris were you working on a public meeting at Honokohau regarding sharks.
 - Chris – yes I'm working with Mike Nakachi and Kaikea Nakachi
 - Susan Kim – so they have shark diving?
 - Chad – there are boats that will go and visit sharks and feed them the feeding part is a concern because it will change their behavior.
 - Krista – big issue in Haleiwa right?
 - Chris – the shark are pretty well trained but they recognize the chum boat engines.
 - Chad – isn't there a fee for the Honokohau bill Fish Pavilion
 - Chad – update on Fish Path program that we are using in Kaupulehu – over 3 days in a fishery this program was used internationally at Chile and other places; we came to a level of agreement that we would like to make

it more Hawaiian fishery centric – benefit was to just bring good people together and talk about this; by the 7th year of the try wait closure to come up with marine management plan. In the 14th century a study done by KS that surgeon fish was of high consumption during that time.

- Niki- any other plans for future groups to come out like the Ocean Warriors group?
 - Chad – we have the shark presentation being organized
 - Chris - Dan Burbach on whitetips
 - Chad – can you talk to Melanie Hudgenson
 - Chris – I'll talk to her and check if she would like to give a presentation.
 - Dale – I did send out an article Robin Bear – critical habitat – there is no rules yet;
 - Chad – can you give some background on the critical habitat subject? So false killer whale subject?
 - Dale – showed no significant impacts
 - Niki- maybe eyes of the reef?
 - Chad – maybe even Bill can provide some updates on research being done in West HI.

Next Steps:

- Next WHFC meeting September 20, 2018 at the West Hawai'i Civic Center

Adjourn at 7:30 PM - Dale made a motion to adjourn, Lisa 2nd and meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm.