

Management Plan Review

PUBLIC SCOPING REPORT

Community Engagement in the Management Plan Review

Appendix



April 2011

APPENDIX

BOUNDARIES AND ZONES

Boundaries and Zones: General Comments

- + Boundaries.
- A National Marine sanctuary no longer is a good fit for Hawaii and its citizens.
- Adding other species to this sanctuary also does not make sense since, as mentioned in 1., the boundary was established specifically for the humpback whale. This simply sounds to me like an attempt to keep an outdated and inappropriate spatial designation. In addition, including other species within this designated area would be a duplication of expense to the taxpayer as the Endangered Species Act provides for geographical considerations in measures that can be taken to protect other endangered species.
- Adding to the influence of the Sanctuary would add to the risk and uncertainties inherent in offshore aquaculture projects, as well as other potentially compatible commercial ocean uses (e.g., ocean energy and wave energy), while creating additional bureaucratic obstacles to an already confusing regulatory system.
- Address need for MPA's – there are none in Hawai'i. Expand boundaries/regulations in keeping with MPA's, will establish baseline of ocean health for future. This is not identified in SOS report but it IS an emerging issue.
- All I have to say is theres tons of evidence indicating that all of the animals that the proposed sanctuary expansion is trying to protect is doing great with the existing laws and regulations. It sounds like basic concern and duty to protect these species is turning into an (ugly) obsession that could possibly ruin the communities and cultures of the islands.
- An international ban on commercial whaling is the only way to ensure protection for ALL species of whales. An expansion for the whale sanctuary in Hawaii is far from the answer to the existence of whales in general.
- Any expansion of boundaries could take away revenue generated by the sate of Hawaii
- Are fishing no take zones really effective?. Increased boundaries and regulations hard for everyday ocean users to do what they do without fear of prosecution
- Boundaries should not be straight – following isobaths is easy when you are a boat captain.
- Boundary should encompass each island.
- Budget concern. Be realistic about expanding.
- By increasing boundaries/species need more money.
- Can the sanctuary address aquarium collecting management issues? (if the sanctuary expanded to other species)
- Can you create a multi-state sanctuary if you focus on one species?
- Changes in scope or boundaries: don't see the point if there is not the resources for enforcement. Make enforcement real
- Changes of boundaries will affect corpus of the state
- Concern has to go beyond the boundary because whales swim outside the boundary and fish farms have impacts without boundaries. The Sanctuary should provide input to fish farms that might submerge nets in the ocean outside of sanctuary boundaries. Possibly suggest to make the nets more visible to whales.
- Concerned with loss of open space and potential expansion of species and regulations into Sanctuary.

- Concerns from observing what's happening in sanctuary, what efforts are being made related to enforcement? If expansion, how to enforce? Main Hawaiian Islands are the concern of most people.
- Conservationists are always having whale counts during the spawning seasons, and when the count goes down, the first thing they come up with is this expansion of the sanctuary. They had better look at the true reasons for the decline. The original reason was the mass slaughtering of whales in the old days. There is still whale fishing in the northern Pacific by Eskimos and foreign fishermen to this day. Then came the seine fishermen which caused whales to get tangled up in their netting, and also depleted the amount of other species which normally traveled into Hawaiian waters. Other causes are injuries that occur in collisions with large vessels, freighters and liners traveling throughout the Pacific Ocean.
- Designate boundary around all Main Hawaiian Islands based on bathymetric contour - 100 fathoms (in some areas more or less depending on circumstances and resources).
- Do away with sanctuary.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries); ...The job with the whales is not done. The North Pacific population of humpback whales still face significant challenges from human interaction (particularly shipstrike), marine debris and entanglement, and from environmental degradation (particularly ocean acidification). The Sanctuary must continue to address these challenges to the humpback whale populations.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries);...Chronic underfunding. "Adding species" can only dilute the resources available to protect the North Pacific population of humpback whales, yet the Sanctuary has been underfunded at least throughout the twenty-first century. The Sanctuary budgets have typically been 75 – 80% of annual funding requested in the last decade. Sanctuary management and staff have been magnificent improvisers in the face of declining budgets, but – as noted above – the whales' needs remain large and largely unfulfilled. Allocation of adequate resources to programs for "added species" without diminishing the effort and emphasis provided the North Pacific population of humpback whales simply defies logic and cannot be justified or sustained.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries);...No mandate. While Hawaiian monk seals, sea turtles and other species of whales and dolphins are attractive candidates for inclusion in the Sanctuary's purview, the mandate for protection of such species lies with the National Marine Fisheries Service and not the National Ocean Service (which includes the Office of Marine Sanctuaries). Fisheries has extensive programs in place for protection and management of these species and the benefits of adding another layer to the NOAA bureaucracy are not evident. Of course, Sanctuary staff will continue to work with their NOAA brethren to disentangle or rescue any species as required, but the Sanctuary has a clear mandate regarding the North Pacific humpback whales and should focus its efforts on that mandate.
- Do not do this. You will force people to be outlaws.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. Everyone has a right to use the ocean resources. Fishing for family, commercial boaters like myself, whales have a right also.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. This is just an excuse to shut down beaches.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. We don't need no organizations who hold meetings with hidden "agenda. NOAA cannot be trusted and the people/state will be informed of our actions.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. This thought is ridiculous.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Dolphins are doing just fine. Supply the community with numbers and facts. No expansion.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. If this happens local fishermen can't catch bait to go to the bouys. The bait we find and use are in 20 fathoms thru 40 fathom. So without that how we can catch fish if lures not working. It shouldn't go all the way around island.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. No Expand.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. Whales are protected off islands.
- Do not expand whale protection. No Expand.
- Do not expand whale protection. The sanctuary here in Hawai'i should not be expanded because we do not look to harm the whales. Here in Hawai'i we do not hunt and kill whales like they do in Antarctica. So why should we suffer the affects of what they do down there.
- Do not include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Do not use "Hawaiian Cultural Heritage" to expand sanctuary's. Call me because this Hawaiian is "against" any kind of expansion or sanctuary's.
- Do we need the sanctuary anymore? Whales have made a good come back and so have turtles. It is about money.
- Does the Sanctuary feel it has met its mandate? And that it is ready to expand?
- Don't need a sanctuary—there are lots of whales; interactions with whales most often by researchers, whale watchers—not fishermen.
- Don't see reason to expand boundary beyond 100 fathom isobath
- Don't close anymore ocean or shoreline access.
- Education and self policing will not work as the users or abusers only see it on their terms..... how these sanctuaries inconvenience them and the things they want to do commercially or recreationally. Man is the only organism on this planet that can adjust its lifestyle to protect and enhance the survival of other species, if mankind cannot see that, someday in the future, humans on this planet will regret it and wonder why we did not do more. Make more sanctuaries and include more species in them.
- Endorse comments so far. Boundaries were set up for humpback whales based on aerial surveys, whale population increasing
- Enough (No More)
- Existing boundaries ware specific to HB whales, not other species. How could it help other species?
- Expand boundaries-for whales-not sure about other species. Fising rights etc.
- expand its (the sanctuary)scope to include protecting, conserving, and where possible restoring significant biological components and marine habitats occurring between the shoreline and a seaward boundary generally defined by either the 200~m or 100~fathom bathymetric contour (whichever is judged easier for seafarers using the sanctuary to identify) around all eight main Hawaiian Islands
- Expand Kuleana: More emphasis on habitat aspect
- Expand MPAs to each island to show a sampling of what a natural site looks like.
- Expand sanctuary boundaries
- Expand Sanctuary Boundaries. Many areas are not designated despite a high concentration of species in those areas
- Expand the sanctuary boundaries to include waters around all Hawaiian Islands. Need to look at the long run. Boundary expansion is more professional and will bring in more research, education, and coordination. Need more comprehensive management.

- Expanding the disentanglement network throughout the state will also directly help whales, dolphins, seals and turtles. Yet it will not impose onerous bureaucracy on the local humans, as it will require no Sanctuary border expansions..
- Expansion of the sanctuary boundaries is unnecessary as the current boundaries are NOT the reason for the recovery of the Hawaiian humpback whale but rather, the result of the cessation of commercial whaling. Therefore, such a sanctuary and boundaries were and are unnecessary.
- Fear: Expansion will mean no say; that the sanctuary will then be a government entity. Managing the protection of animals needs to be done so scientifically.
- Flexible sanctuary...in regards to boundaries and seasonality of whales. If the species increase in number are you able to increase resources/funding
- From a whale protection standpoint, there is no need for the sanctuary boundary - as unrelenting ships/traffic still can pass through and cause strikes and propping injury to whales.
- Further, the sanctuary should be discontinued, not expanded, because the sanctuary most likely has had a minimal effect on the resurgence of the population.
- HAAA cannot support expanding the influence of the Sanctuary by increasing its size to all State marine waters and adding sea turtles and other marine mammals given the management track record
- HAAA has strong concerns over the potential negative and disruptive impacts of Sanctuary expansion in species of concern and geographic area on the sustainable economic use of State marine waters
- Happy as where the sanctuary is now. Dolphins already well protected. Monk seals and loggerhead turtles could benefit from additional protection
- Hawaii islands boundary should be expanded and modeled after the Channel Islands coverage to cover all the Hawaiian Islands
- HB whales close to achieve healthy level, focus on if it is appropriate to expand the sanctuary
- How about NO to further bombing of Kaula Rock??
- How expand sanctuary boundaries and species?
- However, I do support the on-going education and outreach elements of the existing sanctuary charter which reads in part: "The primary focus of such efforts lies in educating the public about existing regulations that protect humpback whales, enhancing the enforcement of these laws, and working cooperatively with other agencies to increase awareness of humpbacks and their habitat. " and, including the other species for this purpose is commendable. Sanctuary boundaries are not needed to conduct such education and outreach efforts.
- Humpback whale recovery rate should be stated in the presentation. Recover of humpback whales since the sanctuary was established is good. Why reach out to include more?
- Humpbacks are doing fine. The sanctuary is looking to add new species to get more funding. The sanctuary is not needed. Sanctuary was not needed because management under Magnuson-Stevens Act was sufficient. Sanctuary is only here to give out federal grants and money, but it is duplicative. Interested what the budget is.
- I am against any boundary expansion to the Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.
- I am against anymore sanctuaries, bans or restrictions.
- I am against the marine sanctuary proposal. I am against any proposal that restricts in any type of manner island residents' ability to fish, swim, surf, or otherwise participate in ocean activities ever on the island of Kaua'i. The same goes for other islands as well.
- I am against the proposed "Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary" for Kaua'i.
- I am for the present Status Quo and continuing educational resources
- I am not in support of the whale sanctuary.

- I am opposed to any boundary expansion of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and the inclusion of other species within this sanctuary.
- I am opposed to any change in the sanctuary. I do not want to stop fishing of any kind or ocean use of any kind to further the marine mammal sanctuary.
- I am sending this letter, expecting to be the very one that's needed, in helping to stop this sanctuary. It would be sooooo sad to watch our keikis grow up noticing what we once had, they cannot also have!!!!
- I am unsure if the sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels.
- I am writing against enlarging the present sanctuaries around the Hawaiian waters.
- I am writing against the banning of any more areas in our state pertaining to the ocean or shoreline. We have enough sanctuaries, restrictions and bans and rules and regulations to control everything. Anything more would lead to misunderstanding, and abuse and also too much area to be properly and effectively maintained and enforced.
- I believe that the sanctuary must learn to better manage their existing jurisdiction through better community partnerships and educational programs that effectively include and integrate Hawaiian cultural knowledge before any jurisdiction expansion should be considered.
- I believe the current boundary was established at a specific time and under certain conditions for purposes of conserving the humpback whale. Expanding this boundary does not make sense as today, we no longer have or are rapidly reducing commercial whaling and the humpback whale is making a marked recovery.
- I believe the public education and outreach can be realized without boundaries in the sand that may have un-intended consequences and or defacto prohibitions for fishermen, and other ocean users.
- I disagree with the proposed extension of the whale sanctuary.
- I do not see any reason to increase more waters for the whales. They go where they wish right now. Thats fine. Boating traffic has not been showimpact them, here in the Hawaiian Islands.
- I do not support the humpback sanctuary borders being expanded and I do not support the regulation of coastal waters and the limitation of personal freedoms in those waters. There should be no use permits or licenses or limitations and feel free to call me back so I know that my information, or my opinion or my perspective is being considered and that others is as well.
- I do think that the boundaries should be expanded and other species should be included. Boats are swarming pods and there are too many swim with dolphins programs. Based on personal dolphin research the swim with dolphins program does change the pod behavior.
- I feel there should be no expansion of the boundaries for the simple reason that the whales are doing well.
- I find that the proposed plan to retain and expand the sanctuary boundaries to accommodate (yet to be determined) additional species has no rational basis. If the humpback has "graduated" from its sanctuary due to its numbers increasing to the predetermined recovery milestones prescribed by the ESA and MMPA, the sanctuary should be discontinued.
- I have heard that you are passing legislation to limit boats to 10 mph, close beaches to humans and fence them off, charge tour operators incredible amounts of money to operate. This is absolutely ridiculous. I am in favor of protection of the seas and the ocean animals but it sounds to me that you are getting incredibly out of hand! I vote no on any proposal you are making unless you come to your senses and make better decisions.
- I have still to here or see any reason or study for the justifications for the proposed expansion of the whale sanctuary, what are the reasons? Where are the studies? What are the treats? I especially

would like to here what threats that the local fishing community pose to the whales? therefore I feel very strong in my opposition towards expanding the whale sanctuary,

- I propose the existing sanctuary be maintained and adhered to in its present form. There is no realistic need for any addition or expansion of the sanctuary.
- I recommend the complete dissolution of the HIHWNMS and the assumptions of its successful programs within a new Hawaiian Islands NMS that encompasses both the North West Hawaiian Islands and the Main Hawaiian Islands.
- I say education is the key., not expansions and inclusions.
- I testified in support of Council Member Joanne Johnson's proposed resolution "URGING NOAA TO INCORPORATE ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES IN THE UPDATED HIHWNMS MANAGEMENT PLAN", which was passed by Maui Connty Council on July 23.
- I think that this expansion is not needed.
- I think the Sanctuary should include other species, especially monk seals, sea turtles , other cetaceans, dolphins. I would like to see a consideration of boundary expansion.
- I throw net, I throw my pole and I dive. I think this expansion is totally unnecessary. There is a lot of different things that noaa can spend there federal money on.
- I truly hope there will be continued sensible management of the whales and activities within the sanctuary, and that your agency understands the potentially significant negative impact the wrong changes would have on many responsible and concerned Hawaii residents.
- I understand the sanctuary boundaries were established based on scientific research on the areas of high whale concentrations. The boundaries should therefore not be expanded without significant scientific evidence that whale concentrations have changed.
- I would like to express my opposition to expansion of the current boundaries of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and the inclusion of Other Species within this sanctuary.
- I would like to respectfully ask that you do not approve the current proposal under review, which could lead to the limitation and or/cessation of ocean activities that many of our residents participate in.
- If anything, consideration should be given to possibly reduce or eliminate the current sanctuary or its boundaries as relates to the Humpbacks. The designation may have outlived its true value and the Humpbacks will continue to benefit due to the restrictions on whaling and the education of mariners, all without boundaries that the whales do not recognize.
- If boundaries are expanded, species increases, threats are addressed, will require additional regulations – which will require more resources to manage.
- If expand boundaries where will the funding come from??. enforcement resources are limited
- If NOAA is willing to purchase a boat for every fisherman that fishes from shore to get out to the 100 fathoms that the expansion would include, then maybe it's possible.
- If the boundaries of the sanctuary has been a success factor in the increase in number and health of humpback whales, then there is no need for change. If it ain't broke, don't fit it.
- If the Sanctuary expands to include other species, it should include: monk seals, false killer whales, and spinner dolphins. With false killer whales there are issues with toxicity (heavy metals, persistent organic pollutants) and same goes for other toothed whales. Spinner dolphins – movement offshore if swim with dolphins programs are curtailed nearshore. At 100 fathom isobath you miss all species, but spinner dolphins. The Sanctuary should manage at whatever boundary is doable and feasible.
- If we can actively protect the waters as far out as possible surrounding these islands, than we honor the kapuna and this sacred planet of which we are but guests. Please step strongly forward into this awareness and protect what is left for not only future generations, but for the rights of these

creatures to thrive, in their home. We have no right to allow harm to go on, when we can do something about it. Please do not dishonor by doing nothing to offset the wrongs that have been done up until this point going forward.

- I'm against the expansion of the Humpback Whale Sanctuary.
- I'm opposed to the expansion of the sanctuary
- In addition, the NOAA update on the sanctuary condition does not strongly suggest that expansion is necessary at this time. In fact, it appears that a lot of NOAA's data (except for runoff) comes from areas remote to Hawaiian nearshore waters!
- Inclusion of state waters in sanctuary could benefit native Hawaiian community
- It is my opinion that the humpback whales no longer need to be on the endangered species list. In addition, the sanctuary should be reduced or eliminated, not increased, as the effect of the sanctuary has most likely had little effect on the resurgence of the population.
- It is not to be used as a tool to get funding and jobs for a few people who work on research and Sanctuary policy makers.
- Keep the sanctuary the same size. Don't over regulate the ocean.
- Leave our islands alone!!!
- Leave what is here so far as the sanctuary and find somewhere else to make money.
- My concerns for expansion of the Sanctuary are for the people who rely on the ocean for their livelihood, whether as an outlet for them to put food on the table or earn a respectable living wage to support their family.
- Need more clarity of the boundaries. The current boundaries are difficult to enforce and the public does not understand the boundaries. The original boundary should be re-looked to simplify enforcement and clarify where the sanctuary is to the public.
- Need more dynamic approach to protection. If we are going to protect a species we need to follow the species. Rather than expand species, make sanctuary more dynamic to where whales are.
- Need to expand boundaries. Try new approach in current areas with regulations
- Need to expand outreach and education around the state. Should partner with local organizations and target youth because kids are the pathway to get to adults. Need to expand education to other geographic areas (eg Hilo) and elsewhere in the state. Need to share expertise. Outreach component could be expanded outside the current sanctuary boundary. Need to take advantage of local partners and expertise. Should expand sanctuary to east Hawaii Island because we had a lot of whales there this season.
- Need to think about other currently forming/to-be-formed islands in management plan.
- No enforcement: entanglement, harassment. 99% of the time nobody to call – slow to respond, no prevention. Favor conservation / expansion. How can we step up enforcement?
- No expand boundaries- fishing from land and boat is our lively hood
- No expand boundaries- there is no need tto wasaet federal dollars the whales are doing just ifne and the impact to the people and life style will be great and unnecessary
- No expand boundaries-are these Sanctuary people fanatics??
- No expand boundaries-dumb how can you police that
- No expand boundaries-if program is working well why is it necessary to increase size
- No expand boundaries-no reason to have sanctuary, whales are already on protected list
- No expand boundaries-the sanctuary now did its job no need expand
- No expand boundaries-we have rights as humans too. I am jobless and fish to stay alive
- No expand Sanctuary boundary-no need to expand
- No expand Sanctuary boundary-our laws protect the whales in Hawaiian waters. There is no need to expand the Sanctuary.

- No expand Sanctuary boundary-whales doing fine
- No expand to include Hawaiian culture-no expansion of Sanctuary
- no expand whale protection-none sense
- No expand whale protections-no need to expand, eliminate sanctuary
- No expand whale protections-sanctuary working no need to expand
- No expand whale protections-whale population is increasing, regardless of the expansion
- No expansion for any ocean, or shoreline coral sanctuaries.
- No reduction in size or scope- whales, seals and turtles should be taking off endangered species act
- No reduction in size or scope-leave as is
- No reduction in size or scope-no sanctuary expansion
- No reduction in size or scope-the Sanctuary has no vision. They are con artists an they need to be reported for attempting to defraud the federal gov. and violate the Native Hawaiian people's rights of subsistence
- no sanctuary expansion!!
- No sanctuary.
- No to expand the whale sanctuary. No to expand the sanctuay to include all islands and all the way around the islands out to 100 fathoms.
- No to future expansion of sanctuaries and listings.
- Not enough regulations to protect whales. Expand boundaries to include the PMRF military base
- not make our island a sanctuary
- One would wish that they (current sanctuary staff) would keep such efforts (regulatory efforts) as low as possible to accomplish objectives.
- Please do not extend the sanctuary any further.
- Please do not implement the proposed expansion...it is only an expansion of bureaucracy with no need.
- Please expand the protection!
- Please expand this area. All of the Hawaiian marine animals would benefit from the attention of the Marine Sanctuary. They need it badly.
- PONO also recommends expanding the geographic boundaries of Hawaii's Sanctuary to include all Main Hawaiian Islands.
- Potential economic benefits from whale watching to the state – expanding the boundaries could help attract more tourists
- protection should follow species
- Reduce size and scope of sanctuary-I see no reason for it to exist at all. It is demonstrating that it is a total waste of tax payers money and appears not to really know what the issues are. The major problem we face is coming from the land. Manage the land correctly and the ocean will take care of itself. If you don't realize this then your just wasting everyone's time and money
- Reduce size and scope of sanctuary-should regulate laws we have now. No need more laws
- reduce size or scope- remove endangered species from endangered status
- Reference to Channel Islands NMS boundary as examples of a sanctuary boundary. Encompasses all waters around islands.
- SANCTUARIES BOUNDARIES AND ENFORCEMENT: Expand the sanctuaries boundaries. Enforce existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- Sanctuary "vision" should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered statys or reach pre-determined population levels. Especially if no one can even enforce it.
- Sanctuary boundary should encompass all of the main Hawaiian Islands.

- Sanctuary enhances attention to whales so they now come up to fishing boats. Sanctuary should dissolve.
- Sanctuary needs to be ecosystem-based. 100 fathom contour area good start, but other areas may need more or less. 100 fathom contour needs to be flexible depending on resources/bathymetry.
- Sanctuary should be expanded AND adaptable/flexible in what it means and does.
- Sanctuary should be involved in protecting cultural heritage resources (Native Hawaiian resources). Boundaries may have to change to include these resources. E.g. fishponds and shipwrecks.
- Sanctuary should change name to “Hawaiian Islands NMS” (drop “humpback whales”) and expand to protect other resources
- Sanctuary should reduce size and scope-sanctuary should be reduced or eliminated if the species in no longer endangered
- Sanctuary should surround the entire Hawaiian Islands—makes scientific and political sense. Everyone has to abide by same regulations throughout Hawaii’s waters within the 100 fathom isobaths.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. No added sanctuary.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Sanctuary should close when humpback populations exceeds 20,000.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Ocean doesn't need to be over populated need to keep balance of mother nature.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Reduce size.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Reduce the size of the "vision" and use our (my) tax dollars the way I want it spent.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Reduce.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Stop getting ridiculous stupid. The best volunteer is the educator. Like I said, don't know how and when no fish! maybe we should volunteer and [illegible word] people who like fish and eat no what sizes is suitable, but need to tell when our economy sucks, losing jobs, and they starving.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. No need.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Please let the Hawaiians vote on this.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Remember days when ahi was big, no moa today, casually but times are hard, just need to inform. We the people are caretakers of our land and ocean.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. We should spend less money on sanctuary areas and spend it on education.

- Sanctuary Water quality efforts ineffective. The Sanctuary has no leverage or powers over land based agricultural practices. It has even less control over international and national pollution. To imply otherwise is purely dishonest. This will not change with expanded boundaries.
- Saving and making our island waters a sanctuary is no the answer. Education is,
- Sediment flowing into the water has a negative effect on habitat. I would like to see the boundary expanded to what was originally proposed. The current water treatment system needs to be replaced. Injection wells carry waste water right to the reef. Sanctuary should get involved in water quality. It impacts fish and corals. Need to do more testing and enforcement. County water treatment is not good enough. Need federal government to come in and help.
- Should reduce size or scope-yes, definitely include a plan to reduce its size or scope if the program has shown to be successful and then be adjusted
- Should the sanctuary vision include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels.] ["rapidly increasing populations of most of the species listed in the Sanctuary's...those laws and regulations are working, but there is no purpose"] Which laws are they referring to? Again, false, mis-leading information-not pono to be mis-informing people with false information.
- So far I [have] not seen or heard anything to support the existence of the sanctuary. Your vision is one of waste and hardship. Instead of creating benefits for the environments and its inhabitants I see only hardship and waste. [It] seems you are only going to be more problems.
- Sonar can be tested in other waters than the sanctuary, and should not be allowed anywhere in the vicinity. The sanctuary should be extended to encompass all of the Hawaiian Islands and channels between them. The effects of sonar are well known on species who use sound in their survival and direction of migration, without re-proving by research on the specific endangered species.
- SONAR testing takes place at depths greater than 100 fathoms.
- Specify sanctuary? Do whales know? Moving sanctuary or more encompassing areas
- Taking on other stuff may shoot the sanctuary in the foot. Taking on so much because the resources are so vast you run the risk of not completing the existing mandate. Public education can continue to be done without expanding the boundary and expanding the species. Are the economic resources available to expand?
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The humpbacks were recovering well before the sanctuary. We need more education, not more sanctuary space.
- The Disentanglement program is worthwhile but does not require expanded boundaries.
- The expansion of the existing whale sanctuary in Hawaii doesn't make sense to me. I need proof from NOAA's confirmed studies to prove to me that whales are dying and being hurt in our Hawaiian waters, and I respectfully request that you release these documents for public viewing.
- The facts presented to me shows whale growth is on the rise every year. Our laws in Hawaii protects these whales. There are enough rules and regulations protecting the whales, seals, turtles. There are no data that proves to me that an expanded sanctuary is necessary. There are a abundant number of turtles and I believe turtles are ready to be taken off the endangered list. Bag limit of turtles taken in a year! Lottery!!
- The green sea turtle is also thriving since the ban was put into effect years ago. To the point that they pose a threat to human life. In fact it would probably be wise to lift the ban and place a bag limit or size limitation or something like that to alleviate the hazard of possible shark attack on humans.
- The Hi Humpback Whale Sanctuary has been successful. The Humpbacks have reached their population goals. In that this sanctuary was/is a single species sanctuary it should now be closed.

- The management plan should include an in-depth study, with recommendations and an implementation strategy, to extend the stewardship of the Sanctuary to include other species, to define the resulting ecosystem boundaries and interactions, to monitor land-atmosphere-ocean interactions in these ecosystems, and to regulate human use of the Sanctuary waters.
- The ocean is a delicately balanced ecosystem. We need to look at all life in that spectrum in order to save each individual species. Please expand your scope to really make the difference you have set out to make.
- The sanctuary "vision" should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Because of over population of the species causes less food source, disease, starvation.
- The sanctuary "vision" should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels because there should be no sanctuary.
- The sanctuary is doing its job well and whales are recovering. No further action is needed. Why try to fix something that isn't broken? Just because an organization is doing well, does not mean it should expand and grow to become a bigger bureaucracy. In times of skyrocketing deficits, we should focus our efforts on smaller, locally managed areas – perhaps something based on the traditional Hawaiian ahupuaa – mountain to ocean – style of management. It should not be a top-down bureaucratic model where the federal government essentially dictates to the locals what they should do.
- The sanctuary should establish a minimum water depth in which boats cannot enter to protect where whales can go to rest. Given all of the boat traffic, the humpback whale population has increased. The animals are adaptable to human interactions. Look at the existing humpback whale habitat and current HIHW mandate to address concerns, not necessarily expand the boundary and add additional resources.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. That would be ridiculous to expand with the increase in population.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Expansion is just a way to secure jobs for a few.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. I'm sure there are no need for sanctuary expansions, with the amount of whales that are counted each year. Seems like the population is gradually increasing.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. The proposal to expand the whole sanctuary seems to have nothing to do with whales and everything to do with more bureaucratic control of the ocean.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. I feel the sanctuary should not be expanded cause this is my life style. I was born and raised doing this and there's no need for expansion.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Include visitors and limit outsiders influence and ability to influence anything in Hawaii.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Ofcourse, if theres no need for laws or sanctuary's they should be removed untill there needed again. The laws put in place right now are working, theres no need for more. Stop wasting our tax dollars,, focus more on the real problems. Pollution and runoff, you stop thos our ocean will FLURISH.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Sanctuaries shold be flexible sanctuaries and bans should not be "forever"

- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. They should reduce the size because the whale population is doing fine by itself. Don't need to expand - reduce!!
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Your "vision" may not correspond to what islanders know and see to be true.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - I don't see the expansion helping the whales, dolphins, or monk seals.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - If the protected species are doing good and the public is not complaining about the existing sanctuary then it shouldn't be reduced.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Is perfect da way is, no need change nothing.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - No reduction, but its fair Know what kinds of things going on in Hawaii.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Seems to me that 40-50 years ago there was less fish on the shoreline with all the seasonal non fishing ? seems more today.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Yes If you don't, the natural balance of the habitat will be altered.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - We don't need anyone to tell us if we can fish or not. Its natures way of controlling the fish, birds, whales, etc. Not ? way. Don't use these things for your personal gain.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Must be scientifically correct.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - The current population are more than adequate. It may need to be reduced in the future.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - The real problem is enforcement of any of these laws. Proper enforcement is weak as it is already with many officers turning their heads when laws are broken.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Things are working fine with the way it is set up now. If it aint broke don't fix it!
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - We don't need volunteers t watch our waters. That's what enforcement is paid to do.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Get rid of the seals.

- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. I agree. There really is no purpose for a sanctuary, unless some group is looking to cause hostile reactions. Hawaii's people respect having their lifestyle and even livelihood curtailed by misguided "do-gooders".
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Laws and regulations that are currently enforced are working, there is no purpose piling more laws and regulations on top of them.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. No reduction but still would like volunteers to continue watching our waters.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Species will spread around island.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Don't make more laws, you have too many as it is.
- The SOS consortium also recommends expanding the geographic boundaries of Hawaii's Sanctuary to include all Main Hawaiian Islands (MHI).
- The state of Hawaii has already given the entire Northern Hawaiian Islands 139,797 square miles of the Pacific Ocean (105,564 square nautical miles) - an area larger than all the country's national parks combined, to NOAA to play with. That's enough.
- The Whales have recovered and we are no longer in need of your support.
- Then the "Yet to be determined" additional species must be identified and their sanctuary requirements (size, location, etc.) determined. The "tailor made for Humpbacks" sanctuary might not be a good fit. It could be too big (or small), or not in the right location for whatever the additional specie(s) turns out to be. It appears that NOAA is attempting convert the single specie humpback whale sanctuary into an "all comers" sanctuary without knowing if it is appropriate for the "all comers" species.
- There is no legitimate reason to expand the Sanctuary's dominion.
- There is no need to bring in other species, they are protected by existing laws like the ESA and the MMPA, if those laws are adequately enforced, but that is a big problem. If higher fines are implemented in the sanctuary, this may not be effective for boaters; what is next? Ban boaters? The government is growing too big, the Sanctuary staff is too large, there are more regulations. The Sanctuary boundaries do not need to be expanded. The whale population is growing at 5-6% a year so there is no need to expand. There are about 11 species of whales that are associated with the Hawaiian Islands. The whales move around a lot, they are not helped by the Sanctuary's existence unless they are in it. What will you do for them the rest of the time? Expanding the boundaries may impact (especially economically) commercial whale watching. The government is too large.
- There is no need to enlarge sanctuary.
- There is no real need for any further expansion to sanctuary boundaries other than to further restrict mariners, fishers, etc. and will in turn provide ³priority arenas² for more human activity such as whale watching, research dollars/projects and these may not necessarily be beneficial to the whales per se.
- There should be increased education on whale avoidance. The boundary expansion could be good for tourism, but it doesn't need to change anything (ie regulations, shipping lanes), but it should increase awareness of the animals.
- There should be no more humpback whale sanctuaries expanded...the growth of the whale population has gotten dramatically improved.

- They are already protected by law. No sanctuary.
- This is a letter condemning the implementation of whale, dolphin, coral, seal and other related ocean sanctuaries that your agency and all other private / public agencies have proposed to the inhabitants of the Hawaiian Islands.
- This is not the time for you to interpret this success as an opportunity to expand your authority to other species or habitats that you believe need your protection. We do not need nor can we afford redundant federal regulation given the fact that we already have the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammals Act (both Federal Laws enacted by Congress) to protect our treasured resources.
- To enlarge the sanctuaries and prohibit activities would be another "nail in the coffin" for tourist not to come to Hawaii.
- Together, in a partnership with the State of Hawaii, (co-manager of the HIHWMS) you have helped to bring the Hawaiian Humpback Whale back to sustainable numbers. You have accomplished your mission and it is now time to relinquish your authority over to the State of Hawaii.
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels.
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Depends on species.
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - I'm for protection of whales but don't take away my rights that are inherent.
- We also object to the expansion of the Sanctuary boundaries.
- we are against the expansion of the Humpback Whale Sanctuary
- We are over Federalized in this respect, and must oppose any attempts by the sanctuary to acquire more State lands for an unnecessary sanctuary.
- We don't need a whale sanctuary, it's already a protected species. The area of the sanctuary is the bread and butter for a lot of fishermen.
- We should expand the boundary and include other species for recognition since the work with other species is already being done and for possible additional funding. We should not increase regulations.
- We the members of the Maui Co operative Fishing Association object to the expansion and inclusion of additional species to the Hawaii Island Humpback Whale Marine Sanctuary.
- we urge the revision process to study a reduction in the current size of the Sanctuary
- Whales are all around island and Sanctuary is very small area so should expand boundaries and enforcement. a. Slow boats down during whale season...give and take between Sanctuary and boaters. b. Allow low impact fishing but no dredging. c. We need compromise/balance with all the multiple ocean users. d. This balance is beneficial to both humans and animals
- Whales, dolphins, turtles, etc. have for many many years and are currently on the rise showing very strong numbers! therefore I don't see any reason that would justify the expansion of boundary's or inclusion of any other marine mammals!
- When a protected species is found to have recovered, it is time to move on. Recent SPLASH estimates of the Hawaiian Humpback whale stocks in the N. Pacific indicates that it is around 18,000 animals up dramatically from the 1400 that existed prior to the ESA. It is truly time to move on and thank you for continuing your educational focus
- When Governor Ben Cayetano approved the sanctuary, he purposely did not include all waters around the islands as he was unsure about how this "new" sanctuary model would work in Hawaii. Having proposals to ban certain ocean activities, e.g. fishing, in the sanctuary appears to confirm

some of his concerns about the federal government essentially bypassing the state's sovereign right to manage its property.

- Why do you want to expand the sanctuary?
- Why expansion?
- Why should we expand the boundary to include more areas of human interaction?
- Will the sanctuary go island-wide to the 100 fathom isobaths (expand the boundary)?
- You have accomplished your mission and it is now time to relinquish your authority over to the State of Hawaii. This is not the time for you to interpret this success as an opportunity to expand your authority to other species or habitats that you believe need your protection. We do not need nor can we afford redundant federal regulation given the fact that we already have the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammals Act (both Federal Laws enacted by Congress) to protect our treasured resources. I would respectfully ask that you consider transferring full management over to the State of Hawaii and re-allocating our taxpayer dollars into areas that truly need help - Perhaps Education.
- You have closed off enough ocean (referring to Northwestern Hawaiian Islands).

Boundaries and Zones: Area-Specific

- After reviewing your management plan background it seems that with the existing humpback whale sanctuary is sufficient and expansion is not needed. Your data show an increase in the whale population in the waters off of the Island of Kaua'i with the existing sanctuary.
- Area should be expanded to Hilo area. Should expand species to include monk seals and turtles.
- Changing habitats Kaua'i: whale lessons. Where the whales are, where the people are? Interactions. Realistic: dynamic boundaries. Want false killer whales added because they are impacted by fisheries.
- Do not expand sanctuary to expand whale protections - If there is a problem the people of Kauai should make the decision about sanctuary's around the Island of Kauai.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - Short down all foreign boats violating the current sanctuary boundaries.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - The expansion would do nothing! It would only penalize Hawaiian residents for no justifiable reason.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - I think they should keep the existing sanctuary boundaries the same because the existing laws and regulations is working and its not currently affecting thousands of beach goers and families that do recreational fishing.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - Are you crazy or mentally insane?
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - Expand the sanctuary to Japan.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - There is no need for an expansion. The current laws protecting the wildlife is working fine. If it aint broke don't fix it. Marine wildlife off the state of Hawaii are all increasing.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. All you special interest groups would love this because this is all about your ideologies - you all think you know best, saving us from ourselves.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. - No ----- lots of local fishermen's business will close.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. No get nuts.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. Since there is no clear reason for the expansion, it should not happen!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. - Things are fine the way they are now. Find a better way to spend your time and are money.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. Unexpand - whale bans are all that's needed for population growth.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. You don't know (the whale population numbers). Same question as the first!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. The whales and all other sealife are not harmed by boats.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. There is no sense in expanding something that doesn't need to be expanded. If its not broken, don't fix it.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. This is stupid.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. NO expand needed whales are doing find.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. No expansion needed.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. This is ridiculous. The people of this state rely on the ocean for livlyhood sustanence, recreation, and cultural needs. We don't need something to change our way of llifeespecially when everythign can be managed without.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. We don't need to spend more money to expand the sanctuary- more education is whats needed.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. Whales are protected. Whale protectors go out and see if any whales are being harmed. Not here.
- Do not expand whale protection. Kauai whales have done just fine with the small sanctuary area so no need to expand.
- Don't necessarily expand unless you can take care of it. Increase research and understanding about what is there. Help with research, help Justin, help enforcement.
- Don't expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around the islands out to 100 fathoms depth. Save our life style and human rights.
- Estuaries should be included in the sanctuary.
- Expand boundaries around all of Kaua'i. a. Create sub-zones for regulating. b. Phase in new regulations. c. Get fishermen involved in Sanctuary research
- Expand boundary to include northwest shore of Molokai, Mo'omomi (Nature Conservancy nature preserve). Less than 6 months ago, a dog got in the Nature Conservancy nature reserve and killed many ground-nesting shearwater birds. Need to include that area to protect the very endangered shearwater. There is not much habitat left for them.
- Expand sanctuary boundaries, especially on Kaua'i. More resources should be spent on enforcement of existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- Expand scope – expand Kaua'i boundaries/regulation changes to include eastern side of Kaua'i and south side (poipu).

- Expand the "Sanctuary" to all whale contact areas around the island of Kaua'i.
- Expand the Sanctuary to all whale contact areas around the island of Kaua'i. Presently it is just around the lighthouse
- Expand the sanctuary to encircle the West side of the island from Kekaha- Davidsons to Makaha Point and out to Lehua, Kaula and Niihau.
- Expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth.
- Expansion of sanctuary boundaries is not needed it will create conflicts with fishermen. Bait schools for example hang out from 30-100 fathoms, ie: grounds off Keahole Airport. Growth of whale populations of 5-6% a year indicates current sanctuary boundaries are sufficient.
- First surveys almost no whales around Kaua'i. Sanctuary has to be where whales are. 10,000 HB whales each year. Estimates changed. Boundaries must be realistic and dynamic.
- Fishing is a way of life for many people on Kaua'i. For some, it is their income. But for many, fishing is used to provide food for their family and if they had a good day, fish to share with friends. To consider taking away the privilege is absurd! Kaua'i should not be a sanctuary. Don't take away a lifestyle that is peoples' heritage. Fishing has been a way of life since the beginning of Hawaiians. To make Kaua'i a sanctuary is only a move for more bureaucracy; not for the people!
- Have staff for education and response on Molokai especially if expand scope of sanctuary.
- Have thesanctuary expand the boundaries to include all whale habitat areas especially around Kaua'i and Ni'ihou and help pass strong laws for enforcement of existing and future laws.
- Here in Kaua'i, expand the areas designated as sanctuary, while still allowing careful local fishing.
- I am a resident of the island of Kauai and I'm opposed to any expansion of the humpback whale sanctuary management plan and also opposed to including other marine resources within that plan. We have enough laws in place already to protect these animals. Thank you very much. Please for the record, note this comment as opposed to any expansion of the humpback whale sanctuary.
- I am concerned that proposed enlargement of the scope of the whale sanctuary management plan may restrict public natural resource shore line and ocean access. West Kaua'i has suffered significant loss of natural resource public shore line and ocean access in recent years, at the same time public use has significantly increased.
- I am unsure if the sanctuary should expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth.
- I am writing to express my opposition to your plans of expanding the reach of the HIHW National Marine Sanctuary. It seems that you have fallen into the trap of elevating the animals lives and safety above that of the people of Kaua'i who fish to provide for their families, to those who provide incredible experiences for those who visit this island from distant places and to those who choose the ocean for their recreation, i.e., surfing, snorkeling, and scuba diving, among others.
- I do not support an expanded scope of the sanctuary's "marien resources" to include he closure of any fishing areas or the creation of any "no take zones". In this day and time, it is unfortunate that so much is being taken away, especially activities that have been part of our livelihood for many generations.
- I don't believe expanding the sanctuary here on Kaua'i would be beneficial to its purpose. Expansion would take away the life, the culture, the resources for livelihood here on Kaua'i. The fishermen and ocean users need to survive here on Kaua'i to expand would take away the life from the people here. Do not expand the sanctuary.
- I personally am opposed to anything on Niihau, or at least at this point.
- I support a humpback whale sanctuary around Kaua'i.

- I would like to see the sanctuary expanded to the east side of Hawaii Island because whale numbers are increasing to that side. The boundary should ideally be expanded to the entire east side, including Hilo and south. Punaluu should be included for protection of nesting hawksbill sea turtles.
- In regards to the Humpback Whale Sanctuary Management Plan, I would like to respectfully ask that you do not approve the current proposal under review, which could lead to the limitation and or/cessation of ocean activities that many of our residents participate in. While I support the protection and preservation of our endangered marine species, it is my position that any enlargement of the scope of the sanctuary's "marine resources", should provide Kaua'i and Niihau residents protections from "prevention of participation" in ocean related activities.
- Include Kohoolawe, expand boundaries, important for reefs, resources and Hawaiian culture
- Include turtles and monk seals and shearwater and extend the boundaries to the areas where they are (North Shore of Molokai).
- Involved with ocean count. Sanctuary should encompass whole island, not just North Shore because whales are all around island.
- Is there data for other species to indicate their density? Sanctuary needs to include this science for boundaries.
- My fear is that if you include monk seals, green sea turtles, dolphins, and coral reefs we could have many issues that are very negative to users of the ocean. Fishing restrictions have been mentioned as being probable if these marine resources are included. Changing boundaries around our island and Niihau to include areas visited by these resources is dangerous. I fear that Niihau will be taken away from us as a fishing and surfing and diving area.
- Need to expand boundaries. a. Kaua'i south shore has babies born there. b. Expand research and education boundaries all around Kaua'i
- No expand whale protection- this is bull\$&@! The whales are doing fine in Kauai. You should go to Japan and get a Sanctuary there
- No reduction in size or scope- no sanctuary on Kauai
- No, no access zones. No zones
- No, no take zones (fishing). No sanctuary required!!
- Other whales...I have personally seen the various pods cruise the island. They don't hang out in one place, sanctuary or otherwise. So what good is a sanctuary for cruising pods?
- Please do not make the waters around Kaua'i a whale sanctuary. Most people already respect the whales and monk seals etc. and others would be better served with more education. Making this area a sanctuary would lead to a cultural and economic catastrophe.
- Rumor that water quality off Poipu is poor, perhaps due to hotels or from river outflow. Expand sanctuary into this area and look into water quality.
- Sanctuary boundaries. Subsections within the sanctuary (by island) will raise a lot of issues within the State. This will make management more complex and will require more resources to properly manage it to the standards to make it right.
- Sanctuary can help other things (species). Sanctuary is great umbrella to add more species and should be included in the sanctuary. Boundary should include a band on the north shores of the islands: Maui, Moloka'i and Oahu.
- Sanctuary should address impacts from inshore fishing gear (i.e gillnets). No take zones should be added, rotated periodically and well advertised in addition to expanding boundaries
- Sanctuary should be expanded to Hilo side of the island. People on the Hilo side would be more involved if the sanctuary was here

- Sanctuary should expand in boundary and species with holistic look at what is allowed and not allowed in the sanctuary waters. E.g. reducing fuel burning of Maui Electric in Maui, sustainable food sources...
- Several fishermen have shared their concerns that expansion of the Sanctuary would be a threat to their livelihood and change the composition of what makes Kaua'i special.
- Should re-visit the re-setting of the boundaries to the original boundary that was based on the scientific boundary of where whales are found, the 100 fathom isobaths. Should expand the boundaries based on science. Sanctuary should include all other marine species and what they feed on. Need to look at the bathymetric maps. Need to look at all islands for expansion. There were 1,000-1500 whales in the North Pacific earlier, now there are 20,000 whales. Should move to a marine sanctuary (eg do water quality).
- The bottom line is, a new sanctuary on Kaua'i and Niihau will only further take away our cultural rights as human beings to provide food for our families and nourishment for body mind and souls.
- the Marine Mammal Commission recommends that, in revising the management plan for this sanctuary, the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries expand its scope to include protecting, conserving, and where possible restoring significant biological components and marine habitats occurring between the shoreline and a seaward boundary generally defined by either the 200-m or 100-fathom bathymetric contour (whichever is judged easier for seafarers using the sanctuary to identify) around all of the eight main Hawaiian Islands. In some areas, boundaries might include deeper waters so as to protect representative habitats or species assemblages such as deep-water coral beds. In other areas, a shallower depth contour might be warranted to exclude areas zoned, used, or otherwise set aside for particular purposes, such as commercial harbors or areas used by Native Hawaiians (e.g., nearshore waters off Niihau)
- The sanctuary should expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. ["There is no clear purpose in increasing protection"] Obviously people need to be educated. Again, the oceans are in a serious state of decline - as well documented by science. The sanctuary should be educating the public on the realities.
- The sanctuary should not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. How are you supposed to snorkel in 600ft depth? A lot of businesses would be affected thus people losing their jobs.
- The sanctuary should not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. I'm really mad that my tax dollars are being wasted for something that's not needed. Just to create a few jobs for some.
- The sanctuary should not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. You've gone too far already.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. Current sanctuaries are enough.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. If you do that a lot of businesses will be affected. Tour boats, restaurants, fishing supplies, and a whole lot more. Just about everyone will be affected somehow.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. If you look at the #'s we don't need to expand because they are doing fine.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. Inshore state waters should be managed by the state (DLNR Aquatic Resources). Such a sanctuary WILL incite a riot because it will destroy Hawaii's fishing and water-related culture! Let Hawaii's people manage Hawaii.

- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. Please no expand
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. We have more than enough laws already.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. We Hawaiians have fishing rights here in Hawaii.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Those islands that are already designated for this purpose meet the needs and no other expanding is necessary.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. There should be no "no access zones" The local economy and families would be in ruins whether you owned your own business or worked in a hotel/restaurant etc.
- The sanctuary, if any, should be on the South Side where the majority of the whales and seals are.
- There are a lot of reasons to expand sanctuary further south.
- There is no need for the sanctuary to expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth.
- There is no need to create a new sanctuary on Kaua'i and Niihau!!!! The whale population is plentiful and already protected with rules and regulations.
- There is some marine mammal feeding ground at Penguin Banks. The Sanctuary boundary ends at the feeding ground. I'm not sure what the marine mammal species is that feeds there, but I heard it in a talk at the Hawaii Conservation Conference. The Sanctuary could help with research if it expands.
- There must be a serious discussion of how to expand the Hawai'ian Humpback Whale Sanctuary boundaries to include all whale habitat areas, especially around Kaua'i and Ni'ihou. By the end of this management cycle, the Sanctuary should produce a detailed plan of action and provide recommendations on formally changing the Sanctuary boundaries.
- Wailua, Waimea – expand system all the way around the island and have research to look at whole picture.
- While I support the protection and preservation of our endangered marine species, it is my position that any enlargement of the scope of the sanctuary's "marine resources" should not include the closure of any fishing areas or the creation of any "no take zones" and should provide local fishermen, ocean users and Kaua'i and Niihau residents protections from prevention of participation in ocean related activities as they have enjoyed for generations
- Would like to see expansion of boundaries around all of Kaua'i island. a. Include other species. b. Follow through after enforcement

CLIMATE CHANGE*Climate Change: General Concerns*

- Climate change should be managed comprehensively through the use of models and information sharing to make long-term, informed decisions.
- Coral reefs are endangered primarily due to distant point source pollution, local agricultural runoff and global climate change. All three of these are worth fighting, but none of them will be meaningfully addressed by a Sanctuary. Otherwise, let the current Sanctuary get something substantial and meaningful done about any one of the above issues before requesting an expansion.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Don't expand into sanctuary because of severe climate changes having an affect the reef then include over development on the islands conclude to run off that chokes out the reef.
- How does global warming effect sanctuary?
- I request the sanctuary to be proactive and take a stand against climate change.
- In regards to corals, they are more affected by ocean temperatures, which are being studied but yet not fully understood.
- Local and global impacts (ocean acidification, climate change) – some species can act as local indicators of global phenomena, such as corals. Adding corals to the sanctuary would be good because they are an important indicator of climate change.
- Only after the last tree has been cut down... Only after the last river has been poisoned... Only after the last fish has been caught... Only then u will find that money can't be eaten...GO GREEN!!
- Thank you for thinking Green, in Clean Energy Grace
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Climate change!
- The whales' habitat in Hawaiian waters and throughout the North Pacific remains under constant threat of degradation through marine debris, ocean acidification, and dangerous land-derived inputs to the whales' environment. Although some may argue that this degradation should include so-called "noise pollution", there is no credible evidence that either operational or environmental acoustic changes in the environment affect the whales or threaten the whales' continued wellbeing. Sanctuary management should develop and implement a comprehensive plan of action to address the major environmental threats to the whales' habitat: marine debris, human-derived pollutants, and ocean acidification.
- We can do something on land as well as in the water. Corporate NOAA should do more to be "green" such as energy efficiency to lessen our footprint. Link between impacts on land and ocean.

Climate Change: Potential Solutions (Research, Education & Outreach, Boundaries & Zones, Regulations)

- Do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries); ...The job with the whales is not done. The North Pacific population of humpback whales still faces significant challenges from human interaction (particularly shipstrike), marine debris and entanglement, and from environmental degradation (particularly ocean acidification). The Sanctuary must continue to address these challenges to the humpback whale populations.
- To stop the degradation of the oceans, Jeremy Jackson, a professor of oceanography at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego, identifies overexploitation, pollution and climate change as the three main "drivers" that must be addressed. I request the Sanctuary to be MUCH more vocal and proactive about the serious threats to whales and all ocean life. Educate the public on the realities of the serious threats to entire marine ecosystem.

Climate Change: Area-Specific

- Ocean acidification represents a threat to biological diversity that is, likely, as severe as global warming. Reefs are dying from pollution & over-nutrition. Fish are disappearing from pollution and over fishing. It is proven that Marine Protected Conservation Areas are very effective in re-establishing healthy reefs and fish populations. There are no Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. I request the Sanctuary to make laws to protect reef habitat and to establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- A system of rotating fishing locations was done 20 years ago and works. There was always fish. Go back to the system of the past where people take care of people. More programs mean more regulations which mean less freedom. People used to self-regulate: they would move from a good fishing spot to another to conserve resources. Now people fish one spot until it's overfished. People used to take care of people, now people expect federal government to fix things but it created too many regulations. Hard not to break regulations nowadays because there are so many.
- Accurate monk seal information needs to reach all ocean users including surfers, paddlers, boaters, swimmers, snorkelers, divers, fishers, educators, students, and tourists.
- Address the fears of the people (such as fishermen, public, etc.)
- Alignment from bottom up rather than top down. Start from the community.
- All proceedings and activities in this effort be conducted with full public disclosure and the opportunity for all of the various stakeholder groups to participate.
- Anini Beach – good area for no take zone.
- Aquaculture projects that have come before the Sanctuary and its advisory body believe they have been unfairly treated and misrepresented by staff and certain advisory council members through: speculation on the whale and whale habitat impacts of aquaculture passing as hard science, utilizing whale distribution data of questionable accuracy to criticize proposed sites, empirical evidence from Hawaii and around the world of acceptable risk for collision with culture nets being ignored, and unwarranted limitations being put on the technical input into the Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) deliberations by not sufficiently including offshore aquaculture expertise in discussions and not having aquaculture industry representation in the SAC.
- Areas where Hawaiian knowledge could and should be easily implemented would be education and outreach. I would advise hiring a Hawaiian education specialist to develop curriculum and provide outreach. It would be important to hire someone with substantial Hawaiian cultural knowledge and strong ties to the local community.
- Balance is key. Connection of being “own enforcer” lost. Education programs that teach sustainable practices and traditional practices.
- Beach clean ups: make it cool to pick up debris.
- Bring non-ocean users into the process—because they also impact resources, e/g. talks at grocery stores.
- Communities are wise: make sure to listen and incorporate their input
- Community agreement on enforcement
- Community kuleana for a place reflects an understanding that ecosystem management is at its core people management, and in this regard community groups can bring a much needed focus. We hope NOAA will continue to include communities throughout all planning and plan implementation phases for the Sanctuary.
- Concerned about SAC member Terry O'Halloran who was with the super ferry. He should be encouraged to attend as a member of the public, but not as a SAC member.
- Continue education programs, add a mentoring program to keep kids in Hawaii.
- Cooperation and coordination is needed with all stakeholders: agencies, [NGO]'s, communities. Sanctuary can't do everything. We will have to all work together to address the issues.
- Derelict fishing nets – there should be a reward for pick up and regulations to stop dumping of nets.
- Disappointed at turnout at meeting. PSA's should be done on other TV channels.
- Dive shop owners and operators also find that the preservation of reefs and wrecks are good for their businesses, especially where tourism is a major factor.

- Do not include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Community relation efforts.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whale season. Controlled by community, clubs and local efforts, supported by DLNR.
- During process, commercial ocean users always need to have a voice. Ocean users are part of the matrix.
- Education and outreach critical for kids and community to inform and understand about sanctuary so there's buy-in. Children need to be involved
- Education is key component for all ocean users including fishermen to increase awareness; Conservation areas could be good for fishermen as it will protect resources.
- Education is key component for all ocean users including fishermen to increase awareness; Shoreline fishing is not very good anymore
- Engaged cruise ship group in MPR process
- Engaging the diving community will certainly be more beneficial than excluding them from sites as has been the policy in some places.
- Expand education program to local leaders, tourism industry-and have outreach to them on regular basis.
- Expand educational programs to promote voluntary compliance with regulations
- Fishermen need to know who to call in case of a rescue; expand rescue team: more education/information about the rescue team
- Focus is on Honolulu, MLCD in Sanctuary.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Hawaiian monk seals: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support studies to assess and monitor population trends, prey preferences and foraging habitats, and/or at -sea habitat-use patterns; (b) carry out public outreach and education programs targeting grade school children, recreational fishermen, swimmers and divers, beach-goers, and tourists; (c) coordinate volunteer networks on one or more islands to respond to seals that haul out on crowded beaches and need protection from disturbance by people; and (d) respond to distressed seals, such as abandoned pups, or seals that are sick, injured, hooked, or entangled in fishing nets or debris.
- From personal experience I can say that sport divers -- often with considerable experience and special skills like underwater photography -- who are willing to accept training can become powerful advocates for natural and cultural preservation. This includes divers who may previously have looted shipwrecks or removed corals or other aquatic species. They can become protective agents toward the very reefs and wrecks they damaged in the past.
- Further, there are four areas that constitute sites of special concern at Maunalua Bay: Kalauha'īha'ī, a historic Hawaiian fishpond in Kuli'ou'ou; the spring at Kawaikui, famous for limu and a historic watering replenishment spot for early ships; Paiko Lagoon, a wildlife sanctuary managed by DLNR-DOFAW and its adjacent Hawaiian fishpond, Kanewai; and Hawai'i Kai Marina, originally Ke Ahupua O Maunalua, once the largest inland fishpond on O'ahu. Because of the connectivity of these four sites to Maunalua Bay and their capacity to impact the Bay's systems it would be helpful if these received special management consideration
- Get stakeholders on board early on in the process, especially concerning Section 106
- Goal is cross-cultural education and management. Need total buy-in by inviting input from traditional practitioners and go around to all communities.
- Hā'ena Makai Watch program and volunteers be provided with educational and outreach information about the dolphins and be encouraged to provide observation.

- Hanalei Makai Watch program and volunteers be provided with educational and outreach information about the dolphins and be encouraged to provide observation.
- Hanalei Makai Watch program and volunteers be provided with educational and outreach information about the dolphins and be encouraged to provide observation.
- Have publicity on major news station and it will get out more to the general public rather than just those already interested and plugged into relevant/related listserves.
- HIHWNMS needs cultural and community specialists.
- Holoholo, Andy's, Blue Dolphin Charters help educating tourist. They should work with Schools. Should collaborate with schools with field trips
- Honolua Bay is area of importance. Has pump out facility. Have water quality testing. If resources are available there is no management plan for area yet. Save Honolua Bay Coalition – would like to work with sanctuary. Wants assistance with education on packing in, packing out at Honolua. Honolua Mokuluia which is currently grant-supported.
- I agree with the ahupua'a system. More communication between cultural aspects, fishermen. Not just for whales; everything.
- I am actually running for county council here in Kauai. I would like to find out more about what's going on with these new restrictions and how we stop them from becoming too restrictive. I am all for the humpback whale sanctuary but not at the expense of the island beaches and some of the industries here.
- I am against the proposed "Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary" for.
- I am requesting that NOAA please take the concerns of all interest groups into consideration in this process, especially the fishermen, tour boat operators, and those who use the ocean for sustenance and enjoyment.
- I believe that the sanctuary must learn to better manage their existing jurisdiction through better community partnerships and educational programs that effectively include and integrate Hawaiian cultural knowledge before any jurisdiction expansion should be considered.
- I do not want to be part of the proposed marine sanctuary because it would endanger the livelihood of our island's people.
- I do not want to have our island be back door managed by people who have no roots to the Islands.
- I don't think any decisions should be made yet. A lot more opinions have to be gathered. I'm a shoreline fishermen pretty much my whole life and there is a lot of shoreline fishermen like myself who are not into commercial business and we gotta have a say – we have to know what's going on and we have to have a say – and I don't think you can proceed without spreading more information so that we can deal with any misinformation that's out there and I think the fishermen and ocean users, in particular surfers, and people like that we gotta hear what's going on and once we get the facts and know what's happening we can make our decision. Let me know - that's my position, give me a call.
- I have many concerns about one SAC member- Terry O'Halloran- because he was director of business development for Superferry. I urge that he be removed from SAC. HE can participate as a member of the public, but voting members of SAC should have no other agenda than to protect whales. This is especially important because ship strikes are one of the primary human causes of mortality for humpback whales, and there is talk of bringing the Superferry back to Hawai'i.
- I just read that article that you guys and then the last one I disagree with, in fact all of them I disagree with and how can you guys put down other? You know come on. You guys trying to sneak something in, eh? The bottom line is you guys should be listening to us guys in Hawaii – we're willing to listen to you guys but you guys gotta be willing to listen to us more than big money interest groups, yeah. You guys give me a ring, feel free to call me as I read the articles you know some things I'm kind of

changing my mind on, but still yet. Most of them way out in a negative way yeah for human beings, and the more you guys do, the more negative you guys trying to fly on us. We are ocean users, we, you know use the ocean for recreation, we use the ocean for food, and the main one I think is for food, yeah. And then like twenty years or thirty years from now if I'm still alive then my son and grand kids come walking up to me and tell me "Papa we cannot even go boogey board or go surfing now".

- I just want to make a comment about the fact that you guys are trying to restrict our abilities to fish, swim, surf, and enjoy our reefs and oceans over here. I appreciate the fact that you guys are trying to extend the whale sanctuary but if you restrict our local use of the ocean I think it's going to be a serious issue and I disagree with that plan and I really hope you guys come and listen to what the people have to say.
- I personally am opposed to anything on Niihau, or at least at this point.
- I request that you step back from your position of wanting to control where and when and if we may use the ocean for our livelihood. You are infringing on the freedom of the citizens of Hawaii who have fished these waters long before your organization ever existed. There is much more value in being RESPONSIBLE stewards than in your organization taking away the liberty of the people of Hawaii. You should be ashamed for even considering this heavy handed move.
- I would also request that NOAA consider investing in efforts to increase communication and public awareness within the community so that the public will have a better understanding of the Sanctuary.
- I would encourage that NOAA take the time through this process (MPR) to clarify common misconceptions about the Sanctuary and the role it plays in protecting our marine species.
- I would like to see the sanctuary expanded to the east side of Hawaii Island because whale numbers are increasing to that side. The boundary should ideally be expanded to the entire east side, including Hilo and south. Punalu'u should be included for protection of nesting hawksbill sea turtles.
- In the early 90's, Maui County was integral as the leader in addressing key threats to the whales and identifying ways that the Whale Sanctuary could participate and coordinate our community's efforts. We as a community have grown considerably in the last 18 years since the Sanctuary's designation and are much more sophisticated and better informed in regards to the power and potential of this Sanctuary to assist us in maintaining and enhancing the vibrant health of our nearshore waters. We hope the Sanctuary management can match our community's level of dedication and love for our home and step up to support our marine environment in the way that it was designated to do.
- It's not easy to change people's minds about major issues like treasure hunting and the taking of marine species, but this kind of "hands-on" involvement is a proven and effective way to do it.
- Kanaka maoli and na keiki O ka aina of the kona district of have been implementing our cultural treasures management plan for many generations and we welcome your assistance in our efforts and processes to protect our regional cultural treasures and food supply.
- Keep Kaua'i – Kaua'i simple and easy no more rules.
- Lanai seat should not be a "company person" representing management but an actual resident of the island. Need someone who represents the community.
- Launch island-wide effort to talk story with farmers and fishermen to discuss the connection between the land and the ocean and how one may influence the other.
- Like MPA established on Kaua'i
- Local marine management – like to see Local Marine Management Areas (LMMA's) supported by communities and the sanctuary. Sanctuary can help enforce rules that are created by local government.

- Malama Maunalua has identified several fish and invertebrate species of special cultural concern that were highly valued historically and whose populations the community would like to restore. Some of these are identified in the 2009 Maunalua Bay Conservation Action Plan.
- Malama Maunalua would be pleased to support the HIHWNMS Plan process in an advisory capacity going forward.
- Many people on, especially in these tough economic times, engage in subsistence fishing. Please don't take their livelihood away.
- Missing voice of traditional kupuna, sanctuary needs to reach out to get that kind of knowledge and wisdom because public meetings are not the way they like to share information.
- More community-based input in management—keep it local
- Need to do education/outreach differently—more positively—focus on how the sanctuary can help Hawaii, and reach out to different ocean users.
- Need to expand outreach and education around the state. Should partner with local organizations and target youth because kids are the pathway to get to adults. Need to expand education to other geographic areas (e.g. Hilo) and elsewhere in the state. Need to share expertise. Outreach component could be expanded outside the current sanctuary boundary. Need to take advantage of local partners and expertise. Should expand sanctuary to east Hawaii Island because we had a lot of whales there this season.
- Need to reach out to the wider community-about the sanctuary itself as a special place (more than just whales). Instill a sense of ownership, “sense of place”
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Who would decide where to establish these zones?
- NOAA didn't notify the public in large amounts about the activities that were being conducted. Having 20 to 30 people at these whale sanctuary meetings DOES NOT account for the thousands of people that live on. It is unjust and looked down upon by the community. NOAA should take into consideration that people who use the ocean everyday have more knowledge than an outsider who has never lived in Hawaii. The people who use the ocean know best, therefore, you should have them be a part of your team of researchers to get insight.
- NOAA should go to the public and get suggestions and feelings toward their current and future plans. Ex. Consult with the public which areas of the islands are more depleted of fish, which fishing activities cause the worst threats to reefs and fish populations. Once more info is known locally, conservation ideas can then be formulated so both the public and governing sectors can be satisfied.
- NOAA will need to adopt pre-existing cultural resources management and enforcement plan of the kona district of.
- Ocean Fair is much missed. Teacher workshops, exhibitors, materials were invaluable. Fair should be re-established and be held over 2 days. Friday for students on field trips, student workshops. Saturday open to the public, teacher workshops...
- Official enforcement and self enforcement are options
- One part we will support is the on-going education and outreach program to protect the HB Whales, maintaining the efforts for the existing regulations and enforcement, and working with the community to be aware of the HB Whale and their habitat.
- One size doesn't fit all. Consider regional management. One way: regional councils; by moku by moku, ahupua'a by ahupua'a. These councils already established, utilize them more and will naturally integrate cultural aspects. Ahumoku council might be a mechanism to assist with regional management approach. Sanctuary should be ecosystem based and regional.
- Outreach to user groups and stakeholders should be custom tailored to each user group or stakeholder. Pick the top 5 user groups/stakeholders and generate newsletters that address specific

concerns of those stakeholders. If the sanctuary generates 2 newsletters per year for 5 stakeholder groups, that is 10 newsletters. That is not much to ask for. Example one each targeted newsletter for (1) fishermen, (2) ocean recreation, (3) Native Hawaiian culture, (4) education, (5) tourism.

- People are (esp. on N.Shore [of O‘ahu]) interested and very involved in the water so more should be done to involve them in the process and ocean’s protection. Have food! Potluck, pupu’s, etc. Also a better time, 6pm is too early.
- People have a responsibility to protect local natural resources – mālama. Reaching out to the people who live in an area is respectful and good. Grateful that sanctuary is taking time to listen to local/native Hawaiian knowledge. People who live here have a kuleana – reaching those who live here is respectful of their kuleana and that is a good thing.
- Pertaining to the water: education, participation; traditional ways.
- Please have more meetings where shoreline fisherman, divers and surfers have a chance to thoroughly review your plans.
- Process needs to be mindful. And who are the stakeholders involved?
- Protect ecosystem from local perspective
- Public is upset about inc. restrictions – little understanding, info/regs coming from the outside. Get community buy-in by engaging them in the science, coming up with regulations and process and enforcement.
- Recommend using video cameras to record the sessions.
- Recreational tour boat operators to share info with public (same as #5 above)
- Regular interactions are needed. Keep in touch. Because Castle and Cooke is broke, economy of Lanai is uncertain. It is unknown what new economic ventures will occur here on this island. Need to stay engaged to deal with emerging topics. Lots of enterprises coming to this island. How do you manage commercial ventures? Live conversations are important and need to do this on a regular basis.
- Rehab center on Kaua‘i for multiple species together with community.
- Research, outreach and education are very useful components and important to the Lanai community. Research provides more information, education is important for getting information into schools, outreach engages the community. Important for reaching out to the community.
- Research: empower local communities.
- Resolution of conflict among ocean users-sanctuary needs to come up with methodology to resolve these conflicts.
- Resources for enforcement from a community perspective. And community involvement.
- Review cooperation opportunities with the coast Guard, community members
- Reward for fishermen who bring back derelict nets
- SAC meetings should be hosted on each island at least once every year to encourage community participation statewide.
- Sanctuary management should be adaptive and should think about the future, be community based and adaptable.
- Sanctuary needs partnerships to accomplish goals (public, native Hawaiians, other agencies...)
- Sanctuary needs to be involved in protecting Hawaiian culture. Teach cultural heritage, cultural education/outreach to non-native Hawaiians.
- Sanctuary needs to hold another meeting on Kaua‘i.
- Sanctuary needs to promote non-divisive approach. All ocean users play a part.
- Sanctuary should education self regulation...tourist information on responsible use—this was what was done 8-10 years ago off the Kona coast. Education of young people is key since funds are tight and people that could volunteer are busy.

- Sanctuary should hear from ocean users (people who are NOT making money from the ocean) before making a decision.
- Sanctuary should help operators to provide educational materials to educate people. Operators are on the water every day, they work with the people who live it. Use operators as a resource, they are willing to help.
- Shallow wrecks provide a great recreational value which also creates an economic value provided the wrecks interaction and preservation can be controlled. A relationship with local dive charters could create a stewardship for assisting in this area
- Some people may have strong comments but might not feel comfortable commenting in certain situations (such as big public meetings). Consider other ways of reaching out to communities.
- Strategy of involving the community in a more regular and intimate basis, especially in dealing with community specific issues more resources will be need to allow more engagement with the community.
- Stronger Cultural components for management plan programs, Native Hawaiian management integrated local, nearshore communities with strong connections to sea. Consultation Councils. Seeking out individuals to assist.
- Study/research on resources with local fishermen directly involved. (a) Act now for future generations. (b) All ocean interconnected. ©Increase dialogue with tour boat companies.
- Suggestion: Commercial kayaks be informed about the need to avoid interaction with the dolphins in this location, this may be added to their SMA permits issued by Kaua'i County. Educational signage be provided in the adjacent Ha'ena Beach County park to provide information to commercial and recreational users of the area.
- Suggestion: Commercial permit holders be informed about the use of this area by these protected creatures, provide education to their employees and customers.
- Suggestion: Commercial permits holders be informed about the potential disturbance of protected, stressed or resting animals.
- Support sanctuary in our community. Should be local support and base decisions on local knowledge, not on decision from Washington DC.
- Supports center.
- Take MPR to the people: a. To all communities, b. Through newspaper ads to solicit input with information on how to do so, c. Through personal phone calls
- The Advisory Board for the Sanctuary must be representative of the entire community. The Advisory Board should be tasked with creating enforceable policies, with rules, and ensuring that funding for the Sanctuary includes effective regulatory oversight. The Sanctuary must have a transparent budget, and be accountable for all spending and funding decisions. The management plan should include a description of the formal role of the Advisory Board, and a strategy for implementing and enforcing policies and responsibilities of the Sanctuary.
- The Advisory Board for the sanctuary must be representative of the entire community. The Advisory Board should create enforceable policies and rules while also ensuring that funding for the Sanctuary includes effective regulatory oversight. The management plan should include a description of the formal role of the Advisory Board, and a strategy for implementing and enforcing policies and responsibilities of the Sanctuary.
- The general public needs to know more about the process; what is being done, what will be done, what can and cannot be done. The government should communicate with people on a people-level.
- The monk seals are coming back in numbers on Niihau. Imposing regulations would only hinder their come back. More rules, more rule breakers.

- The NMS is overall an ecosystem based system and sanctuaries need to adapt and change as needed and partnerships are important to pool resources. Sanctuary should facilitate these partnerships to maximize protection—use what you have and use it well; sanctuaries are only as good as the sum of its parts. Community outreach and education are vitally important. Hawaii’s communities are directly connected to the ocean and are involved in its preservation; sanctuary should tap into this. Use the communities to decide what the future of the sanctuary should be.
- The ocean has become a toxic soup. There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs. We need land-based community watches, reporting and criminal follow up to enforce laws.
- The Puakō community Association and our community have been active in Makai Watch and other programs affecting our reef and near shore waters.
- The regional cultural people of the kona district [of] do not relinquish our rights, liberties, or privileges to our resources and all processes thereof.
- The SAC is beginning to make incremental improvements towards better including the Native Hawaiian community in the advisory council. The additional of a Native Hawaiian working group would go a long way to improving the sanctuary’s use of Hawaiian knowledge as long as there is implementation of the working group’s input at the staff and programming levels.
- The Sanctuary has a volunteer water monitoring program but there appears to be no specific Sanctuary funding to support it. When will the Sanctuary actively participate in addressing the water quality issue by committing Sanctuary funds to it?
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - We don't need volunteers to watch our waters. That's what enforcement is paid to do.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. No reduction but still would like volunteers to continue watching our waters.
- The State of Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) has a seat on the sanctuary advisory council that DOH has left vacant for many years. As a powerful co-trustee of state waters, DOH should be at the table and we urge DOH to appoint its representative immediately
- The thought of you guys taking away the things we do to enjoy our life here on Kauai is going to be met with tremendous problems for you guys so I hope you really consider what you’re trying to do and think of the effects of the people that live here. And, basically you guys actually work for us, the taxpayers, so I hope you really listen and not just move forward with what you guys are trying to do, I’m not really sure.
- The way the government is working, they are padding their committees with environmentalists and conservationists. Where are the people from the fishing industry? The poor fishermen are left out of the picture. I believe the fishermen should have a sanctuary where their species came fish, where fish can be found in local waters, and not have to travel to far off sites to do so. I believe that the local fisherman has a right to the Hawaiian waters for fishing, as it was in olden days. Tell the conservationists to go to Alaska and tell the Eskimos not to fish for whales, and see how far they will get with that.
- There is a need for heightened public awareness of these threats and to take preemptive measures to mitigate any negative impact on protected Hawaiian marine species. The Sanctuary has been, and continues to be, well-positioned to make positive contributions to these goals.
- There should be limits for SAC members for fresh ideas. There is conflicting interest with business members. There needs to be a balance between public members and business members.

- There should be more interface with other organizations, e.g. Roi Roundup. More communication between organizations.
- There should be program that rewards fish net reporting. Fish nets need to be labeled as to their owners. Owners need to be liable. Net entanglements are the main reason for human caused whale deaths
- There should be programs that reward fish net reporting. Fish nets need to be labeled as to their owners. Owners need to be liable. Net entanglements are the main reason for human caused whale deaths.
- This is a resident on Kauai and I think it's important that we have more meetings about this because I've heard – I'm hearing different stories on both sides and I'm not sure who to believe at this point, so I think there should be more meetings to know what you are really thinking about, what you're really planning.
- Turtles and seals – there are hundreds of turtles at 4 mile in Hilo (Keaukaha) and I've seen people interacting with turtles and we need more education to tell people not to disturb the animals.
- Wailua, Waimea – expand system all the way around the island and have research to look at whole picture.
- Wants to see carcass taken out to sea. Muster assistance from community and partners.
- Wants to see more “science at the beach” – expand to elementary kids.
- Water quality in Hanelei is biggest concern - don't see as many fish in water as we used to – sanctuary could monitor.
- We don't know what threats might exist in 25-30 years. Sanctuary could provide research. Empower communities. No take zones in some areas. Other areas open (for instance). Protect ecosystem from local perspective.
- We encourage stronger enforcement measures including federal officers stationed on each island and a cooperative enforcement program with trained community volunteers and/or paid personnel; better control of jet skis operating within the Sanctuary and prohibition of jet ski operations during the whale season (similar to West Maui).
- We highly welcome your efforts and suggest that the kona district of Kaua'i's watershed master plan be adopted and identify that these areas are already encumbered by cultural native inhabitants of stewardship and practitioners that monitor and maintain their native habitat and its inhabitants and the regional watersheds (Le., coast, ocean, estuary, endemic and indigenous inhabitants and biota, minerals, submerged resources and lands, within, above, and all processes thereof) for many centuries and implement policies to adhere to pre-existing cultural watershed management plan to your current administrative policies and rules. As we continue to implement our management plans for the kona district of and our native population naturally grows, we welcome your efforts in our common goals. Since we are currently updating our 1994 legacy watershed plan for our implementation action plan 2010-2020, we humbly ask for your support and hope that we can work together to accomplish our mutual efforts of friendly cooperation.
- We look forward to planned water quality studies in the area (Puakō).
- We should be able to take what we need from the ocean and not more. (Local people need to take more active role)
- West Hawai'i Fisheries Council needs to be brought into the process. They have kuleana. Need to take this meeting to this Council.
- Whale counters could do reporting of violations (community members)
- What can the sanctuary do right now to better fulfill its mandate and reach out to communities within the current boundaries of the sanctuary?

- What role can/should communities within the sanctuary boundaries play in the successful implementation of the sanctuary's mandate?
- What steps can the sanctuary take to assist communities in implementing the many community-bases marine resource management programs currently underway?
- Where appropriate and possible, involve the public, volunteers, and sanctuary user groups in sanctuary management actions
- Would like to see management of special places (Olowalu, Makena, Ma'alaea) Sanctuary can bring people together.
- You guys gotta include our things – don't only talk to the Sierra Club and all that environmentalist kine people and basically you guys should be talking to us over here - in this state, not California or wherever you guys been doing these things. Okay, meetings, um, you guys should be inviting everybody not only a select few because that's what's been happening, only a select few and agencies with money, okay. Another thing, coral reefs, monk seals, whales, birds, they all supposed to be behind the humans, not making fun of the humans. And this is a way of life over here on Kauai – fishing, yeah, fishing. And, nobody gonna tell me that I can't go fishing – that is not right, okay, not right at all. But remember now, the humans before the animals, not the animals before the humans – wrong. I don't know what else you guys are trying to pull but I've been hearing from a whole lot of fishermen and some other guys that you guys are trying to pull some major scenarios. But you guys gotta remember - fishing is a way of life over here on Kauai, okay, as even hunting, and killing things is good because we eat 'em, is good, it's a good thing it is a survival thing, a survival instinct. Whatever else you guys trying to do is not happening. I don't agree and I totally disagree with what you guys doing.

ECOSYSTEM PROTECTIONS*Ecosystem Protections: General Concerns*

- A "Sanctuary", by definition, should be an area set aside for the protection of all flora and fauna within its boundaries.
- A broad definition of "takes" pursuant to the Endangered Species Act has developed, and we ask that the Sanctuary and sister agencies within the Department of Commerce take responsible action to protect endangered animals and critical habitat within the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and elsewhere around the Hawaiian Islands. Similar wording regarding takings is within the existing HIHWNMS rules, and could also be considered and applied for the actual protection of whales, critically endangered Hawaiian monk seals, Hawksbill sea turtles and other species considered endangered and threatened.
- A broader scope (sanctuary's management scope) might include Hawaiian monk seals, other whales and dolphins, sea turtles, corals, significant habitats, and/or submerged cultural resources. These resources currently face a variety of threats that responsible agencies and parties have not been able to address fully. Broadening the sanctuary's scope to an ecosystem level could increase protection for these resources, is consistent with the purposes and policies of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, and is entirely consistent with the Administration's new national ocean policy.
- a House Concurrent Resolution from the Hawaii State Legislature requested that the Sanctuary and certain state agencies prohibit the dumping of vessel sewage and treatment chemicals into Sanctuary waters (HCR 58 SD1, 2007). This Resolution asking for regulations protecting the water of the Sanctuary from vessel sewage passed both houses of the State Legislature without opposition. There also was extensive public support (from local and international environmental groups) and testimony for this Resolution. The Sanctuary never took action. Additionally the federal law cited in HCR 58 outlines the obligation of the Sanctuary to adopt rules that give protection to marine life. The Sanctuary has a legal obligation to do so. The EPA, the Hawaii State Legislature and the public expect and request the Sanctuary to take action.
- A marine sanctuary should do its utmost to protect all species that live there.
- A rehab center for injured whales needs to be established on every island.
- Absolutely!
- Acoustic impacts should be addressed.
- Add Hawaiian endemic species and other marine mammals and sea turtles to sanctuary
- Add other marine mammals such as false killer whales, melon-headed whales (resident population in Hawai'i), and other resident populations or populations of small sizes.
- Adding other species that are already protected by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and creating a sanctuary for them is duplicative, unnecessary and a waste of precious taxpayer \$. Sanctuaries do not protect these far and wide ranging species.
- Adding other species under its management plan and efforts would appear to greatly enhance Sanctuary efforts to increase funding for their conservation. As one example, additional funding would assist the Sanctuary in expanding its humpback rescue and response program to benefit other species in its waters.
- Addition of the insular false killer whales to the HIHWNMS Management Plan would help protect this population against toxic chemicals, reduced food sources and interactions with fishing vessels, all of which have contributed to its rapid decline...
- Adopt new vision and mission statements that encompasses an ecosystem~based management approach to protect, conserve, and restore marine life, marine habitat, and ecosystem health using

management strategies that balance conflicting or competing uses while complementing existing management programs and measures

- AGAIN I WRITE...EVERY SPECIES ON THE EARTH IS PART OF OUR LIFE CYCLE. WITHOUT BIODIVERSITY WE ARE ALSO DOOMED TO EXTINCTION.
- aid NMFS in implementing a recovery plan for the population (false killer).
- Alarming affects of high-intensity active sonar: prior sonar-linked mass strandings and deaths (positively correlated with Navy sonar around the globe), anthropogenic noise - which also results in death, rupture marine mammals' hearing/hemorrhaging: 'acoustic or impulse trauma', as well: hemorrhaging in lungs kidneys, and other organ, e.g. 'the bends' decompression sickness, adverse survival ability (cease foraging, feeding, communicating, change migration routes/dive patterns, habitat abandonment) and etc will most likely occur in the sanctuary if the U.S. Navy is allowed unbridled use of sonar and explosives testing. It is time for the Sanctuary to "walk their talk" in protection of the endangered Humpback Whales.
- All animals deserve protection from human thoughtlessness and greed.
- All animals deserve to be protected.
- All creatures from the sea need to be protected, they are important to the ecology and environment as well as their right to exist and provide beauty to the world.
- all creatures in Hawaii need protection .
- ALL marine animals need your protection They are all Gods creatures and deserve the very best of care. Mahalo Nui Makailalani.
- All marine life deserves to be saved!
- All marine life is important to us all in so many ways. Just as humanity is, we must stop placing value to things for other reasons that are always not so apparent. LIFE IS PRECIOUS ALL LIFE. We as humanity need to balance with it. Considering how long differant species have been amongst us existing in a balanced way..Protect ALL Hawaiian Marine Mammals
- All marine life must be protected before it is too late
- All marine life needs protection and a future. Not just the largest or the cutest.
- All marine life needs protection, as we are starting to learn how to clean up the mess humans have made. These animals do not deserve to suffer because of our ignorance, we are learning everyday to live in peace and harmony together. Let's keep our love and compassion alive for our Earth and all it's beings.
- All marine mammals and turtles should be protected in sanctuary due to harm to turtles (and for other reasons).
- All marine mammals deserve to live, even if that means we need to protect them.
- All marine species all over the world need protection. Play a bigger role and protect the ones within your scope. All marine life's success depends on all marine life.
- All of Hawaii's marine life deserves some form of protection. Who better to do this than Hawaii's National Marine Sanctuary?
- All of Hawaii's marine species need help and protection. Please expand the scope of your mission to include them. Otherwise, Humpback Whales may be the only creatures left in the sea around the Hawaiian Islands. That would be a tragic scenario.
- All of Hawaii's marine species need protection. The Sanctuary could provide a vital service -- not just educating people about whales, but also actually protecting all marine wildlife in its boundaries and their habitats.
- All of Hawaii's marine species need protection. The Sanctuary could provide a vital service -- not just educating people about whales, but also actually protecting all marine wildlife in its boundaries and their habitats. Hawaii's monk seals, dolphins and green sea turtles are in serious danger. Increase the

scope of the Sanctuary's mission to include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats.

- all of Hawaii's sea creatures need protection and to be included in the Sanctuaries activities. It just makes sense!
- All of Hawaii's species need protection.
- All of our marine animals are sacred. With the sanctuary's expertise and already governed area, their mission could be so much more valuable should they be able to expand their boundaries of concern. As a former Hawaiian resident, the ocean waters are so pristine and filled with so much diverse life, won't you please help all the animals?
- All of the animals are important and part of the larger chain. All need to be protected.
- All of the animals in Hawaii are in danger. Please ensure that our children will still be able to enjoy these animals (monk seals, dolphins and green sea turtles, to name a few) and that they will not be extinct by the time our children have grown up
- All of the creatures of the ocean are in danger of extinction from pollution and over killing. Where will that get us? Nowhere. We as a species must take a new direction for the survival of the earth.
- All of the marine animals in your boundaries and the habitats that they live in should be protected to the best of your abilities, not just one species: the whales.
- All of the marine life deserve our protection!
- All of the marine life needs our help, since we've pretty much damaged the water and world!! It's our turn to pay respect to the marine life!
- All of the native species are important to the ecological balance. To concentrate on one at the expense of the welfare of all, is a mistake and an injustice.
- All of the other species serve a role in the whales' ecosystem, ignoring them defeats the purpose of a Sanctuary!
- All our marine life deserves your protection.
- All parts of the cycle of life must be protected.
- All sea mammals are in danger of extinction and they all need protection and they all add to the healthy living environment of the whales
- All species are equally important!
- All species are important to the web of life and we need to protect all of them!
- all species are intertwined, and all must be protected. Expand the program to include all marine animals- it's the right thing to do.
- All species are precious
- All species are worth saving.
- All species have a right to survive.
- All species have essential roles in maintaining a healthy ecosystem. As the diversity of species dwindles, the entire system weakens.
- All species interact and we do not know how much. Please extend the range of habitats and species of the marine sanctuary protection to include as many as possible. This extension will bring benefits to those interactions and benefit all species both within and outside the protection zone and help critically endangered species to survive.
- all species need help
- All species need protection now, please help all of them.
- All species need refuge
- All species should be protected.
- All species, including sharks should be protected from annihilation by the activities of man.
- All the animals deserve protection.

- All the animals there are important and the endangered ones need protection. It would be tragic to lose them. Joyce Carlson-Leavitt
- All the earth's creatures deserve our help and protection
- All the systems in Hawaii and everywhere are connected. Without one, the other will fall.
- All the waters & all living species should be protected around Hawaii. It's a beautiful & unique area & should stay that way.
- ALL these animals are needing our protections desperately-We cannot let them down!~
- All these beautiful animals need protecting, before they are lost forever
- All these species are interconnected. The humpbacks would not be happy to see their cousins disappear. How much more trouble could it be to watch out for the seals?
- all these species need protection
- All this federal resource is a waste and should be focused on invasive marine species which is the real threat.
- All water animals deserve protection. Swimming with a green sea turtle was one of the most memorable events in my life. Monk seals are nothing short of adorable and dolphins are so bright, so social, they all deserve protection.
- All wild life need a sanctuary from exploitation!
- ALL WILDLIFE BOTH MARINE AND LAND MUST BE PRESERVED!!
- All wildlife is under threat around the globe. If Hawaii can help to prevent the decline marine species, it is worth supporting its plans.
- Allow fishermen to have their ulua tournaments because the ulua (fish) compete for the food that the monk seals eat. In NWHI the ulua is protected and very abundant – they eat the same food as the monk seals so the monk seals have less to eat. Ulua tournaments here keep the ulua population down which gives monk seals more food available to eat.
- although whales, turtles, seals are really beautiful animals in hawaiian environment is necessary take care of all species living there.
- Among the long list of threats to which they are subjected, turtles are threatened by illegal harvest of turtles and their eggs, coastal development, fisheries interactions, predation by introduced species and disturbance of nesting females (ibid.).
- And remember now, coral species, oh that's another one...I really don't like, but the main one is others, others and the increases of humpback whales or whales in general have increased from what I heard 5% every year from the time you guys have stopped. Monk seals as I can remember I look back when I was a small kid, I never did see one monk seal, I seriously can say I never did see one monk seal when I was a young kid, okay, but thank you very much for your time.
- Animals are friends of human beings. They should be protected.
- Any environment is only stable if it preserves as many of the interlocking species that exist there and compose it as a whole...a sanctuary for all that depend on it for survival means the sanctuary will survive not atrophy and die out.
- any reduction in fishing areas would be bad for local fishermen, The monk seals are not being harmed by fishermen, do not take the already limited fishing areas away from the locals.
- Are fishing no take zones really effective? No evidence that they really work...especially for deeper water species of fish that don't necessarily live on shallow water reefs
- As a resident of south Louisiana, I appreciate how fragile the community of sea life is and how it needs to be protected. Please save ALL of these unique and wonderful creatures.
- As a species we are causing the extinction of one our worlds most precious and abundant habitats. Global fish stocks are rapidly diminishing and the health of oceans is in serious decline. Any attempt

to protect and rehabilitate an area of ocean habitat is a much needed step to save the ocean that we know today.

- As things change the sanctuary should move more quickly as needed. E.g. if the coral bleaching situation becomes more serious that the sanctuary should be able to respond quickly. Management response.
- At minimum, we ask that you broaden the Sanctuary's mission to include management of all marine mammals and sea turtles that live in Sanctuary waters including the Hawaiian green sea turtle (honu, *Chelonia mydas*) the Hawaiian monk seal (ilio-holo-i-ka-uaua, *Monachus schauinslandi*), the Hawaiian spinner dolphin (nai'a, *Stenella longirostris*), and the Hawaiian false killer whale (*Pseudorca crassidens*).
- because all of the animals matter not just certain ones
- Because all of these species need protection.
- because its the right thing to do
- Because the marine life needs better protection from humans and commercial fishing. Their numbers are severely depleted.
- Because the oceans and all the species in them are in trouble. Everything that can be done must be done.
- Because these marine Animals deserve to be helped and protected. I Love all animals and am involved with many animal protections. I really hope to visit Beautiful Hawaii someday amd see these wonderful sea life animals. Please help them expand your mission please . Laura
- Because we're losing too much nature, ocean health, and sea life as it is. Please be part of a broader, more comprehensive solution.
- Because, all sea creatures need it and deserve it.
- Before any additional species are added to the sanctuary's mission, the sanctuary should assure the public that duplicative effort is not being made, i.e. if monk seals are already protected by State of Hawaii agencies, then let the state do its job, do not duplicate effort.
- Bio diversity Ecosystem health
- Bureaucracy? Economics? What we should be about is long term. Preserve natural resources for ourselves, eco, culturally. Protect most endangered - first monk seals, sea turtles. Work together - agencies - Obama policy - in line. Endangered species capitol of world preserve, protect. Mirror National Ocean Policy for efficiency.
- Can't the MPR process be faster? What about emergency situations during the MPR process? Could the sanctuary move to protect resources/address emerging topics even if they aren't formally part of the sanctuary's management plan?
- Check vessels from other places for invasive/alien species.
- Chemicals and pollution degrade Hawaii's waters and cause algae blooms which kill coral reefs and are toxic to marine mammals. Pesticides, PCDF's, dioxin" like PCB's, PBDE's and very high levels of heavy metals have been found in marine mammals. The abundance of plastic and marine debris in the ocean accounts for an increase in marine fatalities, including whale deaths.
- Come on .. this wonderful land of marine animals are needing your help.. don't let them down.. when they are gone we are not far to follow.
- Concern with gillnets impacting turtles and who is responsible for removing nets
- Concerns about adding honu, might affect fishing
- Concerns with dolphin interactions, sea turtles, multi-species aspect should be considered. Fishery interactions a concern.
- conernced about the curretn issues on shoreline fishing, sanctuaries and endangered species

- Conservation of humpback whales is great; conservation of all marine species in the Sanctuary is even better.
- Consider adding corals: focus on systems of corals, deepwater corals
- Coral reef ecosystems should be included and is a resource in Hawaii. Work together on land side as well as sanctuary side. Should include coral, not only ESA-protected coral species.
- Coral reef is an important and long-lasting habitat that needs protection.
- Coral reefs are already protected by state and federal laws. No more laws!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I strongly see no need for corals to be placed in the sanctuary.
- Coral reefs are endangered primarily due to distant point source pollution, local agricultural run off and global climate change. All three of these are worth fighting, but none of them will be meaningfully addressed by a Sanctuary. Otherwise, let the current Sanctuary get something substantial and meaningful done about any one of the above issues before requesting an expansion.
- Coral Refs are now being considered for listing as endangered species so we need to really decide if this is in the best interest of the people of Hawaii.
- Currently, virtually all living marine resources within nearshore waters of Hawaii are subject to management authority and conservation measures by various federal, state, local, and Native Hawaiian agencies and organizations. Despite their efforts, significant conservation issues remain unresolved. For example, coral reefs in many areas are dying or being degraded; populations of fish important for commercial and recreational use are being depleted by overfishing; recovery of endangered and threatened species is being impeded by entanglement in fishing gear, collisions with boats, disturbance by vessel traffic and beach-users, ingestion of and entanglement in marine debris, and exposure to diseases introduced by feral and domestic animals; and the integrity of marine habitats is being threatened by various forms of development and use such as the installation of aquaculture facilities, offshore wind farms, and coastal development projects. Often the effectiveness of existing programs to address such issues is limited by staff and funding constraints to conduct research, pursue public outreach, and implement regulatory and enforcement measures. Recognizing the national and international significance of Hawaii's nearshore marine ecosystem, its many endemic species, and its unique position as the world's most remote and isolated tropical reef system, a sanctuary program with an enhanced scope could contribute added resources toward shared conservation objectives.
- David Laist (Senior Policy and Program Analyst of the Marine Mammal Commission 1), et al., in their 2001 paper published in Marine Mammal Science, have documented that 2 of the top 5 whales involved in ship collisions are humpback and sperm whales
- Dear Ms. Chow, Silos are never healthy for our environment...please look at your Sanctuary as a place of safety for all animals... Sincerely, NH State Rep. Carla Skinder former employee of the New England Aquarium
- Dear Sir or Madam: Let's increase the scope of the Sanctuary's mission to include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and LET'S PROTECT ALL MARINE WILDLIFE AND THEIR HABITATS.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include dolphins - Dolphins are not even endangered! No one that I know of kills dolphins for any reason, so therefore I don't see where they will become an endangered species.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include coral reef - Don't know- but if they would stop dumping garbage and poison into the ocean then the reefs wouldn't die and fish would be abundant they are always blaming overfishing but pollution is the problem.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Coral Reefs - Agricultural run off: very well put.

- Do not expand sanctuary to include Coral Reefs - It's apparent that eg run off plays a huge role in the condition of the reef.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include coral reefs. It's do to run off (ditched) and other man made chemical.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include dolphins - Dolphins are all over the place they are not endangered.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include dolphins - If dolphins are not endangered then they don't need to go on a protected list.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Dolphins - We don't eat dolphins.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include dolphins. Dolphins are protected. People are caretakers of land.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include dolphins. Get to much dolphines "lots" of them.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include dolphins. They all protective. People of Hawaii not stupid, were caretakers of our island. We no better. Most beautiful animals-
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals - Send them back to where they came from.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Monk Seals - They are already protected.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. For the populated islands this is totally wrong. One would think with the pristine northern islands one should fix the problem up there where it would do the most good.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals population has increased w/o sanctuary.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. No expand.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. No.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. Seal wasn't around during early Hawaiian Time.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. The seals are already protected.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. Seals are the cause for increase in shark sightings including tiger and great whites. That is why the Hawaiians kept seal population down. (idiots want sanctuary. Lucky their the one's getting attacked.)
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles - Whats the sense.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles - Why? There is way too much turtles already
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles. - There are so much. Turtles now back in the 60's there were less - seems like more now.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles. Get lots of turtles it can be off the endanger list.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles. The turtles are already protected enough- no expansion needed.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles. Too much turtles, they all sick! Who taking care them. They get diseases! Who protecting them-
- Do not expand the sanctuary in include coral reefs. Spend money on preventing pollution from resorts golf courses and heavy shoreline development.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef - Agriculture and golf courses would be away to help not expanding or implementing the humpback whale sanctuary expansion.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef - Cite the parties responsible, return the seals to where ever you people brought them from.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef - Enough!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Coral reefs have been issue for many years. Don't u know turtles destroying reefs. Pollution, boating, not shoreline fishing.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Don't expand into sanctuary because of severe climate changes having an affect the reef then include over development on the islands conclude to run off that chokes out the reef.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Have state control run off problem w/ contractor or companies.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. No expand.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. No.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. The coral reef s will benefit most from sustainable farming practices and so would every other system/organism.Stop corporate ag!!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Watch closely when heavy rains are here to know the cause. What about "sun tan" loction??
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - I am a recreational diver and I know I am no expert but I think the coral reefs are suffering the most from golf course runoffs. So whys punish the fisherman and not the golf course owners.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - It is what man adds to ocean waters that degrades our reefs and near shore waters.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - They are dieing already pollution of the waters.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Also doing well with current silt and runoff laws and pollution laws.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Good comment about ag (...the cause of this decline appears more closely related to problems like agricultural run off...).
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Large surf in winter does damage to coral. As a boater I am careful to not damage the coral reefs when I am anchoring.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Most damage is done by businesses with runoff.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. - The expansion would complicate the already complex set of rules.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. We as a community will work on solutions. 23 meetings with hidden agenda by (NOAA) cannot be trusted.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. "BP Oil Spills"!!! Think about that. Leave the small guys alone!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Stop building hotels, vacations rental and all the other stuff that's polluting our shores then the reef will survive.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins - Dolphins are a lot smarter than we think.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins - Got lots the are plentyfull
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins - There are dolphins are all over the place.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins . - I wont eat them either however we may want to look at the Japan side of the pacific.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. - Dolphins are doing fine in Hawaiian waters.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. I see dolphins all the time in schools and they don't see any threat by locals.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. No, there is no need for this.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. That's just malarky!!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. That's ridiculous.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. They are thriving.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. - What for?
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Who's counting and where?

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Why protect species when there is no problem.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Dolphins are doing fine as is. No expansion necessary.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. No expand.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. No.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. The dolphins are smart animals - they know where it's safe for them and where it's not.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. They are just like the whales people here in Hawai'i do not look to harm them. We do not look to hunt and kill dolphins like they do in Japan, and feed the meat to humans. So no need to expand.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Ha Ha Ha Get Real! The whales, sea turtles, and monk seals are doing good just as it is. Expanding the sanctuary will NOT help at all.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - For sure the seals have grown in population sooooo now less fish on the shore line "more seals +turtles"
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Monk Seals - The seals is damaging the reef when they take their food like the taleo (octopus) and the lobster. Im an diver and I seen it do that..
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - There are more monk seals in Hawaii now than ever before. Before the early 1990's hardly anyone ever saw them.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals- monk seals have a mind of its own.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Because I don't care what the guy from NOAA said - the monk seal is a pest! They puka our nest and steal our fish! I saw it with my own eyes.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Death in seals can be related more to natural causes than human interactions.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. I'm at the beach 5 days a week and seals are doing fine. They don't need a sanctuary.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals are doing well. I see more monk seals now than 25 years ago.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Not a Hawaiian monk seal propaganda by feel gooder's.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. - They are also protected.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. They are doing fine.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Who's counting?
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals have protection in all U.S. waters.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - During my lifetime in Hawaii I have seen such a large turtle population. As we have today, allowing them to increase may have an impact on ocean reefs and reserves.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - I wont eat them if you take them off the endangered list.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - Never was in extinct- Live them alone.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - Same answer, the turtles are doing great, Just like the whales , seals and dolphins.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - Sea turtles have made such a great comeback that there endangered status is about to change and will be allowed to be captured again.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - There are numerous turtles nw and the tiger shark are following them to shore.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - They are a rest now. They will draw sharks that feed on
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - Turtle population has increased exponentially - should consider de-listing. What effect would expanding sanctuaries have on tumours?
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Have miles of sanctuary in all U.S. waters.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. I shoreline fish. I see an abundance of turtles off shore. No need to expand.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Overpopulated.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Sea turtles are no longer endangered.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Too much turtles as it is now.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Too much turtles.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Turtles are doing fine with no sanctuary. Plus most turtles are near shore.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Dramatically has increase, becoming a safety hazard and over populating feeding grounds.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Get too much turtles as it is! It really is not my fault if they bite my hook! Get so much that there's not enough food so they eat my bait.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. No expand.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. No.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. The pour sea turtles did you guys even see them. They have so much tumors and fungus all over them. NOAA should be helping them.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Thurtles should be opened for harvesting, (gathering rights) especially for Hawaiians!!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Who's counting and where?
- Do not expand to include dolphins. No cause for sanctuary.
- Do not expand to include monk seals. Mortality is almost nil from human cause.
- Do not expand to include sea turtles. They have had a great return since they were taken off the menu and put on the endangered list in 1970.
- Do not expand to include sea turtles. Turtle hunting bans are sufficient to population growth.
- Do not expand whale protection. As a commercial fisherman I have seen the whale population grow so much that its starting to be a danger when anchoring. They seem curious or more aggressive as they multiply. Even traveling during peak whale season can be hazardous. I do my best to avoid getting close.
- Do not limit military noise limits (sonar)
- Do something about the overpopulation of pilot whales! Remember all species in our ocean need to be [?] out! You cannot keep taking one species and don't touch another it will cause a disaster!
- Dolphins are not endangered currently and are already protected by the MMA.
- Dolphins in our immediate waters surrounding Hawaii, are thriving in numbers according to commercial and recreation fishermen as well as recreational kayakers.
- Don't expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Stop sewage pants from injecting waste water into underground streams.
- Don't expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. You seem to protect hte monk seals more than we Hawaiians are being protected. Why?
- Don't expand to include sea turtles. Go to the real problum stop pluting the oceans.
- Don't expaned the sanctuary to include dolphins. Stop the cove in Japan.
- Don't let them overpopulate (humpback whales and green sea turtles)

- Ecological management - Don't want conflict over species priority. Don't build aquarium - allow to evolve. Some change is inevitable.
- Eco-system based management requires a holistic approach that considers all the resources in the sanctuary. The public trustees are counting on you to manage the sanctuary - and all of its resources - to preserve and protect the entire system well into the future. Thank you for considering our voices.
- Ecosystem protection is essential. Spot conservation is ineffective since no animal can exist without an intact ecosystem.
- Ecosystem-based management. Actually enforced. Long-term vision to protect all aspects (whale watching, fishing, etc)
- Every endangered creature deserves our help.
- Every marine species is important for the future of the human species.
- every species deserves protection of food, and habitat.
- Every species in a habitat plays a role. It is important to protect all species in the endangered waters around Hawaii, as they are all important and play their unique role in their habitats, and are all important as each other.
- Every species is linked to every other species--all are important, so protect all marine mammals and turtles.
- Everything is related. Please protect the marine ecosystem as a whole.
- Expand protection to monk seals, dolphins and other species.
- Expand scope to include additional species such as turtles.
- Expand the HIHWNMS to include conservaton and management of all of the species living there, particularly the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal.
- expand the mission of the HIHWNMS to include conservation and management of all the marine wildlife living there, particularly the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal and the threatened Hawaiian green sea turtle.
- Expand the sanctuary to include coral reef.
- Expand the sanctuary to include dolphins
- Expand the sanctuary to include monk seals.
- Expand the sanctuary to include other endangered species including the Hawaiian Monk Seal Sea turtles and corals.
- Expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles.
- Expand to include dolphins-maybe not in Hawaii but other parts of the world need to be addressed
- Expand to include reefs-fishing(bleaching/bombing) also affect the reef. Continuous people diving in same places over and over also affect it adversely
- Expanded species – sea turtles, coral reefs, Hawaiian monk seals priority; start with endangered but all.
- Expanding – government has hard time interacting with each other. Already regulated in some way? Agencies work together. Keep to single species, expand slowly to include marine mammals?
- Expanding sanctuary to other resources leads to agencies clashing and expansion creates more problems
- Expanding species - need to look at the entire ecosystem, including turtles. The sanctuary could include more species and turtles. It would be good to have enough turtles so that they can be de-listed so that we can eat turtles again.
- Expanding the sanctuary to include other species makes sense, but are there the resources for the management?
- Expanding the scope to other species is the way to go! Things in the ocean are really starting to crash and the more we can do about it now the better off we and our keiki and our keiki's keiki will be.

- Expansion of species under management of sanctuary to include: monk seals, sea turtles; not just health of humpback whales. What is the vitality of other species?
- EXPANSION OF THE SANCTUARY TO INCLUDE TURTLES, DOLPHINS, ETC. If the sanctuary was able to show that it has a successful record with what it already supposed to protect, then this would be a good idea. The fact is though, that the sanctuary cannot provide any evidence that it has had an impact on the increase in the whale population.
- Expansion to additional species – full year, dolphins are here year round, not just endangered. Monk Seals, sea turtles – deep sea habitats wherever nesting, hauling, nearshore
- Expansions to additional species. Dolphins - year round. Beach / shore habitats also important for sea turtles / monk seals.
- False killer whales should be listed among the species protected under Sanctuary mandate
- Fertilizer and invasive overgrowth needs to be resolved.
- Flick one bit of the web of life and the whole thing may shatter. All of the animals are so very important to each form of life, including humans.
- Focus on endangered and protected species, and later include looking at coral reefs, aquarium/collecting.
- Focus on habitat, not necessarily on species only. Inclusive—flows from one area to another (habitat).
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for minimizing harassment of spinner dolphins by tourboats, private dolphin-watching vessels, swimmers, and divers
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for monitoring and assisting with the recovery of the insular stock of false killer whales
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for protecting and promoting the reoccupation of the main Hawaiian Islands by Hawaiian monk seals
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for responding to stranded or distressed marine mammals
- Full protection for all marine species in this area will provide a sanctuary for those species. Too many species have already been lost. This time, we can save ocean creatures for future generations.
- Give something back with turtles being harvested. Other species – see more turtles than when growing up. Maybe have a limited cultural take. Turtle is eating all the limu (?) too.
- Given that Hawaii is an isolated state with stewardship responsibility over the largest marine areas in the nation the HIHWNMS should be a leader in protection of this marine ecosystem. In addition to the health and survival of protected and endangered species, Hawaii's food supply, recreational activities, and economy are all dependent upon a safe and healthy ocean.
- GOOD LUCK WE'RE 100% BEHIND YOU GUYS.
- Habitat management. Protect species without habitat, needs to be changed. Emphasis habitat. Ship groundings
- Having been there in the past and experienced the marine life that Hawaii has to offer, it would be sad to not be able to see them in the future!
- Hawaii is near and dear to my heart, especially the marine life. As is all animal life on our planet.
- HAWAII DEPENDS ON ITS TOURIST TRADE AND PROTECTING ITS MARINE MAMMALS IS VERY IMPORTANT!
- Hawaii is a beautiful place. We visit every year & plan on making it our permanent residence. It is more than just a tourist area. There are special things there you can't find anywhere else. Please expand the sanctuary to take care of all life.

- Hawai'i is a rare jewel of our statehood...Let us preserve ALL the magnificent life we have been blessed with!
- Hawaii is in need of help and marine mammals are in need of help. So let's explain Hawaiian people when they help these marine mammals they will have a gift from the universe as a good karma..
- Hawaii's marine animals are a national treasure that need to be protected forever.
- Hawaii's monk seals, dolphins and green sea turtles are in serious danger. They have been given only limited attention/protection. Please! I beg you to increase the scope of the Sanctuary's mission to include conservation & management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats. I ask this so that my little girl will have the chance to know these creatures as breathing/living creatures. Not just photos in a book.
- help the animals
- help those beautiful animals survive.
- High points: a. Documentation of birth of a humpback whale (photographed at Makena Landing in 2009), b. Changed legislation HRS195D on Hawaiian Monk Seal (changes penalty for "take" (Class C felony for not just monk seal but any endangered species). Any person can take action against anyone who "takes" an endangered species. HRS195D is a vehicle available for further protection.
- HIHWNMS should definitely include management of other species in its revised mandate, especially endangered / threatened species such as false killer whales, Hawaiian monk seals, and green & hawksbill sea turtles.
- How do you set up a system to establish priority issues?
- How much more biodiversity can we afford to lose?The answer is:None
- However, we must realise that this takes money, private donations and government grants. I'm sure Ms. Chow would be thrilled to have the funds to expand the work of her agency. mahalo.
- Humans are not the most important animals on the planet, but we are the most greedy, selfish and cruel. Please help protect these waters and its precious inhabitants by increasing the scope of the Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to include the conservation of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats. Please do the right thing before it's too late.
- Humpback whales are beautiful and worthy of conservation. But, many other forms of sea life, such as the monk seal, deserve attention, to.
- Humpback whales are not the only beautiful creatures in Hawaiian waters. Monk seals, dolphins, turtles and other animals living in the same ocean are just as captivating and worth protecting.
- Humpback whales are only one bit of the equation. Save ALL sea life!
- Humpbacks are incredibly important, but, as we all know, all of life is interconnected. Let's work to protect these additional species.
- HWS should be taken to point where program ends before taking on other duties
- I AGREE A 100% !!!
- I agree with the ahupuaa system. More communication between cultural aspects, fishermen. Not just for whales; everything.
- I AGREE!! PLEASE! PROTECT ALL HAWAIIAN MARINE MAMMALS* FOR THE BEAUTY* KIND! AND FOR THE FUTURE!!! THANK YOU!
- I also disagree with further protecting the monk seal and sea turtle. I think that the laws, rules, and regulations protecting these animals are working just fine. Their populations are growing and I feel no need for further laws.
- I am a lifetime subsistence shoreline fisherman. I am concerned about the resources not being depleted.
- I am a marine biologist by training, and I have a special place in my heart for Humpbacks. That said, I believe all ecosystems need to be addressed as such, and ignoring any one species in the ecosystem

will ultimately create holes in a delicate niche. This creates unbalanced food webs and predator prey relationships at all levels.

- I am against the inclusion of Monk seals, Green Sea turtles, and other dolphin species along with Coral species and ecosystem management, under the umbrella of NOAA Hawaiian Humpback Whale Sanctuary. These species are already protected under the Endangered Species Act and redundant protection will unfairly limit the use of our resources by the people who need it most.
- I am from Hawaii and the islands are already ruined, the least thing you can do, is save what marine life we have left in this life time.
- I am from Hawai'i and the marine life there IS what truly makes Hawai'i special!! Please protect all marine species!!
- I am so glad that you have been doing the work to protect the Humpback whales - but I am hoping that you will be able to find the support and assistance to expand your work to include other creatures of the waters around you.
- I am unsure if sanctuary should limit military noise limits (sonar).
- I am unsure if the sanctuary should expand to include coral reef.
- I am unsure if the sanctuary should expand to include dolphins.
- I am unsure if the sanctuary should expand to include monk seals.
- I am unsure if the sanctuary should expand to include sea turtles.
- I ask that you expand the mission of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to include conservation and management of all the marine wildlife living there, particularly the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal and the threatened Hawaiian green sea turtle.
- I believe in the need for this humpback whale sanctuary, I also believe in the need to protect other resources such as Sea Turtles and Monk Seals, coral reefs and other threatened aquatic resources.
- I believe we should protect all of the Marine species now before it is too late.
- I certainly support the protection of Marine life but would still love to utilize the Hawaiian Sanctuary we live in as well.
- I do not see why we should include turtles as they are doing exceptionally well with the current status of being a threatened species. I do not think they should be taken off that list as their sexually maturation is so long, they deserve continued protection as is currently happening. If NOAA wishes to help the economics of the island this is what should be done.
- I do support the protection and preservation of our endangered marine species.
- I favor expanding protection of whales, turtles, monk seals, dolphins, at the same time, we must protect local (not corporate) fishing rights as well.
- I feel it's pertinent to address ALL species in the sanctuary equally, with specific attention being paid to endangered animals ie the monk seals, dolphins, and sea turtles all need some extra attention at this time. Thank you for your consideration.
- I feel there are way too much green turtles because I keep catching them on my poles.
- I fully support any management plan that will help protect our wonderful ecosystem with all its living species for many generations to come.
- I grew up in Hilo & Kona - there is no other place in the world like Hawaii...please preserve it for the future
- I have a friend who visited Hawaii in about 1964 and I agree that "All of Hawaii's marine species need protection." Help where you can!
- I have been lucky enough to visit Hawaii, and I feel a strong moral obligation to urge protection of the vulnerable, threatened ecosystems and all the numerous species that call them home.
- I have had the privilege to study the ecological balance in many systems in Hawaii, including its amazing ocean dwelling creatures. Please protect ALL creatures!

- I have had the wonderful opportunity to spend time in Hawaii on several occasions. The wildlife on land & underwater are fragile & mesmerizing! PLEASE increase the vital protection to ALL of Hawaii's animals & their habitats. There is no time to lose!
- I have visited the islands twice and spent an afternoon watching a monk seal on Maui and snorkeling with sea turtles on Monokini. I have a large red-eared turtle myself. Hawaii and its creatures is so unique that all efforts should be made to conserve and protect all of its denizens.
- I know that animals can be protected and the ocean can be available for all to enjoy. There must be a balance and I know balance can work.
- I like seals-dolphins-and turtles
- I live on the Gulf of Mexico, and as you know, BP has all but brought several species almost to extinction. It was an accident, but it happened. Please take care of your Marine Species, because when they are gone, they cannot be brought back.
- I live on the shore in the Continental USA. I see everyday fisherman who are more than surprised at the poor catch because of pollution and degradation of the environment. It's time to do more to preserve the great animals, too.
- I love all of God's creation. Every life is sacred. Hawaii is supposed to be paradise. Please protect these beautiful species that help make Hawaii paradise.
- I request the sanctuary to protect all shark species.
- I saw my first Humpback this summer in the waters off Newfoundland and appreciate all you are doing to protect these magnificent creatures. Please include the other marine life in your conservation efforts in the Marine Sanctuary. Thank you
- I strongly encourage you to include mesophotic coral ecosystems (MCEs) in the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan.
- I support more inclusive, ecosystem-based approach rather than single-species.
- I support the proposal to expand the Sanctuary's scope and direction to protect and conserve living marine resources, in addition to humpback whales and submerged cultural heritage resources within the Sanctuary.
- I support this petition
- I therefore would like to urge you to consider including these [mesophotic coral] ecosystems as an important part of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan. [For more detailed information about Mesophotic Coral Ecosystems, please see original email]
- I think if it is possible to protect then there is no reason not to. Every species is important and extinction is REAL- look at the Tasmanian bear. Please have a heart and do what's right.
- I think that all species should be given consideration for leading a more protected, healthy life as they all have important things to contribute to the ocean life. Though I don't love all sea creatures, I also don't think that there should be just one species be given preference to live -unless they are seriously close to becoming extinct forever.
- I think we are running out of time to protect these irreplaceable creatures. We need to do everything possible now to maintain and care for what will never come back once it is gone.
- I visit Hawaii every couple of years for a vacation. I am also a citizen of this planet in addition to the U.S. and care about its inhabitants whether they live on land or in the water. They are here because they are part of our planet life. Please protect all the species that live in the Sanctuary's boundaries. Thank you
- I want my children to see the array of natural wildlife that I have been able to see in my lifetime. Every piece of the puzzle is important in an ecosystem, not just the largest, most majestic or charismatic. Please help.

- i want the Sanctuary to expand its mission because all of Hawaii's marine species are in serious danger and need protection!!!!
- I want to see all animals managed and protected.
- I want to see Hawai'i's magnificent Humpback whales and other marine mammals fully protected.
- I want to see support for artificial reef programs. Need to create these artificial environments.
- I was born and raised in Hawaii ... and it has been so wonderful when I returned home 04-08 to see all the turtles and monk seals and whales the turtles and monk seals were not seen when I was growing up ... and it was so spectacular - PLEASE expand their protected habitats! They are such an amazing resource!
- I will present a number of issues but also note that most if not all can be addressed directly through the avenue provided in HRS Chapter 195D.
- I would like the sanctuary to be habitat-based so there are more fish for the fisherman. Ecosystem-based. Critical for culture to keep fishing vibrant.
- I would like to see the HIHWS not expand its scope. Seals turtles and the reefs have state and federal laws already.
- I, on the other hand, do not believe that the whales, monk seals or dolphin are being harmed or that their populations are diminishing, in fact, there is evidence that they are increasing.
- I've been astounded by the high abundance and diversity of organisms found at mesophotic depths. Many of these reefs are composed of ecological dominants, such as the large, plate-forming coral *Leptoseris hawaiiensis*, that appear to form significant habitat for some fishes. Luxuriant macroalgal meadows are also found at mesophotic depths, and are likely important in the formation of carbonate sediments. We are just beginning to document and study these impressive reefs – please consider including MCEs in your management plan. I believe these ecosystems are of national significance.
- If I had three children caught in a burning building, I wouldn't want to save just one....
- If it expands, the sanctuary could expand to other resources that eat fish here and could have an impact on fishing rights.
- If more species are added and provided with habitat – supported artificially – it will expand beyond its natural boundaries – how do you affect the balance of nature?
- if the sanctuary can reach out to other creatures they should. but only take on what they can so that the mammals they are helping don't lack in the help they are receiving now.
- If the Sanctuary were to expand to monk seals, is there enough manpower to also do whales?
- If there are species worthy of a sanctuary, let's hear the justification, and if warranted, start the process of establishing a sanctuary designed to accommodate the recovery needs of those species. We strongly oppose this proposal to keep the Humpback Sanctuary open by gathering additional species to move in just because there is a vacancy.
- If we bring monk seals back it will bring great white sharks and tiger sharks to this area. Right now the sharks swim through but do not stop here. Having monk seal colonies here would make the sharks stay because of new food source. This is bad for tourism. Do not add monk seals to sanctuary and do not bring them here.
- If you enforce the laws in place you should not have problems with fish depleting
- If you REALLY want to protect humpbacks, you will protect the naturally balanced environment for those whales, which includes other species. As the rest of the world makes life hard for marine animals, Hawaii can offer more space for protection. KINDLY expand protection.
- I'm for saving wild animals. This act is good for the animal as well as human. Just imagine, life without animals.

- I'm writing you today in hopes that you will increase the scope of your Sanctuary's mission to include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats. Thank you so much.
- Impacts of feces from domesticated animals (eg dogs on beaches) on marine life. There is a risk of disease spread from domesticated to wild animals we should be concerned with, too.
- In addition to humpback whales seasonally (from approximately September until as late as June), we also have sperm whales and pilot whales in Hawaiian waters, and their presence is not seasonal, but year-round.
- In addition to Humpback whales, all marine mammals in Hawaiian waters are at risk of being hit by vessels as well as turtles.
- In an area that I dive in I noticed the fish population decline dramatically in the last 20 years.
- "In lieu of" program: The Nature Conservancy; work with TNC to see if the program could help with coral reef protection/restoration.
- In order to properly protect the entire ecosystem, you need to expand your protection to include all of the endangered species within it.
- In regards to the proposal to expand the sanctuary to include dolphins, sea turtles, etc.: Before doing this, show a successful track record with the whales. The numbers do not show that this is the case. Whales are a focal point for the ocean as a whole because they are so visible in so many ways - we don't need other focal points at this time. Once this (success with whales) is accomplished, or some other measure of success is met, then and only then would it be appropriate to discuss expansion.
- In regards to corals, they are more affected by ocean temperatures, which are being studied but yet not fully understood.
- In short, the submerged resources within the Sanctuary should be regarded and preserved as a total ecosystem that includes biotic and cultural elements other than whales alone. A "single-species" approach to management may help the whales but not much else. I urge, therefore, that an ecosystemic model that includes cultural and historic preservation and the reef environment should be considered for adoption by NOAA toward the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.
- In terms of management, a holistic, ecosystemic approach can provide effective protective measures that a piecemeal approach cannot.
- include a clear statement of intent to develop and implement all sanctuary management actions in close consultation with related programs carried out by federal and state agencies and Native Hawaiian organizations with shared responsibilities for conserving living marine resources in the sanctuary boundaries
- Include monk seals, turtles and spinner dolphins (if needed).
- Include sharks. Their numbers are clearly depleted in Hawaiian waters.
- Incorporate the management strategies recommended in the recovery plans for sea turtles and monk seals as part of the management regime of the designated sanctuary.
- Increase number of species;
- Individual species do not exist in a vacuum. We need to "manage" these areas with a holistic viewpoint.
- Injection wells. Sanctuary should work on the issues. Protect corals because they are habitat for fish. Runoff is harming corals. Need to enforce runoff that harms corals.
- Is capturing marine debris a large focus on the sanctuary program?
- Is it an option for the Sanctuary to remain single species?

- It is called the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and intended to protect humpback whales. Other species of sea life should not be managed in what is supposed to be specifically a whale sanctuary.
- IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE OF THE PRESENT GENERATION PRESERVE AND PROTECT MORE OF THE NATURAL HABITAT AS IT IS AVAILABLE FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO COME.
- It is important that the Sanctuary recognize the importance of high quality habitat for monk seals. Including monk seals, and protection of their habitat, in a mandate for action in the Sanctuary would greatly assist recovery efforts.
- It is laudable that the Sanctuary has also partnered with the state to support the conservation of others species, though this partnership is not part of its current mandate.
- It is long past time that monk seals be added to the list of species to which management action and protection in the Sanctuary is extended.
- It is so important that we look to the future and protect all of our eco-systems. We are all connected and if we let our oceans and our other eco-systems die, then we die.
- It just makes sense.
- It seems obvious that all marine species need help.
- It seems to me that people are becoming much more involved in saving the fish than they are in saving the people. There are many people who are out of work and need to have this fishing as their livelihood for food and let's concentrate on helping people, putting people back to work rather than to save the whales, save the porpoise, save those.
- It will protect all marine wildlife in its boundaries and the r haabitats.
- It's imperative to protect and nurture all species and habitats in the collective ecosystem.
- It's time to afford all the species living in the waters surrounding these amazing islands the protection that they deserve by expanding the mission of the Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.
- Just as Hanauma Bay has been restricted in order to protect its ecosystem and all the marine wildlife there, the Sanctuary must include conservation and protection for all of Hawai'i's marine species. To do less would endanger the land and people of Hawai'i and the very beautiful world we live in because of nature's bounty of seals, sea turtles and all marine animals.
- Just because you don't see the problems doesn't mean they don't exist. These animals are defenseless. We are the ones that hurt them, therefore we HAVE to be the ones that save them. We are all one and we are all connected. From humans to animals to mother earth itself.
- Keep Hawaii natural. Care for all Marine species.
- leave those mammals be.
- Let spend out tax dollars and time on getting rid of evasive species in our ocean.
- Let the Hawaiian people harvest some of the sea turtles. Sea turtles are really over-populated now.
- Let us be good stewards to all the natural inhabitants of these waters. They are what keep the balance in nature.
- Let us save the most intelligent animals in the planet, the angels of the Ocean
- Let's encourage the Sanctuary to increase their involvement as they are knowlegable and committed.
- Let's head off this disaster before we have YET another environmental issue
- Lets help all.
- Let's help keep these beautiful creature alive.. Had the pleasure of actually seeing a monk seal on my recent trip to Hawaii last month and being in the ocean with the sea turtles was an awesome experience..
- Let's not forget the smaller sea creatures that are in serious danger as well as the whales. Even though they are smaller, they are God's creatures too.

- lets protect these wonderful animals remember they are Gods creatures
- Let's save and help all of these interesting animals tthat nature gave us.
- Like to see other species included in sanctuary (Hawaiian monk seal)
- Limit military noise (sonar). The military should be limited because they are resondisable for beaching of most mcean mammals, then regular commerical fisherman.
- Limit military noise limits (sonar)
- Little attention is given to other species that live there.
- little attention is given to other species that live there.All of Hawaii's marine species need protection so that they are not added to the extinction list.
- Local and global impacts (ocean acidification, climate change) – some species can act as local indicators of global phenomena, such as corals. Adding corals to the sanctuary would be good because they are an important indicator of climate change.
- Longlines are a threat. Should the sanctuary consider getting involved?
- Longlining wreaking havoc
- Lot of research funded by navy (marine mammal research)
- Love all animals
- Mllama Maunalua has identified several fish and invertebrate species of special cultural concern that were highly valued historically and whose populations the community would like to restore. Some of these are identified in the 2009 Maunalua Bay Conservation Action Plan.
- Major concern: if endangered species are put into the whale sanctuary then access to fishing/recreational use could be restricted to all user access. Access area would be from high water mark to 100 fathoms.
- Make no difference between the species on this mother planet of ours!!! All are important!!!
- many of our marine animals are protected by law and too many times these laws are either not reinforced or ignored eg. whaling
- Marine animals are some of the most beautiful creatures on this planet, and it would be horrible if yet more species of animals become extinct by human causes.
- Marine Corps adding low altitude ops. Keep within perimeters. Engage military? EIS? Sonar issue. 1000 ft overflight issue.
- Marine debris should be addressed.
- Marinelife is being depleted throughout the oceans as the result of pollution and climate change. Marinelife needs our support to survive and flourish.
- Mauka to makai connections need to be looked at. Should look at urban development and impacts on coral reefs. Look at deposition of sediment impacts on coral reefs.
- Monk seals – about 20 years ago I didn't see them here on Maui. You should round up the seals here and take them to the NWHI.
- Monk seals are clearly doing better in human inhabited waters. They too, are strongly protected by state and federal laws. We can share our beaches with monk seals. We don't need to segregate.
- Monk Seals are on the decline. However, our incidental encounters with monk seals should not be taken as an offense to them. Plain and simple, we just still do not know how to help them, to include them at this point is a knee jerk reaction, not science.
- Monk seals is a problem too. Eating all the fish and lobsters.
- Monk Seals need protection so that we do not lose specie.
- Monk seals: Completely remove them. Not beneficial to us at all. W are competing with them for our food.
- Monks Seals/dolphins and Green Turtles are equally in danger, please include these valuable animals as well as the Hump Back, PLEASE

- More attention is needed to protect these magnificent creatures of the oceans of Hawaii. Their situation does not deserve to be treated lightly.
- More attention needs to be given to the other species that live there. They are in serious danger. Please help them
- More species equal more predators. We are worried about bottom fishing grounds – that’s where they will feed. Monk seals are an alien species. Monk seals eat the fish that we eat – on the line – they don’t catch their own. It’s hard for the fishermen. If you could help us out by keeping alien species out we would appreciate it. Adding new species might bring more predators, more predators will eat the fish. Worried about other species eating fishermen’s livelihood.
- Most importantly in the management plan review is to offer comment to the U.S. Navy as [they] are preparing an EIS. Their proposed action is to conduct military readiness training and testing activities which include the use of active sonar and explosives [which will] detrimentally affect the sanctuary.
- MPAs (other protected areas) do function in increase of coral reef cover.
- My past experiences with the National Park Service (specifically, in the Dry Tortugas National Park, FL) and with the Bermuda Maritime Museum suggest that a comprehensive management plan for the Sanctuary would produce benefits not only for the whales but also for the total biotic environment and submerged cultural resources it contains. A piecemeal approach to the Sanctuary should be avoided if the total ecosystem within the Sanctuary is to be adequately preserved and protected. Although humpback whales will remain the centerpiece of the Sanctuary's activities, they should be viewed as connected to a larger ecosystem that deserves equal preservation.
- My visits to Hawaii are enhanced by the special opportunities you have to study and protect Marine life.
- nearly everything that lives in, on, over, and near the sea is threatened in some way shape or form. We must be proactive in preventing these threats to our resources.
- Need to address NPS (non-point source pollution) issue and water feeding into reproductive areas – Mountain to makai – especially if adding other species.
- Needs to look at ecosystem based management that incorporates coral, marine life, maritime heritage, resolving conflicts between multiple users/uses
- Next you included the dolphins, another species that is not on the list for local fishermen. Dolphins (Porpoises) are smart creatures. They don't get hooked the fishing lures, they don't run into propellers, and they actually enjoy racing with the fishing boats. Their danger also comes from the seine fishermen.
- No ecosystem is based off only one animal or plant. Every one is important.
- No expand Sanctuary to include dolphins-they are not even endangered
- No expand to cover turtles-there is already too much turtles, leave turtles out of this sanctuary
- No expand to include corals- no reason to protect
- No expand to include corals- Yes before you look to the water you need to control what happens on the land. We the people see first hand the damage runoff from silt and fertilizers of golf courses and hotels are doing
- No expand to include corals-should take care of run off first
- No expand to include corals-stop the run off first
- No expand to include dolphins- again you are suggesting more waste of federal dollars. So far all your reasons for having the Sanctuary point to wasted dollars
- No expand to include dolphins- go to Japan and have a Sanctuary there in Hawaii there doing fin
- No expand to include dolphins- why include something that does not have a problem except to have more government control and intervention
- No expand to include dolphins-dolphins do not need to be in this

- No expand to include dolphins-don't worry about dolphins
- No expand to include dolphins-no need
- No expand to include dolphins-there is no danger to these species
- No expand to include dolphins-there's lots of dolphins
- No expand to include dolphins-they will survive if controls are tightened on Japan
- No expand to include seals-monk seals were never in the main islands to begin with. They weren't here when I was young, when my parents were young, or even before that.
- No expand to include seals-no need to expand take them back to Northwest Hawaiian islands
- No expand to include turtles- turtles are overabundant
- No expand to include turtles-continue with current laws. Sea turtles have more than survived due to increase in population
- No expand to include turtles-since ESL has been so successful for turtles and population is no longer endangered why has it not been removed form the Endangered species list
- No expand to include turtles-There are large numbers of turtles in the state. I free dive and have seen turtles in places where I didn't see before. Turtles should be taken off the endangered list.
- No expand to include turtles-they are overabundant and beginning to cause problems due to unbalance
- No expand to include turtles-too many sea turtles now. Should be taken off list
- No expand to include turtles-turtle meat is very delicious-should open season once in a while
- No life is more precious than another.
- No plant or animal is a luxury: they ALL occupy vital and indispensable niches in the biosphere! Protect ALL species in Hawaii, not just the Humpback Whale!
- No to expanding to include sea turtles or dolphins.
- NOAA is committed to removing Monk Seals that are "to tame". In the last few years they have removed at least three creatures of which I am aware. In the literature these animals are viewed as "genetically tame" and are known for their friendliness and tolerance of man. If friendliness is a criteria for removal the species does not have a chance.
- Not in favor of protecting maritime heritage resources – need to focus on threatened and endangered species and ocean health
- Now if the people agree per say, for that section, they will be no one or any boats or fishing going on in that part of the sanctuary? We here protect the sea life and we've never interfered, well Not me and my family. There are seals, turtles and whales that are already protected here. For most people here in the islands, the ocean is our lifestyle and to tell us we are not allowed to go in the ocean or fish offshore sounds so idiotic.
- Now is the only time to protect all marine wildlife and ensure our future.
- Now!! not later...
- Ocean animals require protected habitat to avoid species loss also.
- OK I do admit to the fact that I've never expressed our need to protect animals of the sea as I have for those of the land! In this case Dolphins, even though we need all living creatures for the survival of mankind! We continue the slaughter of whales for meat and dolphins supposedly for medicine, and the evils of sport!!! Wake-Up People, Mark E. Robertson © P.S. The message above was for a previous petition; therefore on this one I need to plead for the Hawaii's monk seals, and green sea turtles!!!
- On monk seals, when I was growing up not once I seen monk seals on beaches, rocks...?... In the 90s they were coming around causing damage to fishery and reefs when taking fish from holes in reefs.
- Once they are gone, what a loss
- One must do a lot of action to protect the mammals.

- One size doesn't fit all. Consider regional management. One way: regional councils; by moku by moku, ahupuaa by ahupuaa. These councils already established, utilize them more and will naturally integrate cultural aspects. Ahumoku council might be a mechanism to assist with regional management approach. Sanctuary should be ecosystem based and regional.
- Other cetaceans: we do not hunt them. They are doing very well, they are already protected by federal laws. I strongly see no need for the placement in the sanctuary.
- Other species of whales and dolphins should be added to the sanctuary – such as false killer whale and pygmy killer whale.
- Other species should not be added into the management consideration within the sanctuary as many are already adequately covered by other laws such as the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The state already makes it a felony to harm a monk seal which is more severe than the misdemeanor of the Endangered Species Act.
- Our animal friends deserve their lives and freedom without man's encroachment.
- Our marine habitat needs as much help as it can get. There are many factors working against its natural balance.
- Our marine mammals are such a treasure. Protect Hawaiian marine mammals before they're gone!
Cary
- Our oceans have a very sensitive ecosystem that if we don't start to take care of we will lose all the benefits it provides us.
- Our reefs are being smothered and killed by sediment and runoff from construction, fertilizer, pesticides and sewage.
- Our world, today, and the future are richer if we have a vast, healthy, and protected natural ecosystem.
- Over my life time I have seen the cruelty and thoughtlessness of humans; total disregard for other life. Our worlds animals (sea land and air) need a sanctuary / protection from us if they are to survive
- pay attention to all species
- PLEASE ~~ NO MORE HURTING MAMMALS!! PLEASE SAVE THEM!! PLEASE!~
- Please add seals, dolphins and sea turtles to your list of protected animals. Protect the amazing diversity of animals in our oceans for them, for us, for our children, for our future.
- Please add to your current great work, helping Humpback Whales, by adding Sea Turtles, Monk Seals and Dolphins and their habitat so that our future children won't have only zoos to learn of these beings who have as much right to life and freedom as any other citizen of the Hawaii Islands. Thank you in advance to someone who must care as you show through your work with Humpback Whales.
- Please consider including monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitat in your whale sanctuary. .Let's not wait till it's too late. Please act now so we can minimise the damage.
- Please consider protecting additional vital marine life.
- Please do all you can for all species in the Sanctuary. Thank You and we look forward to our next visit to the islands.
- Please do something before it's too late.
- PLEASE DO the right thing and protect ALL marine mammals, thanks in advance.
- Please expand the important service already being provided by the sanctuary to protect the biodiversity of the ecosystem, and all of the species in such obvious need of protection.
- Please expand the mission to protect all sea life in the sanctuary
- Please give attention and support to all of the seals, dolphins, and green sea turtles, as well as the humpback whales.
- Please help All marine wildlife, do what's right.

- Please help and protect the wonderful monk seals, dolphins and green sea turtles before it is too late SUPERINTENDENT CHOW...
- Please help protect such special creatures in a special area, let our children enjoy them in to the future.
- Please help save all the mammals in Hawaii
- Please help save our ocean mamals thus saving ourselves.
- Please help the Marine Conservation Biology Institute Save Hawaiian Marine Mammals.. I want my children to see these wonderful creatures.. in their natural habitat.. not a aquarium...
- Please help these creatures
- please help to save the hawaiian wildlife!
- Please include conservation and management of the monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and to include their habitats. Why focus on just one group when so many other species need protection as well. Thank you
- Please include monk seals, dolphins, and sea turtles in your mission for conservation and management of Marine Mammals and their habitats.
- please increase the scope of the Sanctuary's mission to include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats.
- please lets all stand together for all our marine mammals
- Please let's Protect&Cherish all of Mother Earth's Precious Inhabitants,like the Wonderful Amiable Animals the Marine Animals!
- Please live God's animals and protect our seals, dolphins and green sea turtles from danger.
- Please make sure that you protect ALL Marine Mammals – dolphins, seals and others.
- Please protect ALL Hawaiian Marine Mamals!Marine Mamals are a gift God gave to us.Protect them PLEASE!!
- PLEASE PROTECT ALL HAWAIIAN MARINE MAMMALS NOW!
- Please protect all marine life in the Hawaiian islands area.
- Please protect all marine mammals now in hawaii
- PLEASE PROTECT ALL MARINE MAMMALS!
- Please protect all of the beautiful creatures that inhabit the waters under your care....
- Please protect ALL sea creatures. If the sea dies, WE DIE!
- Please protect all these creatures. They are all equally important. Thank you.
- Please protect our oceans beautiful creatures that is there home leave them alone!
- please protect the mammals of the sea they are so beautiful
- PLEASE PROTECT THE MONK SEALS DOLFINS SEA TURTLES AND INCREASE THE SCOPE OF THE SANCTUARY'S MISSION TO INCLUDE THEM ALONG W/ HUMPBACK WHALES
- Please protect the whole ecosystem not just the humpback whales
- Please protect these mammals.
- Please protect, conserve and revive the environment, biodiversity and humanity common habitat to advance the common good and the well being of eco-system and global communities.
- PLEASE SAVE ALL MARINE MAMMALS
- Please stop the depletion of your magnificent underwater environment, including marine mammals.
- please take this issue to heart :)
- Please to include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats.
- Please work to protect all marine wildlife. They all are important.
- please!!! i love these beatyfull creatures, they dont deserve this
- PLEASE, PLEASE, Protect the ALL!!

- PLEASE, while we still have a chance to save them
- Please.
- Pollution and military testing are major concerns.
- PONO recommends the Sanctuary revise its management plan to have an ecosystems based management focus rather than a one-species focus.
- PONO supports the expansion of the scope of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to include the protection of Hawaii's endemic monk seal, the false killer whale, the spinner dolphin, sea turtles, corals and the other marine life that are essential to sustaining a healthy ocean.
- Prioritize issues by greatest implications.
- Protect ALL Hawaiian Marine Animals.
- Protect ALL Hawaiian Marine Mammals
- protect all Hawaiian marine mammals plz!!!
- Protect ALL Hawaiian marine mammals!
- Protect all Hawaii sealife because all sealife is important to the oceans food chain and our future.
- PROTECT ALL MAMMALS!!! Hawaiiin, japanese, Egyptian ALLLLLLLLLLL MAMMALS
- protect all mammals.
- Protect ALL marine life NOW!!!
- Protect all species that live there, because dumb asses come from Juneau, Alaska, like the rich kid I know who harassed the monk seals, that was posted online-come to visit Hawaii. You need to protect the sanctuary and species from idiots.
- Protect animals in the sanctuary even if they are outside the sanctuary. Seabirds should be considered.
- Protect Marine Mammals
- Protect the sea and animals!
- Protect the whales and all the other important sea creatures!
- Protect them
- Protect them all!
- Protect wildlife, especially the whales. They deserve to be protected.
- PROTECT!!!
- Protected species within the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale Sanctuary should be expanded to include the Hawaiian monk seal, sea turtles, other cetaceans, rare and endangered corals and fish vital to reef health, such as herbivores and algae eating urchins.
- Protecting Humpback whales is of course very important but what about the other sea creatures that need protection - the dolphins, seals and turtles, to name just a few. Please include these sea creatures with your protection. Only you can do this. Their habitats are in danger and we are losing too many sea creatures to drag netting, pollution and other equally destructive means. Please help these defenseless and innocent animals.
- PROTECTION NOW!
- Providing a "bounty" for invasive fish species statewide will do much for reef health and require no federal invasion.
- Putting in coral reefs will hurt my fishing because when I put down my anchor and drop the fishing line and throw line from shore, it will catch on the reef and may break off the reef.
- (Re: 2007 Assessment Report on Additiona Species) Broadening the scope of marine mammal species protected by the Sanctuary will assist in addressing these threats to varied and often unique species that depend on the waters of the Sanctuary for their survival.
- Really, like they need a reason to preserve beautiful creatures?

- Restoration of fish ponds and protection for coral reef fish. [...] Want children and grandchildren to be able to take fish in future
- Restore, maintain, and conserve species of endangered, threatened, depleted, and protected wildlife and the biological communities on which they depend
- Restore, maintain, and conserve the ecological health of biological communities and marine habitats
- Role of sanctuary in protecting cultural heritage. Sharks are part of the Hawaiian cultural heritage. Should sharks be an added species? Everything is part of the ecosystem. Those species that are particularly important to the Hawaiian culture should be added.
- Runoff from streams (address).
- Runoff, water quality, SONAR, stranding response are all issues. The ahupuaa system is always great. The reasons why marine mammals are stranding are linked to runoff, water quality, and SONAR. I would have liked to say a prayer for the animal before it went on the flight. This is the first time there was no prayer. NOAA staff body language was disappointing; they were too excited to use their new center; even though there was a tank available at the Maui Ocean Center. The number of strandings has quadrupled due to water quality, SONAR testing, and runoff. Hotel development and runoff should be addressed by the Sanctuary. Stream/river water should reach the ocean.
- Sanctuaries of this type need to protect whole ecosystems.
- Sanctuary should expand to include other marine life. Fishing community and sanctuary are really on the same page—both want healthy oceans.
- Sanctuary should expand to turtles, monk seals, coral.
- Sanctuary should protect coral—especially since 9 of the 82 that could become protected under ESA are in HI waters.
- Save Ocean Eco-Systems. Save Marine life to maintain the Balance. Sentient Beings feel pain and smell death!!
- Save our animals on land and in the water.
- Save our ocean mammals!!!
- Save our marine life, before there are no more !
- SAVE THE ANIMALS GREAT AND SMALL.. TOBIN N MAXWELL COX.....
- Save the delicate habitats!
- Scope Expanded: original boundaries, expand to ecosystem-based management, new species (e.g. seals, spinner dolphins, turtles)
- See dolphins congregate in areas where there are boats but no swimmers.
- Sharks need to be added to list of species to preserve.
- Sharks need to be included.
- Sharks should not be chased out of the sanctuary; instead people should be kept out when sharks are there. Current practice of chasing sharks out of sanctuary should be reversed.
- Sincerely!
- So many don't understand that animals are as important as people. We have no rights to kill and or eat them.
- So many species are in danger now, it is ridiculous things were allowed to get like this!
- So that they can continue the very important work of saving marine animals & their habitats
- Species – should increase scope in terms of species and area – monk seals, spinner dolphins, turtles (species that have high interactions with people) and corals – think more in terms of protecting systems
- species in Hawaii need our protection and care because species like seals, dolphins and turtles are endangered from the garbage created by us, lack of food by us and the fishing industry.

- Species specific conservation, while praiseworthy, is not the most scientifically sound method of preserving individual species. It has been generally accepted for years now that conservation of ecosystems has greater benefit to individual species. For very little additional effort, the benefits would greatly outweigh the costs.
- Still want to see something when diving? Please have a wider scope than the narrow one of this moment
- Stop avoiding the issue, time is now
- STOP THE KILLING OF ALL MAMMALS IN GENERAL, NOT MATTERING IN WHAT BODY OF WATER THEY LIVE IN!!
- Superintendent of the Hawaii Islands Humpback Whale Marine Sanctuary you know in your mind and soul that you should include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats its common sence. Please do it.
- Support if including other species but not until there is more enforcement
- Support Native Hawaiian practices consistent with sustainable, long-term protection of marine life and biological communities
- Take seals back
- Thank you for your work on behalf of the humpback whales. Now please consider conservation work to protect the whole environment where they liveâ€”including the many additional wildlife species who need to be researched and defended.
- The best environment for the wonderful humpback whales you serve is a rich ocean environment that supports life at all levels. I urge you to expand your focus to include all aspects of life in the sanctuary area.
- the Commission believes that it would be appropriate to include separate action plans for major species groups, such as marine manunals, sea turtles, seabirds, and corals, as well as action plans for overarching initiatives relating to multiple species or species groups
- The current humpback population would maybe be more if there had never been a sanctuary. I am NOT an exper or a biologist. I am an environmentalist in my own right (way). I have worked for oever 25 years to keep invasive species our of Hawaii.
- The demise of any species in the ecosystem is an indication of disbalance and ecological dis-ease. Each species has it's unique role to play in the ecosystem. When any aspect of the system suffers, the whole system, being intergrally linked, also suffers. Protecting the precious and delicate balance of all ocean life is our responsibility. Any one species at risk is a " canary in the mind shaft" indicator of what we are doing to ourselves as a species. Thank you for your thoughtful and wise consideration in increasing the scope of the Sanctuary's mission to include dolphins, sea turtles, and their habitats,
- The ecological balance of Hawaiian marine life relies on the interaction of all species.
- The endangered humpback whales, Hawaiian monk seals and Hawksbill sea turtles are not blessed by conscientious enforcement of the Endangered Species Act2 in Hawaii.
- The endangerment of any marine species can be directly attributed to overdevelopment and the military. So wise up.
- The framework is in place; please expand your mission to include the other creatures within your boundaries who need your help, the desperately endangered monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats. Building on what is already in place just makes sense.
- The greatest enemy of the whales in the Hawaiian waters is the navy and their unregulated use of sonar!! A sanctuary will not stop them from practicing their art of war on man kind and the planet.
- The green sea turtle should have reduced protection, as their population is increasing considerably.
- The hawaiian monk seal is an introduced species and if protected by including it in the proposed expansion of the whale sanctuary, there will surely be an imbalance to our fisheries in the future.

- The Hawaiian Sea Turtles, (by our own marine biologists) are no longer endangered and in the near future may be taken off the endangered list. It was brought up at the meeting that NOAA was looking at the turtles on a 'world-wide' perspective. This argument doesn't hold-up since the Hawaiian Sea turtles are found only in Hawaiian waters.
- The health of any environment depends on biodiversity.
- The health of the oceans affects the health of the whole planet. The planet is where we live. It's all we have. Let's take care of it.
- The humpback whales are apart of a bigger picture. The interaction of all species together creates the environment that the Humpback lives in. Let's not forget the "little" animals!
- The idea of species expansion is a cool idea, to go ecosystem-focused. WE need more outreach, I've heard cases of turtles being harassed. There should be multiple levels/multiple species looked at maybe not all under the same oho (head) but we should work together to protect them all.
- The inclusion of other species into the sanctuary is similarly not needed. Adding other species that are already protected by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and creating a sanctuary for them is duplicative and unnecessary.
- The inclusion of the monk seal in Hawaii's Whale Sanctuary would help to increase the MHI population and compensate for the rapid loss of juvenile seals in the northwestern islands.
- The key word is eco-system. The Incredible Hawaiian Islands are possibly the world's most unique and fragile eco-system on the planet. Every one of these precious creatures are critical to the survival of the islands themselves, but also the people. Those animals, as well as the endemic plants, are sacred brothers and sisters to us all. We are personally responsible, all of us, for their healthy environment.
- the Marine Mammal Commission also recommends that the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries revise the plan to include provisions for establishing an interagency coordinating committee chaired by the Sanctuary's co-superintendents (from the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources) and including representatives from the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Coast Guard, the Navy, the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, key offices of state government, and the Native Hawaiian community
- The Marine Mammal Commission recommends that the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries develop a new management plan for the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary that expands its purpose and scope from one currently focused on conservation of a single species (i.e., humpback whales) to one with an ecosystem perspective.
- the Marine Mammal Commission recommends that the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries revise the new sanctuary management plan to include a clear statement of intent to develop and implement all sanctuary management actions in close consultation with related programs carried out by federal, state, local, and Native Hawaiian agencies and organizations with shared responsibilities for conserving living marine resources within the sanctuary boundaries
- The Monk Seal program as currently promulgated and executed by NOAA is critically flawed and is accelerating the Monk Seal down the road to extinction.
- The monk seals were introduced by your own people. To my knowledge, no documentation has ever been found to connect the monk seals to the main Hawaiian isles. I feel that for the safety concerns of both seals and public they should have been and need to be back on the Northern Hawaiian isles.
- The monk seals were introduced in the early nineteen seventies and are under little to no threat and should not be included in the whale sanctuary!
- The more creatures that we allow to become extinct the closer we are to the extinction of humans.
- The more critters you can show to tourists, the more tourism and dollars you should be able to generate for saving all the wildlife in the waters around Hawaii

- The NMS is overall an ecosystem based system and sanctuaries need to adapt and change as needed and partnerships are important to pool resources. Sanctuary should facilitate these partnerships to maximize protection—use what you have and use it well; sanctuaries are only as good as the sum of its parts. Community outreach and education are vitally important. Hawaii's communities are directly connected to the ocean and are involved in its preservation; sanctuary should tap into this. Use the communities to decide what the future of the sanctuary should be.
- The ocean has become a toxic soup. There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs. We need land-based community watches, reporting and criminal follow up to enforce laws.
- The ocean is a balance ecosystem. Every species effects and is affected by those around it. Saving one species while another dies out will only lead to the eventual extinction of the species you were originally trying to save. In order to maintain a healthy ocean it must be proactively protected as a whole. In that regard you should be protecting all of the species, not just the whales.
- The ocean is comprised of a diversity of life. To do our best to have equal care would better demonstrate our commitment to ensuring that no species under threat of diminishing will pass without due protection.
- The oceans play an immense and mysterious role in the proper functioning of our fragile planet, and if we do not respect and protect the creatures that live in them, we endanger not only the stability and equilibrium of marine life, but of all life on earth. I urge you to take this matter seriously.
- The problems are: Large fishing fleets with miles and miles of net.
- The protection provided by this sanctuary must be expanded to include other species in addition to humpback whales. These whales do not live in an environmental vacuum; the other species with whom they share an ecosystem deserve protection as well.
- The public sector should also do their to deter putting pollutants down the drain. Then the "coral" will survive. Otherwise no rules and regulations will be effective
- The reason I want the expansion is simple, only good things can come of it. All god's creatures are special and deserve the same attention so please expand your mission.
- The Sanctuary can and should continue to play a substantive role in addressing these threats. We encourage NOAA to take this opportunity to address the eleven conservation needs of marine mammals and sea turtles as identified in the 2007 assessment report
- The sanctuary is a species-based approach to manage the humpback whales. It's doing a great job and should not be expanded into an ecosystem-based approach. This should be left for the state to determine in the traditional ahupuaa – mountain to ocean – process.
- The Sanctuary is an essential resource for preserving the humpback whale and it would be good for it to offer the same service to other Hawaiian marine animals such as sea turtles, dolphins, monk seals, and to the entire habitat on which they all depend.
- The sanctuary should be expanded from humpback whales to other species (in air, land, water) The sanctuary should address not just sea life, but also sand erosion, bird life, water quality
- The sanctuary should expand to include coral reefs. Corals need protection. Who said ["limiting ocean use"]? They are making false statements to "divide and conquer."
- The sanctuary should expand to include dolphins. I am seeing much fewer dolphins then ever. They are being stressed by pollution, overfishing, sonar, habitat degradation, ALL proven scientifically.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Assessing golf courses near shorelines, there use of chemicals that run off into our ocean and limiting pollutants used.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Climate change!

- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Controlling the amounts of nitrogenous runoff would be more effective than sanctifying coral reefs.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Enough
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. I agree. Agricultural and human expansion and land development are the culprits. Focus on the programs, on limiting the victim (the ocean). Fix the sources of the runoff.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. If people cant you the ocean Hawaii would lose a lot of it's tourism.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Take care of the pollution going into the water, not the people using the water.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Take the seals away and our fish will come back.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. You don't have to include coral because it is from run-off's is the problems in killing the reefs.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include dolphins. As long s they can swim anywhere they'll survive.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include dolphins. Dolphins are smart.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include dolphins. I thikn the population of dolphins are enough to keep them off the expansion.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include dolphins. They are doing just fine.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include dolphins. They are good.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include dolphins. They're doing just fine as it is.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include dolphins. This is rediculous. You guys need to get out of the office and go on the ocean and see how many dolphins are around.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include dolphins. Why? Expand?
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Control humans who chase resting monk seals back into the water where they become suseptible to shark attack. How will a water sanctuary protect monk seals on land?
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Monk seals come and go as they want to.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Monk seals don't do nothing for us - only the people with grant money - take them back wehere they came from.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Populations are stable, over population will be their own extinction.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Same as turtles but they eat way more seafood and they don't have a size limit to worry about.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. This is the same as the whales, there doing great, numbers are up. When we were kids growing up, we never saw seals anywhere, now there everywhere.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. Eat.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. For the green sea turtles no for the others their more open ocean and migrotory.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. From my diving and fishing related experiences turtles are so plentiful they're becoming a nuisance.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. More turtles means more sharks more sharks mean more shart attacks.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. Population is sufficient.

- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. To many turtles in addition they have a lot of tumors and growths on them from pollution and runoff's.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. Turtles are dying from old age.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whales are not under any threat now. I fish and dive and have never posed a threat to a whale or any marine mammal (not me or anyone I know).
- the sight of a sea mammal in Indian coast makes all passersby to abandon their current activity and they leave only after it disappears such is the effect it can give to human being. Is it not our duty to protect them?
- The SOS Campaign supports the expansion of the scope of the Hawaiian Humpback Whale Sanctuary to include the protection of Hawaii's endemic monk seal.
- the species that are extinct we cannot do anything about, The ones that are currently stable will survive with current ocean rules and regulations
- The survival of all creatures is paramount to survival of our own species. We are all connected and have a purpose in the chain of life!
- The trouble we're in now comes from focusing too hard on some things and not enough on others. We need a broader view generally and especially when trying to protect species. We need to be trying to put it back the way it was -- all of it.
- The whales do not exist in isolation, but as part of a complex ecosystem. While the ecosystem and all of the creatures that are part of it are worth preserving in and of themselves, if your main goal is preservation of the whales, the rest of the ecosystem is still critical. An unhealthy ecosystem could have a devastating impact on the whales you are trying to protect.
- The whales do not live alone in the ocean.
- Their lives are just as important as any human's life and should not be treated differently.
- There is a limited amount of places these animals can be protected. Use it!!!
- There are critically endangered marine mammals that are endemic only to Hawaii that need the extended protection from the Sanctuary and the benefits it can offer to these endangered species. The Hawaiian Monk Seal being the most critically endangered and most needed immediate attention.
- There are many important marine species that need to be protected.
- There are many sharks that attack in Hawaiian Island water cause sharks feed on sea turtles...I think there should be open season for turtles.
- There is more work to do to protect the ecosystem of the Hawaiian Islands and preserve the aquatics for all life.
- There is support to include other species. The sanctuary should include yellowfin tuna during spawning season.
- These majestic creatures should be protected.
- These mammals deserve to be protected and live safely in their environment.
- These precious animals are in need of protection.
- THEY DESERVE TO LIVE JUST LIKE WE DO.
- They do something in the sea as we do something on land. So please let those charming animals live.
- They have the right to be in peace just as us
- they need all the help they can get in this day and age
- They shouldn't stop us from doing what we love to do. It's all the invasive species that is the problem.
- This is not an adequate number of officers for such a large jurisdiction with so many endangered marine species, complex fishing regulations and other enforcement problems.

- This is now a crisis for many of these species.
- to care for all of its species
- To conserve the habitat of the whales, dolphins, seals, and sea turtles to protect them.
- to help all wildlife - humans are greedy and self-centered and are on a multi-destructive path
- To help maintain balance of our ecosystems, and thereby the entire planet! Please do all you can for the system as a whole, and thank you for your work.
- To increase the scope of the Sanctuary's mission to include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats.
- To keep our eco system on track.
- To Protect All Hawaiian Marine Mammals
- To protect all species in the waters. They should all be protected.
- To protect ALL species surrounding these islands!
- to save Hawaii's marine species from extinction and protect them and their habitats; to include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats.
- To save the dolphins, monk seals and green sea turtles. Once a species is gone they are gone.
- to save these beautiful mammals and to protect them as well!
- To save, all wildlife which are inhabiting our seas all over the planet.
- To support and protect all life, especially the beauty of Hawaii.
- Tour industry is divided. Some care about the bottom line of profit and guarantee customer lots of time with marine mammal, others don't let people in the water so as to not harass the whales.
- Turtles – need to focus on living things. Most important asset of ocean is living species. That is what drives tourism. Shipwrecks are ok too to attract tourism but the living things are the most important and should be protected.
- Turtles are also protected and very plentiful. They do need help, a lot of them are covered with tumors from polluted water from agricultural run-off, chemicals from golf courses and swimming pools on the waterfront and sewage treatment plants injecting gray-water that is contaminated with untreated sewage water, bleach, chloring, and phosphates from laundry-mats that go directly in to underground streams and lava tubes that flow onto our near shore waters and coral reefs.
- Turtles are also protected and very plentiful. They do need help, a lot of them are covered with tumors from polluted water from agricultural run-off, chemicals from golf courses & swimming pools on the waterfront and sewage treatment plants injecting gray-water that is contaminated with untreated sewage water, bleach, chlorine, and phosphates from laundry-mats that go directly in to underground streams and lava tubes that flow onto our near shore waters and coral reefs.
- "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono" ... the Oceans and their life rest upon this land ... preserve these precious lifeforms and stand by your motto.
- Unconditional support for the animales, they need to be respected!
- Unsure if the sanctuary should expand to include coral reef. Well if the reefs were in a sanctuary, invasive.
- upsetting the food chain will be the slow destruction of man
- Visitors to Hawaii help power the economy and people come to see many species (not only whales).
- Water quality – what is the impact of runoff from construction and erosion on corals?
- Waters surrounding the Hawaiian Islands are rare refuges for a large assortment of marine life. With continental coastal waters so greatly polluted, it is imperative that we make every effort to save the sea life in the waters surrounding the Hawaiian islands.
- We all have the utmost respect for whales and other sea life and truly believe the whales can be protected by means and methods which need not infringe upon the recreation and rights of those of us who have grown up in the waters of the sanctuary.

- We also support inclusion of protection for the many turtle species using the nearshore and pelagic waters around the islands. Adding them to the species protected by the Sanctuary will help promote coordinated effort to conserve them and protect their habitats.
- We appreciate all that you are doing to protect humpback whales, but please expand your mission to protect ALL sea mammals. Thank you.
- We are good friends to all kinds of animals .Loving and protecting them ,we are the same!
- We are stewards of all the marine mammals. If not you to do this, who will?
- We are supposed to be the care takers of this planet, and we should protect all species large and small, fish, mammal or fowl. So please protect all Hawaiiin Marine Mammals.
- We are very encouraged to hear that NOAA will consider enlarging the HIHWNMS Plan's scope to include conservation and management of additional marine species and habitats, and we fully support the holistic systems-based approach being contemplated.
- We believe that aquarium fish collecting is not appropriate within the Sanctuary.
- We believe the Hawaiian Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary ("the Sanctuary") should become a sanctuary for all of the species that live there, and a place where people can learn about all of Hawaii's marine mammals. We therefore support the inclusion of other protected marine species in the sanctuary.
- We can do more, far more to stem the extinction of animal species.
- We can not lose these creatures. We owe it to future generations.
- We do know that other critically endangered species, including Hawaiian monk seals, hawksbill turtles and corals are adversely affected by poor water quality, as are dolphins and reef fish. Poor water quality means less food overall or more highly contaminated food sources for these marine inhabitants.
- We have a moral duty to protect these creatures, ensuring their survival for generations to come.
- We have a stewardship duty to take care of things. Find out a way to have more fish for people and monk seals. I support expanding species such as monk seals, manta rays, and sea birds.
- We have killed off the Carribean monk seal (I believe it's functionally extinct). Let's not do the same to Hawaii's monk seals.
- We highly welcome your efforts and suggest that the kona district of Kaua'i's watershed master plan be adopted and identify that these areas are already encumbered by cultural native inhabitants of stewardship and practitioners that monitor and maintain their native habitat and its inhabitants and the regional watersheds (Le., coast, ocean, estuary, endemic and indigenous inhabitants and biota, minerals, submerged resources and lands, within, above, and all processes thereof) for many centuries and implement policies to adhere to pre-existing cultural watershed management plan to your current administrative policies and rules. As we continue to implement our management plans for the kona district of Kaua'i and our native population naturally grows, we welcome your efforts in our common goals. Since we are currently updating our 1994 legacy watershed plan for our implementation action plan 2010-2020, we humbly ask for your support and hope that we can work together to accomplish our mutual efforts of friendly cooperation.
- We human beings are on this planet to preserve and protect all of the life here, not to exploit it and destroy it.
- We must do our very best to have all the Marine Mammals survive. "Indian Boy"
- We must leave room on this earth for other life forms, if we do not we are all doomed.
- We must protect all fish in any oceans.
- We must protect habitat. It's a no-brainer.
- We must protect the circle of life. It matters to all life on this planet. Ta.
- We must protect the marine life of our seas.

- We MUST protect these beautiful creatures!
- We must protect while we still have.
- we must save all our wildlife and marine animals from human ignorance and slaughter
- We need a more ecology-based sanctuary, e.g. land erosion and its effects on marine ecosystems
- We need the marine Mammals for our healthy of soul and heart and spirit!!!!!!!!!!
- We need these sea creatures for the sake of having balance within our planet's eco-system...if there's none, we're as good as dead!
- We need to do all we can to protect all marine life from extinction. What a shame it would be to wipe out an entire specie due to ignorance and apathy when it could have been prevented. We can no longer look the other way, we need to get our priorities straight before it is too late.
- We need to give as many species as much protection as possible. Underwater wildlife is under threat and in danger of becoming extinct over time.
- We need to give every single creature a chance to live a healthy life.
- we need to help the animals, our oceans, and those who live in and on it.the birds, plant life,etc. go green people! save our planet!!!!!!!!!!
- We need to offer all the protections possible to all marine mammals before some big oil company's next oil spill gets them
- WE NEED TO PROTECT ALL OF HAWAII'S MARINE LIFE!
- we need to protect ALL species that are endangered. please consider helping all species that are endangered within your study boundaries!!
- We need to protect all the sea life.
- We need to protect marine species as they are the backbone of life as we know it on this planet. It should be cheaper to add to an already existing project then to start one from scratch.
- We need to protect our marine mammals before it is too late. Once they are gone they are gone forever.
- We need to protect the whole ecosystem and all the creatures within it, by doing so we are also protecting the whales.
- We need to save All Liveing Marine Animals, Not just a few. Its for our kids too..
- we need to save and preserve our wildlife before there is none left.
- We need to take care of our "critters".
- We need to truly value these remarkable creatures
- We recommend that the Plan recognize and address the fundamental connection between watershed function and the health of adjacent coastal coral reefs and other valuable marine ecosystems.
- We see it unnecessary to add other species as these species are already protected under the Endangered Species Act and or under the Marine Mammal Protection Act.
- we should do everything we can to eliminate extinction of our animals and marine life
- We should protect ALL Marine Mammals. Period!
- We support the addition of all marine mammal and turtle species to come under Sanctuary protection.
- We support the recommendations of the 2007 report by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the State of Hawaii'i entitled Assessment of Additional Resources for Possible Inclusion in the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary ("the assessment report") to include Hawaii's marine mammals and sea turtles in the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Plan.

- We would like to see the benefits of federal dollars spent in our community. Expand sanctuary scope to include their resources, for example corals. Federal money for sanctuary is bringing money to this community, this is good.
- Wetland areas: if you are going to have streams reach the ocean there's a problem with invasive species that needs to be looked at. Need to address invasive species because they are a part of the waterway.
- Whales and dolphins are known to be an intelligent species, and have a very important place on the ecological life chain of the world oceans and seas. These ancient mammals have been an inspiration for great literature, provided healing to people with mental illnesses and given hope to people with life threatening diseases. They deserve to be protected from harm caused by humans. Please do everything in your power to protect these magnificent and important beings.
- Whales and dolphins are known to be an intelligent species, and have a very important place on the ecological life chain of the worlds oceans and seas. These ancient mammals have been an inspiration for great literature, provided healing to people with mental illnesses and given hope to people with life threatening diseases. They deserve to be protected from harm caused by humans. Please do everything in your power to protect these magnificent and important beings.
- Whales are not the only marine animals that matter.
- Whales, dolphins, and sea turtles on Kaua'i are not endangered in fact they are so used to and overpopulated that they arent scared of people or boats. I see them all the time and all over. Whales scare fish. Dolphins travel from other places and pass through here briefly.
- What about the Hawaiian Nene Goose? There are other species, too, who get little publicity and need protection. Don't let one more species in Hawaii or any other place go extinct!
- What about the Superferry as a threat to the sanctuary (and other high-speed ferries)?
- What are disadvantaged to keeping the HIHWNMS single species?
- what does it mean to protect and save one specie and let the others disappear? they are all part of the same sea community.
- What is the process for additional species?? A. How will you include them? B. What enforcement changes will coincide with additional species?
- What species? Think all are protected, why include them?
- What you are already doing is wonderful, but please don't be short-sighted. All the endangered species in your waters need to be protected.
- When making changes to your management plan, I ask that you expand the mission of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to include conservation and management of all of the marine wildlife living there, particularly the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal and the threatened Hawaiian green sea turtle. Sincerely, Natalie Anne Gorny
- While there are problems with invasive species, none of the proposed solutions even begin to address them!
- While we believe that the Sanctuary should act to protect all marine species and habitats within its boundaries, we strongly support inclusion of additional protective measures for several of the most challenged of these species and their habitats. (SEE HUMANE SOCIETY LETTER FOR DETAILS)
- whole ecosystems need protection, including all marine life, esp. the misunderstood shark species
- Why are we bringing in monk seals into a harmful environment?
- Why do we need to include monk seals? They are already protected by the ESA and MMPA
- Why do we think the Sanctuary should "expand its mission?" When questions like this come up, we get speechless....isn't it common sense that in the "circle of life," all life should be respected and protected? That's why!
- Why is the sanctuary looking to expand if recovery of whales and honu so good?

- Why is there a need to bring in other species like monk seals, turtles, etc? They are already protected by the endangered species act and marine mammals protection act.
- Why not protect all we can? Native Hawaiian Kapu system reference.
- With the disaster in the Gulf, hundreds of sea mammals dying, the very least we can do is protect the mammals in Hawaii!
- would you please include coconservation and management of all marine species, you have the very, very endangered Monk seal. There are many marine species found in or around Hawaii- it would be a great shame if they were gone.
- Year round protection for whales. Entanglement - where are the nets coming from - track nets? Enforce fines for nets. No attention for sharks - keystone species. Poaching - whales reef fishing longlining. Concern for future.
- Yes i agree please please keep on proteting all marine life and all species and their habitats. thank you wee owe earth this deed
- Yes please include other species in your conservation program. Monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats must get protection.
- Yes save these beautiful creatures
- Yes we support this!!
- YES!
- YES, WE ALL LOVE HUMPBACK WHALES BUT WHAT ABOUT ALL OF THE OTHER WILDLIFE THAT NEEDS OUR HELP?
- Yes, we have some area's within the islands that have challenges with the depletion of coral life and shoreline reef fish, but much of this is attributed to the filth that is produced by runoffs and leaching of chemicals from land and the discharge of toxic waste from commercial ocean liners and other ocean going vessels including military type. It would be very wise if your agency concentrated it's efforts and funds on policing the high seas and stop the culprits that are using our ocean as a trash disposal.
- You do such wonderful work--please expand to care for other species. Thanks.
- You have my backing 100%.
- You need to. We humans are killing off the other species. We need to consider seriously population control of human beings.
- Your agenda and the agenda of most environmental groups give no credit to the fact that nature is self-correcting, that the design of earth's systems can never be fully understood by man. By restricting man in such huge ways you may be upsetting the natural order so much that results could be much worse than just letting it take care of itself. You make man God-like by asserting that we are responsible for all of the ups and downs in nature...when you haven't even begun to understand what you are trying to control.

Ecosystem Protections: Potential Solutions

- Add coral! (to protect and educate about) Education programs need to continue.
- Add the insular Hawaii population of false killer whales as a Sanctuary resource...should be the highest priority among cetaceans for inclusion...
- Adding other species to this sanctuary also does not make sense since, as mentioned in 1., the boundary was established specifically for the humpback whale. This simply sounds to me like an attempt to keep an outdated and inappropriate spatial designation. In addition, including other species within this designated area would be a duplication of expense to the taxpayer as the Endangered Species Act provides for geographical considerations in measures that can be taken to protect other endangered species.

- Adding to the influence of the Sanctuary would add to the risk and uncertainties inherent in offshore aquaculture projects, as well as other potentially compatible commercial ocean uses (e.g., ocean energy and wave energy), while creating additional bureaucratic obstacles to an already confusing regulatory system.
- Additional research is needed to protect marine species in Hawaii.
- Adopt a whale, turtle etc program in schools
- Algae are increasing because the fish that keep them in check are being over-fished by spear fishing. I've observed this and heard it from scientists in the Hilo community. Need to find a way to educate local fishermen to rotate fishing sites so don't over-use.
- All I have to say is theres tons of evidence indicating that all of the animals that the proposed sanctuary expansion is trying to protect is doing great with the existing laws and regulations. It sounds like basic concern and duty to protect these species is turning into an (ugly) obsession that could possibly ruin the communities and cultures of the islands.
- also increased opportunity for more information and education
- Although people are interested in whales and indeed in dolphins but other species are just as important as the larger, impressive ones and people should realise that, education is the best way to do so.
- An international ban on commercial whaling is the only way to ensure protection for ALL species of whales. An expansion for the whale sanctuary in Hawaii is far from the answer to the existence of whales in general.
- Are fishing no take zones really effective? Education is key
- Are monk seals from here originally?
- As far as add different species to the sanctuary there will be a great impact on the public that go to the ocean as source for food there families. The species listed will impact the sanctuary horizontally (the whale sanctuary affect the area vertically) and will broaden the area all the way to above the high water mark and limit the use of the area by the public. So I feel educate first!
- AS far as I'm concerned there's no Hawaiian monk seal, just Haole monk seal.
- As human population scientist it is essential to educate public & protect entire ecosystem to truly protect whales.
- As water quality in the sanctuary continues to decline due to human impacts, hawksbill food sources will be adversely affected. Making the sancutary or designated portions of it into additional marine preserves would help to solve this problem as well.
- Because most fish, including sharks, are in serious decline, and because fisheries have a huge incidental by-catch; I request the Sanctuary to take a strong stand to regulate commercial factory fisheries. In particular, protection for False Killer whales, and any other marine species affected by fisheries impact.
- Before you close any of our beaches you should study the seal and how much food each seal eats - more fish in a week than the whole village would eat in a month.
- Best thing you can do for an endangered species is don't study it. Leave it alone. Minimize studies so you don't bother the animals.
- Budget concern. Be realistic about expanding.
- By increasing boundaries/species need more money.
- Can the sanctuary address aquarium collecting management issues? (if the sanctuary expanded to other species)
- certain bans on endangered species should be studied, because their effectiveness has resulted in being too good for their health and welfare. Their inceasing numbers has become a health hazard unto themselves.

- Changes in scope or boundaries: don't see the point if there is not the resources for enforcement. Make enforcement real
- Chemicals & pollution create pathogen friendly environments in Hawaii's waters and cause algae blooms, which smother the reefs and are toxic to marine mammals. The ocean has become a toxic soup. There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs. I request the Sanctuary to fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Concerned with loss of open space and potential expansion of species and regulations into Sanctuary.
- Concerns from observing what's happening in sanctuary, what efforts are being made related to enforcement? If expansion, how to enforce? Main Hawaiian Islands are the concern of most people.
- Connecting what happens on the land to what happens on the water will help strengthen and protect all life in the environment – Ecosystem-based management.
- Conservationists are always having whale counts during the spawning seasons, and when the count goes down, the first thing they come up with is this expansion of the sanctuary. They had better look at the true reasons for the decline. The original reason was the mass slaughtering of whales in the old days. There is still whale fishing in the northern Pacific by Eskimos and foreign fishermen to this day. Then came the seine fishermen which caused whales to get tangled up in their netting, and also depleted the amount of other species which normally traveled into Hawaiian waters. Other causes are injuries that occur in collisions with large vessels, freighters and liners traveling throughout the Pacific Ocean.
- Consideration of whether the Sanctuary's conservation efforts should include threatened and endangered species such as Hawaiian monk seals, spinner dolphins, sea turtles, and coral reefs should be based on an evaluation of the need for such efforts and of the effectiveness of marine protected areas in benefiting such species. For this and other reasons, additional funds should be dedicated to better regulatory monitoring and enforcement and to scientific research on the species' protection impacts related to water quality, acoustic noise sources, aquaculture, and offshore alternative energy development.
- Consult the experts. Plankton is square one. Unhealthy plankton = unhealthy oceans. Protect from beginning of ecological chain. Need to address cause of problem and understand the science behind the problems. Sanctuary management needs to be from bottom (i.e. plankton) up. Identify the causes and roots to address them in management. Educate the kids about the causes and how to prevent the issues. Go after the root of the problem. Make sure the emphasis gets at the problem. Passion is not enough.
- Coral reef – keeping healthy is a priority and sanctuary can do education
- Coral reefs: maybe monitor pollution runoffs stream, rivers! Monitor the Hawaiian monk seal they tear up everything!
- Create awareness about ecosystem (not just a 'resource')
- currently the mission of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, which manages shallow waters around the main islands, is limited to only conducting outreach and education for humpback whales. All of Hawaii's marine species need protection. The Sanctuary could provide a vital service -- not just educating people about whales, but also actually protecting all marine wildlife in its boundaries and their habitats. please include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats
- Dear Congress, I would like the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to become a place where people can learn about all of Hawaii's marine mammals and be a sanctuary for all the species that live there.

- decisions about adding other resources to the Sanctuary should have a strong scientific basis.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries); ...The job with the whales is not done. The North Pacific population of humpback whales still face significant challenges from human interaction (particularly shipstrike), marine debris and entanglement, and from environmental degradation (particularly ocean acidification). The Sanctuary must continue to address these challenges to the humpback whale populations.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries);...Chronic underfunding. "Adding species" can only dilute the resources available to protect the North Pacific population of humpback whales, yet the Sanctuary has been underfunded at least throughout the twenty-first century. The Sanctuary budgets have typically been 75 – 80% of annual funding requested in the last decade. Sanctuary management and staff have been magnificent improvisers in the face of declining budgets, but – as noted above – the whales' needs remain large and largely unfulfilled. Allocation of adequate resources to programs for "added species" without diminishing the effort and emphasis provided the North Pacific population of humpback whales simply defies logic and cannot be justified or sustained.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries);...No mandate. While Hawaiian monk seals, sea turtles and other species of whales and dolphins are attractive candidates for inclusion in the Sanctuary's purview, the mandate for protection of such species lies with the National Marine Fisheries Service and not the National Ocean Service (which includes the Office of Marine Sanctuaries). Fisheries has extensive programs in place for protection and management of these species and the benefits of adding another layer to the NOAA bureaucracy are not evident. Of course, Sanctuary staff will continue to work with their NOAA brethren to disentangle or rescue any species as required, but the Sanctuary has a clear mandate regarding the North Pacific humpback whales and should focus its efforts on that mandate.
- Do not do this. You will force people to be outlaws.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include coral reef. - Many locals know how fragile reefs and coral systems are, but not many tourists do. I think making them aware will help this out too.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include coral reef. Coral reef destroyed by turtles, pollution, hurricanes remember we had (2). Those who use and not educated how to take and live the roots.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include dolphins. We don't need to add dolphins to the sanctuary - just use the money to educate people on how to behave around dolphins.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals - Since the days of the ancient Hawaiians, there were no monk seas on the Main Hawaiian Islands. Information on this has been past down through the generations, also there have been no archeological evidence to prove they were in the main islands. There is no Hawaiian name to the monk seal like there is honu for the turtle.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. This seals aren't from here they were brought hear by NOAA or some other organization. The law is very strict on the safety for the monk seal.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles - There should be a permit to take turtles there is enough to sustain the population. I'm glad there no maneaters and turtles.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles. Save the funds and use it to research and find a cure for the tumors becoming so numerous among the turtles.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Coral Reef - Stopping people from shoreline fishing or diving, surfing, paddling canoe is out of question.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef - There should be stiffer fines and penalties for agriculture run off into our oceans.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - We need more education about urban run-off and agricultural practices that are the real culprits of reef destructions

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. We have enough limits.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. More on the endangered list, more laws, more control.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Dolphins already protected by marine mammal protection law.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Dolphins are also doing well with current laws.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Dolphins are doing just fine. Supply the community with numbers and facts. No expansion.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Unnecessary, just more laws and regulations.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Just as the whales and turtles their doing fine with the existing laws and regulations.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Laws are in place when they come on land you are to stay 100 feet away most people respect this.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Monk seals are not even native to main Hawaiian Islands. But brought here from the north western islands and released back into wild here.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Monk seals population is expanding toward the Hawaiian Islands. No record or evidence of monk seals in Hawaiian history. Monk seals would further depths fish populations.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - They were brought here illegally take them back.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Monk Seals - We should not forget about the human population, current laws offered large areas for the sole sunning seal! What about us??
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals are not indigenous to Hawaii. We all know the damaging effects that the monk seals do, feeding off the reef resources. Conveniently blaming the people for overfishing. We as locals see the effects since they conveniently showed up.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. No credible facts that the monk seal is being harmed from humans.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. The "Hawaiian" monk seals are not even indigenous to Hawaii and are doing good with the laws that are already there.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. The monk seals aren't even native to the islands.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Existing law is adequate. Continue on educating people especially tourists.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - In fact, it's time to allow native Hawaiian harvest rights - there are plenty of turtles today.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - In my opinion theres to many turtles. A tag and take lottery season should be opened.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles -Ever sence laws have been passed I have seen the turtle population increase the turtles are doing fine.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Enough already. Choke turtles already. Open one season or lottery to harvest one.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Laws and regs that are in place are more than enough.
- Do not expand to include sea turtles. Population doing just fine with current laws.
- Do not expand whale protection. No Expand.
- Do not expand whale protection. The sanctuary here in Hawai'i should not be expanded because we do not look to harm the whales. Here in Hawai'i we do not hunt and kill whales like they do in Antarctica. So why should we suffer the affects of what they do down there.

- Do not include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Do not use "Hawaiian Cultural Heritage" to expand sanctuary's. Call me because this Hawaiian is "against" any kind of expansion or sanctuary's.
- Do we need the sanctuary anymore? Whales have made a good come back and so have turtles. It is about money.
- Dolphin population issue: the number of boats surrounding dolphins should be limited
- Dolphins – operator offers encounters with dolphins, go about 200 yards away and wait to see if dolphins come to interact, don't stay more than 15 minutes. Other operators do it differently, they cut off dolphins and drop divers in which puts a lot of pressure on dolphins allowing commercialization of dolphins to get out of hand. Affects dolphins ability to rest.
- Dolphins are interacting with jet skis, it seems dolphins really want to play with people. Sometimes people almost hit them.
- Don't trust DLNR and NOAA. Scientific information given as examples is not always from Hawaii (example, fish counts from the Bahamas). Make sure the Hawaiian Islands are studied in the future.
- Don't expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. We should be able to catch sea turtles again, but regulate to a few month each year just like lobster seasons.
- Education and self policing will not work as the users or abusers only see it on their terms..... how these sanctuaries inconvenience them and the things they want to do commercially or recreationally. Man is the only organism on this planet that can adjust its lifestyle to protect and enhance the survival of other species, if mankind cannot see that, someday in the future, humans on this planet will regret it and wonder why we did not do more. Make more sanctuaries and include more species in them.
- Education of people on whales monk seals etc would be better than stopping ocean use. Hawaii is an ocean culture. Local people depend on it for food. The rich and greedy want these islands for their own retirement playground. Pretty soon locals going be an endangered species.
- Enough (No More)
- Existing boundaries were specific to HB whales, not other species. How could it help other species?
- Expand boundaries-for whales-not sure about other species. Fising rights etc.
- expand its (the sanctuary)scope to include protecting, conserving, and where possible restoring significant biological components and marine habitats occurring between the shoreline and a seaward boundary generally defined by either the 200~m or 100~fathom bathymetric contour (whichever is judged easier for seafarers using the sanctuary to identify) around all eight main Hawaiian Islands
- Expand Kuleana: More emphasis on habitat aspect
- Expand protection to include monk seals, sea turtles, and corals. Whale population increasing but seal population decreasing and need more protection (and regulatory enforcement). Honu are coming to shore more often and more susceptible to harassment, etc...
- Expand Sanctuary Boundaries. Many areas are not designated despite a high concentration of species in those areas
- Expand sanctuary scope to include their resources, for example corals. Federal money for sanctuary is bringing money to this community, this is good.
- Expand sanctuary to include water quality monitoring. Expand protection/add additional protection to monk seals, coral, shipwrecks and water quality programs/regulations.
- Expand the conservation and outreach efforts of the HIHWNMS to include Hawai'i 's other marine mammals, specifically the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal.
- Expand the stated goals of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan to officially include conservation and outreach efforts for Hawaii's other marine

mammals and sea turtles, specifically the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal and threatened Hawaiian green sea turtle.

- Expand to include all animals that live on the reef, turtles and monk seals. Expand to include coral reefs and education on coral reefs. Needs more protection because coral reefs are dying.
- Expand to include seals-keep current laws in effect also
- Expand to include turtles- keep fines in place also
- Expanding the disentanglement network throughout the state will also directly help whales, dolphins, seals and turtles. Yet it will not impose onerous bureaucracy on the local humans, as it will require no Sanctuary border expansions..
- Fear: Expansion will mean no say; that the sanctuary will then be a government entity. Managing the protection of animals needs to be done so scientifically.
- Finally, the sanctuary may be able to play an important role in addressing certain activities that have a clear potential for adversely affecting marine species and biological communities in waters surrounding the main Hawaiian Islands. For example, commercial and recreational fishing can incidentally take protected species, vessel traffic can kill, injure, or disturb individual animals, powerful sonar devices may injure or kill marine mammals and other marine species, and the installation of facilities or structures such as aquaculture pens or waste outfalls can preempt or modify habitat for marine life or introduce sources of pollution or disturbance to marine life. In many cases, the need or justification for regulatory measures may not be immediately apparent or may arise only after some future development proposal is made. In other cases, a need may be apparent, but further study is required to determine the most effective measures. For such activities where specific regulatory provisions may be needed in the foreseeable future but cannot be identified or developed as part of the ongoing management plan review, sanctuary managers should have authority to implement regulations as new information develops.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Hawaiian monk seals: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support studies to assess and monitor population trends, prey preferences and foraging habitats, and/or at -sea habitat-use patterns; (b) carry out public outreach and education programs targeting grade school children, recreational fishermen, swimmers and divers, beach-goers, and tourists; (c) coordinate volunteer networks on one or more islands to respond to seals that haul out on crowded beaches and need protection from disturbance by people; and (d) respond to distressed seals, such as abandoned pups, or seals that are sick, injured, hooked, or entangled in fishing nets or debris.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Spinner dolphins: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support research and monitoring studies to assess the abundance and trends of spinner dolphin populations and the impact of dolphin-watching tour vessels, private boats, and divers on spinner dolphin habitat-use patterns, (b) conduct public outreach and education programs on spinner dolphins and needed protection measures, (c) develop a mandatory permit program with rules of conduct for guided dolphin-watching tour operators, and (d) if ongoing studies demonstrate that closing areas of bays is a useful approach for reducing sources of disturbance for resting dolphins, develop regulations to establish safe, undisturbed spinner dolphin resting areas.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. False killer

whales: Monitoring the distribution, abundance, and trend of the Hawaii insular population of false killer whales and interactions between members of that population and nearshore fisheries, such as the shoreline and kaka line fisheries.

- Further, the sanctuary should be discontinued, not expanded, because the sanctuary most likely has had a minimal effect on the resurgence of the population.
- Good job with raising awareness. Ecosystem-based management: fishing interactions nearshore rec. fish, other species, actions within boundaries, dolphin excursions address, sea turtle interaction, multi-species / resource violation, entanglement.
- Ha'ena Makai Watch program and volunteers be provided with educational and outreach information about the dolphins and be encouraged to provide observation.
- HAAA and its aquatic-based businesses believe that humpback whales, sea turtles and other marine mammals of concern are well protected by existing federal and state laws and regulations.
- HAAA cannot support expanding the influence of the Sanctuary by increasing its size to all State marine waters and adding sea turtles and other marine mammals given the management track record
- HAAA has strong concerns over the potential negative and disruptive impacts of Sanctuary expansion in species of concern and geographic area on the sustainable economic use of State marine waters
- Habitats are critical, can't save species without habitat. As populations increase there will be impact on resources. Should evaluate that – and need to protect habitat not just the animals.
- Hana Seal: Monk seal does not need area cordoned off. It causes animosity within the community. Current approach to Hawaiian monk seal needs to change. Need to get involved in monk seal issue. They are on a fast track to extinction. NOAA has to change the approach on how monk seals are dealt with, the sanctuary needs to get involved. Regulations should be made to the betterment of the seal.
- Hanai, adopt something whale or dolphin into your family – will see differently – sanctuary can promote message with tour companies
- Happy as where the sanctuary is now. Dolphins already well protected. Monk seals and loggerhead turtles could benefit from additional protection
- Have rotating models/studies to try practices. Have rotating no-take areas to bring balance.
- Hawaii's monk seals, dolphins and green sea turtles are in serious danger. But currently the mission of the HIHWNMS, which manages shallow waters around the main Hawaiian Islands, is limited to only conducting outreach and education for humpback whales. Little attention is given to other species that live there. All of Hawaii's marine species need protection. The sanctuary could provide a vital service--not just educating people about whales, but also actually protecting all marine wildlife in its boundaries and their habitats. Increase the scope of the Sanctuary's mission to include conservation & management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats.
- HB whales close to achieve healthy level, focus on if it is appropriate to expand the sanctuary
- HIHWNMS could become a place where people can learn about all of Hawai'i 's marine mammals and be a sanctuary for all of the species that live there.
- How about NO to sonar testing by the military, and their associated defense contractors?
- How expand sanctuary boundaries and species?
- Human impact on almost every species here in Hawaii has been dramatic and cannot continue at the current pace without protected areas and rehabilitation plans for the affected wildlife and reef systems.
- Humpback whale recovery rate should be stated in the presentation. Recover of humpback whales since the sanctuary was established is good. Why reach out to include more?

- Humpbacks are doing fine. The sanctuary is looking to add new species to get more funding. The sanctuary is not needed. Sanctuary was not needed because management under Magnuson-Stevens Act was sufficient. Sanctuary is only here to give out federal grants and money, but it is duplicative. Interested what the budget is.
- I (Hannah Bernard President Hawai'i Wildlife Fund) testified in support of Council Member Joanne Johnson's proposed resolution "URGING NOAA TO INCORPORATE ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES IN THE UPDATED HIHWNMS MANAGEMENT PLAN", which was passed by Maui County Council on July 23.
- I agree that the HIHWNMS' original efforts to promote public education and outreach should be continued, with or without the HIHWNMS, to further protect and conserve endangered species.
- I am against anymore sanctuaries, bans or restrictions.
- I am against the marine sanctuary proposal. I am against any proposal that restricts in any type of manner island residents' ability to fish, swim, surf, or otherwise participate in ocean activities ever on the island of Kaua'i. The same goes for other islands as well.
- I am amazed that there has been no plan here to fore for the Whale Sanctuary here in Hawaii.
- I am for the present Status Quo and continuing educational resources
- I am opposed to any boundary expansion of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and the inclusion of other species within this sanctuary.
- I am opposed to any change in the sanctuary. I do not want to stop fishing of any kind or ocean use of any kind to further the marine mammal sanctuary.
- I am sending this letter, expecting to be the very one that's needed, in helping to stop this sanctuary. It would be soooo sad to watch our keikis grow up noticing what we once had, they cannot also have!!!!
- I am unsure if the sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels.
- I am writing against enlarging the present sanctuaries around the Hawaiian waters.
- I am writing to provide comments on the Management Plan Review for the Hawaiian Islands National Humpback Whale Marine Sanctuary, specifically to address the inclusion of an additional marine mammal species under the protection of the sanctuary, the resident population of "insular" false killer whales. Designation of the insular population of false killer whales under the sanctuary's protection would be a valuable step in recovering this population. Sanctuary involvement would help in creating public awareness and support for conservation efforts and could provide scientific research that may ultimately reverse the decline of this magnificent and important species.
- I believe that the sanctuary must learn to better manage their existing jurisdiction through better community partnerships and educational programs that effectively include and integrate Hawaiian cultural knowledge before any jurisdiction expansion should be considered.
- I can't understand why Spinner Dolphin have not been added to protected list. Just look for the boats and you will find the Spinners. They are hunted and chased every day. There is no concern for their rest time. What can and will be done?
- I do not support the humpback sanctuary borders being expanded and I do not support the regulation of coastal waters and the limitation of personal freedoms in those waters. There should be no use permits or licenses or limitations and feel free to call me back so I know that my information, or my opinion or my perspective is being considered and that others is as well.
- I do not think it continues to serve the sanctuary to only serve a single species, rather it should provide programming, educational and outreach support for all protected species in the area.

- I do think that the boundaries should be expanded and other species should be included. Boats are swarming pods and there are too many swim with dolphins programs. Based on personal dolphin research the swim with dolphins program does change the pod behavior.
- I find that the proposed plan to retain and expand the sanctuary boundaries to accommodate (yet to be determined) additional species has no rational basis. If the humpback has "graduated" from its sanctuary due to its numbers increasing to the predetermined recovery milestones prescribed by the ESA and MMPA, the sanctuary should be discontinued.
- I have heard that you are passing legislation to limit boats to 10 mph, close beaches to humans and fence them off, charge tour operators incredible amounts of money to operate. This is absolutely ridiculous. I am in favor of protection of the seas and the ocean animals but it sounds to me that you are getting incredibly out of hand! I vote no on any proposal you are making unless you come to your senses and make better decisions.
- I have still to here or see any reason or study for the justifications for the proposed expansion of the whale sanctuary, what are the reasons? Where are the studies? What are the treats? I especially would like to here what threats that the local fishing community pose to the whales? therefore I feel very strong in my opposition towards expanding the whale sanctuary,
- I hope that Spinner dolphins become that added resource...to see the mobs of swimmers pursuing Spinner dolphins during their rest periods close to shore is heartbreaking...What happen to enforcing the Marine Mammal Protection Act?
- I propose the existing sanctuary be maintained and adhered to in its present form. There is no realistic need for any addition or expansion of the sanctuary.
- I request the Sanctuary to ban, or effectively regulate aquarium fish extraction statewide. Including holding aquarium trade collectors accountable for mortality, humane treatment and tax clearance. Fees and fines reflect the considerable expense of tracking reef extraction and its effect on reef health.
- I say education is the key., not expansions and inclusions.
- I speak for my entire family when I say that this plan is very ill-advised. First of all, the 'Hawaiian' Humpback Whale is NOT native to Hawaii and neither is the 'Hawaiian' Monk Seal.
- I think the Sanctuary should include other species, especially monk seals, sea turtles , other cetaceans, dolphins. I would like to see a consideration of boundary expansion.
- I throw net, I throw my pole and I dive. I think this expansion is totally unnecessary. There is a lot of different things that noaa can spend there federal money on.
- I truly appreciate all that you do for the magnificent Humpback. Please take all the knowledge and love of those creatures and help protect the rest of the ecosystem in which the humpbacks live. They all need your help. Money is tight I know, but education of the entire ecosystem could be added to the current systems you have in place. Thank you so much!
- I truly hope there will be continued sensible management of the whales and activities within the sanctuary, and that your agency understands the potentially significant negative impact the wrong changes would have on many responsible and concerned Hawaii residents.
- I urge you to adopt measures which protect this critical habitat. Please provide the watchful protection of these wonderful mammals deserve with thoughtful rules and studies.
- I want to see more studies on species before more species are brought in (e.g. taape toau).
- I would encourage that NOAA take the time through this process (MPR) to clarify common misconceptions about the Sanctuary and the role it plays in protecting our marine species.
- I would like the HIHWNMS to become a place where people can learn about all of Hawai'i's marine mammals and be a sanctuary for a ll the species that live there.

- I would like to express my opposition to expansion of the current boundaries of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and the inclusion of Other Species within this sanctuary.
- I would like to respectfully ask that you do not approve the current proposal under review, which could lead to the limitation and or/cessation of ocean activities that many of our residents participate in.
- I'm not against expanding to include other species. I'm just not sure if now is the time for it. Jobs – the education programs the sanctuary has been doing are great, but don't see it creating jobs for local people. There is still a lot of work to be done towards the original mission. Sanctuary should show results toward mission to protect whales. Still need to work to meet original goals. Sanctuary expansion does not seem to bring jobs and money to THIS community. If it were that would be great.
- I'm not convinced the sanctuary should expand to other species at this time. Look at the existing programs and make sure the sanctuary is really protecting humpback whales. Ecosystem-based approach makes sense. It's a good approach but may not be time (yet) to add other species at this time. More education on what the sanctuary already does so that people understand and to increase awareness.
- If boundaries are expanded, species increases, threats are addressed, will require additional regulations – which will require more resources to manage.
- If expand sanctuary to include other species – don't only have speed limits during whale season but year-round
- If the boundaries of the sanctuary has been a success factor in the increase in number and health of humpback whales, then there is no need for change. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.
- If the Sanctuary expands to include other species, it should include: monk seals, false killer whales, and spinner dolphins. With false killer whales there are issues with toxicity (heavy metals, persistent organic pollutants) and same goes for other toothed whales. Spinner dolphins – movement offshore if swim with dolphins programs are curtailed nearshore. At 100 fathom isobath you miss all species, but spinner dolphins. The Sanctuary should manage at whatever boundary is doable and feasible.
- If you need to put some rules in place to protect our animals, how about banning sonar blasting from the military base on the westside, how about banning the war games that go on right off our shore.
- I'm against the expansion of the Humpback Whale Sanctuary.
- I'm opposed to the expansion of the sanctuary
- Impose limitations on acoustics (sonar). Study this (but not a study done by the military).
- In addition, the NOAA update on the sanctuary condition does not strongly suggest that expansion is necessary at this time. In fact, it appears that a lot of NOAA's data (except for runoff) comes from areas remote to Hawaiian nearshore waters!
- Include Laws to protect reef habitat
- Increase number of species – would increase outreach & education, sanctuary should be involved
- Industry is exploiting the dolphins too much, may need to regulate how the operators do their tours (in blocks of time, not when they are resting). Now tours are run throughout the day, even when dolphins are resting.
- It is a truism that wrecks can serve as artificial reefs, but this process of reef formation needs to be recognized, monitored, and evaluated, too. Controlled benthic surveys on wrecks within the Sanctuary to measure biodiversity and biomass of species that colonize wrecks are needed. Keep in mind that the date or year of loss is usually known for each wreck, so these are unique opportunities to measure this process of colonization since the wrecking date. This, of course, would be relative to

the natural reef or seabed species in the vicinity of the wreck. Each wreck presents a kind of "biotic clock" that allows managers to observe and measure this process.

- It is my opinion that the humpback whales no longer need to be on the endangered species list. In addition, the sanctuary should be reduced or eliminated, not increased, as the effect of the sanctuary has most likely had little effect on the resurgence of the population.
- It is not to be used as a tool to get funding and jobs for a few people who work on research and Sanctuary policy makers.
- It's not easy to change people's minds about major issues like treasure hunting and the taking of marine species, but this kind of "hands-on" involvement is a proven and effective way to do it.
- Just like the Nene we have to have education and we do have to all live together. We cannot continue to care more about birds and sea creatures more than people.
- Limit all sonar activity during whale season and comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales.
- Limit all sonar activity during whale season to comply with NOAA noise policies
- Limit military noise (sonar). Limit.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 14knts. On this issue my complaint is tour operators come to close to me while I'm anchored. I don't have any problem with going 25 knots if they would use some common sense. It's a big ocean they can go around me.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 16knts. Small boat drivers can see whales and other animals so we avoid them sooner. I know I and maybe other boat captians look out for them.
- Little enforcement: need speed limits - strikes; sonar for military, beached whales, water quality (monk seals), reef
- Making sure people are aware of water quality issues and agencies responsible is a way sanctuary can help. Injection wells are beyond the scope of the sanctuary responsibility (regulations) but maybe it can help other agencies with the issue. Research and cooperation, not regulation in addressing water quality and effects on reef. Sanctuary can document changes over time, make sure public and agencies are aware of that.
- Marine conservation law and policy today favor an ecosystem approach to conservation and management. Not only do humpback whales require specific protective rules, so do the coral reef systems, water quality and other aspects of Sanctuary critical habitat.
- More people should be made aware of issue of sea snails being taken just for their shells. Clinton reg. passed a law preventing collecting. Sanctuary should put out a pamphlet explaining this for the public.
- More resources should go to towards researching the impacts of Navy sonar on whales and dolphins and other marine species to verify the Navy's own studies.
- My concerns for expansion of the Sanctuary are for the people who rely on the ocean for their livelihood, whether as an outlet for them to put food on the table or earn a respectable living wage to support their family.
- Native Hawaiian knowledge and participation should be integrated into all areas of the sanctuary, most importantly: Resource Protection, Education and Outreach, Science, Management, Maritime Heritage
- Need education about spinner dolphins and pilot whales, they are nocturnal and need to rest during the day.
- Need on-airlines education to captive audience (whales, honu, monk seals, reefs)
- Need to assess noise impact to ecosystem and limit noise causing activities. Consider boat speed limit.
- Need to bring science together to really find out status of resources and threats.

- NHINM The Sanctuary should also investigate measures necessary to protect whales in the Northwest Hawai'ian Islands National Monument (NHINM). The management plan should include research on this topic and result in recommendations and a way forward for protecting humpback whales and associated species in Papahānaumokuākea.
- No enforcement: entanglement, harassment. 99% of the time nobody to call – slow to respond, no prevention. Favor conservation / expansion. How can we step up enforcement?
- No expand Sanctuary to include corals-find out the real reason why the coral is dying
- No expand to include corals-overdevelopment and too much tourism is the cause of reef damage. Nothing to do with Sanctuaries.
- No expand to include monk seals-they are overabundant. They are beginning to upset balance with man and other species. And they are not indigenouse to Hawaii
- No expand to include reefs- coral reefs should be protected by first enforcement of Laws in place. Ridiculous fines should be given and jail
- No expand to include reefs- if the problem is the improper use of land and not the use of the ocean, why regulate the ocean. Regulate the land use
- No expand to include seals- first of all I never heard of seals in Hawaiian history. So in reality they are an invasive species. Again federal laws are enough. Anything more is a waste of resources
- No expand to include seals- monk seals are a nuisance they should take all of them to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.Not indegionous
- No expand to include seals- monk seals are not native to here. They were brought here
- No expand to include seals- public education on monk seals haas been extremely successful in protecting the seals so why include them except again for government control
- No expand to include seals- seals were introduced in the northern Hawaiian Islands. No Sanctuary
- No expand to include seals-monk seals are not even native to Hawaii
- No expand to include turtles- the turtle population is doing just fine it would again be a waste of federal dollars. I feel they should consider settings permits to take turtles for food
- No expand to include turtles-no need, too many turtles need to have open take season
- No expand to include turtles-too many turtles, need to open take season
- No expansion for any ocean, or shoreline coral sanctuaries.
- No reduction in size or scope- whales, seals and turtles should be taking off endangered species act
- No reduction in size or scope-leave as is
- No reduction in size or scope-no sanctuary expansion
- no sanctuary expansion!!
- No take zones can be very useful and should be considered but implemented over time. Establish a process to do so in the future to determine what areas might work best on a rotating basis.
- NO take zones is not the answer though we do need further conservation efforts. I would recommend a type of kapu system where it is a cycle of rotating no take zones, or certain species.
- No to expand the whale sanctuary. No to expand the sanctuay to include all islands and all the way around the islands out to 100 fathoms.
- No to future expansion of sanctuaries and listings.
- NOAA should study humpback-predator interactions now to determine the baseline – is the balance being upset? Should also do an ecosystem assessment now – see what happens later for example if the sanctuary increases protection for species and boundaries.
- Of great concern to me is the U.S. Navy's use of sonar in the waters around Hawaii. I have learned that it is dangerous and potentially fatal to whales and dolphins. I very much hope to see the Sanctuary include this issue with other important areas to be addressed within its revised management plan. I think the science and literature should be reviewed as to the effects sonar

technology has on whales and marine mammals. I would hope that its use could be severely curtailed or mitigated. I especially would like to see it banned during the "humpback whale season here in Hawaii".

- One of the worst threats to whales is Naval SONAR. The Sanctuary is doing nothing to step up and protect the whales from SONAR. SONAR does not respect boundaries.
- Our coral reefs are being damaged by improper grubbing and grading of coastal lands, run off of non regulated pollutants and by introduced species of invasive seaweed and fishes. Less than 1% is due to direct contact by local recreation fishermen using nets, fishing lines or diving, surfing, body surfing or any other means of recreation or sustenance gathering. The issue regarding our reef and coral system and species is directly related to coastal property owners. Be it private or commercial properties that are not being policed by NOAA, DLNR, DAR or any other governmental agency, be it on the county, state or federal level. There should be an annual or at least bi-annual study done on coastal properties and their affects on our reefs and coral species.
- Over population of monk seals in the MHI could be a disaster to our reefs lobsters, reef fish!
- Please add my name to the list of those who FAVOR the plan to make the Hawaiian Islands a sanctuary. I believe that overfishing and net use will make all of these wonderful sea creatures extinct. I live on Kaua'i and would like to see all fishing discontinued in all of the world's islands. We have plenty of chickens on this island to eat!!!!
- Please do not extend the sanctuary any further.
- Please expand the protection!
- Please expand the scope of Hawaii's Sanctuary to include the protection of this unique marine mammal and include in this expansion an adequate budget to assist in a comprehensive outreach and education program within the Hawaii Sanctuary Management Plan to build awareness of the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal.
- Please expand this area. All of the Hawaiian marine animals would benefit from the attention of the Marine Sanctuary. They need it badly.
- Promote public awareness, understanding, and support for marine life, marine ecosystems, and related conservation measures
- Protect all habitat - kapu systems. Save something for later.
- Protect native species and endemic species. Sanctuary should include other species, maybe even the whole ecosystem, maybe regulations on fishing and number of boats that make an economic profit off these animals (whales).
- Protecting these other species, and educating people about them, is another way to honor the gifts of the ocean in Hawaii's Marine Sanctuary.
- Protection of and education about all of the Islands mammals is crucial to the maintenance of respect for marine life.
- Public education and outreach should however continue to further protect and conserve endangered species.
- Putting coral reefs in to the sanctuary is just like what they did in NWHI and there is now no fishing there. We are an island state and need the resources to survive not more restrictions on our lives and livelihoods.
- Re: False Killer Whales, the Sanctuary can assist in providing resources for documenting habitat use patterns and supporting greater protection of key habitat.
- Re: false killer whales, the Sanctuary could be helpful in assisting the understanding of the operation of these fisheries within its waters. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) recently convened a take reduction team to recommend measures to reduce impacts from the longline fisheries. However, the take reduction team, of which the Humane Society of the U.S. is an appointed

member, heard information that additional impacts may accrue from interactions with shortline and kaka line fisheries operating in their range, though data on these fisheries are sparse.

- Re: Should the sanctuary vision include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels? ["rapidly increasing populations of most of the species listed in the Sanctuary's...those laws and regulations are working, but there is no purpose"] Which laws are they referring to? Again, false, mis-leading information-not pono to be mis-informing people with false information.
- Recognizing that sanctuary management plans may remain in effect for five or more years, the Commission believes that the management plan and associated sanctuary designation document for this sanctuary should preserve an ability to adopt timely regulatory measures for activities that reasonably could be anticipated to pose a significant risk to sanctuary resources. In this regard, the Marine Mammal Commission recommends that the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries revise the management plan and associated designation document to reserve authority to regulate future activities and development including, but not necessarily limited to, vessel traffic, commercial and recreational fishing, sources of acoustic impact that could injure or kill marine life, and installation of structures whose presence or operation could adversely affect features or resources that the sanctuary is established to protect, including marine mammals.
- Regarding further protections of Sea turtles: Current laws on the books have done an excellent job of bringing back the green sea turtle in Hawaii. These laws should remain in place and continue to be enforced. Additional sanctuary protection will not provide any numerical advantage to the population of sea turtles
- Regulation of the number of boats in a particular area is important for protecting dolphins. To reduce boating impacts on marine mammals we should have some regulated locations of boats, possibly direct them in two different directions around pods.
- regulatory changes may be needed to protect sanctuary resources, especially if other resources are added to the Sanctuary
- reserve authority to regulate future activities and development including, but not necessarily limited to, vessel traffic, commercial and recreational fishing, sources of acoustic impact that could injure or kill marine life, and installation of structures whose presence or operation could adversely affect features or resources that the sanctuary is established to protect, including marine mammals
- Sanctuary "vision" should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Especially if no one can even enforce it.
- Sanctuary needs to be ecosystem-based. 100 fathom contour area good start, but other areas may need more or less. 100 fathom contour needs to be flexible depending on resources/bathymetry.
- Sanctuary should change name to "Hawaiian Islands NMS" (drop "humpback whales") and expand to protect other resources
- Sanctuary should reduce size and scope-sanctuary should be reduced or eliminated if the species is no longer endangered
- Sanctuary skews reports of direct human effects vs. non-direct human effects. To gain credibility with ocean users, the Sanctuary and NOAA would do well to differentiate the harm caused by direct human interaction with a given species (such as a human poaching turtles or shooting seals) as opposed to indirect human interaction (such as agricultural run-off or discarded fish nets). The amount of actual harm caused criminals intent on killing or injuring seals compared to the actual harm caused by indirect human action is insignificant!
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels.

- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Ocean doesn't need to be over populated need to keep balance of mother nature.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Reduce size.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Reduce.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Stop getting ridiculous stupid. The best volunteer is the educator. Like I said, don't know how and when no fish! maybe we should volunteer and [illegible word] people who like fish and eat no what sizes is suitable, but need to tell when our economy sucks, losing jobs, and they starving.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. No need.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Please let the Hawaiians vote on this.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Remember days when ahi was big, no moa today, casually but times are hard, just need to inform. We the people are caretakers of our land and ocean.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. We should spend less money on sanctuary areas and spend it on education.
- Saving and making our island waters a sanctuary is no the answer. Education is.
- Scientists have advised that speed regulations should be put in place, with adequate monitoring and enforcement. The sanctuary speed limit should be about 13 knots to protect the whales from vessel collisions, with minimal distances from dolphins and whales required while under power. The cost of enforcement could be born by fines, with higher fines for commercial vessels.
- Sharks and sea horses, two of the most threatened and rapidly depleting types of marine life, share those waters. This is a great chance to educate visitors about them too, especially in Hawaii where sales (many illegal) of shark and seahorse derived souvenirs are still common.
- Should have a website to report abuse or injury to turtles
- Should look at traditional practices for management (eg species management). Look into traditional management for specific species. Look into oli for information on species movement. Traditional knowledge is an untapped resource for active management. Should partner with Hawaiian language schools and find students interested in doing cultural projects. There is a huge, huge wealth of information in the newspapers (Hawaiian language). The kapuna knew it would be lost, so they learned to read and write to document the knowledge.
- Since all sea life exists within an expansive ecosystem, it makes no sense to single out just one species for education, conservation and protection. By expanding the reach of your action by including dolphins, turtles and seals, you will assure that the necessary environmental balance is maintained which assures the health of the whales and the success of your project.
- Single species? Speed limits, shipping lanes, balance between economic conditions

- Sonar – what are the effects on HB whales and other species? We don't know. Protect everything you can – do the most you can do. Our place to protect them. People have responsibilities to protect and take care of resources.
- SONAR & ACOUSTIC IMPACTS: Limit all sonar activity during whale season and comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- Sonar can be tested in other waters than the sanctuary, and should not be allowed anywhere in the vicinity. The sanctuary should be extended to encompass all of the Hawaiian Islands and channels between them. The effects of sonar are well known on species who use sound in their survival and direction of migration, without re-proving by research on the specific endangered species.
- Sonar exercises, water pollution, ocean acidification, huge net fishing must stop or be greatly limited.
- SONAR testing takes place at depths greater than 100 fathoms.
- Sorry but I hate RIMPAC, Honolulu small businesses love it, they get all the \$\$\$\$ from it, we get all the environmental hits. RIMPAC sucks for the marine life. I believe that NOAA should have us do assessments and fish counts on the reef off of Mana while the military games are being played. One season, and there would be enough evidence of disruptive marine ecosystem for perhaps to be considered as substantial evidence.
- Spearfishing is a major problem. It damages corals and turtles get entangled in line. Need outreach to fishermen. Need to educate fishermen, especially the younger population. Fish and coral abuse for too long cannot be sustained. Need more enforcement to protect the environment and possible closure to give environment a break from pressure.
- Specialization of a species makes sense. How appropriate is it to include other species. Potentially include other mammals, but it might be difficult to manage other species such as corals. We may need other regulations.
- Speed limits for boats. Vessel strikes with humpback whales, other marine mammals, and turtles are a problem.
- Studies of the ecosystems with regards to the proposed windfarms. How will this impact the reefs and up the food chain. Sanctuary should be expanded to include ecosystems
- Study/research on resources with local fishermen directly involved. a. Act now for future generations. b. All ocean interconnected
- Suggestion: Commercial permits holders be informed about the potential disturbance of protected, stressed or resting animals.
- Support research and monitoring studies to assess the status of marine species, ecosystem health, and historical relics within the sanctuary and to guide management actions
- Taking on other stuff may shoot the sanctuary in the foot. Taking on so much because the resources are so vast you run the risk of not completing the existing mandate. Public education can continue to be done without expanding the boundary and expanding the species. Are the economic resources available to expand?
- Thank you for all that you do to preserve the magnificent humpback... Humpback whales are majestic creatures so worthy of protection! Dolphins, monk seals and green sea turtles are also noble, ancient and indispensable creatures whose number, species and habitat should be protected. Please expand your outreach and education services in an effort to preserve the variety of these beautiful, delightful and God-given marine animals that make the ocean a bastion of life and hope for generations to come.
- The (false killer) whales comprise little more than 120 individuals, the remnant of what appears to have been a dramatic decline over the past twenty-five years.
- the (false killer) whales' core range includes the HIHWNS

- The expansion of the existing whale sanctuary in Hawaii doesn't make sense to me. I need proof from NOAA's confirmed studies to prove to me that whales are dying and being hurt in our Hawaiian waters, and I respectfully request that you release these documents for public viewing.
- The facts presented to me shows whale growth is on the rise every year. Our laws in Hawaii protects these whales. There are enough rules and regulations protecting the whales, seals, turtles. There are no data that proves to me that an expanded sanctuary is necessary. There are a abundant number of turtles and I believe turtles are ready to be taken off the endangered list. Bag limit of turtles taken in a year! Lottery!!
- The greatest enemy of the whales in the Hawaiian waters is the navy and their unregulated use of sonar!!
- The green sea turtle is also thriving since the ban was put into effect years ago. To the point that they pose a threat to human life. In fact it would probably be wise to lift the ban and place a bag limit or size limitation or something like that to alleviate the hazard of possible shark attack on humans.
- The Humpback Whale Sanctuary's educational programs for Hawaii residents and visitors have raised awareness of the whale's plight over the past two decades. We know that similar education and outreach would greatly benefit the monk seal.
- The inclusion of the seal in Hawaii's Whale Sanctuary would help to build the public awareness that is essential to the seal's recovery.
- The management plan should include an in-depth study, with recommendations and an implementation strategy, to extend the stewardship of the Sanctuary to include other species, to define the resulting ecosystem boundaries and interactions, to monitor land-atmosphere-ocean interactions in these ecosystems, and to regulate human use of the Sanctuary waters.
- The monk seals are coming back in numbers on Niihau. Imposing regulations would only hinder their come back. More rules, more rule breakers.
- The ocean is a delicately balanced ecosystem. We need to look at all life in that spectrum in order to save each individual species. Please expand your scope to really make the difference you have set out to make.
- The proposed increase in sanctuary scope to include "marine resources" other than humpback whales could lead to the limitation and or/cessation of ocean activities that many of our residents participate in. This proposed scope may not be related to preserving humpback whales, Hawaiian monk seals, other marine mammals, sea turtles, or the positive increase in repopulation of fish.
- The research should reach all species with endangered status and protect the habitats needed to help these species thrive to a healthy population.
- The sanctuary "vision" should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Because of over population of the species causes less food source, disease, starvation.
- The sanctuary "vision" should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels because there should be no sanctuary.
- The sanctuary has done nothing to protect whales from sonar or acoustic disturbance. The Sanctuary should limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- The Sanctuary has tile opportunity to leverage its education, outreach, and coordination resources and expand these support activities to better protect Hawaii's marine wildlife.
- The sanctuary is doing its job well and whales are recovering. No further action is needed. Why try to fix something that isn't broken? Just because an organization is doing well, does not mean it should expand and grow to become a bigger bureaucracy. In times of skyrocketing deficits, we should focus

our efforts on smaller, locally managed areas – perhaps something based on the traditional Hawaiian ahupuaa – mountain to ocean – style of management. It should not be a top-down bureaucratic model where the federal government essentially dictates to the locals what they should do.

- The sanctuary is in nearshore waters close to humans. There has been an increase in unknown diseases in marine animals. We need more education to get the public to be more considerate of what they're dumping. We need to evaluate and be concerned with the impact of oil and nonpoint source pollutants in the storm drain system.
- The Sanctuary should be much more vocal and proactive about the serious threats to whales and all ocean life. Educate the public on the realities of the situation.
- The sanctuary should establish a minimum water depth in which boats cannot enter to protect where whales can go to rest. Given all of the boat traffic, the humpback whale population has increased. The animals are adaptable to human interactions. Look at the existing humpback whale habitat and current HIHW mandate to address concerns, not necessarily expand the boundary and add additional resources.
- The sanctuary should expand to include monk seals. ["according to available information the population is growing and pup mortality is down in Human occupied areas"] This is blatant lying. Endless articles, public service announcements, local outreach provides the accurate information about their critical status and serious decline.
- The Sanctuary should limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Have more education - example have environmental groups give free talks in hotels and resorts.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Our plantation are no longer in operation which limits runoff problems and human pollution is being addressed through education on being more responsible.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include dolphins. Dolphins are endangered do not need protection.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Currently we are competing with seals for resources. Monk seals are not native to the islands current laws give monk seals more protection than they deserve.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Monk seals are not native to Hawaii - they were brought here.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Monk seals are NOT native to Hawaii. It's only in recent years anyone has heard about monk seals. I am 69 years old. My father was a fisherman. In all his years of fishing and in my years of fishing we never heard of or encountered monk seals. Only in recent years have they appeared here. And they are a problem for stealing fish from the net my son sets.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Not indigenous!
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. You brought the seals here. Take them back.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. Hawaiian eat turtles so if can make season with bag limit.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. I'm on the ocean everyday. The turtle population is out of control. They should be taken off the endangered list, and opened up for hunting season,, so we can keep the numbers of turtles under control!!!!
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. No additional protection needed, current laws providing large fines has been very successful.

- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Include visitors and limit outsiders influence and ability to influence anything in Hawaii.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Ofcourse, if theres no need for laws or sanctuary's they should be removed untill there needed again. The laws put in place right now are working, theres no need for more. Stop wasting our tax dollars,, focus more on the real problems. Pollution and runoff, you stop thos our ocean will FLURISH.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Sanctuaries shold be flexible sanctuaries and bans should not be "forever"
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. They should reduce the size because the whale population is doing fine by itself. Don't need to expand - reduce!!
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Your "vision" may not correspond to what islanders know and see to be true.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - I don't see the expansion helping the whales, dolphins, or monk seals.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - If the protected species are doing good and the public is not complaining about the existing sanctuary then it shouldn't be reduced.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Is perfect da way is, no need change nothing.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - No reduction, but its fair Know what kinds of things going on in Hawaii.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Seems to me that 40-50 years ago there was less fish on the shoreline with all the seasonal non fishing ? seems more today.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Yes If you don't, the natural balance of the habitat will be altered.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - We don't need anyone to tell us if we can fish or not. Its natures way of controlling the fish, birds, whales, etc. Not ? way. Don't use these things for your personal gain.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Must be scientifically correct.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - The current population are more than adequate. It may need to be reduced in the future.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - The real problem is enforcement of

any of these laws. Proper enforcement is weak as it is already with many officers turning their heads when laws are broken.

- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Things are working fine with the way it is set up now. If it aint broke don't fix it!
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - We don't need volunteers t watch our waters. That's what enforcement is paid to do.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Get rid of the seals.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. I agree. There really is no purpose for a sanctuary, unless some group is looking to cause hostile reactions. Hawaii's people respect having their lifestyle and even livelihood curtailed by misguided "do-gooders".
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Laws and regulations that are currently enforced are working, there is no purpose piling more laws and regulations on top of them.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. No reduction but still would like volunteers to continue watching our waters.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Species will spread around island.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a pland for reducing its size or scope as species are removed form endgangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Don't make more laws, you have too many as it is.
- Then the "Yet to be determined" additional species must be identified and their sanctuary requirements (size, location, etc.) determined. The "tailor made for Humpbacks" sanctuary might not be a good fit. It could be too big (or small), or not in the right location for whatever the additional specie(s) turns out to be. It appears that NOAA is attempting convert the single specie humpback whale sanctuary into an "all comers" sanctuary without knowing if it is appropriate for the "all comers" species.
- Then you put the so-called Hawaiian Monk Seal into this Sanctuary. Where is the history of this seal ever being a animal indigent to the Hawaiian Islands. In my youth, there were no mention of monk seals. This animal was introduced to the Main Hawaiian Islands, and if they are not fairing right, it is because the environment here is not what they are accustomed to. Actually, the seal is more harmful to the fisherman, especially the divers, when encountered. In this case, the human species has no protection from the aggressive seals. The seals should be back in the Caribbean, where they originated.
- There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs.
- There is no need for further restrictions. The laws that are in place protecting these creatures are sufficient.
- There is no need to bring in other species, they are protected by existing laws like the ESA and the MMPA, if those laws are adequately enforced, but that is a big problem. If higher fines are implemented in the sanctuary, this may not be effective for boaters; what is next? Ban boaters? The government is growing too big, the Sanctuary staff is too large, there are more regulations. The

Sanctuary boundaries do not need to be expanded. The whale population is growing at 5-6% a year so there is no need to expand. There are about 11 species of whales that are associated with the Hawaiian Islands. The whales move around a lot, they are not helped by the Sanctuary's existence unless they are in it. What will you do for them the rest of the time? Expanding the boundaries may impact (especially economically) commercial whale watching. The government is too large.

- There is no need to enlarge sanctuary.
- There is no real need for any further expansion to sanctuary boundaries other than to further restrict mariners, fishers, etc. and will in turn provide ³priority arenas² for more human activity such as whale watching, research dollars/projects and these may not necessarily be beneficial to the whales per se.
- There is way to make dolphin tours ok but not with regulations – regulations get people angry. Dolphin tours should self-regulate with cooperation, education.
- There should be a 3-digit emergency number to call that is easy to remember when at the beach to report something, eg “SEA” like a 911 for the ocean.
- There should be a moratorium on spearfishing, like take every other year off. The reefs are hurting, lots of people don't know what they are doing and are taking anything, including undersized animals
- There should be no more humpback whale sanctuaries expanded...the growth of the whale population has gotten dramatically improved.
- There should be noise limits for all Hawai'ian sanctuary areas, with no exemptions, including military.
- This critically endangered species (referring to Hawaiian monk seal) needs protected habitat with abundant food sources. Considering how critical the situation is, it only makes sense to extend protections for this species and its food sources within the sanctuary boundaries.
- This is a letter condemning the implementation of whale, dolphin, coral, seal and other related ocean sanctuaries that your agency and all other private / public agencies have proposed to the inhabitants of the Hawaiian Islands.
- This is not the time for you to interpret this success as an opportunity to expand your authority to other species or habitats that you believe need your protection. We do not need nor can we afford redundant federal regulation given the fact that we already have the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammals Act (both Federal Laws enacted by Congress) to protect our treasured resources.
- To educate the world and protect all marinelife in its boundaries and their habitats. This is a crucial matter that is directly related to the chain of life on this planet.
- To enlarge the sanctuaries and prohibit activities would be another "nail in the coffin" for tourist not to come to Hawaii.
- To stop the degradation of the oceans, Jeremy Jackson, a professor of oceanography at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego, identifies overexploitation, pollution and climate change as the three main “drivers” that must be addressed. I request the Sanctuary to be MUCH more vocal and proactive about the serious threats to whales and all ocean life. Educate the public on the realities of the serious threats to entire marine ecosystem.
- Tour boats and all other boats travel very fast in areas with turtles and dolphins – want 13 knot speed limit within sanctuary
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels.
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Depends on species.
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - I'm for protection of whales but don't take away my rights that are inherent.
- Unsure if there should be military noise limits (sonar).

- Update approach regulations with inclusion of other species to be more comprehensive and inclusive to other species protected.
- we are against the expansion of the Humpback Whale Sanctuary
- We have the rules in place to protect marine mammals by international law. Just check out the punishment for taking coral.
- We recommend that the Sanctuary take action to limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales.
- We request the Sanctuary ban aquarium fish extraction statewide.
- We should expand the boundary and include other species for recognition since the work with other species is already being done and for possible additional funding. We should not increase regulations.
- We the members of the Maui Co operative Fishing Association object to the expansion and inclusion of additional species to the Hawaii Island Humpback Whale Marine Sanctuary.
- Whales, dolphins, turtles, etc. have for many many years and are currently on the rise showing very strong numbers! therefore I don't see any reason that would justify the expansion of boundary's or inclusion of any other marine mammals!
- What about protecting and conserving living HAWAIIAN peoples and their ways of life? Protecting and conserving other living marine resources and submerged cultural heritage resources should NOT put a limit or destroy the culture and way of Hawaiians, Hawaii, or its visitors.
- What are the impacts of swordfishing? Are we taking too many fish? We need to capture good information and research on sustainability. We need to study the baseline; what are the impacts on commercial species?
- What would happen if we saw animals differently? Not as a resources (change language – avoid the use of the word resource)
- Why do you want to expand the sanctuary?
- Why expansion?
- Would bringing other species in change the name of the sanctuary? Would require a lot of education through the center.
- You have accomplished your mission and it is now time to relinquish your authority over to the State of Hawaii. his is not the time for you to interpret this success as an opportunity to expand your authority to other species or habitats that you believe need your protection. We do not need nor can we afford redundant federal regulation given the fact that we already have the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammals Act (both Federal Laws enacted by Congress) to protect our treasured resources. I would respectfully ask that you consider transferring full management over to the State of Hawaii and re-allocating our taxpayer dollars into areas that truly need help -Perhaps Education.

Ecosystem Protections: Area-Specific

- Anini Beach – good area for no take zone.
- Area should be expanded to Hilo area. Should expand species to include monk seals and turtles.
- Certain areas of the Sanctuary should be 100% no take areas free from human extraction of any kind
- Certain research sites [coral reefs] within the Sanctuary have shown significant declines from 1998 through 2007, including Honolua Bay, Kahekili Park and Ma'alaea Bay. Reef decreased in the Kahekili Park study area from 55% in 1998 to 34% in 2007. Ma'alaea Bay within the Sanctuary is an example of coral reef collapse going from 75% to 4% reef cover in the same time period. Observers of the reefs around Maui report extremely low populations of all fish and in some areas fish populations are almost non-existent.

- Changing habitats Kaua'i: whale lessons. Where the whales are, where the people are? Interactions. Realistic: dynamic boundaries. Want false killer whales added because they are impacted by fisheries.
- Close sections on each island, and rotate to help ocean recover
- Commercial kayaks, recreational kayaks, stand up paddle boards and boaters are all using the estuary of Hanalei River. Interactions and harm will come to these honu which are often difficult to see.
- Concern: Commercial and recreational activities occur daily in Hanalei Bay and interaction with protected, stressed or resting animals may occur.
- Concern: Commercial and recreational kayak activity occurs in Ha'ena Bay and may disturb the rest of dolphins thus reducing their hunting and feeding ability
- Create a rehabilitation center for all marine mammals and turtles on Kaua'i.
- Designating Ma'alaea Bay as a marine preserve within the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale Sanctuary would focus more attention on addressing and mitigating contributing factors to reef decline from shoreline activities and human impacts.
- Despite numerous incidents of whale deaths and strandings or near-strandings due to Navy Low and Mid Frequency Sonar usage, it is still in use today. In addition, the RIMPAC exercises are also conducted in the heart of the Whale Sanctuary, important fishing grounds and habitat rich with marinelife. The Navy must conduct an EIS and has declared it will do so. Since Maui County is the heart of the Hawaiian Whale Sanctuary, it is absolutely appropriate, in fact, it's our kuleana, to be the leader in this management review process.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. Beach front property and coast like Napali prevent access as it is.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. This is so ridiculous but I guess it's all about being ridiculous.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). Fish being depleted by pollution and invasive species.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). The introduced roi (peacock grouper) is the problem!! They eat all of our reef fish and dwindle the reef fish population more than any or all fisherman can do.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). We live off the ocean and its fish for food and lifestyle.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). There are already size limits that are in place.
- Do not establish no take zones. Enforce current law. Fund game wardens. Stop introducing invasive species such as roi, taape, etc. The state did this. Put a county on these fish.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals are already protected. They've been coming up on beaches all around island. Especially tourist attractions (Poipu).
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals protected. They everywhere. Following all fishermen. "One for you, one for me" its okay- Oneday Poipu, seal starts to come in and lifeguard sees him, wave the orange cones and puts it where he wants the seal to go and u not going believe. Seal goes to the cone (true story)
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles. Sea turtles are everywhere, you know they destroying reef also -sometimes cant swim at certain beaches. Ex. Brennecker. By the way turtles got lots of diseases on them. Who take care them? Protect turtles! Alot are sick!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - There is no need for an expansion. The current laws protecting the wildlife is working fine. If it aint broke don't fix it. Marine wildlife off the state of Hawaii are all increasing.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. The whales and all other sealife are not harmed by boats.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - If you dredge the rivers (Waimea for example) silt run off will decrease and small fish habitat improved.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins - I've been taking tours to watch dolphins and whales for over 25 years in Hawaii they are fine around Kauai stop hunting whales and drift net fishing over 200 miles off shores.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Dolphins are doing well also. I have seen dolphins almost daily every trip I take down the Napali coast.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals are a threat to our food supplies for the island of Kauai/State of Hawaii. They were brought here. Who's responsible? They are not a native species.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Overpopulated on Kauai and they are eating all our fish.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. They should bring the seals back to the North Hawaiian Islands. It should have not been introduced to MHI.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. We have seen 2 monk seal pups born on the Napali coast this summer and we take care of them in and around all Islands.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. There are large numbers of sea turtles and this is a healthy sign. I caught turtle 38 years ago with my Hawaiian neighbors, then they weren't federal protected, They (the turtle) are doing very well around Kauai: very many!
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. No expansion needed.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. We don't need to spend more money to expand the sanctuary- more education is what's needed.
- Do not expand to include sea turtles. The turtles are doing exceptional well on their own. No expansion! Redirect your work toward education. Not limitations to the people of Kauai/Hawaii.
- Do not limit military noise limits (sonars). Sonar is not the cause. If it was, whale population would not increase or come into waters of Kaua'i.
- Education is key component for all ocean users including fishermen to increase awareness. Conservation areas could be good for fishermen as it will protect resources
- Expand boundary to include northwest shore of Molokai, Mo'omomi (Nature Conservancy nature preserve). Less than 6 months ago, a dog got in the Nature Conservancy nature reserve and killed many ground-nesting shearwater birds. Need to include that area to protect the very endangered shearwater. There is not much habitat left for them.
- Expand no-take areas for replenishment, assess areas for effectiveness.
- Expand scope – expand Kaua'i boundaries/regulation changes to include eastern side of Kaua'i and south side (poipu).
- Fibropapillomatosis is a tumorous disease that has reached epidemic proportions among Hawaii's Green sea turtle population. On the West coast of Maui 75 % of resident turtles are infected with this virus. Currently Maui puts 15 billion gallons of waste a year into coastal waters.
- Ha'ena Bay. Issue: Dolphins use this site for rest in the daylight hours
- HABITAT DEGRADATION: Institute laws to protect reef habitat and to establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i, such as Anini and Mahu'lepu.
- Hanalei Bay Issue: Various species of whales have utilized Hanalei Bay as a place of refuge.
- Hanalei Makai Watch program and volunteers be provided with educational and outreach information about the dolphins and be encouraged to provide observation.
- Hanalei River...Issue: Honu are utilizing the River as a place of refuge, feeding and resting. In 2010 five individuals have been observed.

- Have staff for education and response on Molokai especially if expand scope of sanctuary.
- Hawaii's coral reefs are of national significance; they are in crisis and lack agency protections. Many variables demonstrate the alarming deterioration of these reefs especially those off Maui and located within the boundaries of the Sanctuary.
- I am a captain of a tour boat out of Waimea. I see the marine life every day and I am looking forward to whales in one month. We are the stewards of the Na Pali and we take the ocean as a office. We see the turtles whales Nov-April and are aware of the laws that protect them, they are see[ing] a good comeback in numbers.
- I am a resident of the island of Kauai and I'm opposed to any expansion of the humpback whale sanctuary management plan and also opposed to including other marine resources within that plan. We have enough laws in place already to protect these animals. Thank you very much. Please for the record, note this comment as opposed to any expansion of the humpback whale sanctuary.
- I am concerned that proposed enlargement of the scope of the whale sanctuary management plan may restrict public natural resource shore line and ocean access. West Kaua'i has suffered significant loss of natural resource public shore line and ocean access in recent years, at the same time public use has significantly increased.
- I am writing to bring to your attention a series of coral reefs, within HIHWNMS waters in the Au au Channel, that may be particularly good candidates for inclusion within the Sanctuary. [see email for detailed description of mesophotic coral ecosystems]
- I am writing to bring to your attention a series of coral reefs, within HIHWNMS waters in the Auau Channel. I am not sure what the criteria will be for candidate organisms or communities to be considered for inclusion within the Sanctuary, but I describe these reefs below, and a broader context is provided in the attached reprint.
- I am writing to express my opposition to your plans of expanding the reach of the HIHW National Marine Sanctuary. It seems that you have fallen into the trap of elevating the animals lives and safety above that of the people of Kaua'i who fish to provide for their families, to those who provide incredible experiences for those who visit this island from distant places and to those who choose the ocean for their recreation, i.e., surfing, snorkeling, and scuba diving, among others.
- I do not support an expanded scope of the sanctuary's "marien resources" to include he closure of any fishing areas or the creation of any "no take zones". In this day and time, it is unfortunate that so much is being taken away, especially activities that have been part of our livelihood for many generations.
- I don't believe expanding the sanctuary here on Kaua'i would be beneficial to its purpose. Expansion would take away the life, the culture, the resources for livelihood here on Kaua'i. The fishermen and ocean users need to survive here on Kaua'i to expand would take away the life from the people here. Do not expand the sanctuary.
- I have been diving for 37 years in the nearshore reef systems. I feel distressed about the changes. The sanctuary should have "no take" zones to protect the nearshore reef systems (water quality, injection wells, runoff, effects of pineapple fields).
- I personally think and know for facts that there is a lot of [illegal?] netting taking place. First, by the declining in fish population year to year, by what we catch pole fishing. In August the word got out that 3 or 4 boats went into Secret Beach and netted 1500 lbs of moi without any consequence. Instead of trying to correct issues that already work - put this money and initiative into enforcement of rules and regulations. Like Maui, no netting.
- I suggest the Sanctuary expand to include corals. The Sanctuary should look at native Hawaiian coral reef protection practices. West Hawaii Island is one of the only spots in the State where we've seen coral growth. Hawaiians understood the importance of the coral reefs.

- I think that this money is better spent on education than trying to arrest the hard working people of Kaua'i and that we must learn to co-habitat with the Seals and turtles.
- I would like to see the sanctuary expanded to the east side of Hawaii Island because whale numbers are increasing to that side. The boundary should ideally be expanded to the entire east side, including Hilo and south. Punaluu should be included for protection of nesting hawksbill sea turtles.
- In regards to the Humpback Whale Sanctuary Management Plan, I would like to respectfully ask that you do not approve the current proposal under review, which could lead to the limitation and/or cessation of ocean activities that many of our residents participate in. While I support the protection and preservation of our endangered marine species, it is my position that any enlargement of the scope of the sanctuary's "marine resources", should provide Kaua'i and Niihau residents protections from "prevention of participation" in ocean related activities.
- In view of the number of critically endangered species such as the Hawaiian monk seals and hawksbill turtles that are known to frequent Ma'alaea Bay, for example, the bay itself should be designated as a marine preserve existing within the confines of the whale sanctuary and the above mentioned endangered species should receive increased protections.
- Include Kohoolawe, expand boundaries, important for reefs, resources and Hawaiian culture
- Include turtles and monk seals and shearwater and extend the boundaries to the areas where they are (North Shore of Molokai).
- Is there data for other species to indicate their density? Sanctuary needs to include this science for boundaries.
- Island-specific is a good idea for certain fish, also county is a good idea for invasive fish.
- It involves TEMPORARY "no take" of specific areas, which in a matter of 18 months BENEFIT fishermen and all marine life.
- It is every tourist's thrill to see a whale, sea turtle, or monk seal. I also support expanding protection for these marine species. Kaua'i's isolated location also makes it an ideal setting for increased protection of marine species. I 100% support any and all efforts to increase the protection status of Kaua'i's whales, turtles, and monk seals.
- It is proven that Marine Protected Conservation Areas are very effective in re-establishing healthy reefs and fish populations. Why are there no Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. Tourism would be favorably affected by such Marine Conservation.
- I've been fishing these shorelines from Kealia to Haena Northshore my Dad and brother since 1957 and never had these problems with monk seals and Dolphins. But we used to eat the sea turtles back then, and use to drink the blood from the turtles for Asthma purpose. So please think of opening a season for turtles.
- Kaua'i had a program to check on coral health (UCLA, Reef Check) but the ongoing monitoring and related education has been discontinued. Let's get this re-established because it was valuable.
- Like MPA established on Kaua'i
- Make laws to protect reef habitat and to establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i.
- many clients are already using these (maritime heritage) sites for recreation and professional purposes. Shipwreck sites, for instance, offer a fish haven which is utilized by fishermen, tropical fish collectors and commercial dive operations (especially off the south shore of O`ahu)
- Marine reserves have proven to be highly effective in re-establishing healthy fish populations. The conservation areas in Hawaii amount to less than 1 % of entire coastline. These protected areas have been proven worldwide to re-establish healthy fish populations and reef habitat. It involves TEMPORARY "no take" of specific areas, which in a matter of 18 months BENEFIT fishermen and all marine life. There are no Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. The sanctuary should help protect reef habitat and establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i.

- Marking the site of a seal haulout calls attention to what would go unnoticed by most people. A particularly good example of this is the March 20, 2010 haulout 4 miles south of Lahaina, Maui. After the NOAA people arrived and made sure the tape was visible from the roadway traffic came to a virtual stop. Traffic was delayed for hours. Keep in mind this is an area where surfers often park on both sides of the road and it is quite normative for traffic to pass through cautiously yet still maintain a good flow. With the caution tape things changed dramatically.
- Monk seals babies are born in Kaulapapa, swim to Penguin Bank to eat after pup's weaned. Penguin Bank is the best place for monk seals to fish. Proposed wind turbines would need submerged cable to Oahu. Proposed cables could go north of Molokai or through Penguin Bank. The sanctuary should oppose an electrical cable going through Penguin Bank because it is monk seal feeding habitat. Do not support electrical cable going through Penguin Bank, will leave negative impact on monk seals.
- My fear is that if you include monk seals, green sea turtles, dolphins, and coral reefs we could have many issues that are very negative to users of the ocean. Fishing restrictions have been mentioned as being probable if these marine resources are included. Changing boundaries around our island and Niihau to include areas visited by these resources is dangerous. I fear that Niihau will be taken away from us as a fishing and surfing and diving area.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Over fishing could be the cause, not Boating, surfing, swimming let the DLNR handle the over fishing in areas that need it.
- No expand to include dolphins- dolphins don't need protection in Hawaii because we don't hunt dolphins and they are a lot more intelligent than we think. I haven't seen any dead dolphins on Kauai
- No expand to include seals- Monk seals were brought to Kauai. If the gov is concerned about the growth of monk seals they should move all the seals north to the biggest sanctuary in the world. North frigate
- No expand to include seals-need to remove from main Hawaiian islands
- No no take zone. There are current laws in place. Put some of that government money to get rid of non-native species.
- No no take zones - Offer a reward for removal of the invasive species moi NOW through the department of the DLNR - Why is moi an invasive species?
- No no take zones-The state brought in these invasive fishes without extensive studies. We, the recreational fisherman and divers are being penalized for this. The public must now get rid of these invasive species so native fishes of Hawaii can thrive again. Show me the figures that show recreational fishermen and divers are depleting the fishes. There is more damage caused by invasive species. I'm doing my part to get rid of Roi's, Taape, and toau. forget about no take zones.
- No take zones that alternate years.
- NOAA has provided a grant to the Hawai'i Chapter of the Nature Conservancy and it's subawardee M!lama Maunaloa, to remove 23 acres of *A. amadelpha* in the first large scale removal project for the species in Hawai'i. Ongoing monitoring and assessment are needed to evaluate impact of this removal on native habitats and populations, as well as to monitor cover of IAA in the entire bay.
- NOAA should go to the public and get suggestions and feelings toward their current and future plans. Ex. Consult with the public which areas of the islands are more depleted of fish, which fishing activities cause the worst threats to reefs and fish populations. Once more info is known locally, conservation ideas can then be formulated so both the public and governing sectors can be satisfied.
- Numerous injection wells, both public and private, are located within close proximity to Ma'alaea Bay. Encouraging, if not mandating, alternative technologies such as reclamation, enhanced nutrient removal and constructed wetlands would have the effect of controlling harmful nutrient levels of

nitrogen and phosphorous within the Bay itself and help to protect and produce more food sources for critically endangered species.

- Ocean acidification represents a threat to biological diversity that is, likely, as severe as global warming. Reefs are dying from pollution & over nutrification. Fish are disappearing from pollution and overfishing. It is proven that Marine Protected Conservation Areas are very effective in re-establishing healthy reefs and fish populations. There are no Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. I request the Sanctuary to make laws to protect reef habitat and to establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i.
- On October 9, 2009 a Monk Seal was born on Koki Beach Hana. I had an opportunity to watch this seal grow to nine weeks of age. To learn more about Koki, just search Google, "Koki Monk Seal." Koki was tagged and also had a transmitter placed on him. About April 4, 2010 his last reported position was southwest of where he was born about fifteen miles. NOAA suggests the battery on the transmitter went out as they are prone to do. Word on the street was that Koki had been killed by a spear fisherman. Four months later there have been no further sighting of Koki alive or dead. NOAA put a lot of effort into keeping the public away from the mother and pup. They also talked of taking Koki away because they feared he would be "to friendly" and yet when local observers reported that he may have been killed they did not respond with anything more than "battery failure" and "this happens all the time."
- Please consider some special "No Take" areas on Kaua'i in and around Poipu, Shipreck Beach to Allerton, in and around Kilaua Point to Kalihiwai. Perhaps use a pilot area to start with and continue research to support its expansion.
- Please do not make the waters around Kaua'i a whale sanctuary. Most people already respect the whales and monk seals etc. and others would be better served with more education. Making this area a sanctuary would lead to a cultural and economic catastrophe.
- Pollution is an issue and areas of no-take zones.
- Protecting this species and its vulnerable resting habitats is crucial to the persistence of these spinner dolphins and is a task that the Sanctuary should undertake as part of its mandate.
- Rehab center on Kaua'i for multiple species together with community.
- Sanctuary can help other things (species). Sanctuary is great umbrella to add more species and should be included in the sanctuary. Boundary should include a band on the north shores of the islands: Maui, Moloka'i and Oahu.
- Sanctuary should address impacts from inshore fishing gear (i.e gillnets). No take zones should be added, rotated periodically and well advertised in addition to expanding boundaries
- Sanctuary should be expanded in terms of species to include dolphins, monk seals, turtles, other cetaceans. This is part of the heritage of this island. Living entities of the ocean and is consistent with maintain the heritage of the Lanai.
- Sanctuary should expand in boundary and species with holistic look at what is allowed and not allowed in the sanctuary waters. E.g. reducing fuel burning of Maui Electric in Maui, sustainable food sources...
- Sanctuary should have some no take zones. - Let the people take a vote if an area needs to be left alone meaning throw nets because of over fishing then let the DLNR police the area that's why we pay them.
- Sanctuary should have some no take zones. - No take on severely de-populated fishing areas. Make more sanctuaries on Oahu - they are the most over fished.
- Several fishermen have shared their concerns that expansion of the Sanctuary would be a threat to their livelihood and change the composition of what makes Kaua'i special.

- Should re-visit the re-setting of the boundaries to the original boundary that was based on the scientific boundary of where whales are found, the 100 fathom isobaths. Should expand the boundaries based on science. Sanctuary should include all other marine species and what they feed on. Need to look at the bathymetric maps. Need to look at all islands for expansion. There were 1,000-1500 whales in the North Pacific earlier, now there are 20,000 whales. Should move to a marine sanctuary (eg do water quality).
- SOS is especially concerned with the health of the main island's rural near shore reef and shoreline habitat where the seal's are able to survive.
- Speed limits in shallow areas to protect turtles (zodiacs go fast in nearshore waters).
- Suggestion: Commercial kayakers be informed about the need to avoid interaction with the dolphins in this location, this may be added to their SMA permits issued by Kaua'i County. Educational signage be provided in the adjacent Ha'ena Beach County park to provide information to commercial and recreational users of the area.
- Supports center.
- Temporary Rotating no take zones is probably a good idea.
- The first forty years of my life I never saw a monk seal on Kaua'i and now it is a common thing to see them on the beaches surrounded by people. They too are protected with rules and regulations.
- the Marine Mammal Commission recommends that, in revising the management plan for this sanctuary, the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries expand its scope to include protecting, conserving, and where possible restoring significant biological components and marine habitats occurring between the shoreline and a seaward boundary generally defined by either the 200-m or 100-fathom bathymetric contour (whichever is judged easier for seafarers using the sanctuary to identify) around all of the eight main Hawaiian Islands. In some areas, boundaries might include deeper waters so as to protect representative habitats or species assemblages such as deep-water coral beds. In other areas, a shallower depth contour might be warranted to exclude areas zoned, used, or otherwise set aside for particular purposes, such as commercial harbors or areas used by Native Hawaiians (e.g., nearshore waters off Niihau)
- The sanctuary should establish some no take zones (fishing). This would be good in some areas, where fish are depleted.
- The sanctuary should expand to include sea turtles. ["No additional protection needed as current laws providing for large fines have been very successful."] Is it true that populations have "dramatically" increased? Based on what study? How many breeding pairs are on Kauai? How many have the Fibropapillomatosis virus? How many have been hit by boats this year?
- The Sanctuary should look at issues such as: wind farms, vessel speeds, west side of Lanai for undersea cable, a haul out area for Hawaiian monk seals
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. The people of Kauai do not allow anyone near the monk seals at anytime.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Those islands that are already designated for this purpose meet the needs and no other expanding is necessary.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. There should be no "no access zones" The local economy and families would be in ruins whether you owned your own business or worked in a hotel/restaurant etc.
- The sanctuary, if any, should be on the South Side where the majority of the whales and seals are.
- There are more turtles now on Kaua'i, why hasn't the ban been lifted?? They don't care??
- There are no Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. The sanctuary should help protect reef habitat and establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. All the other Islands have this.

- There should be more grants available to study and implement several conservation programs around Kaua'i. First one: coral replanting after storms. Kaua'i has the largest and oldest pocillopora eydouxi corals found on any of the main Hawaiian Islands. A replanting project as has been done even in Oahu after the navy ship was grounded is proving to be successful just of huge scope. We need a continuing coral replanting project here on Kaua'i. I strongly urge this type of project to pay local diving professionals to participate. That way, you have the residents "owning" the project, the government is injecting the \$\$ directly into the local economy, the corals get to start a new life and Kaua'i will benefit with more coral coverage underwater continuing to enlarge that habitat and food source instead of its continuing diminishing quality and ability to protect other species.
- There should be no "no access" zones. Reef fish stay in their immediate area's. Only predator fish move all over they have wider range.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. I think the solution to this would be placing bans on certain types of fish during the year to let them reproduce. We have some of these laws in place today and them seem to be working.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. No take zones would result in the increase of invasive species. This in itself would cause a decline in non invasive species of fish.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. They close off areas for how many years and don't let anyone fish too see if fish population increased. If the state made a bounty for invasive species (because they made the mistake of bringing in the roi and perch). The schools of perch must eat a whole lot of food which would mean small squid lobsters opakapaka ehu seabass onaga, lehi and etc. It's not overfishing.
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones. Control amount of tuna caught pieces and size
- Turtles and seals – there are hundreds of turtles at 4 mile in Hilo (Keaukaha) and I've seen people interacting with turtles and we need more education to tell people not to disturb the animals.
- Unsure about access zones-there may be a need for "special zones" if necessary for monk seals to land and nurse on certain beaches
- Unsure if the sanctuary should create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.). Maybe just have seasons closed/open for different species.
- URGENT: Please protect reef habitat and to establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas: either MLCD's or Marine Parks on Kaua'i.
- Visioning process: where should the sanctuary be in 20 years? Relationship between seabirds and marine life. Petrels are an endangered species here on Lanai. Why can't birds be an added resource to the sanctuary as part of an interconnected ecosystem.
- Wailua, Waimea – expand system all the way around the island and have research to look at whole picture.
- Water quality in Hanelei is biggest concern - don't see as many fish in water as we used to – sanctuary could monitor.
- Water quality: turtles in Pala'au (in the south shore of Molokai) have the highest rate of cancer in the world. The reason is Monsanto even though it is the biggest employer in this island. Stop GMO runoff into sanctuary. Monsanto helps fund the TNC reserves (through the Molokai Ranch through the Nature Conservancy) on Molokai, they give water to feral animals during summer. These animals would otherwise go into town to drink and get shot. Too many feral animals cause pollution too.
- We support actions to insure habitat and environmental protections for the near shore waters, our reefs, and waters within the Sanctuary.
- What is not understood is the connection between the condition of the reef and the health of Humpback whales. Considering that this species spends a significant amount of time in Maunaloa Bay, potential connections should be investigated. Similarly, the condition of marine habitat and food

sources for other currently managed species found in the Bay such as the endangered Hawaiian Monk Seal (*Monachus schauinslandi*) and threatened Honu (*Chelonia mydas*) should also be considered.

- While I support the protection and preservation of our endangered marine species, it is my position that any enlargement of the scope of the sanctuary's "marine resources" should not include the closure of any fishing areas or the creation of any "no take zones" and should provide local fishermen, ocean users and Kaua'i and Niihau residents protections from prevention of participation in ocean related activities as they have enjoyed for generations
- While I support the protection and preservation of our endangered marine species, it is my position that any enlargement of the scope of the sanctuary's "marine resources", should provide Kaua'i and Niihau residents protections from "prevention of participation" in ocean related activities.
- With regard to spinner dolphins, the Commission understands that the National Marine Fisheries Service is proceeding with a study to determine the effects of no-entry areas in certain coastal bays of Hawaii on spinner dolphin habitat-use patterns and abundance. If the results conclude that closing portions of bays to vessel traffic and swimmers is useful for preventing harassment or improving spinner dolphin survivorship or reproduction rates, then the sanctuary may be able to play a role in protecting them under a new management plan. For example, the sanctuary could consider permanent closure of areas deemed important for spinner dolphins or approach limits for boats, divers, and swimmers.
- Work with Keith Robinson to make the entire reef area outside the jurisdiction of Niihau a no take sanctuary for 18 month to 2 year intervals. He seems to be the only person that is taking a long term vision to protecting the marine habitat.
- Would like to see expansion of boundaries around all of Kaua'i island. Include other species

ENFORCEMENT*Enforcement: General Concerns*

- Community agreement on enforcement
- Concerned about enforcement. If expanded, can sanctuary get \$\$ to do this.
- Current population would be about the same-stop poaching and population rises
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Again, the current indigenous gathering/ fishing rights need to be recognized and enforced /implemented.
- DOCARE is spread thin, there aren't enough people, it's overworked and the law enforcement officials aren't familiar with working on the water.
- Don't see enforcement of whale approach violations – big concern
- Ecosystem-based management. Actually enforced. Long-term vision to protect all aspects (whale watching, fishing, etc)
- Enforce regulations and rules we have now, instead of creating more. Want children and grandchildren to be able to take fish in future
- Enforcement – we see tour boats surrounding the whales. Who does enforcement? We need more.
- Enforcement important. Not enough officers to cover what we have now. Expand enforcement as scope of sanctuary expands.
- Enforcement of Hawaii state waters should only be under the jurisdiction of the state of Hawaii, and if the Federal government wants to get involved, it should only come in the way of funding!
- For those people abusing the ocean how are you guy plan to enforce the law if DLNR can't do it already.
- Funding source, resource for enforcement.
- Funds are needed for enforcement.
- How can we make sure that rules are enforced/followed (i.e. sonar, speed limits)?
- How do you police conservation efforts? (utilizing resources)
- How many citations issued per year? (Whale approach violations)
- If no enforcement – waste of money: policy and enforcement necessary to make it work
- If sanctuary takes on more enforcement it needs to be inviting, friendly.
- If you enforce the laws in place you should not have problems with fish depleting
- If you want to do more protection, hire more DLNR game wardens to protect the already off-limit areas and regulations already on the books.
- Improve Sanctuary Monitoring and Enforcement. The current “coordinated” federal and state monitoring and enforcement efforts are not working well enough and solutions are needed for improvement.
- Less than 1 % of the sanctuary budget is spent on enforcement. Currently there is practically no enforcement of existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act). We further request that more resources be spent on the abovementioned existing laws.
- Local marine management – like to see Local Marine Management Areas (LMMA's) supported by communities and the sanctuary. Sanctuary can help enforce rules that are created by local government.
- Look at the water quality from non-point source, too. Support enforcement of Clean Water Act that is being violated by state and county through injection wells.
- Make enforcement visible
- More enforcement personnel.
- Official enforcement and self enforcement are options
- Please enforce existing protective laws.

- Please include more federal enforcement in Hawaii's Sanctuary.
- Resources for enforcement from a community perspective. And community involvement.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protection - How about more enforcement on International Fishing in US waters.
- Sanctuary should support state to increase enforcement (funding)
- Some ways that I think would help stop this problem (over fishing) is by having a better management system. There needs to be a monitoring system and then a strong enforcement to make it work.
- Spend our federal money for more enforcement. Enforcement officers in other states (Alaska, Oregon) are not DLNR. They are state police and they do a good job.
- Support (enforcement) all aspects of sanctuary, with partner agencies.
- Support if including other species but not until there is more enforcement
- The endangered humpback whales, Hawaiian monk seals and Hawksbill sea turtles are not blessed by conscientious enforcement of the Endangered Species Act² in Hawaii.
- The enforcement of a marine sanctuary should be coordinated with eliminating commercial fishing in the sanctuary, since the reefs and environmental balance need to be maintained.
- The ocean has become a toxic soup. There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs. We need land-based community watches, reporting and criminal follow up to enforce laws.
- The Puako community Association and our community has been active in Makai Watch and other programs affecting our reef and near shore waters.
- The sanctuary should start documenting what whale watchers do – they have regulations to follow too – should follow the 100 yard approach rule – no one is there to enforce it. When the whale population increased it wasn't because of the sanctuary. They were increasing worldwide. Why bother with the sanctuary? Nothing except education has been done by the sanctuary and the whales recovered anyway. Whales bug the fishermen, they don't want whales around while they fish.
- The State should consider re-instating the Marine Patrol to increase enforcement and education because DOCARE is spread too thin.
- There should be program that rewards fish net reporting. Fish nets need to be labeled as to their owners. Owners need to be liable. Net entanglements are the main reason for human caused whale deaths
- There should be programs that reward fish net reporting. Fish nets need to be labeled as to their owners. Owners need to be liable. Net entanglements are the main reason for human caused whales deaths.
- There should be water quality enforcement. Those creating pollution should be fined. Sanctuary should have enforcement team.
- This is not an adequate number of officers for such a large jurisdiction with so many endangered marine species, complex fishing regulations and other enforcement problems.
- Use the money to solve the problem then add to it. Don't blame us people. We obey the laws.
- Water quality and related enforcement.
- Whale counters could do reporting of violations (community members)
- What is the process for additional species?? A. How will you include them? B. What enforcement changes will coincide with additional species?
- Why is there only one enforcement boat in Maui? Need more enforcement especially in winter when whales are around.

- Year round protection for whales. Entanglement - where are the nets coming from - track nets? Enforce fines for nets. No attention for sharks - keystone species. Poaching - whales reef fishing longlining. Concern for future.

Enforcement: Potential Solutions

- 14 knot per hour speed limit during whale season with fines and enforcement. Presently there are no speed limits to prevent ship strikes.
- Are fishing no take zones really effective? Increased boundaries and regulations hard for everyday ocean users to do what they do without fear of prosecution
- Areas within the Hawaiian sanctuary must include speed limits with enforcement.
- Areas within the Hawaiian sanctuary must include speed limits with enforcement. Scientific research proves that boat speed is clearly a factor in the incidence of collisions. Scientists have advised that speed regulations should be put in place, with adequate monitoring and enforcement. These laws should include strict enforcement for vessels hitting whales or going over the speed limit.
- Boat-strike and boat speed issue is the number 1 issue – regulate speed: Tour boats in the whale watching business are a big part of this issue
- Changes in scope or boundaries: don't see the point if there is not the resources for enforcement. Make enforcement real
- Concerns from observing what's happening in sanctuary, what efforts are being made related to enforcement? If expansion, how to enforce? Main Hawaiian Islands are the concern of most people.
- Consideration of whether the Sanctuary's conservation efforts should include threatened and endangered species such as Hawaiian monk seals, spinner dolphins, sea turtles, and coral reefs should be based on an evaluation of the need for such efforts and of the effectiveness of marine protected areas in benefiting such species. For this and other reasons, additional funds should be dedicated to better regulatory monitoring and enforcement and to scientific research on the species' protection impacts related to water quality, acoustic noise sources, aquaculture, and offshore alternative energy development.
- Does the sanctuary have the power to enforce/implement all these new regulations?
- During whale season, limit and enforce speed limits within sanctuary to 13 knots with tough penalties that actually hurt the perpetrator financially.
- Education and enforcement can work hand in hand
- Education and enforcement should be more the priority. Do more to educate everyone (teach our children) and make more of a presence for enforcement in the ocean.
- Education vs. enforcement
- Enforcement – find ways to police ourselves through education rather than having law enforcement involved. Sanctuary can help with education.
- Enforcement – not easily recognized, people aren't aware that it exists, not a big deal to break the rules because they are not enforced. Need to have a boat on the water with logo, need to be visible.
- Enforcement in Monterey Bay and Florida Keys – not always giving a ticket, but can help educate users on how they are breaking the rules, can be a source of knowledge.
- Enforcement to decrease vessel whale collisions needs to be strict and implemented
- Enforcement. The sanctuary needs teeth.
- Establish laws to protect whales from vessel strikes. Include a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- Expand educational programs to promote voluntary compliance with regulations

- Expand protection to include monk seals, sea turtles, and corals. Whale population increasing but seal population decreasing and need more protection (and regulatory enforcement). Honu are coming to shore more often and more susceptible to harassment, etc...
- Fishing nets need to be used cautiously in the Hawai'ian sanctuary, with fishermen accountable for retrieving all equipment.
- Get involved in the tropical aquarium regulation and enforcement. It needs policing.
- Good to have laws but need more enforcement. Enforcement should be throughout the day and night (not only from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm). Need more manpower for enforcement.
- Hefty fines for speed limit/approach violations and then put monies from enforcement fines back into increased enforcement efforts to encourage compliance.
- However, I do support the on-going education and outreach elements of the existing sanctuary charter which reads in part: "The primary focus of such efforts lies in educating the public about existing regulations that protect humpback whales, enhancing the enforcement of these laws, and working cooperatively with other agencies to increase awareness of humpbacks and their habitat." and, including the other species for this purpose is commendable. Sanctuary boundaries are not needed to conduct such education and outreach efforts.
- I am opposed to too much administration cost. The best enforcement is one where everyone benefits by education of doing the right thing even when no one is there to ticket.
- I do know that each island is a little different and the enforcement of existing laws or regulations is non-existent on Kaua'i. How can you make more rules and have no enforcement?
- I hope that Spinner dolphins become that added resource...to see the mobs of swimmers pursuing Spinner dolphins during their rest periods close to shore is heartbreaking...What happens to enforcing the Marine Mammal Protection Act?
- I request the sanctuary establish federal and state laws to protect whales from vessel strikes. Include a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- If expand boundaries where will the funding come from?? enforcement resources are limited
- Increase law enforcement example Florida. None of these proposed laws and or sanctuary will make a difference. The first thing that we need is enforcement checking peoples' catches and even boarding boats in the ocean for illegal nets and or catches.
- increasingly concerned about the lack of programs, regulations or other visible attempts by the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS or Sanctuary) to protect humpback whales from several immediate threats to their welfare.
- instituting regulations and fines to deter the frequency of fishing nets discarded in the ocean. NOAA can support new laws mandating that all nets have owner identification; fines should be imposed on violators and policies to reward those who collect stray nets should be developed.
- It's not everybody that breaks or goes against your laws, but there are a few. But don't punish us for their stupidity and senselessness. We would still like to enjoy our shorelines and beaches for fishing and family outing and fun. And to teach the younger generation to do it the right way.
- Keep proper distance, speed down. We are doing all we can but we see others breaking rules. Enforcement issue.
- Laws to guarantee that all nets are identifiable and most importantly hold owners liable
- Little enforcement: need speed limits - strikes; sonar for military, beached whales, water quality (monk seals), reef
- Make Speed laws enforce them.
- Make strong laws to have all fishing nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.

- Make strong laws to have all fishing nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- Mentioning an educational campaign on the website and holding a vessel management workshop in 2003 with no follow-up is not sufficient to protect whales from ship strikes. Rules and enforcement are needed to address this expanding problem.
- Need federal enforcement officers on each island. Include federal officers and community education similar to the Florida Keys.
- Need more clarity of the boundaries. The current boundaries are difficult to enforce and the public does not understand the boundaries. The original boundary should be re-looked to simplify enforcement and clarify where the sanctuary is to the public.
- NET ENTANGLEMENT: Create strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets. Reward boaters who collect stray nets.
- No enforcement: entanglement, harassment. 99% of the time nobody to call – slow to respond, no prevention. Favor conservation / expansion. How can we step up enforcement?
- No expand to include reefs- coral reefs should be protected by first enforcement of Laws in place. Ridiculous fines should be given and jail
- No not-take zones. Kids need to learn balance/sustainability and how to be enforcers through education on sustainable fishing.
- One part we will support is the on going education and outreach program to protect the HB Whales, maintaining the efforts for the existing regulations and enforcement, and working with the community to be aware of the HB Whale and their habitat.
- Other sanctuaries have speed limits so now is the time for this sanctuary to change this by establishing laws for a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season. These laws should include strict enforcement for vessels hitting whales or going over the speed limit.
- Perception of distance (100 yards) from shore is difficult to estimate. People might think a boat is breaking the rules when they are not.
- Please create and strengthen laws to protect whales from strikes. Include a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- Please create laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- please include in this expansion an adequate budget to build a comprehensive outreach and education program for Hawaii's unique and diverse ocean life and more funding for enforcement of our protection laws.
- Prohibiting fishing or spear fishing here in Hawaii will create a scenario that will be extremely difficult if not dangerous for enforcement officers to manage and assure public compliance with any NEW statute created.
- Pump-out stations at harbor. Water quality. Need to address policy or regulations against dumping of vessel discharges. Or better enforcement. Or more pump out stations.
- Putting enforcement in writing no good—only put in regulations you can really enforce. Seen a renewed vigor in DOCARE. Currently there is an environment of ignoring rules. Education is preferable to enforcement. Regulations need to be enforceable.
- Realistic enforcement: having meaningful regulations and focused enforcement.
- Regarding further protections of Sea turtles: Current laws on the books have done an excellent job of bringing back the green sea turtle in Hawaii. These laws should remain in place and continue to be enforced. Additional sanctuary protection will not provide any numerical advantage to the population of sea turtles

- Regulations – enforcement – compliance: What is the relationship?
- Regulations in to protect whales and enforcement of reg's.
- Regulations Needed to Mitigate Vessel Strikes. A speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales must be instituted.
- SANCTUARIES BOUNDARIES AND ENFORCEMENT: Expand the sanctuaries boundaries. Enforce existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- Sanctuary "vision" should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Especially if no one can even enforce it.
- Sanctuary should be involved in water quality legislation. Need sanctuary enforcement and monitoring for water quality.
- Scientists have advised that speed regulations should be put in place, with adequate monitoring and enforcement. The sanctuary speed limit should be about 13 knots to protect the whales from vessel collisions, with minimal distances from dolphins and whales required while under power. The cost of enforcement could be born by fines, with higher fines for commercial vessels.
- Sediment flowing into the water has a negative effect on habitat. I would like to see the boundary expanded to what was originally proposed. The current water treatment system needs to be replaced. Injection wells carry waste water right to the reef. Sanctuary should get involved in water quality. It impacts fish and corals. Need to do more testing and enforcement. County water treatment is not good enough. Need federal government to come in and help.
- Ship strike remains a major threat to the North Pacific humpback whales throughout their range. The Sanctuary staff and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources personnel have done an outstanding job of boater education to increase boater awareness of whales in Hawaiian waters, but the encounters continue. Clearly, excessive speed in the vicinity of whales can exacerbate the problem. Sanctuary management should consider, implement, and enforce a 14 knot speed limit in all Sanctuary waters from October 1st to the following March 31st each season. Such regulation can only increase the degree of "whale awareness" of boaters on Hawaiian waters and increase protection of the whales within the Sanctuary.
- Sonar can be tested in other waters than the sanctuary, and should not be allowed anywhere in the vicinity. The sanctuary should be extended to encompass all of the Hawaiian Islands and channels between them. The effects of sonar are well known on species who use sound in their survival and direction of migration, without re-proving by research on the specific endangered species.
- Spend monies on education, not on erecting more sanctuaries. There are already enough rules that can't or aren't enforced, we don't need more rules.
- The Advisory Board for the sanctuary must be representative of the entire community. The Advisory Board should create enforceable policies and rules while also ensuring that funding for the Sanctuary includes effective regulatory oversight. The management plan should include a description of the formal role of the Advisory Board, and a strategy for implementing and enforcing policies and responsibilities of the Sanctuary.
- The Sanctuary may need other partners (eg State) to help with enforcement. There is currently no enforcement presence on the Big Island.
- The Sanctuary should work on strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - The real problem is enforcement of

any of these laws. Proper enforcement is weak as it is already with many officers turning their heads when laws are broken.

- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - We don't need volunteers to watch our waters. That's what enforcement is paid to do.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Laws and regulations that are currently enforced are working, there is no purpose piling more laws and regulations on top of them.
- There is no need for additional regulations if the current regulations are not being enforced. However, new federal powers may be necessary to expand the sanctuary's powers to prevent discharge of pollutants into sanctuary waters from sources outside of the sanctuary. Budget and manpower for enforcement should be a priority, not an afterthought.
- There is no need to bring in other species, they are protected by existing laws like the ESA and the MMPA, if those laws are adequately enforced, but that is a big problem. If higher fines are implemented in the sanctuary, this may not be effective for boaters; what is next? Ban boaters? The government is growing too big, the Sanctuary staff is too large, there are more regulations. The Sanctuary boundaries do not need to be expanded. The whale population is growing at 5-6% a year so there is no need to expand. There are about 11 species of whales that are associated with the Hawaiian Islands. The whales move around a lot, they are not helped by the Sanctuary's existence unless they are in it. What will you do for them the rest of the time? Expanding the boundaries may impact (especially economically) commercial whale watching. The government is too large.
- There needs to be regulation and legal consequences of discarded fisher's nets.
- There should be an emphasis on education and outreach to increase awareness and compliance give the limited resources.
- Unsure if vessel speed limits during whale season. - How would speed limits be enforced.
- We encourage stronger enforcement measures including federal officers stationed on each island and a cooperative enforcement program with trained community volunteers and/or paid personnel; better control of jet skis operating within the Sanctuary and prohibition of jet ski operations during the whale season (similar to West Maui).
- Whales are all around island and Sanctuary is very small area so should expand boundaries and enforcement. Allow low impact fishing but no dredging. We need compromise/balance with all the multiple ocean users. This balance is beneficial to both humans and animals
- Whales are all around island and Sanctuary is very small area so should expand boundaries and enforcement. Slow boats down during whale season...give and take between Sanctuary and boaters
- What is needed is more enforcement. You can add all the laws you like but without enforcement the laws mean nothing. A step up in enforcement enforcing the current laws is what is needed, not more laws that will not be enforced.

Enforcement: Area-Specific

- As any fishermen can tell you frequently their (the whales) numbers make avoidance impossible.
- Do not establish no take zones. Enforce current law. Fund game wardens. Stop introducing invasive species such as roi, taape, etc. The state did this. Put a county on these fish.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - Short down all foreign boats violating the current sanctuary boundaries.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. We the people of Kauai are the care takers of this island. We will enforce the limits.

- Don't necessarily expand unless you can take care of it. Increase research and understanding about what is there. Help with research, help Justin, help enforcement.
- Expand sanctuary boundaries, especially on Kaua'i. More resources should be spent on enforcement of existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- Expand sanctuary boundaries, especially on Kaua'i. More resources should be spent on enforcement of existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- Honolua – there is poaching going on.
- I personally think and know for facts that there is a lot of [illegal?] netting taking place. First, by the declining in fish population year to year, by what we catch pole fishing. In August the word got out that 3 or 4 boats went into Secret Beach and netted 1500 lbs of moi without any consequence. Instead of trying to correct issues that already work - put this money and initiative into enforcement of rules and regulations. Like Maui, no netting.
- I request the sanctuary to expand the boundaries, especially on Kaua'i. More resources should be spent on enforcement of existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- Illegal operations of jet skis. Have same prohibition of jet skis on Big Island within sanctuary boundaries as in W. Maui. Current rules defective/not well enforced.
- Need a speed limit for vessels and enforcement of the limits in sanctuary waters and if done regionally—especially Maui County.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Over fishing could be the cause, not Boating, surfing, swimming let the DLNR handle the over fishing in areas that need it.
- No no access zones-Enforce laws in place. Spend the money on law enforcement not "general public" keep out
- No no take zones-ignorance regarding fish reproduction and cycles. Large fleets of long nets need to be monitored and enforced for violations
- NOAA will need to adopt pre-existing cultural resources management and enforcement plan of the kona district of Kaua'i.
- Pump don't dump: sanctuary should help regulate this. Needs to be enforced for ALL commercial vessels (pumping NOT dumping). Fine violators, adding station as Kihei Harbor, need more people to help (southern waters of Maui the worst) with clean water tests and quality control. Commercial boats responsible. Should charge all boats for pumping: flat fee required. Need regulations for cruise lines (pump). Need someone responsible for monitoring/enforcing.
- Sanctuary should have some no take zones. - Let the people take a vote if a rea needs to be left alone meaning throw nets because of over fishing then let the DLNR police the area that's why we pay them.
- Some no take zones . Even if laws are made (most people respect the laws) law is only as good as the enforcement.
- There should be no "no access" zones. If everyone obeys what we have how it should be just fine and take care of what we have.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. You folks want to make so much new rules and regs's but you can't even enforce the rules we have now!
- There should be no "no take" zones. More enforcemtn is needed of all the present rules. More Hawaiians on the DAR board. Review the "kapu system" it worked and is sustainable.
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones that are species specific. Hire more DOCAREnforcement officers...DOCARE is the division in DLNR handling enforcement (NOT Div. Of Aquatic Resources).

- Would like to see expansion of boundaries around all of Kaua'i island. Follow through after enforcement

HUMPBACK WHALE PROTECTIONS*Humpback Whale Protections: General Concerns*

- A rehab center for injured whales needs to be established on every island.
- Acoustic impacts and sonar: if humpback whales are removed from Endangered Species Act protection – what will that mean?
- Acoustic impacts should be addressed.
- Alarming affects of high-intensity active sonar: prior sonar-linked mass strandings and deaths (positively correlated with Navy sonar around the globe), anthropogenic noise - which also results in death, rupture marine mammals' hearing/hemorrhaging: 'acoustic or impulse trauma', as well: hemorrhaging in lungs kidneys, and other organ, e.g. 'the bends' decompression sickness, adverse survival ability (cease foraging, feeding, communicating, change migration routes/dive patterns, habitat abandonment) and etc will most likely occur in the sanctuary if the U.S. Navy is allowed unbridled use of sonar and explosives testing. It is time for the Sanctuary to "walk their talk" in protection of the endangered Humpback Whales.
- And remember now, coral species, oh that's another one...I really don't like, but the main one is others, others and the increases of humpback whales or whales in general have increased from what I heard 5% every year from the time you guys have stopped. Monk seals as I can remember I look back when I was a small kid, I never did see one monk seal, I seriously can say I never did see one monk seal when I was a young kid, okay, but thank you very much for your time.
- any suggestions I can offer here should not be viewed as detracting from NOAA's current whale-oriented research and amelioration efforts
- As for entanglement problems, we must address the long-line and drift-net problems occurring in our off shore waters. I doubt whales become entangled in a shore fisherman's "throw net". Again, you would penalize all inshore fishermen for issues occurring in deep, international waters.
- By the way , even by your own studies and literature the Humpback whales have increased substantially. I hope this is not about federal dollars and the justification of jobs at the expense of the people of Hawaii
- Concerned about MPR process because it looks a lot like expansion of NWHI. Is there actually a problem with the whales??? Why do we need more??
- Conservation of humpback whales is great; conservation of all marine species in the Sanctuary is even better.
- Current population about same-ban on whaling made them increase
- Current population about same-no change
- Current population about same-the increase of whales would be the same because the ban on whaling has proven that. Sanctuary in Hawaii shows no increase
- Current population about same-the whale sanctuary organization is bureaucratic, bent on bilking the Federal Government for funds to pay salaries. The Sanctuary org does nothing to actually protect animals. The whales don't get paychecks.
- Current population would be about the same-stop poaching and population rises
- Current population would be less- good thing for the ban on whaling
- Current population would be less- obviously we have helped endangered whales over the years
- Current population would be more-the whales are already protected by federal laws
- Daniel Basta, Director of the National Marine Sanctuary Program, issued an acoustic impact policy for all National Marine Sanctuaries in 2007 stating that Sanctuaries will use the tools and authorities at their disposal to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts on Sanctuary resources. In January, 2010 Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary of Commerce, issued a letter stating that NOAA concludes that

“ongoing mitigation efforts, in our view, must do more” to address uncertainties and protect marine mammals from sonar impacts. The Sanctuary must comply with these NOAA noise policies.

- David Laist (Senior Policy and Program Analyst of the Marine Mammal Commission 1), et al., in their 2001 paper published in Marine Mammal Science, have documented that 2 of the top 5 whales involved in ship collisions are humpback and sperm whales
- Different populations of HB whales, regional differences, whales that come here come from different regions (Aleutians, Western Pacific, etc) there are areas of the population where there may still be problems.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - Same answer, the turtles are doing great, Just like the whales , seals and dolphins.
- Do not expand whale protection.
- Do not expand whale protection. As a commercial fisherman I have seen the whale population grow so much that its starting to be a danger when anchoring. They seem curious or more aggressive as they multiply. Even traveling during peak whale season can be hazardous. I do my best to avoid getting close.
- Do not expand whale protection. Funny, idiot's say sonar can cause whale's harm, yet they still come here and their population is growing!!??
- Do not expand whale protection. I feel that the whales are doing fine. We shouldn't spend more moneys on [illegible word] sanctuary space.
- Do not expand whale protection. No.
- Do not expand whale protection. Population has increased.
- Do not expand whale protection. Whales are already protected in Haw. Waters.
- Do not expand whale protection. Whales is still expanding there number.
- Do not limit military noise limits (sonar)
- Don't let them overpopulate (humpback whales and green sea turtles)
- Evidence of humpback whale defecating and eating in Hawaii.
- Expand whale protection.
- Expand whale protection-we need to expand around the world, I think Hawaiian islands protects adequately
- EXPANSION OF THE SANCTUARY TO INCLUDE TURTLES, DOLPHINS, ETC. If the sanctuary was able to show that it has a successful record with what it already supposed to protect, then this would be a good idea. The fact is though, that the sanctuary cannot provide any evidence that it has had an impact on the increase in the whale population.
- Fishermen respect whales and avoid them, no conflict between fishermen and conservation of whales
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for reducing risks to humpback whales from entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with vessels
- Harassment, entanglement, water quality/pollution/ship strikes
- High points: a. Documentation of birth of a humpback whale (photographed at Makena Landing in 2009), b. Changed legislation HRS195D on Hawaiian Monk Seal (changes penalty for “take” (Class C felony for not just monk seal but any endangered species). Any person can take action against anyone who “takes” an endangered species. HRS195D is a vehicle available for further protection.
- How could energy development affect humpback whales?
- Humpback whale population: Hypothetical, sanctuary gives them a safer place even if they are globally protected.

- Humpback whale population: I think it would be about the same because there's not whaling in Hawaiian waters.
- Humpback whales are beautiful and worthy of conservation. But, many other forms of sea life, such as the monk seal, deserve attention, too.
- I am a lifetime subsistence shoreline fisherman. I am concerned about the resources not being depleted.
- I am concerned about continuing access for shoreline fishermen to their fishing areas.
- I am unsure if sanctuary should limit military noise limits (sonar).
- I am unsure if the sanctuary should expand whale protection
- I believe in the need for this humpback whale sanctuary, I also believe in the need to protect other resources such as Sea Turtles and Monk Seals, coral reefs and other threatened aquatic resources.
- I don't think any decisions should be made yet. A lot more opinions have to be gathered. I'm a shoreline fisherman pretty much my whole life and there is a lot of shoreline fishermen like myself who are not into commercial business and we gotta have a say – we have to know what's going on and we have to have a say – and I don't think you can proceed without spreading more information so that we can deal with any misinformation that's out there and I think the fishermen and ocean users, in particular surfers, and people like that we gotta hear what's going on and once we get the facts and know what's happening we can make our decision. Let me know - that's my position, give me a call.
- I favor expanding protection of whales, turtles, monk seals, dolphins, at the same time, we must protect local (not corporate) fishing rights as well.
- I fully support protecting this whale species at all times from whale killers. `america needs to budget for protection for this species.
- I have many concerns about one SAC member- Terry O'Halloran- because he was director of business development for Superferry. I urge that he be removed from SAC. HE can participate as a member of the public, but voting members of SAC should have no other agenda than to protect whales. This is especially important because ship strikes are one of the primary human causes of mortality for humpback whales, and there is talk of bringing the Superferry back to Hawai'i.
- I regard the original sanctuary as a political ploy, brought on by conservationists, and funded by big environmentalist organizations, who in turn back political officials. I see no scientific reasoning in their planning of this sanctuary. As for the humpback whales, where is the scientific reason for why they need a sanctuary. They are only here for a short time to spawn, and then they are going back to the north pacific where they really in danger. In hawaiian waters they are not bothered by the local fishermen, and each goes about doing their own thing. I see no problems with both being in the same waters, at the same time. Have you heard of any whale being harmed by local fishermen?
- I WANT THE WHALES SAVED
- I want to see Hawai'i's magnificent Humpback whales and other marine mammals fully protected.
- I, on the other hand, do not believe that the whales, monk seals or dolphin are being harmed or that their populations are diminishing, in fact, there is evidence that they are increasing.
- If we lose these whales. . . how impoverished, how UGLY do we make ourselves?
- In Alaska's Glacier National Park, there are vessel speed and course restrictions to protect whales (13 kn and in whale waters, 10 kn) based on vessel length.
- In regards to the proposal to expand the sanctuary to include dolphins, sea turtles, etc.: Before doing this, show a successful track record with the whales. The numbers do not show that this is the case. Whales are a focal point for the ocean as a whole because they are so visible in so many ways - we don't need other focal points at this time. Once this (success with whales) is accomplished, or some other measure of success is met, then and only then would it be appropriate to discuss expansion.

- Inasmuch as the whales face common problems such as ship strike, entanglement and environmental degradation throughout their range, Sanctuary management must build programs with expanded scope to provide the Sanctuary aegis wherever the whales are in the North Pacific. Simply put, the Sanctuary programs should be evident and effective wherever the whales are.
- Is entanglement a serious problem?
- It is clear we need the sanctuary to be a steward playing a strong role in protecting the whales and their ocean habitat.
- It is obvious to me that the sanctuary has served its purpose and some of these species need to be De-listed.
- It seems to me that people are becoming much more involved in saving the fish than they are in saving the people. There are many people who are out of work and need to have this fishing as their livelihood for food and let's concentrate on helping people, putting people back to work rather than to save the whales, save the porpoise, save those.
- it's not just high speed ferries that collide with whales; all sizes and types of vessels can. Collisions tend to be linked to vessel speed (speeds > 10 kn). And when you couple speed with large size (>260 ft vessel length), speed kills.
- Limit military noise limits (sonar)
- Longlines are a threat. Should the sanctuary consider getting involved?
- Managing resources often involves objectifying resources. Management policies result in treating things separately. Understanding whales and their needs are needed to really better manage whales. This require compassion
- Marine debris should be addressed.
- Most importantly in the management plan review is to offer comment to the U.S. Navy as [they] are preparing an EIS. Their proposed action is to conduct military readiness training and testing activities which include the use of active sonar and explosives [which will] detrimentally affect the sanctuary.
- Navy EIS meetings at the end of the month will announce SONAR testing, what will be the impact of this testing on the Sanctuary?
- Need to look at what can be done to mitigate whale-vessel collisions
- New governor could resurrect the superferry. The sanctuary needs to be prepared to deal with this.
- No expand whale protections-agree with above comments. At what point does government stop their encroachment on our rights
- No expand whale protections-I feel the present Federal laws protecting the whales is enough because I personally see more whales every year
- No expand whale protections-no because the Sanctuary is inconsequential to the protection of animals. They are exceeding the limits of man's interference with ecology
- No expand whale protections-no sanctuary too many whales
- No expand whale protections-the numbers of whales seem to be increasing just fine without increasing their protection
- No expand whale protections-the sanctuary has already done its job
- No expand whale protection-stop whale hunting
- No expand whale protections-whale sanctuary and present budget use are sufficient
- No expand whale protection-the whale population is fine
- Noise limits with no military exemptions during whale season
- Not all subpopulations of humpback whales are increasing.
- Of the 5 collisions/year, what percent were with military vessels?
- One of my biggest thrills was watching whales while horseback-riding down the mountain in Maui.
- Pollution and military testing are major concerns.

- poor whales
- Protect our Whales
- research suggests an introduction of a mandatory reporting scheme for collisions. A witness has to report a definite or probable collision with a cetacean or sight a carcass. The problem is that, if a cetacean collides with a very large vessel of tanker size, or similar, the impact might not be felt as it would in a smaller vessel. Similarly, if collisions occur at night, then witnesses may not be present or may not be able to see clearly what has happened. There is also a concern in the US of liability - which results in some vessels not reporting
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protection - How about more enforcement on International Fishing in US waters.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - Absolutely not! That's what the international whale protection act was created for.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - Allowing the whales to overpopulate may cause other problems in the ocean chain population!!
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - If expanded it will stop all ocean activities, you my say no, but I don't believe that.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - Isn't there an international law protecting whales and they are on the increase so whats the sense.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - not necessary.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - Stop whaling ships.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - The whales are not being harvested here.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - Those areas are ? by those who live here
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - What will happen if we get an over population of whales? Why don't you use the money to help the sea shepard? The whales need your help there, NOT HERE!!!
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections . -Leave it be.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections. - It's not actual.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whales have thousands of miles of ocean to live in.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Pointless! If it aint broke, don't fix it.
- SAVE THE WHALES!!!
- Save the whales, they are intelligent and fantastic animals
- Sonar and military exemptions - concerned about it.
- Sonar is a concern
- Spotters on vessels to help with collisions
- Stop foreign countries from slaughter of whales. Whales come to Hawaiian isles seasonally.
- Sure, we have to protect the whales
- The current humpback population whould be less if there had never been a sanctuary. Seems that sanctuary had less impact than the ban on whaling.
- The current Humpback population would be ____ if there had never been a sanctuary - If you cant see the population growth I don't know what to say
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctary. They are fine the way it is. Maybe some day we will have to feed them! Since there food stock is declinning!
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - No difference
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - Because their is no whaling. The sanctuary does little or nothing.

- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - However if whaling was allowed to continue at its past rate the sanctuary might not have helped to increase the whale population.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - I do feel the loan on whaling is what has brought our whale population back. It has nothing to do with the whale sanctuary.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - If boats/ships stop harvesting the whales.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - I've seen the studies done on whales.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - Let them be - they survived this long without anyones help.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Sanctuary not helping population.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The whale's don't come in shallow water for us shoreline fisher people to be a threat.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - The Whales don't know or care about any sanctuary boundaries. They go wherever they want. If a boat approaches, they submerge. When the boat is far enough away, they surface. They deal with boats very well.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - Whales are being harvest in other areas.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - Yes ban whaling.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Because of whaling bans, whale populations have been able to recover. I don't believe that noro vessles/on share people cause danger to these creatures. Captains are well aware of their surroundings and know when whales are near. They slow their vessels down considerably!
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Because the sanctuary did nothing to help the count of whales, stopping fishing of whales is what helped.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. I have noticed about the same whale populations over the last 38 years of boating.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. If not prectected world wide what does this silly sanctuary do but distract from the real reason what ever it is.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Probably no difference.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Target whaling!
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The ban of whaling is the primary reason whale populations have increased.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. There is no natural predator that make a large impact of whale deaths. I believe because of the ban on whaling the population has increased.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. They would control their own population themselves.

- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Whale numbers have been growing annually. Locals do not endanger whale because we have no use for them.
- The current Humpback population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. (But) All of the decline came from whaling fleets in the past.
- The current Humpback population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. - But there would still be an increase in humpback population due to the ban on whaling.
- The current humpback population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. Keep up on ban on whaling.
- The current Humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. Federal government should go after foreign countries that still take whales.
- The current Humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. It's hard to pass them on the way to the buoy cause there's so much.
- The current humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. - Stop killing any species and they will come back.
- The current humpback population would maybe be more if there had never been a sanctuary. I am NOT an exper or a biologist. I am an environmentalist in my own right (way). I have worked for oever 25 years to keep invasive species our of Hawaii.
- The current humpback populations would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. I believe that the ban on whaling has been the difference.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The humpbacks were recovering well before the sanctuary.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The humpbacks were recovering well before the sanctuary.They were under protection prior so this was not necessary. Protection from harvest was the major factor on their recovery.
- The current Humpback whale population would be less if there had never been a Sanctuary.
- The current Humpback whale population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. But it's growing, so no expansion.
- The current Humpback whale population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. The whales know where to go
- The current Humpback whale population would be more if there had never been a Sanctuary.
- The currenty humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The whales don't know where the sanctuays are, so its not like there in such danger that they have to run to the sanctuays to be safe. There safe where ever they are.
- The fact that humpback whales do not feed here should not prevent water quality issues from being addressed. Do we really know how water quality issues affect newborn humpback calfs? The presence of excessive nutries, pharmaceuticals, hormones, etc. in injected wastewater that eventually reaches the ocean may have many impacts we have not yet determined.
- The greatest enemy of the whales in the Hawaiian waters is the navy and their unregulated use of sonar!! A sanctuary will not stop them from practicing their art of war on man kind and the planet.
- The humpback whale population is coming to the point where their feeding in the North has changed the balance of nature.
- The islands are a breeding ground for whales. Keep the ecotourism and the whales in good shape
- The majority of entanglement materials Humpback whales are exposed to are from the Northern Pacific Waters.

- The ocean has become a toxic soup. There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs. We need land-based community watches, reporting and criminal follow up to enforce laws.
- The principal sanctuary actions taken to protect humpback whales and their habitat have involved efforts to disentangle whales, support research, and educate the public. The actions taken by the sanctuary over the years have been well placed and have created circumstances allowing growth of Hawaii's humpback whale population since the sanctuary's designation.
- The problems are: Large fishing fleets with miles and miles of net.
- The sanctuary is a species-based approach to manage the humpback whales. It's doing a great job and should not be expanded into an ecosystem-based approach. This should be left for the state to determine in the traditional ahapuaa – mountain to ocean – process.
- The sanctuary should expand whale protections. This ["There is no clear purpose in increasing protection"] shows how misinformed the public is as to the serious problems whales and the oceans are facing.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Its clear that the whales are doing fine, expanding is not going to help the whales anymore, only hurt the people of Hawaii.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Growth in whale populations has occurred regardless of expansion.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. It is not needed.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Just keep the people who kill the whales out of Hawaiian waters - that should be sanctuary enough!
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. The whale population is doing well and growing steadily.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. The whale population is very healthy and expanding.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. The whales are doing fine by themselves. They are gaining numbers on a yearly basis. They don't need your help! We have data.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Too much whales as it is now.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whales are doing fine and are coming back strong.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whales are not extinct and are becoming a threat to fishermen.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whales are not under any threat now. I fish and dive and have never posed a threat to a whale or any marine mammal (not me or anyone I know).
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Where are these (population) numbers coming from? Who's counting and when? (How do I get a job?)
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. As important as it is to protect the population we must also consider that over population could be just as big of a problem.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Bad for navigation.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Current population growth sufficient for maintaining a healthy whale population.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Foreign whaling (Japanese) is a bigger problem.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. No expand-the whale population is in "No" danger and is doing well as it is.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. There are too many whales.

- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whales are no longer endangered.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whales are thriving because they are not being killed by whaling.
- The sanctuary should start documenting what whale watchers do – they have regulations to follow too – should follow the 100 yard approach rule – no one is there to enforce it. When the whale population increased it wasn't because of the sanctuary. They were increasing worldwide. Why bother with the sanctuary? Nothing except education has been done by the sanctuary and the whales recovered anyway. Whales bug the fishermen, they don't want whales around while they fish.
- The whales' habitat in Hawaiian waters and throughout the North Pacific remains under constant threat of degradation through marine debris, ocean acidification, and dangerous land-derived inputs to the whales' environment. Although some may argue that this degradation should include so-called "noise pollution", there is no credible evidence that either operational or environmental acoustic changes in the environment affect the whales or threaten the whales' continued wellbeing. Sanctuary management should develop and implement a comprehensive plan of action to address the major environmental threats to the whales' habitat: marine debris, human-derived pollutants, and ocean acidification.
- There are many serious threats to Humpback whales and their habitat. All of these threats need to be addressed by the sanctuary and the state.
- There is enough information about vessel collision
- Vessel collisions are a problem.
- We all have the utmost respect for whales and other sea life and truly believe the whales can be protected by means and methods which need not infringe upon the recreation and rights of those of us who have grown up in the waters of the sanctuary.
- Whale injuries (collisions): address this issue
- Whale watching has tamed whales. They come to the boat when they hear the engine. People have caused the problem. Do what Chevron did, a speaker with killer whales sound. Maybe a short-range blast so whales keep their distance from boats, especially fishing boats. Problems are caused because of lack of common sense. Whales used to swim away. Now they are attracted by boat motor noise because of whale watching. They like the interactions with whale watching boats but now that whales are attracted by boat noise it causes more vessel strikes. This is bad. Humans are responsible for causing this problem.
- Whale watching tours do not impact whales; tours increase awareness about whales
- Whale watching tours have more impact on whales than fishermen
- Whales are protected already. Whales are tame. They approach the boats. How are we supposed to fish? Name "sanctuary" is a turn-off. Whales are already protected in the U.S. In deepwater you can't see the resources so what is the point of a sanctuary?
- Whales now come up to boats because they have been habituated to whale-watching boats.
- What about the Superferry as a threat to the sanctuary (and other high-speed ferries)?
- What is the Sanctuary's opinion on SONAR testing?
- What would the current humpback population be if there had never been a sanctuary? How about stopping the Japanese
- Year round protection for whales. Entanglement - where are the nets coming from - track nets? Enforce fines for nets. No attention for sharks - keystone species. Poaching - whales reef fishing longlining. Concern for future.

Humpback Whale Protections: Potential Solutions

- 14 knot per hour speed limit during whale season with fines and enforcement. Presently there are no speed limits to prevent ship strikes
- A strict kapu(managment/off limits) system needs to be strictly enforced to protect the Humpback whales that migrate here. This system should include fish and the entire aquatic relm that surrounds and supports us.
- Acoustic impacts: the Sanctuary should take a more activist role and be more pro-active. Sanctuary should educate the community on the impact of noise by marine vessels and impact of military activites. Dr. Pack’s information/talks should be shared more widely.
- All your focus needs to go to keeping the national ban on whaling in effect. We are on board to protect them and help in the efforts to disentangle, educate all whom interact with these whales.
- Are there regulations on SONAR in the sanctuary?
- Areas within the Hawaiian sanctuary must include speed limits with enforcement. Scientific research proves that boat speed is clearly a factor in the incidence of collisions. Scientists have advised that speed regulations should be put in place, with adequate monitoring and enforcement. These laws should include strict enforcement for vessels hitting whales or going over the speed limit.
- Best thing you can do for an endangered species is don’t study it. Leave it alone. Minimize studies so you don’t bother the animals.
- Boat-strike and boat speed issue is the number 1 issue – regulate speed: Tour boats in the whale watching business are a big part of this issue
- Chemicals & pollution create pathogen friendly environments in Hawaii’s waters and cause algae blooms, which smother the reefs and are toxic to marine mammals. The ocean has become a toxic soup. There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs. I request the Sanctuary to fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Conduct additional research and management efforts on reducing the impacts of nonpoint source pollution on whale habitat.
- Conservationists are always having whale counts during the spawning seasons, and when the count goes down, the first thing they come up with is this expansion of the sanctuary. They had better look at the true reasons for the decline. The original reason was the mass slaughtering of whales in the old days. There is still whale fishing in the northern pacific by Eskimos and foreign fishermen to this day. Then came the seine fishermen which caused whales to get tangled up in their netting, and also depleted the amount of other species which normally traveled into hawaiian waters. Other causes are injuries that occur in collisions with large vessels, freighters and liners traveling throughout the Pacific Ocean.
- Could the sanctuary do a carrying capacity study as far as whale/boater interactions? How many people can you get out into the ocean without effecting whale behavior?
- Could the sanctuary do a study on the effects of boat engines on whales?
- Current population about the same-I see reason for this sanctuary it doesn't do anymore than the present Federal laws. It is simply not necessary and a waste of federal money at a time when federal funds are needed and can be put to better use
- Current population would be more- data records show whale populations are increasing without sanctuary
- Do away with sanctuary.
- do more for the whales (don’t “add species” or change existing Sanctuary boundaries); ...The job with the whales is not done. The North Pacific population of humpback whales still face significant challenges from human interaction (particularly shipstrike), marine debris and entanglement, and

from environmental degradation (particularly ocean acidification). The Sanctuary must continue to address these challenges to the humpback whale populations.

- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries);...Chronic underfunding. "Adding species" can only dilute the resources available to protect the North Pacific population of humpback whales, yet the Sanctuary has been underfunded at least throughout the twenty-first century. The Sanctuary budgets have typically been 75 – 80% of annual funding requested in the last decade. Sanctuary management and staff have been magnificent improvisers in the face of declining budgets, but – as noted above – the whales' needs remain large and largely unfulfilled. Allocation of adequate resources to programs for "added species" without diminishing the effort and emphasis provided the North Pacific population of humpback whales simply defies logic and cannot be justified or sustained.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries);...No mandate. While Hawaiian monk seals, sea turtles and other species of whales and dolphins are attractive candidates for inclusion in the Sanctuary's purview, the mandate for protection of such species lies with the National Marine Fisheries Service and not the National Ocean Service (which includes the Office of Marine Sanctuaries). Fisheries has extensive programs in place for protection and management of these species and the benefits of adding another layer to the NOAA bureaucracy are not evident. Of course, Sanctuary staff will continue to work with their NOAA brethren to disentangle or rescue any species as required, but the Sanctuary has a clear mandate regarding the North Pacific humpback whales and should focus its efforts on that mandate.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whale season. One should be more concerned for the safety of the small boaters who will more than likely suffer more damage.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Just as the whales and turtles their doing fine with the existing laws and regulations.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. Whales are protected off islands.
- Do not expand whale protection. No Expand.
- Do not expand whale protection. The sanctuary here in Hawai'i should not be expanded because we do not look to harm the whales. Here in Hawai'i we do not hunt and kill whales like they do in Antarctica. So why should we suffer the affects of what they do down there.
- Do not expand whale protections. There are sufficient regulations/protection for the humpback already in place.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. Emergency vessels (police, fire, Coast Guard, DLNR, etc.) need to travel as fast as possible. Fishermen and others need speed to get in before storm fronts hit - it is a safety issue!
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. Obviously the presence of a whale dictates precaution.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. They can hear the boats and move out of the way.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. Speeds enough to be safe as boaters and recreationers.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whale season - Whales are easy to see I would just move out of there way. I wouldn't want to damage my boat.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whale season.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whale season. There shouldn't be any limits, captains need to use comin cents
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whales season. Controlled by community, clubs and local efforts, supported by DLNR.

- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whales season. Everyone should follow the "law" of the sea's.
- Do we need the sanctuary anymore? Whales have made a good come back and so have turtles. It is about money.
- Don't need a sanctuary—there are lots of whales; interactions with whales most often by researchers, whale watchers—not fishermen.
- During whale season, limit and enforce speed limits within sanctuary to 13 knots with tough penalties that actually hurt the perpetrator financially.
- Effects of sonar need to be included in acoustic impact research
- Enforcement to decrease vessel whale collisions needs to be strict and implemented
- Establish laws to protect whales from vessel strikes. Include a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- Expand boundaries-for whales-not sure about other species. Fising rights etc.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Humpback whales: Continue ongoing sanctuary programs to (a) support research on the status of the population, (b) disentangle whales caught in fishing gear, (c) promote international collaboration on protecting whales in different portions of their range; and (d) implement public outreach and education programs on whales and measures to minimize impacts associated with whale watching and vessel traffic. In addition, the sanctuary should develop regulations limiting vessel speeds in specific areas where collision risks with whales, particularly cow-calf pairs, are greatest.
- From a whale protection standpoint, there is no need for the sanctuary boundary - as unrelenting ships/traffic still can pass through and cause strikes and propping injury to whales.
- Habitats are critical, can't save species without habitat. As populations increase there will be impact on resources. Should evaluate that – and need to protect habitat not just the animals.
- Hawaii's monk seals, dolphins and green sea turtles are in serious danger. But currently the mission of the HIHWNMS, which manages shallow waters around the main Hawaiian Islands, is limited to only conducting outreach and education for humpback whales. Little attention is given to other species that live there. All of Hawaii's marine species need protection. The sanctuary could provide a vital service--not just educating people about whales, but also actually protecting all marine wildlife in its boundaries and their habitats. Increase the scope of the Sanctuary's mission to include conservation & management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats.
- HB whales close to achieve healthy level, focus on if it is appropriate to expand the sanctuary
- Humpbacks are doing fine. The sanctuary is looking to add new species to get more funding. The sanctuary is not needed. Sanctuary was not needed because management under Magnuson-Stevens Act was sufficient. Sanctuary is only here to give out federal grants and money, but it is duplicative. Interested what the budget is.
- I am unsure if ther should be vessel speed limits during whale season.
- I do not see any reason to increase more waters for the whales. They go where they wish right now. Thats fine. Boating traffic has not been showimpact them, here in the Hawaiian Islands.
- I feel there should be no expansion of the boundaries for the simple reason that the whales are doing well.
- I have yet to have met a fishermen who's had an issue with Humpback Whales, from my personal observation and experience; recreational boaters, tour-boats, para-sailing vessels, jet ski's and kayakers are primary compromisers and violators of any statute associated with Humpback Whales or other Marine Mammals.

- I speak for my entire family when I say that this plan is very ill-advised. First of all, the 'Hawaiian' Humpback Whale is NOT native to Hawaii and neither is the 'Hawaiian' Monk Seal.
- I truly hope there will be continued sensible management of the whales and activities within the sanctuary, and that your agency understands the potentially significant negative impact the wrong changes would have on many responsible and concerned Hawaii residents.
- I understand the sanctuary boundaries were established based on scientific research on the areas of high whale concentrations. The boundaries should therefore not be expanded without significant scientific evidence that whale concentrations have changed.
- I would say don't expand because there's no apparent reason to do so. The whales are coming back strong, so I feel that stopping recreational fishing for the preservation of humpback whale is unnecessary.
- I'm not convinced the sanctuary should expand to other species at this time. Look at the existing programs and make sure the sanctuary is really protecting humpback whales. Ecosystem-based approach makes sense. It's a good approach but may not be time (yet) to add other species at this time. More education on what the sanctuary already does so that people understand and to increase awareness.
- If the boundaries of the sanctuary has been a success factor in the increase in number and health of humpback whales, then there is no need for change. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.
- If you increase whale population, how will that affect other species? More whales might expand their boundaries and have an impact on other species. Need to study this further.
- increasingly concerned about the lack of programs, regulations or other visible attempts by the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS or Sanctuary) to protect humpback whales from several immediate threats to their welfare.
- Is NOAA doing studies to protect humpback whales from their natural predators? Example: killer whales and great white sharks following them here. If not, they should study.
- Is there anything being done with speed limits?
- It is my opinion that the humpback whales no longer need to be on the endangered species list. In addition, the sanctuary should be reduced or eliminated, not increased, as the effect of the sanctuary has most likely had little effect on the resurgence of the population.
- It would make logical sense of the sanctuary to be involved in the [submerged cable] EIS, but without the resources or fundamental knowledge of impacts, the sanctuary will be used by the State in this process. Sanctuary needs the technical research or academic input (acceptable scientific knowledge) to be able to evaluate impacts to whales. What good is the sanctuary unless it can provide informed knowledge about impact to whales?
- Like to see specific recommendations to avoid vessel-whale collisions: enough information on vessel whale collisions to show speed limits need to be implemented. Do not need "more research". Need laws NOW.
- Limit sonar activities during whale season and comply with NOAA noise policies (which are in effect in other sanctuaries) to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- Limit speed limits during whale season to 14 knots. The slower the better.
- Limit vessel speed limit during whale season to 14 knots. - Slow safe and sure!
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 14knts. On this issue my complaint is tour operators come to close to me while I'm anchored. I don't have any problem with going 25 knots if they would use some common sense. It's a big ocean they can go around me.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 16knts.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 16knts. Small boat drivers can see whales and other animals so we avoid them sooner. I know I and maybe other boat captians look out for them.

- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 18knts.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whales season to 14knts.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whales season to 16knts. Slow is safe.
- Little enforcement: need speed limits - strikes; sonar for military, beached whales, water quality (monk seals), reef
- Make impacts of SONAR public. If NOAA has details, please share. After 10+ years of SONAR being around there should be a scientific consensus. We need more definitive answers on the impacts.
- Marine debris and entanglement continue as major threats to the North Pacific population of humpback whales. Sanctuary management should continue to develop plans to address the larger problem of entanglement beyond the Sanctuary boundaries and should consider and implement a policy prohibiting fixed structures or moorings within Sanctuary waters. The situation in the North Pacific is horrific enough for the migrating whales; it makes no sense to add to the whales' problems in so-called "sanctuary" waters.
- Mentioning an educational campaign on the website and holding a vessel management workshop in 2003 with no follow-up is not sufficient to protect whales from ship strikes. Rules and enforcement are needed to address this expanding problem.
- Migration of whales through the marine debris patch in the ocean gyre. Need to educate about plastics.
- Need more dynamic approach to protection. If we are going to protect a species we need to follow the species. Rather than expand species, make sanctuary more dynamic to where whales are.
- Need on-airlines education to captive audience (whales, honu, monk seals, reefs)
- NHINM The Sanctuary should also investigate measures necessary to protect whales in the Northwest Hawai'ian Islands National Monument (NHINM). The management plan should include research on this topic and result in recommendations and a way forward for protecting humpback whales and associated species in Papahānaumokuākea.
- No expand boundaries- there is no need to waste federal dollars the whales are doing just fine and the impact to the people and life style will be great and unnecessary
- No expand boundaries-no reason to have sanctuary, whales are already on protected list
- No expand Sanctuary boundary-our laws protect the whales in Hawaiian waters. There is no need to expand the Sanctuary.
- No expand Sanctuary boundary-whales doing fine
- No expand to include seals-monk seals should be taken back to the Northern Hawaiian islands. Seals wasn't here before
- no expand whale protection-none sense
- No expand whale protections-continue current laws which have provided return in population
- No expand whale protections-I believe there is sufficient regulations regarding the protection of whales. Annual growth proves that no new regulations needed
- No expand whale protections-no need to expand, eliminate sanctuary
- No expand whale protections-sanctuary working no need to expand
- No expand whale protections-whale population is increasing, regardless of the expansion
- No reduction in size or scope- whales, seals and turtles should be taking off endangered species act
- No reduction in size or scope-no sanctuary expansion
- No reduction in size or scope-the Sanctuary has no vision. They are con artists and they need to be reported for attempting to defraud the federal gov. and violate the Native Hawaiian people's rights of subsistence
- No to a vessel speed limit during whale season. There is no evidence that this is a problem here except with the military who get to have a "take" amount.

- No vessel speed limit- as a person who absorbs all this information on our environment all the damage to whales from collisions have been with large ships
- No vessel speed limit during whale season - We lived among them all our lives. We were taught to watch for their presents at all times.
- No vessel speed limit during whale season- dumb how can you police all that.
- No vessel speed limit during whale season- whales are very intelligent creatures. They can hear vessels engines and stay away. Recreational boaters stay away from the paths of whales
- No vessel speed limit- its not the vessels, it's the whales, to many whales
- No vessel speed limit-ban whale watching or limit boats. Make sure all captains of vessels involved be more alert and have responsibility to the fullest
- No vessel speed limits during whale season - I work for a boating company. Creating a speed limit will mean we will not be able to offer some of our most popular tours. As someone who works off commissions, losing our most popular tour could mean no home, no food, etc.
- No vessel speed limits during whale season - Maybe have a 14 knot speed limit at night only! Only foolish boaters run fast at night during whale season.
- No vessel speed limits during whale season - The difference between 14 and 18 knots is very little.
- No vessel speed limits during whale season-never heard of boats kill whales
- No water quality, acoustic regulations, habitat preservation and restoration
- NOAA should study humpback-predator interactions now to determine the baseline – is the balance being upset? Should also do an ecosystem assessment now – see what happens later for example if the sanctuary increases protection for species and boundaries.
- Noise limits with no military exemptions during whale season.
- Not enough regulations to protect whales. A. Too much pollution. b. Speed limits non-existent. c. More state involvement in regulations
- Not enough regulations to protect whales. Expand boundaries to include the PMRF military base
- Number one cause of whale death – entanglements with nets and number two ship strikes. Reasonable speed limits could be useful.
- One of the worst threats to whales is Naval SONAR. The Sanctuary is doing nothing to step up and protect the whales from SONAR. SONAR does not respect boundaries.
- One part we will support is the on going education and outreach program to protect the HB Whales, maintaining the efforts for the existing regulations and enforcement, and working with the community to be aware of the HB Whale and their habitat.
- Other sanctuaries have speed limits so now is the time for this sanctuary to change this by establishing laws for a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season. These laws should include strict enforcement for vessels hitting whales or going over the speed limit.
- Please create and strengthen laws to protect whales from strikes. Include a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- Please limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies.
- protection should follow species
- Recognize the effort that the sanctuary has put into researching humpback whales. Grateful for all the sanctuary efforts to reach our stakeholders and provide them with information.
- Reduce size and scope of sanctuary-I see no reason for it to exist at all. It is demonstrating that it is a total waste of tax payers money and appears not to really know what the issues are. The major problem we face is coming from the land. Manage the land correctly and the ocean will take care of itself. If you don't realize this then your just wasting everyone's time and money
- Reduce size and scope of sanctuary-should regulate laws we have now. No need more laws

- reduce size or scope- remove endangered species from endangered status
- Regarding further protections of Humpback Whales: No additional protections are needed. Current whale protection laws should remain in place. Expanding the disentangle program is also laudable but requires no sanctuary expansion to be effective.
- Regulation on entanglement (nets) and ship strikes – speed limits.
- Regulations in to protect whales and enforcement of reg's.
- Regulations Needed to Mitigate Vessel Strikes. A speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales must be instituted.
- Sanctuary should be stronger on vessel speed.
- Sanctuary should have vessel speed limit of 16 knots during whale season - Use common sense if you see something slow down.
- Sanctuary should limit vessel speed to 16 knots during whale season. - I actually don't know how fast is 16 knots, but I do have some boater friends and I never heard of anyone of them running into a whale. I know it does sometime happen but I never heard about it.
- Sanctuary should reduce size and scope-sanctuary should be reduced or eliminated if the species in no longer endangered
- Sanctuary skews reports of direct human effects vs. non-direct human effects. To gain credibility with ocean users, the Sanctuary and NOAA would do well to differentiate the harm caused by direct human interaction with a given species (such as a human poaching turtles or shooting seals) as opposed to indirect human interaction (such as agricultural run-off or discarded fish nets). The amount of actual harm caused criminals intent on killing or injuring seals compared to the actual harm caused by indirect human action is insignificant!
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. No added sanctuary.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Sanctuary should close when humpback populations exceeds 20,000.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Reduce the size of the "vision" and use our (my) tax dollars the way I want it spent.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. No need.
- Scientists have advised that speed regulations should be put in place, with adequate monitoring and enforcement. The sanctuary speed limit should be about 13 knots to protect the whales from vessel collisions, with minimal distances from dolphins and whales required while under power. The cost of enforcement could be born by fines, with higher fines for commercial vessels.
- Ship strike remains a major threat to the North Pacific humpback whales throughout their range. The Sanctuary staff and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources personnel have done an outstanding job of boater education to increase boater awareness of whales in Hawaiian waters, but the encounters continue. Clearly, excessive speed in the vicinity of whales can acerbate the problem. Sanctuary management should consider, implement, and enforce a 14 knot speed limit in all Sanctuary waters from October 1st to the following March 31st each season. Such regulation can only increase the degree of “whale awareness” of boaters on Hawaiian waters and increase protection of the whales within the Sanctuary.
- Ship strikes, need speed limits.

- Should do study on whether whales are attracted by boat motor sounds and if yes, when and where this happens.
- Should limit vessel speed to 14knots
- Should reduce size or scope-yes, definitely include a plan to reduce its size or scope if the program has shown to be successful and ben be adjusted
- Since, the 'Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary' has no rules or laws to protect whales in their mating/birthing/nursery waters, (other than 100-yard approach limit), I demand that you do your best and most compassionate job to enact rules and laws to protect the whales and their ocean habitat from Vessel Strikes, Sonar and Acoustic Impacts, Water Pollution, Habitat Degradation and Net Entanglement.
- Sonar – what are the effects on HB whales and other species? We don't know. Protect everything you can – do the most you can do. Our place to protect them. People have responsibilities to protect and take care of resources.
- Sonar exercises, water pollution, ocean acidification, huge net fishing must stop or be greatly limited.
- Sonar is a huge issue that is potentially deadly. Need to regulate military activity with sonar
- SONAR testing takes place at depths greater than 100 fathoms.
- SONAR/Naval exercises. Are there regulations within the boundaries on these topics? If no regulations, why not?
- Speed limits for boats. Vessel strikes with humpback whales, other marine mammals, and turtles are a problem.
- Speed limits: I think it's safe the way it is.
- Support enforceable speed limits – main concern is vessel-whale collisions
- Surfrider would like to see more regulations before research and education
- Thank you for all that you do to preserve the magnificent humpback... Humpback whales are majestic creatures so worthy of protection! Dolphins, monk seals and green sea turtles are also noble, ancient and indispensable creatures whose number, species and habitat should be protected. Please expand your outreach and education services in an effort to preserve the variety of these beautiful, delightful and God-given marine animals that make the ocean a bastion of life and hope for generations to come.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - I've been a captain over 25 years and have seen no direct impact if you want to save whales don't hunt them and over fish Krill the food they eat.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The international community already regulates this.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Whale numbers have been growing annually. So why should more laws and regs be put in effect.
- The current Humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. More cause their making a comeback on their own and with the rules and regulations that we already have on them.
- The current humpback populations would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Because they don't give birth in Hawaii - they travel from the north to south.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The humpbacks were recovering well before the sanctuary. We need more education, not more sanctuary space.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Yes ban whaling.

- The facts presented to me shows whale growth is on the rise every year. Our laws in Hawaii protects these whales. There are enough rules and regulations protecting the whales, seals, turtles. There are no data that proves to me that an expanded sanctuary is necessary. There are a abundant number of turtles and I believe turtles are ready to be taken off the endangered list. Bag limit of turtles taken in a year! Lottery!!
- The sanctuary "vision" should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Because of over population of the species causes less food source, disease, starvation.
- The sanctuary "vision" should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels because there should be no sanctuary.
- The sanctuary has done nothing to protect whales from sonar or acoustic disturbance. The Sanctuary should limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- The Sanctuary should also investigate measures necessary to protect whales in the Northwest Hawai'ian Islands National Monument (NHINM). The management plan should include research on this topic and result in recommendations and a way forward for protecting humpback whales and associated species in Papahānaumokuā'kea.
- The Sanctuary should be much more vocal and proactive about the serious threats to whales and all ocean life. Educate the public on the realities of the situation.
- The sanctuary should examine the effects of pings from ships on marine life. Have there been any ship/torpedo/decoy strikes/interactions with whales recorded on route to range testing site?
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Expansion is just a way to secure jobs for a few.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. I'm sure there are no need for sanctuary expansions, with the amount of whales that are counted each year. Seems like the population is gradually increasing.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. The proposal to expand the whole sanctuary seems to have nothing to do with whales and everything to do with more bureaucratic control of the ocean.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. The whales are doing fine. We have regulations already.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. As long as the whale population is recovering we should keep the current rules in place.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. I feel the sanctuary should not be expanded cause this is my life style. I was born and raised doing this and there's no need for expansion.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. I think we should be more concern on over population since there huge feeders!
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Internation law must protect what can 3 mile mean to a whale that travels 10's o thousands of mile
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. It whale populations gets too large they will starve. They will deplete their main source of food the "KRILL"
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whale numbers have been growing annually. So why should more laws and regs be put in effect.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Sanctuaries shold be flexible sanctuaries and bans should not be "forever"

- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. They should reduce the size because the whale population is doing fine by itself. Don't need to expand - reduce!!
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - I don't see the expansion helping the whales, dolphins, or monk seals.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - The current population are more than adequate. It may need to be reduced in the future.
- The speed of an ocean vessel will do, in my opinion, nothing to avoid an encounter with a whale.
- The state of Hawaii has already given the entire Northern Hawaiian Islands 139,797 square miles of the Pacific Ocean (105,564 square nautical miles) - an area larger than all the country's national parks combined, to NOAA to play with. That's enough.
- The Whales have recovered and we are no longer in need of your support.
- There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs.
- There should be a vessel speed limit of 14 knots during whale season.
- There should be a vessel speed limit of 14 knots during whale season. The speed should remain low.
- There should be a vessel speed limit of 14 knots during whale season. This ["the sanctuary itself reports little or no recent whale deaths from collision. Many of the reported 'collisions' are, in fact, at dead slow or drifting speed"] is false information. They are purposely misinforming people and being divisive.
- There should be a vessel speed limit of 16 knots during whale season. I feel @ 16 knts the perator of the vessel should be able to avoid any contact.
- There should be no more humpback whale sanctuaries expanded...the growth of the whale population has gotten dramatically improved.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Like they say they're growing in numbers.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Prove 1 whale death due to boating.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Speed apparently has little effect on collisions.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Whales can hear a boat coming from far distances and they can swim down faster than almost all boats can speed.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Keep the boat survey that are making money on whale watching.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. No boater whants to hit a whale, dolphins or seals. It will ruin our day along with the animals'.
- There should be no vessel speed limits during whale season. As long vessels are aware that there are whales around them, their speed should not be limited. If/when whales do surface/approach the vessel, captains should know to use caution!
- There should be no vessel speed limits during whale season. I did not hear of any collisions except the whale leaping on to a vessel.
- There should be no vessel speed limits during whale season. Speed limits should not be enforced because whaels are unpredictable creatures, no one knows when they will surface and where they are at any given time. People should not be given restrictions fro things that are beyond their control.
- There should be no vessel speed limits during whale season. The speed of a vessel really doesn't matter its the captain. If the captain is paying attention, theres no problem!!!

- There should be no vessel speed limits during whale season. Whales run or sound from boats.
- Tour boats and all other boats travel very fast in areas with turtles and dolphins – want 13 knot speed limit within sanctuary
- Unsure [RE: Vessel speed limits during whale season] I think the area of feet away from whales. You get caught up w/a whale. Ur butt.
- Unsure [RE: Vessel speed limits during whale season] I think, how far or feet away makes more sense.
- Unsure about the limiting of vessel speed limits during whale season. Unsure
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Depends on species.
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - I'm for protection of whales but don't take away my rights that are inherent.
- Unsure if there should be vessel speed limits during whale season. Most boaters trolling speed is adequate.
- Unsure if vessel speed limits during whale season. - How would speed limits be enforced.
- Unsure to limit vessel speed during whale season. - A captain knows the water and the vessel Nobody wants to hit a whale.
- Unsure to limit vessel speed during whale season. - Once whales are spotted then vessels should practice common sense and slow down to appropriate speeds.
- Vessel speed limit: Boaters should use their navigation knowledge to avoid encounters.
- Vessel speed limit: common sense
- Vessel speed limits during whale season should be 18 knots. - In areas where they have been seen.
- Vessel speed limits during whale season should be limited to 18 knots. Most people try to avoid whales as much as possible. I don't think anyone wants to hit a whale.
- VESSEL STRIKES: Institute laws to protect whales from strikes, with a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- Vessel strikes: There has been a nearly 500% increase in reported whale vessel strikes in Hawaiian waters since reports were tabulated in 1975. Boat speed is clearly a factor in the incidence of collisions, whit about 80% of all strikes occurring with vessels traveling between 10-30 knots. Speed regulations should be put in place with adequate monitoring and enforcement provision. The research suggests an introduction of a speed limitation of 13 knots for any high-risk area and existing Special Areas of Conservation, respectively.
- We at Hawaii Wildlife Fund deeply appreciate Councilwoman Johnson's identification of the four priority areas in her Resolution, with a specific call-out on how the defunct Hawaiian Superferry had threatened aquatic resources. Whether there is a Sanctuary or not, these are critical issues that remain unresolved. 1.) Vessel Speed Limit and 2.) Development of a system for reporting and preventing vessel collisions 3.) Regulation of sewage discharge 4.) Assessment of Navy sonar impacts
- we can head off the boats thatrace or speed in the Hawaiian waters during Dec. - May
- we respectfully request that the Sanctuary initiate rule-making procedures to apply within its boundaries.
- Whales are all around island and Sanctuary is very small area so should expand boundaries and enforcement. Allow low impact fishing but no dredging. We need compromise/balance with all the multiple ocean users. This balance is beneficial to both humans and animals
- Whales are all around island and Sanctuary is very small area so should expand boundaries and enforcement. Slow boats down during whale season...give and take between Sanctuary and boaters

- Whales are big eaters in the ocean - you need to study there feeding habits and amount of the stocks left!
- When a protected species is found to have recovered, it is time to move on. Recent SPLASH estimates of the Hawaiian Humpback whale stocks in the N. Pacific indicates that it is around 18,000 animals up dramatically from the 1400 that existed prior to the ESA. It is truly time to move on and thank you for continuing your educational focus

Humpback Whale Protections: Area-Specific

- As any fishermen can tell you frequently their (the whales) numbers make avoidance impossible.
- Can the Sanctuary produce a map of the whale population growth since the sanctuary was established?
- Cruise ships are dumping massive amounts of sewage, etc off of the Big Island. Is the toxicity in whales influenced by that? What will be done to address water quality in the sanctuary?
- Do not expand sanctuary to expand whale protections - If there is a problem the people of Kauai should make the decision about sanctuary's around the Island of Kauai.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. Unexpand - whale bans are all that's needed for population growth.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. The whales and all other sealife are not harmed by boats.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. NO expand needed whales are doing find.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. Whales are protected. Whale protectors go out and see if any whales are being harmed. Not here.
- Do not expand whale protection. Kauai whales have done just fine with the small sanctuary area so no need to expand.
- Do not expand whale protection. Whales are protected. Kaua'i has not a problem.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. We have not hit them on Kauai or harmed them in any way.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. We the people of Kauai are the care takers of this island. We will enforce the limits.
- First surveys almost no whales around Kaua'i. Sanctuary has to be where whales are. 10,000 HB whales each year. Estimates changed. Boundaries must be realistic and dynamic.
- Fishery hatchery within sanctuary off of Lanai. Waste nutrients will impact sanctuary resources. Sanctuary needs to be more involved in this project. Waste suspensions will have terrible impacts on whales.
- I live on the island of Kauai. I am a surfer and ocean and animal lover. I do support the protection of humpback whales but I do not support closing the beaches or waters for the people that live here or visit Kauai. I believe that the humpback whales can be protected and we can still be allowed to fish and surf and enjoy the beautiful environment that we have, so please consider that. We do want the animals protected and also the recreation that we all enjoy and the reason that we live on Kauai.
- I support a humpback whale sanctuary around Kaua'i.
- I would like to see the sanctuary expanded to the east side of Hawaii Island because whale numbers are increasing to that side. The boundary should ideally be expanded to the entire east side, including Hilo and south. Punaluu should be included for protection of nesting hawksbill sea turtles.
- Involved with ocean count. Sanctuary should encompass whole island, not just North Shore [of Kaua'i] because whales are all around island.

- Need a speed limit for vessels and enforcement of the limits in sanctuary waters and if done regionally—especially Maui County.
- Need to expand boundaries. Kaua'i south shore has babies born there
- No expand whale protection- this is bull\$&@! The whales are doing find in Kauai. You should go to Japan and get a Sanctuary there
- No reduction in size or scope- no sanctuary on Kauai
- Other whales...I have personally seen the various pods cruise the island. They don't hang out in one place, sanctuary or otherwise. So what good is a sanctuary for cruising pods?
- Put on the website the maps on whale population growth since the sanctuary was established.
- Should there be a sanctuary to protect whales in transit or in Alaska? Can we use resources here to help there.
- Testing/research with PMRF compare acoustic impact at PMRF to rest of island
- The (Marine Mammal) Commission also believes that new regulations are needed to limit vessel speeds, both to protect whales and to ensure human safety. Such limits are justified by the significant increase in vessel/whale collisions and the fact that this is one of the world's largest concentrations of breeding and calving humpback whales. Speed restrictions may not be necessary throughout the sanctuary but could be focused on areas where collision risks are greatest and affect the most vulnerable whales. Speed regulations would be most appropriate in waters within two or three miles of shore or the 100- fathom contour, whichever is closest, along much of the southern coast of Maui and the northwestern coast of the island of Hawaii.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. No one is killing them in Hawaii or Alaska. Onle nets and a cruise ship in Alaksa has killed a whale.
- The current Humpback population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary - Why are we worrying about the whales in hawaii, cuz when they cross the mainland to go back Alaska the Japan whale ship take them out anyway...
- The current Humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. Let mother nature do her work. They don't need your help any more! Redirect your work towards education. Not limitations to the people of Kauai.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Maui hs most whales and boats everywhere weve never had any accidents on Kaua'i.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Whales pass through, but they seem to mate in Maui, try go dea and see.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. If you look at the #'s we don't need to expand because they are doing fine.
- The sanctuary, if any, should be on the South Side where the majority of the whales and seals are.
- There is no need to create a new sanctuary on Kaua'i and Niihau!!!! The whale population is plentiful and already protected with rules and regulations.
- This [vessel speed limits during whale season]is unclear. The whales are mmore dense in certain areas than others. And why should the military be exempt? More whales have been documented on the western shores of Kaua'i and Oahu.
- What is not understood is the connection between the condition of the reef and the health of Humpback whales. Considering that this species spends a significant amount of time in Maunaloa Bay, potential connections should be investigated. Similarly, the condition of marine habit and food sources for other currently managed species found in the Bay such as the endangered Hawaiian Monk Seal (*Monachus schauinslandi*) and threatened Honu (*Chelonia mydas*) should also be considered.
- Would the sanctuary add refuge zones (closed to all boat traffic) for moms/calves to rest?

MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS*Management Effectiveness: General Concerns*

- A broad definition of “takes” pursuant to the Endangered Species Act has developed, and we ask that the Sanctuary and sister agencies within the Department of Commerce take responsible action to protect endangered animals and critical habitat within the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and elsewhere around the Hawaiian Islands. Similar wording regarding takings is within the existing HIHWNMS rules, and could also be considered and applied for the actual protection of whales, critically endangered Hawaiian monk seals, Hawksbill sea turtles and other species considered endangered and threatened.
- A broader scope (sanctuary's management scope) might include Hawaiian monk seals, other whales and dolphins, sea turtles, corals, significant habitats, and/or submerged cultural resources. These resources currently face a variety of threats that responsible agencies and parties have not been able to address fully. Broadening the sanctuary's scope to an ecosystem level could increase protection for these resources, is consistent with the purposes and policies of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, and is entirely consistent with the Administration's new national ocean policy.
- a House Concurrent Resolution from the Hawaii State Legislature requested that the Sanctuary and certain state agencies prohibit the dumping of vessel sewage and treatment chemicals into Sanctuary waters (HCR 58 SD1, 2007). This Resolution asking for regulations protecting the water of the Sanctuary from vessel sewage passed both houses of the State Legislature without opposition. There also was extensive public support (from local and international environmental groups) and testimony for this Resolution. The Sanctuary never took action. Additionally the federal law cited in HCR 58 outlines the obligation of the Sanctuary to adopt rules that give protection to marine life. The Sanctuary has a legal obligation to do so. The EPA, the Hawaii State Legislature and the public expect and request the Sanctuary to take action.
- A management plan based on concepts of ahupua'a would make sense. Responsible to the land as well as the water.
- A rehab center for injured whales needs to be established on every island.
- Acoustic impacts and sonar: if humpback whales are removed from Endangered Species Act protection – what will that mean?
- Acoustic impacts should be addressed.
- Adding other species that are already protected by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and creating a sanctuary for them is duplicative, unnecessary and a waste of precious taxpayer \$. Sanctuaries do not protect these far and wide ranging species.
- Adding other species under its management plan and efforts would appear to greatly enhance Sanctuary efforts to increase funding for their conservation. As one example, additional funding would assist the Sanctuary in expanding its humpback rescue and response program to benefit other species in its waters.
- Additional partnerships with other parts of Pacific - where whales are rest of year
- adopt a new name for the sanctuary, such as the Main Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary
- adopt new vision and mission statements that encompasses an ecosystem~based management approach to protect, conserve, and restore marine life, marine habitat, and ecosystem health using management strategies that balance conflicting or competing uses while complementing existing management programs and measures
- Agree with KFTO. (KFTO: Many of the items listed in the Sanctuary's "Top 10 Accomplishments" (see Kohola Connection dispersed by Sanctuary) read like the claims on unproven herbal supplement labels with phrases like 'enhanced protection', 'engagement' and such. They provide little or nothing in

the way of hard numbers that could be used for a real evaluation of effectiveness. Three of the Top 10 are, in fact, actually the same thing: 'Community Connections', 'Enhanced Resource Protection through Coordinated Management', and 'Increased Ocean Awareness and Literacy'. They all fall under the simple title of Public Education, and that has been the Sanctuary's real accomplishment. that also should be it's main forward looking goal.)

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- Agree with study of mauka activity affecting sanctuary waters
- Aid NMFS in implementing a recovery plan for the population (false killer).
- Alarming affects of high-intensity active sonar: prior sonar-linked mass strandings and deaths (positively correlated with Navy sonar around the globe), anthropogenic noise - which also results in death, rupture marine mammals' hearing/hemorrhaging: 'acoustic or impulse trauma', as well: hemorrhaging in lungs kidneys, and other organ, e.g. 'the bends' decompression sickness, adverse survival ability (cease foraging, feeding, communicating, change migration routes/dive patterns, habitat abandonment) and etc will most likely occur in the sanctuary if the U.S. Navy is allowed unbridled use of sonar and explosives testing. It is time for the Sanctuary to "walk their talk" in protection of the endangered Humpback Whales.
- Alignment from bottom up rather than top down. Start from the community.
- All federal agencies that deal with the ocean, should comment on EIS's (environmental impact statements) that deal with the ocean.
- All management of Marine resources should ultimately be locally based and State managed within the State of Hawaii.
- All of Hawaii's marine species need protection. The Sanctuary could provide a vital service -- not just educating people about whales, but also actually protecting all marine wildlife in its boundaries and their habitats. Hawaii's monk seals, dolphins and green sea turtles are in serious danger. Increase the scope of the Sanctuary's mission to include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats.
- All this federal resource is a waste and should be focused on invasive marine species which is the real threat.
- All understand, long term. Involvement of all. Whale watching, fishing etc. protected.
- Allow fishermen to have their ulua tournaments because the ulua (fish) compete for the food that the monk seals eat. In NWHI the ulua is protected and very abundant – they eat the same food as the monk seals so the monk seals have less to eat. Ulua tournaments here keep the ulua population down which gives monk seals more food available to eat.
- And put it on a website so people can fill it out online. It seems you make things so inconvenient so you get what you want.
- Are fishing no take zones really effective? No evidence that they really work...especially for deeper water species of fish that don't necessarily live on shallow water reefs
- Are we engaging military (EIS process)?
- As a former Chair of the Sanctuary Advisory Council, who left in disappointment due to the lack of any real progress within this Sanctuary due to a combination of many factors, including inadequate,

incompetent and ineffective management and oppositional SAC relationships, I believe the Sanctuary has the opportunity now to finally realize its potential for the Hawaiian Islands with Maui nui at its heart.

- As things change the sanctuary should move more quickly as needed. E.g. if the coral bleaching situation becomes more serious that the sanctuary should be able to respond quickly. Management response.
- Based on the responsibilities stated in the Mission Statement, and the tasks described above, the Sanctuary Management Plan must also address re- organization and re-direction of personnel and resources to create an operational management structure that can fulfill its duties for all the Hawai’ian Island Sanctuaries.
- Because DOH has public trust responsibility and statutory authority to protect (1) humpback whale habitat, and (2) the biological chemical, and physical integrity of sanctuary waters, we suggest that the management plan review consider whether or not DOH should be added to the existing MOU that establishes the procedures and protocols for the coordinated management of the sanctuary between NOAA and the state.
- Before any additional species are added to the sanctuary's mission, the sanctuary should assure the public that duplicative effort is not being made, i.e. if monk seals are already protected by State of Hawaii agencies, then let the state do its job, do not duplicate effort.
- Beyond Native Hawaiian traditions, the sanctuary contains within its waters whaling ships and schooner as well as military ships and aircraft that together contain important information about the islands' role in american and international maritime history.
- Bring non-ocean users into the process—because they also impact resources, e/g. talks at grocery stores.
- Budget – what is the cost to the public to run all of the programs?
- Budget should expand to more than education and outreach.
- Bureaucracy? Economics? What we should be about is long term. Preserve natural resources for ourselves, eco, culturally. Protect most endangered - first monk seals, sea turtles. Work together - agencies - Obama policy - in line. Endangered species capitol of world preserve, protect. Mirror National Ocean Policy for efficiency.
- By the way , even by your own studies and literature the Humpback whales have increased susbstantialy. I hope this is not about federal dollars and the justification of jobs at the expense of the people of Hawaii
- Can’t the MPR process be faster? What about emergency situations during the MPR process? Could the sanctuary move to protect resources/address emerging topics even if they aren’t formally part of the sanctuary’s management plan?
- Change the name: Main Hawaiian Islands NMS in interim. After management plan is completed, ask Hawaiian community to give it a traditional Hawaiian name. Finish MP, change name (to MHINMS) temporarily before asking for traditional Hawaiian name (like the Monument).
- Check vessels from other places for invasive/alien species.
- Climate change should be managed comprehensively through the use of models and information sharing to make long-term, informed decisions.
- Concerned about enforcement. If expanded, can sanctuary get \$\$ to do this.
- Concerned about MPR process because it looks a lot like expansion of NWHI. Detrimental to hard working Ocean users. Is there actually a problem with the whales??? Why do we need more??
- Conduct a searules management program that coordinates with, complements, and fills gaps in existing federal, state, Native Hawaiian, and private marine conservation programs and initiatives

- Cooperation and coordination is needed with all stakeholders: agencies, NOG's, communities. Sanctuary can't do everything. We will have to all work together to address the issues.
- Coral reef ecosystems should be included and is a resource in Hawaii. Work together on land side as well as sanctuary side. Should include coral, not only ESA-protected coral species.
- Coral reefs are already protected by state and federal laws. No more laws!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I strongly see no need for corals to be placed in the sanctuary.
- Coral Refs are now being considered for listing as endangered species so we need to really decide if this is in the best interest of the people of Hawaii.
- Creating a governing body for these historic sites will help prevent them from being illegally dismantled by scavengers for souvenirs or sold off as relics. Vulnerable components could be identified, recovered, preserved, and displayed for everyone's benefit.
- Culture Ahupuaa system – mountain to the sea system of management .
- Current population about same-ban on whaling made them increase
- Current population about same-no change
- Current population about same-the increase of whales would be the same because the ban on whaling has proven that. Sanctuary in Hawaii shows no increase
- Current population about same-the whale sanctuary organization is bureaucratic, bent on bilking the Federal Government for funds to pay salaries. The Sanctuary org does nothing to actually protect animals. The whales don't get paychecks.
- Current population would be less- obviously we have helped endangered whales over the years
- Current population would be more-the whales are already protected by federal laws
- Currently, virtually all living marine resources within nearshore waters of Hawaii are subject to management authority and conservation measures by various federal, state, local, and Native Hawaiian agencies and organizations. Despite their efforts, significant conservation issues remain unresolved. For example, coral reefs in many areas are dying or being degraded; populations of fish important for commercial and recreational use are being depleted by overfishing; recovery of endangered and threatened species is being impeded by entanglement in fishing gear, collisions with boats, disturbance by vessel traffic and beach-users, ingestion of and entanglement in marine debris, and exposure to diseases introduced by feral and domestic animals; and the integrity of marine habitats is being threatened by various forms of development and use such as the installation of aquaculture facilities, offshore wind farms, and coastal development projects. Often the effectiveness of existing programs to address such issues is limited by staff and funding constraints to conduct research, pursue public outreach, and implement regulatory and enforcement measures. Recognizing the national and international significance of Hawaii's nearshore marine ecosystem, its many endemic species, and its unique position as the world's most remote and isolated tropical reef system, a sanctuary program with an enhanced scope could contribute added resources toward shared conservation objectives.
- CZM appreciates how the Sanctuary is going through a similar effort and aligning their process and management goals as much as possible with the ORMP.
- Daniel Basta, Director of the National Marine Sanctuary Program, issued an acoustic impact policy for all National Marine Sanctuaries in 2007 stating that Sanctuaries will use the tools and authorities at their disposal to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts on Sanctuary resources. In January, 2010 Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary of Commerce, issued a letter stating that NOAA concludes that "ongoing mitigation efforts, in our view, must do more" to address uncertainties and protect marine mammals from sonar impacts. The Sanctuary must comply with these NOAA noise policies.
- Despite some rhetoric of wanting to include Native Hawaiian culture and community, Hawaiian knowledge does not get meaningfully integrated into the sanctuary's activities.

- Despite the efforts of state and federal agencies, many of our beloved marine resources remain on the verge of extinction. As we go forward in the effort to protect Hawai'i's oceans, it is essential to scrutinize the effectiveness of current programs.
- Different populations of HB whales, regional differences, whales that come here come from different regions (Aleutians, Western Pacific, etc) there are areas of the population where there may still be problems.
- Disagree with KFTO. (KFTO: Many of the items listed in the Sanctuary's "Top 10 Accomplishments" (see Kohola Connection dispersed by Sanctuary) read like the claims on unproven herbal supplement labels with phrases like 'enhanced protection', 'engagement' and such. They provide little or nothing in the way of hard numbers that could be used for a real evaluation of effectiveness. Three of the Top 10 are, in fact, actually the same thing: 'Community Connections', 'Enhanced Resource Protection through Coordinated Management', and 'Increased Ocean Awareness and Literacy'. They all fall under the simple title of Public Education, and that has been the Sanctuary's real accomplishment. that also should be its main forward looking goal.)
- Do not expand sanctuary to include coral reef - Don't know- but if they would stop dumping garbage and poison into the ocean then the reefs wouldn't die and fish would be abundant they are always blaming overfishing but pollution is the problem.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Coral Reefs - Agricultural run off: very well put.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Coral Reefs - It's apparent that agricultural run off plays a huge role in the condition of the reef.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include dolphins - If dolphins are not endangered then they don't need to go on a protected list.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. For the populated islands this is totally wrong. One would think with the pristine northern islands one should fix the problem up there where it would do the most good.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. Seals are the cause for increase in shark sightings including tiger and great whites. That is why the Hawaiians kept seal population down. (idiots want sanctuary. Lucky they're the ones getting attacked.)
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Spend money on preventing pollution from resorts, golf courses and heavy shoreline development.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef - Agriculture and golf courses would be away to help not expanding or implementing the humpback whale sanctuary expansion.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef - Cite the parties responsible, return the seals to where ever you people brought them from.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Have state control run off problem w/ contractor or companies.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. The coral reefs will benefit most from sustainable farming practices and so would every other system/organism. Stop corporate agriculture!!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - I am a recreational diver and I know I am no expert but I think the coral reefs are suffering the most from golf course runoffs. So why punish the fisherman and not the golf course owners.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - It is what man adds to ocean waters that degrades our reefs and near shore waters.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - They are dying already pollution of the waters.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Also doing well with current silt and runoff laws and pollution laws.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Good comment about ag (...the cause of this decline appears more closely related to problems like agricultural run off...).
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Most damage is done by businesses with runoff.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. - The expansion would complicate the already complex set of rules.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. We as a community will work on solutions. 23 meetings with hidden agenda by (NOAA) cannot be trusted.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Stop building hotels, vacations rental and all the other stuff that's polluting our shores then the reef will survive.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. They are just like the whales people here in Hawai'i do not look to harm them. We do not look to hunt and kill dolphins like they do in Japan, and feed the meat to humans. So no need to expand.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage - What a joke! You guys (sanctuary) are the biggest threat to our culture.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. What do you know about cultural heritage? By expanding the sanctuary (NOAA) will have a devastating and negative impact to our environment and community.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Because I don't care what the guy from NOAA said - the monk seal is a pest! They puka our nest and steal our fish! I saw it with my own eyes.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - Turtle population has increased exponentially - should consider de-listing. What effect would expanding sanctuaries have on tumours?
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. The poor sea turtles did you guys even see them. They have so much tumors and fungus all over them. NOAA should be helping them.
- Do not expand whale protection. I feel that the whales are doing fine. We shouldn't spend more moneys on [illegible word] sanctuary space.
- Do not expand whale protection. Whales are already protected in Haw. Waters.
- Do not limit military noise limits (sonar)
- DOCARE is spread thin, there aren't enough people, it's overworked and the law enforcement officials aren't familiar with working on the water.
- Does the sanctuary have limits to lobbying? Have an arm to communicate with the legislators. Need to have a way to keep legislature informed. Education is key.
- Dolphins are not endangered currently and are already protected by the MMA.
- Don't like the word protection – implies no use – should use conserve – implies use not abuse. Everyone can get along when conserving resources for the benefit of all.
- Don't look away from other problems just because the funding is not there.
- Don't expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Stop sewage plants from injecting waste water into underground streams.
- Don't expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Stop the cove in Japan.
- Don't proceed without more informed input
- During process, commercial ocean users always need to have a voice. Ocean users are part of the matrix.
- Ecological management - Don't want conflict over species priority. Don't build aquarium - allow to evolve. Some change is inevitable.
- Ecosystem-based management. Actually enforced. Long-term vision to protect all aspects (whale watching, fishing, etc)
- "Emerging issues" in Kohola Connection are issues now. New management plan needs to take action on these issues now. Go for it!

- Enforcement of Hawaii state waters should only be under the jurisdiction of the state of Hawaii, and if the Federal government wants to get involved, it should only come in the way of funding!
- Expand to include dolphins-maybe not in Hawaii but other parts of the world need to be addressed
- Expand whale protection-we need to expand around the world, I think Hawaiian islands protects adequately
- Expanding – government has hard time interacting with each other. Already regulated in some way? Agencies work together. Keep to single species, expand slowly to include marine mammals?
- Expanding sanctuary to other resources leads to agencies clashing and expansion creates more problems
- Expanding the sanctuary to include other species makes sense, but are there the resources for the management?
- EXPANSION OF THE SANCTUARY TO INCLUDE TURTLES, DOLPHINS, ETC. If the sanctuary was able to show that it has a successful record with what it already supposed to protect, then this would be a good idea. The fact is though, that the sanctuary cannot provide any evidence that it has had an impact on the increase in the whale population.
- Expansion to additional species – full year, dolphins are here year round, not just endangered. Monk Seals, sea turtles – deep sea habitats wherever nesting, hauling, nearshore
- Expansions to additional species. Dolphins - year round. Beach / shore habitats also important for sea turtles / monk seals.
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for minimizing harassment of spinner dolphins by tourboats, private dolphin-watching vessels, swimmers, and divers
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for monitoring and assisting with the recovery of the insular stock of false killer whales
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for protecting and promoting the reoccupation of the main Hawaiian Islands by Hawaiian monk seals
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for reducing risks to humpback whales from entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with vessels
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for responding to stranded or distressed marine mammals
- Fuel dumping is an issue from planes (particularly military)
- Fund water quality monitoring
- Funding source, resource for enforcement.
- Funds are needed for enforcement.
- Funds are the root cause.
- Has the sanctuary fulfilled its mandate to: protect humpback whales and their habitat within the sanctuary; educate and interpret for the public the relationship of humpback whales and the Hawaiian Islands environment; manage human uses of the sanctuary; and identify marine resources and ecosystems of national significance for possible inclusion in the sanctuary?
- Have a vision that encompasses seven generations out. History has shown us that the Nation has done a dismal job at preserving habitat and species.
- Have these kinds of meetings in central Maui and Hana so more of the public can get involved.
- Hierarchy in ESA: how will the sanctuary prioritize species that need protection?
- HIHWNMS needs cultural and community specialists.

- Historical and cultural history should be incorporated, like kumulipo and ahupuaa system. We need to learn from that history to continue on.
- How do you set up a system to establish priority issues?
- How is this driven by the potential downlisting of humpbacks?
- However, we must realise that this takes money, private donations and government grants. I'm sure Ms. Chow would be thrilled to have the funds to expand the work of her agency. mahalo.
- HWS should be taken to point where program ends before taking on other duties
- I agree with the ahupuaa system. More communication between cultural aspects, fishermen. Not just for whales; everything.
- I also disagree with further protecting the monk seal and sea turtle. I think that the laws, rules, and regulations protecting these animals are working just fine. Their populations are growing and I feel no need for further laws.
- I am against the inclusion of Monk seals, Green Sea turtles, and other dolphin species along with Coral species and ecosystem management, under the umbrella of NOAA Hawaiian Humpback Whale Sanctuary. These species are already protected under the Endangered Species Act and redundant protection will unfairly limit the use of our resources by the people who need it most.
- I am not sure what the Hawaiian Cultural Heritage (vision) means or is, but if it suggests that only Hawaiians will be able to fish and use the ocean for recreation then I am against it. If not then I am unsure.
- I am unsure if sanctuary should limit military noise limits (sonar).
- I am writing to advocate NOAA's extension of the core management mandate of the HIHWNMS to include cultural resources and incorporate this extension into your revised sanctuary management plan.
- I am writing to express my support for the public scoping process that the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (Sanctuary) is undertaking for their management plan review.
- I am writing to express the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's support for extending NOAA's management responsibilities at the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to include historic properties and submerged cultural resources that lie within the Sanctuary.
- I believe this process (MPR) is important because it allows all interested parties to share their concerns for expansion of the Sanctuary and I am interested in learning more on how NOAA plans to interact with the community in the development of the Management Plan Review.
- I disagree with the 'visions' being discussed.
- I do not see why we should include turtles as they are doing exceptionally well with the current status of being a threatened species. I do not think they should be taken off that list as their sexually maturation is so long, they deserve continued protection as is currently happening. If NOAA wishes to help the economics of the island this is what should be done.
- I do not want to have our island be back door managed by people who have no roots to the Islands.
- I don't think any decisions should be made yet. A lot more opinions have to be gathered. I'm a shoreline fishermen pretty much my whole life and there is a lot of shoreline fishermen like myself who are not into commercial business and we gotta have a say – we have to know what's going on and we have to have a say – and I don't think you can proceed without spreading more information so that we can deal with any misinformation that's out there and I think the fishermen and ocean users, in particular surfers, and people like that we gotta hear what's going on and once we get the facts and know what's happening we can make our decision. Let me know - that's my position, give me a call.

- I formed the Support Our Sanctuary Coalition in 1992 after the Sanctuary was designated by Congress, waging an education campaign on its potential value, presenting more than 5000 signatures of support to then Governor Cayetano. We were instrumental in gaining the state's acceptance of the Sanctuary.
- I hope my comments are read
- I just read that article that you guys and then the last one I disagree with, in fact all of them I disagree with and how can you guys put down other? You know come on. You guys trying to sneak something in, eh?. The bottom line is you guys should be listening to us guys in Hawaii – we're willing to listen to you guys but you guys gotta be willing to listen to us more than big money interest groups, yeah. You guys give me a ring, feel free to call me as I read the articles you know some things I'm kind of changing my mind on, but still yet. Most of them way out in a negative way yeah for human beings, and the more you guys do, the more negative you guys trying to fly on us. We are ocean users, we, you know use the ocean for recreation, we use the ocean for food, and the main one I think is for food, yeah. And then like twenty years or thirty years from now if I'm still alive then my son and grand kids come walking up to me and tell me "Papa we can not even go boogie board or go surfing now".
- I know the Navy is expanding their area and it will likely go into Sanctuary waters. The Sanctuary needs to consider how that will affect the sanctuary.
- I want to see support for artificial reef programs. Need to create these artificial environments.
- I will present a number of issues but also note that most if not all can be addressed directly though the avenue provided in HRS Chapter 195D.
- I would like to see the HIHWS not expand its scope. Seals turtles and the reefs have state and federal laws already.
- I would suggest removing "cultural heritage" and instead integrating Hawaiian culture into all areas – Resource Protection, Education and Outreach, Science, Management – and create a single "Heritage" category. The plan needs to be more fluid and wholly inclusive of Hawaiian practices and knowledges.
- I would therefore remove the Humpback Whale specificity and rename the area is "Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary."
- I'm sure the military is involved on some level all that kind of stuff you know we deal with it all the time over here, so anyways, that's my comment, I would appreciate a call back to know that this comment has been recorded and thank you very much and I hope we can work together and not have any problems over here. Just remember the Superferry that's all I'm saying.
- If no enforcement – waste of money: policy and enforcement necessary to make it work
- If NOAA HHPBWS cares enough they will give federal funds to The State of Hawaii and DLNR can Protect the resources in State waters. It is time to wake up to the fact that we can only win this is NOAA HHPBWS must leave completely with all State waters being in THE STATE OF HAWAII'S possession and control.
- If the Sanctuary were to expand to monk seals, is there enough manpower to also do whales?
- If we bring monk seals back it will bring great white sharks and tiger sharks to this area. Right now the sharks swim through but do not stop here. Having monk seal colonies here would make the sharks stay because of new food source. This is bad for tourism. Do not add monk seals to sanctuary and do not bring them here.
- If you want to do more protection, hire more DLNR game wardens to protect the already off-limit areas and regulations already on the books.
- Impacts of feces from domesticated animals (eg dogs on beaches) on marine life. There is a risk of disease spread from domesticated to wild animals we should be concerned with, too.

- Impacts of things like RIMPAC as far as acoustic impacts. All military activities need an Environmental Impact Statement.
- Improve and support the existing programs we do have here in the State of Hawaii that provides protection to ocean mammals.
- Improve Sanctuary Monitoring and Enforcement. The current “coordinated” federal and state monitoring and enforcement efforts are not working well enough and solutions are needed for improvement.
- “In lieu of” program: The Nature Conservancy; work with TNC to see if the program could help with coral reef protection/restoration.
- In regards to the proposal to expand the sanctuary to include dolphins, sea turtles, etc.: Before doing this, show a successful track record with the whales. The numbers do not show that this is the case. Whales are a focal point for the ocean as a whole because they are so visible in so many ways - we don't need other focal points at this time. Once this (success with whales) is accomplished, or some other measure of success is met, then and only then would it be appropriate to discuss expansion.
- In terms of management, a holistic, ecosystemic approach can provide effective protective measures that a piecemeal approach cannot.
- Inasmuch as the whales face common problems such as ship strike, entanglement and environmental degradation throughout their range, Sanctuary management must build programs with expanded scope to provide the Sanctuary aegis wherever the whales are in the North Pacific. Simply put, the Sanctuary programs should be evident and effective wherever the whales are.
- include a clear statement of intent to develop and implement all sanctuary management actions in close consultation with related programs carried out by federal and state agencies and Native Hawaiian organizations with shared responsibilities for conserving living marine resources in the sanctuary boundaries
- include provisions for establishing an interagency coordinating committee chaired by the Sanctuary's co~superintendents (from the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources) and having representatives from the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Coast Guard, the Navy, the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, key offices of state government, and the Native Hawaiian community
- Include resources available to all stakeholders (Native Hawaiians, animals, ocean users, etc.) Need balance.
- Include suggested vision statement? See document for more information.
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will allow for better coordination with the State of Hawai'i on the inventory, documentation, and protection of maritime historic properties such as Hawaiian fishponds that fall under the State's jurisdiction.
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will better fit NOAA to meet its historic preservation responsibilities under applicable Federal law, including Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- Incorporate the management strategies recommended in the recovery plans for sea turtles and monk seals as part of the management regime of the designated sanctuary.
- Increase transparency on budget and spending so information is readily available to the public so the public can see the details on how the money was spent.
- Increase transparency when whales strand/die. Let the public know details of disposition and cause of death of a stranded animal—to better prevent and understand future strandings. Include native Hawaiians.
- Inherent conflict with partnering with DLNR. State gets its budget from leases and boat fees. It is a conflict for this agency to be responsible for fishponds while getting its revenues from other uses.

Can this be addressed in the management plan? Perhaps work with Senators to address this conflict – to make the conflict. Perhaps there are other state agencies that may not represent a conflict of interest. Look at ways to address this conflict of interest.

- Injection wells. Sanctuary should work on the issues. Protect corals because they are habitat for fish. Runoff is harming corals. Need to enforce runoff that harms corals.
- Is there a place someone can go to see where funding has gone? Is it a transparent budget?
- Is there overlap between the sanctuary scoping meetings and the Navy Environmental Impact Statement?
- It is laudable that the Sanctuary has also partnered with the state to support the conservation of others species, though this partnership is not part of its current mandate.
- It is obvious to me that the sanctuary has served its purpose and some of these species need to be De-listed.
- It's all about money. Not the local people and the land.
- Keeping it cultural – traditional practices. Mountain to sea.
- Land-sea interface (national park service) – agencies need to work together (more coordinated management).
- Legal/ethical studies for non-governmental funding of sanctuary (programs, management, enforcement, etc.)
- Less than 1 % of the sanctuary budget is spent on enforcement. Currently there is practically no enforcement of existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act). We further request that more resources be spent on the abovementioned existing laws.
- Let spend out tax dollars and time on getting rid of evasive species in our ocean.
- Let the Hawaiian people harvest some of the sea turtles. Sea turtles are really over-populated now.
- Limit military noise (sonar). The military should be limited because they are responsible for beaching of most ocean mammals, then regular commercial fisherman.
- Limit military noise limits (sonar)
- Look at programs from other sanctuaries: Stellwagen Bank, Channel Islands NMS; Build connections with outside organizations – research and enforcement; Gulf of Farallones NMS
- Look at the water quality from non-point source, too. Support enforcement of Clean Water Act that is being violated by state and county through injection wells.
- Lot of research funded by navy (marine mammal research)
- Lots of Hawaiian cultural groups are very connected to past and the sanctuary should make sure that they are getting their voice heard during this process so that things aren't being taken away from them/changed without their input/consent.
- Mālama Maunaloa would be pleased to support the HIHWNMS Plan process in an advisory capacity going forward.
- manage to a clear plan to assure the highest level of protection for the North Pacific humpback whales in Sanctuary waters while the Management Plan Review process is underway.
- Management - rare opportunity to have partnership between fed and state. All understand, long term. Involvement of all.
- Management changes/decisions should be based on real data – facts
- Managing resources often involves objectifying resources. Management policies result in treating things separately. Understanding whales and their needs are needed to really better manage whales. This requires compassion
- Marine Corps adding low altitude ops. Keep within perimeters. Engage military? EIS? Sonar issue. 1000 ft overflight issue.
- Marine debris should be addressed.

- Marine Mammal Commission recommended mission statement - Manage the sanctuary in a sustainable manner that respects and balances the needs and rights of all who now enjoy, use, and rely on the sanctuary's benefits; that recognizes and promotes the essential role of partnerships and shared responsibilities of Native Hawaiians, the public, private organizations, and governmental entities with vested interests in their perpetuation; and that preserves undiminished rights and opportunities for all future generations to benefit from and enjoy its blessings.
- Marine Mammal Commission recommended vision statement - To protect, conserve, and, where appropriate and possible, restore the marine life, marine habitat, ecological health, and significant historical relics of the ocean ecosystem that endow the main Hawaiian Islands with a bounty of intrinsic, cultural, economic, recreational, educational, and scientific values.
- Mauka to makai connections need to be looked at. Should look at urban development and impacts on coral reefs. Look at deposition of sediment impacts on coral reefs.
- Monk seals – about 20 years ago I didn't see them here on Maui. You should round up the seals here and take them to the NWHI.
- Monk seals are clearly doing better in human inhabited waters. They too, are strongly protected by state and federal laws. We can share our beaches with monk seals. We don't need to segregate.
- More enforcement personnel.
- More integration of culture into the sanctuary program, not just side-by-side, but true integration.
- Most importantly in the management plan review is to offer comment to the U.S. Navy as [they] are preparing an EIS. Their proposed action is to conduct military readiness training and testing activities which include the use of active sonar and explosives [which will] detrimentally affect the sanctuary.
- Navy big stakeholder
- Navy EIS meetings at the end of the month will announce SONAR testing, what will be the impact of this testing on the Sanctuary?
- Nearshore pollution is a big issue. What's the sanctuary's stance on the city's waiver? What is the impact of the outfall pipes?
- Need more money, fed./state cooperation.
- Need more transparency in the management: i.e. communication, budget. Become more a coordinating/facilitating entity with other agencies.
- Need to address NPS (non-point source pollution) issue and water feeding into reproductive areas – Mountain to makai – especially if adding other species.
- **NEED TO RE-ORGANIZE AND RE-DIRECT PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES:** Based on the responsibilities stated in the Mission Statement, and the tasks described above, the Sanctuary Management Plan must also address re-organization and re-direction of personnel and resources to create an operational management structure that can fulfill its duties for all the Hawaiian Island sanctuaries.
- New governor could resurrect the superferry. The sanctuary needs to be prepared to deal with this.
- New injection wells near the coastline should not be permitted and old ones should be phased out as new technology is adopted and priority is given to funding injection well alternatives. The sanctuary could promote this as a means of improving water quality in targeted areas.
- NHINM The Sanctuary should also investigate measures necessary to protect whales in the Northwest Hawai'ian Islands National Monument (NHINM). The management plan should include research on this topic and result in recommendations and a way forward for protecting humpback whales and associated species in Papahānaumokuā'kea.
- NMS Foundation needs to be brought into the management plan review process. Support group for foundation that is part of the sanctuary.

- No expand to include corals- Yes before you look to the water you need to control what happens on the land. We the people see first hand the damage runoff from silt and fertilizers of golf courses and hotels are doing
- No expand to include dolphins- again you are suggesting more waste of federal dollars. So far all your reasons for having the Sanctuary point to wasted dollars
- No expand to include dolphins- go to Japan and have a Sanctuary there in Hawaii there doing fin
- No expand to include dolphins-they will survive if controls are tightened on Japan
- No expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage-If all I've seen is wasted time and dollars that result in no benefits but only hardships. I see your vision as blind. Butt out.
- No expand to include seals-no need to expand take them back to Northwest Hawaiian islands
- No expand to include turtles-continue with current laws. Sea turtles have more than survived due to increase in population
- No expand to include turtles-since ESL has been so successful for turtles and population is no longer endangered why has it not been removed from the Endangered species list
- No expand to include turtles-There are large numbers of turtles in the state. I free dive and have seen turtles in places where I didn't see before. Turtles should be taken off the endangered list.
- No expand to include turtles-too many sea turtles now. Should be taken off list
- No expand whale protections-agree with above comments. At what point does government stop their encroachment on our rights
- No expand whale protections-I feel the present Federal laws protecting the whales is enough because I personally see more whales every year
- No expand whale protections-no because the Sanctuary is inconsequential to the protection of animals. They are exceeding the limits of man's interference with ecology
- No expand whale protections-the numbers of whales seem to be increasing just fine without increasing their protection
- No expand whale protections-the sanctuary has already done its job
- No expand whale protections-whale sanctuary and present budget use are sufficient
- NOAA and NPS have a long and fruitful relationship and professional exchange involving science-based management of submerged natural and cultural resources...I fully expect this partnership will continue and grow
- NOAA can be collaborator with other Federal entities (e.g., EPA), state, and county. See what others are doing and be a part of it. Help come up with a solution.
- NOAA is uniquely qualified to expand its management responsibilities to protect these irreplaceable and non-renewable cultural resources for future generations
- NOAA Protected Resources here to listen to people comment – common interests
- NOAA should keep comments and petitions to the State of Hawaii only and NOT the rest of the world's because they do not live here in Hawaii.
- Noise limits with no military exemptions during whale season
- Not wait until 2014. While long range planning is going on, develop short term plans. Need to come up with some alternative opportunities for participation before MPR is finished.
- Numerous factors [of restricting access] include: 1. United States Department Of Defense Department of Navy Pacific Missile Range Facility capricious, inconsistent, and constantly changing restrictions following the terror attacks on September 11 2001, by means of barricading, fencing, gating off and threatening Federal Prosecution for use of traditional access routes to natural resource shore line and ocean. 2. Industrial agricultural business entities increased use of intimidation, fencing and gating restrictions of traditional access routes to natural resource shore line and ocean.

3. Private land owners increased use of intimidation, fencing and gating restrictions of traditional access routes to natural resource shore line and ocean. 4. Erosion.
- One of the main causes of the problem (over fishing) is mismanagement.
 - One size doesn't fit all. Consider regional management. One way: regional councils; by moku by moku, ahupuaa by ahupuaa. These councils already established, utilize them more and will naturally integrate cultural aspects. Ahumoku council might be a mechanism to assist with regional management approach. Sanctuary should be ecosystem based and regional.
 - Only after the last tree has been cut down... Only after the last river has been poisoned... Only after the last fish has been caught... Only then u will find that money can't be eaten...GO GREEN!!
 - Organizations like Parks Canada and the U.S. National Park Service have increasingly recognized the value of cultural and historic preservation
 - Other sanctuaries show what is possible to do with their budget
 - Other species should not be added into the management consideration within the sanctuary as many are already adequately covered by other laws such as the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The state already makes it a felony to harm a monk seal which is more severe than the misdemeanor of the Endangered Species Act.
 - Our real concerns should be where the whales and dolphins are being hunted by Japan and other countries in our close waters and shown on live television. We should spend our expansion money from the government to buy a boat and help out the whale wars in our oceans, where whales and dolphins are being killed on a daily basis.
 - Our reefs are being smothered and killed by sediment and runoff from construction, fertilizer, pesticides and sewage.
 - Overall, the idea and vision is absurd, to say the very least. The main objective behind this whole thing is to create unnecessary jobs, can't hide it.
 - Partnership element is very important: research, enforcement, public outreach
 - Please also extend the October 16, 2010 comments deadline through 2011. Since the real public didn't get notified (and the rest of the world did according to Malia Chow) it would only be fair to extend this deadline because in two years no one will remember what was said. From my understanding our next public comments will be in two years.
 - Please have more meetings where shoreline fisherman, divers and surfers have a chance to thoroughly review your plans.
 - please lets all stand together on these protecting issues and try to make a difference
 - Pollution and military testing are major concerns.
 - Prioritize issues by greatest implications.
 - Process needs to be mindful. And who are the stakeholders involved?
 - Projects that address water quality and non-point source pollution.
 - Providing a "bounty" for invasive fish species statewide will do much for reef health and require no federal invasion.
 - Providing a "bounty" system for discarded/lost fishing nets and lines.
 - Recommend using video cameras to record the sessions.
 - Regional listing of HW endangered status. Importance of specific populations, connecting.
 - Review cooperation opportunities with the coast Guard, community members
 - Revisiting and better understanding the original promises supporting compatible economic uses in Sanctuary waters found in the original enabling documents mentioned above , as well as actively soliciting comments and experiences from all ocean user groups, would provide a realistic context for the review.
 - Reward for fishermen who bring back derelict nets

- Runoff from streams (address).
- Runoff, water quality, SONAR, stranding response are all issues. The ahupuaa system is always great. The reasons why marine mammals are stranding are linked to runoff, water quality, and SONAR. I would have liked to say a prayer for the animal before it went on the flight. This is the first time there was no prayer. NOAA staff body language was disappointing; they were too excited to use their new center; even though there was a tank available at the Maui Ocean Center. The number of strandings has quadrupled due to water quality, SONAR testing, and runoff. Hotel development and runoff should be addressed by the Sanctuary. Stream/river water should reach the ocean.
- Sanctuary can work with the `Aha Moku system, combine the old with the new and come up with something unique for the Hawaiian Islands.
- Sanctuary management should be adaptive and should think about the future, be community based and adaptable.
- Sanctuary must be in compliance with section 106
- Sanctuary needs partnerships to accomplish goals (public, native Hawaiians, other agencies...)
- Sanctuary needs to hold another meeting on Kauai.
- Sanctuary should be much more aggressive and active on topics rather than waiting until 2014.
- Sanctuary should express comments to County.
- Sanctuary should hear from ocean users (people who are NOT making money from the ocean) before making a decision.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protection - How about more enforcement on International Fishing in US waters.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - Stop whaling ships.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - What will happen if we get an over population of whales? Why don't you use the money to help the sea shepard? The whales need your help there, NOT HERE!!!
- Sanctuary should support state to increase enforcement (funding)
- Sanctuary taking credit for Humpback return is bogus The Sanctuary has undoubtedly contributed to the survival of a few individual whales by assisting in disentanglement. However, the true savior of the Humpbacks has been and continues to be the BAN on whaling.
- Set up a framework to allow economic growth and development within the sanctuary. E.g. alternative energy, new technologies. Need to be flexible to allow new/unforeseen industry.
- Should incorporate traditional concepts in MPA establishment (exclude commercial fishing but allow subsistence fishing). In MPA, need to incorporate Hawaiian cultural heritage and Hawaiian concepts.
- Should the sanctuary pursue an amendment to its mandate to include activities beyond education and outreach?
- Shouldn't be just local – fishermen and ocean users in general.
- some (maritime heritage properties) are war graves and must therefore be accorded additional respect and honor
- Some people may have strong comments but might not feel comfortable commenting in certain situations (such as big public meetings). Consider other ways of reaching out to communities.
- Some ways that I think would help stop this problem (over fishing) is by having a better management system. There needs to be a monitoring system and then a strong enforcement to make it work.
- Sonar and military exemptions - concerned about it.
- Speed up MPR process because there may be whole new issues in 4+ years.
- Spend our federal money for more enforcement. Enforcement officers in other states (Alaska, Oregon) are not DLNR. They are state police and they do a good job.

- Stimulus funds can be a great opportunity to stimulate the economy and create more jobs related to the ocean.
- Stop foreign countries from slaughter of whales. Whales come to Hawaiian isles seasonally.
- Support (enforcement) all aspects of sanctuary, with partner agencies.
- Support sanctuary in our community. Should be local support and base decisions on local knowledge, not on decision from Washington DC.
- Thank you for thinking Green, in Clean Energy Grace
- The "Sanctuary" should have a transparent budget.
- The ACUA strongly supports a proposal to add maritime archaeological resources to Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary's management plan...
- The Coast Guard here does not know about "pump, don't dump" program.
- the Commission believes that it would be appropriate to include separate action plans for major species groups, such as marine mammals, sea turtles, seabirds, and corals, as well as action plans for overarching initiatives relating to multiple species or species groups
- The County (Kaua'i Mayor's Office) thanks you for this opportunity to submit these comments and welcomes the opportunity to work with your agency in the future.
- the County (Kaua'i Mayor's Office) would like to take this opportunity to state that it supports the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary's efforts and agrees with its goals of conservation and preservation.
- The current humpback population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. Seems that sanctuary had less impact than the ban on whaling.
- The current Humpback population would be ____ if there had never been a sanctuary - If you can't see the population growth I don't know what to say
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. They are fine the way it is. Maybe some day we will have to feed them! Since their food stock is declining!
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - No difference
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - Because there is no whaling. The sanctuary does little or nothing.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - However if whaling was allowed to continue at its past rate the sanctuary might not have helped to increase the whale population.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - I do feel the ban on whaling is what has brought our whale population back. It has nothing to do with the whale sanctuary.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - If boats/ships stop harvesting the whales.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - I've seen the studies done on whales.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - Let them be - they survived this long without anyone's help.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Sanctuary not helping population.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The whale's don't come in shallow water for us shoreline fisher people to be a threat.

- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - The Whales don't know or care about any sanctuary boundaries. They go wherever they want. If a boat approaches, they submerge. When the boat is far enough away, they surface. They deal with boats very well.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - Whales are being harvest in other areas.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - Yes ban whaling.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Because of whaling bans, whale populations have been able to recover. I don't believe that noro vessles/on share people cause danger to these creatures. Captains are well aware of their surroundings and know when whales are near. They slow their vessels down considerably!
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Because the sanctuary did nothing to help the count of whales, stopping fishing of whales is what helped.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. I have noticed about the same whale populations over the last 38 years of boating.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. If not prectected world wide what does this silly sanctuary do but distract from the real reason what ever it is.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Probably no difference.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Target whaling!
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The ban of whaling is the primary reason whale populations have increased.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. There is no natural predator that make a large impact of whale deaths. I believe because of the ban on whaling the population has increased.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. They would control their own population themselves.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Whale numbers have been growing annually. Locals do not endanger whale because we have no use for them.
- The current Humpback population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. (But) All of the decline came from whaling fleets in the past.
- The current Humpback population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. - But there would still be an increase in humpback population due to the ban on whaling.
- The current humpback population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. Keep up on ban on whaling.
- The current Humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. Federal government should go after foreign countries that still take whales.
- The current Humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. It's hard to pass them on the way to the buoy cause there's so much.
- The current humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. - Stop killing any species and they will come back.

- The current humpback population would maybe be more if there had never been a sanctuary. I am NOT an exper or a biologist. I am an environmentalist in my own right (way). I have worked for oever 25 years to keep invasive species our of Hawaii.
- The current humpback populations would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. I believe that the ban on whaling has been the difference.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The humpbacks were recovering well before the sanctuary.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The humpbacks were recovering well before the sanctuary.They were under protection prior so this was not necessary. Protection from harvest was the major factor on their recovery.
- The current Humpback whale population would be less if there had never been a Sanctuary.
- The current Humpback whale population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. But it's growing, so no expansion.
- The current Humpback whale population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary. The whales know where to go
- The current Humpback whale population would be more if there had never been a Sanctuary.
- The current iteration of the Sanctuary management plan describes “emerging” issues that need further study. I strongly disagree that all of these issues are “emerging”. Many of those presented are well-known issues that include regulatory policy solutions in other locations. Instead, these issues should be marked as imperative, and the management plan needs to state a way forward for the Sanctuary, not recommend further studies.
- The currenty humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The whales don't know where the sanctuarys are, so its not like there in such danger that they have to run to the sanctuays to be safe. There safe where ever they are.
- The DLNR had a meeting tonight and we had to pick.
- The endangerment of any marine species can be directly attributed to overdevelopment and the military. So wise up.
- The enforcement of a marine sanctuary should be coordinated with eliminating commercial fishing in the sanctuary, since the reefs and environmental balance need to be maintained.
- The greatest enemy of the whales in the Hawaiian waters is the navy and their unregulated use of sonar!! A sanctuary will not stop them from practicing their art of war on man kind and the planet.
- The Hawaii Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP) was updated in 2006, after an extensive outreach effort during which the Hawaii CZM Program received a broad array of public comments on the issues within our Island State, as well as suggestions for how to successfully update the ORMP.
- The Hawaiian Sea Turtles, (by our own marine biologists) are no longer endangeredand in the near futuremay be taken off the endangered list. It was brought up at the meeting that NOAA was looking at the turtles on a 'world-wide' perspective. This arguement doesn't hold-up since the Hawaiian Sea turtles are foundonly in Hawaiian waters.
- The Hawaiian Undersea Research Lab remains committed to the documentation and investigation of cultural resources.
- The inclusion of other species into the sanctuary is similarly not needed. Adding other species that are already protected by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and creating a sanctuary for them is duplicative and unnecessary.

- The inclusion of underwater cultural heritage as part of NOAA's mandate in managing HIHWNMS is particularly important because of the diminished capacity of the state of Hawaii's historic preservation division and its difficulty in managing its maritime heritage
- The international, national, and local contacts established the importance of maritime heritage, especially to Hawaii.
- the Marine Mammal Commission also recommends that the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries revise the plan to include provisions for establishing an interagency coordinating committee chaired by the Sanctuary's co-superintendents (from the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources) and including representatives from the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Coast Guard, the Navy, the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, key offices of state government, and the Native Hawaiian community
- the Marine Mammal Commission recommends that the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries revise the new sanctuary management plan to include a clear statement of intent to develop and implement all sanctuary management actions in close consultation with related programs carried out by federal, state, local, and Native Hawaiian agencies and organizations with shared responsibilities for conserving living marine resources within the sanctuary boundaries
- The meeting at the Kaua'i Community College should have been the first place anyone gathered to discuss this issue, to discuss it with people influenced by the outcome.
- The Monk Seal program as currently promulgated and executed by NOAA is critically flawed and is accelerating the Monk Seal down the road to extinction.
- The name of the sanctuary should be changed to Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary, and the reference to Humpback Whales should be dropped.
- The National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA) authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to designate and manage areas of the marine environment with special national significance due to their conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, scientific, cultural, archeological, educational, or esthetic qualities as national marine sanctuaries. The primary objective of the NMSA is to protect marine resources, such as marine mammals, sunken historical vessels, and unique habitats.
- The Navy has no objection to divers visiting these types of sites (maritime heritage) if done so in a responsible and with the appropriate type of management.
- The NMS is overall an ecosystem based system and sanctuaries need to adapt and change as needed and partnerships are important to pool resources. Sanctuary should facilitate these partnerships to maximize protection—use what you have and use it well; sanctuaries are only as good as the sum of its parts. Community outreach and education are vitally important. Hawaii's communities are directly connected to the ocean and are involved in its preservation; sanctuary should tap into this. Use the communities to decide what the future of the sanctuary should be.
- the ORMP is a plan that reflects three major perspectives: i) recognizing the connection between land and sea; ii) preserving our ocean heritage; and iii) promoting collaborative stewardship and governance.
- The plan should begin with a revised a Mission Statement for the Sanctuary that reflects the responsibilities of the Sanctuary as stated in the enabling legislation (16 U.S.C 1431 et. Seq. and subtitle C, title 11, Pub. L. 102-587, 106 Stat. 5005). The plan should then describe each area of responsibility, and describe how the Sanctuary plans to fulfill its mission. (see Attachment A: Mission Statement): Appendix A:

MISSION STATEMENT FOR THE HUMPBACK WHALE SANCTUARY

The humpback whale relies on Hawaiian waters for wintering habitat where whales engage in reproduction activities, including breeding, calving, and nursing, all necessary to the long-term survival of their species. The Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary was designated to provide a sanctuary for humpback whales, with the primary objective of protecting the humpback whale and its habitat. The Sanctuary is tasked with the protection, preservation and management and conservation of this habitat including its ecological, recreational, research, educational, historical, cultural and aesthetic resources. The regulations enacted by Congress (16 U.S.C 1431 et. Seq. and subtitle C, title 11, Pub. L. 102-587, 106 Stat. 5005) specifically task the Sanctuary to work with other existing authorities, such as HINMSA (Hawaiian National Marine Sanctuary Act) and NMSA (National Marine Sanctuary Act), to monitor, supervise and regulate the following activities:

- All public and private use of the Sanctuary plus customary and traditional subsistence use by Hawaiian peoples, including cultural and religious activities;
- Conflict resolution between compatible uses of the Sanctuary, including cultural, recreational, commercial and military activities;
- Maintenance, restoration and enhancement of humpback whales and their habitat to contribute to the health of natural assemblages of humpback whales for future generations;
- Research related to the Sanctuary resources and responsibilities, and;
- Educational outreach concerning the whales and their ecosystem.
- The Sanctuary's enabling regulations may also be modified to fulfill additional responsibilities including provision of additional protections for humpback whales and their habitat, and the conservation and management of other marine resources, qualities and ecosystems of the Sanctuary determined to be of national significance.
- The principal sanctuary actions taken to protect humpback whales and their habitat have involved efforts to disentangle whales, support research, and educate the public. The actions taken by the sanctuary over the years have been well placed and have created circumstances allowing growth of Hawaii's humpback whale population since the sanctuary's designation.
- The SAC is beginning to make incremental improvements towards better including the Native Hawaiian community in the advisory council. The additional of a Native Hawaiian working group would go a long way to improving the sanctuary's use of Hawaiian knowledges as long as there is implementation of the working group's input at the staff and programming levels.
- the same can be said for NOAA's coordination with the annual MAHHI conference on Maritime Archaeology and History of the Hawaiian Islands
- The sanctuary can develop a way to interface with other government agencies (e.g. DLNR, NRCS, etc). To access different money available.
- The Sanctuary has a volunteer water monitoring program but there appears to be no specific Sanctuary funding to support it. When will the Sanctuary actively participate in addressing the water quality issue by committing Sanctuary funds to it?
- The sanctuary has served its purpose. The Humpback today has and continues to make a marked recovery. I have no wish to see this beautiful animal hunted or killed. Today, your discussions should revolve around Ways and Means to give these protected areas back to the People Of Hawaii.
- The sanctuary is a species-based approach to manage the humpback whales. It's doing a great job and should not be expanded into an ecosystem-based approach. This should be left for the state to determine in the traditional ahapuaa – mountain to ocean – process.
- The sanctuary must have a transparent budget and be accountable for all spending and funding decisions.

- The sanctuary should be expanded from humpback whales to other species (in air, land, water) The sanctuary should address not just sea life, but also sand erosion, bird life, water quality
- The sanctuary should be involved in the EIS for the power cable.
- The sanctuary should expand to include dolphins. I am seeing much fewer dolphins than ever. They are being stressed by pollution, overfishing, sonar, habitat degradation, ALL proven scientifically.
- The sanctuary should go up the mountain, ahupuaa system. Go up the hill. (injection wells, feral ungulates)
- The Sanctuary should have a transparent budget
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Assessing golf courses near shorelines, their use of chemicals that run off into our ocean and limiting pollutants used.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Controlling the amounts of nitrogenous runoff would be more effective than sanctifying coral reefs.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. I agree. Agricultural and human expansion and land development are the culprits. Focus on the programs, on limiting the victim (the ocean). Fix the sources of the runoff.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Take care of the pollution going into the water, not the people using the water.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. You don't have to include coral because it is from run-off's is the problems in killing the reefs.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. This has nothing to do with the whale sanctuary,, and it shouldn't be involved in your "vision."
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. We are 100% for preservation of "all things Hawaiian" but the oversight should remain with the state not the federal government
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Control humans who chase resting monk seals back into the water where they become susceptible to shark attack. How will a water sanctuary protect monk seals on land?
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Monk seals don't do anything for us - only the people with grant money - take them back where they came from.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. From my diving and fishing related experiences turtles are so plentiful they're becoming a nuisance.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. Too many turtles in addition they have a lot of tumors and growths on them from pollution and runoff's.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Growth in whale populations has occurred regardless of expansion.
- The sanctuary should take a lead role in addressing aquaculture, energy projects, and any new uses of the ocean floor, shoreline, and waters within its boundaries. In addressing new uses, the sanctuary should not restrict traditional uses (i.e. fishing, boating, and other traditional ocean activities) in favor of new uses.
- The Sanctuary's management plan review coincides with our upcoming update of the ORMP, and the Sanctuary has graciously agreed to share the input they receive from the public so that it can be used to inform our future update. In this manner, your concerns, comments, and suggestions will help influence several management efforts within the State. With this in mind, and on behalf of the dedicated staff at the Hawaii' CZM Program, I ask you to be open and generous with your thoughts. Please share everything you can in as productive and constructive a manner as possible.

- The State of Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) has a seat on the sanctuary advisory council that DOH has left vacant for many years. As a powerful co-trustee of state waters, DOH should be at the table and we urge DOH to appoint its representative immediately
- The three year timeline for the Management plan is absurdly long
- The vision [of the sanctuary] should stop the political B.S.
- The waters around the Hawaiian Islands contain many submerged naval properties. There are more than 70 US Navy ships and submarines, and over 1,484 naval aircraft reported lost among the islands
- The whales' habitat in Hawaiian waters and throughout the North Pacific remains under constant threat of degradation through marine debris, ocean acidification, and dangerous land-derived inputs to the whales' environment. Although some may argue that this degradation should include so-called "noise pollution", there is no credible evidence that either operational or environmental acoustic changes in the environment affect the whales or threaten the whales' continued wellbeing. Sanctuary management should develop and implement a comprehensive plan of action to address the major environmental threats to the whales' habitat: marine debris, human-derived pollutants, and ocean acidification.
- there are many cultural resources that should be managed on parity with natural resources
- There are many serious threats to Humpback whales and their habitat. All of these threats need to be addressed by the sanctuary and the state.
- there is a serious lack of priority and coordination in studying these (maritime heritage) sites.
- There must be more regulatory collaboration between land and ocean uses, especially regarding pollution, that would affect the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary must take a leading role in fostering this collaboration. The management plan should include an investigation of these issues and a plan to implement closer collaboration between the Sanctuary and other users.
- There needs to be an overarching policy as to what the sanctuary is (see David Laist's comment in the Comments Box). Like the monument, need to include vision in the management plan.
- There should be more interface with other organizations, e.g. Roi Roundup. More communication between organizations.
- There should be program that rewards fish net reporting. Fish nets need to be labeled as to their owners. Owners need to be liable. Net entanglements are the main reason for human caused whale deaths
- There should be programs that reward fish net reporting. Fish nets need to be labeled as to their owners. Owners need to be liable. Net entanglements are the main reason for human caused whales deaths.
- There was no mention of whether or not the Ocean Resources Management Plan adopted in 1994 has been updated with respect to traditional and cultural rights.
- Throw money to the people who is really protecting the whales in Antarctica and the dolphins in Japan.
- To: sanctuary MPR staff. Many of our group attended the fisherman meeting on Kauai on Oct. 5 where they passed this ballot out. We want to point out the false information they state here and verbally. All those who send this ballot in and signed their petition did so based on false information. Therefore it should not be considered as relevant.
- Tragedy of the Commons captures the idea of resource management – everyone working in natural resource management or leadership position should read
- Transparency in the budget, how does the sanctuary spend
- under the Sunken Military Craft Act (SMCA), any disturbance of military properties is illegal without prior authorization

- Unsure about expanding to include Hawaiian cultural heritage-increase input of Hawaiians on various boards
- Unsure about. (KFTO: Many of the items listed in the Sanctuary's "Top 10 Accomplishments" (see Kohola Connection dispersed by Sanctuary) read like the claims on unproven herbal supplement labels with phrases like 'enhanced protection', 'engagement' and such. They provide little or nothing in the way of hard numbers that could be used for a real evaluation of effectiveness. Three of the Top 10 are, in fact, actually the same thing: 'Community Connections', 'Enhanced Resource Protection through Coordinated Management', and 'Increased Ocean Awareness and Literacy'. They all fall under the simple title of Public Education, and that has been the Sanctuary's real accomplishment. that also should be it's main forward looking goal.)
- Unsure if the sanctuary should include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Unsure but if people here in Hawai'i live off food from the ocean and from the mountain. How does Hawaiian cultural Heritage work itself into a whale sanctuary.
- Unsure. (KFTO: Many of the items listed in the Sanctuary's "Top 10 Accomplishments" (see Kohola Connection dispersed by Sanctuary) read like the claims on unproven herbal supplement labels with phrases like 'enhanced protection', 'engagement' and such. They provide little or nothing in the way of hard numbers that could be used for a real evaluation of effectiveness. Three of the Top 10 are, in fact, actually the same thing: 'Community Connections', 'Enhanced Resource Protection through Coordinated Management', and 'Increased Ocean Awareness and Literacy'. They all fall under the simple title of Public Education, and that has been the Sanctuary's real accomplishment. that also should be it's main forward looking goal.)
- Use the money to solve the problem then add to it. Don't blame us people. We obey the laws.
- Vision Statement should include enforcement and regulations
- Vital and effective functions, such as whale disentanglement, can be moved to the National Marine Fisheries Service, which serves that function well in mainland NOAA marine Sanctuaries.
- Wants to see carcass taken out to sea. Muster assistance from community and partners.
- Water quality: Run-offs- Question how to address this?
- We (Kaua'i County Mayor's Office) would also request that any and all proceedings and activities in this effort be conducted with full public disclosure and the opportunity for all of the various stakeholder groups to participate.
- We believe their (maritime heritage resources) management is subject to section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) which calls for federal agencies to exercise their stewardship responsibilities on historic properties "owned or controlled" by the agency, or "under its jurisdiction." Submerged lands within the Sanctuary fall into these categories.
- We can do something on land as well as in the water. Corporate NOAA should do more to be "green" such as energy efficiency to lessen our footprint. Link between impacts on land and ocean.
- We feel education can be accomplished by the State of Hawaii and if the Federal Government would be willing to fund the State of Hawaii in their efforts to protect the marine resources and educate the public, then that would be very welcomed.
- We have two acts now that work for all of the marine animals: the Endangered Species Act (ESA; 16 U.S.C., 1531 et seq.) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA; 16 U.S.C., 1361 et seq.). We have the Department of Land and Natural Resources to regulate our state. So what's the purpose of creating a new program and not improving and supporting the existing programs we do have?
- We highly welcome your efforts and suggest that the kona district of Kaua'i's watershed master plan be adopted and identify that these areas are already encumbered by cultural native inhabitants of stewardship and practitioners that monitor and maintain their native habitat and its inhabitants and the regional watersheds (Le., coast, ocean, estuary, endemic and indigenous inhabitants and biota,

minerals, submerged resources and lands, within, above, and all processes thereof) for many centuries and implement policies to adhere to pre-existing cultural watershed management plan to your current administrative policies and rules. As we continue to implement our management plans for the kona district of Kaua'i and our native population naturally grows, we welcome your efforts in our common goals. Since we are currently updating our 1994 legacy watershed plan for our implementation action plan 2010-2020, we humbly ask for your support and hope that we can work together to accomplish our mutual efforts of friendly cooperation.

- We need a more ecology-based sanctuary, e.g. land erosion and its effects on marine ecosystems
- We only get one Earth, if we destroy its life we are sure to die out with them. Protection of not just the oceans, but forethought in what we do will have a good outcome.
- We recommend that the Plan recognize and address the fundamental connection between watershed function and the health of adjacent coastal coral reefs and other valuable marine ecosystems.
- We request the Sanctuary to take a strong stand against commercial factory fisheries.
- We see it unnecessary to add other species as these species are already protected under the Endangered Species Act and or under the Marine Mammal Protection Act.
- We urge you to critically evaluate the success of past efforts to implement this sanctuary's mandate before considering changes.
- we would be well advised to be prepared to sustain ourselves with the resources at hand rather than depend on those coming from "off island". I would suggest the incorporation of the basic premise as a part of any Sanctuary Plan.
- We would like to see the benefits of federal dollars spent in our community. Expand sanctuary scope to include their resources, for example corals. Federal money for sanctuary is bringing money to this community, this is good.
- Wetland areas: if you are going to have streams reach the ocean there's a problem with invasive species that needs to be looked at. Need to address invasive species because they are a part of the waterway.
- Whales are protected already. Whales are tame. They approach the boats. How are we supposed to fish? Name "sanctuary" is a turn-off. Whales are already protected in the U.S. In deepwater you can't see the resources so what is the point of a sanctuary?
- Whales moving, threats change.
- What are the regulations in other states/countries? How can we coordinate efforts when whales out of Hawaiian Islands sanctuary? What about protection near other countries?
- What benchmark would the Sanctuary want to hit and at what certain time if it added other species? What are the metrics to measure success?
- What brought about the management plan review?
- What can be done at the federal level to overcome these obstacles?
- What can the sanctuary do right now to better fulfill its mandate and reach out to communities within the current boundaries of the sanctuary?
- What happens if NOAA and DLNR disagree? What about a change in Presidency, how does it affect the Sanctuary? What happens if the Governor and President don't agree? To what extent can the Sanctuary go to bat against the President/government/Navy?
- What obstacles currently prevent the sanctuary from better fulfilling its mandate?
- What other agencies are involved in MPR/sanctuary and management and how will they interface with the sanctuary?
- What potential revenue did the state lose by giving waters to the sanctuary?

- What role does the Sanctuary play in related activities that take place outside the sanctuary boundaries?
- What were the original reasons that Gov. Cayetano modified the boundaries?
- what will change as (maritime heritage) sites age? This question must be considered as purposely sunken vessels age past the 50-year mark, defining them as "historical" by Hawaii State Statutes.
- Whenever possible the management plan should delineate qualitative and quantitative metrics for each management plan goal that is set, so that failure or success can be measured against the goal metrics.
- Where do we stand on funding?
- Why do we need to include monk seals? They are already protected by the ESA and MMPA
- Why don't we have a mission statement that reflects what we do?
- Why is NOAA and the US government using tax dollars to clean rubbish (marine debris) from other countries?
- Why is there a need to bring in other species like monk seals, turtles, etc? They are already protected by the endangered species act and marine mammals protection act.
- Without any kind of preservation management, naval properties and other submerged cultural resources will continue to be vulnerable to illegal damage
- Would it have been more beneficial to come to the public with potential rule changes now for comment?
- WWII bunkers and coastal defense artifacts line our shores. Would these be included in the protected inventory.
- Yes, we have some area's within the islands that have challenges with the depletion of coral life and shoreline reef fish, but much of this is attributed to the filth that is produced by runoffs and leaching of chemicals from land and the discharge of toxic waste from commercial ocean liners and other ocean going vessels including military type. It would be very wise if your agency concentrated it's efforts and funds on policing the high seas and stop the culprits that are using our ocean as a trash disposal.
- You guys gotta include our things – don't only talk to the Sierra Club and all that environmentalist kine people and basically you guys should be talking to us over here - in this state, not California or wherever you guys been doing these things. Okay, meetings, um, you guys should be inviting everybody not only a select few because that's what's been happening, only a select few and agencies with money, okay. Another thing, coral reefs, monk seals, whales, birds, they all supposed to be behind the humans, not making fun of the humans. And this is a way of life over here on Kauai – fishing, yeah, fishing. And, nobody gonna tell me that I can't go fishing – that is not right, okay, not right at all. But remember now, the humans before the animals, not the animals before the humans – wrong. I don't know what else you guys are trying to pull but I've been hearing from a whole lot of fishermans and some other guys that you guys are trying to pull some major scenarios. But you guys gotta remember - fishing is a way of life over here on Kauai, okay, as even hunting, and killing things is good because we eat 'em, is good, it's a good thing it is a survival thing, a survival instinct. Whatever else you guys trying to do is not happening. I don't agree and I totally disagree with what you guys doing.
- You say that the public needs to be involved, but that's a lie. There's been a lot of meetings held in secret. You're trying to pull a fast one on the people of Hawaii and it's not right. The ocean is a way of life for us in Hawaii, you take that away, and there is no Hawaii, we live off the ocean. All you're going to accomplish by any of this is a few jobs for a select few. Shame on you!!!

- Your Water quality projects have failed in your tenure and we do not need more tax payers dollars in these hard times being spent to make our waters a Natinal Marine sanctuary for resources already protected by numerous Federal laws.

Management Effectiveness: Potential Solutions

- Acoustic disturbance including; sonar, shipping, underwater explosives, boat engine noise, commercial air guns & seismic surveys have all been documented to cause behavioral impacts, strandings, alters communication, causes deafness and death in whales. The sanctuary has done nothing to protect whales from sonar or acoustic disturbance. I request the Sanctuary to limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales.
- Acoustic impacts: define and mitigate impacts on sanctuary resources; e.g. Navy sonar, underwater demolition.
- Action plans for species groups could then identify strategies and measures to help conserve species of special management concern, while overarching topics, such as assisting with responses to stranded or distressed marine manunals or sea turtles, developing broad public outreach and education activities, and promoting and maintaining cooperation among key agency and group partners, also might be addressed under separate action plans
- Adding to the influence of the Sanctuary would add to the risk and uncertainties inherent in offshore aquaculture projects, as well as other potentially compatible commercial ocean uses (e.g., ocean energy and wave energy), while creating additional bureaucratic obstacles to an already confusing regulatory system.
- Address the fears of the people (such as fishermen, public, etc.)
- All I have to say is theres tons of evidence indicating that all of the animals that the proposed sanctuary expansion is trying to protect is doing great with the existing laws and regulations. It sounds like basic concern and duty to protect these species is turning into an (ugly) obsession that could possibly ruin the communities and cultures of the islands.
- All this is about - is these people creating jobs for themselves. There is absolutely no scientific data that proves any of their claims. In fact, all data points to lesser degrees of regulation.
- An international ban on commercial whaling is the only way to ensure protection for ALL species of whales. An expansion for the whale sanctuary in Hawaii is far from the answer to the existence of whales in general.
- Any further restrictions, of any nature what so ever, to public access of natural resource shoreline and ocean should be thoroughly reviewed and approved by the public and our elected government representatives before implemented.
- Aquaculture hasn't been around long so perhaps education is needed to ensure it is done in an environmentally responsible way. It has potentially great implications as a food supply and can be done without antibiotics and in a more healthy way and can replenish fish stocks (in the future). Sanctuary could be involved in giving aquaculture farms better direction in how to do it responsibly/naturally/sustainably. Applying traditional knowledge could help achieve these goals.
- Areas where Hawaiian knowledge could and should be easily implemented would be education and outreach. I would advise hiring a Hawaiian education specialist to develop curriculum and provide outreach. It would be important to hire someone with substantial Hawaiian cultural knowledge and strong ties to the local community.
- Avoid duplication between agencies & existing regulations
- Balance is key. Connection of being "own enforcer" lost. Education programs that teach sustainable practices and traditional practices.

- Be a spotlight for issues like water quality and possible solutions.
- Beach clean ups: make it cool to pick up debris.
- Budget concern. Be realistic about expanding.
- By increasing boundaries/species need more money.
- Can you create a multi-state sanctuary if you focus on one species?
- certain bans on endangered species should be studied, because their effectiveness has resulted in being too good for their health and welfare. Their increasing numbers has become a health hazard unto themselves.
- Changes of boundaries will affect corpus of the state
- Concerned about impact proposed cable will have on the sanctuary. Need to be more aggressive in research to be able to say that the cable will not have any impact on whales. Lack of research is unacceptable. Need to have more research capacity to assess impacts. Look outside of sanctuary resources to obtain funds needed.
- Concerned about MPR process because it looks a lot like expansion of NWHI. Additional regulations create challenges/concerns for ocean users/fishermen
- Concerned about MPR process because it looks a lot like expansion of NWHI. Bunch of new laws and regulations
- Connecting what happens on the land to what happens on the water will help strengthen and protect al life in the environment – Ecosystem-based management.
- Consider directing less funding towards student programs, public events and awareness campaigns which are less effective tools for direct conservation efforts. Increasing opportunities to disseminate regulatory information to the commercial entities that operate in the ocean will likely result in greater value.
- Consider sedimentation. Possible partnership with Army Corps of Engineers. Best Management Practices, monitor construction, other activities that could lead to sedimentation. Programs, regulations to monitor sedimentation within sanctuary waters over and above other waters. Implement alt. approaches (BMP's) e.g. porous asphalt.
- Consideration of whether the Sanctuary's conservation efforts should include threatened and endangered species such as Hawaiian monk seals, spinner dolphins, sea turtles, and coral reefs should be based on an evaluation of the need for such efforts and of the effectiveness of marine protected areas in benefiting such species. For this and other reasons, additional funds should be dedicated to better regulatory monitoring and enforcement and to scientific research on the species" protection impacts related to water quality, acoustic noise sources, aquaculture, and offshore alternative energy development.
- Consult the experts. Plankton is square one. Unhealthy plankton = unhealthy oceans. Protect from beginning of ecological chain. Need to address cause of problem and understand the science behind the problems. Sanctuary management needs to be from bottom (i.e. plankton) up. Identify the causes and roots to address them in management. Educate the kids about the causes and how to prevent the issues. Go after the root of the problem. Make sure the emphasis gets at the problem. Passion is not enough.
- Coral reefs: maybe monitor pollution runoffs stream, rivers! Monitor the Hawaiian monk seal they tear up everything!
- Current population about the same-I see reason for this sanctuary it doesn't do anymore than the present Federal laws. It is simply not necessary and a waste of federal money at a time when federal funds are needed and can be put to better use
- Current population would be more- data records show whale populations are increasing without sanctuary

- DBEDT requests that the Management Plan either consider provisions for laying such transmission cables within federal waters of the Sanctuary or that the Sanctuary administration consider the promulgation of regulations for the issuance of permits within federal waters of the Sanctuary pursuant to the authority granted it in §922.48 of Title 15, Chapter 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "National Marine Sanctuary Permits - Application Procedures and Issuance Criteria." By establishing rules that would allow for the laying of the undersea cable in federal waters of the Sanctuary, the Sanctuary would ensure agency compliance and would assist in minimizing potential impacts to ocean and marine environment within the Sanctuary.
- Definite role for the sanctuary to have expanded scope. Opportunities for additional collaboration so it doesn't matter if MLCD or sanctuary align programs. Rules, regulations, policies and legislation should align better.
- Derelict fishing nets – there should be a reward for pick up and regulations to stop dumping of nets.
- Details of the Rehab/visitor center
- Determine number of fishermen.
- Disappointed at turnout at meeting. PSA's should be done on other TV channels.
- Discover/education center would be a valuable educational tool
- Diversifying your mission by including the study of significant maritime archaeology sites would strengthen the Sanctuary's role in the community and would bring more visibility to your program and to ours. If you do this, the Sanctuary, MOP and the state of Hawaii will reap the benefits. We hope that you give this serious consideration.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries);...Chronic underfunding. "Adding species" can only dilute the resources available to protect the North Pacific population of humpback whales, yet the Sanctuary has been underfunded at least throughout the twenty-first century. The Sanctuary budgets have typically been 75 – 80% of annual funding requested in the last decade. Sanctuary management and staff have been magnificent improvisers in the face of declining budgets, but – as noted above – the whales' needs remain large and largely unfulfilled. Allocation of adequate resources to programs for "added species" without diminishing the effort and emphasis provided the North Pacific population of humpback whales simply defies logic and cannot be justified or sustained.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries);...No mandate. While Hawaiian monk seals, sea turtles and other species of whales and dolphins are attractive candidates for inclusion in the Sanctuary's purview, the mandate for protection of such species lies with the National Marine Fisheries Service and not the National Ocean Service (which includes the Office of Marine Sanctuaries). Fisheries has extensive programs in place for protection and management of these species and the benefits of adding another layer to the NOAA bureaucracy are not evident. Of course, Sanctuary staff will continue to work with their NOAA brethren to disentangle or rescue any species as required, but the Sanctuary has a clear mandate regarding the North Pacific humpback whales and should focus its efforts on that mandate.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include dolphins. We don't need to add dolphins to the sanctuary - just use the money to educate people on how to behave around dolphins.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles. Save the funds and use it to research and find a cure for the tumors becoming so numerous among the turtles.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. We don't need no organizations who hold meetings with hidden "agenda. NOAA cannot be trusted and the people/state will be informed of our actions.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef - There should be stiffer fines and penalties for agriculture run off into our oceans.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - We need more education about urban run-off and agricultural practices that are the real culprits of reef destructions
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - They were brought here illegally take them back.
- Do not expand whale protections. There are sufficient regulations/protection for the humpback already in place.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. Emergency vessels (police, fire, Coast Guard, DLNR, etc.) need to travel as fast as possible. Fishermen and others need speed to get in before storm fronts hit - it is a safety issue!
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whales season. Controlled by community, clubs and local efforts, supported by DLNR.
- Do we need the sanctuary anymore? Whales have made a good come back and so have turtles. It is about money.
- Does the Sanctuary collaborate with universities to conduct research?
- Does the Sanctuary feel it has met its mandate? And that it is ready to expand?
- Educate captains with possible certifications to operate boats and approaching whales.
- Educate people on threats to whales. Post data in whale vessel interactions online
- Education of the masses seems more of a realistic solution. Sustainability is the key.
- Effects of sonar need to be included in acoustic impact research
- Expand MPAs to each island to show a sampling of what a natural site looks like.
- Expand sanctuary scope to include their resources, for example corals. Federal money for sanctuary is bringing money to this community, this is good.
- Expand sanctuary to include water quality monitoring. Expand protection/add additional protection to monk seals, coral, shipwrecks and water quality programs/regulations.
- Expand the sanctuary boundaries to include waters around all Hawaiian Islands. Need to look at the long run. Boundary expansion is more professional and will bring in more research, education, and coordination. Need more comprehensive management.
- Fear: including antiquities/historic sites and possible no-take regulations with Antiquities Act. Including maritime heritage may be springboard for other agencies to put in no-take regulations— top down approach.
- Flexible sanctuary...in regards to boundaries and seasonality of whales. If the species increase in number are you able to increase resources/funding
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Hawaiian monk seals: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support studies to assess and monitor population trends, prey preferences and foraging habitats, and/or at -sea habitat-use patterns; (b) carry out public outreach and education programs targeting grade school children, recreational fishermen, swimmers and divers, beach-goers, and tourists; (c) coordinate volunteer networks on one or more islands to respond to seals that haul out on crowded beaches and need protection from disturbance by people; and (d) respond to distressed seals, such as abandoned pups, or seals that are sick, injured, hooked, or entangled in fishing nets or debris.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Humpback whales: Continue ongoing sanctuary programs to (a) support research on the status of the population, (b) disentangle whales caught in fishing gear, (c) promote international collaboration on

protecting whales in different portions of their range; and (d) implement public outreach and education programs on whales and measures to minimize impacts associated with whale watching and vessel traffic. In addition, the sanctuary should develop regulations limiting vessel speeds in specific areas where collision risks with whales, particularly cow-calf pairs, are greatest.

- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Spinner dolphins: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support research and monitoring studies to assess the abundance and trends of spinner dolphin populations and the impact of dolphin-watching tour vessels, private boats, and divers on spinner dolphin habitat-use patterns, (b) conduct public outreach and education programs on spinner dolphins and needed protection measures, (c) develop a mandatory permit program with rules of conduct for guided dolphin-watching tour operators, and (d) if ongoing studies demonstrate that closing areas of bays is a useful approach for reducing sources of disturbance for resting dolphins, develop regulations to establish safe, undisturbed spinner dolphin resting areas.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. False killer whales: Monitoring the distribution, abundance, and trend of the Hawaii insular population of false killer whales and interactions between members of that population and nearshore fisheries, such as the shoreline and kaka line fisheries.
- Fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticides and chemical runoff from golf courses.
- Further, the sanctuary should be discontinued, not expanded, because the sanctuary most likely has had a minimal effect on the resurgence of the population.
- Goal is cross-cultural education and management. Need total buy-in by inviting input from traditional practitioners and go around to all communities.
- Good to have laws but need more enforcement. Enforcement should be throughout the day and night (not only from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm). Need more manpower for enforcement.
- HAAA cannot support expanding the influence of the Sanctuary by increasing its size to all State marine waters and adding sea turtles and other marine mammals given the management track record
- Have jet ski rules statewide. Current rules defective.
- Have publicity on major news station and it will get out more to the general public rather than just those already interested and plugged into relevant/related listserves.
- How about NO to further bombing of Kaula Rock??
- How about NO to sonar testing by the military, and their associated defense contractors?
- How will the listing status review of the humpback whale affect the sanctuary?
- Humpbacks are doing fine. The sanctuary is looking to add new species to get more funding. The sanctuary is not needed. Sanctuary was not needed because management under Magnuson-Stevens Act was sufficient. Sanctuary is only here to give out federal grants and money, but it is duplicative. Interested what the budget is.
- I (Hannah Bernard President Hawai'i Wildlife Fund) testified in support of Council Member Joanne Johnson's proposed resolution "URGING NOAA TO INCORPORATE ADDITIONAL MANAGEMENT

PRIORITIES IN THE UPDATED HIHWNMS MANAGEMENT PLAN", which was passed by Maui County Council on July 23.

- I am amazed that there has been no plan here to fore for the Whale Sanctuary here in Hawaii. Please by all means institute one
- I am opposed to too much administration cost. The best enforcement is one where everyone benefits by education of doing the right thing even when no one is there to ticket.
- I am unsure if the sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels.
- I am writing against the banning of any more areas in our state pertaining to the ocean or shoreline. We have enough sanctuaries, restrictions and bans and rules and regulations to control everything. Anything more would lead to misunderstanding, and abuse and also too much area to be properly and effectively maintained and enforced.
- I attended the meeting at KCC on 10-5-10. Very upset that 23 meetings without informing the Kaua'i residents have taken place. The meeting I attended was posted to me by word of mouth and fortunately I could attend. Fishing is our way of life, it's like taking a bottle away from a baby. This will affect us in every way possible including tourism. No way to NOAA absolutely not.
- I believe any type of sanctuary that restricted fishing or access would never have been initially accepted in Hawaii. Yet this action appears to be another way of doing it, just in a very slow long term fashion. This is not right and not the intent of congress or the administration when they approved a whale-only sanctuary. If the people of Hawaii want this, they should be able to vote for it or go through the state legislature.
- I find that the proposed plan to retain and expand the sanctuary boundaries to accommodate (yet to be determined) additional species has no rational basis. If the humpback has "graduated" from its sanctuary due to its numbers increasing to the predetermined recovery milestones prescribed by the ESA and MMPA, the sanctuary should be discontinued.
- I propose the existing sanctuary be maintained and adhered to in its present form. There is no realistic need for any addition or expansion of the sanctuary.
- I recommend the complete dissolution of the HIHWNMS and the assumptions of its successful programs within a new Hawaiian Islands NMS that encompasses both the North West Hawaiian Islands and the Main Hawaiian Islands.
- I request the sanctuary establish federal and state laws to protect whales from vessel strikes. Include a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- I request the Sanctuary to make strong laws to have all fishing nets identifiable and hold fishers! liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- I throw net, I throw my pole and I dive. I think this expansion is totally unnecessary. There is a lot of different things that NOAA can spend there federal money on.
- I would encourage that NOAA take the time through this process (MPR) to clarify common misconceptions about the Sanctuary and the role it plays in protecting our marine species.
- I would respectfully ask that you consider transferring full management over to the State of Hawaii and re-allocating our taxpayer dollars into areas that truly need help - Perhaps Education.
- I'm not against expanding to include other species. I'm just not sure if now is the time for it. Jobs – the education programs the sanctuary has been doing are great, but don't see it creating jobs for local people. There is still a lot of work to be done towards the original mission. Sanctuary should show results toward mission to protect whales. Still need to work to meet original goals. Sanctuary expansion does not seem to bring jobs and money to THIS community. If it were that would be great.

- If boundaries are expanded, species increases, threats are addressed, will require additional regulations – which will require more resources to manage.
- If expand boundaries where will the funding come from?? . enforcement resources are limited
- If our emphasis becomes regulatory, we risk antagonizing elements in our community and diminishing our ability to enhance our environment.
- If the boundaries of the sanctuary has been a success factor in the increase in number and health of humpback whales, then there is no need for change. If it ain't broke, don't fit it.
- If we do all of this, sanctuary program should be moved to another NOAA program (maybe NMFS – who at least has enforcement). Sanctuary program has no teeth and needs some.
- If you need to put some rules in place to protect our animals, how about banning sonar blasting from the military base on the westside, how about banning the war games that go on right off our shore.
- Impose limitations on acoustics (sonar). Study this (but not a study done by the military).
- increasingly concerned about the lack of programs, regulations or other visible attempts by the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS or Sanctuary) to protect humpback whales from several immediate threats to their welfare.
- Involve kids in investigating/finding solutions to ocean issues.
- Is the sanctuary going to get more money to do education? There should be more education on the cultural Hawaiian practices towards whales.
- It is not to be used as a tool to get funding and jobs for a few people who work on research and Sanctuary policy makers.
- It is widely accepted that First People have much to offer western science in the way of data collection and management.
- It would make logical sense of the sanctuary to be involved in the [submerged cable] EIS, but without the resources or fundamental knowledge of impacts, the sanctuary will be used by the State in this process. Sanctuary needs the technical research or academic input (acceptable scientific knowledge) to be able to evaluate impacts to whales. What good is the sanctuary unless it can provide informed knowledge about impact to whales?
- Laws to guarantee that all nets are identifiable and most importantly hold owners liable
- Laws to protect reef habitat
- Limit all sonar activity during whale season to comply with NOAA noise policies
- Limit military noise (sonar). Limit.
- Limit sonar activities during whale season and comply with NOAA noise policies (which are in effect in other sanctuaries) to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- Make impacts of SONAR public. If NOAA has details, please share. After 10+ years of SONAR being around there should be a scientific consensus. We need more definitive answers on the impacts.
- Make strong laws to have all fishing nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- Making sure people are aware of water quality issues and agencies responsible is a way sanctuary can help. Injection wells are beyond the scope of the sanctuary responsibility (regulations) but maybe it can help other agencies with the issue. Research and cooperation, not regulation in addressing water quality and effects on reef. Sanctuary can document changes over time, make sure public and agencies are aware of that.
- money may best be spent to educate
- More resources should go to towards researching the impacts of Navy sonar on whales and dolphins and other marine species to verify the Navy's own studies.
- My solitary complaint in this (maritime heritage) area remains the fact that there is no set of procedures for "civilians" to access the Papahānaumokuākea Marine Sanctuary...

- National Marine Fisheries Service listing status review of the humpback whale – how will it affect the sanctuary?
- Native Hawaiian knowledge and participation should be integrated into all areas of the sanctuary, most importantly: Resource Protection, Education and Outreach, Science, Management, Maritime Heritage
- Need more dynamic approach to protection. If we are going to protect a species we need to follow the species. Rather than expand species, make sanctuary more dynamic to where whales are.
- Needs to be better education about MMPA, differences with the whales and dolphins.
- NET ENTANGLEMENT: Create strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets. Reward boaters who collect stray nets.
- NHINM The Sanctuary should also investigate measures necessary to protect whales in the Northwest Hawai'ian Islands National Monument (NHINM). The management plan should include research on this topic and result in recommendations and a way forward for protecting humpback whales and associated species in Papahānaumokuākea.
- No expand boundaries- there is no need to waste federal dollars the whales are doing just fine and the impact to the people and life style will be great and unnecessary
- No expand boundaries-if program is working well why is it necessary to increase size
- No expand boundaries-no reason to have sanctuary, whales are already on protected list
- No expand boundaries-the sanctuary now did its job no need expand
- No expand Sanctuary boundary-our laws protect the whales in Hawaiian waters. There is no need to expand the Sanctuary.
- No expand to include reefs- if the problem is the improper use of land and not the use of the ocean, why regulate the ocean. Regulate the land use
- No expand to include seals- first of all I never heard of seals in Hawaiian history. So in reality they are an invasive species. Again federal laws are enough. Anything more is a waste of resources
- No expand to include seals- monk seals are a nuisance they should take all of them to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. Not indigenous
- No expand to include seals-monk seals should be taken back to the Northern Hawaiian islands. Seals wasn't here before
- No expand to include turtles- the turtle population is doing just fine it would again be a waste of federal dollars. I feel they should consider settings permits to take turtles for food
- No expand whale protections-continue current laws which have provided return in population
- No expand whale protections-I believe there is sufficient regulations regarding the protection of whales. Annual growth proves that no new regulations needed
- No reduction in size or scope- whales, seals and turtles should be taking off endangered species act
- No take zones can be very useful and should be considered but implemented over time. Establish a process to do so in the future to determine what areas might work best on a rotating basis.
- No to a vessel speed limit during whale season. There is no evidence that this is a problem here except with the military who get to have a "take" amount.
- No vessel speed limit-Certain boats can only go certain limits. Boaters are cautious due to potential injury to themselves. The Hawaii Superferry and Military are exceptions. They are detriments to species safety
- NOAA should provide good communications with the real people who live in Hawaii and provide enough time to notify them of a meeting held on each island.
- NOAA's support of the University of Hawaii's Marine Option Program summer field school's course in maritime archaeological techniques has not only provided training in this field, but again has helped develop interest in our maritime history amongst the general public

- Noise limits with no military exemptions during whale season.
- Not enough cross-cultural education. Need bigger picture of other perspectives of ocean. Sanctuary represents all the different cultures of ocean users and the sanctuary needs to keep this in mind in education and management.
- Not enough regulations to protect whales. Expand boundaries to include the PMRF military base
- Not enough regulations to protect whales. More state involvement in regulations
- Of great concern to me is the U.S. Navy's use of sonar in the waters around Hawaii. I have learned that it is dangerous and potentially fatal to whales and dolphins. I very much hope to see the Sanctuary include this issue with other important areas to be addressed within its revised management plan. I think the science and literature should be reviewed as to the effects sonar technology has on whales and marine mammals. I would hope that its use could be severely curtailed or mitigated. I especially would like to see it banned during the "humpback whale season here in Hawaii".
- One of the worst threats to whales is Naval SONAR. The Sanctuary is doing nothing to step up and protect the whales from SONAR. SONAR does not respect boundaries.
- One revenue source could be unresolved damage assessments statewide. Need to be held accountable for damages. Fines can be used for benefit of other programs in consideration of damage caused by someone. Use fines for meeting widespread needs. Rather see money go to marine conservation rather than general fund.
- One would wish that they (current sanctuary staff) would keep such efforts (regulatory efforts) as low as possible to accomplish objectives.
- Our coral reefs are being damaged by improper grubbing and grading of coastal lands, run off of non regulated pollutants and by introduced species of invasive seaweed and fishes. Less than 1% is due to direct contact by local recreation fishermen using nets, fishing lines or diving, surfing, body surfing or any other means of recreation or sustenance gathering. The issue regarding our reef and coral system and species is directly related to coastal property owners. Be it private or commercial properties that are not being policed by NOAA, DLNR, DAR or any other governmental agency, be it on the county, state or federal level. There should be an annual or at least bi-annual study done on coastal properties and their affects on our reefs and coral species.
- Overall emphasis should be research and education. The best managed population is the one that is the best educated. Education is less costly than enforcement and fosters understanding.
- Please create laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- Please ensure that the primary focus of the sanctuary remains education and research.
- Please expand the scope of Hawaii's Sanctuary to include the protection of this unique marine mammal and include in this expansion an adequate budget to assist in a comprehensive outreach and education program within the Hawaii Sanctuary Management Plan to build awareness of the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal.
- Please fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- please include in this expansion an adequate budget to build a comprehensive outreach and education program for Hawaii's unique and diverse ocean life and more funding for enforcement of our protection laws.
- Please limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies.
- Please provide the public the proof from NOAA (research notes, studies taken in Hawaii and all other related notes by researchers) because without it the public can't make an educated decision.

- PONO supports the vision, planning and building of marine healthcare facilities and ocean educational centers throughout the Main Hawaiian Islands.
- possible need for salt water fishing licenses which would enable State of Hawaii DOCARE officers to inspect coolers and other closed containers, maximum and minimum size catch limits and the need for additional educational signage.
- protection should follow species
- Pump-out stations at harbor. Water quality. Need to address policy or regulations against dumping of vessel discharges. Or better enforcement. Or more pump out stations.
- (Re: 15 CFR chapter 9 subpart Q)) sanctuary documents words are wishy washy, not consistent with 15 CFR 9 (Q). Mission statement needs to be clearly defined based on legislation.
- (Re: false killer whaes)The Sanctuary could be helpful in assisting the understanding of the operation of these fisheries within its waters. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) recently convened a take reduction team to recommend measures to reduce impacts from the longline fisheries. However, the take reduction team, of which the Humane Society of the U.S. is an appointed member, heard information that additional impacts may accrue from interactions with shortline and kaka line fisheries operating in their range, though data on these fisheries are sparse.
- (Re: Hana Seal) Monk seal does not need area cordoned off. It causes animosity within the community. Current approach to Hawaiian monk seal needs to change. Need to get involved in monk seal issue. They are on a fast track to extinction. NOAA has to change the approach on how monk seals are dealt with, the sanctuary needs to get involved. Regulations should be made to the betterment of the seal.
- [RE: Hawaiian Cultural Heritage: Expand the Sanctuary to include] Need more info.
- Recognizing that sanctuary management plans may remain in effect for five or more years, the Commission believes that the management plan and associated sanctuary designation document for this sanctuary should preserve an ability to adopt timely regulatory measures for activities that reasonably could be anticipated to pose a significant risk to sanctuary resources. In this regard, the Marine Mammal Commission recommends that the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries revise the management plan and associated designation document to reserve authority to regulate future activities and development including, but not necessarily limited to, vessel traffic, commercial and recreational fishing, sources of acoustic impact that could injure or kill marine life, and installation of structures whose presence or operation could adversely affect features or resources that the sanctuary is established to protect, including marine mammals.
- Reduce size and scope of sanctuary-I see no reason for it to exist at all. It is demonstrating that it is a total waste of tax payers money and appears not to really know what the issues are. The major problem we face is coming from the land. Manage the land correctly and the ocean will take care of itself. If you don't realize this then your just wasting everyone's time and money
- reduce size or scope- remove endangered species from endangered status
- Regulating boat speed should be brought to the state level
- Regulations – enforcement – compliance: What is the relationship?
- Representatives of the whale sanctuary and NOAA admitted they have no new data. So what have they been doing will all the federal money?
- SANCTUARIES BOUNDARIES AND ENFORCEMENT: Expand the sanctuaries boundaries. Enforce existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- Sanctuary "vision" should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Especially if no one can even enforce it.

- Sanctuary management should foster and promote land-based, culturally relevant aquaculture practices (such as Hawaiian fish ponds) and prohibit all moored, offshore aquaculture facilities from Sanctuary waters. Insofar as the state of Hawaii has proven to be an unreliable partner with the Sanctuary in planning and recommending sites for open-ocean aquaculture facilities outside Sanctuary waters, Sanctuary management should make a clear prohibition of moored aquaculture structures within the Sanctuary boundaries. Furthermore, inasmuch as the existing moored aquaculture facility that is within Sanctuary waters has “morphed” far beyond its original scope and approved design, Sanctuary management should instigate proceedings to remove the facility from Sanctuary waters as soon as possible.
- Sanctuary should be expanded AND adaptable/flexible in what it means and does.
- Sanctuary should change name to “Hawaiian Islands NMS” (drop “humpback whales”) and expand to protect other resources
- Sanctuary should compare current data on marine environmental health (water quality, ...) to historical records and make available to the public.
- Sanctuary should help operators to provide educational materials to educate people. Operators are on the water every day, they work with the people who live it. Use operators as a resource, they are willing to help.
- Sanctuary skews reports of direct human effects vs. non-direct human effects. To gain credibility with ocean users, the Sanctuary and NOAA would do well to differentiate the harm caused by direct human interaction with a given species (such as a human poaching turtles or shooting seals) as opposed to indirect human interaction (such as agricultural run-off or discarded fish nets). The amount of actual harm caused criminals intent on killing or injuring seals compared to the actual harm caused by indirect human action is insignificant!
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. No added sanctuary.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Sanctuary should close when humpback populations exceeds 20,000.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Ocean doesn't need to be over populated need to keep balance of mother nature.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Reduce size.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Reduce the size of the "vision" and use our (my) tax dollars the way I want it spent.
- Sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Reduce.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Stop getting ridiculous stupid. The best volunteer is the educator. Like I said, don't know how and when no fish! maybe we should volunteer and [illegible word] people who like fish and eat no what sizes is suitable, but need to tell when our economy sucks, losing jobs, and they starving.

- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. No need.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Please let the Hawaiians vote on this.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Remember days when ahi was big, no moa today, casually but times are hard, just need to inform. We the people are caretakers of our land and ocean.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. We should spend less money on sanctuary areas and spend it on education.
- Sanctuary Water quality efforts ineffective. The Sanctuary has no leverage or powers over land based agricultural practices. It has even less control over international and national pollution. To imply otherwise is purely dishonest. This will not change with expanded boundaries.
- Scientists have advised that speed regulations should be put in place, with adequate monitoring and enforcement. The sanctuary speed limit should be about 13 knots to protect the whales from vessel collisions, with minimal distances from dolphins and whales required while under power. The cost of enforcement could be born by fines, with higher fines for commercial vessels.
- Sediment flowing into the water has a negative effect on habitat. I would like to see the boundary expanded to what was originally proposed. The current water treatment system needs to be replaced. Injection wells carry waste water right to the reef. Sanctuary should get involved in water quality. It impacts fish and corals. Need to do more testing and enforcement. County water treatment is not good enough. Need federal government to come in and help.
- Sewage dumping needs to be regulated (land source)
- Ship strike remains a major threat to the North Pacific humpback whales throughout their range. The Sanctuary staff and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources personnel have done an outstanding job of boater education to increase boater awareness of whales in Hawaiian waters, but the encounters continue. Clearly, excessive speed in the vicinity of whales can exacerbate the problem. Sanctuary management should consider, implement, and enforce a 14 knot speed limit in all Sanctuary waters from October 1st to the following March 31st each season. Such regulation can only increase the degree of "whale awareness" of boaters on Hawaiian waters and increase protection of the whales within the Sanctuary.
- Should look at traditional practices for management (eg species management). Look into traditional management for specific species. Look into oli for information on species movement. Traditional knowledge is an untapped resource for active management. Should partner with Hawaiian language schools and find students interested in doing cultural projects. There is a huge, huge wealth of information in the newspapers (Hawaiian language). The kapuna knew it would be lost, so they learned to read and write to document the knowledge.
- Should NOAA be granted authority over these resources, would they be funded to a degree that the more important (thus-far undiscovered) sites be looked into. In other words, will NOAA be conducting research and exploration or simply reacting to sites found and documented by others? Will funding be available to investigators not directly employed by NOAA?
- Should reduce size or scope-yes, definitely include a plan to reduce its size or scope if the program has shown to be successful and then be adjusted
- Should the sanctuary consider regulatory changes to better implement its mandate?
- [Should the sanctuary vision include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels.] ["rapidly increasing populations of

most of the species listed in the Sanctuary's...those laws and regulations are working, but there is no purpose"] Which laws are they referring to? Again, false, mis-leading information-not pono to be mis-informing people with false information.

- SONAR & ACOUSTIC IMPACTS: Limit all sonar activity during whale season and comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- Sonar can be tested in other waters than the sanctuary, and should not be allowed anywhere in the vicinity. The sanctuary should be extended to encompass all of the Hawaiian Islands and channels between them. The effects of sonar are well known on species who use sound in their survival and direction of migration, without re-proving by research on the specific endangered species.
- Sonar is a huge issue that is potentially deadly. Need to regulate military activity with sonar
- SONAR/Naval exercises. Are there regulations within the boundaries on these topics? If no regulations, why not?
- Spell out the details of the sanctuary management plan for the public.
- Spend monies on education, not on erecting more sanctuaries. There are already enough rules that can't or aren't enforced, we don't need more rules.
- Stripping fuel. Large ship oil stripping (every ship larger than 300 feet long) – every big ship operating today strips fuel and trash out at sea. Oil dumped directly into water. Sanctuary needs to address large problems. Need to go after the big problems, e.g., gill nets, oil stripping ... Need to educate about large problems.
- Support research and monitoring studies to assess the status of marine species, ecosystem health, and historical relics within the sanctuary and to guide management actions
- Taking on other stuff may shoot the sanctuary in the foot. Taking on so much because the resources are so vast you run the risk of not completing the existing mandate. Public education can continue to be done without expanding the boundary and expanding the species. Are the economic resources available to expand?
- The Advisory Board for the Sanctuary must be representative of the entire community. The Advisory Board should be tasked with creating enforceable policies, with rules, and ensuring that funding for the Sanctuary includes effective regulatory oversight. The Sanctuary must have a transparent budget, and be accountable for all spending and funding decisions. The management plan should include a description of the formal role of the Advisory Board, and a strategy for implementing and enforcing policies and responsibilities of the Sanctuary.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - I've been a captain over 25 years and have seen no direct impact if you want to save whales don't hunt them and over fish Krill the food they eat.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The international community already regulates this.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Whale numbers have been growing annually. So why should more laws and regs be put in effect.
- The current Humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. More cause their making a comeback on their own and with the rules and regulations that we already have on them.
- The current humpback populations would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Because they don't give birth in Hawaii - they travel from the north to south.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The humpbacks were recovering well before the sanctuary. We need more education, not more sanctuary space.

- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Yes ban whaling.
- The expansion of the existing whale sanctuary in Hawaii doesn't make sense to me. I need proof from NOAA's confirmed studies to prove to me that whales are dying and being hurt in our Hawaiian waters, and I respectfully request that you release these documents for public viewing.
- The fear amongst many in the historical community is that NOAA would take a heavy hand and simply push aside any investigators that are not within their sphere of influence. This has been demonstrated to otherwise qualified investigators in Alaska and elsewhere.
- The general public needs to know more about the process; what is being done, what will be done, what can and cannot be done. The government should communicate with people on a people-level.
- The greatest enemy of the whales in the Hawaiian waters is the navy and their unregulated use of sonar!!
- The green sea turtle is also thriving since the ban was put into effect years ago. To the point that they pose a threat to human life. In fact it would probably be wise to lift the ban and place a bag limit or size limitation or something like that to alleviate the hazard of possible shark attack on humans.
- The Hi Humpback Whale Sanctuary has been successful. The Humpbacks have reached their population goals. In that this sanctuary was/is a single species sanctuary it should now be closed.
- the management plan review examine the ambiguity of DOH administrative rules governing the classification of sanctuary waters, and explore how this ambiguity affects DOH'S regulatory policy and practice for sanctuary waters.
- The sanctuary "vision" should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Because of over population of the species causes less food source, disease, starvation.
- The sanctuary "vision" should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels because there should be no sanctuary.
- The sanctuary has done nothing to protect whales from sonar or acoustic disturbance. The Sanctuary should limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- The sanctuary has proven to be an asset to the state. Agree we need to work together with partners. Education/outreach and research are important ways for the sanctuary to continue to help, it fills a need.
- The Sanctuary has taken no action to protect our waters from water pollution. The Sanctuary should fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- The Sanctuary has tile opportunity to leverage its education, outreach, and coordination resources and expand these support activities to better protect Hawaii's marine wildlife.
- The sanctuary is doing its job well and whales are recovering. No further action is needed. Why try to fix something that isn't broken? Just because an organization is doing well, does not mean it should expand and grow to become a bigger bureaucracy. In times of skyrocketing deficits, we should focus our efforts on smaller, locally managed areas – perhaps something based on the traditional Hawaiian ahupuaa – mountain to ocean – style of management. It should not be a top-down bureaucratic model where the federal government essentially dictates to the locals what they should do.
- The sanctuary is in nearshore waters close to humans. There has been an increase in unknown diseases in marine animals. We need more education to get the public to be more considerate of what they're dumping. We need to evaluate and be concerned with the impact of oil and nonpoint source pollutants in the storm drain system.

- The Sanctuary may need other partners (eg State) to help with enforcement. There is currently no enforcement presence on the Big Island.
- The sanctuary should actively solicit research help from UH universities.
- The Sanctuary should also fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff. Chemicals & pollution create pathogen friendly environments in Hawaii's waters and cause algae blooms, which smother the reefs and are toxic to marine mammals. Pesticides, PCDD.s, PCDF's, dioxin- like PCB's, PBDE's have been found in marine mammals. From a June 2010 report; cadmium, aluminum, chromium, lead, silver, mercury and titanium together are at the highest levels ever found in marine mammals.
- The Sanctuary should also investigate measures necessary to protect whales in the Northwest Hawai'ian Islands National Monument (NHINM). The management plan should include research on this topic and result in recommendations and a way forward for protecting humpback whales and associated species in Papahanaumoku'a'kea.
- The Sanctuary should also investigate measures necessary to protect whales in the Northwest Hawai'ian Islands National Monument (NHINM). The management plan should include research on this topic and result in recommendations and a way forward for protecting humpback whales and associated species in Papahanaumoku'a'kea.
- The sanctuary should expand to include monk seals. ["according to available information the population is growing and pup mortality is down in Human occupied areas"] This is blatant lying. Endless articles, public service announcements, local outreach provides the accurate information about their critical status and serious decline.
- The Sanctuary should limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Our plantation are no longer in operation which limits runoff problems and human pollution is being addressed through education on being more responsible.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. You brought the seals here. Take them back.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. I'm on the ocean everyday. The turtle population is out of control. They should be taken off the endangered list, and opened up for hunting season,, so we can keep the numbers of turtles under control!!!!
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. The proposal to expand the whole sanctuary seems to have nothing to do with whales and everything to do with more bureaucratic control of the ocean.
- The Sanctuary should work on strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- The Sanctuary should work on strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Include visitors and limit outsiders influence and ability to influence anything in Hawaii.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Ofcourse, if theres no need for laws or sanctuary's they should be removed until there needed again. The laws put in place right now are working, theres no need for more. Stop wasting our tax dollars,, focus more on the real problems. Pollution and runoff, you stop thos our ocean will FLURISH.

- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Sanctuaries should be flexible sanctuaries and bans should not be "forever"
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. They should reduce the size because the whale population is doing fine by itself. Don't need to expand - reduce!!
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Your "vision" may not correspond to what islanders know and see to be true.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - I don't see the expansion helping the whales, dolphins, or monk seals.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - If the protected species are doing good and the public is not complaining about the existing sanctuary then it shouldn't be reduced.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Is perfect da way is, no need change nothing.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - No reduction, but its fair Know what kinds of things going on in Hawaii.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Seems to me that 40-50 years ago there was less fish on the shoreline with all the seasonal non fishing ? seems more today.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Yes If you don't, the natural balance of the habitat will be altered.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - We don't need anyone to tell us if we can fish or not. Its natures way of controlling the fish, birds, whales, etc. Not ? way. Don't use these things for your personal gain.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Must be scientifically correct.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - The current population are more than adequate. It may need to be reduced in the future.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - The real problem is enforcement of any of these laws. Proper enforcement is weak as it is already with many officers turning their heads when laws are broken.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Things are working fine with the way it is set up now. If it aint broke don't fix it!
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - We don't need volunteers t watch our waters. That's what enforcement is paid to do.

- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Get rid of the seals.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. I agree. There really is no purpose for a sanctuary, unless some group is looking to cause hostile reactions. Hawaii's people respect having their lifestyle and even livelihood curtailed by misguided "do-gooders".
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Laws and regulations that are currently enforced are working, there is no purpose piling more laws and regulations on top of them.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. No reduction but still would like volunteers to continue watching our waters.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Species will spread around island.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Don't make more laws, you have too many as it is.
- There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs.
- There are too many regulations, people move away because of that.
- There can be accidental impacts to these significant (maritime heritage) resources by careless divers. There can also, unfortunately, be intentional damage and illegal looting of sites. NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries has previously assisted this office by forwarding information regarding two past incidents, both of which have occurred within Sanctuary waters. The first case involved a commercial boat mooring attached directly to the propeller shaft of an F4U Corsair aircraft BuNo 49668, thereby damaging the airframe and engine cowling. The second case involved the alleged removal of a 50cal machine gun by technical divers from a PB4Y Liberator aircraft BuNo 38769. In this case, considerable damage was documented on the rear turret of the aircraft. It may be likely that, among the many naval properties within Sanctuary boundaries, there are other as yet unknown cases.
- There is no need for additional regulations if the current regulations are not being enforced. However, new federal powers may be necessary to expand the sanctuary's powers to prevent discharge of pollutants into sanctuary waters from sources outside of the sanctuary. Budget and manpower for enforcement should be a priority, not an afterthought.
- There is no need for further restrictions. The laws that are in place protecting these creatures are sufficient.
- There is no need to bring in other species, they are protected by existing laws like the ESA and the MMPA, if those laws are adequately enforced, but that is a big problem. If higher fines are implemented in the sanctuary, this may not be effective for boaters; what is next? Ban boaters? The government is growing too big, the Sanctuary staff is too large, there are more regulations. The Sanctuary boundaries do not need to be expanded. The whale population is growing at 5-6% a year so there is no need to expand. There are about 11 species of whales that are associated with the Hawaiian Islands. The whales move around a lot, they are not helped by the Sanctuary's existence unless they are in it. What will you do for them the rest of the time? Expanding the boundaries may impact (especially economically) commercial whale watching. The government is too large.

- There must be more regulatory collaboration between land and ocean uses, especially regarding pollution that would affect the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary must take a leading role in fostering this collaboration. The management plan should include an investigation of these issues and a plan to implement closer collaboration between the Sanctuary and other users.
- There should be noise limits for all Hawai'ian sanctuary areas, with no exemptions, including military.
- This is not the time for you to interpret this success as an opportunity to expand your authority to other species or habitats that you believe need your protection. We do not need nor can we afford redundant federal regulation given the fact that we already have the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammals Act (both Federal Laws enacted by Congress) to protect our treasured resources.
- To stop the degradation of the oceans, Jeremy Jackson, a professor of oceanography at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego, identifies overexploitation, pollution and climate change as the three main “drivers” that must be addressed. I request the Sanctuary to be MUCH more vocal and proactive about the serious threats to whales and all ocean life. Educate the public on the realities of the serious threats to entire marine ecosystem.
- Together, in a partnership with the State of Hawaii, (co-manager of the HIHWMS) you have helped to bring the Hawaiian Humpback Whale back to sustainable numbers. You have accomplished your mission and it is now time to relinquish your authority over to the State of Hawaii.
- Traditionally Hawaiians had a fishing program of certain times on and off, is that [kapu] system viable for the sanctuary? eg On the East coast of the US there is a system for lobsters. Was the [kapu] system good? Could the sanctuary implement it?
- UH Hilo is developing a new marine research lab; sanctuary should partner with them to have space for education along sanctuary coast.
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels.
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Depends on species.
- Unsure if sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - I'm for protection of whales but don't take away my rights that are inherent.
- Unsure if there should be military noise limits (sonar).
- Use of less toxic chemicals: control them!
- U-tube has an amazing amount of stuff.
- Water pollution/ quality: fund monitoring and make laws to protect water
- WATER POLLUTION: Fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Water quality: Sanctuary should make water quality enforcement within boundaries a priority. Assist state and educate public on water quality.
- We all need to become more aware of this problem (overfishing). We need to care enough to help educate others and find ways to stop over fishing. The ocean needs to stay healthy because it not only provides a food source that feeds the whole world, including many other sea animals, but it also provides most of the oxygen that we use to breathe.
- We are over Federalized in this respect, and must oppose any attempts by the sanctuary to acquire more State lands for an unnecessary sanctuary.
- We at Hawaii Wildlife Fund deeply appreciate Councilwoman Johnson's identification of the four priority areas in her Resolution, with a specific call-out on how the defunct Hawaiian Superferry had threatened aquatic resources. Whether there is a Sanctuary or not, these are critical issues that

- remain unresolved. 1.) Vessel Speed Limit and 2.) Development of a system for reporting and preventing vessel collisions 3.) Regulation of sewage discharge 4.) Assessment of Navy sonar impacts
- We don't know what threats might exist in 25-30 years. Sanctuary could provide research. Empower communities. No take zones in some areas. Other areas open (for instance). Protect ecosystem from local perspective.
 - We recommend that the Sanctuary take action to address water pollution and fund water quality monitoring. NOAA must advocate for stricter laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
 - We recommend that the Sanctuary take action to limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales.
 - We request the Sanctuary ban aquarium fish extraction statewide.
 - we support HIHWNMS working collaboratively with NGOs and dive operations around the state in developing programs and materials that will help educate the public and provide accurate interpretation of maritime heritage resources to residents and visiting divers
 - Whales are all around island and Sanctuary is very small area so should expand boundaries and enforcement. Allow low impact fishing but no dredging
 - What are things we need to do now (educate children and adults about management actions) to ensure there are resources for the 7th generation? Need long-term vision.
 - What has the sanctuary actually done for whales?
 - What might be proposed in terms of fishing regulations in the future, over and above DAR regulations?
 - What would happen if we saw animals differently? Not as a resources (change language – avoid the use of the word resource)
 - When talking about resource use you can't make the assumption that people will always do it right. A sanctuary approach with rules and regulations can be helpful.
 - Where appropriate and possible, involve the public, volunteers, and sanctuary user groups in sanctuary management actions
 - Would bringing other species in change the name of the sanctuary? Would require a lot of education through the center.
 - You have accomplished your mission and it is now time to relinquish your authority over to the State of Hawaii. his is not the time for you to interpret this success as an opportunity to expand your authority to other species or habitats that you believe need your protection. We do not need nor can we afford redundant federal regulation given the fact that we already have the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammals Act (both Federal Laws enacted by Congress) to protect our treasured resources. I would respectfully ask that you consider transferring full management over to the State of Hawaii and re-allocating our taxpayer dollars into areas that truly need help -Perhaps Education.
 - You have closed off enough ocean (referring to Northwestern Hawaiian Islands).
 - You should write the reports/EIS in English, not government jargonese. The original intent geets lost in government translation.

Management Effectiveness: Area-Specific

- A nonprofit organization had to take the responsibility of raising funds to keep the voluntary pumping program going at this one harbor [Maalea Bay]. What about the other harbors in the Sanctuary?
- A system of rotating fishing locations was done 20 years ago and works. There was always fish. Go back to the system of the past where people take care of people. More programs means more regulations which means less freedom. People used to self-regulate: they would move from a good

fishing spot to another to conserve resources. Now people fish one spot until it's overfished. People used to take care of people, now people expect federal government to fix things but it created too many regulations. Hard not to break regulations nowadays because there are so many.

- An area in the sanctuary, Kihei, is an example of coral reefs being inundated and killed by plant life because of the increase in nutrients and lack of fish to graze on the algae and other plant life. This is part of the Ma'ālaea Bay study area ...which shows reef collapse and invasive algae. Maui is losing this reef because of failure of the federal government, including the HIHWNMS, and state of Hawaii to prohibit destructive fishing practices and the dumping of vessel sewage.
- An educational center with a rehabilitation facility is needed on Kaua'i. This management plan should include a task to document all steps necessary to undertake this endeavor, and create an implementation plan for creating this facility, including costing.
- Another good venue Kahuku side is the Kahuku public library. Public programs every Tuesday evening and people know about these and are well attended. That + food = a great turnout!
- Big opportunity is to bring in money to support more research and education. Programs on Maui have been very valuable and should be expanded.
- Consider No Discharge (pollutants) Areas: The continuing discharge into Maunalua Bay of runoff laden with sediment and related pollutants is in excess of what the Bay can process naturally. Maunalua Bay also has considerable boat traffic due to the presence of the Maunalua Bay Boat Ramp (operated by DOBOR) and the Hawai'i Kai Marina. We recommend that the HIHWNMS Plan review and revision process consider the establishment of No Discharge Areas within the Sanctuary, including in Maunalua Bay, as a tool for management. A monitoring component would also be essential.
- Create a rehabilitation center for all marine mammals and turtles on Kaua'i.
- Despite numerous incidents of whale deaths and strandings or near-strandings due to Navy Low and Mid Frequency Sonar usage, it is still in use today. In addition, the RIMPAC exercises are also conducted in the heart of the Whale Sanctuary, important fishing grounds and habitat rich with marinelife. The Navy must conduct an EIS and has declared it will do so.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. No to)NOAA) at times money will cloud the visions of individuals for their own needs and not the needs for the community, families, our culture. All of the species listed are doing well. It seems like (NOAA) is looking for a vehicle to get more funding from the FED's and not care about the importance of the ocean resources and the connection it has with the people. No to (NOAA). Redirect your efforts toward education.
- Do not establish no take zones. Enforce current law. Fund game wardens. Stop introducing invasive species such as roi, taape, etc. The state did this. Put a county on these fish.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals are already protected. They've been coming up on beaches al around island. Especially tourist attractions (Poipu).
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles. Sea turtles are everywhere, you know they detroying reef also -sometimes cant swim at certain beaches. Ex. Brenneckes. By the way turtles got lots of diseases on them. Who take care them? Protect turtles! Alot are sick!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands al the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - Short down all foreign boats violating the current sanctuary boundaries.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - Expand the sanctuary to Japan.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. - Things are fine the why the are now. Find a better way to spend your time and are money.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - If you dredge the rivers (Waimea for example) silt run off will decrease and small fish habitat improved.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins - I've been taking tours to watch dolphins and whales for over 25 years in Hawaii they are fine around Kauai stop hunting whales and drift net fishing over 200 miles off shores.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. They should bring the seals back to the North Hawaiian Islands. It should have not been introduced to MHI.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. We don't need to spend more money to expand the sanctuary- more education is what's needed.
- Do not expand whale protection. Kauai whales have done just fine with the small sanctuary area so no need to expand.
- Do not limit military noise limits (sonars). Sonar is not the cause. If it was, whale population would not increase or come into waters of Kaua'i.
- Don't necessarily expand unless you can take care of it. Increase research and understanding about what is there. Help with research, help Justin, help enforcement.
- EDUCATION CENTER ON Kaua'i An education center with a rehabilitation center is needed on Kaua'i. This management plan should include a task force to document all steps necessary to undertake this endeavor, and create an implementation plan for creating this facility including the projected costs involved
- Estuaries should be included in the sanctuary.
- Expand boundaries around all of Kaua'i. Get fishermen involved in Sanctuary research
- Expand sanctuary boundaries, especially on Kaua'i. More resources should be spent on enforcement of existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- Focus on collisions/boat speed. This issue needs to be addressed: entanglement happens outside of Kaua'i/sanctuary
- Funding is needed for infrastructure to expand the existing program of wastewater recycling at the Kihei plant and elsewhere. If the sanctuary expands its oversight to include preserving water quality within its boundaries or portions of its boundaries, most particularly within Ma'alaea Bay where so many critically endangered species are known to frequent, this would assist the County as well as private entities in addressing with elimination of injection wells and other practices known to affect water quality.
- Further, there are four areas that constitute sites of special concern at Maunaloa Bay: Kalauha'ihai, a historic Hawaiian fishpond in Kuli'ou'ou; the spring at Kawaikui, famous for limu and a historic watering replenishment spot for early ships; Paiko Lagoon, a wildlife sanctuary managed by DLNR-DOFAW and its adjacent Hawaiian fishpond, Kanewai; and Hawai'i Kai Marina, originally Ke Ahupua O Maunaloa, once the largest inland fishpond on O'ahu. Because of the connectivity of these four sites to Maunaloa Bay and their capacity to impact the Bay's systems it would be helpful if these received special management consideration
- I have been diving for 37 years in the nearshore reef systems. I feel distressed about the changes. The sanctuary should have "no take" zones to protect the nearshore reef systems (water quality, injection wells, runoff, effects of pineapple fields).
- I request the sanctuary to expand the boundaries, especially on Kaua'i. More resources should be spent on enforcement of existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- I think that this money is better spent on education than trying to arrest the hard working people of Kaua'i and that we must learn to co-habitat with the Seals and turtles.

- Illegal operations of jet skis. Have same prohibition of jet skis on Big Island within sanctuary boundaries as in W. Maui. Current rules defective/not well enforced.
- Maritime sites, including shipwrecks, often extend from sub-surface to well above the water-line, often onto private property...would NOAA's protection of cultural resources stop at the shore-line or be expanded to the high-tide line or higher?
- More people having a presence on Hawaii Island is needed. More resources are needed [manpower, outreach].
- Need opportunity for university students to engage in whale-related research with sanctuary. Research centralized on Kaua'i with national and international scientists and sanctuary and give opportunity for students to participate.
- Needs to be a center (honokohau) – a tourism support center to educate people. Kona is the center of the industry on Big Island. Should also have a multi-purpose vessel (research, education, enforcement) based in Kona.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Who would decide where to establish these zones?
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Over fishing could be the cause, not Boating, surfing, swimming let the DLNR handle the over fishing in areas that need it.
- No expand to include seals- Monk seals were brought to Kauai. If the gov is concerned about the growth of monks seals they should move all the seals north to the biggest sanctuary in the world. North frigate
- No expand whale protection- this is bull\$&@! The whales are doing find in Kauai. You should go to Japan and get a Sanctuary there
- No no access zones-Enforce laws in place. Spend the money on law enforcement not "general public" keep out
- No no take zone. There are current laws in place. Put some of that government money to get rid of non-native species.
- No no take zones - Fishing should be legislated only and managed by our DLNR Fish and Wildlife.
- No no take zones - Offer a reward for removal of the invasive species moi NOW through the department of the DLNR - Why is moi an invasive species?
- No no take zones - This should be up to each county DLNR and DAR dept. Each island has its own issues
- No no take zones-As a waterman who grew up in the islands I have seen for myself the causes of our problems and know if you don't stop pollution and runoff all else is wasted. The Sanctuary does not offer us any solution and seems to be taking credit for Federal laws already in place. It is obvious to me somebody is milking the tax payers for a lot of money and want more.
- No no take zones-fisheries for specific species should be implemented but not by DLNR Fish and Wildlife
- NO to super cavitation subs being tested without permits at Niihau and Lehua.
- NOAA didn't notify the public in large amounts about the activities that were being conducted. Having 20 to 30 people at these whale sanctuary meetings DOES NOT account for the thousands of people that live on Kaua'i. It is unjust and looked down upon by the community. NOAA should take into consideration that people who use the ocean everyday have more knowledge than an outsider who has never lived in Hawaii. The people who use the ocean know best, therefore, you should have them be a part of your team of researchers to get insight.
- NOAA should go to the public and get suggestions and feelings toward their current and future plans. Ex. Consult with the public which areas of the islands are more depleted of fish, which fishing

activities cause the worst threats to reefs and fish populations. Once more info is known locally, conservation ideas can then be formulated so both the public and governing sectors can be satisfied.

- Numerous injection wells, both public and private, are located within close proximity to Ma'alaea Bay. Encouraging, if not mandating, alternative technologies such as reclamation, enhanced nutrient removal and constructed wetlands would have the effect of controlling harmful nutrient levels of nitrogen and phosphorous within the Bay itself and help to protect and produce more food sources for critically endangered species.
- Other whales...I have personally seen the various pods cruise the island. They don't hang out in one place, sanctuary or otherwise. So what good is a sanctuary for cruising pods?
- People are (esp on N.Shore) interested and very involved in the water so more should be done to involve them in the process and ocean's protection. Have food! Potluck, pupu's, etc. Also a better time, 6pm is too early.
- Potential competition – monk seal critical habitat issue and Kahea.
- RE: Lanai submarine cable and wind towers: (See: <http://www.lanaiwind.com/>) As you are aware in response to the State Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative Castle and Cooke LLC has proposed to the State and HECO to construct on Lana'i a large 20,000-acre power generation industrial complex in conjunction with a submarine power transmission cable between Lana'i and O'ahu to include Moloka'i and Maui. The proposal may consist of 80-120 wind turbines serviced by as many or more service roads and a large inverter station on the rugged western portion of Lana'i requiring extensive moving of soil and deep foundations close to the shore and ocean resource. I am requesting
- the development of a plan to evaluate the impacts on the resource and
- in collaboration with the community a habitat preservation plan to protect the resource.
- Please inform us regularly of your progress in initiating such a process,
- Create a "special link" to permit us to maintain communications and to learn how best to participate. Lana'ians will support your agency's need for public funds to ensure plans meeting bestpractice standards. I believe now is the time to initiate a program well before the State and Federal Environmental Impact Statements are conducted. Your agency's participation is critical not just for Lana'i, but also for the state and the nation to protect this national resource.
- Resolution of conflict among ocean users-sanctuary needs to come up with methodology to resolve these conflicts.
- Sanctuary boundaries. Subsections within the sanctuary (by island) will raise a lot of issues within the State. This will make management more complex and will require more resources to properly manage it to the standards to make it right.
- Sanctuary should address impacts from inshore fishing gear (i.e gillnets). No take zones should be added, rotated periodically and well advertised in addition to expanding boundaries
- Sanctuary should be expanded to Hilo side of the island. People on the Hilo side would be more involved if the sanctuary was here
- Sanctuary should have some no take zones. - Let the people take a vote if a rea needs to be left alone meaning throw nets because of over fishing then let the DLNR police the area that's why we pay them.
- Should base a boat within the sanctuary.
- Should there be a sanctuary to protect whales in transit or in Alaska? Can we use resources here to help there.
- Since Maui County is the heart of the Hawaiian Whale Sanctuary, it is absolutely appropriate, in fact, it's our kuleana, to be the leader in this management review process.

- So many different legs of DLNR – it is frustrating to work with an agency that lacks the money to enforce its regulations. Can NOAA thru the sanctuary bring in more funds to support the State to conduct enforcement? Need to highlight how important the resources are here on Lanai. The only way we will get this done is to bring in more federal funds.
- Start with the idea of what a sanctuary is. A place where everything feels safe. Key concept is fundamental. Each area, each island needs to have its own management plan. Each community has very different needs. Consider every place, every island to have its own management plan.
- The (Marine Mammal) Commission also believes that new regulations are needed to limit vessel speeds, both to protect whales and to ensure human safety. Such limits are justified by the significant increase in vessel/whale collisions and the fact that this is one of the world's largest concentrations of breeding and calving humpback whales. Speed restrictions may not be necessary throughout the sanctuary but could be focused on areas where collision risks are greatest and affect the most vulnerable whales. Speed regulations would be most appropriate in waters within two or three miles of shore or the 100- fathom contour, whichever is closest, along much of the southern coast of Maui and the northwestern coast of the island of Hawaii.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. No one is killing them in Hawaii or Alaska. One net and a cruise ship in Alaska has killed a whale.
- The current Humpback population would be less if there had never been a sanctuary - Why are we worrying about the whales in Hawaii, cuz when they cross the mainland to go back Alaska the Japan whale ship take them out anyway...
- The current Humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. Let mother nature do her work. They don't need your help any more! Redirect your work towards education. Not limitations to the people of Kauai.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Maui has most whales and boats everywhere we've never had any accidents on Kauai.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Whales pass through, but they seem to mate in Maui, try go dea and see.
- The discharge of runoff, sediment and related pollutants into Maunaloa Bay is considered one of the most damaging factors contributing to the deteriorating condition of the Bay. Improved tools for monitoring and controlling the land-based factors responsible for the degradation of coastal coral reefs and other resources are needed.
- The EPA is investigating the discharge of pollutants from Lahaina's wastewater injection wells into the nearshore waters of Kahekili, Ka'anapali. Wastewater is making its way into the Sanctuary waters where whales are birthing, humans are recreating and gathering food, making a living and seeking spiritual renewal. Yet this issue has become a political football, bouncing between DOH and the county. Despite our Mayor's stated noble goal of 100% wastewater re-use, her administration has not made progress in this regard. We need this issue to be resolved and the Whale Sanctuary should help us resolve this problem.
- The Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Act prohibits discharge of waste or deposit of any material that requires a federal permit into Sanctuary waters. The Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of pollutants from point sources to waters of the U. S. except as allowed under National Pollutant Elimination System Permits (NPDES). The County of Maui is allegedly discharging pollutants into waters of the U. S. without an NPDES permit. Therefore there is lack of compliance with both the Sanctuary Act and the Clean Water Act.
- The Sanctuary should look at issues such as: wind farms, vessel speeds, west side of Lanai for undersea cable, a haul out area for Hawaiian monk seals

- The sanctuary should not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. I'm really mad that my tax dollars are being wasted for something that's not needed. Just to create a few jobs for some.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. Inshore state waters should be managed by the state (DLNR Aquatic Resources). Such a sanctuary WILL incite a riot because it will destroy Hawaii's fishing and water-related culture! Let Hawaii's people manage Hawaii.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. There should be no "no access zones" The local economy and families would be in ruins whether you owned your own business or worked in a hotel/restaurant etc.
- The second thing the whale sanctuary can do for the community of Kaua'i is that they can solicit for legislation to "cover your dirt" Hundreds of acres of land is left fallow or dug up and left and the wind simply blows the topsoil into the ocean "silting out our coral heads". This agricultural practice is more detrimental to coral than any other human aspect including anchor drops and herbicides. If NOAA would help somehow bring about awareness and perhaps legislation to stop this practice, our corals would stand a chance.
- The state has sovereign rights over its waters (state waters extend out to three miles) and the federal government should not trump the state's rights and due process in establishing laws and regulations to manage its waters. Simply having the governor sign off on any new regulations is not due process. The legislature and the DLNR Board - with all its applicable public input - should provide input into any new proposals in state waters, e.g. fishing regulations, closed ocean activity areas, etc.
- The thought of you guys taking away the things we do to enjoy our life here on Kauai is going to be met with tremendous problems for you guys so I hope you really consider what you're trying to do and think of the effects of the people that live here. And, basically you guys actually work for us, the taxpayers, so I hope you really listen and not just move forward with what you guys are trying to do, I'm not really sure.
- The University of Hawaii Marine Option Program has been conducting maritime archaeology field schools since the early 1990's. Most of these were under the coordination of Dr. Hans Van Tilburg, maritime heritage coordinator, NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program. A MOP/Sanctuary Program partnership through such a field school would allow us to offer our students opportunities in underwater archaeology, and would help the Sanctuary map and document its cultural sites.
- There are more turtles now on Kaua'i, why hasn't the ban been lifted?? They don't care??
- There must be a serious discussion of how to expand the Hawaiian Humpback Whale Sanctuary boundaries to include all whale habitat areas, especially around Kaua'i and Ni'ihou. By the end of this management cycle, the Sanctuary should produce a detailed plan of action and provide recommendations on formally changing the Sanctuary boundaries.
- There should be more grants available to study and implement several conservation programs around Kaua'i. First one: coral replanting after storms. Kaua'i has the largest and oldest pocillopora eydouxi corals found on any of the main Hawaiian Islands. A replanting project as has been done even in Oahu after the navy ship was grounded is proving to be successful just of huge scope. We need a continuing coral replanting project here on Kaua'i. I strongly urge this type of project to pay local diving professionals to participate. That way, you have the residents "owning" the project, the government is injecting the \$\$ directly into the local economy, the corals get to start a new life and Kaua'i will benefit with more coral coverage underwater continuing to enlarge that habitat and food source instead of its continuing diminishing quality and ability to protect other species.

- There should be no "no access" zones. Define public as people who visit or live in Hawaii and Big difference on ocean use and ocean needs.
- There should be no "no take" zones. More enforcement is needed of all the present rules. More Hawaiians on the DAR board. Review the "kapu system" it worked and is sustainable.
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones that are species specific. Hire more DOCARE enforcement officers...DOCARE is the division in DLNR handling enforcement (NOT Div. Of Aquatic Resources).
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones, as per DLNR. I agree, let the state continue to handle this.
- This [vessel speed limits during whale season] is unclear. The whales are more dense in certain areas than others. And why should the military be exempt? More whales have been documented on the western shores of Kaua'i and Oahu.
- This is a resident on Kauai and I think it's important that we have more meetings about this because I've heard – I'm hearing different stories on both sides and I'm not sure who to believe at this point, so I think there should be more meetings to know what you are really thinking about, what you're really planning.
- Unsure about access zones-there may be a need for "special zones" if necessary for monk seals to land and nurse on certain beaches
- Visioning process: where should the sanctuary be in 20 years? Relationship between seabirds and marine life. Petrels are an endangered species here on Lanai. Why can't birds be an added resource to the sanctuary as part of an interconnected ecosystem.
- Water quality in Kihei – fund projects to fix injection wells and protect water quality.
- Water quality: turtles in Pala'au (in the south shore of Molokai) have the highest rate of cancer in the world. The reason is Monsanto even though it is the biggest employer in this island. Stop GMO runoff into sanctuary. Monsanto helps fund the TNC reserves (through the Molokai Ranch through the Nature Conservancy) on Molokai, they give water to feral animals during summer. These animals would otherwise go into town to drink and get shot. Too many feral animals cause pollution too.
- We need more staffing (to help Justin) and a visitor center in Kona and on Kaua'i.
- West Hawai'i Fisheries Council needs to be brought into the process. They have kuleana. Need to take this meeting to this Council.
- With regard to spinner dolphins, the Commission understands that the National Marine Fisheries Service is proceeding with a study to determine the effects of no-entry areas in certain coastal bays of Hawaii on spinner dolphin habitat-use patterns and abundance. If the results conclude that closing portions of bays to vessel traffic and swimmers is useful for preventing harassment or improving spinner dolphin survivorship or reproduction rates, then the sanctuary may be able to play a role in protecting them under a new management plan. For example, the sanctuary could consider permanent closure of areas deemed important for spinner dolphins or approach limits for boats, divers, and swimmers.

MARINE ANIMAL ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE*Marine Animal Assessment and Response: General Concerns*

- Actual entanglement does not happen in Hawaii, but Alaska
- Adding other species under its management plan and efforts would appear to greatly enhance Sanctuary efforts to increase funding for their conservation. As one example, additional funding would assist the Sanctuary in expanding its humpback rescue and response program to benefit other species in its waters.
- Appreciated that staff is working on disentanglement
- As for entanglement problems, we must address the long-line and drift-net problems occurring in our off shore waters. I doubt whales become entangled in a shore fisherman's "throw net". Again, you would penalize all inshore fishermen for issues occurring in deep, international waters.
- Concern with gillnets impacting turtles and who is responsible for removing nets
- Fishermen are not the cause of entanglements in Hawaii.
- Fishing debris is a problem. If the debris is not removed from the water the animals will keep getting entangled. There is a need for more in water marine debris pick up.
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for reducing risks to humpback whales from entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with vessels
- following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for responding to stranded or distressed marine mammals
- Harassment, entanglement, water quality/pollution/ship strikes
- Inasmuch as the whales face common problems such as ship strike, entanglement and environmental degradation throughout their range, Sanctuary management must build programs with expanded scope to provide the Sanctuary aegis wherever the whales are in the North Pacific. Simply put, the Sanctuary programs should be evident and effective wherever the whales are.
- Increase transparency when whales strand/die. Let the public know details of disposition and cause of death of a stranded animal—to better prevent and understand future strandings. Include native Hawaiians.
- Inside the Sanctuary there needs to be faster and more efficient ways to respond to entanglement.
- Is entanglement a serious problem?
- Longlines are a threat. Should the sanctuary consider getting involved?
- Proposed fish farms cause problems with water quality because of the fish food and poop in one area, cables (to hold down cages – causing problems with entanglement), whales will come close to the fish farms to eat the baby fish. Water quality problems will advance impacts on coral and visitor industry. Study what the impacts are of fish farms on local fishermen and commercial fishermen. What is the cultural take of fish farms as opposed to fish ponds?
- Runoff, water quality, SONAR, stranding response are all issues. The ahupuaa system is always great. The reasons why marine mammals are stranding are linked to runoff, water quality, and SONAR. I would have liked to say a prayer for the animal before it went on the flight. This is the first time there was no prayer. NOAA staff body language was disappointing; they were too excited to use their new center; even though there was a tank available at the Maui Ocean Center. The number of strandings has quadrupled due to water quality, SONAR testing , and runoff. Hotel development and runoff should be addressed by the Sanctuary. Stream/river water should reach the ocean.
- Sanctuary taking credit for Humpback return is bogus The Sanctuary has undoubtedly contributed to the survival of a few individual whales by assisting in disentanglement. However, the true savior of the Humpbacks has been and continues to be the BAN on whaling.

- Should be cultural protocols for whales.
- Support entanglement response efforts
- The idea of species expansion is a cool idea, to go ecosystem-focused. WE need more outreach, I've heard cases of turtles being harassed. There should be multiple levels/multiples species looked at maybe not all under the same oho (head) but we should work together to protect them all.
- The majority of entanglement materials Humpback whales are exposed to are from the Northern Pacific Waters.
- The ocean has become a toxic soup. There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs. We need land-based community watches, reporting and criminal follow up to enforce laws.
- The problems are: Large fishing fleets with miles and miles of net.
- There should be programs that reward fish net reporting. Fish nets need to be labeled as to their owners. Owners need to be liable. Net entanglements are the main reason for human caused whales deaths.
- Vital and effective functions, such as whale disentanglement, can be moved to the National Marine Fisheries Service, which serves that function well in mainland NOAA marine Sanctuaries.
- Wants to see carcass taken out to sea. Muster assistance from community and partners.
- Year round protection for whales. Entanglement - where are the nets coming from - track nets? Enforce fines for nets. No attention for sharks - keystone species. Poaching - whales reef fishing longlining. Concern for future.

Marine Animal Assessment and Response: Potential Solutions

- All your focus needs to go to keeping the national ban on whaling in effect. We are on board to protect them and help in the efforts to disentangle, educate all whom interact with these whales.
- Concern has to go beyond the boundary because whales swim outside the boundary and fish farms have impacts without boundaries. The Sanctuary should provide input to fish farms that might submerge nets in the ocean outside of sanctuary boundaries. Possibly suggest to make the nets more visible to whales.
- Considering the current state of over-fishing, along with commercial fishing limits within the boundaries, all net fishing should be eliminated. Net entanglement is a huge threat to all marine mammals so regulation needs to be preventative, not after the damage is done.
- Derelict fishing nets – there should be a reward for pick up and regulations to stop dumping of nets.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries); ...The job with the whales is not done. The North Pacific population of humpback whales still face significant challenges from human interaction (particularly shipstrike), marine debris and entanglement, and from environmental degradation (particularly ocean acidification). The Sanctuary must continue to address these challenges to the humpback whale populations.
- do more for the whales (don't "add species" or change existing Sanctuary boundaries);...No mandate. While Hawaiian monk seals, sea turtles and other species of whales and dolphins are attractive candidates for inclusion in the Sanctuary's purview, the mandate for protection of such species lies with the National Marine Fisheries Service and not the National Ocean Service (which includes the Office of Marine Sanctuaries). Fisheries has extensive programs in place for protection and management of these species and the benefits of adding another layer to the NOAA bureaucracy are not evident. Of course, Sanctuary staff will continue to work with their NOAA brethren to disentangle or rescue any species as required, but the Sanctuary has a clear mandate regarding the North Pacific humpback whales and should focus its efforts on that mandate.

- Expanding the disentanglement network throughout the state will also directly help whales, dolphins, seals and turtles. Yet it will not impose onerous bureaucracy on the local humans, as it will require no Sanctuary border expansions..
- Fishermen need to know who to call in case of a rescue; expand rescue team: more education/information about the rescue team
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Hawaiian monk seals: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support studies to assess and monitor population trends, prey preferences and foraging habitats, and/or at -sea habitat-use patterns; (b) carry out public outreach and education programs targeting grade school children, recreational fishermen, swimmers and divers, beach-goets, and tourists; (c) coordinate volunteer networks on one or more islands to respond to seals that haul out on crowded beaches and need protection from disturbance by people; and (d) respond to distressed seals, such as abandoned pups, or seals that are sick, injured, hooked, or entangled in fishing nets or debris.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Humpback whales: Continue ongoing sanctuary programs to (a) support research on the status of the population, (b) disentangle whales caught in fishing gear, (c) promote international collaboration on protecting whales in different portions of their range; and (d) implement public outreach and education programs on whales and measures to minimize impacts associated with whale watching and vessel traffic. In addition, the sanctuary should develop regulations limiting vessel speeds in specific areas where collision risks with whales, particularly cow-calf pairs, are greatest.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Spinner dolphins: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support research and monitoring studies to assess the abundance and trends of spinner dolphin populations and the impact of dolphin-watching tour vessels, private boats, and divers on spinner dolphin habitat-use patterns, (b) conduct public outreach and education programs on spinner dolphins and needed protection measures, (c) develop a mandatory permit program with rules of conduct for guided dolphinwatching tour operators, and (d) if ongoing studies demonstrate that closing areas of bays is a useful approach for reducing sources of disturbance for resting dolphins, develop regulations to establish safe, undisturbed spinner dolphin resting areas.
- Good job with raising awareness. Ecosystem-based management: fishing interactions nearshore rec. fish, other species, actions within boundaries, dolphin excursions address, sea turtle interaction, multi-species / resource violation, entanglement.
- Marine debris and entanglement continue as major threats to the North Pacific population of humpback whales. Sanctuary management should continue to develop plans to address the larger problem of entanglement beyond the Sanctuary boundaries and should consider and implement a policy prohibiting fixed structures or moorings within Sanctuary waters. The situation in the North Pacific is horrific enough for the migrating whales; it makes no sense to add to the whales' problems in so-called "sanctuary" waters.
- Migration of whales through the marine debris patch in the ocean gyre. Need to educate about plastics.
- NET ENTANGLEMENT: Create strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets. Reward boaters who collect stray nets.

- No enforcement: entanglement, harassment. 99% of the time nobody to call – slow to respond, no prevention. Favor conservation / expansion. How can we step up enforcement?
- Please create laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- Regarding further protections of Humpback Whales: No additional protections are needed. Current whale protection laws should remain in place. Expanding the disentanglement program is also laudable but requires no sanctuary expansion to be effective.
- Regulation on entanglement (nets) and ship strikes – speed limits.
- Sanctuary skews reports of direct human effects vs. non-direct human effects. To gain credibility with ocean users, the Sanctuary and NOAA would do well to differentiate the harm caused by direct human interaction with a given species (such as a human poaching turtles or shooting seals) as opposed to indirect human interaction (such as agricultural run-off or discarded fish nets). The amount of actual harm caused criminals intent on killing or injuring seals compared to the actual harm caused by indirect human action is insignificant!
- Should have a website to report abuse or injury to turtles
- Strong laws to make nets identifiable and make fishers liable for violation
- The Disentanglement program is worthwhile but does not require expanded boundaries.
- There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs.
- There should be a 3-digit emergency number to call that is easy to remember when at the beach to report something, eg "SEA" like a 911 for the ocean.
- There should be a vessel speed limit of 14 knots during whale season. This ["the sanctuary itself reports little or no recent whale deaths from collision. Many of the reported 'collisions' are, in fact, at dead slow or drifting speed"] is false information. They are purposely misinforming people and being divisive.

Marine Animal Assessment and Response: Area-Specific

- Focus on collisions/boat speed. This issued needs to be addressed: entanglement happens outside of Kaua'i/sanctuary
- The sanctuary should expand to include sea turtles. ["No additional protection needed as current lawas providing for large fines have been ver successful."] Is it true that populations have "dramatically" increased? Based on what study? How many breeding pairs are on Kauai? How manhy have the Fibropapilomatosis virus? How many hhave been hit by boats this year?

MARITIME HERITAGE*Maritime Heritage: General Concerns*

- beyond Native Hawaiian traditions, the sanctuary contains within its waters whaling ships and schooner as well as military ships and aircraft that together contain important information about the islands' role in American and international maritime history.
- Creating a governing body for these historic sites will help prevent them from being illegally dismantled by scavengers for souvenirs' or sold off as relics. Vulnerable components could be identified, recovered, preserved, and displayed for everyone's benefit.
- Dive shop owners and operators also find that the preservation of reefs and wrecks are good for their businesses, especially where tourism is a major factor.
- Engaging the diving community will certainly be more beneficial than excluding them from sites as has been the policy in some places.
- Get stakeholders on board early on in the process, especially concerning Section 106
- Hawai'i has been intimately tied to the sea since the beginning of human history in the area
- Historical and cultural history should be incorporated, like kumulipo and ahupuaa system. We need to learn from that history to continue on.
- I am writing to advocate NOAA's extension of the core management mandate of the HIHWNMS to include cultural resources and incorporate this extension into your revised sanctuary management plan.
- I am writing to express the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's support for extending NOAA's management responsibilities at the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to include historic properties and submerged cultural resources that lie within the Sanctuary.
- I am writing to extend my support for this type of resource (maritime heritage) preservation
- I am writing to HIHWHMS to ask that you do something about protecting historic shipwrecks and navy aircraft and other such submerged resources because they are an important part of our Hawai'i history.
- I am writing to support addition of maritime heritage to the management plan of the HIHWNMS.
- I feel it is important to add another voice to those that would like to include shipwreck preservation to the sanctuary efforts.
- I represent the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA) and we have nearly 200 members that include professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation in general. Among our members are several maritime archaeologists, who specialize in the identification, documentation, and preservation of submerged cultural resources. We strongly recommend that serious consideration be given to adding "submerged cultural resources" to the responsibilities listed Sanctuary's management plan. We believe that inclusion of submerged cultural resources such as sunken vessels and archaeological sites as a management responsibility is a logical and appropriate step for the sanctuary to take.
- I support the proposal to expand the Sanctuary's scope and direction to protect and conserve living marine resources, in addition to humpback whales and submerged cultural heritage resources within the Sanctuary.
- I would like to take this opportunity to support the inclusion of submerged cultural resources...into the HIHWNMS.
- I would suggest removing "cultural heritage" and instead integrating Hawaiian culture into all areas – Resource Protection, Education and Outreach, Science, Management – and create a single "Heritage" category. The plan needs to be more fluid and wholly inclusive of Hawaiian practices and knowledges.

- I would support adding Submerged Maritime Heritage sites to the jurisdiction of the sanctuary.
- In short, the submerged resources within the Sanctuary should be regarded and preserved as a total ecosystem that includes biotic and cultural elements other than whales alone. A "single-species" approach to management may help the whales but not much else. I urge, therefore, that an ecosystemic model that includes cultural and historic preservation and the reef environment should be considered for adoption by NOAA toward the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will allow for better coordination with the State of Hawai'i on the inventory, documentation, and protection of maritime historic properties such as Hawaiian fishponds that fall under the State's jurisdiction.
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will better fit NOAA to meet its historic preservation responsibilities under applicable Federal law, including Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will enable regular monitoring of the condition and status of historic properties
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will enable the creation and maintenance of an accurate inventory of historic properties within the Sanctuary's boundaries
- It is common knowledge that looting takes place at these sites because no one seems to actually protect these sites from such destruction...Stop the looting and begin to recognize the historic value of such resources and protect them for me and all the citizens of both Hawai'i and the nation.
- It is painfully evident the lack of attention being paid to submerged and coastal cultural resources in the islands.
- It's always hard to sell the idea of historic or cultural preservation in the face of pressures to protect natural species...the "culture vs. nature" dichotomy is misleading and unhelpful
- many schooners and other wrecks from Hawaii's whaling past remain to be found...there are large numbers of sunken aircraft wrecks from many eras
- Maritime archaeological sites found within sanctuary boundaries represent a heritage of both national and international significance, and can provide important information about various aspects of Hawaiian maritime history.
- maritime heritage is an integral part of the history of these islands
- Maritime heritage management responsibility includes the responsibility to identify historic properties in the "submerged lands" within the sanctuary boundaries in order to inventory and manage any that may lie within the sanctuary.
- My past experiences with the National Park Service (specifically, in the Dry Tortugas National Park, FL) and with the Bermuda Maritime Museum suggest that a comprehensive management plan for the Sanctuary would produce benefits not only for the whales but also for the total biotic environment and submerged cultural resources it contains. A piecemeal approach to the Sanctuary should be avoided if the total ecosystem within the Sanctuary is to be adequately preserved and protected. Although humpback whales will remain the centerpiece of the Sanctuary's activities, they should be viewed as connected to a larger ecosystem that deserves equal preservation.
- Needs to look at ecosystem based management that incorporates coral, marine life, maritime heritage, resolving conflicts between multiple users/uses
- NOAA and NPS have a long and fruitful relationship and professional exchange involving science-based management of submerged natural and cultural resources...I fully expect this partnership will continue and grow
- NOAA is uniquely qualified to expand its management responsibilities to protect these irreplaceable and non-renewable cultural resources for future generations

- Not in favor of protecting maritime heritage resources – need to focus on threatened and endangered species and ocean health
- Not only do we learn about the history, the culture, and the societies that these shipwrecks have come from, we have a site which actively shows how little we really know.
- Organizations like Parks Canada and the U.S. National Park Service have increasingly recognized the value of cultural and historic preservation
- Preservation of these sites will render the proper respect due to the people who were associated with these artifacts. In some cases they are their gravesites.
- Sanctuary must be in compliance with section 106
- Shallow wrecks provide a great recreational value which also creates an economic value provided the wrecks interaction and preservation can be controlled. A relationship with local dive charters could create a stewardship for assisting in this area
- Significant submerged cultural resources, some involving our whaling past, pepper these waters...
- some (maritime heritage properties) are war graves and must therefore be accorded additional respect and honor
- some of these (maritime) resources are truly underwater treasures
- submerged cultural resources need to be inventoried and catalogued. That information needs to be published
- submerged cultural resources, by definition, would not be restricted to shipwrecks. Remains of old harbors, docks, wharves, and wire landings as well as jetsam and airplanes could be included in the inventory of “cultural resources,” as would submerged cables running between the islands
- submerged heritage sites serve as unique windows into the past, providing opportunities for historians, archaeologists, sport divers, and the general public to experience and appreciate these public resources in a responsible manner
- Successful Marine Sanctuaries such as that at Thunder Bay may serve as models for the type of rule-making and use of submerged sites in our waters as well.
- such resources benefit from being included in archaeological inventories
- The ACUA strongly supports a proposal to add maritime archaeological resources to Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary's management plan...
- The area of "protection" (of maritime heritage resources) is where I have the most concerns
- The establishment of the maritime heritage coordinator's position for the sanctuary program's Pacific Islands Region was a major "first step" in the right direction.
- The Hawaiian Undersea Research Lab remains committed to the documentation and investigation of cultural resources.
- The inclusion of underwater cultural heritage as part of NOAA's mandate in managing HIHWNMS is particularly important because of the diminished capacity of the state of Hawaii's historic preservation division and its difficulty in managing its maritime heritage
- The international, national, and local contacts established the importance of maritime heritage, especially to Hawaii.
- The letter of comment I submitted on the 27th expressed concerns of NOAA's authority in Hawaiian waters. What it failed to do was acknowledge the good work already being done by NOAA staff in this (maritime heritage) area.
- The Malama Kai Foundation (MKF) supports the HIHWNMS inclusion of maritime heritage in the sanctuary
- The MKF supports...allowing access and observation
- The Navy has no objection to divers visiting these types of sites (maritime heritage) if done so in a responsible and with the appropriate type of management.

- the same can be said for NOAA's coordination with the annual MAHHI conference on Maritime Archaeology and History of the Hawaiian Islands
- the sanctuary program has a clear mandate for ocean stewardship. Part of this stewardship must include, where appropriate, the responsible preservation and protection of submerged cultural resources of significant value
- The Sanctuary Program has already taken the lead on maritime archaeology on many of its mainland sites as well as in the NWHI. Extending this effort to the Sanctuary waters in the main Hawaiian Islands would protect these valuable cultural resources statewide.
- The sanctuary...is a prime location for potentially significant submerged cultural resources. From early Polynesian explorers, to the 19th century whaling trade, to the islands' role in World War II, Hawaii's maritime heritage is truly unique.
- the state of Hawaii has a unique connection to the ocean with great natural and cultural resources.
- there are many cultural resources that should be managed on parity with natural resources
- there is a serious lack of priority and coordination in studying these (maritime heritage) sites.
- these (maritime heritage) resources are important to our island identity and history
- these (maritime heritage) resources are of growing importance as we use them to document and understand our past
- These artifacts are not only a part of Hawai'i's history, they are a part of our national heritage and deserve protection.
- Turtles – need to focus on living things. Most important asset of ocean is living species. That is what drives tourism. Shipwrecks are ok too to attract tourism but the living things are the most important and should be protected.
- under the Sunken Military Craft Act (SMCA), any disturbance of military properties is illegal without prior authorization
- Underwater cultural heritage sites (native Hawaiian), consider land-based cultural heritage sites that border sanctuary.
- We believe that if submerged cultural resources are included in the Sanctuary's management plan, these significant and irreplaceable historic properties will receive the level of protection that they deserve.
- we believe that including a strong program focus on maritime heritage will be crucial to providing that strong (transportation/heritage) link for our community to the ocean and our past, present, and future
- We believe their (maritime heritage resources) management is subject to section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) which calls for federal agencies to exercise their stewardship responsibilities on historic properties "owned or controlled" by the agency, or "under its jurisdiction." Submerged lands within the Sanctuary fall into these categories.
- We believe they (maritime heritage resources) deserve consideration in the operation of the sanctuary because they help illustrate its history
- We highly welcome your efforts and suggest that the kona district of Kaua'i's watershed master plan be adopted and identify that these areas are already encumbered by cultural native inhabitants of stewardship and practitioners that monitor and maintain their native habitat and its inhabitants and the regional watersheds (Le., coast, ocean, estuary, endemic and indigenous inhabitants and biota, minerals, submerged resources and lands, within, above, and all processes thereof) for many centuries and implement policies to adhere to pre-existing cultural watershed management plan to your current administrative policies and rules. As we continue to implement our management plans for the kona district of Kaua'i and our native population naturally grows, we welcome your efforts in our common goals. Since we are currently updating our 1994 legacy watershed plan for our

implementation action plan 2010-2020, we humbly ask for your support and hope that we can work together to accomplish our mutual efforts of friendly cooperation.

- we must consider that submerged cultural resources are non-renewable and deserve to be protected.
- we note that 185 historic maritime properties – primarily consisting of ship and aircraft losses in Sanctuary waters prior to 1960 – are in waters within the current boundaries of the Sanctuary. Approximately 25 of these sites have been confirmed while the others remain to be investigated.
- we request that maritime heritage resources (specifically shipwrecks and aircraft) be added to the management plan
- We support the recommendations of the 2007 report by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the State of Hawai'i entitled Assessment of Additional Resources for Possible Inclusion in the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary ("the assessment report") to include Hawaii's marine mammals and sea turtles in the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Plan.
- We would like to request extending the current scope of the HIHWNMS management plan to include the protection and management of historical cultural and archaeological resources within the main Hawaiian Islands
- what will change as (maritime heritage) sites age? This question must be considered as purposely sunken vessels age past the 50-year mark, defining them as "historical" by Hawaii State Statutes.
- within the sanctuary there are many cultural resources
- Without any kind of preservation management, naval properties and other submerged cultural resources will continue to be vulnerable to illegal damage
- Would NOAA care to include "pre-contact" and historical sites that have been subject to subsidence. What of sites such as ko'a and so-called submerged heiau that were placed there beneath the water's surface in times past?
- WWII bunkers and coastal defense artifacts line our shores. Would these be included in the protected inventory.
- You don't say where we need to know more we need to access the ocean. For these simple reasons I strongly say no to adding historical sites to the sanctuary.
- The waters around the Hawaiian Islands contain many submerged naval properties. There are more than 70 US Navy ships and submarines, and over 1,484 naval aircraft reported lost among the islands

Maritime Heritage: Potential Solutions

- Adding these sites to an inventory and conducting as detailed a survey (as is practical) would be tremendously beneficial to the protection and preservation of these historic artifacts. It would also provide a record for researchers and historians.
- An inventory of sites could also include environmental hazards including unexploded ordnance.
- Diversifying your mission by including the study of significant maritime archaeology sites would strengthen the Sanctuary's role in the community and would bring more visibility to your program and to ours. If you do this, the Sanctuary, MOP and the state of Hawaii will reap the benefits. We hope that you give this serious consideration.
- education and outreach to raise awareness and stewardship of the resource, would only enhance NOAA's already exceptional national reputation as a leader in underwater cultural heritage
- Expand sanctuary to include water quality monitoring. Expand protection/add additional protection to monk seals, coral, shipwrecks and water quality programs/regulations.

- Fear: including antiquities/historic sites and possible no-take regulations with Antiquities Act. Including maritime heritage may be springboard for other agencies to put in no-take regulations— top down approach.
- From personal experience I can say that sport divers -- often with considerable experience and special skills like underwater photography -- who are willing to accept training can become powerful advocates for natural and cultural preservation. This includes divers who may previously have looted shipwrecks or removed corals or other aquatic species. They can become protective agents toward the very reefs and wrecks they damaged in the past.
- How many wrecks are in the sanctuary? If going to include, need to provide more information in handouts. Is it worthwhile to include?
- I strongly urge the Sanctuary to consider engaging in the protection and management of our submerged cultural resources in a comprehensive fashion, addressing not just the inventory and assessment of naval resources within the Sanctuary (which will greatly assist our efforts to protect these sites), but also public outreach and education efforts, in order to raise awareness of these special resources and mitigate further threats.
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will allow NOAA and other agencies to develop better programs for public outreach and education pertaining to these significant resources.
- inventory, documentation, and assessment of sites...would only enhance NOAA's already exceptional national reputation as a leader in underwater cultural heritage
- It is a truism that wrecks can serve as artificial reefs, but this process of reef formation needs to be recognized, monitored, and evaluated, too. Controlled benthic surveys on wrecks within the Sanctuary to measure biodiversity and biomass of species that colonize wrecks are needed. Keep in mind that the date or year of loss is usually known for each wreck, so these are unique opportunities to measure this process of colonization since the wrecking date. This, of course, would be relative to the natural reef or seabed species in the vicinity of the wreck. Each wreck presents a kind of "biotic clock" that allows managers to observe and measure this process.
- It's not easy to change people's minds about major issues like treasure hunting and the taking of marine species, but this kind of "hands-on" involvement is a proven and effective way to do it.
- Like many other states, Hawaii could feature interpretive trails and vocational programs that involve the public directly in stewardship of our common maritime heritage
- Much more could be learned about the environmental interaction around wrecks at various depths.
- My solitary complaint in this (maritime heritage) area remains the fact that there is no set of procedures for "civilians" to access the Papahānaumokuākea Marine Sanctuary...
- Native Hawaiian knowledge and participation should be integrated into all areas of the sanctuary, most importantly: Resource Protection, Education and Outreach, Science, Management, Maritime Heritage
- NMSA and implementing regulations make clear that NOAA has "control" over the lands and waters within the boundaries of the marine sanctuaries. While sanctuary management may be limited under the NMSA to whales, NOAA has authority and control over the sanctuary, and is thus also subject to the requirements of the NHPA including section 106 and section 110.
- NOAA's researchers...have always acknowledged (MHR information) donors, usually after augmenting the information and sharing it with all interested parties...at least in Hawaii
- NOAA's support of the University of Hawaii's Marine Option Program summer field school's course in maritime archaeological techniques has not only provided training in this field, but again has helped develop interest in our maritime history amongst the general public
- Sanctuary should be involved in protecting cultural heritage resources (Native Hawaiian resources). Boundaries may have to change to include these resources. E.g. fishponds and shipwrecks.

- Should NOAA be granted authority over these resources, would they be funded to a degree that the more important (thus-far undiscovered) sites be looked into. In other words, will NOAA be conducting research and exploration or simply reacting to sites found and documented by others? Will funding be available to investigators not directly employed by NOAA?
- So much more could be done with respect to preservation, inventory, outreach and education if the scope of the HIHWNMS's responsibilities were expanded to include maritime heritage.
- Support research and monitoring studies to assess the status of marine species, ecosystem health, and historical relics within the sanctuary and to guide management actions
- The fear amongst many in the historical community is that NOAA would take a heavy hand and simply push aside any investigators that are not within their sphere of influence. This has been demonstrated to otherwise qualified investigators in Alaska and elsewhere.
- The first need would be to define, in some detail, what type of sites are being considered, for what reason, and what levels of protection are going to be needed
- The MKF supports the preservation of these resources, advancement of knowledge and gathering of scientific data, and educating the public
- The most daunting task of conducting archaeological investigations on the more remote reefs of the NWHI and sharing that information with the general public has been admirable.
- The sites could create outreach and educational benefits for students, researchers, and the general public in Hawaii's Maritime & Cultural Heritage, Marine Architecture, Marine Archaeology, Marine Biology, and History.
- There can be accidental impacts to these significant (maritime heritage) resources by careless divers. There can also, unfortunately, be intentional damage and illegal looting of sites. NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries has previously assisted this office by forwarding information regarding two past incidents, both of which have occurred within Sanctuary waters. The first case involved a commercial boat mooring attached directly to the propeller shaft of an F4U Corsair aircraft BuNo 49668, thereby damaging the airframe and engine cowling. The second case involved the alleged removal of a 50cal machine gun by technical divers from a PB4Y Liberator aircraft BuNo 38769. In this case, considerable damage was documented on the rear turret of the aircraft. It may be likely that, among the many naval properties within Sanctuary boundaries, there are other as yet unknown cases.
- we support HIHWNMS working collaboratively with NGOs and dive operations around the state in developing programs and materials that will help educate the public and provide accurate interpretation of maritime heritage resources to residents and visiting divers
- We...request that you include maritime archaeological research within the Sanctuary's mission.
- What about protecting and conserving living HAWAIIAN peoples and their ways of life? Protecting and conserving other living marine resources and submerged cultural heritage resources should NOT put a limit or destroy the culture and way of Hawaiians, Hawaii, or its visitors.

Maritime Heritage: Area-Specific

- Cultural heritage sites like shipwrecks are already protected on Kaua'i as the only known shipwreck inside the sanctuary.
- It has been estimated that approximately 75% of all shipwrecks within the western hemisphere occur in nearshore waters (less than 10m of water). Therefore, the majority of shipwreck sites within the Hawaiian Islands would be located within the HWNMS. A review of one Hawaiian shipwreck inventory indicates that there are approximately 53 historic vessels known to have wrecked off the Big Island alone. Many of these wrecks have never been located, documented, or assessed for

significance. It can be assumed that the total number of shipwrecks and other submerged resources (such as pre-historic remains, plane wrecks, etc.) is much higher throughout the entire HWNMS.

- many clients are already using these (maritime heritage) sites for recreation and professional purposes. Shipwreck sites, for instance, offer a fish haven which is utilized by fishermen, tropical fish collectors and commercial dive operations (especially off the south shore of O`ahu)
- many of the shipwrecks in Hawaiian waters occurred in very shallow water. Indeed, hardly any beach that could land a canoe has not been witness to maritime calamity. Might their protection be interpreted as a restriction on beach combing? Could "protection" interrupt fishing activities in waters adjacent to many bays and harbors. For instance, would any proposed rule changes have an impact on the temporary fisherman shelters often constructed along the north shore of Lana`i?
- Maritime sites, including shipwrecks, often extend from sub-surface to well above the water-line, often onto private property...would NOAA's protection of cultural resources stop at the shore-line or be expanded to the high-tide line or higher?
- NOAA will need to adopt pre-existing cultural resources management and enforcement plan of the kona district of Kaua`i.
- The fact that the entire NWHI chain is now off limits to pretty much everybody has given many in the maritime community some trepidation to encourage yet more government protection in Hawaiian waters. The government's actions on restricting access to the Line Islands and other out of the way places will be watched carefully by the yachting community as well as others vested in maritime issues.
- The University of Hawaii Marine Option Program has been conducting maritime archaeology field schools since the early 1990's. Most of these were under the coordination of Dr. Hans Van Tilburg, maritime heritage coordinator, NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program. A MOP/Sanctuary Program partnership through such a field school would allow us to offer our students opportunities in underwater archaeology, and would help the Sanctuary map and document its cultural sites.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN CULTURE

- A management plan based on concepts of ahupua'a would make sense. Responsible to the land as well as the water.
- a significant number of ancient Hawaiian fishponds are along the shorelines of the islands included within the Sanctuary's boundaries.
- A strict kapu(management/off limits) system needs to be strictly enforced to protect the Humpback whales that migrate here. This system should include fish and the entire aquatic realm that surrounds and supports us.
- Additionally: I find it reprehensible that marine protection organizations forge ahead in reckless and detrimental policies that completely disregard the [diminishing] rights of Native Hawaiians and their subsistence activities; life sustaining fishing and hunting and gathering by closing their fishing areas for species that are in abundant numbers!
- Aquaculture and fishponds (in water and land-based) should be expanded to take stress off the ocean.
- Aquaculture hasn't been around long so perhaps education is needed to ensure it is done in an environmentally responsible way. It has potentially great implications as a food supply and can be done without antibiotics and in a more healthy way and can replenish fish stocks (in the future). Sanctuary could be involved in giving aquaculture farms better direction in how to do it responsibly/naturally/sustainably. Applying traditional knowledge could help achieve these goals.
- Areas where Hawaiian knowledge could and should be easily implemented would be education and outreach. I would advise hiring a Hawaiian education specialist to develop curriculum and provide outreach. It would be important to hire someone with substantial Hawaiian cultural knowledge and strong ties to the local community.
- Balance is key. Connection of being "own enforcer" lost. Education programs that teach sustainable practices and traditional practices.
- Change name of sanctuary on an interim basis to "The Main Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary". Once Management Plan is adopted ask Native Hawaiian Community to provide a Hawaiian Name.
- Change the name: Main Hawaiian Islands NMS in interim. After management plan is completed, ask Hawaiian community to give it a traditional Hawaiian name. Finish MP, change name (to MHINMS) temporarily before asking for traditional Hawaiian name (like the Monument).
- Conduct a seamless management program that coordinates with, complements, and fills gaps in existing federal, state, Native Hawaiian, and private marine conservation programs and initiatives
- Cultural aspects – the Hawaiians knew how to take care of it all
- Culture Ahupuaa system – mountain to the sea system of management .
- Despite some rhetoric of wanting to include Native Hawaiian culture and community, Hawaiian knowledge does not get meaningfully integrated into the sanctuary's activities.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage - Cultural Heritage is a way to practice culture not to hinder it. Refer to section 106 of the advisory council on historic preservation.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage - Somebody else's agenda.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Hawaiian cultural Heritage. It's more do to runoff (rain).
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals - Since the days of the ancient Hawaiians, there were no monk seals on the Main Hawaiian Islands. Information on this has been passed down through the generations, also there have been no archeological evidence to prove they were in the main islands. There is no Hawaiian name to the monk seal like there is honu for the turtle.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. Seal wasn't around during early Hawaiian Time.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian cultural heritage - Include Homo Sapiens.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian cultural heritage - Unrelated issue.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage - We have enough sanctuaries and don't ? we need any more.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage - What a joke! You guys (sanctuary) are the biggest threat t our culture.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage - What?
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Again, the current indigenous gathering/ fishing rights need to be recognized and enforced /implemented.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. Don't use cultural as a way to get the sanctuary done - it is not right.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. Ha Ha Ha Get Real! The whales, sea turtles, and monk seals are doing good just as it is. Expanding the sanctuary will NOT help at all.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. If you folks do this stupid expansion you better allow for Hawaiian gathering rights.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Is this to block the hooking of Hawaiian Culture. This does not belong here.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. The laws are already on the books.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. The only sanctuary's were for gathering rights.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. What do you know about cultural heritage? By expanding the sanctuary (NOAA) will have a devastating and negative impact to our environment and community.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. Who are you folks kidding? That's all that has been done change the way we live. Take away from our local way of life.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. The Native Hawaiian Community, not bureacrats, should decide what needs to be saved.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. We all know who we're talking about. These people are part of the USA (United States of America). Follow the same laws!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Monk seals are not even native to main Hawaiian Islands. But brought here from the north western islands and released back into wild here.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Monk seals population is expanding toward the Hawaiian Islands. No record or evidence of monk seals in Hawaiian history. Monk seals would further depths fish populations.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals are a threat to our food supplies for the island of Kauai/State of Hawaii. They were brought here. Who's responsible? They are not a native species.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals are not indigenous to Hawaii. We all know the damaging effects that the monk seals do, feeding off the reef resources. Conveniently blaming the people for overfishing. We as locals see the effects since they conveniently showed up.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. The "Hawaiian" monk seals are not even indigenous to Hawaii and are doing good with the laws that are already there.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. The monk seals aren't even native to the islands.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - In fact, it's time to allow native Hawaiian harvest rights - there are plenty of turtles today.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Thurtles should be opened for harvesting, (gathering rights) especially for Hawaiians!!
- Do not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. How culture. Robinson is next door. Where the culture in him. Hsve to send 2 of my kids UH, pay 21,000 yr. for Haw Studies, When Robinson never ever offered our children to go there learn about our culture. Not new, but our children. He does not own the ocean. He owns his "island" He can have the island leave the ocean to everyone.
- Do not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. Our Haw. Culutre is fo fish, I eat fish at least 4 - 5 times a week, my husband cathces it. My kids Gramma fish for save her life. Shoreline fishing is my source of (food sanctuary!)
- Do not include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Do not use "Hawaiian Cultural Heritage" to expand sanctuary's. Call me because this Hawaiian is "against" any kind of expansion or sanctuary's.
- Do not include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. No expand.
- Do not include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. No.
- Do not include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Community relation efforts.
- education and outreach to raise awareness and stewardship of the resource, would only enhance NOAA's already exceptional national reputation as a leader in underwater cultural heritage
- Encourage fishpond restoration efforts, not just for education, but for food security.
- Expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage.
- Expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage-cultural heritage important to native hawaiiians and all others who live here
- Expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage-every person should be knowledgable about the culture
- Expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage-Its time to include the people--Hawaiiians are an "endangered species"
- Fear: future generations won't have access to resources. Next generations won't have learned/be able to have connections to fishing and tradictional practices. Keep traditional practices (through generations) in mind.
- Fishing is a Hawaiian gathering right.
- Follow native Hawaiian practices
- Further, there are four areas that constitute sites of special concern at Maunalua Bay: Kalauha'ihai, a historic Hawaiian fishpond in Kuli'ou'ou; the spring at Kawaikui, famous for limu and a historic watering replenishment spot for early ships; Paiko Lagoon, a wildlife sanctuary managed by DLNR-DOFAW and its adjacent Hawaiian fishpond, Kanewai; and Hawai'i Kai Marina, originally Ke Ahupua O Maunalua, once the largest inland fishpond on O'ahu. Because of the connectivity of these four sites to Maunalua Bay and their capacity to impact the Bay's systems it would be helpful if these received special management consideration
- Get stakeholders on board early on in the process, especially concerning Section 106
- Give something back with turtles being harvested. Other species – see more turtles than when growing up. Maybe have a limited cultural take. Turtle is eating all the limu (?) too.
- Goal is cross-cultural education and management. Need total buy-in by inviting input from traditional practitioners and go around to all communities.
- Hanai, adopt something whale or dolphin into your family – will see differently – sanctuary can promote message with tour companies
- Have sanctuary follow traditional practices (beyond, and including, Native Hawaiian) in management.
- Hawai'i has been intimately tied to the sea since the beginning of human history in the area
- Hawaiian cultural heritage should be maintained, fish rights, harvesting rights, etc.
- Hawaiians had eyes on the situation and could readily react; consider active management in sanctuary

- HIHWNMS needs cultural and community specialists.
- Historical and cultural history should be incorporated, like kumulipo and ahupuaa system. We need to learn from that history to continue on.
- I agree with the ahupuaa system. More communication between cultural aspects, fishermen. Not just for whales; everything.
- I am against any form of restriction upon my culture
- I am not sure what the Hawaiian Cultural Heritage (vision) means or is, but but if it suggest that only Hawaiians will be able to fish and use the ocean for recreation then I am againg it. If not then I am unsure.
- I am unsure if the sanctuary should expand to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage.
- I am writing to advocate NOAA’s extension of the core management mandate of the HIHWNMS to include cultural resources and incorporate this extension into your revised sanctuary management plan.
- I am writing to express the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's support for extending NOAA's management responsibilities at the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to include historic properties and submerged cultural resources that lie within the Sanctuary.
- I believe that the sanctuary must learn to better manage their existing jurisdiction through better community partnerships and educational programs that effectively include and integrate Hawaiian cultural knowledge before any jurisdiction expansion should be considered.
- I feel if the proposed whale sanctuary expansion is allowed, it would take away my ancestral right to use the ocean as my ancestors have done.
- I represent the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA) and we have nearly 200 members that include professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation in general. Among our members are several maritime archaeologists, who specialize in the identification, documentation, and preservation of submerged cultural resources. We strongly recommend that serious consideration be given to adding "submerged cultural resources" to the responsibilities listed Sanctuary's management plan. We believe that inclusion of submerged cultural resources such as sunken vessels and archaeological sites as a management responsibility is a logical and appropriate step for the sanctuary to take.
- I strongly urge the Sanctuary to consider engaging in the protection and management of our submerged cultural resources in a comprehensive fashion, addressing not just the inventory and assessment of naval resources within the Sanctuary (which will greatly assist our efforts to protect these sites), but also public outreach and education efforts, in order to raise awareness of these special resources and mitigate further threats.
- I suggest the Sanctuary expand to include corals. The Sanctuary should look at native Hawaiian coral reef protection practices. West Hawaii Island is one of the only spots in the State where we’ve seen coral growth. Hawaiians understood the importance of the coral reefs.
- I support the proposal to expand the Sancuary's scope and direction to protect and conserve living marine resources, in addition to humpback whales and submerged cultural heritage resources within the Sanctuary.
- I would like to take this opportunity to support the inclusion of submerged cultural resources...into the HIHWNMS.
- I would love to see the sanctuary much more involved in cultural matters and education about cultural matters.
- I would suggest removing “cultural heritage” and instead integrating Hawaiian culture into all areas – Resource Protection, Education and Outreach, Science, Management – and create a single “Heritage”

category. The plan needs to be more fluid and wholly inclusive of Hawaiian practices and knowledges.

- In short, the submerged resources within the Sanctuary should be regarded and preserved as a total ecosystem that includes biotic and cultural elements other than whales alone. A "single-species" approach to management may help the whales but not much else. I urge, therefore, that an ecosystemic model that includes cultural and historic preservation and the reef environment should be considered for adoption by NOAA toward the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary.
- include a clear statement of intent to develop and implement all sanctuary management actions in close consultation with related programs carried out by federal and state agencies and Native Hawaiian organizations with shared responsibilities for conserving living marine resources in the sanctuary boundaries
- Include Kohoolawe, expand boundaries, important for reefs, resources and Hawaiian culture
- include provisions for establishing an interagency coordinating committee chaired by the Sanctuary's co~superintendents (from the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources) and having representatives from the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Coast Guard, the Navy, the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, key offices of state government, and the Native Hawaiian community
- Include resources available to all stakeholders (Native Hawaiians, animals, ocean users, etc.) Need balance.
- Inclusion of state waters in sanctuary could benefit native Hawaiian community
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will allow for better coordination with the State of Hawai'i on the inventory, documentation, and protection of maritime historic properties such as Hawaiian fishponds that fall under the State's jurisdiction.
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will allow NOAA and other agencies to develop better programs for public outreach and education pertaining to these significant resources.
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will better fit NOAA to meet its historic preservation responsibilities under applicable Federal law, including Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will enable regular monitoring of the condition and status of historic properties
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will enable the creation and maintenance of an accurate inventory of historic properties within the Sanctuary's boundaries
- Increase transparency when whales strand/die. Let the public know details of disposition and cause of death of a stranded animal—to better prevent and understand future strandings. Include native Hawaiians.
- Inherent conflict with partnering with DLNR. State gets its budget from leases and boat fees. It is a conflict for this agency to be responsible for fishponds while getting its revenues from other uses. Can this be addressed in the management plan? Perhaps work with Senators to address this conflict – to make the conflict. Perhaps there are other state agencies that may not represent a conflict of interest. Look at ways to address this conflict of interest.
- Inventory, documentation, and assessment of sites would only enhance NOAA's already exceptional national reputation as a leader in underwater cultural heritage
- Is the sanctuary going to get more money to do education? There should be more education on the cultural Hawaiian practices towards whales.
- It is painfully evident the lack of attention being paid to submerged and coastal cultural resources in the islands.

- It is widely accepted that First People have much to offer western science in the way of data collection and management.
- It's always hard to sell the idea of historic or cultural preservation in the face of pressures to protect natural species...the "culture vs. nature" dichotomy is misleading and unhelpful
- Kanaka maoli and na keiki 0 ka aina of the kona district of Kaua'i have been implementing our cultural treasures management plan for many generations and we welcome your assistance in our efforts and processes to protect our regional cultural treasures and food supply.
- Keeping it cultural – traditional practices. Mountain to sea.
- Lanai could be the model for sanctuary education and outreach programs. It has a cultural heritage center, K-12 school, engaged community. Many institutional groups within the community that are Hawaiian based.
- Let the Hawaiian people harvest some of the sea turtles. Sea turtles are really over-populated now.
- Lots of Hawaiian cultural groups are very connected to past and the sanctuary should make sure that they are getting their voice heard during this process so that things aren't being taken away from them/changed without their input/consent.
- Malama Maunalua has identified several fish and invertebrate species of special cultural concern that were highly valued historically and whose populations the community would like to restore. Some of these are identified in the 2009 Maunalua Bay Conservation Action Plan.
- Missing voice of traditional kupuna, sanctuary needs to reach out to get that kind of knowledge and wisdom because public meetings are not the way they like to share information.
- More integration of culture into the sanctuary program, not just side-by-side, but true integration.
- My past experiences with the National Park Service (specifically, in the Dry Tortugas National Park, FL) and with the Bermuda Maritime Museum suggest that a comprehensive management plan for the Sanctuary would produce benefits not only for the whales but also for the total biotic environment and submerged cultural resources it contains. A piecemeal approach to the Sanctuary should be avoided if the total ecosystem within the Sanctuary is to be adequately preserved and protected. Although humpback whales will remain the centerpiece of the Sanctuary's activities, they should be viewed as connected to a larger ecosystem that deserves equal preservation.
- Native Hawaiian knowledge and participation should be integrated into all areas of the sanctuary, most importantly: Resource Protection, Education and Outreach, Science, Management, Maritime Heritage
- Native Hawaiian understand resource management and should learn from that.
- Need to address NPS (non-point source pollution) issue and water feeding into reproductive areas – Mountain to makai – especially if adding other species.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - ? real people - It's a disgrace to our native rights.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Fishing and swimming in Hawaii is a way to life for my family of Hawaiian ancestry and should never be taken away for generations to come.
- No expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage-Fanaticism and attempt to defraud the Fed. Gov by extorting Hawaiian culture. Refer to : Section 106 Advisory Council on historic preservation
- No expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage-If all I've seen is wasted time and dollars that result in no benefits but only hardships. I see your vision as blind. Butt out.
- No expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage-no need
- No expand to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage-the ocean is only part of Hawaiian culture. You don't need a Sanctuary to protect Hawaiian culture. You need to give them back their culture
- No expand to include Hawaiian culture-no expansion of Sanctuary

- No expand to include Hawaiian culture-no proof Hawaiian cultural heritage is in danger
- No expand to include monk seals-they are overabundant. They are beginning to upset balance with man and other species. And they are not indigenouse to Hawaii
- No expand to include seals- first of all I never heard of seals in Hawaiian history. So in reality they are an invasive species. Again federal laws are enough. Anything more is a waste of resources
- No expand to include seals- monk seals are a nuisance they should take all of them to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.Not indegionous
- No expand to include seals- monk seals are not native to here. They were brought here
- No expand to include seals- seals were introduced in the northern Hawaiian Islands. No Sanctuary
- No expand to include seals-monk seals are not even native to Hawaii
- No no access zones-Fanatical policy with no common sense. Also overstepping native Hawaiians fishing and gathering rights
- No reduction in size or scope-the Sanctuary has no vision. They are con artists an they need to be reported for attempting to defraud the federal gov. and violate the Native Hawaiian people's rights of subsistance
- NO take zones is not the answer though we do need further conservation efforts. I would recommend a type of kapu system where it is a cycle of rotating no take zones, or certain species.
- NOAA and NPS have a long and fruitful relationship and professional exchange involving science-based management of submerged natural and cultural resources...I fully expect this partnership will continue and grow
- NOAA is uniquely qualified to expand its management responsibilities to protect these irreplaceable and non-renewable cultural resources for future generations
- NOAA will need to adopt pre-existing cultural resources management and enforcement plan of the kona district of Kaua'i.
- One size doesn't fit all. Consider regional management. One way: regional councils; by moku by moku, ahupuaa by ahupuaa. These councils already established, utilize them more and will naturally integrate cultural aspects. Ahumoku council might be a mechanism to assist with regional management approach. Sanctuary should be ecosystem based and regional.
- People have a responsibility to protect local natural resources – malama. Reaching out to the people who live in an area is respectful and good. Grateful that sanctuary is taking time to listen to local/native Hawaiian knowledge. People who live here have a kuleana – reaching those who live here is respectful of their kuleana and that is a good thing.
- Pertaining to the water: education, participation; traditional ways.
- Please do not make the waters around Kaua'i a whale sanctuary. Most people already respect the whales and monk seals etc. and others would be better served with more education. Making this area a sanctuary would lead to a cultural and economic catastrophe.
- Proposed fish farms cause problems with water quality because of the fish food and poop in one area, cables (to hold down cages – causing problems with entanglement), whales will come close to the fish farms to eat the baby fish. Water quality problems will advance impacts on coral and visitor industry. Study what the impacts are of fish farms on local fishermen and commercial fishermen. What is the cultural take of fish farms as opposed to fish ponds?
- Protect all habitat - kapu systems. Save something for later.
- Remember the saying no Hawaiians no aloha, well with no fishing theres no Hawaiian way of life period. How dare you. The U.S. already stole our land, now you NOAA want to take our way of life, a way to feed our families our 'ohana, how dare you!
- Respect cultural traditions

- Restoration of fish ponds and protection for coral reef fish. [...] Want children and grandchildren to be able to take fish in future
- Role of sanctuary in protecting cultural heritage. Sharks are part of the Hawaiian cultural heritage. Should sharks be an added species? Everything is part of the ecosystem. Those species that are particularly important to the Hawaiian culture should be added.
- Runoff, water quality, SONAR, stranding response are all issues. The ahupuaa system is always great. The reasons why marine mammals are stranding are linked to runoff, water quality, and SONAR. I would have liked to say a prayer for the animal before it went on the flight. This is the first time there was no prayer. NOAA staff body language was disappointing; they were too excited to use their new center; even though there was a tank available at the Maui Ocean Center. The number of strandings has quadrupled due to water quality, SONAR testing, and runoff. Hotel development and runoff should be addressed by the Sanctuary. Stream/river water should reach the ocean.
- Sanctuary can work with the `Aha Moku system, combine the old with the new and come up with something unique for the Hawaiian Islands.
- Sanctuary documents are largely absent information on the First People of Hawai`i.
- Sanctuary management should foster and promote land-based, culturally relevant aquaculture practices (such as Hawaiian fish ponds) and prohibit all moored, offshore aquaculture facilities from Sanctuary waters. Insofar as the state of Hawaii has proven to be an unreliable partner with the Sanctuary in planning and recommending sites for open-ocean aquaculture facilities outside Sanctuary waters, Sanctuary management should make a clear prohibition of moored aquaculture structures within the Sanctuary boundaries. Furthermore, inasmuch as the existing moored aquaculture facility that is within Sanctuary waters has “morphed” far beyond its original scope and approved design, Sanctuary management should instigate proceedings to remove the facility from Sanctuary waters as soon as possible.
- Sanctuary must be in compliance with section 106
- Sanctuary needs partnerships to accomplish goals (public, native Hawaiians, other agencies...)
- Sanctuary needs to be involved in protecting Hawaiian culture. Teach cultural heritage, cultural education/outreach to non-native Hawaiians.
- Sanctuary needs to get more involved with Hawaiian culture – classes and informational meetings.
- Sanctuary should be expanded in terms of species to include dolphins, monk seals, turtles, other cetaceans. This is part of the heritage of this island. Living entities of the ocean and is consistent with maintain the heritage of the Lanai.
- Sanctuary should be involved in protecting cultural heritage resources (Native Hawaiian resources). Boundaries may have to change to include these resources. E.g. fishponds and shipwrecks.
- Sanctuary should have cultural programs that provide jobs and internships specifically for locals.
- Science and education should be done in traditional Hawai`ian context (i.e., ahupua`a concept).
- See Sanctuary involved in historical fishponds – needs renovation to sustain our population. Sanctuary looks at dynamics of fishpond. Ecological thing, land activities.
- Should be cultural protocols for whales.
- Should incorporate traditional concepts in MPA establishment (exclude commercial fishing but allow subsistence fishing). In MPA, need to incorporate Hawaiian cultural heritage and Hawaiian concepts.
- Should look at traditional practices for management (eg species management). Look into oli for information on species movement. Traditional knowledge is an untapped resource for active management. Should partner with Hawaiian language schools and find students interested in doing cultural projects. There is a huge, huge wealth of information in the newspapers (Hawaiian language). The kapuna knew it would be lost, so they learned to read and write to document the knowledge.

- Stronger Cultural components for management plan programs, Native Hawaiian management integrated local, nearshore communities with strong connections to sea. Consultation Councils. Seeking out individuals to assist.
- submerged cultural resources need to be inventoried and catalogued. That information needs to be published
- Support Native Hawaiian practices consistent with sustainable, long-term protection of marine life and biological communities
- The identification and restoration of these sites (Hawaiian fish ponds) should be an integral part of any sanctuary plan. The restoration of the natural stream flow and surface runoff is essential to the health of these fishpond. Anything that has a negative effect on this effort such as pumping brackish water from heavily depleted ground water sources must be stopped. Applying brackish water in hillside irrigation is a "take" under the endangers species act i.e. "to destroy, injure, ... land plants, or to engage in and such conduct;" Not so long ago the indigenous Hawaiians feed more people on these islands than live here today utilizing those fish ponds. Today I understand we import 75% of our food.
- The inclusion of underwater cultural heritage as part of NOAA's mandate in managing HIHWNMS is particularly important because of the diminished capacity of the state of Hawaii's historic preservation division and its difficulty in managing its maritime heritage
- The native Hawaiians had seasons for hunting and fishing maybe it might be time for everyone to go back to the basics
- The regional cultural people of the kona district [of Kaua'i] do not relinquish our rights, liberties, or privileges to our resources and all processes thereof.
- The SAC is beginning to make incremental improvements towards better including the Native Hawaiian community in the advisory council. The additional of a Native Hawaiian working group would go a long way to improving the sanctuary's use of Hawaiian knowledges as long as there is implementation of the working group's input at the staff and programming levels.
- The sanctuary is a species-based approach to manage the humpback whales. It's doing a great job and should not be expanded into an ecosystem-based approach. This should be left for the state to determine in the traditional ahapuaa – mountain to ocean – process.
- The sanctuary is doing its job well and whales are recovering. No further action is needed. Why try to fix something that isn't broken? Just because an organization is doing well, does not mean it should expand and grow to become a bigger bureaucracy. In times of skyrocketing deficits, we should focus our efforts on smaller, locally managed areas – perhaps something based on the traditional Hawaiian ahapuaa – mountain to ocean – style of management. It should not be a top-down bureaucratic model where the federal government essentially dictates to the locals what they should do.
- the sanctuary program has a clear mandate for ocean stewardship. Part of this stewardship must include, where appropriate, the responsible preservation and protection of submerged cultural resources of significant value
- The sanctuary should expand to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Heritage education is valuable to Natives.
- The sanctuary should go up the mountain, ahupuaa system. Go up the hill. (injection wells, feral ungulates)
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. It's clear that the whales are doing fine, expanding is not going to help the whales anymore, only hurt the people of Hawaii.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. Inshore state waters should be managed by the state (DLNR Aquatic Resources). Such a

sanctuary WILL incite a riot because it will destroy Hawaii's fishing and water-related culture! Let Hawaii's people manage Hawaii.

- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. We Hawaiians have fishing rights here in Hawaii.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. As stated above,, it's completely unrelated! Also, if we are unable
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. Expansion of the sanctuary, thus limiting access to the ocean would be detrimental to Hawaiian cultural heritage.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. Hamper or destroy Hawaii's ocean and shoreline cultures ---> There WILL be trouble based on the conversation surrounding this issue.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. Hawaiian rights.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. Hawaiians knew and understood the issues of conservation and practiced this idea religiously. Have should have kept this practice alive!!
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. Heads of this project management plan should complete extensive research on the Hawaiian culture and specific areas of culture must be discussed.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. If everyone can continue their lifestyle without too many rules and regulations but follow and obey the rules, cultural heritage will prevail.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. In off thinking.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. Specifics needed, seems to vague. Cultural practitioners input would be preferred.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. The sanctuary should be focused on live sentient beings who's survival is being threatened by human activity.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. This has nothing to do with the whale sanctuary,, and it shouldn't be involved in your "vision."
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. We are 100% for preservation of "all things Hawaiian" but the oversight should remain with the state not the federal government
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. Trying to use the Hawaiians as usual.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Currently we are competing with seals for resources. Monk seals are not native to the islands current laws give monk seals more protection than they deserve.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Monk seals are not native to Hawaii - they were brought here.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Monk seals are NOT native to Hawaii. It's only in recent years anyone has heard about monk seals. I am 69 years old. My father was a fisherman. In all his years of fishing and in my years of fishing we never heard of or encountered monk seals. Only in recent years have they appeared here. And they are a problem for stealing fish from the net my son sets.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Not indigenous!
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. You brought the seals here. Take them back.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. Hawaiian eat turtles so if can make season with bag limit.

- The sanctuary...is a prime location for potentially significant submerged cultural resources. From early Polynesian explorers, to the 19th century whaling trade, to the islands' role in World War II, Hawaii's maritime heritage is truly unique.
- The sites could create outreach and educational benefits for students, researchers, and the general public in Hawaii's Maritime & Cultural Heritage, Marine Architecture, Marine Archaeology, Marine Biology, and History.
- the state of Hawaii has a unique connection to the ocean with great natural and cultural resources.
- The University of Hawaii Marine Option Program has been conducting maritime archaeology field schools since the early 1990's. Most of these were under the coordination of Dr. Hans Van Tilburg, maritime heritage coordinator, NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program. A MOP/Sanctuary Program partnership through such a field school would allow us to offer our students opportunities in underwater archaeology, and would help the Sanctuary map and document its cultural sites.
- there are many cultural resources that should be managed on parity with natural resources
- There should be no "no access" zones. Do not take away our food resources my we Hawaiians. We live off the land and it include the ocean that we using right now for our food on our tables.
- There should be no "no access" zones. You don't have the right to take away our access to the ocean, even on private islands like Niihau. Its the rights of the people of Hawaii to use OUR ocean.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Fishing falls under the catagory of Native gathering rights.
- There should be no "no take" zones. More enforcemtn is needed of all the present rules. More Hawaiians on the DAR board. Review the "kapu system" it worked and is sustainable.
- There should not be "no take" fishing zones. Utilizing cultural fishing practices would be more effective.
- There was no mention of whether or not the Ocean Resources Management Plan adopted in 1994 has been updated with respect to traditional and cultural rights.
- Traditionally Hawaiians had a fishing program of certain times on and off, is that [kapu] system viable for the sanctuary? eg On the East coast of the US there is a system for lobsters. Was the [kapu] system good? Could the sanctuary implement it?
- Underwater cultural heritage sites (native Hawaiian), consider land-based cultural heritage sites that border sanctuary.
- Unsure about expanding to include Hawaiian cultural heritage-increase input of Hawaiians on various boards
- Unsure if sanctuary should expand to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Depends on what cultural aspects you are looking at. It is the Hawaiians culture. Be careful on what you decided. Tread lightly.
- Unsure if the sanctuary should include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Unsure but if people here in Hawai'i live off food from the ocean and from the mountain. How does Hawaiian cultural Heritage work itself into a whale sanctuary.
- Unsure to expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian cultural heritage - I don't know what you are trying to do.
- Unsure to expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian cultural heritage - Not sure on what Hawaiian Cultural Heritage means. Need clarification on this issue.
- Until and unless we begin to truly understand and embrace the integrity and necessity of protecting and preserving the finite resources entrusted upon us, where ever we may be on planet Earth, we will ultimately diminish, if not destroy the essence of all. This is the lesson and the legacy of our host culture, the kanaka maoli.
- Wants to see carcass taken out to sea. Muster assistance from community and partners.

- We as Hawaiians need the ocean to sustain our family.
- We believe that if submerged cultural resources are included in the Sanctuary's management plan, these significant and irreplaceable historic properties will receive the level of protection that they deserve.
- We feel education can be accomplished by the State of Hawaii and if the Federal Government would be willing to fund the State of Hawaii in their efforts to protect the marine resources and educate the public, then that would be very welcomed.
- We have to start applying Hawaiian knowledge of handling things. It cannot be 100% old ways because it is a new time and we have to adjust accordingly but in a Hawaiian mindset which naturally was sharing and caring, "for all" not just those we want to share and care about.
- We highly welcome your efforts and suggest that the kona district of Kaua'i's watershed master plan be adopted and identify that these areas are already encumbered by cultural native inhabitants of stewardship and practitioners that monitor and maintain their native habitat and its inhabitants and the regional watersheds (Le., coast, ocean, estuary, endemic and indigenous inhabitants and biota, minerals, submerged resources and lands, within, above, and all processes thereof) for many centuries and implement policies to adhere to pre-existing cultural watershed management plan to your current administrative policies and rules. As we continue to implement our management plans for the kona district of Kaua'i and our native population naturally grows, we welcome your efforts in our common goals. Since we are currently updating our 1994 legacy watershed plan for our implementation action plan 2010-2020, we humbly ask for your support and hope that we can work together to accomplish our mutual efforts of friendly cooperation.
- we must consider that submerged cultural resources are non-renewable and deserve to be protected.
- We recommend that the HIHWNMS Plan review process include a consideration of management tools for cultural resources.
- What about protecting and conserving living HAWAIIAN peoples and their ways of life? Protecting and conserving other living marine resources and submerged cultural heritage resources should NOT put a limit or destroy the culture and way of Hawaiians, Hawaii, or its visitors.
- What are underwater Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. This needs more attention before changing things.
- What would happen if we saw animals differently? Not as a resources (change language – avoid the use of the word resource)
- When attending a meeting on Oct 5 and listening what might occur and what has already occurred by NOAA I got upset! In a good sense to where it is my obligation (kul[e]ana) to see that noaa will not accomplish their mission. With the guideness of the akua and the power of the people we will join as one to void this mission. noaa needs to redirect their mission toward education not the limitations to our lifestyle. I am a descendant of my ancestors. It is my birthright, and my obligation to malama from the mountain to the sea. I as kanaka have the right to gather food from mother ocean and to provide to my ohana and community as long as i live. With the power invested in me from the great akua.
- Why is Hawaiian Cultural being considered as being added into the whale sanctuary? Frankly, our haole children have a local culture without a real "home" I think we should include them somehow too!
- Why not protect all we can? Native Hawaiian Kapu system reference.
- Within the sanctuary there are many cultural resources
- Would NOAA care to include "pre-contact" and historical sites that have been subject to subsidence. What of sites such as ko'a and so-called submerged heiau that were placed there beneath the water's surface in times past?

OCEAN LITERACY*Ocean Literacy: General Comments*

- Accurate monk seal information needs to reach all ocean users including surfers, paddlers, boaters, swimmers, snorkelers, divers, fishers, educators, students, and tourists.
- Acoustic impacts: the Sanctuary should take a more activist role and be more pro-active. Sanctuary should educate the community on the impact of noise by marine vessels and impact of military activities. Dr. Pack's information/talks should be shared more widely.
- Action plans for species groups could then identify strategies and measures to help conserve species of special management concern, while overarching topics, such as assisting with responses to stranded or distressed marine mammals or sea turtles, developing broad public outreach and education activities, and promoting and maintaining cooperation among key agency and group partners, also might be addressed under separate action plans
- Add coral! (to protect and educate about) Education programs need to continue.
- add the insular Hawaii population of false killer whales as a Sanctuary resource...should be the highest priority among cetaceans for inclusion...
- Add the science to the messaging (building on previous comment.)
- Address need for MPA's – there are none in Hawai'i. Expand boundaries/regulations in keeping with MPA's, will establish baseline of ocean health for future. This is not identified in SOS report but it IS an emerging issue.
- Address the fears of the people (such as fishermen, public, etc.)
- Adopt a whale, turtle etc program in schools
- Algae are increasing because the fish that keep them in check are being over-fished by spear fishing. I've observed this and heard it from scientists in the Hilo community. Need to find a way to educate local fishermen to rotate fishing sites so don't over-use.
- All your focus needs to go to keeping the national ban on whaling in effect. We are on board to protect them and help in the efforts to disentangle, educate all whom interact with these whales.
- also increased opportunity for more information and education
- Although people are interested in whales and indeed in dolphins but other species are just as important as the larger, impressive ones and people should realise that, education is the best way to do so.
- Aquaculture hasn't been around long so perhaps education is needed to ensure it is done in an environmentally responsible way. It has potentially great implications as a food supply and can be done without antibiotics and in a more healthy way and can replenish fish stocks (in the future). Sanctuary could be involved in giving aquaculture farms better direction in how to do it responsibly/naturally/sustainably. Applying traditional knowledge could help achieve these goals.
- Are fishing no take zones really effective? . Education is key
- Are monk seals from here originally?
- Areas where Hawaiian knowledge could and should be easily implemented would be education and outreach. I would advise hiring a Hawaiian education specialist to develop curriculum and provide outreach. It would be important to hire someone with substantial Hawaiian cultural knowledge and strong ties to the local community.
- As an Island community we are also critically reliant on maritime transportation, which to this day is not well understood or appreciated by the community
- As far as add different species to the sanctuary there will be a great impact on the public that go to the ocean as source for food there families. The species listed will impact the sanctuary horizontally

(the whale sanctuary affect the area vertically) and will broaden the area all the way to above the high water mark and limit the use of the area by the public. So I feel educate first!

- AS far as I'm concerned there's no Hawaiian monk seal, just Haole monk seal.
- As human population scientist it is essential to educate public & protect entire ecosystem to truly protect whales.
- Balance is key. Connection of being "own enforcer" lost. Education programs that teach sustainable practices and traditional practices.
- Be a spotlight for issues like water quality and possible solutions.
- Beach clean ups: make it cool to pick up debris.
- Biggest loss of regulations isn't to charter business but a loss to the world when people can't experience these animals first hand.
- Challenge to have users understand about sanctuary and regulations.
- Concerned about MPR process because it looks a lot like expansion of NWHI. Bunch of new laws and regulations
- Concerns from observing what's happening in sanctuary, what efforts are being made related to enforcement? If expansion, how to enforce? Main Hawaiian Islands are the concern of most people.
- Connecting what happens on the land to what happens on the water will help strengthen and protect all life in the environment – Ecosystem-based management.
- Connections to all living things should be taught at early age
- Consider directing less funding towards student programs, public events and awareness campaigns which are less effective tools for direct conservation efforts. Increasing opportunities to disseminate regulatory information to the commercial entities that operate in the ocean will likely result in greater value.
- Consult the experts. Plankton is square one. Unhealthy plankton = unhealthy oceans. Protect from beginning of ecological chain. Need to address cause of problem and understand the science behind the problems. Sanctuary management needs to be from bottom (i.e. plankton) up. Identify the causes and roots to address them in management. Educate the kids about the causes and how to prevent the issues. Go after the root of the problem. Make sure the emphasis gets at the problem. Passion is not enough.
- Continue education programs, add a mentoring program to keep kids in Hawaii.
- Continuing efforts at public education regarding animal interactions, particularly with visitors, remain valuable.
- Coral reef – keeping healthy is a priority and sanctuary can do education
- Create awareness about ecosystem (not just a 'resource')
- currently the mission of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, which manages shallow waters around the main islands, is limited to only conducting outreach and education for humpback whales. All of Hawaii's marine species need protection. The Sanctuary could provide a vital service -- not just educating people about whales, but also actually protecting all marine wildlife in its boundaries and their habitats. please include conservation and management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats
- Dear Congress, I would like the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to become a place where people can learn about all of Hawaii's marine mammals and be a sanctuary for all the species that live there.
- Details of the Rehab/visitor center
- Disappointed at turnout at meeting. PSA's should be done on other TV channels.
- Discover/education center would be a valuable educational tool

- Diversifying your mission by including the study of significant maritime archaeology sites would strengthen the Sanctuary's role in the community and would bring more visibility to your program and to ours. If you do this, the Sanctuary, MOP and the state of Hawaii will reap the benefits. We hope that you give this serious consideration.
- Do a plan for education centers on each island not just offices to increase accessibility to the community for education.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include coral reef. - Many locals know how fragile reefs and coral systems are, but not many tourists do. I think making them aware will help this out too.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include coral reef. Coral reef destroyed by turtles, pollution, hurricanes remember we had (2). Those who use and not educated how to take and live the roots.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include dolphins. We don't need to add dolphins to the sanctuary - just use the money to educate people on how to behave around dolphins.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals - Since the days of the ancient Hawaiians, there were no monk seals on the Main Hawaiian Islands. Information on this has been past down through the generations, also there have been no archeological evidence to prove they were in the main islands. There is no Hawaiian name to the monk seal like there is honu for the turtle.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - We need more education about urban run-off and agricultural practices that are the real culprits of reef destructions
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Dolphins are doing just fine. Supply the community with numbers and facts. No expansion.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Monk seals are not even native to main Hawaiian Islands. But brought here from the north western islands and released back into wild here.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Monk seals population is expanding toward the Hawaiian Islands. No record or evidence of monk seals in Hawaiian history. Monk seals would further depths fish populations.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - They were brought here illegally take them back.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals are not indigenous to Hawaii. We all know the damaging effects that the monk seals do, feeding off the reef resources. Conveniently blaming the people for overfishing. We as locals see the effects since they conveniently showed up.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. No credible facts that the monk seal is being harmed from humans.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. The "Hawaiian" monk seals are not even indigenous to Hawaii and are doing good with the laws that are already there.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. The monk seals aren't even native to the islands.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Existing law is adequate. Continue on educating people especially tourists.
- Don't prevent people from getting close to whales because education is the most efficient when people can get close (life changing experience)
- Don't think it is locals only using the resources. How are you going to educate them (including people from other countries)? How can the sanctuary address this through education?
- Educate captains with possible certifications to operate boats and approaching whales.
- Educate people on threats to whales. Post data in whale vessel interactions online
- Educate to the community to bring their own bas for trash
- Education - great to have Whales on Wheels (WOW) program that travels.
- Education and enforcement can work hand in hand

- Education and enforcement should be more the priority. Do more to educate everyone (teach our children) and make more of a presence for enforcement in the ocean.
- Education and outreach critical for kids and community to inform and understand about sanctuary so there's buy-in. Children need to be involved
- education and outreach to raise awareness and stewardship of the resource, would only enhance NOAA's already exceptional national reputation as a leader in underwater cultural heritage
- Education and self policing will not work as the users or abusers only see it on their terms..... how these sanctuaries inconvenience them and the things they want to do commercially or recreationally. Man is the only organism on this planet that can adjust its lifestyle to protect and enhance the survival of other species, if mankind cannot see that, someday in the future, humans on this planet will regret it and wonder why we did not do more. Make more sanctuaries and include more species in them.
- Education is important, operators and captains need to know where 100 yards is and need to learn methods of approaching and positioning your boat without stressing whales. Need to learn what different whale behavior means.
- Education is key component for all ocean users including fishermen to increase awareness. Shoreline fishing is not very good anymore
- Education is the best way to protect all the so called endangered species. Here in Hawaii the people are aware and care for there resources.
- Education is the key to the proliferation of all species on this planet as well a humans we need to work together stop fingering the fishermen as the culprits. We are just feeding our families and protect our way of life and our culture.You need to educate the public and they will be the worker bees.
- Education of people on whales monk seals etc would be better than stopping ocean use. Hawaii is an ocean culture. Local people depend on it for food. The rich and greedy want these islands for their own retirement playground. Pretty soon locals going be an endangered species.
- Education of the masses seems more of a realistic solution. Sustainability is the key.
- Education that goes around the whole island (idea: a mural that is constructed of pieces that cover large animals placed in different towns). Need a wide breadth of education.
- Education vs. enforcement
- Education- what types of outreach and education does the sanctuary do? Would be interested in learning more about what the sanctuary's outreach and education projects.
- Educational information be provided to recreational users of this site to reduce potential for interaction and harm to these creatures.
- Enforcement – find ways to police ourselves through education rather than having law enforcement involved. Sanctuary can help with education.
- Enforcement – not easily recognized, people aren't aware that it exists, not a big deal to break the rules because they are not enforced. Need to have a boat on the water with logo, need to be visible.
- Enforcement in Monterey Bay and Florida Keys – not always giving a ticket, but can help educate users on how they are breaking the rules, can be a source of knowledge.
- Expand education and outreach / lots of misinformation. Include education on fishing. Regulations on fishing not good idea; overcomplicated.
- Expand education program to local leaders, tourism industry-and have outreach to them on regular basis.
- Expand educational programs to promote voluntary compliance with regulations
- Expand sanctuary scope to include their resources, for example corals. Federal money for sanctuary is bringing money to this community, this is good.

- Expand the conservation and outreach efforts of the HIHWNMS to include Hawai'i 's other marine mammals, specifically the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal.
- Expand the stated goals of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan to officially include conservation and outreach efforts for Hawaii's other marine mammals and sea turtles, specifically the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal and threatened Hawaiian green sea turtle.
- Expand to include all animals that life on the reef, turtles and monk seals. Expand to include coral reefs and education on coral reefs. Needs more protection because coral reefs are dying.
- Expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage-every person should be knowledgable about the culture
- Fear: Expansion will mean no say; that the sanctuary will then be a government entity. Managing the protection of animals needs to be done so scientifically.
- Fishermen need to know who to call in case of a rescue; expand rescue team: more education/information about the rescue team
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Hawaiian monk seals: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support studies to assess and monitor population trends, prey preferences and foraging habitats, and/or at -sea habitat-use patterns; (b) carry out public outreach and education programs targeting grade school children, recreational fishermen, swimmers and divers, beach-goets, and tourists; (c) coordinate volunteer networks on one or more islands to respond to seals that haul out on crowded beaches and need protection from disturbance by people; and (d) respond to distressed seals, such as abandoned pups, or seals that are sick, injured, hooked, or entangled in fishing nets or debris.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Humpback whales: Continue ongoing sanctuary programs to (a) support research on the status of the population, (b) disentangle whales caught in fishing gear, (c) promote international collaboration on protecting whales in different portions of their range; and (d) implement public outreach and education programs on whales and measures to minimize impacts associated with whale watching and vessel traffic. In addition, the sanctuary should develop regulations limiting vessel speeds in specific areas where collision risks with whales, particularly cow-calf pairs, are greatest.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Spinner dolphins: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support research and monitoring studies to assess the abundance and trends of spinner dolphin populations and the impact of dolphin-watching tour vessels, private boats, and divers on spinner dolphin habitat-use patterns, (b) conduct public outreach and education programs on spinner dolphins and needed protection measures, (c) develop a mandatory permit program with rules of conduct for guided dolphinwatching tour operators, and (d) if ongoing studies demonstrate that closing areas of bays is a useful approach for reducing sources of disturbance for resting dolphins, develop regulations to establish safe, undisturbed spinner dolphin resting areas.
- Foster programs that monitor water quality around the islands if NOAA isn't doing it directly to address root cause of marine health issues.
- From personal experience I can say that sport divers -- often with considerable experience and special skills like underwater photography -- who are willing to accept training can become powerful

advocates for natural and cultural preservation. This includes divers who may previously have looted shipwrecks or removed corals or other aquatic species. They can become protective agents toward the very reefs and wrecks they damaged in the past.

- Goal is cross-cultural education and management. Need total buy-in by inviting input from traditional practitioners and go around to all communities.
- Good job with raising awareness. Ecosystem-based management: fishing interactions nearshore rec. fish, other species, actions within boundaries, dolphin excursions address, sea turtle interaction, multi-species / resource violation, entanglement.
- Ha'ena Makai Watch program and volunteers be provided with educational and outreach information about the dolphins and be encouraged to provide observation.
- Hanai, adopt something whale or dolphin into your family – will see differently – sanctuary can promote message with tour companies
- Have publicity on major news station and it will get out more to the general public rather than just those already interested and plugged into relevant/related listserves.
- Hawaii's monk seals, dolphins and green sea turtles are in serious danger. But currently the mission of the HIHWNMS, which manages shallow waters around the main Hawaiian Islands, is limited to only conducting outreach and education for humpback whales. Little attention is given to other species that live there. All of Hawaii's marine species need protection. The sanctuary could provide a vital service--not just educating people about whales, but also actually protecting all marine wildlife in its boundaries and their habitats. Increase the scope of the Sanctuary's mission to include conservation & management of monk seals, dolphins, sea turtles and their habitats.
- HIHWNMS could become a place where people can learn about all of Hawai'i 's marine mammals and be a sanctuary for all of the species that live there.
- Holoholo, Andys, Blue Dolphin Charters help educating tourist. They should work with Schools. Should collaborate with schools with field trips
- How many wrecks are in the sanctuary? If going to include, need to provide more information in handouts. Is it worthwhile to include?
- How will the listing status review of the humpback whale affect the sanctuary?
- However, I do support the on-going education and outreach elements of the existing sanctuary charter which reads in part: "The primary focus of such efforts lies in educating the public about existing regulations that protect humpback whales, enhancing the enforcement of these laws, and working cooperatively with other agencies to increase awareness of humpbacks and their habitat. " and, including the other species for this purpose is commendable. Sanctuary boundaries are not needed to conduct such education and outreach efforts.
- Humpback whale recovery rate should be stated in the presentation. Recover of humpback whales since the sanctuary was established is good. Why reach out to include more?
- I agree that education is big
- I agree that the HIHWMS' original efforts to promote public education and outreach should be continued, with or without the HIHWMS, to further protect and conserve endangered species.
- I always feel that in any situation education is the first step I take. I say and do this because in many cases the public has been using and enjoy there activity in these area all there lives. To implement restrictions first is the wrong way do things.
- I am against the proposed "Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary" for Kaua'i.
- I am all for continuing education of the school kids and our tourist and local fishermen and ocean users. It is effective and you have done a fine job so far on this. I support the information center for the whale sanctuary. As a fisherman and a surfer and ocean user I have no issues with the whale sanctuary as it is now.

- I am for the present Status Quo and continuing educational resources
- I am opposed to too much administration cost. The best enforcement is one where everyone benefits by education of doing the right thing even when no one is there to ticket.
- I am writing to provide comments on the Management Plan Review for the Hawaiian Islands National Humpback Whale Marine Sanctuary, specifically to address the inclusion of an additional marine mammal species under the protection of the sanctuary, the resident population of “insular” false killer whales. Designation of the insular population of false killer whales under the sanctuary’s protection would be a valuable step in recovering this population. Sanctuary involvement would help in creating public awareness and support for conservation efforts and could provide scientific research that may ultimately reverse the decline of this magnificent and important species.
- I believe that the sanctuary must learn to better manage their existing jurisdiction through better community partnerships and educational programs that effectively include and integrate Hawaiian cultural knowledge before any jurisdiction expansion should be considered.
- I believe the public education and outreach can be realized without boundaries in the sand that may have un-intended consequences and or defacto prohibitions for fishermen, and other ocean users.
- I do not think it continues to serve the sanctuary to only serve a single species, rather it should provide programming, educational and outreach support for all protected species in the area.
- I have still to here or see any reason or study for the justifications for the proposed expansion of the whale sanctuary, what are the reasons? Where are the studies? What are the treats? I especially would like to here what threats that the local fishing community pose to the whales? therefore I feel very strong in my opposition towards expanding the whale sanctuary,
- I have still to here or see any reason or study for the justifications for the proposed expansion of the whale sanctuary, what are the reasons? Where are the studies? What are the treats? I especially would like to here what threats that the local fishing community pose to the whales? therefore I feel very strong in my opposition towards expanding the whale sanctuary,
- I know by talking to people and telling them that this problem (over fishing) is here and it will help to educate people who don't know about it.
- I say education is the key., not expansions and inclusions.
- I speak for my entire family when I say that this plan is very ill-advised. First of all, the 'Hawaiian' Humpback Whale is NOT native to Hawaii and neither is the 'Hawaiian' Monk Seal.
- I strongly urge the Sanctuary to consider engaging in the protection and management of our submerged cultural resources in a comprehensive fashion, addressing not just the inventory and assessment of naval resources within the Sanctuary (which will greatly assist our efforts to protect these sites), but also public outreach and education efforts, in order to raise awareness of these special resources and mitigate further threats.
- I think most of what the sanctuary has done has been effective. Charter boats have a lot of info to share, need more research and education. Sanctuary offers more opportunity for charter boat captains to get information from sanctuary (e.g., Ed Lyman).
- I truly appreciate all that you do for the magnificent Humpback. Please take all the knowledge and love of those creatures and help protect the rest of the ecosystem in which the humpbacks live. They all need your help. Money is tight I know, but education of the entire ecosystem could be added to the current systems you have in place. Thank you so much!
- I would also request that NOAA consider investing in efforts to increase communication and public awareness within the community so that the public will have a better understanding of the Sanctuary.
- I would encourage that NOAA take the time through this process (MPR) to clarify common misconceptions about the Sanctuary and the role it plays in protecting our marine species.

- I would like the HIHWNMS to become a place where people can learn about all of Hawai'i's marine mammals and be a sanctuary for all the species that live there.
- I would love to see the sanctuary much more involved in cultural matters and education about cultural matters.
- I would respectfully ask that you consider transferring full management over to the State of Hawaii and re-allocating our taxpayer dollars into areas that truly need help - Perhaps Education.
- I'm not against expanding to include other species. I'm just not sure if now is the time for it. Jobs – the education programs the sanctuary has been doing are great, but don't see it creating jobs for local people. There is still a lot of work to be done towards the original mission. Sanctuary should show results toward mission to protect whales. Still need to work to meet original goals. Sanctuary expansion does not seem to bring jobs and money to THIS community. If it were that would be great.
- I'm not convinced the sanctuary should expand to other species at this time. Look at the existing programs and make sure the sanctuary is really protecting humpback whales. Ecosystem-based approach makes sense. It's a good approach but may not be time (yet) to add other species at this time. More education on what the sanctuary already does so that people understand and to increase awareness.
- In the future there should be more outreach to let the people of the community that would be affected by the change or introduction of new laws!
- Inclusion of submerged cultural resources will allow NOAA and other agencies to develop better programs for public outreach and education pertaining to these significant resources.
- Increase dialogue with tour boat companies
- Increase number of species – would increase outreach & education, sanctuary should be involved
- Interested in outreach and education aspect of getting kids involved.
- Introduce education program such as D.A.R.E. program
- Involve kids in investigating/finding solutions to ocean issues.
- Is the sanctuary going to get more money to do education? There should be more education on the cultural Hawaiian practices towards whales.
- It's not easy to change people's minds about major issues like treasure hunting and the taking of marine species, but this kind of "hands-on" involvement is a proven and effective way to do it.
- It's not everybody that breaks or goes against your laws, but there are a few. But don't punish us for their stupidity and senselessness. We would still like to enjoy our shorelines and beaches for fishing and family outing and fun. And to teach the younger generation to do it the right way.
- Just like the Nene we have to have education and we do have to all live together. We cannot continue to care more about birds and sea creatures more than people.
- Key stakeholder is the younger generation.
- Launch island-wide effort to talk story with farmers and fishermen to discuss the connection between the land and the ocean and how one may influence the other.
- Like many other states, Hawaii could feature interpretive trails and vocational programs that involve the public directly in stewardship of our common maritime heritage
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 16knts. Small boat drivers can see whales and other animals so we avoid them sooner. I know I and maybe other boat captains look out for them.
- Local politics and fishing community does not want any restrictions: educate them as to why protection will help us all
- Make impacts of SONAR public. If NOAA has details, please share. After 10+ years of SONAR being around there should be a scientific consensus. We need more definitive answers on the impacts.

- Making sure people are aware of water quality issues and agencies responsible is a way sanctuary can help. Injection wells are beyond the scope of the sanctuary responsibility (regulations) but maybe it can help other agencies with the issue. Research and cooperation, not regulation in addressing water quality and effects on reef. Sanctuary can document changes over time, make sure public and agencies are aware of that.
- Maybe some people wouldn't care because they don't eat fish, but if they knew about how it (over fishing) would affect them in other ways they would want to help protect our oceans.
- Mentioning an educational campaign on the website and holding a vessel management workshop in 2003 with no follow-up is not sufficient to protect whales from ship strikes. Rules and enforcement are needed to address this expanding problem.
- Migration of whales through the marine debris patch in the ocean gyre. Need to educate about plastics.
- money may best be spent to educate
- Monk seals are not from the Hawaiian Islands.
- More education programs – preschool to college level – main component in curriculum
- More education the better, education is more important than regulations.
- More people should be made aware of issue of sea snails being taken just for their shells. Clinton reg. passed a law preventing collecting. Sanctuary should put out a pamphlet explaining this for the public.
- Most people don't know what the sanctuary boundaries are. Need to increase education and outreach on sanctuary in general and also on management plan review process.
- My solitary complaint in this (maritime heritage) area remains the fact that there is no set of procedures for "civilians" to access the Papahānaumokuākea Marine Sanctuary...
- National Marine Fisheries Service listing status review of the humpback whale – how will it affect the sanctuary?
- Native Hawaiian knowledge and participation should be integrated into all areas of the sanctuary, most importantly: Resource Protection, Education and Outreach, Science, Management, Maritime Heritage
- Need education about spinner dolphins and pilot whales, they are nocturnal and need to rest during the day.
- Need federal enforcement officers on each island. Include federal officers and community education similar to the Florida Keys.
- Need more clarity of the boundaries. The current boundaries are difficult to enforce and the public does not understand the boundaries. The original boundary should be re-looked to simplify enforcement and clarify where the sanctuary is to the public.
- Need on-airlines education to captive audience (whales, honu, monk seals, reefs)
- Need to do education/outreach differently—more positively—focus on how the sanctuary can help Hawaii, and reach out to different ocean users.
- Need to educate visitors/residents with constantly updated information.
- Need to give information/education through “whales on wheels” new program or other education opportunities
- Need to reach out to the wider community-about the sanctuary itself as a special place (more than just whales). Instill a sense of ownership, “sense of place”
- Needs to be better education about MMPA, differences with the whales and dolphins.
- No expand to include corals-overdevelopment and too much tourism is the cause of reef damage. Nothing to do with Sanctuaries.

- No expand to include monk seals-they are overabundant. They are beginning to upset balance with man and other species. And they are not indigenouse to Hawaii
- No expand to include seals- first of all I never heard of seals in Hawaiian history. So in reality they are an invasive species. Again federal laws are enough. Anything more is a waste of resources
- No expand to include seals- monk seals are a nuisance they should take all of them to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.Not indegionous
- No expand to include seals- monk seals are not native to here. They were brought here
- No expand to include seals- public education on monk seals haas been extremely successful in protecting the seals so why include them except again for government control
- No expand to include seals- seals were introduced in the northern Hawaiian Islands. No Sanctuary
- No expand to include seals-monk seals are not even native to Hawaii
- No expand to include seals-monk seals should be taken back to the Northern Hawaiian islands. Seals wasn't here before
- No not-take zones. Kids need to learn balance/sustainability and how to be enforcers through education on sustainable fishing.
- No vessel speed limit-ban whale watching or limit boats. Make sure all captains of vessels involved be more alert and have responsibility to the fullest
- NOAA should provide free educational classes to update the community on the marine life being harmed. Show the people why it is needed and show proof (show the research done, not just statistics).
- NOAA should provide good communications with the real people who live in Hawaii and provide enough time to notify them of a meeting held on each island.
- NOAA's researchers...have always acknowledged (MHR information)donors, usually after augmenting the information and sharing it with all interested parties...at least in Hawaii
- NOAA's support of the University of Hawaii's Marine Option Program summer field school's course in maritime archaeological techniques has not only provided training in this field, but again has helped develop interest in our maritime history amongst the general public
- Not enough cross-cultural education. Need bigger picture of other perspectives of ocean. Sanctuary represents all the different cultures of ocean users and the sanctuary needs to keep this in mind in education and management.
- Ocean Fair is much missed. Teacher workshops, exhibitors, materials were invaluable. Fair should be re-established and be held over 2 days. Friday for students on field trips, student workshops. Saturday open to the public, teacher workshops...
- One of the worst threats to whales is Naval SONAR. The Sanctuary is doing nothing to step up and protect the whales from SONAR. SONAR does not respect boundaries.
- One part we will support is the on going education and outreach program to protect the HB Whales, maintaining the efforts for the existing regulations and enforcement, and working with the community to be aware of the HB Whale and their habitat.
- Outreach is critical for sanctuary
- Outreach to user groups and stakeholders should be custom tailored to each user group or stakeholder. Pick the top 5 user groups/stakeholders and generate newsletters that address specific concerns of those stakeholders. If the sanctuary generates 2 newsletters per year for 5 stakeholder groups, that is 10 newsletters. That is not much to ask for. Example one each targeted newsletter for (1) fishermen, (2) ocean recreation, (3) Native Hawaiian culture, (4) education, (5) tourism.
- Over population of monk seals in the MHI could be a disaster to our reefs lobsters, reef fish!
- Overall emphasis should be research and education. The best managed population is the one that is the best educated. Education is less costly than enforcement and fosters understanding.

- Perception of distance (100 yards) from shore is difficult to estimate. People might think a boat is breaking the rules when they are not.
- Pertaining to the water: education, participation; traditional ways.
- Please ensure that the primary focus of the sanctuary remains education and research.
- Please expand the scope of Hawaii's Sanctuary to include the protection of this unique marine mammal and include in this expansion an adequate budget to assist in a comprehensive outreach and education program within the Hawaii Sanctuary Management Plan to build awareness of the critically endangered Hawaiian monk seal.
- please include in this expansion an adequate budget to build a comprehensive outreach and education program for Hawaii's unique and diverse ocean life and more funding for enforcement of our protection laws.
- Please provide the public the proof from NOAA (research notes, studies taken in Hawaii and all other related notes by researchers) because without it the public can't make an educated decision.
- PONO supports the vision, planning and building of marine healthcare facilities and ocean educational centers throughout the Main Hawaiian Islands.
- possible need for salt water fishing licenses which would enable State of Hawaii DOCARE officers to inspect coolers and other closed containers, maximum and minimum size catch limits and the need for additional educational signage.
- Promote public awareness, understanding, and support for marine life, marine ecosystems, and related conservation measures
- Protecting these other species, and educating people about them, is another way to honor the gifts of the ocean in Hawaii's Marine Sanctuary.
- Protection of and education about all of the Islands mammals is crucial to the maintenance of respect for marine life.
- Public education and outreach should however continue to further protect and conserve endangered species.
- Public is upset about inc. restrictions – little understanding, info/regs coming from the outside. Get community buy-in by engaging them in the science, coming up with regulations and process and enforcement.
- Putting enforcement in writing no good—only put in regulations you can really enforce. Seen a renewed vigor in DOCARE. Currently there is an environment of ignoring rules. Education is preferable to enforcement. Regulations need to be enforceable.
- [Re: 15 CFR chapter 9 subpart Q)] sanctuary documents words are wishy washy, not consistent with 15 CFR 9 (Q). Mission statement needs to be clearly defined based on legislation.
- Re: false killer whales, The Sanctuary could be helpful in assisting the understanding of the operation of these fisheries within its waters. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) recently convened a take reduction team to recommend measures to reduce impacts from the longline fisheries. However, the take reduction team, of which the Humane Society of the U.S. is an appointed member, heard information that additional impacts may accrue from interactions with shortline and kaka line fisheries operating in their range, though data on these fisheries are sparse.
- [RE: Hawaiian Cultural Heritage: Expand the Sanctuary to include] Need more info.
- Recognize the effort that the sanctuary has put into researching humpback whales. Grateful for all the sanctuary efforts to reach our stakeholders and provide them with information.
- Research and education are critical
- Sanctuary can also bring awareness to aquarium fish trade: whose issue is it? It needs to be dealt with.
- Sanctuary has been doing a great job. I love all of the education projects and would like to see more.

- Sanctuary needs to be involved in protecting Hawaiian culture. Teach cultural heritage, cultural education/outreach to non-native Hawaiians.
- Sanctuary needs to get more involved with Hawaiian culture – classes and informational meetings.
- Sanctuary should compare current data on marine environmental health (water quality, ...) to historical records and make available to the public.
- Sanctuary should have cultural programs that provide jobs and internships specifically for locals.
- Sanctuary should help operators to provide educational materials to educate people. Operators are on the water every day, they work with the people who live it. Use operators as a resource, they are willing to help.
- Sanctuary skews reports of direct human effects vs. non-direct human effects. To gain credibility with ocean users, the Sanctuary and NOAA would do well to differentiate the harm caused by direct human interaction with a given species (such as a human poaching turtles or shooting seals) as opposed to indirect human interaction (such as agricultural run-off or discarded fish nets). The amount of actual harm caused criminals intent on killing or injuring seals compared to the actual harm caused by indirect human action is insignificant!
- Sanctuary staff should use Olelo and other stations ot let the community know what they are doing.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Stop getting ridiculous stupid. The best volunteer is the educator. Like I said, don't know how and when no fish! maybe we should volunteer and [illegible word] people who like fish and eat no what sizes is suitable, but need to tell when our economy sucks, losing jobs, and they starving.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. We should spend less money on sanctuary areas and spend it on education.
- Saving and making our island waters a sanctuary is no the answer. Education is,
- Science and education should be done in traditional Hawai'ian context (i.e., ahupua'a concept).
- Sharks and sea horses, two of the most threatened and rapidly depleting types of marine life, share those waters. This is a great chance to educate visitors about them too, especially in Hawaii where sales (many illegal) of shark and seahorse derived souvenirs are still common.
- Should create a webpage for amateur observers to identify different whales by distinguishing features.
- Should have a website to report abuse or injury to turtles
- Should have a year of celebration – gatherings, music, etc...to celebrate the relationship between the ocean and the land.
- Should look at traditional practices for management (eg species management). Look into traditional management for specific species. Look into oli for information on species movement. Traditional knowledge is an untapped resource for active management. Should partner with Hawaiian language schools and find students interested in doing cultural projects. There is a huge, huge wealth of information in the newspapers (Hawaiian language). The kapuna knew it would be lost, so they learned to read and write to document the knowledge.
- [Should the sanctuary vision include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels.] ["rapidly increasing populations of most of the species listed in the Sanctuary's...those laws and regulations are working, but there is no purpose"] Which laws are they referring to? Again, false, mis-leading information-not pono to be mis-informing people with false information.
- Should use modern technology to reach more students, especially because of the lack of visitor centers. Should use web and technology to communicate with students on a regular basis. eg

Education on vessel noise and its impacts on species. Patty Miller used to run a KidScience program, should use her as a resources to start up a similar program in the sanctuary to get students to participate and communicate sanctuary activities to the constituents. Need more out of the box thinking about how you do education.

- Since all sea life exists within an expansive ecosystem, it makes no sense to single out just one species for education, conservation and protection. By expanding the reach of your action by including dolphins, turtles and seals, you will assure that the necessary environmental balance is maintained which assures the health of the whales and the success of your project.
- Smokey Bear – need a catchy phrase or mascot. Develop a catchy slogan or memorable saying to further the education message. Have a teacher (DOE) running Whales on Wheels program with hands-on education (e.g., water quality testing), ahupua'a ownership of students, and track results over time (years).
- So much more could be done with respect to preservation, inventory, outreach and education if the scope of the HIHWNMS's responsibilities were expanded to include maritime heritage.
- SONAR/Naval exercises. Are there regulations within the boundaries on these topics? If no regulations, why not?
- Spearfishing is a major problem. It damages corals and turtles get entangled in line. Need outreach to fishermen. Need to educate fishermen, especially the younger population. Fish and coral abuse for too long cannot be sustained. Need more enforcement to protect the environment and possible closure to give environment a break from pressure.
- Spell out the details of the sanctuary management plan for the public.
- Spend monies on education, not on erecting more sanctuaries. There are already enough rules that can't or aren't enforced, we don't need more rules.
- Start education; "the younger the better." Need more outreach, harbor outreach/educational resources. Educate people before they use the ocean.
- Stripping fuel. Large ship oil stripping (every ship larger than 300 feet long) – every big ship operating today strips fuel and trash out at sea. Oil dumped directly into water. Sanctuary needs to address large problems. Need to go after the big problems, e.g., gill nets, oil stripping ... Need to educate about large problems.
- Suggestion: Commercial permit holders be informed about the use of this area by these protected creatures, provide education to their employees and customers.
- Suggestion: Commercial permits holders be informed about the potential disturbance of protected, stressed or resting animals.
- Take MPR to the people: a. To all communities, b. Through newspaper ads to solicit input with information on how to do so, c. Through personal phone calls
- Taking on other stuff may shoot the sanctuary in the foot. Taking on so much because the resources are so vast you run the risk of not completing the existing mandate. Public education can continue to be done without expanding the boundary and expanding the species. Are the economic resources available to expand?
- Thank you for all that you do to preserve the magnificent humpback... Humpback whales are majestic creatures so worthy of protection! Dolphins, monk seals and green sea turtles are also noble, ancient and indispensable creatures whose number, species and habitat should be protected. Please expand your outreach and education services in an effort to preserve the variety of these beautiful, delightful and God-given marine animals that make the ocean a bastion of life and hope for generations to come.
- The (false killer) whales comprise little more than 120 individuals, the remnant of what appears to have been a dramatic decline over the past twenty-five years.

- the (false killer) whales' core range includes the HIHWNS
- The Advisory Board for the Sanctuary must be representative of the entire community. The Advisory Board should be tasked with creating enforceable policies, with rules, and ensuring that funding for the Sanctuary includes effective regulatory oversight. The Sanctuary must have a transparent budget, and be accountable for all spending and funding decisions. The management plan should include a description of the formal role of the Advisory Board, and a strategy for implementing and enforcing policies and responsibilities of the Sanctuary.
- The Advisory Board for the sanctuary must be representative of the entire community. The Advisory Board should create enforceable policies and rules while also ensuring that funding for the Sanctuary includes effective regulatory oversight. The management plan should include a description of the formal role of the Advisory Board, and a strategy for implementing and enforcing policies and responsibilities of the Sanctuary.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. - I've been a captain over 25 years and have seen no direct impact if you want to save whales don't hunt them and over fish Krill the food they eat.
- The current humpback populations would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Because they don't give birth in Hawaii - they travel from the north to south.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The humpbacks were recovering well before the sanctuary. We need more education, not more sanctuary space.
- The general public needs to know more about the process; what is being done, what will be done, what can and cannot be done. The government should communicate with people on a people-level.
- The humpback whale sanctuary is really about education. That's fine. However, unless we are all going to be given government jobs then there should be no competition with local businesses whose livelihood depends upon the interest of visitors to be educated and safely introduced to the ocean environment. Do not consider killing or hampering jobs made by small businesses to enlarge the sanctuary unless there is a plan to have a very large staff. It's fine to have a resource center for the population who is disabled, or can't seem to get safely on a vessel for one reason or another. Otherwise allow the education to be paid for by visitors and have the \$\$ go directly in the local economy supporting small business.
- The Humpback Whale Sanctuary's educational programs for Hawaii residents and visitors have raised awareness of the whale's plight over the past two decades. We know that similar education and outreach would greatly benefit the monk seal.
- The inclusion of the seal in Hawaii's Whale Sanctuary would help to build the public awareness that is essential to the seal's recovery.
- The MKF supports the preservation of these resources, advancement of knowledge and gathering of scientific data, and educating the public
- The most daunting task of conducting archaeological investigations on the more remote reefs of the NWHI and sharing that information with the general public has been admirable.
- The sanctuary has proven to be an asset to the state. Agree we need to work together with partners. Education/outreach and research are important ways for the sanctuary to continue to help, it fills a need.
- The Sanctuary has the opportunity to leverage its education, outreach, and coordination resources and expand these support activities to better protect Hawaii's marine wildlife.
- The sanctuary is in nearshore waters close to humans. There has been an increase in unknown diseases in marine animals. We need more education to get the public to be more considerate of

what they're dumping. We need to evaluate and be concerned with the impact of oil and nonpoint source pollutants in the storm drain system.

- The Sanctuary may need other partners (eg State) to help with enforcement. There is currently no enforcement presence on the Big Island.
- The Sanctuary should be much more vocal and proactive about the serious threats to whales and all ocean life. Educate the public on the realities of the situation.
- The sanctuary should expand to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Heritage education is valuable to Natives.
- The sanctuary should expand to include monk seals. ["according to available information the population is growing and pup mortality is down in Human occupied areas"] This is blatant lying. Endless articles, public service announcements, local outreach provides the accurate information about their critical status and serious decline.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Have more education - example have environmental groups give free talks in hotels and resorts.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Our plantation are no longer in operation which limits runoff problems and human pollution is being addressed through education on being more responsible.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include dolphins. Dolphins are endangered do not need protection.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Currently we are competing with seals for resources. Monk seals are not native to the islands current laws give monk seals more protection than they deserve.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Monk seals are not native to Hawaii - they were brought here.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Monk seals are NOT native to Hawaii. It's only in recent years anyone has heard about monk seals. I am 69 years old. My father was a fisherman. In all his years of fishing and in my years of fishing we never heard of or encountered monk seals. Only in recent years have they appeared here. And they are a problem for stealing fish from the net my son sets.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Not indigenous!
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. You brought the seals here. Take them back.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. I think we should be more concern on over population since there huge feeders!
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. If whale populations gets too large they will starve. They will deplete their main source of food the "KRILL"
- The sites could create outreach and educational benefits for students, researchers, and the general public in Hawaii's Maritime & Cultural Heritage, Marine Architecture, Marine Archaeology, Marine Biology, and History.
- The website needs to be updated. the latest reports are a few years old and when one clicks on the PDF one only gets the first page abstract. Access to scientific documentation could be improved.
- Then you put the so-called Hawaiian Monk Seal into this Sanctuary. Where is the history of this seal ever being a animal indigent to the Hawaiian Islands. In my youth, there were no mention of monk seals. This animal was introduced to the Main Hawaiian Islands, and if they are not fairing right, it is because the environment here is not what they are accustomed to. Actually, the seal is more harmful to the fisherman, especially the divers, when encountered. In this case, the human species has no protection from the aggressive seals. The seals should be back in the Caribbean, where they originated.

- There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs.
- There is a need for heightened public awareness of these threats and to take preemptive measures to mitigate any negative impact on protected Hawaiian marine species. The Sanctuary has been, and continues to be, well-positioned to make positive contributions to these goals.
- There is way to make dolphin tours ok but not with regulations – regulations get people angry. Dolphin tours should self-regulate with cooperation, education.
- There should be a 3-digit emergency number to call that is easy to remember when at the beach to report something, eg “SEA” like a 911 for the ocean.
- There should be an emphasis on education and outreach to increase awareness and compliance give the limited resources.
- There should be increased education on whale avoidance. The boundary expansion could be good for tourism, but it doesn’t need to change anything (ie regulations, shipping lanes), but it should increase awareness of the animals.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Prove 1 whale death due to boating.
- To educate the world and protect all marinelife in its boundaries and their habitats. This is a crucial matter that is directly related to the chain of life on this planet.
- To stop the degradation of the oceans, Jeremy Jackson, a professor of oceanography at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego, identifies overexploitation, pollution and climate change as the three main “drivers” that must be addressed. I request the Sanctuary to be MUCH more vocal and proactive about the serious threats to whales and all ocean life. Educate the public on the realities of the serious threats to entire marine ecosystem.
- Tourist TV channels can be used to promote #14 and ocean safety issues.
- Tourists appreciate speed limits to protect animals> People need to understand why there are speed limits (education)
- UH Hilo is developing a new marine research lab; sanctuary should partner with them to have space for education along sanctuary coast.
- U-tube has an amazing amount of stuff.
- Want to see our Young people to be educated,in why it is so important to save all see live. Thank You!!
- Wants to see more “science at the beach” – expand to elementary kids.
- Water quality: Sanctuary should make water quality enforcement within boundaries a priority. Assist state and educate public on water quality.
- We all need to becomem more aware of this problem (overfishing). We need to care enough to help educate others and find ways to stop over fishing. The ocean needs to stay healthy because it not only provides a food source that feeds the whole world, including many other sea animals, but it also provides most of the oxygen that we use th ebreathe.
- we support HIHWNMS working collaboratively with NGOs and dive operations around the state in developing programs and materials that will help educate the public and provide accurate interpretation of maritime heritage resources to residents and visiting divers
- Whale on Wheels support to educate younger generations, to change behaviors.
- Whales are big eaters in the ocean - you need to study there feeding habits and amount of the stocks left!
- What are things we need to do now (educate children and adults about management actions) to ensure there are resources for the 7th generation? Need long-term vision.
- What has the sanctuary actually done for whales?
- What rules does the sanctuary have presently?

- What would happen if we saw animals differently? Not as a resources (change language – avoid the use of the word resource)
- When a protected species is found to have recovered, it is time to move on. Recent SPLASH estimates of the Hawaiian Humpback whale stocks in the N. Pacific indicates that it is around 18,000 animals up dramatically from the 1400 that existed prior to the ESA. It is truly time to move on and thank you for continuing your educational focus
- When attending a meeting on Oct 5 and listening what might occur and what has already occurred by NOAA I got upset! In a good sense to where it is my obligation (kul[e]ana) to see that noaa will not accomplish their mission. With the guideness of the akua and the power of the people we will join as one to void this mission. noaa needs to redirect their mission toward education not the limitations to our lifestyle. I am a descendant of my ancestors. It is my birthright, and my obligation to malama from the mountain to the sea. I as kanaka have the right to gather food from mother ocean and to provide to my ohana and community as long as i live. With the power invested in me from the great akua.
- Where appropriate and possible, involve the public, volunteers, and sanctuary user groups in sanctuary management actions
- Would bringing other species in change the name of the sanctuary? Would require a lot of education through the center.
- You have accomplished your mission and it is now time to relinquish your authority over to the State of Hawaii. his is not the time for you to interpret this success as an opportunity to expand your authority to other species or habitats that you believe need your protection. We do not need nor can we afford redundant federal regulation given the fact that we already have the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammals Act (both Federal Laws enacted by Congress) to protect our treasured resources. I would respectfully ask that you consider transferring full management over to the State of Hawaii and re-allocating our taxpayer dollars into areas that truly need help -Perhaps Education.
- You should write the reports/EIS in English, not government jargonese. The original intent geets lost in government translation.

Ocean Literacy: Area-Specific

- An educational center with a rehabilitation facility is needed on Kaua'i. This management plan should include a task to document all steps necessary to undertake this endeavor, and create an implementation plan for creating this facility, including costing.
- Big opportunity is to bring in money to support more research and education. Programs on Maui have been very valuable and should be expanded.
- Can the Sanctuary produce a map of the whale population growth since the sanctuary was established?
- Create holding area for marine users with kiosk about marine mammals. Education about what the sanctuary is for boat operators in Honokohau with education materials available.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. No to)NOAA) at times money will cloud the visions of individuals for their own needs and not the needs for the community, families, our culture. All of the species listed are doing well. It seems like (NOAA) is looking for a vehicle to get more funding from the FED's and not care about the importance of the ocean resources and the connection it has with the people. No to (NOAA). Redirect your efforts toward education.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). We can be educated as a community. (NOAA) can redirect their focus on education. Not the limitations to our life style.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals are a threat to our food supplies for the island of Kauai/State of Hawaii. They were brought here. Who's responsible? They are not a native species.
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. We don't need to spend more money to expand the sanctuary- more education is what's needed.
- Do not expand to include sea turtles. The turtles are doing exceptional well on their own. No expansion! Redirect your work toward education. Not limitations to the people of Kauai/Hawaii.
- EDUCATION CENTER ON Kaua'i An education center with a rehabilitation center is needed on Kaua'i. This management plan should include a task force to document all steps necessary to undertake this endeavor, and create an implementation plan for creating this facility including the projected costs involved
- Education is key component for all ocean users including fishermen to increase awareness. Conservation areas could be good for fishermen as it will protect resources
- Educational signage be provided in the adjacent Waioli County Park, Hanalei Pavilion County Park and Blackpot County Park to provide information to recreational users of the Hanalei Bay.
- Establish discovery center [on Kaua'i]
- Hanalei Makai Watch program and volunteers be provided with educational and outreach information about the dolphins and be encouraged to provide observation.
- Have staff for education and response on Molokai especially if expand scope of sanctuary.
- Honolulu Bay is area of importance. Has pump out facility. Have water quality testing. If resources are available there is no management plan for area yet. Save Honolulu Bay Coalition – would like to work with sanctuary. Wants assistance with education on packing in, packing out at Honolulu. Honolulu Mokuluia which is currently grant-supported.
- Kaua'i had a program to check on coral health (UCLA, Reef Check) but the ongoing monitoring and related education has been discontinued. Let's get this re-established because it was valuable.
- Kaua'i should have own center like on other islands to enhance education, one central location can help for not only residents but visitors, school groups.
- Lanai could be the model for sanctuary education and outreach programs. It has a cultural heritage center, K-12 school, engaged community. Many institutional groups within the community that are Hawaiian based.
- Marine protected areas would be beneficial. Continued education and research.
- More people having a presence on Hawaii Island is needed. More resources are needed [manpower, outreach].
- Need more places to educate visitors before they go on board on an operators boat (such as Whale Center in Hawaii kai (??))
- Need opportunity for university students to engage in whale-related research with sanctuary. Research centralized on Kaua'i with national and international scientists and sanctuary and give opportunity for students to participate.
- Need to expand boundaries. Expand research and education boundaries all around Kaua'i
- Need to expand outreach and education around the state. Should partner with local organizations and target youth because kids are the pathway to get to adults. Need to expand education to other geographic areas (eg Hilo) and elsewhere in the state. Need to share expertise. Outreach component could be expanded outside the current sanctuary boundary. Need to take advantage of local partners and expertise. Should expand sanctuary to east Hawaii Island because we had a lot of whales there this season.

- Needs to be a center (honokohau) – a tourism support center to educate people. Kona is the center of the industry on Big Island. Should also have a multi-purpose vessel (research, education, enforcement) based in Kona.
- No no access zones-more public education would be more reasonable approach them to stop us from using our ocean resources
- No, no access zones. If they taking too small fish, their either greedy or don't know any better! Educate! No restrict!
- No, no zones (fishing). Educate people on how to take care of animals - don't keep people out of the areas.
- Please do not make the waters around Kaua'i a whale sanctuary. Most people already respect the whales and monk seals etc. and others would be better served with more education. Making this area a sanctuary would lead to a cultural and economic catastrophe.
- Please show me a clear decrease in whale population and other marine life.
- Punolai is dying. Should be part of sanctuary and like Molokini with protection, plaques for info, water quality, education, research.
- Put on the website the maps on whale population growth since the sanctuary was established.
- Research, outreach and education are very useful components and important to the Lanai community. Research provides more information, education is important for getting information into schools, outreach engages the community. Important for reaching out to the community.
- Sanctuary should be expanded to Hilo side of the island. People on the Hilo side would be more involved if the sanctuary was here
- Sanctuary should education self regulation...tourist information on responsible use—this was what was done 8-10 years ago off the Kona coast. Education of young people is key since funds are tight and people that could volunteer are busy.
- Suggestion: Commercial kayakers be informed about the need to avoid interaction with the dolphins in this location, this may be added to their SMA permits issued by Kaua'i County. Educational signage be provided in the adjacent Ha'ena Beach County park to provide information to commercial and recreational users of the area.
- Support Discovery Center, possible a mobile discovery center. "Whales on Wheels". Need more education in Kaua'i.
- The current Humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. Let mother nature do her work. They don't need your help any more! Redirect your work towards education. Not limitations to the people of Kauai.
- The sanctuary should expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. ["There is no clear purpose in increasing protection"] Obviously people need to be educated. Again, the oceans are in a serious state of decline - as well documented by science. The sanctuary should be educating the public on the realities.
- The second thing the whale sanctuary can do for the community of Kaua'i is that they can solicit for legislation to "cover your dirt" Hundreds of acres of land is left fallow or dug up and left and the wind simply blows the topsoil into the ocean "silting out our coral heads". This agricultural practice is more detrimental to coral than any other human aspect including anchor drops and herbicides. If NOAA would help somehow bring about awareness and perhaps legislation to stop this practice, our corals would stand a chance.
- The University of Hawaii Marine Option Program has been conducting maritime archaeology field schools since the early 1990's. Most of these were under the coordination of Dr. Hans Van Tilburg, maritime heritage coordinator, NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program. A MOP/Sanctuary

Program partnership through such a field school would allow us to offer our students opportunities in underwater archaeology, and would help the Sanctuary map and document its cultural sites.

- There should be some "no take" fishing zones. Again, this statement ["Blanket moratoriums also have shown to be of marginal value as once they are re-opened there tends to be a sudden over fishing frenzy that leaves the fish population just as bad off as before"] is false. No-take MPA's are extremely effective in restoring healthy reefs and fish populations. Obviously, human greed is the issue-and needs to be regulated. It is ver clear there is a huge need for educating the public about how bad our ocean health is and how effective no-take (temporary) MPA's are.
- Turtles and seals – there are hundreds of turtles at 4 mile in Hilo (Keaukaha) and Ive seen people interacting with turtles and we need more education to tell people not to disturb the animals.
- We need more staffing (to help Justin) and a visitor center in Kona and on Kaua'i.
- When speaking to most 'local people' on the island (Kaua'i), the general conscensus uis that "no taking or fishing" sones will be established which has created misunderstanding and anamosity towards the HIHWNMS. The feeling that our culture and lifestyles are on teh endangered list. I believe that miscommunication has a lot to do with this sentiment.
- Would like more sanctuary visibility here on Lanai especially within the schools.

SOCIOECONOMIC – OCEAN USERS – LIVELIHOODS – ACCESS*Ocean Users: Fishing Concerns*

- A system of rotating fishing locations was done 20 years ago and works. There was always fish. Go back to the system of the past where people take care of people. More programs means more regulations which means less freedom. People used to self-regulate: they would move from a good fishing spot to another to conserve resources. Now people fish one spot until it's overfished. People used to take care of people, now people expect federal government to fix things but it created too many regulations. Hard not to break regulations nowadays because there are so many.
- Additionally: I find it reprehensible that marine protection organizations forge ahead in reckless and detrimental policies that completely disregard the [diminishing] rights of Native Hawaiians and their subsistence activities; life sustaining fishing and hunting and gathering by closing their fishing areas for species that are in abundant numbers!
- Algae are increasing because the fish that keep them in check are being over-fished by spear fishing. I've observed this and heard it from scientists in the Hilo community. Need to find a way to educate local fishermen to rotate fishing sites so don't over-use.
- All sanctuary is no take (fishing)
- Allow fishermen to have their ulua tournaments because the ulua (fish) compete for the food that the monk seals eat. In NWHI the ulua is protected and very abundant – they eat the same food as the monk seals so the monk seals have less to eat. Ulua tournaments here keep the ulua population down which gives monk seals more food available to eat.
- Aloha, No Kapu da fishing. We need the Kau Kau and the Kala.
- An area in the sanctuary, Kihei, is an example of coral reefs being inundated and killed by plant life because of the increase in nutrients and lack of fish to graze on the algae and other plant life. This is part of the Ma'alea Bay study area ...which shows reef collapse and invasive algae. Maui is losing this reef because of failure of the federal government, including the HIHWNMS, and state of Hawaii to prohibit destructive fishing practices and the dumping of vessel sewage.
- any reduction in fishing areas would be bad for local fishermen, The monk seals are not being harmed by fishermen, do not take the already limited fishing areas away from the locals.
- Aquarium trade: most animals die before even leaving the islands. Sanctuary should address the aquarium trade.
- Are fishing no take zones really effective? Education is key
- Are fishing no take zones really effective? No evidence that they really work...especially for deeper water species of fish that don't necessarily live on shallow water reefs
- As for entanglement problems, we must address the long-line and drift-net problems occurring in our off shore waters. I doubt whales become entangled in a shore fisherman's "throw net". Again, you would penalize all inshore fishermen for issues occurring in deep, international waters.
- Assessment of recreational fishing.
- Ban aquarium fish extraction statewide.
- Because most fish, including sharks, are in serious decline, and because fisheries have a huge incidental by-catch; I request the Sanctuary to take a strong stand to regulate commercial factory fisheries. In particular, protection for False Killer whales, and any other marine species affected by fisheries impact.
- Because the marine life needs better protection from humans and commercial fishing. Their numbers are severely depleted.
- Can the sanctuary address aquarium collecting management issues? (if the sanctuary expanded to other species)

- Changing habitats Kaua'i: whale lessons. Where the whales are, where the people are? Interactions. Realistic: dynamic boundaries. Want false killer whales added because they are impacted by fisheries.
- Commercial fishing restrictions on fishing in the Sanctuary should be controlled more strictly. Need to increase commercial fishing regulations to avoid larger sizes by setting size limitations. If you're going to have a Sanctuary in place you should attack the issue from all angles.
- Concern with gillnets impacting turtles and who is responsible for removing nets
- Concerned about MPR process because it looks a lot like expansion of NWHI; Additional regulations create challenges/concerns for ocean users/fishermen
- Concerned about sustainability of deepwater fish and possible overfishing
- Concerns about adding honu, might affect fishing
- Concerns with dolphin interactions, sea turtles, multi-species aspect should be considered. Fishery interactions a concern.
- concerned about the current issues on shoreline fishing, sanctuaries and endangered species
- Considering the current state of over-fishing, along with commercial fishing limits within the boundaries, all net fishing should be eliminated. Net entanglement is a huge threat to all marine mammals so regulation needs to be preventative, not after the damage is done.
- Coordinate a statewide ban against aquarium fish extraction
- Derelict fishing nets – there should be a reward for pick up and regulations to stop dumping of nets.
- Designated areas of the Hawaiian Humpback Whale Sanctuary should not be open to commercial or recreational fishing.
- Determine number of fishermen.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. Island is so small. Come on guys.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. No to NOAA) at times money will cloud the visions of individuals for their own needs and not the needs for the community, families, our culture. All of the species listed are doing well. It seems like NOAA is looking for a vehicle to get more funding from the FED's and not care about the importance of the ocean resources and the connection it has with the people. No to NOAA). Redirect your efforts toward education.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.). Practice sensible sustainability by evaluating each zone and its problem.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.). We are already hampered by private owners and not allowed to fish where we once did and closing more areas will only be killing the lifestyle of the people.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). Fish being depleted by pollution and invasive species.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). Maybe let PMRF Range be a no (or limited) fishing zone. Otherwise, no.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). The introduced roi (peacock grouper) is the problem!! They eat all of our reef fish and dwindle the reef fish population more than any or all fisherman can do.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). This is stupid.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). We live off the ocean and its fish for food and lifestyle.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). How can anyone prove where these populations come from.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). There are already size limits that are in place.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). We can be educated as a community. NOAA) can redirect their focus on education. Not the limitations to our life style.

- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals protected. They everywhere. Following all fishermen. "One for you, one for me" its okay- Oneday Poipu, seal starts to come in and lifeguard sees him, wave the orange cones and puts it where he wants the seal to go and u not going believe. Seal goes to the cone (true story)
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. Everyone has a right to use the ocean resources. Fishing for family, commerical boaters like myself, whales have a right also.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. - No ----- lots of local fishermen's business will close.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. I fish from the shore and in the bay's so 100 fathoms is out of my league!!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Coral reefs have been issue for many years. Don't u know turtles destroying reefs. Pollution, boating, not shoreline fishing.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - I am a recreational diver and I know I am no expert but I think the coral reefs are suffering the most from golf course runoffs. So whys punish the fisherman and not the golf course owners.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - If you dredge the rivers (Waimea for example) silt run off will decrease and small fish habitat improved.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins - I ve been taking tours to watch dolphins and whales for over 25 years in Hawaii they are fine around Kauai stop hunting whales and drift net fishing over 200 miles off shores.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Overpopulated on Kauai and they are eating all our fish.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. I shoreline fish. I see an abundance of turtles off shore. No need to expand.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Get too much turtles as it is! It really is not my fault if they bite my hook! Get so much that there's not enough food so they eat my bait.
- Do not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. Our Haw. Culutre is fo fish, I eat fish at least 4 - 5 times a week, my husband cathces it. My kids Gramma fish for save her life. Shoreline fishing is my source of (food sanctuary!)
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. If this happens local fishermen can't catch bait to go to the bouys. The bait we find and use are in 20 fathoms thru 40 fathom. So without that how we can catch fish if lures not working. It shouldn't go all the way around island.
- Do not expand whale protection. As a commercial fisherman I have seen the whale population grow so much that its starting to be a danger when anchoring. They seem curious or more aggressive as they multiply. Even traveling during peak whale season can be hazardous. I do my best to avoid getting close.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. Emergency vessels (police, fire, Coast Guard, DLNR, etc.) need to travel as fast as possible. Fishermen and others need speed to get in before storm fronts hit - it is a safety issue!
- Do not take any actions that restrict shoreline fishers because they are not the problem.
- Don't need a sanctuary—there are lots of whales; interactions with whales most often by researchers, whale watchers—not fishermen.
- Education is key component for all ocean users including fishermen to increase awareness. Shoreline fishing is not very good anymore
- Establish some no take zones (fishing). This will save the fish for my grandchildren.

- Expand boundaries around all of Kaua'i. Get fishermen involved in Sanctuary research
- Expand boundaries-for whales-not sure about other species. Fishing rights etc.
- Expand education and outreach / lots of misinformation. Include education on fishing. Regulations on fishing not good idea; overcomplicated.
- Expand to include reefs-fishing(bleaching/bombing) also affect the reef. Continuous people diving in same places over and over also affect it adversely
- Expansion of sanctuary boundaries is not needed it will create conflicts with fishermen. Bait schools for example hang out from 30-100 fathoms, ie: grounds off Keahole Airport. Growth of whale populations of 5-6% a year indicates current sanctuary boundaries are sufficient.
- Finally, the sanctuary may be able to play an important role in addressing certain activities that have a clear potential for adversely affecting marine species and biological communities in waters surrounding the main Hawaiian Islands. For example, commercial and recreational fishing can incidentally take protected species, vessel traffic can kill, injure, or disturb individual animals, powerful sonar devices may injure or kill marine mammals and other marine species, and the installation of facilities or structures such as aquaculture pens or waste outfalls can preempt or modify habitat for marine life or introduce sources of pollution or disturbance to marine life. In many cases, the need or justification for regulatory measures may not be immediately apparent or may arise only after some future development proposal is made. In other cases, a need may be apparent, but further study is required to determine the most effective measures. For such activities where specific regulatory provisions may be needed in the foreseeable future but cannot be identified or developed as part of the ongoing management plan review, sanctuary managers should have authority to implement regulations as new information develops.
- Fish depletion in water. Regulations needed on aquarium trade collecting—sanctuary should assist with this issue.
- Fishermen are not the cause of entanglements in Hawaii.
- Fishing debris is a problem. If the debris is not removed from the water the animals will keep getting entangled. There is a need for more in water marine debris pick up.
- Fishing is a Hawaiian gathering right.
- Fishing is a way of life for many people on Kaua'i. For some, it is their income. But for many, fishing is used to provide food for their family and if they had a good day, fish to share with friends. To consider taking away the privilege is absurd! Kaua'i should not be a sanctuary. Don't take away a lifestyle that is peoples' heritage. Fishing has been a way of life since the beginning of Hawaiians. To make Kaua'i a sanctuary is only a move for more bureaucracy; not for the people!
- Fishing is my lifestyle, my food source. My kids come back from college and tell, no [more] goatfish like home. They come home and look forward to eat fish - 2 in college studying education, Hawaiian studies. Diving and the ocean is not only our playground but also our lifestyle, way of living. Only way of living! That's our sanctuary! Why doesn't anyone care or listen to the Hawaiian people. We are the caretakers of our land and sea. We know better! PS we have to learn to live with each other. We already know, we cannot depend on tourism. We are accountable for our island, fishing, cultural, and the ocean!
- Fishing nets need to be used cautiously in the Hawai'ian sanctuary, with fishermen accountable for retrieving all equipment.
- Fishing within the islands should not be restricted any further for the individual fishermen and his home use.
- Focus on endangered and protected species, and later include looking at coral reefs, aquarium/collecting.

- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. False killer whales: Monitoring the distribution, abundance, and trend of the Hawaii insular population of false killer whales and interactions between members of that population and nearshore fisheries, such as the shoreline and kaka line fisheries.
- Get involved in the tropical aquarium regulation and enforcement. It needs policing.
- Good job with raising awareness. Ecosystem-based management: fishing interactions nearshore rec. fish, other species, actions within boundaries, dolphin excursions address, sea turtle interaction, multi-species / resource violation, entanglement.
- Have rotating models/studies to try practices. Have rotating no-take areas to bring balance.
- Have the sanctuary expand the boundaries to include all whale habitat areas especially around Kaua'i and Ni'ihou and help pass strong laws for enforcement of existing and future laws.
- Hawaiian cultural heritage should be maintained, fish rights, harvesting rights, etc.
- Here in Kaua'i, expand the areas designated as sanctuary, while still allowing careful local fishing.
- Hook and line fishermen need to be protected. We use the most ethical and responsible technique of fishing as well as sustainable. That is a fact. Protect us, help us fight corporate and national over fishing by massive netting operations.
- How is the whale sanctuary going to affect fishing? Are you going to kick us out?
- I am concerned about the fishing; the shutdown of bottomfishing.
- I am opposed to any change in the sanctuary. I do not want to stop fishing of any kind or ocean use of any kind to further the marine mammal sanctuary.
- I attended the meeting at KCC on 10-5-10. Very upset that 23 meetings without informing the Kaua'i residents have taken place. The meeting I attended was posted to me by word of mouth and fortunately I could attend. Fishing is our way of life, it's like taking a bottle away from a baby. This will affect us in every way possible including tourism. No way to NOAA absolutely not.
- I believe any type of sanctuary that restricted fishing or access would never have been initially accepted in Hawaii. Yet this action appears to be another way of doing it, just in a very slow long term fashion. This is not right and not the intent of congress or the administration when they approved a whale-only sanctuary. If the people of Hawaii want this, they should be able to vote for it or go through the state legislature.
- I believe the public education and outreach can be realized without boundaries in the sand that may have un-intended consequences and or defacto prohibitions for fishermen, and other ocean users.
- I do not support an expanded scope of the sanctuary's "marien resources" to include he closure of any fishing areas or the creation of any "no take zones". In this day and time, it is unfortunate that so much is being taken away, especially activities that have been part of our livelihood for many generations.
- I don't want my freedom as a fisherman restricted. Every region has individual needs so we need specialized approach to management.
- I don't believe expanding the sanctuary here on Kaua'i would be beneficial to its purpose. Expansion would take away the life, the culture, the resources for livelihood here on Kaua'i. The fishermen and ocean users need to survive here on Kaua'i to expand would take away the life from the people here. Do not expand the sanctuary.
- I enjoy shorefishing on Kaua'i and would object to restricting on this recreational activity.
- I favor expanding protection of whales, turtles, monk seals, dolphins, at the same time, we must protect local (not corporate) fishing rights as well.

- I have still to here or see any reason or study for the justifications for the proposed expansion of the whale sanctuary, what are the reasons? Where are the studies? What are the treats? I especially would like to here what threats that the local fishing community pose to the whales? therefore I feel very strong in my opposition towards expanding the whale sanctuary,
- I just read that article that you guys and then the last one I disagree with, in fact all of them I disagree with and how can you guys put down other? You know come on. You guys trying to sneak something in, eh? The bottom line is you guys should be listening to us guys in Hawaii – we're willing to listen to you guys but you guys gotta be willing to listen to us more than big money interest groups, yeah. You guys give me a ring, feel free to call me as I read the articles you know some things I'm kind of changing my mind on, but still yet. Most of them way out in a negative way yeah for human beings, and the more you guys do, the more negative you guys trying to fly on us. We are ocean users, we, you know use the ocean for recreation, we use the ocean for food, and the main one I think is for food, yeah. And then like twenty years or thirty years from now if I'm still alive then my son and grand kids come walking up to me and tell me "Papa we cannot even go boogie board or go surfing now".
- I know by talking to people and telling them that this problem (over fishing) is here and it will help to educate people who don't know about it.
- I personally think and know for facts that there is a lot of [illegal?] netting taking place. First, by the declining in fish population year to year, by what we catch pole fishing. In August the word got out that 3 or 4 boats went into Secret Beach and netted 1500 lbs of moi without any consequence. Instead of trying to correct issues that already work - put this money and initiative into enforcement of rules and regulations. Like Maui, no netting.
- I regard the original sanctuary as a political ploy, brought on by conservationists, and funded by big environmentalist organizations, who in turn back political officials. I see no scientific reasoning in their planning of this sanctuary. As for the humpback whales, where is the scientific reason for why they need a sanctuary. They are only here for a short time to spawn, and then they are going back to the north pacific where they really in danger. In hawaiian waters they are not bothered by the local fishermen, and each goes about doing their own thing. I see no problems with both being in the same waters, at the same time. Have you heard of any whale being harmed by local fishermen?
- I request the Sanctuary to ban, or effectively regulate aquarium fish extraction statewide. Including holding aquarium trade collectors accountable for mortality, humane treatment and tax clearance. Fees and fines reflect the considerable expense of tracking reef extraction and its effect on reef health.
- I request the Sanctuary to make strong laws to have all fishing nets identifiable and hold fishers liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- I throw net, I throw my pole and I dive. I think this expansion is totally unnecessary. There are a lot of different things that NOAA can spend their federal money on.
- I would like the sanctuary to be habitat-based so there are more fish for the fisherman. Ecosystem-based. Critical for culture to keep fishing vibrant.
- I would say don't expand because theres no apparent reason to do so. The whales are coming back strong, so I feel that stoping recreational fishing for the preservation of humpback whale is unnecessary.
- I'm a property owner on Kauai and I completely agree with what you are doing and I believe that the marine sanctuary should have no fishing and just make it just a sanctuary. If you look at Hahe on North Island in New Zealand. They put a sanctuary in and a lot of the locals were upset about it. The fishermen were against it but then they found after about 5 years that because the fish were

breeding more the fishermen actually outside of the sanctuary were catching more fish and doing better so there are actually advantages to this and I can clarify anything if you'd like.

- If dive and fish limit what we take and rotate sites for spear fishing.
- If it expands, the sanctuary could expand to other resources that eat fish here and could have an impact on fishing rights.
- If NOAA is willing to purchase a boat for every fisherman that fishes from shore to get out to the 100 fathoms that the expansion would include, then maybe it's possible.
- If you enforce the laws in place you should not have problems with fish depleting
- I'm against any closures because once it is closed, it never opens again even if they say it's temporary. Like bottomfish temporary closure which was supposed to be opened after a few years to see if there was any difference still hasn't been opened yet.
- instituting regulations and fines to deter the frequency of fishing nets discarded in the ocean. NOAA can support new laws mandating that all nets have owner identification; fines should be imposed on violators and policies to reward those who collect stray nets should be developed.
- Island specific is a good idea for certain fish, also county is a good idea for invasive fish.
- It involves TEMPORARY "no take" of specific areas, which in a matter of 18 months BENEFIT fishermen and all marine life.
- It seems to me that people are becoming much more involved in saving the fish than they are in saving the people. There are many people who are out of work and need to have this fishing as their livelihood for food and let's concentrate on helping people, putting people back to work rather than to save the whales, save the porpoise, save those.
- Its really sad that Hawaii needs to set laws on fishing. Need to watch the hoarding and waste as we say, catch what you can eat and save the rest for next time.
- I've been fishing these shorelines hrer from Kealia to Haena Northshore my Dad and brother since 1957 and never had these problems with monk seals and Dolphins. But we used to eat the sea turtles back then, and use to drink the blood from the turtles for Asthma purpose. So please think of opening a season for turtles.
- Laws to guarantee that all nets are identifiable and most importantly hold owners liable
- Like I said, fishing is our way of life in Hawaii you cant take it away from us.
- Limit military noise (sonar). The military should be limited because they are resondisable for beaching of most mcean mammals, then regular commerical fisherman.
- Longlines are a threat. Should the sanctuary consider getting involved?
- Longlining wreaking havoc
- Major concern: if endangered species are put into the whale sanctuary then access to fishing/recreational use could be restricted to all user access. Access area would be from high water mark to 100 fathoms.
- Make strong laws to have all fishing nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- many clients are already using these (maritime heritage) sites for recreation and professional purposes. Shipwreck sites, for instance, offer a fish haven which is utilized by fishermen, tropical fish collectors and commercial dive operations (especially off the south shore of O`ahu)
- many of the shipwrecks in Hawaiian waters occurred in very shallow water. Indeed, hardly any beach that could land a canoe has not been witness to maritime calamity. Might their protection be interpreted as a restriction on beach combing? Could "protection" interrupt fishing activities in waters adjacent to many bays and harbors. For instance, would any proposed rule changes have an impact on the temporary fisherman shelters often constructed along the north shore of Lana`i?

- Many people on Kaua'i, especially in these tough economic times, engage in subsistence fishing. Please don't take their livelihood away.
- Maybe some people wouldn't care because they don't eat fish, but if they knew about how it (over fishing) would affect them in other ways they would want to help protect our oceans.
- More species equal more predators. We are worried about bottom fishing grounds – that's where they will feed. Monk seals are an alien species. Monk seals eat the fish that we eat – on the line – they don't catch their own. It's hard for the fishermen. If you could help us out by keeping alien species out we would appreciate it. Adding new species might bring more predators, more predators will eat the fish. Worried about other species eating fishermen's livelihood.
- My fear is that if you include monk seals, green sea turtles, dolphins, and coral reefs we could have many issues that are very negative to users of the ocean. Fishing restrictions have been mentioned as being probable if these marine resources are included. Changing boundaries around our island and Niihau to include areas visited by these resources is dangerous. I fear that Niihau will be taken away from us as a fishing and surfing and diving area.
- My main concern is the new laws that are handed my way and how they will affect my fishing business. I am willing to work with, and help "you guys". I believe working together is the answer. I just need to be able to fish (commercial fisherman).
- Navy has seen local fish populations increase since some areas were closed to fishing after 911 – it works- no take zones in terms of restoring areas
- NET ENTANGLEMENT: Create strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets. Reward boaters who collect stray nets.
- Next you included the dolphins, another species that is not on the list for local fishermen. Dolphins (Porpoises) are smart creatures. They don't get hooked the fishing lures, they don't run into propellers, and they actually enjoy racing with the fishing boats. Their danger also comes from the seine fishermen.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Fishing and swimming in Hawaii is a way to life for my family of Hawaiian ancestry and should never be taken away for generations to come.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - A sanctuary is a no access zone which would cover all the proposed areas. You mean no tourist to Hawaii.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Over fishing could be the cause, not Boating, surfing, swimming let the DLNR handle the over fishing in areas that need it.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - We should prohibit commercial type use such as (recreational/commercial fishing) but allow the general public to use the natural resource of the ocean.
- No expand boundaries- fishing from land and boat is our lively hood
- No expand boundaries-we have rights as humans too. I am jobless and fish to stay alive
- No no access zones- Get rid of the Roi's , taapes, and ????. First. The fish population will return. These fishes take more than me in a single year.
- No no access zones-Fanatical policy with no common sense. Also overstepping native Hawaiians fishing and gathering rights
- No no access zones-our children will not have the opportunity to fish and enjoy the ocean as much as I have. Our culture and values must be kept for our children
- No no take zones - Fishing is a way of life have in Hawaii and also for subsistence. Would it be logical to take action without anything based on scientific data?

- No no take zones - Fishing should be legislated only and managed by our DLNR Fish and Wildlife.
- No no take zones - No take zones will only increase fishing in the take zones and ultimately have a negative outcome.
- No no take zones- beaches usually close for any activity during high surf. This usually lasts about 6 to 7 months. After this you should really watch the netting. This is depleting most of the fish populations of shoreline
- No no take zones- Hawaii fishing is a culture way of life you can't take it away
- No no take zones- I need to eat and live too. Do you not care about human rights?
- No no take zones-As a waterman who grew up in the islands I have seen for myself the causes of our problems and know if you don't stop pollution and runoff all else is wasted. The Sanctuary does not offer us any solution and seems to be taking credit for Federal laws already in place. It is obvious to me somebody is milking the tax payers for a lot of money and want more.
- No no take zones-fisheries for specific species should be implemented but not by DLNR Fish and Wildlife
- No no take zones-ignorance regarding fish reproduction and cycles. Large fleets of long nets need to be monitored and enforced for violations
- No no take zones-no commercial zones
- No no take zones-no reason to stop fishing
- No no take zones-proper use of specie seasons would be more reasonable approach than to stop all fishing
- No no take zones-set bag limit and size. Close when spawning
- No no take zones-The state brought in these invasive fishes without extensive studies. We, the recreational fisherman and divers are been penalized for this. The public must now get rid of these invasive species so are natural fishes of hawaii can thrive again. Show me the figures that shows recreational fishermen and divers are depleting the fishes. There are more damage caused by invasive species. I'm doing my part to get rid of Roi's, Taape, and toau. forget about no take zones.
- No not-take zones. Kids need to learn balance/sustainability and how to be enforcers through education on sustainable fishing.
- No Take Zones (fishing) - No take zones would make criminals out of all of us who fish. We got enough problems.
- No Take Zones: How much shoreline fisherman can catch???
- No, no access zones. lft they taking too small fish, their either greedy or don't know any better! Educate! No restrict!
- No, no take zones (fishing).
- No, no take zones (fishing). For deep water bottom fishing the TAC that is in effect protects our bottom fishery without the need for no take zones.
- No, no take zones (fishing). Like I said, food sanctuary. If they don't know how to fish and when then they shouldn't be fishing, like I said people born here for generations, I have 6 take care the land and ocean I know we do!
- No, no take zones (fishing). No sanctuary required!!
- No, no take zones (fishing). No zones.
- No, no take zones (fishing). No.
- No, no take zones (fishing). This could turn out like the shearwater fallout protection.
- No, no take zones (fishing). Too many private own lands enough Robinsons, hotels, etc... closing of Mahaulepu was a monumental death to people like me, who love Mahaulepu.
- No, no zones (fishing). Educate epople on how to take care of animals - don't keep people out of the areas.

- NOAA should go to the public and get suggestions and feelings toward their current and future plans. Ex. Consult with the public which areas of the islands are more depleted of fish, which fishing activities cause the worst threats to reefs and fish populations. Once more info is known locally, conservation ideas can then be formulated so both the public and governing sectors can be satisfied.
- Not enough attention is paid to the situation/impacts on fishermen. Need to view from fishermen's viewpoint. Take fishermen's needs/recreation into consideration. Remember: sanctuary is only 1 agency with potential fishing regulations and restrictions.
- One of the main causes of the problem (over fishing) is mismanagement.
- People should be able to dive for whatever they want to catch – use areas.
- Please add my name to the list of those in FAVOR of establishing the management plan. Too many of our waters are overfished. I live on Kaua'i and with all the chickens here, we can have that on our dinner plate instead.
- Please add my name to the list of those who FAVOR the plan to make the Hawaiian Islands a sanctuary. I believe that overfishing and net use will make all of these wonderful sea creatures extinct. I live on Kaua'i and would like to see all fishing discontinued in all of the world's islands. We have plenty of chickens on this island to eat!!!!
- Please create laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- possible need for salt water fishing licenses which would enable State of Hawaii DOCARE officers to inspect coolers and other closed containers, maximum and minimum size catch limits and the need for additional educational signage.
- Prohibiting fishing or spear fishing here in Hawaii will create a scenario that will be extremely difficult if not dangerous for enforcement officers to manage and assure public compliance with any NEW statute created.
- Proposed fish farms cause problems with water quality because of the fish food and poop in one area, cables (to hold down cages – causing problems with entanglement), whales will come close to the fish farms to eat the baby fish. Water quality problems will advance impacts on coral and visitor industry. Study what the impacts are of fish farms on local fishermen and commercial fishermen. What is the cultural take of fish farms as opposed to fish ponds?
- Protect native species and endemic species. Sanctuary should include other species, maybe even the whole ecosystem, maybe regulations on fishing and number of boats that make an economic profit off these animals (whales).
- Providing a "bounty" system for discarded/lost fishing nets and lines.
- Putting coral reefs in to the sanctuary is just like what they did in NWHI and there is now no fishing there. We are an island state and need the resources to survive not more restrictions on our lives and livelihoods.
- Putting in coral reefs will hurt my fishing because when I put down my anchor and drop the fishing line and throw line from shore, it will catch on the reef and may break off the reef.
- Re: False killer whales, the Sanctuary could be helpful in assisting the understanding of the operation of these fisheries within its waters. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) recently convened a take reduction team to recommend measures to reduce impacts from the longline fisheries. However, the take reduction team, of which the Humane Society of the U.S. is an appointed member, heard information that additional impacts may accrue from interactions with shortline and kaka line fisheries operating in their range, though data on these fisheries are sparse.
- Recognizing that sanctuary management plans may remain in effect for five or more years, the Commission believes that the management plan and associated sanctuary designation document for this sanctuary should preserve an ability to adopt timely regulatory measures for activities that

reasonably could be anticipated to pose a significant risk to sanctuary resources. In this regard, the Marine Mammal Commission recommends that the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries revise the management plan and associated designation document to reserve authority to regulate future activities and development including, but not necessarily limited to, vessel traffic, commercial and recreational fishing, sources of acoustic impact that could injure or kill marine life, and installation of structures whose presence or operation could adversely affect features or resources that the sanctuary is established to protect, including marine mammals.

- Remember the saying no Hawaiians no aloha, well with no fishing there's no Hawaiian way of life period. How dare you. The U.S. already stole our land, now you NOAA want to take our way of life, a way to feed our families our 'ohana, how dare you!
- Require permits for fishing.
- reserve authority to regulate future activities and development including, but not necessarily limited to, vessel traffic, commercial and recreational fishing, sources of acoustic impact that could injure or kill marine life, and installation of structures whose presence or operation could adversely affect features or resources that the sanctuary is established to protect, including marine mammals
- Sanctuary can also bring awareness to aquarium fish trade: whose issue is it? It needs to be dealt with.
- Sanctuary should address impacts from inshore fishing gear (i.e gillnets). No take zones should be added, rotated periodically and well advertised in addition to expanding boundaries
- Sanctuary should expand to include other marine life. Fishing community and sanctuary are really on the same page—both want healthy oceans.
- Sanctuary should have some no take zones. - Let the people take a vote if a rea needs to be left alone meaning throw nets because of over fishing then let the DLNR police the area that's why we pay them.
- Sanctuary should have some no take zones. - No take eon severly de-populated fishing areas. Make more sanctuaries on Oahu - they are the most over fished.
- Sanctuary vision should not include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach predetermined population levels. Stop getting ridiculous stupid. The best volunteer is the educator. Like I said, don't know how and when no fish! maybe we should volunteer and [illegible word] people who like fish and eat no what sizes is suitable, but need to tell when our economy sucks, losing jobs, and they starving.
- Several fishermen feel that expansion of the Sanctuary would be a threat to their livelihood and change the composition of what makes Kaua'i special.
- Should incorporate traditional concepts in MPA establishment (exclude commercial fishing but allow subsistence fishing). In MPA, need to incorporate Hawaiian cultural heritage and Hawaiian concepts.
- Some - no take zones (fishing). Some zones should be closed but need to be reopened every other season to see on the fishes populations. Don't forget fish swim around and moves zones so they can be anywhere.
- Some no take zones . Specific zones for commercial fishing and amount they can catch in these zones, especially ? where fish grow. Specific laws for limited duration only, so they must be renewed by public concent, not idiologic idiots who don't know the situation.
- Some no take(fishing) zones should be established. Limit commercial fishing.
- Some people no more money so they fish (give a man fish, he going be happy, teach a man to fish, he can be happy forever), think of the younger negeration so if they no more money they still can be happy while going to the beach and providing food for the ohana (fishing, diving, swimming).
- Some ways that I think would help stop this problem (over fishing) is by having a better mangement system. There needs to be a monitoring system and then a strong enforcement to make it work.

- Sonar exercises, water pollution, ocean acidification, huge net fishing must stop or be greatly limited.
- Spearfishing is a major problem. It damages corals and turtles get entangled in line. Need outreach to fishermen. Need to educate fishermen, especially the younger population. Fish and coral abuse for too long cannot be sustained. Need more enforcement to protect the environment and possible closure to give environment a break from pressure.
- Strong laws to make nets identifiable and make fishers liable for violation
- Study/research on resources with local fishermen directly involved
- Take a strong stand against commercial factory fisheries.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The whale's don't come in shallow water for us shoreline fisher people to be a threat.
- The enforcement of a marine sanctuary should be coordinated with eliminating commercial fishing in the sanctuary, since the reefs and environmental balance need to be maintained.
- The hawaiian monk seal is an introduced species and if protected by including it in the proposed expansion of the whale sanctuary, there will surely be an imbalance to our fisheries in the future.
- The problems are: Excessive fines and penalties attached to lateness on fish reports.
- The problems are: Large fishing fleets with miles and miles of net.
- The problems are: Making fish species precedent to sustenance fishermen.
- The sanctuary should establish some no take zones (fishing). This would be good in some areas, where fish are depleted.
- The sanctuary should expand to include dolphins. I am seeing much fewer dolphins then ever. They are being stressed by pollution, overfishing, sonar, habitat degradation, ALL proven scientifically.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. Inshore state waters should be managed by the state (DLNR Aquatic Resources). Such a sanctuary WILL incite a riot because it will destroy Hawaii's fishing and water-related culture! Let Hawaii's people manage Hawaii.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. We Hawaiians have fishing rights here in Hawaii.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Take the seals away and our fish will come back.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Monk seals are NOT native to Hawaii. It's only in recent years anyone has heard about monk seals. I am 69 years old. My father was a fisherman. In all his years of fishing and in my years of fishing we never heard of or encountered monk seals. Only in recent years have they appeared here. And they are a problem for stealing fish from the net my son sets.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whales are not extinct and are becoming a threat to fishermen.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whales are not under any threat now. I fish and dive and have never posed a threat to a whale or any marine mammal (not me or anyone I know).
- The sanctuary should start documenting what whale watchers do – they have regulations to follow too – should follow the 100 yard approach rule – no one is there to enforce it. When the whale population increased it wasn't because of the sanctuary. They were increasing worldwide. Why bother with the sanctuary? Nothing except education has been done by the sanctuary and the whales recovered anyway. Whales bug the fishermen, they don't want whales around while they fish.
- The Sanctuary should work on strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.

- The Sanctuary should work on strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for not reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Seems to me that 40-50 years ago there was less fish on the shoreline with all the seasonal non fishing ? seems more today.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - We don't need anyone to tell us if we can fish or not. Its natures way of controlling the fish, birds, whales, etc. Not ? way. Don't use these things for your personal gain.
- The state has sovereign rights over its waters (state waters extend out to three miles) and the federal government should not trump the state's rights and due process in establishing laws and regulations to manage its waters. Simply having the governor sign off on any new regulations is not due process. The legislature and the DLNR Board - with all its applicable public input - should provide input into any new proposals in state waters, e.g. fishing regulations, closed ocean activity areas, etc.
- The way the government is working, they are padding their committees with environmentalists and conservationists. Where are the people from the fishing industry? The poor fishermen are left out of the picture. I believe the fishermen should have a sanctuary where their species came fish, where fish can be found in local waters, and not have to travel to far off sites to do so. I believe that the local fisherman has a right to the Hawaiian waters for fishing, as it was in olden days. Tell the conservationists to go to Alaska and tell the Eskimos not to fish for whales, and see how far they will get with that.
- Then you put the so-called Hawaiian Monk Seal into this Sanctuary. Where is the history of this seal ever being a animal indigent to the Hawaiian Islands. In my youth, there were no mention of monk seals. This animal was introduced to the Main Hawaiian Islands, and if they are not fairing right, it is because the environment here is not what they are accustomed to. Actually, the seal is more harmful to the fisherman, especially the divers, when encountered. In this case, the human species has no protection from the aggressive seals. The seals should be back in the Caribbean, where they originated.
- There are many people here that fish as a livelihood, this is true here on Kaua'i just as much as it is true on Molokai which I notice is not included in projected plan.
- There needs to be regulation and legal consequences of discarded fisher's nets.
- There should be a moratorium on spearfishing, like take every other year off. The reefs are hurting, lots of people don't know what they are doing and are taking anything, including undersized animals
- There should be no "no access" zones. Reef fish stay in their immediate area's. Only predator fish move all over they have wider range.
- There should be no "no access" zones. This makes sense to me. It is not the rec fishermen and the snorkelers that are depleting our fish. No surfing? That is nuts.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. A lot of local families depend on fishing for their livelihoods. This could be devastating to them.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Again, this has nothing to do with the whale sanctuary. Fishing is a way of life for us in hawaii, you don't have the right to take that away!!!!
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Fishing falls under the catagory of Native gathering rights.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. I think the solution to this would be placing bans on certain types of fish during the year to let them reproduce. We have some of these laws in place today and them seem to be working.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Lanai and Molokai has some of this zones.

- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. No prob.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. No take zones would result in the increase of invasive species. This in itself would cause a decline in non invasive species of fish.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. They close off areas for how many years and don't let anyone fish too see if fish popluation increased. If the satate made a bounty for invasive species (because they made the mistake of brging in the roi and perch). The schools of perch must eat a whole lot of food which would mean small squid lobsters opakapaka ehu seabass onaga, lehi and etc. It's not overfishing.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Yeah! Let's stave the people of Hawaii!
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. You folks want to make so much new rules and regs's but you can't even enforce the rules we have now!
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Zones in taken way enough from us.
- There should be program that rewards fish net reporting. Fish nets need to be labeled as to their owners. Owners need to be liable. Net entanglements are the main reason for human caused whale deaths
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones that are species specific. Hire more DOCAREnforcement officers...DOCARE is the division in DLNR handling enforcement (NOT Div. Of Aquatic Resources).
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones, as per DLNR. I agree, let the state continue to handle this.
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones. Again, this statement ["Blanket moratoriums also have shown to be of marginal value as once they are re-opened there tends to be a sudden over fishing frenzy that leaves the fish population just as bad off as before"] is false. No-take MPA's are extremely effective in restoring healthy reefs and fish populations. Obviously, human greed is the issue-and needs to be regulated. It is ver clear there is a huge need for educating the public about how bad our ocean health is and how effective no-take (temporary) MPA's are.
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones. Control amount of tuna caught pieces and size
- There should be some no take fishing zones. I feel that once you can set a small amount of No Take Zones, Then you are sure expand and we will lose all of our fish area.
- There should not be "no take" fishing zones. Utilizing cultural fishing practices would be more effective.
- There shouldn't be any "no take" fishing zones. There are current regulations on species that can be harvested. I feel it is sucessful and should be kept that way.
- This is not an adequate number of officers for such a large jurisdiction with so many endangered marine species, complex fishing regulations and other enforcement problems.
- To my knowledge, fishing vessels have not had any issues with whales as they generally avoid them for self protection. Fishermen's rights should not be unfairly targeted amongst many other boaters in the sanctuary. Although I am not advocating such an idea, banning whale watching vessels would better prevent many whale vessel interactions. If fishing boats are to be restricted, it would only be logical to also prohibit all other vessels within the sanctuary including sailboats, container ships, etc. As such a ban would severely impact the economy, it is clearly not a reasonable solution as there are effective alternative methods of preservation available.
- Traditionally Hawaiians had a fishing program of certain times on and off, is that [kapu] system viable for the sanctuary? eg On the East coast of the US there is a system for lobsters. Was the [kapu] system good? Could the sanctuary implement it?
- Use to fish in NMHI want to make sure still have place to fish in future

- We all need to become more aware of this problem (overfishing). We need to care enough to help educate others and find ways to stop over fishing. The ocean needs to stay healthy because it not only provides a food source that feeds the whole world, including many other sea animals, but it also provides most of the oxygen that we use to breathe.
- We believe that aquarium fish collecting is not appropriate within the Sanctuary.
- We don't need a whale sanctuary, it's already a protected species. The area of the sanctuary is the bread and butter for a lot of fishermen.
- We request the Sanctuary ban aquarium fish extraction statewide.
- We request the Sanctuary to take a strong stand against commercial factory fisheries.
- We should be able to take what we need from the ocean and not more. (Local people need to take more active role)
- We the members of the Maui Co operative Fishing Association object to the expansion and inclusion of additional species to the Hawaii Island Humpback Whale Marine Sanctuary.
- We the people of Hawaii enjoy our ocean and shoreline. Enough laws has been put in effect. We was [taught] to catch only what we need by our parents and grandparetns its our way of life, lets not make Hawaii a sanctuary.
- West Hawai'i Fisheries Council needs to be brought into the process. They have kuleana. Need to take this meeting to this Council.
- Whale sanctuary could affect fishing. Whales hang out at prime fishing grounds.
- Whales are all around island and Sanctuary is very small area so should expand boundaries and enforcement; Allow low impact fishing but no dredging
- Whales are protected already. Whales are tame. They approach the boats. How are we supposed to fish? Name "sanctuary" is a turn-off. Whales are already protected in the U.S. In deepwater you can't see the resources so what is the point of a sanctuary?
- What are the impacts of swordfishing? Are we taking too many fish? We need to capture good information and research on sustainability. We need to study the baseline; what are the impacts on commercial species?
- What might be proposed in terms of fishing regulations in the future, over and above DAR regulations?
- When speaking to most 'local people' on the island (Kaua'i), the general consensus is that "no taking or fishing" zones will be established which has created misunderstanding and animosity towards the HIHWNMS. The feeling that our culture and lifestyles are on the endangered list. I believe that miscommunication has a lot to do with this sentiment.
- While I support the protection and preservation of our endangered marine species, it is my position that any enlargement of the scope of the sanctuary's "marine resources" should not include the closure of any fishing areas or the creation of any "no take zones" and should provide local fishermen, ocean users and Kaua'i and Niihau residents protections from prevention of participation in ocean related activities as they have enjoyed for generations
- Year round protection for whales. Entanglement - where are the nets coming from - track nets? Enforce fines for nets. No attention for sharks - keystone species. Poaching - whales reef fishing longlining. Concern for future.
- Yes, create some no take zones (fishing)
- Yes, create some no take zones (fishing)
- You guys gotta include our things – don't only talk to the Sierra Club and all that environmentalist kine people and basically you guys should be talking to us over here - in this state, not California or wherever you guys been doing these things. Okay, meetings, um, you guys should be inviting everybody not only a select few because that's what's been happening, only a select few and

agencies with money, okay. Another thing, coral reefs, monk seals, whales, birds, they all supposed to be behind the humans, not making fun of the humans. And this is a way of life over here on Kauai – fishing, yeah, fishing. And, nobody gonna tell me that I can't go fishing – that is not right, okay, not right at all. But remember now, the humans before the animals, not the animals before the humans – wrong. I don't know what else you guys are trying to pull but I've been hearing from a whole lot of fishermans and some other guys that you guys are trying to pull some major scenarios. But you guys gotta remember - fishing is a way of life over here on Kauai, okay, as even hunting, and killing things is good because we eat 'em, is good, it's a good thing it is a survival thing, a survival instinct. Whatever else you guys trying to do is not happening. I don't agree and I totally disagree with what you guys doing.

- You need to put a catch limit on tunas! Small and large.

Ocean Users: General Socioeconomic Concerns

- A 10 MPH speed limit would limit even sailboat racing.
- All I have to say is theres tons of evidence indicating that all of the animals that the proposed sanctuary expansion is trying to protect is doing great with the existing laws and regulations. It sounds like basic concern and duty to protect these species is turning into an (ugly) obsession that could possibly ruin the communities and cultures of the islands.
- All understand, long term. Involvement of all. Whale watching, fishing etc. protected.
- Any expansion of boundaries could take away revenue generated by the sate of Hawaii
- Any further restrictions, of any nature what so ever, to public access of natural resource shoreline and ocean should be thoroughly reviewed and approved by the public and our elected government representatives before implemented.
- Aquaculture hasn't been around long so perhaps education is needed to ensure it is done in an environmentally responsible way. It has potentially great implications as a food supply and can be done without antibiotics and in a more healthy way and can replenish fish stocks (in the future). Sanctuary could be involved in giving aquaculture farms better direction in how to do it responsibly/naturally/sustainably. Applying traditional knowledge could help achieve these goals.
- As a Hawaiian Canoe paddler I, my family, friends and members of my community would like to continue with this sport unique to this state.
- As an Island community we are also critically reliant on maritime transportation, which to this day is not well understood or appreciated by the community
- As far as add different species to the sanctuary there will be a great impact on the public that go to the ocean as source for food there families. The species listed will impact the sanctuary horizontally (the whale sanctuary affect the area vertically) and will broaden the area all the way to above the high water mark and limit the use of the area by the public. So I feel educate first!
- As of now weve lived peaceful with all marine laws. My family eat fish at least 4 times a week with what my husband catch. These people on the outer islands goin starve. I dont really xare about all thosr boats o. Maui that chases those seal daily. My problem Is the fishing n food!
- Be culturally sensitive to local people who are not commercial operators.
- Before you close any of our beaches you should study the seal and how much food each seal eats - more fish in a week than the whole village would eat in a month.
- Biggest loss of regulations isn't to charter business but a loss to the world when people can't experience these animals first hand.

- Boat-strike and boat speed issue is the number 1 issue – regulate speed: Tour boats in the whale watching business are a big part of this issue
- Bottom line is preserving natural resources for ourselves.
- Charge dive companies to create fiscal responsibility in using sanctuary waters for dive use (particularly Pupukea).
- children have that on [one] free activity to keep some of them out of trouble. If they cannot surf, dive, spear-fish, shoreline fish or even go out on a boat there is nothing free for them to do.
- Commercial kayaks, recreational kayaks, stand up paddle boards and boaters are all using the estuary of Hanalei River. Interactions and harm will come to these honu which are often difficult to see.
- Concern: Commercial and recreational activities occur daily in Hanalei Bay and interaction with protected, stressed or resting animals may occur.
- Concern: Commercial and recreational kayak activity occurs in Ha'ena Bay and may disturb the rest of dolphins thus reducing their hunting and feeding ability
- Concerned about MPR process because it looks a lot like expansion of NWHI. Detrimental to hard working Ocean users
- Currently, virtually all living marine resources within nearshore waters of Hawaii are subject to management authority and conservation measures by various federal, state, local, and NativeHawaiian agencies and organizations. Despite their efforts, significant conservation issues remain unresolved. For example, coral reefs in many areas are dying or being degraded; populations of fish important for commercial and recreational use are being depleted by overfishing; recovery of endangered and threatened species is being impeded by entanglement in fishing gear, collisions with boats, disturbance by vessel traffic and beach-users, ingestion of and entanglement in marine debris, and exposure to diseases introduced by feral and domestic animals; and the integrity of marine habitats is being threatened by various forms of development and use such as the installation of aquaculture facilities, offshore wind farms, and coastal development projects. Often the effectiveness of existing programs to address such issues is limited by staff and funding constraints to conduct research, pursue public outreach, and implement regulatory and enforcement measures. Recognizing the national and international significance of Hawaii's nearshore marine ecosystem, its many endemic species, and its unique position as the world's most remote and isolated tropical reef system, a sanctuary program with an enhanced scope could contribute added resources toward shared conservation objectives.
- Designating Ma'alaea Bay as a marine preserve within the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale Sanctuary would focus more attention on addressing and mitigating contributing factors to reef decline from shoreline activities and human impacts.
- Denying access does not translate to species recovery.
- Dive shop owners and operators also find that the preservation of reefs and wrecks are good for their businesses, especially where tourism is a major factor.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whale season. One should be more concerned for the safety of the small boaters who will more than likely suffer more damage.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. All species mentioned are doing well with current regulations.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. Beach front property and coast like Napali prevent access as it is.

- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. This is so ridiculous but I guess it's all about being ridiculous.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. Tourism economy! Try closing Poipu, Anini, Hanalei, Napali Coast, stupid.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth- I think they should keep the existing sanctuary boundaries the same because the existing laws and regulations is working and its not currently affecting thousands of beach goers and familys that do recreational fishing.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. This is just an excuse to shut down beaches.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Coral Reef - Stopping people from shoreline fishing or diving, surfing, paddling canoe is out of question.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. The coral reef s will benefit most from sustainable farming practices and so would every other system/organism.Stop corporate ag!!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Stop building hotels, vacations rental and all the other stuff that's polluting our shores then the reef will survive.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Again, the current indigenous gathering/ fishing rights need to be recognized and enforced /implemented.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. If you folks do this stupid expansion you better allow for Hawaiian gathering rights.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cutral Heritage. The only sanctuary's were for gathering rights.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Monk Seals - The seals is damaging the reef when they take their food like the taleo (octopus) and the lobster. Im an diver and I seen it do that...
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Monk seals are a threat to our food supplies for the island of Kauai/State of Hawaii. They were brought here. Who's responsible? They are not a native species.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Thurtles should be opened for harvesting, (gathering rights) especially for Hawaiians!!
- Do not expand to include islands all the way around island out to 100 fathoms (600f ft.) depth. This is ridiculous. The people of this state rely on the ocean for livlyhood sustanence, recreation, and cultural needs. We don't need something to change our way of llifeespecially when everythign can be managed without.
- Dolphins – operator offers encounters with dolphins, go about 200 yards away and wait to see if dolphins come to interact, don't stay more than 15 minutes. Other operators do it differently, they cut off dolphins and drop divers in which puts a lot of pressure on dolphins allowing commercialization of dolphins to get out of hand. Affects dolphins ability to rest.
- Dolphins are interacting with jet skis, it seems dolphins really want to play with people. Sometimes people almost hit them.
- Don't agree with 100-yard approach regulation don't want to have negative impact on tour boat operators or impact their ability to educate people.
- Don't close anymore ocean or shoreline access.
- Don't expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around the islands out to 100 fathoms depth. Save our life style and human rights.
- Don't make any rules to close any shoreline or beaches.

- Don't take our lifestyle away!!!!
- Economic assessment to evaluate sustainable or unsustainable activities.
- ECO-TOURISM IS THE ANSWER
- Education and self policing will not work as the users or abusers only see it on their terms..... how these sanctuaries inconvenience them and the things they want to do commercially or recreationally. Man is the only organism on this planet that can adjust its lifestyle to protect and enhance the survival of other species, if mankind cannot see that, someday in the future, humans on this planet will regret it and wonder why we did not do more. Make more sanctuaries and include more species in them.
- Education is the key to the proliferation of all species on this planet as well as humans we need to work together stop fingering the fishermen as the culprits. We are just feeding our families and protect our way of life and our culture. You need to educate the public and they will be the worker bees.
- Education of people on whales monk seals etc would be better than stopping ocean use. Hawaii is an ocean culture. Local people depend on it for food. The rich and greedy want these islands for their own retirement playground. Pretty soon locals going to be an endangered species.
- Education of the masses seems more of a realistic solution. Sustainability is the key.
- Encourage fishpond restoration efforts, not just for education, but for food security.
- Engaged cruise ship group in MPR process
- Engaging the diving community will certainly be more beneficial than excluding them from sites as has been the policy in some places.
- Enough rules and regulations already, the ocean should be enjoyed by all conscientious and honest people.
- Expanding species - need to look at the entire ecosystem, including turtles. The sanctuary could include more species and turtles. It would be good to have enough turtles so that they can be delisted so that we can eat turtles again.
- Expanding the sanctuary to large limits may restrict commercial whale watching. I'm neutral on this issue but raise it as it has economic implications.
- Fear: future generations won't have access to resources. Next generations won't have learned/be able to have connections to fishing and traditional practices. Keep traditional practices (through generations) in mind.
- Following consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, direct particular attention to the need for minimizing harassment of spinner dolphins by tourboats, private dolphin-watching vessels, swimmers, and divers
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Hawaiian monk seals: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support studies to assess and monitor population trends, prey preferences and foraging habitats, and/or at-sea habitat-use patterns; (b) carry out public outreach and education programs targeting grade school children, recreational fishermen, swimmers and divers, beach-goers, and tourists; (c) coordinate volunteer networks on one or more islands to respond to seals that haul out on crowded beaches and need protection from disturbance by people; and (d) respond to distressed seals, such as abandoned pups, or seals that are sick, injured, hooked, or entangled in fishing nets or debris.
- Give something back with turtles being harvested. Other species – see more turtles than when growing up. Maybe have a limited cultural take. Turtle is eating all the limu (?) too.

- Given that Hawaii is an isolated state with stewardship responsibility over the largest marine areas in the nation the HIHWNMS should be a leader in protection of this marine ecosystem. In addition to the health and survival of protected and endangered species, Hawaii's food supply, recreational activities, and economy are all dependent upon a safe and healthy ocean.
- Government should set rules and regulations not close or shut down our ocean waters. Our ocean water's is our life.
- HAAA has strong concerns over the potential negative and disruptive impacts of Sanctuary expansion in species of concern and geographic area on the sustainable economic use of State marine waters
- Have jet ski rules statewide. Current rules defective.
- HAWAII DEPENDS ON ITS TOURIST TRADE AND PROTECTING ITS MARINE MAMMALS IS VERY IMPORTANT!
- Hawaii is a unique place and the ocean and nearshore waters are important to our people. I do not agree to fencing off the ocean from the people. Current restrictions are more than adequate. Humans and sea life can co-exist peacefully.
- Hawai'i residents in general -- and Kaua'i residents in particular -- depend on the ocean for not only their economic livelihood but also for their subsistence and spiritual health.
- How do you expect us to live? Creating this sanctuary is a big mistake. If I lose my job because of limits to ocean use and speed, and I can't feed myself or my family because of fishing zones, are you going to provide me with food and shelter? We as humans have rights too!! Or should we just sue you if we become jobless/homeless? I ask you to honestly think about what you are planning to do. Things are hard enough with this economy. Don't make it harder for us!!
- How will new rules affect ocean industries/users and how will they differ from current regulations and restrictions?
- Humpback whale habitat can include water quality and human interaction.
- I always feel that in any situation education is the first step I take. I say and do this because in many cases the public has been using and enjoy there activity in these area all there lives. To implement restrictions first is the wrong way do things.
- I am a Hawaiian and I enjoy and need to fish! It is how I keep my sanity! If you take away our fishing there will be a lot of mad and crazy people!!
- I am a lifetime subsistence shoreline fisherman. I am concerned about the resources not being depleted.
- I am actually running for county council here in Kauai. I would like to find out more about what's going on with these new restrictions and how we stop them from becoming too restrictive. I am all for the humpback whale sanctuary but not at the expense of the island beaches and some of the industries here.
- I am against any form of restriction upon my culture
- I am against the inclusion of Monk seals, Green Sea turtles, and other dolphin species along with Coral species and ecosysytem management, under the umbrella od NOAA Hawaiian Humpback Wha:e Sanctuary. These species are already protected under the Endangered Species Act and redundant protection will unfairly limit the use of our resources by the people who need it most.
- I am against the marine sanctuary proposal. I am against any proposal that restricts in any type of manner island residents' ability to fish, swim, surf, or otherwise participate in ocean activities ever on the island of Kaua'i. The same goes for other islands as well.
- I am concerned about continuing access for shoreline fishermen to their fishing areas.
- I am concerned that proposed enlargement of the scope of the whale sanctuary management plan may restrict public natural resource shore line and ocean access. West Kaua'i has suffered signifigant

loss of natural resource public shore line and ocean access in recent years, at the same time public use has significantly increased.

- I am not sure what the Hawaiian Cultural Heritage (vision) means or is, but but if it suggest that only Hawaiians will be able to fish and use the ocean for recreation then I am againg it. If not then I am unsure.
- I am requesting that NOAA please take the concerns of all interest groups into consideration in this process, especially the fishermen, tour boat operators, and those who use the ocean for sustenance and enjoyment.
- I am sending this letter, expecting to be the very one that's needed, in helping to stop this sanctuary. It would be soooo sad to watch our keikis grow up noticing what we once had, they cannot also have!!!!
- I am totally against restricting the use of our reefs and ocean.
- I am writing to express my opposition to your plans of expanding the reach of the HIHW National Marine Sanctuary. It seems that you have fallen into the trap of elevating the animals lives and safety above that of the people of Kaua'i who fish to provide for their families, to those who provide incredible experiences for those who visit this island from distant places and to those who choose the ocean for their recreation, i.e., surfing, snorkeling, and scuba diving, among others.
- I certainly support the protection of Marine life but would still love to utilize the Hawaiian Sanctuary we live in as well.
- I do not support the humpback sanctuary borders being expanded and I do not support the regulation of coastal waters and the limitation of personal freedoms in those waters. There should be no use permits or licenses or limitations and feel free to call me back so I know that my information, or my opinion or my perspective is being considered and that others is as well.
- I do not want Kaua'i to be part of the proposed marine sanctuary because it would endanger the livelihood of our island's people.
- I do think that the boundaries should be expanded and other species should be included. Boats are swarming pods and there are too many swim with dolphins programs. Based on personal dolphin research the swim with dolphins program does change the pod behavior.
- I don't think any decisions should be made yet. A lot more opinions have to be gathered. I'm a shoreline fishermen pretty much my whole life and there is a lot of shoreline fishermen like myself who are not into commercial business and we gotta have a say – we have to know what's going on and we have to have a say – and I don't think you can proceed without spreading more information so that we can deal with any misinformation that's out there and I think the fishermen and ocean users, in particular surfers, and people like that we gotta hear what's going on and once we get the facts and know what's happening we can make our decision. Let me know - that's my position, give me a call.
- I don't think you people should stop shoreline fishing because I like to do that as a hobbit. Its not right that you take away something I like to do because of some so called endangered animal that is not even endangered. Think if I took something away from you that you like to do.
- I feel if the proposed whale sanctuary expansion is allowed, it would take away my ancestral right to use the ocean as my ancestors have done.
- I have heard that you are passing legislation to limit boats to 10 mph, close beaches to humans and fence them off, charge tour operators incredible amounts of money to operate. This is absolutely ridiculous. I am in favor of protection of the seas and the ocean animals but it sounds to me that you are getting incredibly out of hand! I vote no on any proposal you are making unless you come to your senses and make better decisions.

- I have yet to have met a fisherman who's had an issue with Humpback Whales, from my personal observation and experience; recreational boaters, tour-boats, para-sailing vessels, jet ski's and kayakers are primary compromisers and violators of any statute associated with Humpback Whales or other Marine Mammals.
- I just want to make a comment about the fact that you guys are trying to restrict our abilities to fish, swim, surf, and enjoy our reefs and oceans over here. I appreciate the fact that you guys are trying to extend the whale sanctuary but if you restrict our local use of the ocean I think its going to be a serious issue and I disagree with that plan and I really hope you guys come and listen to what the people have to say.
- I live on the island of Kauai. I am a surfer and ocean and animal lover. I do support the protection of humpback whales but I do not support closing the beaches or waters for the people that live here or visit Kauai. I believe that the humpback whales can be protected and we can still be allowed to fish and surf and enjoy the beautiful environment that we have, so please consider that. We do want the animals protected and also the recreation that we all enjoy and the reason that we live on Kauai.
- I request that you step back from your position of wanting to control where and when and if we may use the ocean for our livelihood. You are infringing on the freedom of the citizens of Hawaii who have fished these waters long before your organization ever existed. There is much more value in being RESPONSIBLE stewards than in your organization taking away the liberty of the people of Hawaii. You should be ashamed for even considering this heavy handed move.
- I think most of what the sanctuary has done has been effective. Charter boats have a lot of info to share, need more research and education. Sanctuary offers more opportunity for charter boat captains to get information from sanctuary (e.g., Ed Lyman).
- I think the beach and mountain is here for all of us to enjoy even if you don't fish or hunt or anything so just because you don't fish or anything you don't need to take away our way of life.
- I would like to respectfully ask that you do not approve the current proposal under review, which could lead to the limitation and or/cessation of ocean activities that many of our residents participate in.
- I'm not against expanding to include other species. I'm just not sure if now is the time for it. Jobs – the education programs the sanctuary has been doing are great, but don't see it creating jobs for local people. There is still a lot of work to be done towards the original mission. Sanctuary should show results toward mission to protect whales. Still need to work to meet original goals. Sanctuary expansion does not seem to bring jobs and money to THIS community. If it were that would be great.
- I'm sure the military is involved on some level all that kind of stuff you know we deal with it all the time over here, so anyways, that's my comment, I would appreciate a call back to know that this comment has been recorded and thank you very much and I hope we can work together and not have any problems over here. Just remember the Superferry that's all I'm saying.
- If our emphasis becomes regulatory, we risk antagonizing elements in our community and diminishing our ability to enhance our environment.
- If sanctuary wants to minimize boat-whale impact, it should STOP whale-watching tours!
- If we bring monk seals back it will bring great white sharks and tiger sharks to this area. Right now the sharks swim through but do not stop here. Having monk seal colonies here would make the sharks stay because of new food source. This is bad for tourism. Do not add monk seals to sanctuary and do not bring them here.
- Illegal operations of jet skis. Have same prohibition of jet skis on Big Island within sanctuary boundaries as in W. Maui. Current rules defective/not well enforced.

- In regards to the Humpback Whale Sanctuary Management Plan, I would like to respectfully ask that you do not approve the current proposal under review, which could lead to the limitation and or/cessation of ocean activities that many of our residents participate in. While I support the protection and preservation of our endangered marine species, it is my position that any enlargement of the scope of the sanctuary's "marine resources", should provide Kaua'i and Niihau residents protections from "prevention of participation" in ocean related activities.
- Include resources available to all stakeholders (Native Hawaiians, animals, ocean users, etc.) Need balance.
- Increase dialogue with tour boat companies
- Industry is exploiting the dolphins too much, may need to regulate how the operators do their tours (in blocks of time, not when they are resting). Now tours are run throughout the day, even when dolphins are resting.
- It is every tourist's thrill to see a whale, sea turtle, or monk seal. I also support expanding protection for these marine species. Kaua'i's isolated location also makes it an ideal setting for increased protection of marine species. I 100% support any and all efforts to increase the protection status of Kaua'i's whales, turtles, and monk seals.
- It is proven that Marine Protected Conservation Areas are very effective in re-establishing healthy reefs and fish populations. Why are there are no Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. Tourism would be favorably affected by such Marine Conservation.
- It would be sad that future generations will not be able to enjoy and experience the ocean activities (fishing, boating and diving)
- It's all about money. Not the local people and the land.
- It's not everybody that breaks or goes against your laws, but there are a few. But don't punish us for their stupidity and senselessness. We would still like to enjoy our shorelines and beaches for fishing and family outing and fun. And to teach the younger generation to do it the right way.
- I've been a commercial fisherman charter fishing captian and na pali coast boat captain for almost 40 years and I want to pass on my knowledge (knowhow) to my son. All the species are doing well in my eyes as I am on the ocean [quite a bit]. I received a state loan for commercial boating in 1979 and am well qualified on my assessments.
- Kauai has very few cean access ramps for boaters so boaters need to have access to the ocean. Also Kauai's north shore has very little access to the ocean so don't take that away for locals and tourists.
- Lanai community will become increasingly more challenged by economic operations such as Fresh fish, that are dependent on "harvesting". Sanctuary needs more research to understand these impacts. Fish farms are just one example of this challenge.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 14knts. On this issue my complaint is tour operators come to close to me while I'm anchored. I don't have any problem with going 25 knots if they would use some common sense. It's a big ocean they can go around me.
- Lots of boats and marine activity out there now which will be tricky between those who want to make money, recreational users, etc.
- Main thing is why should animals take precedence over humans?
- Monk seals are clearly doing better in human inhabited waters. They too, are strongly protected by state and federal laws. We can share our beaches with monk seals. We don't need to segregate.
- Monk seals: Completely remove them. Not beneficial to us at all. W are competing with them for our food.
- My concerns for expansion of the Sanctuary are for the people who rely on the ocean for their livelihood, whether as an outlet for them to put food on the table or earn a respectable living wage to support their family.

- Need a place for kids to work at home – science-based jobs when they graduate.
- Needs to look at ecosystem based management that incorporates coral, marine life, maritime heritage, resolving conflicts between multiple users/uses
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - ? real people - It's a disgrace to our native rights.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - Are you serious.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - Don't need this.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - Get real!
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - If you create zones. Its going to affect the younger generation on how to survive off the land/sea, keep it simple, peoples life defend on the ocean (why make um hard foa da localz).
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - When the humans who push such nonsense quit eating, drinking, breathing do these things, I will agree to such nonsense.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc)- That's enough! No restrictions!
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Who would decide where to establish these zones?
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Absolutely not!
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Again, to even consider this is ridiculous! Now you guys are messing with people lives and livelihoods - basically taking away our culture here in Hawaii. This is not the Northwest Hawaiian Islands - people live here.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Make no zones for Oahu , Kahoolwae rabbit island, Mokumanu and other smaller masses if land offshore if the main inhabited islands.
- No expand boundaries- there is no need to waste federal dollars the whales are doing just ifne and the impact to the people and life style will be great and unnecessary
- No expand to include corals- Yes before you look to the water you need to control what happens on the land. We the people see first hand the damage runoff from silt and fertilizers of golf courses and hotels are doing
- No expand to include corals-overdevelopment and too much tourism is the cause of reef damage. Nothing to do with Sanctuaries.
- No expand whale protections-agree with above comments. At what point does government stop their encroachment on our rights
- No no access zones-I think we have enough of that with hotels and rich not allowing the public access or making it most grueling to get to.
- No no access zones-there should be more "right of ways" to the beach. No one owns the beach
- No no take zones - Don't change our way of life.
- No no take zones - Fishing, hunting, diving, surfing are all culture. Don't take this away from us Kanakas.

- No vessel speed limit during whale season- whales are very intelligent creatures. They can hear vessels engines and stay away. Recreational boaters stay away from the paths of whales
- No vessel speed limits during whale season - I work for a boating company. Creating a speed limit will mean we will not be able to offer some of our most popular tours. As someone who works off commissions, losing our most popular tour could mean no home, no food, etc.
- No, no access zones. We already have Robinson, no need no more Robinsons. We have hotels allon shorelines and now with closing of McBryde. God made ocean for everybody. (Mahalepu)
- Normal recreation that residents and visitor enjoy does little harm to the sea animals.
- Now if the people agree per say, for that section, they will be no one or any boats or fishing goin on in that part of the sanctuary? We here protect the sea life n weve never interfered, well Not me n my family. There are seals, turtles n whales that are already protected here. For most people here in the islands, the ocean is our lifestyle n to tell us we are not allowed to go in the ocean or fish o shore sounds so idiotic.
- Now that I have children I have gone back to gathering from the ocean because it is their right and our privilege to be able to do so. I want to teach my son and daughter the right way to go about doing so.
- Our coral reefs are being damaged by improper grubbing and grading of coastal lands, run off of non regulated pollutants and by introduced species of invasive seaweed and fishes. Less than 1% is due to direct contact by local recreation fishermen using nets, fishing lines or diving, surfing, body surfing or any other means of recreation or sustenance gathering. The issue regarding our reef and coral system and species is directly related to coastal property owners. Be it private or commercial properties that are not being policed by NOAA, DLNR, DAR or any other governmental agency, be it on the county, state or federal level. There should be an annual or at least bi-annual study done on coastal properties and their affects on our reefs and coral species.
- Our economy would suffer drastically if the sanctuary is approved. Many tourists who enjoy our ocean activities with us would not return to visit and our visitor industry jobs would be at risk.
- People in Hawaii, well most of them I know live off the ocean, so stopping them from doing that will be very hard for them.
- Please consider some special "No Take" areas on Kaua'i in and around Poipu, Shipreck Beach to Allerton, in and around Kilaua Point to Kalihiwai. Perhaps use a pilot area to start with and continue research to support its expansion.
- Please do not make the waters around Kaua'i a whale sanctuary. Most people already respect the whales and monk seals etc. and others would be better served with more education. Making this area a sanctuary would lead to a cultural and economic catastrophe.
- Please do not restrict what beaches we are able to use.
- Potential economic benefits from whale watching to the state – expanding the boundaries could help attract more tourists
- Recreational tour boat operators to share info with public (same as #5 above)
- Regular interactions are needed. Keep in touch. Because Castle and Cooke is broke, economy of Lanai is uncertain. It is unknown what new economic ventures will occur here on this island. Need to stay engaged to deal with emerging topics. Lots of enterprises coming to this island. How do you manage commercial ventures? Live conversations are important and need to do this on a regular basis.
- Require all tour boat businesses making gross receipts in excess of \$5,000,000.00 a year to have a marine biologist on every boat tour that operates within the sanctuary. Require accurate whale sighting to be logged each tour. Request identification photos be taken of flukes to positively ID individuals.

- Resolution of conflict among ocean users-sanctuary needs to come up with methodology to resolve these conflicts.
- Respect cultural traditions
- Respect the locals, the hell with the whales and turtles, and the the seals.
- Revisiting and better understanding the original promises supporting compatible economic uses in Sanctuary waters found in the original enabling documents mentioned above , as well as actively soliciting comments and experiences from all ocean user groups, would provide a realistic context for the review.
- Sanctuary should be expanded in terms of species to include dolphins, monk seals, turtles, other cetaceans. This is part of the heritage of this island. Living entities of the ocean and is consistent with maintain the heritage of the Lanai.
- Sanctuary should have cultural programs that provide jobs and internships specifically for locals.
- Sanctuary should not expand whale protections - If expanded it will stop all ocean activities, you my say no, but I don't believe that.
- Set up a framework to allow economic growth and development within the sanctuary. E.g. alternative energy, new technologies. Need to be flexible to allow new/unforeseen industry.
- Shallow wrecks provide a great recreational value which also creates an economic value provided the wrecks interaction and preservation can be controlled. A relationship with local dive charters could create a stewardship for assisting in this area
- Shark cages operators lives on Lanai. It is a matter of time before that activity is here. Sanctuary needs to take a stand on this issue. Operator owns a boat here in Lanai. Waters off of Lanai is where people play and chumming here in would cause big problems. This would not only be dangerous to whales but also swimmers.
- Single species? Speed limits, shipping lanes, balance between economic conditions
- Sorry but I hate RIMPAC, Honolulu small businesses love it, they get all the \$\$\$\$ from it, we get all the environmental hits. RIMPAC sucks for the marine life. I believe that NOAA should have us do assessments and fish counts on the reef off of Mana while the military games are being played. One season, and there would be enough evidence of disruptive marine ecosystem for perhaps to be considered as substantial evidence.
- Stimulus funds can be a great opportunity to stimulate the economy and create more jobs related to the ocean.
- submerged heritage sites serve as unique windows into the past, providing opportunities for historians, archaeologists, sport divers, and the general public to experience and appreciate these public resources in a responsible manner
- Suggestion: Commercial kayaks be informed about the need to avoid interaction with the dolphins in this location, this may be added to their SMA permits issued by Kaua'i County. Educational signage be provided in the adjacent Ha'ena Beach County park to provide information to commercial and recreational users of the area.
- Suggestion: Commercial permit holders be informed about the use of this area by these protected creatures, provide education to their employees and customers.
- The bottom line is, a new sanctuary on Kaua'i and Niihau will only further take away our cultural rights as human beings to provide food for our families and nourishment for body mind and souls.
- The fact that the entire NWHI chain is now off limits to pretty much everybody has given many in the maritime community some trepidation to encourage yet more government protection in Hawaiian waters. The government's actions on restricting access to the Line Islands and other out of the way places will be watched carefully by the yachting community as well as others vested in maritime issues.

- The humpback whale sanctuary is really about education. That's fine. However, unless we are all going to be given government jobs then there should be no competition with local businesses whose livelihood depends upon the interest of visitors to be educated and safely introduced to the ocean environment. Do not consider killing or hampering jobs made by small businesses to enlarge the sanctuary unless there is a plan to have a very large staff. It's fine to have a resource center for the population who is disabled, or can't seem to get safely on a vessel for one reason or another. Otherwise allow the education to be paid for by visitors and have the \$\$ go directly in the local economy supporting small business.
- The island of Kaua'i is dependent on the tourist business. Everyone here helps make this a positive experience, and helps in raising the awareness of the local ecosystem. Participating in local water related activities is essential in maintaining the health of local families especially children.
- The islands are a breeding ground for whales. Keep the ecotourism and the whales in good shape
- The management plan should include an in-depth study, with recommendations and an implementation strategy, to extend the stewardship of the Sanctuary to include other species, to define the resulting ecosystem boundaries and interactions, to monitor land-atmosphere-ocean interactions in these ecosystems, and to regulate human use of the Sanctuary waters.
- The MKF supports...allowing access and observation
- The more critters you can show to tourists, the more tourism and dollars you should be able to generate for saving all the wildlife in the waters around Hawaii
- The Navy has no objection to divers visiting these types of sites (maritime heritage) if done so in a responsible and with the appropriate type of management.
- The ocean and being in it is part of our lives, weather fishing, touring, canoe paddling, sailing, surfing and all other activities that go on or near the shorelines is a gift from our good Lord as Human Beings.
- The ocean is essential to the lifestyle and culture of Kaua'i's people who seek it for fishing, diving, and recreation.
- The proposed increase in sanctuary scope to include "marine resources" other than humpback whales could lead to the limitation and or/cessation of ocean activities that many of our residents participate in. This proposed scope may not be related to preserving humpback whales, Hawaiian monk seals, other marine mammals, sea turtles, or the positive increase in repopulation of fish.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. It's clear that the whales are doing fine, expanding is not going to help the whales anymore, only hurt the people of Hawaii.
- The sanctuary should not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. How are you supposed to snorkel in 600ft depth? A lot of businesses would be affected thus people losing their jobs.
- The sanctuary should not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. I'm really mad that my tax dollars are being wasted for something that's not needed. Just to create a few jobs for some.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. If you do that a lot of businesses will be affected. Tour boats, restaurants, fishing supplies, and a whole lot more. Just about everyone will be affected somehow.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. I agree. Agricultural and human expansion and land development are the culprits. Focus on the programs, on limiting the victim (the ocean). Fix the sources of the runoff.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. If people can't you the ocean Hawaii would lose a lot of its tourism.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Expansion is just a way to secure jobs for a few.

- The sanctuary should take a lead role in addressing aquaculture, energy projects, and any new uses of the ocean floor, shoreline, and waters within its boundaries. In addressing new uses, the sanctuary should not restrict traditional uses (i.e. fishing, boating, and other traditional ocean activities) in favor of new uses.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. There should be no "no access zones" The local economy and families would be in ruins whether you owned your own business or worked in a hotel/restaurant etc.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. I agree. There really is no purpose for a sanctuary, unless some group is looking to cause hostile reactions. Hawaii's people respect having their lifestyle and even livelihood curtailed by misguided "do-gooders".
- The thought of you guys taking away the things we do to enjoy our life here on Kauai is going to be met with tremendous problems for you guys so I hope you really consider what you're trying to do and think of the effects of the people that live here. And, basically you guys actually work for us, the taxpayers, so I hope you really listen and not just move forward with what you guys are trying to do, I'm not really sure.
- There are no Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. The sanctuary should help protect reef habitat and establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. All the other islands have this.
- There are not many programs in Hawaii for our people if you pass laws that [disable] our people to use the ocean. You take away our lives. By passing this law, you now can take away our surfing, fishing, boating, snorkeling, canoe racing. Please do not pass this law.
- There can be accidental impacts to these significant (maritime heritage) resources by careless divers. There can also, unfortunately, be intentional damage and illegal looting of sites. NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries has previously assisted this office by forwarding information regarding two past incidents, both of which have occurred within Sanctuary waters. The first case involved a commercial boat mooring attached directly to the propeller shaft of an F4U Corsair aircraft BuNo 49668, thereby damaging the airframe and engine cowling. The second case involved the alleged removal of a 50cal machine gun by technical divers from a PB4Y Liberator aircraft BuNo 38769. In this case, considerable damage was documented on the rear turret of the aircraft. It may be likely that, among the many naval properties within Sanctuary boundaries, there are other as yet unknown cases.
- There is no need to bring in other species, they are protected by existing laws like the ESA and the MMPA, if those laws are adequately enforced, but that is a big problem. If higher fines are implemented in the sanctuary, this may not be effective for boaters; what is next? Ban boaters? The government is growing too big, the Sanctuary staff is too large, there are more regulations. The Sanctuary boundaries do not need to be expanded. The whale population is growing at 5-6% a year so there is no need to expand. There are about 11 species of whales that are associated with the Hawaiian Islands. The whales move around a lot, they are not helped by the Sanctuary's existence unless they are in it. What will you do for them the rest of the time? Expanding the boundaries may impact (especially economically) commercial whale watching. The government is too large.
- There is no real need for any further expansion to sanctuary boundaries other than to further restrict mariners, fishers, etc. and will in turn provide ³priority arenas² for more human activity such as whale watching, research dollars/projects and these may not necessarily be beneficial to the whales per se.
- There must be more regulatory collaboration between land and ocean uses, especially regarding pollution, that would affect the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary must take a leading role in fostering this collaboration. The management plan should include an investigation of these issues and a plan to implement closer collaboration between the Sanctuary and other users.

- There should be more grants available to study and implement several conservation programs around Kaua'i. First one: coral replanting after storms. Kaua'i has the largest and oldest pocillopora eydouxi corals found on any of the main Hawaiian Islands. A replanting project as has been done even in Oahu after the navy ship was grounded is proving to be successful just of huge scope. We need a continuing coral replanting project here on Kaua'i. I strongly urge this type of project to pay local diving professionals to participate. That way, you have the residents "owning" the project, the government is injecting the \$\$ directly into the local economy, the corals get to start a new life and Kaua'i will benefit with more coral coverage underwater continuing to enlarge that habitat and food source instead of its continuing diminishing quality and ability to protect other species.
- There should be no "no access" zones. Do not take away our food resources my we Hawaiians. We live off the land and it include the ocean that we using right now for our food on our tables.
- There should be no "no access" zones. Public should not be denied access I enjoy fishing, diving, swimming in the ocean, don't take that away.
- There should be no "no access" zones. This would ruin Hawaii's economy. Local families would all lose their jobs go on unemployment and cost the tax payers more money.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Keep the boat survey that are making money on whale watching.
- There should be no "no access" zones. So you want to prevent beach access? Water access? This will be a hard pill for Hawaii residents to accept or swallow. This is asking for trouble.
- They shouldn't stop us from doing what we love to do. It's all the invasive species that is the problem.
- Think externally—outside of marine (e.g. alternative energy, tourism, surfing, fishing, cruise ships, shipping, ferries, wind farms, land use connections)-what is the relationship between all of these things?
- This is just a propaganda to stop our sustainability. Not be able to survive without government. The same thing the white men did when they went through the great plains. Ruining peoples lives and culture.
- This is NOT a good idea. Do you plan to retrain all those people on the affected Hawaiian islands. Our lives depend on the ocean for food. Why are you taking this away from us!? What about all the recreenjoy such as surfing, swimming, and fishing. Are you taking those away from us too?
- To enlarge the sanctuaries and prohibit activities would be another "nail in the coffin" for tourist not to come to Hawaii.
- Tour industry is divided. Some care about the bottom line of profit and guarantee customer lots of time with marine mammal, others don't let people in the water so as to not harass the whales.
- Turtles – need to focus on living things. Most important asset of ocean is living species. That is what drives tourism. Shipwrecks are ok too to attract tourism but the living things are the most important and should be protected.
- Unsure if the sanctuary should create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.). Maybe just have seasons closed/open for different species.
- Visitors to Hawaii help power the economy and people come to see many species (not only whales).
- We (Kaua'i County Mayor's Office) also would like to see that any and all actions taken during the management plan review and after be done in such a way that balances the concerns of all facets of the community including recreational and commercial users of the ocean.
- We all have the utmost respect for whales and other sea life and truly believe the whales can be protected by means and methods which need not infringe upon the recreation and rights of those of us who have grown up in the waters of the sanctuary.

- We all know that anything to do with the outdoors has been under attack all across the US. Ranging from RV access to hunting and fishing. We are right now dealing with biocontrol of our "so called" invasive fruit trees. Taking away our ability to be self sustaining. We here in Hawaii fish and hunt, this is our way of life. But we all know that this is all about control.
- We as Hawaiians need the ocean to sustain our family.
- We encourage stronger enforcement measures including federal officers stationed on each island and a cooperative enforcement program with trained community volunteers and/or paid personnel; better control of jet skis operating within the Sanctuary and prohibition of jet ski operations during the whale season (similar to West Maui).
- we support HIHWNMS working collaboratively with NGOs and dive operations around the state in developing programs and materials that will help educate the public and provide accurate interpretation of maritime heritage resources to residents and visiting divers
- We would like to see the benefits of federal dollars spent in our community. Expand sanctuary scope to include their resources, for example corals. Federal money for sanctuary is bringing money to this community, this is good.
- Whale watching tours do not impact whales; tours increase awareness about whales
- Whale watching tours have more impact on whales than fishermen
- Whales are all around island and Sanctuary is very small area so should expand boundaries and enforcement. We need compromise/balance with all the multiple ocean users
- Whales draw tourism, economic sense. Preserve ecotourism.
- What about protecting and conserving living HAWAIIAN peoples and their ways of life? Protecting and conserving other living marine resources and submerged cultural heritage resources should NOT put a limit or destroy the culture and way of Hawaiians, Hawaii, or its visitors.
- What potential revenue did the state lose by giving waters to the sanctuary?
- When attending a meeting on Oct 5 and listening what might occur and what has already occurred by NOAA I got upset! In a good sense to where it is my obligation (kul[e]ana) to see that noaa will not accomplish their mission. With the guideness of the akua and the power of the people we will join as one to void this mission. noaa needs to redirect their mission toward education not the limitations to our lifestyle. I am a descendant of my ancestors. It is my birthright, and my obligation to malama from the mountain to the sea. I as kanaka have the right to gather food from mother ocean and to provide to my ohana and community as long as i live. With the power invested in me from the great akua.
- When Governor Ben Cayetano approved the sanctuary, he purposely did not include all waters around the islands as he was unsure about how this "new" sanctuary model would work in Hawaii. Having proposals to ban certain ocean activities, e.g. fishing, in the sanctuary appears to confirm some of his concerns about the federal government essentially bypassing the state's sovereign right to manage its property.
- When Superferry tried coming in harbor, my family, Wongs was in that water. My niece Meagan was on her surfboard everyday out there. She may be a white Hawaiian. But try telling her that she cannot eat or fish for her daughter. They eat more fish than me, raw, dried, grilled, whateva. We love the whales and all sea creatures, but we have to live together. Like I said, we know we have to be caretakers of our island, Beautiful Kaua'i. PS. Limiting outside ocean sanctuary and shorelines limits us to be who we are and our lifestyle and our way of survival. That's my cultural sanctuary. Kaua'i to me has always been a sanctuary over 100 years. People have to be accountable of their own! If there is real trouble we can all come together and decide, not now!

- While I support the protection and preservation of our endangered marine species, it is my position that any enlargement of the scope of the sanctuary's "marine resources", should provide Kaua'i and Niihau residents protections from "prevention of participation" in ocean related activities.
- Why is Hawaiian Cultural being considered as being added into the whale sanctuary? Frankly, our haole children have a local culture without a real "home" I think we should include them somehow too!
- Why should we expand the boundary to include more areas of human interaction?
- Will you ban boating in the Sanctuary?
- Would the sanctuary add refuge zones (closed to all boat traffic) for moms/calves to rest?
- Yes, create no access zones. Yes so locals can enjoy our whole island.
- You don't say where we need to know more we need to access the ocean. For these simple reasons I strongly say no to adding historical sites to the sanctuary.
- You say that the public needs to be involved, but that's a lie. There's been a lot of meetings held in secret. You're trying to pull a fast one on the people of Hawaii and it's not right. The ocean is a way of life for us in Hawaii, you take that away, and there is no Hawaii, we live off the ocean. All you're going to accomplish by any of this is a few jobs for a select few. Shame on you!!!

OFFSHORE DEVELOPMENT*Offshore Development: General Concerns about Aquaculture and Alternative Energy*

- Adding to the influence of the Sanctuary would add to the risk and uncertainties inherent in offshore aquaculture projects, as well as other potentially compatible commercial ocean uses (e.g., ocean energy and wave energy), while creating additional bureaucratic obstacles to an already confusing regulatory system.
- Consideration of whether the Sanctuary's conservation efforts should include threatened and endangered species such as Hawaiian monk seals, spinner dolphins, sea turtles, and coral reefs should be based on an evaluation of the need for such efforts and of the effectiveness of marine protected areas in benefiting such species. For this and other reasons, additional funds should be dedicated to better regulatory monitoring and enforcement and to scientific research on the species' protection impacts related to water quality, acoustic noise sources, aquaculture, and offshore alternative energy development.
- The sanctuary should take a lead role in addressing aquaculture, energy projects, and any new uses of the ocean floor, shoreline, and waters within its boundaries. In addressing new uses, the sanctuary should not restrict traditional uses (i.e. fishing, boating, and other traditional ocean activities) in favor of new uses.

Offshore Development: General Concerns regarding Aquaculture

- Aquaculture and fishponds (in water and land-based) should be expanded to take stress off the ocean.
- Aquaculture projects that have come before the Sanctuary and its advisory body believe they have been unfairly treated and misrepresented by staff and certain advisory council members through: speculation on the whale and whale habitat impacts of aquaculture passing as hard science, utilizing whale distribution data of questionable accuracy to criticize proposed sites, empirical evidence from Hawaii and around the world of acceptable risk for collision with culture nets being ignored, and unwarranted limitations being put on the technical input into the Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) deliberations by not sufficiently including offshore aquaculture expertise in discussions and not having aquaculture industry representation in the SAC.
- Aquaculture sites are somehow going to affect whales and the environment. NOAA needs to talk to the industry to come up with solution for the future.
- Aquaculture: need education on practices (e.g., medication in food wash in the ocean) and how they affect the ocean environment. Altering the seafood species (farm-raised species). Seafood = meds, beef = steroids. This could be the end of a lot of things because the ocean is natural. Genetic modification has side effects that are a concern and water quality is a concern too. Need regulations to address these issues and regulate quality of the food (hormones, genetically modified...) Farming practices also use antibiotics. There are long-term consequences.
- Aquafarms, offshore – water quality around fish farms, bacteria diseases.
- Commercial fish farming within the Sanctuary must be carefully monitored.
- Determine whether or not aquaculture is appropriate in the sanctuary.
- Proposed fish farms cause problems with water quality because of the fish food and poop in one area, cables (to hold down cages – causing problems with entanglement), whales will come close to the fish farms to eat the baby fish. Water quality problems will advance impacts on coral and visitor industry. Study what the impacts are of fish farms on local fishermen and commercial fishermen. What is the cultural take of fish farms as opposed to fish ponds?
- Revisiting and better understanding the original promises supporting compatible economic uses in Sanctuary waters found in the original enabling documents mentioned above, as well as actively

soliciting comments and experiences from all ocean user groups, would provide a realistic context for the review.

- The sanctuary should have a major role in addressing two of the emerging topics ... aquaculture (go beyond "learning more about this . . .").

Offshore Development: Potential Solutions regarding Aquaculture

- Aquaculture – what kind of regulations will there be when it comes to aquaculture operations?
- Aquaculture hasn't been around long so perhaps education is needed to ensure it is done in an environmentally responsible way. It has potentially great implications as a food supply and can be done without antibiotics and in a more healthy way and can replenish fish stocks (in the future). Sanctuary could be involved in giving aquaculture farms better direction in how to do it responsibly/naturally/sustainably. Applying traditional knowledge could help achieve these goals.
- Aquaculture in offshore waters: the fish isn't healthy, using lots of antibiotics, not healthy for us or the fish or ecosystem. The sanctuary shouldn't allow offshore aquaculture.
- Concern has to go beyond the boundary because whales swim outside the boundary and fish farms have impacts without boundaries. The Sanctuary should provide input to fish farms that might submerge nets in the ocean outside of sanctuary boundaries. Possibly suggest making the nets more visible to whales.
- Finally, the sanctuary may be able to play an important role in addressing certain activities that have a clear potential for adversely affecting marine species and biological communities in waters surrounding the main Hawaiian Islands. For example, commercial and recreational fishing can incidentally take protected species, vessel traffic can kill, injure, or disturb individual animals, powerful sonar devices may injure or kill marine mammals and other marine species, and the installation of facilities or structures such as aquaculture pens or waste outfalls can preempt or modify habitat for marine life or introduce sources of pollution or disturbance to marine life. In many cases, the need or justification for regulatory measures may not be immediately apparent or may arise only after some future development proposal is made. In other cases, a need may be apparent, but further study is required to determine the most effective measures. For such activities where specific regulatory provisions may be needed in the foreseeable future but cannot be identified or developed as part of the ongoing management plan review, sanctuary managers should have authority to implement regulations as new information develops.
- Pollution from land sources or from aquaculture is not acceptable in the Sanctuary, and must be monitored and regulated.
- Sanctuary management should foster and promote land-based, culturally relevant aquaculture practices (such as Hawaiian fish ponds) and prohibit all moored, offshore aquaculture facilities from Sanctuary waters. Insofar as the state of Hawaii has proven to be an unreliable partner with the Sanctuary in planning and recommending sites for open-ocean aquaculture facilities outside Sanctuary waters, Sanctuary management should make a clear prohibition of moored aquaculture structures within the Sanctuary boundaries. Furthermore, inasmuch as the existing moored aquaculture facility that is within Sanctuary waters has "morphed" far beyond its original scope and approved design, Sanctuary management should instigate proceedings to remove the facility from Sanctuary waters as soon as possible.

Offshore Development: Area-Specific about Aquaculture

- Fishery hatchery within sanctuary off of Lanai. Waste nutrients will impact sanctuary resources. Sanctuary needs to be more involved in this project. Waste suspensions will have terrible impacts on whales.

- Lanai community will become increasingly more challenged by economic operations such as Fresh Fish, that are dependent on “harvesting”. Sanctuary needs more research to understand these impacts. Fish farms are just one example of this challenge.
- Punish the landowners that allow silting and toxic effluents into the ocean (Robinson Sugar and Shrimp Farm).

Offshore Development: General Concerns regarding Alternative Energy

- As per our understanding, there is no current permitting structure that allows for laying undersea electric cables transmitting power from renewable resources within the federal waters portion of the Sanctuary.
- Concerned about power generation energy project, impacts on sanctuary and species in it.
- How could energy development affect humpback whales?
- How do you make allowances for testing/projects (such as alternative energy, water-based energy) within sanctuary waters?
- Set up a framework to allow economic growth and development within the sanctuary. E.g. alternative energy, new technologies. Need to be flexible to allow new/unforeseen industry.
- Submerged cultural resources, by definition, would not be restricted to shipwrecks. Remains of old harbors, docks, wharves, and wire landings as well as jetsam and airplanes could be included in the inventory of “cultural resources,” as would submerged cables running between the islands
- The sanctuary should be involved in the EIS for the power cable.
- Think externally—outside of marine (e.g. alternative energy, tourism, surfing, fishing, cruise ships, shipping, ferries, wind farms, land use connections)-what is the relationship between all of these things?

Offshore Development: Potential Solutions regarding Alternative Energy

- Concerned about impact proposed cable will have on the sanctuary. Need to be more aggressive in research to be able to say that the cable will not have any impact on whales. Lack of research is unacceptable. Need to have more research capacity to assess impacts. Look outside of sanctuary resources to obtain funds needed.
- DBEDT requests that the Management Plan either consider provisions for laying such transmission cables within federal waters of the Sanctuary or that the Sanctuary administration consider the promulgation of regulations for the issuance of permits within federal waters of the Sanctuary pursuant to the authority granted it in §922.48 of Title 15, Chapter 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "National Marine Sanctuary Permits - Application Procedures and Issuance Criteria." By establishing rules that would allow for the laying of the undersea cable in federal waters of the Sanctuary, the Sanctuary would ensure agency compliance and would assist in minimizing potential impacts to ocean and marine environment within the Sanctuary.
- In the absence of the sanctuary to have the academic information to assess impacts, the sanctuary should determine what its role should be in the power cable process.
- It would make logical sense of the sanctuary to be involved in the [submerged cable] EIS, but without the resources or fundamental knowledge of impacts, the sanctuary will be used by the State in this process. Sanctuary needs the technical research or academic input (acceptable scientific knowledge) to be able to evaluate impacts to whales. What good is the sanctuary unless it can provide informed knowledge about impact to whales?
- Studies of the ecosystems with regards to the proposed wind farms. How will this impact the reefs and up the food chain. Sanctuary should be expanded to include ecosystems

Offshore Development: Area-Specific about Alternative Energy

- Monk seals babies are born in Kalaupapa, swim to Penguin Bank to eat after pup's weaned. Penguin Bank is the best place for monk seals to fish. Proposed wind turbines would need submerged cable to Oahu. Proposed cables could go north of Molokai or through Penguin Bank. The sanctuary should oppose an electrical cable going through Penguin Bank because it is monk seal feeding habitat. Do not support electrical cable going through Penguin Bank, will leave negative impact on monk seals.
- RE: Lanai submarine cable and wind towers: (See: <http://www.lanaiwind.com/>) As you are aware in response to the State Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative Castle and Cooke LLC has proposed to the State and HECO to construct on Lana'i a large 20,000-acre power generation industrial complex in conjunction with a submarine power transmission cable between Lana'i and O'ahu to include Moloka'i and Maui. The proposal may consist of 80-120 wind turbines serviced by as many or more service roads and a large inverter station on the rugged western portion of Lana'i requiring extensive moving of soil and deep foundations close to the shore and ocean resource. I am requesting
- the development of a plan to evaluate the impacts on the resource and
 - in collaboration with the community a habitat preservation plan to protect the resource.
 - Please inform us regularly of your progress in initiating such a process,
 - Create a "special link" to permit us to maintain communications and to learn how best to participate. Lana'ians will support your agency's need for public funds to ensure plans meeting best practice standards. I believe now is the time to initiate a program well before the State and Federal Environmental Impact Statements are conducted. Your agency's participation is critical not just for Lana'i, but also for the state and the nation to protect this national resource.
- The Sanctuary should look at issues such as: wind farms, vessel speeds, west side of Lanai for undersea cable, a haul out area for Hawaiian monk seals.

REGULATIONS*Regulations: General Comments*

- 14 knot per hour speed limit during whale season with fines and enforcement. Presently there are no speed limits to prevent ship strikes.
- A 10 MPH speed limit would limit even sailboat racing.
- A strict kapu (management/off limits) system needs to be strictly enforced to protect the Humpback whales that migrate here. This system should include fish and the entire aquatic realm that surrounds and supports us.
- Acoustic disturbance including; sonar, shipping, underwater explosives, boat engine noise, commercial air guns & seismic surveys have all been documented to cause behavioral impacts, strandings, alters communication, causes deafness and death in whales. The sanctuary has done nothing to protect whales from sonar or acoustic disturbance. I request the Sanctuary to limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales.
- Acoustic impacts: define and mitigate impacts on sanctuary resources; e.g. Navy sonar, underwater demolition.
- Additionally: I find it reprehensible that marine protection organizations forge ahead in reckless and detrimental policies that completely disregard the [diminishing] rights of Native Hawaiians and their subsistence activities; life sustaining fishing and hunting and gathering by closing their fishing areas for species that are in abundant numbers!
- Address need for MPA's – there are none in Hawai'i. Expand boundaries/regulations in keeping with MPA's, will establish baseline of ocean health for future. This is not identified in SOS report but it IS an emerging issue.
- Algae are increasing because the fish that keep them in check are being over-fished by spear fishing. I've observed this and heard it from scientists in the Hilo community. Need to find a way to educate local fishermen to rotate fishing sites so don't over-use.
- All this is about - is these people creating jobs for themselves. There is absolutely no scientific data that proves any of their claims. In fact, all data points to lesser degrees of regulation.
- Aloha, No Kapu da fishing. We need the Kau Kau and the Kala.
- Also about speed limits I don't think it matters because ...when they hear the sound of a motor boat, they don't come for you.
- Animals are able to adapt, either they come close or not.
- Any further restrictions, of any nature what so ever, to public access of natural resource shoreline and ocean should be thoroughly reviewed and approved by the public and our elected government representatives before implemented.
- Aquaculture – what kind of regulations will there be when it comes to aquaculture operations?
- Aquaculture in offshore waters: the fish isn't healthy, using lots of antibiotics, not healthy for us or the fish or ecosystem. The sanctuary shouldn't allow offshore aquaculture.
- Aquarium trade: most animals die before even leaving the islands. Sanctuary should address the aquarium trade.
- Are fishing no take zones really effective? Increased boundaries and regulations hard for everyday ocean users to do what they do without fear of prosecution
- Are there regulations on SONAR in the sanctuary?
- Areas within the Hawai'ian sanctuary must include speed limits with enforcement.
- Areas within the Hawaiian sanctuary must include speed limits with enforcement. Scientific research proves that boat speed is clearly a factor in the incidence of collisions. Scientists have advised that

speed regulations should be put in place, with adequate monitoring and enforcement. These laws should include strict enforcement for vessels hitting whales or going over the speed limit.

- As water quality in the sanctuary continues to decline due to human impacts, hawksbill food sources will be adversely affected. Making the sanctuary or designated portions of it into additional marine preserves would help to solve this problem as well.
- Avoid duplication between agencies & existing regulations
- Ban aquarium fish extraction statewide.
- Because most fish, including sharks, are in serious decline, and because fisheries have a huge incidental by-catch; I request the Sanctuary to take a strong stand to regulate commercial factory fisheries. In particular, protection for False Killer whales, and any other marine species affected by fisheries impact.
- Biggest loss of regulations isn't to charter business but a loss to the world when people can't experience these animals first hand.
- Boat-strike and boat speed issue is the number 1 issue – regulate speed: Tour boats in the whale watching business are a big part of this issue
- Chemicals & pollution create pathogen friendly environments in Hawaii's waters and cause algae blooms, which smother the reefs and are toxic to marine mammals. The ocean has become a toxic soup. There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs. I request the Sanctuary to fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Commercial fishing restrictions on fishing in the Sanctuary should be controlled more strictly. Need to increase commercial fishing regulations to avoid larger sizes by setting size limitations. If you're going to have a Sanctuary in place you should attack the issue from all angles.
- Concerned about MPR process because it looks a lot like expansion of NWHI. Bunch of new laws and regulations. Additional regulations create challenges/concerns for ocean users/fishermen
- Concerned with loss of open space and potential expansion of species and regulations into Sanctuary.
- Consider sedimentation. Possible partnership with Army Corps of Engineers. Best Management Practices, monitor construction, other activities that could lead to sedimentation. Programs, regulations to monitor sedimentation within sanctuary waters over and above other waters. Implement alt. approaches (BMP's) e.g. porous asphalt.
- Considering the current state of over-fishing, along with commercial fishing limits within the boundaries, all net fishing should be eliminated. Net entanglement is a huge threat to all marine mammals so regulation needs to be preventative, not after the damage is done.
- Cruise ships are increasing as is the dumping by cruise ships. There raw sewage smells. We need to get some effective laws to get control of illegal dumping from cruise ships
- Current population about the same-I see reason for this sanctuary it doesn't do anymore than the present Federal laws. It is simply not necessary and a waste of federal money at a time when federal funds are needed and can be put to better use
- DBEDT requests that the Management Plan either consider provisions for laying such transmission cables within federal waters of the Sanctuary or that the Sanctuary administration consider the promulgation of regulations for the issuance of permits within federal waters of the Sanctuary pursuant to the authority granted it in §922.48 of Title 15, Chapter 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "National Marine Sanctuary Permits - Application Procedures and Issuance Criteria." By establishing rules that would allow for the laying of the undersea cable in federal waters of the Sanctuary, the Sanctuary would ensure agency compliance and would assist in minimizing potential impacts to ocean and marine environment within the Sanctuary.

- Definite role for the sanctuary to have expanded scope. Opportunities for additional collaboration so it doesn't matter if MLCD or sanctuary align programs. Rules, regulations, policies and legislation should align better.
- Derelict fishing nets – there should be a reward for pick up and regulations to stop dumping of nets.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whale season. One should be more concerned for the safety of the small boaters who will more than likely suffer more damage.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include monk seals. This seals aren't from here they were brought here by NOAA or some other organization. The law is very strict on the safety for the monk seal.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles - There should be a permit to take turtles there is enough to sustain the population. I'm glad there no manatees and turtles.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. Everyone has a right to use the ocean resources. Fishing for family, commercial boaters like myself, whales have a right also.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. We don't need no organizations who hold meetings with hidden "agenda. NOAA cannot be trusted and the people/state will be informed of our actions.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. This thought is ridiculous.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Coral Reef - Stopping people from shoreline fishing or diving, surfing, paddling canoe is out of question.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef - There should be stiffer fines and penalties for agriculture run off into our oceans.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. We have enough limits.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. More on the endangered list, more laws, more control.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Dolphins already protected by marine mammal protection law.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Dolphins are also doing well with current laws.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include dolphins. Unnecessary, just more laws and regulations.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. The laws are already on the books.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Just as the whales and turtles their doing fine with the existing laws and regulations.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals - Laws are in place when they come on land you are to stay 100 feet away most people respect this.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Monk Seals - We should not forget about the human population, current laws offered large areas for the sole sunning seal! What about us??
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include monk seals. Existing law is adequate. Continue on educating people especially tourists.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - In fact, it's time to allow native Hawaiian harvest rights - there are plenty of turtles today.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles - In my opinion theres to many turtles. A tag and take lottery season should be opened.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles -Ever since laws have been passed I have seen the turtle population increase the turtles are doing fine.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Enough already. Choke turtles already. Open one season or lottery to harvest one.

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. Laws and regs that are in place are more than enough.
- Do not expand to include sea turtles. Population doing just fine with current laws.
- Do not expand whale protections. There are sufficient regulations/protection for the humpback already in place.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. Emergency vessels (police, fire, Coast Guard, DLNR, etc.) need to travel as fast as possible. Fishermen and others need speed to get in before storm fronts hit - it is a safety issue!
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. Obviously the presence of a whale dictates precaution.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. They can hear the boats and move out of the way.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. Speeds enough to be safe as boaters and recreationers.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whale season - Whales are easy to see I would just move out of there way. I wouldn't want to damage my boat.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whale season.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whale season. There shouldn't be any limits, captains need to use comin cents
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whales season. Controlled by community, clubs and local efforts, supported by DLNR.
- Do not limit vessel speed limits during whales season. Everyone should follow the "law" of the sea's.
- Does the sanctuary have the power to enforce/implement all these new regulations?
- Dolphin population issue: the number of boats surrounding dolphins should be limited
- Dolphins – operator offers encounters with dolphins, go about 200 yards away and wait to see if dolphins come to interact, don't stay more than 15 minutes. Other operators do it differently, they cut off dolphins and drop divers in which puts a lot of pressure on dolphins allowing commercialization of dolphins to get out of hand. Affects dolphins ability to rest.
- Dolphins are interacting with jet skis, it seems dolphins really want to play with people. Sometimes people almost hit them.
- Don't agree with 100-yard approach regulation don't want to have negative impact on tour boat operators or impact their ability to educate people.
- Don't prevent people from getting close to whales because education is the most efficient when people can get close (life changing experience)
- Don't expand the sanctuary to include sea turtles. We should be able to catch sea turtles again, but regulate to a few month each year just like lobster seasons.
- Don't make any rules to close any shoreline or beaches.
- During whale season, limit and enforce speed limits within sanctuary to 13 knots with tough penalties that actually hurt the perpetrator financially.
- Enforcement to decrease vessel whale collisions needs to be strict and implemented
- Enforcement. The sanctuary needs teeth.
- Enough rules and regulations already, the ocean should be enjoy by all conscientous and honest people.
- Erosion events – land-sea interface, what regulations are there to address the issue? Sanctuary should have regulations against damaging resources, for example if people cause erosion that then flows mud into coral reefs.

- Establish laws to protect whales from vessel strikes. Include a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- Expand education and outreach / lots of misinformation. Include education on fishing. Regulations on fishing not good idea; overcomplicated.
- Expand protection to include monk seals, sea turtles, and corals. Whale population increasing but seal population decreasing and need more protection (and regulatory enforcement). Honu are coming to shore more often and more susceptible to harassment, etc...
- Expand sanctuary to include water quality monitoring. Expand protection/add additional protection to monk seals, coral, shipwrecks and water quality programs/regulations.
- Expand to include all animals that live on the reef, turtles and monk seals. Expand to include coral reefs and education on coral reefs. Needs more protection because coral reefs are dying.
- Expand to include seals-keep current laws in effect also
- Expand to include turtles- keep fines in place also
- Fear: including antiquities/historic sites and possible no-take regulations with Antiquities Act. Including maritime heritage may be springboard for other agencies to put in no-take regulations—top down approach.
- Finally, the sanctuary may be able to play an important role in addressing certain activities that have a clear potential for adversely affecting marine species and biological communities in waters surrounding the main Hawaiian Islands. For example, commercial and recreational fishing can incidentally take protected species, vessel traffic can kill, injure, or disturb individual animals, powerful sonar devices may injure or kill marine mammals and other marine species, and the installation of facilities or structures such as aquaculture pens or waste outfalls can preempt or modify habitat for marine life or introduce sources of pollution or disturbance to marine life. In many cases, the need or justification for regulatory measures may not be immediately apparent or may arise only after some future development proposal is made. In other cases, a need may be apparent, but further study is required to determine the most effective measures. For such activities where specific regulatory provisions may be needed in the foreseeable future but cannot be identified or developed as part of the ongoing management plan review, sanctuary managers should have authority to implement regulations as new information develops.
- Fish depletion in water. Regulations needed on aquarium trade collecting—sanctuary should assist with this issue.
- Fishing nets need to be used cautiously in the Hawai'ian sanctuary, with fishermen accountable for retrieving all equipment.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Hawaiian monk seals: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support studies to assess and monitor population trends, prey preferences and foraging habitats, and/or at-sea habitat-use patterns; (b) carry out public outreach and education programs targeting grade school children, recreational fishermen, swimmers and divers, beach-goers, and tourists; (c) coordinate volunteer networks on one or more islands to respond to seals that haul out on crowded beaches and need protection from disturbance by people; and (d) respond to distressed seals, such as abandoned pups, or seals that are sick, injured, hooked, or entangled in fishing nets or debris.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Humpback

whales: Continue ongoing sanctuary programs to (a) support research on the status of the population, (b) disentangle whales caught in fishing gear, (c) promote international collaboration on protecting whales in different portions of their range; and (d) implement public outreach and education programs on whales and measures to minimize impacts associated with whale watching and vessel traffic. In addition, the sanctuary should develop regulations limiting vessel speeds in specific areas where collision risks with whales, particularly cow-calf pairs, are greatest.

- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Spinner dolphins: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support research and monitoring studies to assess the abundance and trends of spinner dolphin populations and the impact of dolphin-watching tour vessels, private boats, and divers on spinner dolphin habitat-use patterns, (b) conduct public outreach and education programs on spinner dolphins and needed protection measures, (c) develop a mandatory permit program with rules of conduct for guided dolphin-watching tour operators, and (d) if ongoing studies demonstrate that closing areas of bays is a useful approach for reducing sources of disturbance for resting dolphins, develop regulations to establish safe, undisturbed spinner dolphin resting areas.
- Fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticides and chemical runoff from golf courses.
- Get involved in the tropical aquarium regulation and enforcement. It needs policing.
- Good to have laws but need more enforcement. Enforcement should be throughout the day and night (not only from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm). Need more manpower for enforcement.
- Government should set rules and regulations not close or shut down our ocean waters. Our ocean water's is our life.
- HAAA and its aquatic-based businesses believe that humpback whales, sea turtles and other marine mammals of concern are well protected by existing federal and state laws and regulations.
- Have jet ski rules statewide. Current rules defective.
- Have rotating models/studies to try practices. Have rotating no-take areas to bring balance.
- Hawaii has a great protected area in the northwest - now a world heritage site. This is a good thing and covers a huge expanse of ocean. It does not allow for any fishing and limits other activities. Therefore, we do not need more federally restricted areas in the main Hawaiian Islands.
- Hawaii is a unique place and the ocean and nearshore waters are important to our people. I do not agree to fencing off the ocean from the people. Current restrictions are more than adequate. Humans and sea life can co-exist peacefully.
- Hefty fines for speed limit/approach violations and then put monies from enforcement fines back into increased enforcement efforts to encourage compliance.
- Hook and line fishermen need to be protected. We use the most ethical and responsible technique of fishing as well as sustainable. That is a fact. Protect us, help us fight corporate and national over fishing by massive netting operations.
- How about making stricter rules about sewage and chemicals that make it to our ocean.
- How about NO to further bombing of Kaula Rock??
- How about NO to sonar testing by the military, and their associated defense contractors?
- How is the whale sanctuary going to affect fishing? Are you going to kick us out?
- How will new rules affect ocean industries/users and how will they differ from current regulations and restrictions?

- Human impact on almost every species here in Hawaii has been dramatic and cannot continue at the current pace without protected areas and rehabilitation plans for the affected wildlife and reef systems.
- I always feel that in any situation education is the first step I take. I say and do this because in many cases the public has been using and enjoy there activity in these area all there lives. To implement restrictions first is the wrong way do things.
- I am against anymore sanctuaries, bans or restrictions.
- I am amazed that there has been no plan here to fore for the Whale Sanctuary here in Hawaii. Please by all means institute one
- I am concerned about the fishing; the shutdown of bottomfishing.
- I am totally against restricting the use of our reefs and ocean.
- I am unsure if ther should be vessel speed limits during whale season.
- I am writing against the banning of any more areas in our state pertaining to the ocean or shoreline. We have enough sanctuaries, restrictions and bans and rules and regulations to control everything. Anything more would would lead to misunderstanding , and abuse and also too much area to be properly and effectively maintained and enforced.
- I attended the meeting at KCC on 10-5-10. Very upset that 23 meetings withough informing the Kaua'i residents have taken place. The meeting I attended was posted to me by word of mouth and fortunately I could attend. Fishing is our way of life, it's like taking a bottle away from a baby. This will affect us in every way possible including tourism. No way to NOAA absolutely not.
- I believe any type of sanctuary that restriced fishing or access would never have been initially accepted in Hawaii. Yet this action appears to be another way of doing it, just in a very slow long term fashion. This is not right and not the intent of congress or the administration when they approved a whale-only sanctuary. If the people of Hawaii want this, they should be able to vote for it or go through the state legislature.
- I believe the public education and outreach can be realized without boundaries in the sand that may have un-intended consequences and or defacto prohibitions for fishermen, and other ocean users.
- I can't understand why Spinner Dolphin have not been added to protected list. Just look for the boats and you will find the Spinners. They are hunted and chased every day. There is no concern for their rest time. What can and will be done?
- I do know that each island is a little different and the enforcement of existing laws or regulations is non existant on Kaua'i. How can you make more rules and have no enforcement?
- I do not support the humpback sanctuary borders being expanded and I do not support the regulation of coastal waters and the limitation of personal freedoms in those waters. There should be no use permits or licenses or limitations and feel free to call me back so I know that my information, or my opinion or my perspective is being considered and that others is as well.
- I have heard that you are passing legislation to limit boats to 10 mph, close beaches to humans and fence them off, charge tour operators incredible amounts of money to operate. This is absolutely ridiculous. I am in favor of protection of the seas and the ocean animals but it sounds to me that you are getting incredibly out of hand! I vote no on any proposal you are making unless you come to your senses and make better decisions.
- I have yet to have met a fishermen who's had an issue with Humpback Whales, from my personal observation and experience; recreational boaters, tour-boats, para-sailing vessels, jet ski's and kayakers are primary compromisers and violators of any statute associated with Humpback Whales or other Marine Mammals.

- I hope that Spinner dolphins become that added resource...to see the mobs of swimmers pursuing Spinner dolphins during their rest periods close to shore is heartbreaking...What happen to enforcing the Marine Mammal Protection Act?
- I request that you step back from your position of wanting to control where and when and if we may use the ocean for our livelihood. You are infringing on the freedom of the citizens of Hawaii who have fished these waters long before your organization ever existed. There is much more value in being RESPONSIBLE stewards than in your organization taking away the liberty of the people of Hawaii. You should be ashamed for even considering this heavy handed move.
- I request the sanctuary establish federal and state laws to protect whales from vessel strikes. Include a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales. I request the Sanctuary to ban, or effectively regulate aquarium fish extraction statewide. Including holding aquarium trade collectors accountable for mortality, humane treatment and tax clearance. Fees and fines reflect the considerable expense of tracking reef extraction and its effect on reef health.
- I request the Sanctuary to make strong laws to have all fishing nets identifiable and hold fishers! liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- I urge you to adopt measures which protect this critical habitat. Please provide the watchful protection of these wonderful mammals deserve with thoughtful rules and studies.
- I would like to respectfully ask that you do not approve the current proposal under review, which could lead to the limitation and or/cessation of ocean activities that many of our residents participate in.
- I would say don't expand because theres no apparent reason to do so. The whales are coming back strong, so I feel that stoping recreational fishing for the preservation of humpback whale is unnecessary.
- If boundaries are expanded, species increases, threats are addressed, will require additional regulations – which will require more resources to manage.
- If dive and fish limit what we take and rotate sites for spear fishing.
- If expand sanctuary to include other species – don't only have speed limits during whale season but year-round
- If our emphasis becomes regulatory, we risk antagonizing elements in our community and diminishing our ability to enhance our environment.
- If sanctuary wants to minimize boat-whale impact, it should STOP whale-watching tours!
- If the current lawas and regulating that we have now are working, then keep it, but there's no need to be adding or piling any more laws and regulations.
- If the Sanctuary expands to include other species, it should include: monk seals, false killer whales, and spinner dolphins. With false killer whales there are issues with toxicity (heavy metals, persistent organic pollutants) and same goes for other toothed whales. Spinner dolphins – movement offshore if swim with dolphins programs are curtailed nearshore. At 100 fathom isobath you miss all species, but spinner dolphins. The Sanctuary should manage at whatever boundary is doable and feasible.
- If we do all of this, sanctuary program should be moved to another NOAA program (maybe NMFS – who at least has enforcement). Sanctuary program has no teeth and needs some.
- If you need to put some rules in place to protect our animals, how about banning sonar blasting from the military base on the westside, how about banning the war games that go on right off our shore.
- I'm against any closures because once it is closed, it never opens again even if they say it's temporary. Like bottomfish temporary closure which was supposed to be opened after a few years to see if there was any difference still hasn't been opened yet.
- Impose limitations on acoustics (sonar). Study this (but not a study done by the military).

- In the future there should be more outreach to let the people of the community that would be affected by the change or introduction of new laws!
- Increase law enforcement example Florida. None of these proposed laws and or sanctuary will make a difference. The first thing that we need is enforcement checking peoples' catches and even boarding boats in the ocean for illegal nets and or catches.
- increasingly concerned about the lack of programs, regulations or other visible attempts by the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS or Sanctuary) to protect humpback whales from several immediate threats to their welfare.
- Industry is exploiting the dolphins too much, may need to regulate how the operators do their tours (in blocks of time, not when they are resting). Now tours are run throughout the day, even when dolphins are resting.
- instituting regulations and fines to deter the frequency of fishing nets discarded in the ocean. NOAA can support new laws mandating that all nets have owner identification; fines should be imposed on violators and policies to reward those who collect stray nets should be developed.
- Is there anything being done with speed limits?
- It is shocking that The 'Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary' has no rules or laws to protect whales in their mating/birthing/nursery waters.
- It's not everybody that breaks or goes against your laws, but there are a few. But don't punish us for their stupidity and senselessness. We would still like to enjoy our shorelines and beaches for fishing and family outing and fun. And to teach the younger generation to do it the right way.
- Keep Kaua'i - Kaua'i simple and easy no more rules.
- Keep proper distance, speed down. We are doing all we can but we see others breaking rules. Enforcement issue.
- Keep the sanctuary the same size. Don't over regulate the ocean.
- Laws to guarantee that all nets are identifiable and most importantly hold owners liable
- Laws to protect reef habitat
- Like to see specific recommendations to avoid vessel-whale collisions: enough information on vessel whale collisions to show speed limits need to be implemented. Do not need "more research". Need laws NOW.
- Limit all sonar activity during whale season and comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales.
- Limit all sonar activity during whale season and comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales.
- Limit all sonar activity during whale season to comply with NOAA noise policies
- Limit military noise (sonar). Limit.
- Limit sonar activities during whale season and comply with NOAA noise policies (which are in effect in other sanctuaries) to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- Limit speed limits during whale season to 14 knots. The slower the better.
- Limit vessel speed limit during whale season to 14 knots. - Slow safe and sure!
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 14knts.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 14knts. On this issue my complaint is tour operators come to close to me while I'm anchored. I don't have any problem with going 25 knots if they would use some common sense. It's a big ocean they can go around me.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 16knts.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 16knts. Small boat drivers can see whales and other animals so we avoid them sooner. I know I and maybe other boat captians look out for them.
- Limit vessel speed limits during whale season to 18knts.

- Limit vessel speed limits during whales season to 16knts. Slow is safe.
- Limit vessel speeds to 14knots- it is only a few months out of the year, I think boats should move away and slowly and cautiously
- Little enforcement: need speed limits - strikes; sonar for military, beached whales, water quality (monk seals), reef
- Local politics and fishing community does not want any restrictions: educate them as to why protection will help us all
- Make Speed laws enforce them.
- Make strong laws to have all fishing nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- Make strong laws to have all fishing nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- Making sure people are aware of water quality issues and agencies responsible is a way sanctuary can help. Injection wells are beyond the scope of the sanctuary responsibility (regulations) but maybe it can help other agencies with the issue. Research and cooperation, not regulation in addressing water quality and effects on reef. Sanctuary can document changes over time, make sure public and agencies are aware of that.
- Marine conservation law and policy today favor an ecosystem approach to conservation and management. Not only do humpback whales require specific protective rules, so do the coral reef systems, water quality and other aspects of Sanctuary critical habitat.
- Marine debris and entanglement continue as major threats to the North Pacific population of humpback whales. Sanctuary management should continue to develop plans to address the larger problem of entanglement beyond the Sanctuary boundaries and should consider and implement a policy prohibiting fixed structures or moorings within Sanctuary waters. The situation in the North Pacific is horrific enough for the migrating whales; it makes no sense to add to the whales' problems in so-called "sanctuary" waters.
- Mentioning an educational campaign on the website and holding a vessel management workshop in 2003 with no follow-up is not sufficient to protect whales from ship strikes. Rules and enforcement are needed to address this expanding problem.
- More education the better, education is more important than regulations.
- My main concern is the new laws that are handed my way and how they will affect my fishing business. I am willing to work with, and help "you guys". I believe working together is the answer. I just need to be able to fish (commercial fisherman).
- Need more restrictions, laws, fines; people need to know when to stop
- Need to assess noise impact to ecosystem and limit noise causing activities. Consider boat speed limit.
- Need to expand boundaries. Try new approach in current areas with regulations
- NET ENTANGLEMENT: Create strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets. Reward boaters who collect stray nets.
- NMSA and implementing regulations make clear that NOAA has "control" over the lands and waters within the boundaries of the marine sanctuaries. While sanctuary management may be limited under the NMSA to whales, NOAA has authority and control over the sanctuary, and is thus also subject to the requirements of the NHPA including section 106 and section 110.
- No expand Sanctuary boundary-our laws protect the whales in Hawaiian waters. There is no need to expand the Sanctuary.
- No expand to include reefs- coral reefs should be protected by first enforcement of Laws in place. Ridiculous fines should be given and jail

- No expand to include reefs- if the problem is the improper use of land and not the use of the ocean, why regulate the ocean. Regulate the land use
- No expand to include seals- first of all I never heard of seals in Hawaiian history. So in reality they are an invasive species. Again federal laws are enough. Anything more is a waste of resources
- No expand to include turtles- the turtle population is doing just fine it would again be a waste of federal dollars. I feel they should consider settings permits to take turtles for food
- No expand to include turtles-no need, too many turtles need to have open take season
- No expand to include turtles-too many turtles, need to open take season
- No expand whale protections-continue current laws which have provided return in population
- No expand whale protections-I believe there is sufficient regulations regarding the protection of whales. Annual growth proves that no new regulations needed
- No more rules!
- No no take zones-no commercial zones
- No not-take zones. Kids need to learn balance/sustainability and how to be enforcers through education on sustainable fishing.
- No speed limit- no need speed limits
- No take zones can be very useful and should be considered but implemented over time. Establish a process to do so in the future to determine what areas might work best on a rotating basis.
- NO take zones is not the answer though we do need further conservation efforts. I would recommend a type of kapu system where it is a cycle of rotating no take zones, or certain species.
- No to a vessel speed limit during whale season. There is no evidence that this is a problem here except with the military who gee get to have a "take" amount.
- No vessel speed limit- as a person who absorbs all this information on our environment all the damage to whales from collisions haave been with large ships
- No vessel speed limit during whale season - We lived among them all our lives. We were taught to watch for their presents at all times.
- No vessel speed limit during whale season- dumb how can you police all that.
- No vessel speed limit during whale season- whales are very intelligent creatures. They can hear vessels engines and stay away. Recreational boaters stay away from the paths of whales
- No vessel speed limit- its not the vessels, it's the whales, to many whales
- No vessel speed limit-ban whale watching or limit boats. Make sure all captains of vessels involved be more alert and have responsibility to the fullest
- No vessel speed limit-Certain boats can only go certain limits. Boaters are cautious due to potential injury to themselves. The Hawaii Superferry and Military are exceptions. They are detriments to species safety
- No vessel speed limits during whale season - I work for a boating company. Creating a speed limit will mean we will not be able to offer some of our most popular tours. As someone who works off commissions, losing our most popular tour could mean no home, no food, etc.
- No vessel speed limits during whale season - Maybe have a 14 knot speed limit at night only! Only foolish boaters run fast at night during whale season.
- No vessel speed limits during whale season - The difference between 14 and 18 knots is very little.
- No vessel speed limits during whale season-never heard of boats kill whales
- No vessel speed limits- speed is not a factor
- No water quality, acoustic regulations, habitat preservation and restoration
- Noise limits with no military exemptions during whale season.
- Normal recreation that residents and visitor enjoy does little harm to the sea animals.

- Not enough regulations to protect whales. a. Too much pollution. b. Speed limits non-existent. c. More state involvement in regulations. d. Expand boundaries to include the PMRF military base
- Number one cause of whale death – entanglements with nets and number two ship strikes. Reasonable speed limits could be useful.
- Of great concern to me is the U.S. Navy's use of sonar in the waters around Hawaii. I have learned that it is dangerous and potentially fatal to whales and dolphins. I very much hope to see the Sanctuary include this issue with other important areas to be addressed within its revised management plan. I think the science and literature should be reviewed as to the effects sonar technology has on whales and marine mammals. I would hope that its use could be severely curtailed or mitigated. I especially would like to see it banned during the "humpback whale season here in Hawaii".
- One part we will support is the on going education and outreach program to protect the HB Whales, maintaining the efforts for the existing regulations and enforcement, and working with the community to be aware of the HB Whale and their habitat.
- One revenue source could be unresolved damage assessments statewide. Need to be held accountable for damages. Fines can be used for benefit of other programs in consideration of damage caused by someone. Use fines for meeting widespread needs. Rather see money go to marine conservation rather than general fund.
- One would wish that they (current sanctuary staff) would keep such efforts (regulatory efforts) as low as possible to accomplish objectives.
- Other sanctuaries have speed limits so now is the time for this sanctuary to change this by establishing laws for a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season. These laws should include strict enforcement for vessels hitting whales or going over the speed limit.
- Other sanctuaries: have speed limit (max 7 knots)
- Please add my name to the list of those in FAVOR of establishing the management plan. Too many of our waters are overfished. I live on Kaua'i and with all the chickens here, we can have that on our dinner plate instead.
- Please add my name to the list of those who FAVOR the plan to make the Hawaiian Islands a sanctuary. I believe that overfishing and net use will make all of these wonderful sea creatures extinct. I live on Kaua'i and would like to see all fishing discontinued in all of the world's islands. We have plenty of chickens on this island to eat!!!!
- Please create and strengthen laws to protect whales from strikes. Include a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- Please create laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- Please fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Please limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies.
- Pollution from land sources or from aquaculture are not acceptable in the Sanctuary, and must be monitored and regulated.
- Pollution rules. No dumping in the Sanctuary
- possible need for salt water fishing licenses which would enable State of Hawaii DOCARE officers to inspect coolers and other closed containers, maximum and minimum size catch limits and the need for additional educational signage.

- Prohibiting fishing or spear fishing here in Hawaii will create a scenario that will be extremely difficult if not dangerous for enforcement officers to manage and assure public compliance with any NEW statute created.
- Protect all habitat - kapu systems. Save something for later.
- Protect native species and endemic species. Sanctuary should include other species, maybe even the whole ecosystem, maybe regulations on fishing and number of boats that make an economic profit off these animals (whales).
- Pump-out stations at harbor. Water quality. Need to address policy or regulations against dumping of vessel discharges. Or better enforcement. Or more pump out stations.
- Putting coral reefs in to the sanctuary is just like what they did in NWHI and there is now no fishing there. We are an island state and need the resources to survive not more restrictions on our lives and livelihoods.
- Putting enforcement in writing no good—only put in regulations you can really enforce. Seen a renewed vigor in DOCARE. Currently there is an environment of ignoring rules. Education is preferable to enforcement. Regulations need to be enforceable.
- Re: Hana Seal, Monk seal does not need area cordoned off. It causes animosity within the community. Current approach to Hawaiian monk seal needs to change. Need to get involved in monk seal issue. They are on a fast track to extinction. NOAA has to change the approach on how monk seals are dealt with, the sanctuary needs to get involved. Regulations should be made to the betterment of the seal.
- Realistic enforcement: having meaningful regulations and focused enforcement.
- Recognizing that sanctuary management plans may remain in effect for five or more years, the Commission believes that the management plan and associated sanctuary designation document for this sanctuary should preserve an ability to adopt timely regulatory measures for activities that reasonably could be anticipated to pose a significant risk to sanctuary resources. In this regard, the Marine Mammal Commission recommends that the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries revise the management plan and associated designation document to reserve authority to regulate future activities and development including, but not necessarily limited to, vessel traffic, commercial and recreational fishing, sources of acoustic impact that could injure or kill marine life, and installation of structures whose presence or operation could adversely affect features or resources that the sanctuary is established to protect, including marine mammals.
- Reduce size and scope of sanctuary—should regulate laws we have now. No need more laws
- Regarding further protections of Humpback Whales: No additional protections are needed. Current whale protection laws should remain in place. Expanding the disentanglement program is also laudable but requires no sanctuary expansion to be effective.
- Regarding further protections of Sea turtles: Current laws on the books have done an excellent job of bringing back the green sea turtle in Hawaii. These laws should remain in place and continue to be enforced. Additional sanctuary protection will not provide any numerical advantage to the population of sea turtles
- Regulating boat speed should be brought to the state level
- Regulation of the number of boats in a particular area is important for protecting dolphins. To reduce boating impacts on marine mammals we should have some regulated locations of boats, possibly direct them in two different directions around pods.
- Regulation on entanglement (nets) and ship strikes – speed limits.
- Regulations – enforcement – compliance: What is the relationship?
- Regulations in to protect whales and enforcement of reg's.

- Regulations Needed to Mitigate Vessel Strikes. A speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales must be instituted.
- Regulations outside Hawaii are much stricter and easier to enforce.
- regulatory changes may be needed to protect sanctuary resources, especially if other resources are added to the Sanctuary
- Require all tour boat businesses making gross receipts in excess of \$5,000,000.00 a year to have a marine biologist on every boat tour that operates within the sanctuary. Require accurate whale sighting to be logged each tour. Request identification photos be taken of flukes to positively ID individuals.
- Require permits for fishing.
- reserve authority to regulate future activities and development including, but not necessarily limited to, vessel traffic, commercial and recreational fishing, sources of acoustic impact that could injure or kill marine life, and installation of structures whose presence or operation could adversely affect features or resources that the sanctuary is established to protect, including marine mammals
- restrictions and bans are good only to a certain point. Not forever.
- SANCTUARIES BOUNDARIES AND ENFORCEMENT: Expand the sanctuaries boundaries. Enforce existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- Sanctuary management should foster and promote land-based, culturally relevant aquaculture practices (such as Hawaiian fish ponds) and prohibit all moored, offshore aquaculture facilities from Sanctuary waters. Insofar as the state of Hawaii has proven to be an unreliable partner with the Sanctuary in planning and recommending sites for open-ocean aquaculture facilities outside Sanctuary waters, Sanctuary management should make a clear prohibition of moored aquaculture structures within the Sanctuary boundaries. Furthermore, inasmuch as the existing moored aquaculture facility that is within Sanctuary waters has “morphed” far beyond its original scope and approved design, Sanctuary management should instigate proceedings to remove the facility from Sanctuary waters as soon as possible.
- Sanctuary should be involved in water quality legislation. Need sanctuary enforcement and monitoring for water quality.
- Sanctuary should be stronger on vessel speed.
- Sanctuary should have vessel speed limit of 16 knots during whale season - Use common sense if you see something slow down.
- Sanctuary should limit vessel speed to 16 knots during whale season. - I actually don't know how fast is 16 knots, but I do have some boater friends and I never heard of anyone of them running into a whale. I know it does sometime happen but I never heard about it.
- Sanctuary should surround the entire Hawaiian Islands—makes scientific and political sense. Everyone has to abide by same regulations throughout Hawaii’s waters within the 100 fathom isobaths.
- Scientists have advised that speed regulations should be put in place, with adequate monitoring and enforcement. The sanctuary speed limit should be about 13 knots to protect the whales from vessel collisions, with minimal distances from dolphins and whales required while under power. The cost of enforcement could be born by fines, with higher fines for commercial vessels.
- Sewage dumping needs to be regulated (land source)
- Ship strike remains a major threat to the North Pacific humpback whales throughout their range. The Sanctuary staff and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources personnel have done an outstanding job of boater education to increase boater awareness of whales in Hawaiian waters, but the encounters continue. Clearly, excessive speed in the vicinity of whales can exacerbate the problem.

Sanctuary management should consider, implement, and enforce a 14 knot speed limit in all Sanctuary waters from October 1st to the following March 31st each season. Such regulation can only increase the degree of “whale awareness” of boaters on Hawaiian waters and increase protection of the whales within the Sanctuary.

- Ship strikes, need speed limits.
- Should limit vessel speed to 14knots
- Should the sanctuary consider regulatory changes to better implement its mandate?
- Since, the 'Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary' has no rules or laws to protect whales in their mating/birthing/nursery waters, (other than 100-yard approach limit), I demand that you do your best and most compassionate job to enact rules and laws to protect the whales and their ocean habitat from Vessel Strikes, Sonar and Acoustic Impacts, Water Pollution, Habitat Degradation and Net Entanglement.
- Single species? Speed limits, shipping lanes, balance between economic conditions
- SONAR & ACOUSTIC IMPACTS: Limit all sonar activity during whale season and comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- Sonar can be tested in other waters than the sanctuary, and should not be allowed anywhere in the vicinity. The sanctuary should be extended to encompass all of the Hawaiian Islands and channels between them. The effects of sonar are well known on species who use sound in their survival and direction of migration, without re-proving by research on the specific endangered species.
- Sonar exercises, water pollution, ocean acidification, huge net fishing must stop or be greatly limited.
- Sonar is a huge issue that is potentially deadly. Need to regulate military activity with sonar
- SONAR/Naval exercises. Are there regulations within the boundaries on these topics? If no regulations, why not?
- Specialization of a species makes sense. How appropriate is it to include other species. Potentially include other mammals, but it might be difficult to manage other species such as corals. We may need other regulations.
- Speed limits for boats. Vessel strikes with humpback whales, other marine mammals, and turtles are a problem.
- Speed limits: I think it's safe the way it is.
- Spend monies on education, not on erecting more sanctuaries. There are already enough rules that can't or aren't enforced, we don't need more rules.
- Stripping fuel. Large ship oil stripping (every ship larger than 300 feet long) – every big ship operating today strips fuel and trash out at sea. Oil dumped directly into water. Sanctuary needs to address large problems. Need to go after the big problems, e.g., gill nets, oil stripping ... Need to educate about large problems.
- Strong laws to make nets identifiable and make fishers liable for violation
- Support enforceable speed limits – main concern is vessel-whale collisions
- Surfrider would like to see more regulations before research and education
- The Advisory Board for the sanctuary must be representative of the entire community. The Advisory Board should create enforceable policies and rules while also ensuring that funding for the Sanctuary includes effective regulatory oversight. The management plan should include a description of the formal role of the Advisory Board, and a strategy for implementing and enforcing policies and responsibilities of the Sanctuary.
- The current humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. The international community already regulates this.
- The current Humpback population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Whale numbers have been growing annually. So why should more laws and regs be put in effect.

- The current Humpback population would be more if there had never been a sanctuary. More cause their making a comeback on their own and with the rules and regulations that we already have on them.
- The current Humpback whale population would be about the same if there had never been a sanctuary. Yes ban whaling.
- The facts presented to me shows whale growth is on the rise every year. Our laws in Hawaii protects these whales. There are enough rules and regulations protecting the whales, seals, turtles. There are no data that proves to me that an expanded sanctuary is necessary. There are a abundant number of turtles and I believe turtles are ready to be taken off the endangered list. Bag limit of turtles taken in a year! Lottery!!
- The fear amongst many in the historical community is that NOAA would take a heavy hand and simply push aside any investigators that are not within their sphere of influence. This has been demonstrated to otherwise qualified investogators in Alaska and elsewhere.
- The greatest enemy of the whales in the Hawaiian waters is the navy and their unregulated use of sonar!!
- The green sea turtle is also thriving since the ban was put into effect years ago. To the point that they pose a threat to human life. In fact it would probably be wise to lift the ban and place a bag limit or size limitation or something like that to alleviate the hazard of possible shark attack on humans.
- the management plan review examine the ambiguity of DOH administrative rules governing the classification of sanctuary waters, and explore how this ambiguity affects DOH'S regulatory policy and practice for sanctuary waters.
- The management plan should include an in-depth study, with recommendations and an implementation strategy, to extend the stewardship of the Sanctuary to include other species, to define the resulting ecosystem boundaries and interactions, to monitor land-atmosphere-ocean interactions in these ecosystems, and to regulate human use of the Sanctuary waters.
- The monk seals are coming back in numbers on Niihau. Imposing regulations would only hinder their come back. More rules, more rule breakers.
- The proposed increase in sanctuary scope to include “marine resources” other than humpback whales could lead to the limitation and or/cessation of ocean activities that many of our residents participate in. This proposed scope may not be related to preserving humpback whales, Hawaiian monk seals, other marine mammals, sea turtles, or the positive increase in repopulation of fish.
- The sanctuary has done nothing to protect whales from sonar or acoustic disturbance. The Sanctuary should limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- The Sanctuary has taken no action to protect our waters from water pollution. The Sanctuary should fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- The Sanctuary should also fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff. Chemicals & pollution create pathogen friendly environments in Hawaii’s waters and cause algae blooms, which smother the reefs and are toxic to marine mammals. Pesticides, PCDD.s, PCDF’s, dioxin- like PCB’s, PBDE’s have been found in marine mammals. From a June 2010 report; cadmium, aluminum, chromium, lead, silver, mercury and titanium together are at the highest levels ever found in marine mammals.
- The sanctuary should establish a minimum water depth in which boats cannot enter to protect where whales can go to rest. Given all of the boat traffic, the humpback whale population has increased. The animals are adaptable to human interactions. Look at the existing humpback whale habitat and

current HIHW mandate to address concerns, not necessarily expand the boundary and add additional resources.

- The Sanctuary should fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- The Sanctuary should limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. That would be ridiculous to expand with the increase in population.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. If everyone can continue their lifestyle without too many rules and regulations but follow and obey the rules, cultural heritage will prevail.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include monk seals. Currently we are competing with seals for resources. Monk seals are not native to the islands current laws give monk seals more protection than they deserve.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. Hawaiian eat turtles so if can make season with bag limit.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. I'm on the ocean everyday. The turtle population is out of control. They should be taken off the endangered list, and opened up for hunting season,, so we can keep the numbers of turtles under control!!!!
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. No additional protection needed, current laws providing large fines has been very successful.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. The whales are doing fine. We have regulations already.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. As long as the whale population is recovering we should keep the current rules in place.
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Internation law must protect what can 3 mile mean to a whale that travels 10's o thousands of mile
- The sanctuary should not expand whale protections. Whale numbers have been growing annually. So why should more laws and regs be put in effect.
- The Sanctuary should work on strong laws to have all nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Ofcourse, if theres no need for laws or sanctuary's they should be removed untill there needed again. The laws put in place right now are working, theres no need for more. Stop wasting our tax dollars,, focus more on the real problems. Pollution and runoff, you stop thos our ocean will FLURISH.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Sanctuaries shold be flexible sanctuaries and bans should not be "forever"
- The sanctuary vision should not include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Laws and regulations that are currently enforced are working, there is no purpose piling more laws and regulations on top of them.
- The sanctuary vision should not include a pland for reducing its size or scope as species are removed form endgangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Don't make more laws, you have too many as it is.
- The speed of an ocean vessel will do, in my opinion, nothing to avoid an encounter with a whale.

- There are not many programs in Hawaii for our people if you pass laws that [disable] our people to use the ocean. You take away our lives. By passing this law, you now can take away our surfing, fishing, boating, snorkeling, canoe racing. Please do not pass this law.
- There are too many regulations, people move away because of that.

There can be accidental impacts to these significant (maritime heritage) resources by careless divers. There can also, unfortunately, be intentional damage and illegal looting of sites. NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries has previously assisted this office by forwarding information regarding two past incidents, both of which have occurred within Sanctuary waters. The first case involved a commercial boat mooring attached directly to the propeller shaft of an F4U Corsair aircraft BuNo 49668, thereby damaging the airframe and engine cowling. The second case involved the alleged removal of a 50cal machine gun by technical divers from a PB4Y Liberator aircraft BuNo 38769. In this case, considerable damage was documented on the rear turret of the aircraft. It may be likely that, among the many naval properties within Sanctuary boundaries, there are other as yet unknown cases.

- There is no need for additional regulations if the current regulations are not being enforced. However, new federal powers may be necessary to expand the sanctuary's powers to prevent discharge of pollutants into sanctuary waters from sources outside of the sanctuary. Budget and manpower for enforcement should be a priority, not an afterthought.
- There is no need for further restrictions. The laws that are in place protecting these creatures are sufficient.
- There is no need to bring in other species, they are protected by existing laws like the ESA and the MMPA, if those laws are adequately enforced, but that is a big problem. If higher fines are implemented in the sanctuary, this may not be effective for boaters; what is next? Ban boaters? The government is growing too big, the Sanctuary staff is too large, there are more regulations. The Sanctuary boundaries do not need to be expanded. The whale population is growing at 5-6% a year so there is no need to expand. There are about 11 species of whales that are associated with the Hawaiian Islands. The whales move around a lot, they are not helped by the Sanctuary's existence unless they are in it. What will you do for them the rest of the time? Expanding the boundaries may impact (especially economically) commercial whale watching. The government is too large.
- There is way to make dolphin tours ok but not with regulations – regulations get people angry. Dolphin tours should self-regulate with cooperation, education.
- There must be more regulatory collaboration between land and ocean uses, especially regarding pollution that would affect the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary must take a leading role in fostering this collaboration. The management plan should include an investigation of these issues and a plan to implement closer collaboration between the Sanctuary and other users.
- There needs to be regulation and legal consequences of discarded fisher's nets.
- There should be a moratorium on spearfishing, like take every other year off. The reefs are hurting, lots of people don't know what they are doing and are taking anything, including undersized animals
- There should be a vessel speed limit of 14 knots during whale season.
- There should be a vessel speed limit of 14 knots during whale season. The speed should remain low.
- There should be a vessel speed limit of 14 knots during whale season. This ["the sanctuary itself reports little or no recent whale deaths from collision. Many of the reported 'collisions' are, in fact, at dead slow or drifting speed"] is false information. They are purposely misinforming people and being divisive.
- There should be a vessel speed limit of 16 knots during whale season. I feel @ 16 knts the perator of the vessel should be able to avoid any contact.
- There should be a vessel speed limit of 18 knots during whale season.

- There should be increased education on whale avoidance. The boundary expansion could be good for tourism, but it doesn't need to change anything (ie regulations, shipping lanes), but it should increase awareness of the animals.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Like they say they're growing in numbers.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Prove 1 whale death due to boating.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Speed apparently has little effect on collisions.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Whales can hear a boat coming from far distances and they can swim down faster than almost all boats can speed.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. Keep the boat survey that are making money on whale watching.
- There should be no vessel speed limit during whale season. No boater wants to hit a whale, dolphins or seals. It will ruin our day along with the animals'.
- There should be no vessel speed limits during whale season. As long vessels are aware that there are whales around them, their speed should not be limited. If/when whales do surface/approach the vessel, captains should know to use caution!
- There should be no vessel speed limits during whale season. I did not hear of any collisions except the whale leaping on to a vessel.
- There should be no vessel speed limits during whale season. Speed limits should not be enforced because whales are unpredictable creatures, no one knows when they will surface and where they are at any given time. People should not be given restrictions for things that are beyond their control.
- There should be no vessel speed limits during whale season. The speed of a vessel really doesn't matter its the captain. If the captain is paying attention, theres no problem!!!
- There should be no vessel speed limits during whale season. Whales run or sound from boats.
- There should be noise limits for all Hawai'ian sanctuary areas, with no exemptions, including military.
- They are already protected by law. No sanctuary.
- This critically endangered species (referring to Hawaiian monk seal) needs protected habitat with abundant food sources. Considering how critical the situation is, it only makes sense to extend protections for this species and its food sources within the sanctuary boundaries.
- This is not the time for you to interpret this success as an opportunity to expand your authority to other species or habitats that you believe need your protection. We do not need nor can we afford redundant federal regulation given the fact that we already have the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammals Act (both Federal Laws enacted by Congress) to protect our treasured resources.
- To my knowledge, fishing vessels have not had any issues with whales as they generally avoid them for self protection. Fishermen's rights should not be unfairly targeted amongst many other boaters in the sanctuary. Although I am not advocating such an idea, banning whale watching vessels would better prevent many whale vessel interactions. If fishing boats are to be restricted, it would only be logical to also prohibit all other vessels within the sanctuary including sailboats, container ships, etc. As such a ban would severely impact the economy, it is clearly not a reasonable solution as there are effective alternative methods of preservation available.
- Tour boats and all other boats travel very fast in areas with turtles and dolphins – want 13 knot speed limit within sanctuary
- Traditionally Hawaiians had a fishing program of certain times on and off, is that [kapu] system viable for the sanctuary? eg On the East coast of the US there is a system for lobsters. Was the [kapu] system good? Could the sanctuary implement it?

- Unsure [RE: Vessel speed limits during whale season] I think the area of feet away from whales. You get caught up w/a whale. Ur butt.
- Unsure [RE: Vessel speed limits during whale season] I think, how far or feet away makes more sense.
- Unsure about the limiting of vessel speed limits during whale season. Unsure
- Unsure if there should be military noise limits (sonar).
- Unsure if there should be vessel speed limits during whale season. Most boaters trolling speed is adequate.
- Unsure if vessel speed limits during whale season. - How would speed limits be enforced.
- Unsure to limit vessel speed during whale season. - A captain knows the water and the vessel Nobody wants to hit a whale.
- Unsure to limit vessel speed during whale season. - Once whales are spotted then vessels should practice common sense and slow down to appropriate speeds.
- Update approach regulations with inclusion of other species to be more comprehensive and inclusive to other species protected.
- Use of less toxic chemicals: control them!
- Vessel speed limit: Boaters should use their navigation knowledge to avoid encounters.
- Vessel speed limit: common sense
- Vessel speed limits during whale season should be 14 knots.
- Vessel speed limits during whale season should be 16 knots.
- Vessel speed limits during whale season should be 18 knots. - In areas where they have been seen.
- Vessel speed limits during whale season should be limited to 16 knots.
- Vessel speed limits during whale season should be limited to 18 knots.
- Vessel speed limits during whale season should be limited to 18 knots. Most people try to avoid whales as much as possible. I don't think anyone wants to hit a whale.
- VESSEL STRIKES: Institute laws to protect whales from strikes, with a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- Vessel strikes: There has been a nearly 500% increase in reported whale vessel strikes in Hawaiian waters since reports were tabulated in 1975. Boat speed is clearly a factor in the incidence of collisions, whit about 80% of all strikes occurring with vessels traveling between 10-30 knots. Speed regulations should be put in place with adequate monitoring and enforcement provision. The research suggests an introduction of a speed limitation of 13 knots for any high-risk area and existing Special Areas of Conservation, respectively.
- Water pollution/ quality: fund monitoring and make laws to protect water
- WATER POLLUTION: Fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Water quality: Sanctuary should make water quality enforcement within boundaries a priority. Assist state and educate public on water quality.
- We at Hawaii Wildlife Fund deeply appreciate Councilwoman Johnson's identification of the four priority areas in her Resolution, with a specific call-out on how the defunct Hawaiian Superferry had threatened aquatic resources. Whether there is a Sanctuary or not, these are critical issues that remain unresolved. 1.) Vessel Speed Limit and 2.) Development of a system for reporting and preventing vessel collisions 3.) Regulation of sewage discharge 4.) Assessment of Navy sonar impacts
- we can head off the boats thatrace or speed in the Hawaiian waters during Dec. - May
- We don't know what threats might exist in 25-30 years. Sanctuary could provide research. Empower communities. No take zones in some areas. Other areas open (for instance). Protect ecosystem from local perspective.

- We encourage stronger enforcement measures including federal officers stationed on each island and a cooperative enforcement program with trained community volunteers and/or paid personnel; better control of jet skis operating within the Sanctuary and prohibition of jet ski operations during the whale season (similar to West Maui).
- We have the rules in place to protect marine mammals by international law. Just check out the punishment for taking coral.
- We have too many regulations. This would greatly affect everyone!!
- We recommend that the Sanctuary take action to address water pollution and fund water quality monitoring. NOAA must advocate for stricter laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- We recommend that the Sanctuary take action to limit all sonar activity during whale season and to comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales.
- We request the Sanctuary ban aquarium fish extraction statewide.
- we respectfully request that the Sanctuary initiate rule-making procedures to apply within its boundaries.
- We should expand the boundary and include other species for recognition since the work with other species is already being done and for possible additional funding. We should not increase regulations.
- We the people of Hawaii enjoy our ocean and shoreline. Enough laws has been put in effect. We was [taught] to catch only what we need by our parents and grandparetns its our way of life, lets not make Hawaii a sanctuary.
- Whales are all around island and Sanctuary is very small area so should expand boundaries and enforcement. Slow boats down during whale season...give and take between Sanctuary and boaters
- What about protecting and conserving living HAWAIIAN peoples and their ways of life? Protecting and conserving other living marine resources and submerged cultural heritage resources should NOT put a limit ot destroy the culture and way of Hawaiians, Hawaii, or its visitors.
- What is needed is more enforcement. You can add all the laws you like but without enforcement the laws mean nothing. A step up in enforcement enforcing the current laws is what is needed, not more laws that will not be enforced.
- What is the final product of federal regulations in state waters?
- What might be proposed in terms of fishing regulations in the future, over and above DAR regulations?
- When attending a meeting on Oct 5 and listening what might occur and what has already occurred by NOAA I got upset! In a good sense to where it is my obligation (kul[e]ana) to see that noaa will not accomplish their mission. With the guideness of the akua and the power of the people we will join as one to void this mission. noaa needs to redirect their mission toward education not the limitations to our lifestyle. I am a descendant of my ancestors. It is my birthright, and my obligation to malama from the mountain to the sea. I as kanaka have the right to gather food from mother ocean and to provide to my ohana and community as long as i live. With the power invested in me from the great akua.
- When Superferry tried coming in harbor, my family, Wongs was in that water. My niece Meagan was on her surfboard everyday out there. She may be a white Hawaiian. But try telling her that she cannot eat or fish for her daughter. They eat more fish than me, raw, dried, grilled, whateva. We love the whales and all sea creatures, but we have to live together. Like I said, we know we have to be caretakers of our island, Beautiful Kaua'i. PS. Limiting outside ocean sanctuary and shorelines limits us to be who we are and our lifestyle and our way of survival. That's my cultural sanctuary.

Kaua'i to me has always been a sanctuary over 100 years. People have to be accountable of their own! If there is real trouble we can all come together and decide, not now!

- When talking about resource use you can't make the assumption that people will always do it right. A sanctuary approach with rules and regulations can be helpful.
- Will you ban boating in the Sanctuary?
- You have accomplished your mission and it is now time to relinquish your authority over to the State of Hawaii. This is not the time for you to interpret this success as an opportunity to expand your authority to other species or habitats that you believe need your protection. We do not need nor can we afford redundant federal regulation given the fact that we already have the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammals Act (both Federal Laws enacted by Congress) to protect our treasured resources. I would respectfully ask that you consider transferring full management over to the State of Hawaii and re-allocating our taxpayer dollars into areas that truly need help -Perhaps Education.
- You need to put a catch limit on tunas! Small and large.

Regulations: Area-Specific

- All sanctuary is no take (fishing)
- Anini Beach – good area for no take zone.
- Certain areas of the Sanctuary should be 100% no take areas free from human extraction of any kind
- Close sections on each island, and rotate to help ocean recover
- Consider No Discharge (pollutants) Areas: The continuing discharge into Maunalua Bay of runoff laden with sediment and related pollutants is in excess of what the Bay can process naturally. Maunalua Bay also has considerable boat traffic due to the presence of the Maunalua Bay Boat Ramp (operated by DOBOR) and the Hawai'i Kai Marina. We recommend that the HIHWNMS Plan review and revision process consider the establishment of No Discharge Areas within the Sanctuary, including in Maunalua Bay, as a tool for management. A monitoring component would also be essential.
- Control zodiac speed and use in certain areas
- Create no access zones-I believe it would be good idea in particularly sensitive areas and overused areas
- Cruise ships are dumping massive amounts of sewage, etc off of the Big Island. Is the toxicity in whales influenced by that? What will be done to address water quality in the sanctuary?
- Designated areas of the Hawaiian Humpback Whale Sanctuary should not be open to commercial or recreational fishing.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. All species mentioned are doing well with current regulations.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. Beach front property and coast like Napali prevent access as it is.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. Island is so small. Come on guys.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. No to)NOAA) at times money will cloud the visions of individuals for their own needs and not the needs for the community, families, our culture. All of the species listed are doing well. It seems like (NOAA) is looking for a vehicle to

get more funding from the FED's and not care about the importance of the ocean resources and the connection it has with the people. No to (NOAA). Redirect your efforts toward education.

- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. This is so ridiculous but I guess it's all about being ridiculous.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.) Kauai's coastline restricts access to the general population. Tourism economy! Try closing Poipu, Anini, Hanalei, Napali Coast, stupid.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.). Practice sensible sustainability by evaluating each zone and its problem.
- Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.). We are already hampered by private owners and not allowed to fish where we once did and closing more areas will only be killing the lifestyle of the people.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). Fish being depleted by pollution and invasive species.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). Maybe let PMRF Range be a no (or limited) fishing zone. Otherwise, no.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). The introduced roi (peacock grouper) is the problem!! They eat all of our reef fish and dwindle the reef fish population more than any or all fisherman can do.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). This is stupid.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). We live off the ocean and its fish for food and lifestyle.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). How can anyone prove where these populations come from.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). There are already size limits that are in place.
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). We can be educated as a community. (NOAA) can redirect their focus on education. Not the limitations to our life style.
- Do not establish no take zones. Enforce current law. Fund game wardens. Stop introducing invasive species such as roi, taape, etc. The state did this. Put a county on these fish.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth- I think they should keep the existing sanctuary boundaries the same because the existing laws and regulations is working and its not currently affecting thousands of beach goers and familys that do recreational fishing.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth - There is no need for an expansion. The current laws protecting the wildlife is working fine. If it aint broke don't fix it. Marine wildlife off the state of Hawaii are all increasing.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. Since there is no clear reason for the expansion, it should not happen!
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. I fish from the shore and in the bay's so 100 fathoms is out of my league!!
- Do not limit military noise limits (sonars). Sonar is not the cause. If it was, whale population would not increase or come into waters of Kaua'i.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. We have not hit them on Kauai or harmed them in any way.
- Do not limit vessel speed during whale season. We the people of Kauai are the care takers of this island. We will enforce the limits.
- Education is key component for all ocean users including fishermen to increase awareness. Conservation areas could be good for fishermen as it will protect resources
- Establish some no take zones (fishing). This will save the fish for my grandchildren.

- Expand boundaries around all of Kaua'i. a. Create sub-zones for regulating. b. Phase in new regulations
- Expand no-take areas for replenishment, assess areas for effectiveness.
- Fishing is a way of life for many people on Kaua'i. For some, it is their income. But for many, fishing is used to provide food for their family and if they had a good day, fish to share with friends. To consider taking away the privilege is absurd! Kaua'i should not be a sanctuary. Don't take away a lifestyle that is peoples' heritage. Fishing has been a way of life since the beginning of Hawaiians. To make Kaua'i a sanctuary is only a move for more bureaucracy; not for the people!
- Focus on collisions/boat speed. This issued needs to be addressed: entanglement happens outside of Kaua'i/sanctuary
- HABITAT DEGRADATION AND MARINE PROTECTED AREAS This management plan should include development and implementation of a strategy to create a Marine Protected Area (MPA) on Kaua'i or Ni'ihau, with the objective of preparing a formal proposal for an MPA within the timeframe of this management cycle.
- HABITAT DEGRADATION: Institute laws to protect reef habitat and to establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i, such as Anini and Mahu'lepu.
- I am actually running for county council here in Kauai. I would like to find out more about what's going on with these new restrictions and how we stop them from becoming too restrictive. I am all for the humpback whale sanctuary but not at the expense of the island beaches and some of the industries here.
- I am unsure if no access zones should be created.
- I do not support an expanded scope of the sanctuary's "marien resources" to include he closure of any fishing areas or the creation of any "no take zones". In this day and time, it is unfortunate that so much is being taken away, especially activities that have been part of our livelihood for many generations.
- I have been diving for 37 years in the nearshore reef systems. I feel distressed about the changes. The sanctuary should have "no take" zones to protect the nearshore reef systems (water quality, injection wells, runoff, effects of pineapple fields).
- I personally think and know for facts that there is a lot of [illegal?] netting taking place. First, by the declining in fish population year to year, by what we catch pole fishing. In August the word got out that 3 or 4 boats went into Secret Beach and netted 1500 lbs of moi without any consequence. Instead of trying to correct issues that already work - put this money and initiative into enforcement of rules and regulations. Like Maui, no netting.
- I'm a property owner on Kauai and I completely agree with what you are doing and I believe that the marine sanctuary should have no fishing and just make it just a sanctuary. If you look at Hahe on North Island in New Zealand. They put a sanctuary in and a lot of the locals were upset about it. The fishermen were against it but then they found after about 5 years that because the fish were breeding more the fishermen actually outside of the sanctuary were catching more fish and doing better so there are actually advantages to this and I can clarify anything if you'd like.
- Illegal operations of jet skis. Have same prohibition of jet skis on Big Island within sanctuary boundaries as in W. Maui. Current rules defective/not well enforced.
- In view of the number of critically endangered species such as the Hawaiian monk seals and hawksbill turtles that are known to frequent Ma'alaea Bay, for example, the bay itself should be designated as a marine preserve existing within the confines of the whale sanctuary and the above mentioned endangered species should receive increased protections.
- It involves TEMPORARY "no take" of specific areas, which in a matter of 18 months BENEFIT fishermen and all marine life.

- I've been fishing these shorelines hrer from Kealia to Haena Northshore my Dad and brother since 1957 and never had these problems with monk seals and Dolphins. But we used to eat the sea turtles back then, and use to drink the blood from the turtles for Asthma purpose. So please think of opening a season for turtles.
- Like MPA established on Kaua'i
- Make laws to protect reef habitat and to establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i.
- Make sure research is not prevented within sanctuary
- many of the shipwrecks in Hawaiian waters occurred in very shallow water. Indeed, hardly any beach that could land a canoe has not been witness to maritime calamity. Might their protection be interpreted as a restriction on beach combing? Could "protection" interrupt fishing activities in waters adjacent to many bays and harbors. For instance, would any proposed rule changes have an impact on the temporary fisherman shelters often constructed along the north shore of Lana`i?
- Marine reserves have proven to be highly effective in re-establishing healthy fish populations. The conservation areas in Hawaii amount to less than 1 % of entire coastline. These protected areas have been proven worldwide to re-establish healthy fish populations and reef habitat. It involves TEMPORARY "no take" of specific areas, which in a matter of 18 months BENEFIT fishermen and all marine life. There are no Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. The sanctuary should help protect reef habitat and establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i.
- Maui has only four marine preserves and could benefit from many more.
- Need a speed limit for vessels and enforcement of the limits in sanctuary waters and if done regionally—especially Maui County.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - ? real people - It's a disgrace to our native rights.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - Are you serious.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - Don't need this.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - Get real!
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - If you create zones. Its going to affect the younger generation on how to survive off the land/sea, keep it simple, peoples life defend on the ocean (why make um hard foa da localz).
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc) - When the humans who push such nonsense quit eating, drinking, breathing do these things, I will agree to such nonsense.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc)- That's enough! No restrictions!
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Fishing and swimming in Hawaii is a way to life for my family of Hawaiian ancestry and should never be taken away for generations to come.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Who would decide where to establish these zones?
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - A sanctuary is a no access zone which would cover all the proposed areas. You mean no tourist to Hawaii.

- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Absolutely not!
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Again, to even consider this is ridiculous! Now you guys are messing with people lives and livelihoods - basically taking away our culture here in Hawaii. This is not the Northwest Hawaiian Islands - people live here.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Make no zones for Oahu , Kahoolwae rabbit island, Mokumanu and other smaller masses if land offshore if the main inhabited islands.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - Over fishing could be the cause, not Boating, surfing, swimming let the DLNR handle the over fishing in areas that need it.
- No Access Zones: Do not create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating tours, swimming, etc). - We should prohibit commercial type use such as (recreational/commercial fishing) but allow the general public to use the natural resource of the ocean.
- No no access zones- Get rid of the Roi's , taapes, and ???? First. The fish population will return. These fishes take more than me in a single year.
- No no access zones- on kauai
- No no access zones-Enforce laws in place. Spend the money on law enforcement not "general public" keep out
- No no access zones-Fanatical policy with no common sense. Also overstepping native Hawaiians fishing and gathering rights
- No no access zones-I think we have enough of that with hotels and rich not allowing the public access or making it most grueling to get to.
- No no access zones-keep the areas for the human not the mammals
- No no access zones-more public education would be more reasonable approach them to stop us from using our ocean resources
- No no access zones-our children will not have the opportunity to fish and enjoy the ocean as much as I have. Our culture and values must be kept for our children
- No no access zones-the ocean should be open to everyone
- No no access zones-there should be more "right of ways" to the beach. No one owns the beach
- No no take zone. There are current laws in place. Put some of that government money to get rid of non-native species.
- No no take zones - Don't change our way of life.
- No no take zones - Fishing is a way of life have in Hawaii and also for subsistence. Would it be logical to take action without anything based on scientific data?
- No no take zones - Fishing should be legislated only and managed by our DLNR Fish and Wildlife.
- No no take zones - Fishing, hunting, diving, surfing are all culture. Don't take this away from us Kanakas.
- No no take zones - May not, but are not sure so my answer to this is no zones here in hawaii.
- No no Take Zones - Moratoriums seem to work!!!
- No no take zones - No take zones will only increase fishing in the take zones and ultimately have a negative outcome.
- No no take zones - Offer a reward for removal of the invasive species moi NOW through the department of the DLNR - Why is moi an invasive species?
- No no take zones - That a big NEGATIVE! :-{

- No no take zones - This should be up to each county DLNR and DAR dept. Each island has its own issues
- No no take zones - we need more science not more regulation.
- No no take zones- beaches usually close for any activity during high surf. This usually lasts about 6 to 7 months. After this you should really watch the netting. This is depleting most of the fish populations of shoreline
- No no take zones- Hawaii fishing is a culture way of life you can't take it away
- No no take zones- I need to eat and live too. Do you not care about human rights?
- No no take zones-As a waterman who grew up in the islands I have seen for myself the causes of our problems and know if you don't stop pollution and runoff all else is wasted. The Sanctuary does not offer us any solution and seems to be taking credit for Federal laws already in place. It is obvious to me somebody is milking the tax payers for a lot of money and want more.
- No no take zones-fisheries for specific species should be implemented but not by DLNR Fish and Wildlife
- No no take zones-ignorance regarding fish reproduction and cycles. Large fleets of long nets need to be monitored and enforced for violations
- No no take zones-no reason to stop fishing
- No no take zones-proper use of specie seasons would be more reasonable approach than to stop all fishing
- No no take zones-set bag limit and size. Close when spawning
- No no take zones-The state brought in these invasive fishes without extensive studies. We, the recreational fisherman and divers are been penalized for this. The public must now get rid of these invasive species so are natural fishes of hawaii can thrive again. Show me the figures that shows recreational fishermen and divers are depleting the fishes. There are more damage caused by invasive species. I'm doing my part to get rid of Roi's, Taape, and toau. forget about no take zones.
- No Take Zones (fishing) - No take zones would make criminals out of all of us who fish. We got enough problems.
- No take zones that alternate years.
- No Take Zones: How much shoreline fisherman can catch???
- NO to super cavitation subs being tested without permits at Niihau and Lehua.
- No, no access zones.
- No, no access zones. Ift they taking too small fish, their either greedy or don't know any better! Educate! No restrict!
- No, no access zones. No zones
- No, no access zones. The only endangered species is - Hawaiians!! See this Hawaiian for details.
- No, no access zones. We already have Robinson, no need no more Robinsons. We have hotels allon shorelines and now with closing of McBryde. God made ocean for everybody. (Mahalepu)
- No, no take zones (fishing).
- No, no take zones (fishing). For deep water bottom fishing the TAC that is in effect protects our bottom fishery without the need for no take zones.
- No, no take zones (fishing). Like I said, food sanctuary. If they don't know how to fish and when then they shouldn't be fishing, like I said people born here for generations, I have 6 take care the land and ocean I know we do!
- No, no take zones (fishing). No sanctuary required!!
- No, no take zones (fishing). No zones.
- No, no take zones (fishing). This could turn out like the shearwater fallout protection.

- No, no take zones (fishing). Too many private own lands enough robinsons, hotels, etc... closing of Mahelepu was a monumental death to people like me, who love Mahelepu.
- No, no zones (fishing). Educate eople on how to take care of animals - don't keep people out of the areas.
- Non point sources of pollution, e.g. agricultural runoff, siltation from construction activities, etc. also would need to be addressed. The creation of a marine preserve at Ma'alaea Bay would ensure that priority is given to these issues.
- Ocean acidification represents a threat to biological diversity that is, likely, as severe as global warming. Reefs are dying from pollution & over nutrification. Fish are disappearing from pollution and over fishing. It is proven that Marine Protected Conservation Areas are very effective in re-establishing healthy reefs and fish populations. There are no Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. I request the Sanctuary to make laws to protect reef habitat and to establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i.
- Please consider some special "No Take" areas on Kaua'i in and around Poipu, Shipreck Beach to Allerton, in and around Kilaua Point to Kalihiwai. Perhaps use a pilot area to start with and continue research to support its expansion.
- Pollution is an issue and areas of no-take zones.
- Problem with boats speeding only in close to shore proximity in populated areas...not island wide problem
- Pump don't dump: sanctuary should help regulate this. Needs to be enforced for ALL commercial vessels (pumping NOT dumping). Fine violators, adding station as Kihei Harbor, need more people to help (southern waters of Maui the worst) with clean water tests and quality control. Commercial boats responsible. Should charge all boats for pumping: flat fee required. Need regulations for cruise lines (pump). Need someone responsible for monitoring/enforcing.
- Punolai is dying. Should be part of sanctuary and like Molokini with protection, plaques for info, water quality, education, research.
- Re: No access zones What? This is ridiculous! Where in the world are they getting this alarmist information? They should be reprimanded for such mis-information, very divisive.
- Sanctuary should have some no take zones. - Let the people take a vote if a rea needs to be left alone meaning throw nets because of over fishing then let the DLNR police the area that's why we pay them.
- Sanctuary should have some no take zones. - No take eon severly de-populated fishing areas. Make more sanctuaries on Oahu - they are the most over fished.
- Shark cages operators lives on Lanai. It is a matter of time before that activity is here. Sanctuary needs to take a stand on this issue. Operator owns a boat here in Lanai. Waters off of Lanai is where people play and chumming here in would cause big problems. This would not only be dangerous to whales but also swimmers.
- Some - no take zones (fishing). Some zones should be closed but need to be reopened every other season to see on the fishes populations. Don't forget fish swim around and moves zones so they can be anywhere.
- Some no take zones . Even if laws are made (most people respect the laws) law is only as good as the enforcement.
- Some no take zones . Specific zones for commercial fishing and amount they can catch in these zones, especially ? where fish grow. Specific laws for limited duration only, so they must be renewed by public concent, not idiologic idiots who don't know the situation.
- Some no take(fishing) zones should be established. Limit commercial fishing.
- Speed limits in shallow areas to protect turtles (zodiacs go fast in nearshore waters).

- Temporary Rotating no take zones is probably a good idea.
- The (Marine Mammal) Commission also believes that new regulations are needed to limit vessel speeds, both to protect whales and to ensure human safety. Such limits are justified by the significant increase in vessel/whale collisions and the fact that this is one of the world's largest concentrations of breeding and calving humpback whales. Speed restrictions may not be necessary throughout the sanctuary but could be focused on areas where collision risks are greatest and affect the most vulnerable whales. speed regulations would be most appropriate in waters within two or three miles of shore or the 100- fathom contour, whichever is closest, along much of the southern coast of Maui and the northwestern coast of the island of Hawaii.
- The fact that the entire NWHI chain is now off limits to pretty much everybody has given many in the maritime community some trepidation to encourage yet more government protection in Hawaiian waters. The government's actions on restricting access to the Line Islands and other out of the way places will be watched carefully by the yachting community as well as others vested in maritime issues.
- The first forty years of my life I never saw a monk seal on Kaua'i and now it is a common thing to see them on the beaches surrounded by people. They too are protected with rules and regulations.
- The sanctuary should establish some no take zones (fishing). This would be good in some areas, where fish are depleted.
- The sanctuary should expand to include sea turtles. ["No additional protection needed as current lawas providing for large fines have been ver successful."] Is it true that populations have "dramatically" increased? Based on what study? How many breeding pairs are on Kauai? How manhy have the Fibropapilomatosis virus? How many hhave been hit by boats this year?
- The Sanctuary should look at issues such as: wind farms, vessel speeds, west side of Lanai for undersea cable, a haul out area for Hawaiian monk seals
- The sanctuary should not expand to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. We ahve more than enough laws already.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. There should be no "no access zones" The local economy and families would be in ruins whether you owned your own business or worked in a hotel/restaurant etc.
- The state has sovereign rights over its waters (state waters extend out to three miles) and the federal government should not trump the state's rights and due process in establishing laws and regulations to manage its waters. Simply having the governor sign off on any new regulations is not due process. The legislature and the DLNR Board - with all its applicable public input - should provide input into any new proposals in state waters, e.g. fishing regulations, closed ocean activity areas, etc.
- There are more turtles now on Kaua'i, why hasn't the ban been lifted?? They don't care??
- There are no Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. The sanctuary should help protect reef habitat and establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kaua'i. All the other Islands have this.
- There is no need to create a new sanctuary on Kaua'i and Niihau!!!! The whale population is plentiful and already protected with rules and regulations.
- There should be no "no access" zones. Accoring to Hawaii state law, everyone should be allowed beach access. Taking this right away is absurd.
- There should be no "no access" zones. Define public as people who visit or live in Hawaii and Big difference on ocean use and ocean needs.
- There should be no "no access" zones. Do not take away our food resources my we Hawaiians. We live off the land and it include the ocean that we using right now for our food on our tables.

- There should be no "no access" zones. If everyone obeys what we have how it should be just fine and take care of what we have.
- There should be no "no access" zones. Just regulate what laws they have now.
- There should be no "no access" zones. Public should not be denied access I enjoy fishing, diving, swimming in the ocean, don't take that away.
- There should be no "no access" zones. Reef fish stay in their immediate area's. Only predator fish move all over they have wider range.
- There should be no "no access" zones. Thats enough.
- There should be no "no access" zones. This makes sense to me. It is not the rec fishermen and the snorkelers that are depleting our fish. No surfing? That is nuts.
- There should be no "no access" zones. This would ruin Hawaii's economy. Local families would all lose their jobs go on unemployment and cost the tax payers more money.
- There should be no "no access" zones. You don't have the right to take away our access to the ocean, even on private islands like Niihau. Its the rights of the people of Hawaii to use OUR ocean.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. A lot of local families depend on fishing for their livelihoods. This could be devastating to them.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Again, this has nothing to do with the whale sanctuary. Fishing is a way of life for us in hawaii, you don't have the right to take that away!!!!
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Fishing falls under the catagory of Native gathering rights.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. I think the solution to this would be placing bans on certain types of fish during the year to let them reproduce. We have some of these laws in place today and them seem to be working.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Lanai and Molokai has some of this zones.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. No prob.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. No take zones would result in the increase of invasive species. This in itself would cause a decline in non invasive species of fish.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. They close off areas for how many years and don't let nayone fish too see if fish popluation increased. If the satate made a bounty for invasive species (because they made the mistake of brging in the roi and perch). The schools of perch must eat a whole lot of food which would mean small squid lobsters opakapaka ehu seabass onaga, lehi and etc. It's not overfishing.
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Yeah! Let's stave the people of Hawaii!
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. You folks want to make so much new rules and regs's but you can't even enforce the rules we have now!
- There should be no "no take" fishing zones. Zones in taken way enough from us.
- There should be no "no take" zones. More enforcemtn is needed of all the present rules. More Hawaiians on the DAR board. Review the "kapu system" it worked and is sustainable.
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones that are species specific. Hire more DOCAREnforcement officers...DOCARE is the division in DLNR handling enforcement (NOT Div. Of Aquatic Resources).
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones, as per DLNR. I agree, let the state continue to handle this.
- There should be some "no take" fishing zones. Again, this statement ["Blanket moratoriums also have shown to be of marginal value as once they are re-opened there tends to be a sudden over fishing frenzy that leaves the fish population just as bad off as before"] is false. No-take MPA's are extremely effective in restoring healthy reefs and fish populations. Obviously, human greed is the issue-and

needs to be regulated. It is very clear there is a huge need for educating the public about how bad our ocean health is and how effective no-take (temporary) MPA's are.

- There should be some "no take" fishing zones. Control amount of tuna caught pieces and size
- There should be some no take fishing zones. I feel that once you can set a small amount of No Take Zones, Then you are sure expand and we will lose all of our fish area.
- There should not be "no access" zones. More information on exactly where these areas are before taken into consideration.
- There should not be "no take" fishing zones. Utilizing cultural fishing practices would be more effective.
- There should be no "no access" zones. So you want to prevent beach access? Water access? This will be a hard pill for Hawaii residents to accept or swallow. This is asking for trouble.
- There shouldn't be any "no take" fishing zones. There are current regulations on species that can be harvested. I feel it is successful and should be kept that way.
- This [vessel speed limits during whale season] is unclear. The whales are more dense in certain areas than others. And why should the military be exempt? More whales have been documented on the western shores of Kaua'i and Oahu.
- This management plan should include development and implementation of a strategy to create a Marine Protected Area (MPA) on Kaua'i or Ni'ihau, with the objective of preparing a formal proposal for an MPA within the timeframe of this management cycle.
- Too general [no access zones: create zones for species where there is no public access]; need to be more specific and support the no access with scientific data, not politics.
- Unsure about access zones-there may be a need for "special zones" if necessary for monk seals to land and nurse on certain beaches
- Unsure if the sanctuary should create zones for species where there is no public access (no fishing, boating, tours, swimming, etc.). Maybe just have seasons closed/open for different species.
- URGENT: Please protect reef habitat and to establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas: either MLCD's or Marine Parks on Kaua'i.
- When speaking to most 'local people' on the island (Kaua'i), the general consensus is that "no taking or fishing" zones will be established which has created misunderstanding and animosity towards the HIHWNMS. The feeling that our culture and lifestyles are on the endangered list. I believe that miscommunication has a lot to do with this sentiment.
- While I support the protection and preservation of our endangered marine species, it is my position that any enlargement of the scope of the sanctuary's "marine resources" should not include the closure of any fishing areas or the creation of any "no take zones" and should provide local fishermen, ocean users and Kaua'i and Niihau residents protections from prevention of participation in ocean related activities as they have enjoyed for generations
- With regard to spinner dolphins, the Commission understands that the National Marine Fisheries Service is proceeding with a study to determine the effects of no-entry areas in certain coastal bays of Hawaii on spinner dolphin habitat-use patterns and abundance. If the results conclude that closing portions of bays to vessel traffic and swimmers is useful for preventing harassment or improving spinner dolphin survivorship or reproduction rates, then the sanctuary may be able to play a role in protecting them under a new management plan. For example, the sanctuary could consider permanent closure of areas deemed important for spinner dolphins or approach limits for boats, divers, and swimmers.
- Work with Keith Robinson to make the entire reef area outside the jurisdiction of Niihau a no take sanctuary for 18 month to 2 year intervals. He seems to be the only person that is taking a long term vision to protecting the marine habitat.

- Would the sanctuary add refuge zones (closed to all boat traffic) for moms/calves to rest?
- Yes, create no access zones.
- Yes, create no access zones. Yes so locals can enjoy our whole island.
- Yes, create some no take zones (fishing)

RESEARCH*Research: General Comments*

- (RE False Killer Whales) The Sanctuary can assist in providing resources for documenting habitat use patterns and supporting greater protection of key habitat.
- ...inventory, documentation, and assessment of sites...would only enhance NOAA's already exceptional national reputation as a leader in underwater cultural heritage
- Adding these sites to an inventory and conducting as detailed a survey (as is practical) would be tremendously beneficial to the protection and preservation of these historic artifacts. It would also provide a record for researchers and historians.
- Additional research is needed to protect marine species in Hawaii.
- An inventory of sites could also include environmental hazards including unexploded ordnance.
- Assessment of recreational fishing.
- Before you close any of our beaches you should study the seal and how much food each seal eats - more fish in a week than the whole village would eat in a month.
- Best thing you can do for an endangered species is don't study it. Leave it alone. Minimize studies so you don't bother the animals.
- certain bans on endangered species should be studied, because their effectiveness has resulted in being too good for their health and welfare. Their increasing numbers has become a health hazard unto themselves.
- Concerned about impact proposed cable will have on the sanctuary. Need to be more aggressive in research to be able to say that the cable will not have any impact on whales. Lack of research is unacceptable. Need to have more research capacity to assess impacts. Look outside of sanctuary resources to obtain funds needed.
- Conduct additional research and management efforts on reducing the impacts of nonpoint source pollution on whale habitat.
- Consideration of whether the Sanctuary's conservation efforts should include threatened and endangered species such as Hawaiian monk seals, spinner dolphins, sea turtles, and coral reefs should be based on an evaluation of the need for such efforts and of the effectiveness of marine protected areas in benefiting such species. For this and other reasons, additional funds should be dedicated to better regulatory monitoring and enforcement and to scientific research on the species' protection impacts related to water quality, acoustic noise sources, aquaculture, and offshore alternative energy development.
- Consult the experts. Plankton is square one. Unhealthy plankton = unhealthy oceans. Protect from beginning of ecological chain. Need to address cause of problem and understand the science behind the problems. Sanctuary management needs to be from bottom (i.e. plankton) up. Identify the causes and roots to address them in management. Educate the kids about the causes and how to prevent the issues. Go after the root of the problem. Make sure the emphasis gets at the problem. Passion is not enough.
- Coral reefs: maybe monitor pollution runoffs stream, rivers! Monitor the Hawaiian monk seal they tear up everything!
- Could the sanctuary do a carrying capacity study as far as whale/boater interactions? How many people can you get out into the ocean without effecting whale behavior?
- Could the sanctuary do a study on the effects of boat engines on whales?
- Current population would be more- data records show whale populations are increasing without sanctuary
- decisions about adding other resources to the Sanctuary should have a strong scientific basis.

- Determine number of fishermen.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include sea turtles. Save the funds and use it to research and find a cure for the tumors becoming so numerous among the turtles.
- Does the Sanctuary collaborate with universities to conduct research?
- Don't trust DLNR and NOAA. Scientific information given as examples is not always from Hawaii (example, fish counts from the Bahamas). Make sure the Hawaiian Islands are studied in the future.
- Economic assessment to evaluate sustainable or unsustainable activities.
- Effects of sonar need to be included in acoustic impact research
- Establish a comprehensive environmental monitoring program.
- Expand sanctuary to include water quality monitoring. Expand protection/add additional protection to monk seals, coral, shipwrecks and water quality programs/regulations.
- Fear: Expansion will mean no say; that the sanctuary will then be a government entity. Managing the protection of animals needs to be done so scientifically.
- Finally, the sanctuary may be able to play an important role in addressing certain activities that have a clear potential for adversely affecting marine species and biological communities in waters surrounding the main Hawaiian Islands. For example, commercial and recreational fishing can incidentally take protected species, vessel traffic can kill, injure, or disturb individual animals, powerful sonar devices may injure or kill marine mammals and other marine species, and the installation of facilities or structures such as aquaculture pens or waste outfalls can preempt or modify habitat for marine life or introduce sources of pollution or disturbance to marine life. In many cases, the need or justification for regulatory measures may not be immediately apparent or may arise only after some future development proposal is made. In other cases, a need may be apparent, but further study is required to determine the most effective measures. For such activities where specific regulatory provisions may be needed in the foreseeable future but cannot be identified or developed as part of the ongoing management plan review, sanctuary managers should have authority to implement regulations as new information develops.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. Hawaiian monk seals: Develop new programs to (a) fund or support studies to assess and monitor population trends, prey preferences and foraging habitats, and/or at -sea habitat-use patterns; (b) carry out public outreach and education programs targeting grade school children, recreational fishermen, swimmers and divers, beach-goers, and tourists; (c) coordinate volunteer networks on one or more islands to respond to seals that haul out on crowded beaches and need protection from disturbance by people; and (d) respond to distressed seals, such as abandoned pups, or seals that are sick, injured, hooked, or entangled in fishing nets or debris.
- For the individual marine mammal species of concern, the (Marine Mammal) Commission suggests that marine sanctuary staff consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on proposed efforts to assist with or assume a lead role in the following research and management areas. False killer whales: Monitoring the distribution, abundance, and trend of the Hawaii insular population of false killer whales and interactions between members of that population and nearshore fisheries, such as the shoreline and kaka line fisheries.
- Foster programs that monitor water quality around the islands if NOAA isn't doing it directly to address root cause of marine health issues.
- Habitats are critical, can't save species without habitat. As populations increase there will be impact on resources. Should evaluate that – and need to protect habitat not just the animals.

- I am writing to provide comments on the Management Plan Review for the Hawaiian Islands National Humpback Whale Marine Sanctuary, specifically to address the inclusion of an additional marine mammal species under the protection of the sanctuary, the resident population of “insular” false killer whales. Designation of the insular population of false killer whales under the sanctuary’s protection would be a valuable step in recovering this population. Sanctuary involvement would help in creating public awareness and support for conservation efforts and could provide scientific research that may ultimately reverse the decline of this magnificent and important species.
- I have still to here or see any reason or study for the justifications for the proposed expansion of the whale sanctuary, what are the reasons? Where are the studies? What are the treats? I especially would like to here what threats that the local fishing community pose to the whales? therefore I feel very strong in my opposition towards expanding the whale sanctuary,
- I understand the sanctuary boundaries were established based on scientific research on the areas of high whale concentrations. The boundaries should therefore not be expanded without significant scientific evidence that whale concentrations have changed.
- I urge you to adopt measures which protect this critical habitat. Please provide the watchful protection of these wonderful mammals deserve with thoughtful rules and studies.
- I want to see more studies on species before more species are brought in (e.g. taape toau).
- Identify and track terrigenous-based, ocean based, and atmospherically-delivered water pollutants.
- If you increase whale population, how will that affect other species? More whales might expand their boundaries and have an impact on other species. Need to study this further.
- Importance of research component of the program that should get attention.
- Impose limitations on acoustics (sonar). Study this (but not a study done by the military).
- In addition, the NOAA update on the sanctuary condition does not strongly suggest that expansion is necessary at this time. In fact, it appears that a lot of NOAA's data (except for runoff) comes from areas remote to Hawaiian nearshore waters!
- In the absence of the sanctuary to have the academic information to assess impacts, the sanctuary should determine what its role should be in the power cable process.
- Is NOAA doing studies to protect humpback whales from their natural predators? Example: killer whales and great white sharks following them here. If not, they should study.
- It is a truism that wrecks can serve as artificial reefs, but this process of reef formation needs to be recognized, monitored, and evaluated, too. Controlled benthic surveys on wrecks within the Sanctuary to measure biodiversity and biomass of species that colonize wrecks are needed. Keep in mind that the date or year of loss is usually known for each wreck, so these are unique opportunities to measure this process of colonization since the wrecking date. This, of course, would be relative to the natural reef or seabed species in the vicinity of the wreck. Each wreck presents a kind of "biotic clock" that allows managers to observe and measure this process.
- It is widely accepted that First People have much to offer western science in the way of data collection and management.
- It would make logical sense of the sanctuary to be involved in the [submerged cable] EIS, but without the resources or fundamental knowledge of impacts, the sanctuary will be used by the State in this process. Sanctuary needs the technical research or academic input (acceptable scientific knowledge) to be able to evaluate impacts to whales. What good is the sanctuary unless it can provide informed knowledge about impact to whales?
- Like to see specific recommendations to avoid vessel-whale collisions: enough information on vessel whale collisions to show speed limits need to be implemented. Do not need “more research”. Need laws NOW.

- Make impacts of SONAR public. If NOAA has details, please share. After 10+ years of SONAR being around there should be a scientific consensus. We need more definitive answers on the impacts.
- Making sure people are aware of water quality issues and agencies responsible is a way sanctuary can help. Injection wells are beyond the scope of the sanctuary responsibility (regulations) but maybe it can help other agencies with the issue. Research and cooperation, not regulation in addressing water quality and effects on reef. Sanctuary can document changes over time, make sure public and agencies are aware of that.
- More resources should go to towards researching the impacts of Navy sonar on whales and dolphins and other marine species to verify the Navy's own studies.
- Much more could be learned about the environmental interaction around wrecks at various depths.
- Native Hawaiian knowledge and participation should be integrated into all areas of the sanctuary, most importantly: Resource Protection, Education and Outreach, Science, Management, Maritime Heritage
- Need to assess noise impact to ecosystem and limit noise causing activities. Consider boat speed limit.
- Need to bring science together to really find out status of resources and threats.
- NHINM The Sanctuary should also investigate measures necessary to protect whales in the Northwest Hawai'ian Islands National Monument (NHINM). The management plan should include research on this topic and result in recommendations and a way forward for protecting humpback whales and associated species in Papahānaumokuākea.
- No expand Sanctuary to include corals-find out the real reason why the coral is dying
- NOAA should study humpback-predator interactions now to determine the baseline – is the balance being upset? Should also do an ecosystem assessment now – see what happens later for example if the sanctuary increases protection for species and boundaries.
- NOAA's researchers...have always acknowledged (MHR information)donors, usually after augmenting the information and sharing it with all interested parties...at least in Hawaii
- Of great concern to me is the U.S. Navy's use of sonar in the waters around Hawaii. I have learned that it is dangerous and potentially fatal to whales and dolphins. I very much hope to see the Sanctuary include this issue with other important areas to be addressed within its revised management plan. I think the science and literature should be reviewed as to the effects sonar technology has on whales and marine mammals. I would hope that its use could be severely curtailed or mitigated. I especially would like to see it banned during the "humpback whale season here in Hawaii".
- Our coral reefs are being damaged by improper grubbing and grading of coastal lands, run off of non regulated pollutants and by introduced species of invasive seaweed and fishes. Less than 1% is due to direct contact by local recreation fishermen using nets, fishing lines or diving, surfing, body surfing or any other means of recreation or sustenance gathering. The issue regarding our reef and coral system and species is directly related to coastal property owners. Be it private or commercial properties that are not being policed by NOAA, DLNR, DAR or any other governmental agency, be it on the county, state or federal level. There should be an annual or at least bi-annual study done on coastal properties and their affects on our reefs and coral species.
- Overall emphasis should be research and education. The best managed population is the one that is the best educated. Education is less costly than enforcement and fosters understanding.
- Please ensure that the primary focus of the sanctuary remains education and research.
- Pollution from land sources or from aquaculture are not acceptable in the Sanctuary, and must be monitored and regulated.

- Public is upset about inc. restrictions – little understanding, info/regs coming from the outside. Get community buy-in by engaging them in the science, coming up with regulations and process and enforcement.
- Recognize the effort that the sanctuary has put into researching humpback whales. Grateful for all the sanctuary efforts to reach our stakeholders and provide them with information.
- Representatives of the whale sanctuary and NOAA admitted they have no new data. So what have they been doing will all the federal money?
- Require all tour boat businesses making gross receipts in excess of \$5,000,000.00 a year to have a marine biologist on every boat tour that operates within the sanctuary. Require accurate whale sighting to be logged each tour. Request identification photos be taken of flukes to positively ID individuals.
- Research and education are critical
- Research: empower local communities.
- Sanctuary should be involved in water quality legislation. Need sanctuary enforcement and monitoring for water quality.
- Sanctuary should compare current data on marine environmental health (water quality, ...) to historical records and make available to the public.
- Science and education should be done in traditional Hawaiian context (i.e., ahupua'a concept).
- Should do study on whether whales are attracted by boat motor sounds and if yes, when and where this happens.
- Should do water quality testing
- Should look at traditional practices for management (eg species management). Look into traditional management for specific species. Look into oli for information on species movement. Traditional knowledge is an untapped resource for active management. Should partner with Hawaiian language schools and find students interested in doing cultural projects. There is a huge, huge wealth of information in the newspapers (Hawaiian language). The kapuna knew it would be lost, so they learned to read and write to document the knowledge.
- Should NOAA be granted authority over these resources, would they be funded to a degree that the more important (thus-far undiscovered) sites be looked into. In other words, will NOAA be conducting research and exploration or simply reacting to sites found and documented by others? Will funding be available to investigators not directly employed by NOAA?
- So much more could be done with respect to preservation, inventory, outreach and education if the scope of the HIHWNMS's responsibilities were expanded to include maritime heritage.
- Sonar – what are the effects on HB whales and other species? We don't know. Protect everything you can – do the most you can do. Our place to protect them. People have responsibilities to protect and take care of resources.
- Sorry but I hate RIMPAC, Honolulu small businesses love it, they get all the \$\$\$\$ from it, we get all the environmental hits. RIMPAC sucks for the marine life. I believe that NOAA should have us do assessments and fish counts on the reef off of Mana while the military games are being played. One season, and there would be enough evidence of disruptive marine ecosystem for perhaps to be considered as substantial evidence.
- Studies of the ecosystems with regards to the proposed windfarms. How will this impact the reefs and up the food chain. Sanctuary should be expanded to include ecosystems
- Study/research on resources with local fishermen directly involved. a. Act now for future generations. b. All ocean interconnected
- Support research and monitoring studies to assess the status of marine species, ecosystem health, and historical relics within the sanctuary and to guide management actions

- The first need would be to define, in some detail, what type of sites are being considered, for what reason, and what levels of protection are going to be needed
- The management plan should include an in-depth study, with recommendations and an implementation strategy, to extend the stewardship of the Sanctuary to include other species, to define the resulting ecosystem boundaries and interactions, to monitor land-atmosphere-ocean interactions in these ecosystems, and to regulate human use of the Sanctuary waters.
- The MKF supports the preservation of these resources, advancement of knowledge and gathering of scientific data, and educating the public
- The research should reach all species with endangered status and protect the habitats needed to help these species thrive to a healthy population.
- The sanctuary has proven to be an asset to the state. Agree we need to work together with partners. Education/outreach and research are important ways for the sanctuary to continue to help, it fills a need.
- The sanctuary should actively solicit research help from UH universities.
- The Sanctuary should also investigate measures necessary to protect whales in the Northwest Hawai'ian Islands National Monument (NHINM). The management plan should include research on this topic and result in recommendations and a way forward for protecting humpback whales and associated species in Papahānaumokuā'kea.
- The sanctuary should examine the effects of pings from ships on marine life. Have there been any ship/torpedo/decoy strikes/interactions with whales recorded on route to range testing site?
- The sanctuary should not expand to include Hawaiian cultural heritage. Heads of this project management plan should complete extensive research on the Hawaiian culture and specific areas of culture must be discussed.
- The sanctuary vision should include plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. - Must be scientifically correct.
- Water quality studies should be done on a large scale.
- We at Hawaii Wildlife Fund deeply appreciate Councilwoman Johnson's identification of the four priority areas in her Resolution, with a specific call-out on how the defunct Hawaiian Superferry had threatened aquatic resources. Whether there is a Sanctuary or not, these are critical issues that remain unresolved. 1.) Vessel Speed Limit and 2.) Development of a system for reporting and preventing vessel collisions 3.) Regulation of sewage discharge 4.) Assessment of Navy sonar impacts
- We don't know what threats might exist in 25-30 years. Sanctuary could provide research. Empower communities. No take zones in some areas. Other areas open (for instance). Protect ecosystem from local perspective.
- We...request that you include maritime archaeological research within the Sanctuary's mission.
- What are the impacts of swordfishing? Are we taking too many fish? We need to capture good information and research on sustainability. We need to study the baseline; what are the impacts on commercial species?
- You need more science.

Research: Area-Specific

- Big opportunity is to bring in money to support more research and education. Programs on Maui have been very valuable and should be expanded.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms (600 feet) depth. You don't know (the whale population numbers). Same question as the first!
- Don't necessarily expand unless you can take care of it. Increase research and understanding about what is there. Help with research, help Justin, help enforcement.

- Expand boundaries around all of Kaua'i. Get fishermen involved in Sanctuary research
- Expand no-take areas for replenishment, assess areas for effectiveness.
- Is there data for other species to indicate their density? Sanctuary needs to include this science for boundaries.
- Kaua'i had a program to check on coral health (UCLA, Reef Check) but the ongoing monitoring and related education has been discontinued. Let's get this re-established because it was valuable.
- Lanai community will become increasingly more challenged by economic operations such as Fresh fish that are dependent on "harvesting". Sanctuary needs more research to understand these impacts. Fish farms are just one example of this challenge.
- Make sure research is not prevented within sanctuary
- Marine protected areas would be beneficial. Continued education and research.
- Need opportunity for university students to engage in whale-related research with sanctuary. Research centralized on Kaua'i with national and international scientists and sanctuary and give opportunity for students to participate.
- Need to expand boundaries. Expand research and education boundaries all around Kaua'i
- No no take zones - Fishing is a way of life here in Hawaii and also for subsistence. Would it be logical to take action without anything based on scientific data?
- No no take zones - we need more science not more regulation.
- NOAA didn't notify the public in large amounts about the activities that were being conducted. Having 20 to 30 people at these whale sanctuary meetings DOES NOT account for the thousands of people that live on Kaua'i. It is unjust and looked down upon by the community. NOAA should take into consideration that people who use the ocean everyday have more knowledge than an outsider who has never lived in Hawaii. The people who use the ocean know best, therefore, you should have them be a part of your team of researchers to get insight.
- Please consider some special "No Take" areas on Kaua'i in and around Poipu, Shipreck Beach to Allerton, in and around Kilaua Point to Kalihiwai. Perhaps use a pilot area to start with and continue research to support its expansion.
- Punolai is dying. Should be part of sanctuary and like Molokini with protection, plaques for info, water quality, education, research.
- Put on the website the maps on whale population growth since the sanctuary was established.
- RE: Lanai submarine cable and wind towers: (See: <http://www.lanaiwind.com/>) As you are aware in response to the State Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative Castle and Cooke LLC has proposed to the State and HECO to construct on Lana'i a large 20,000-acre power generation industrial complex in conjunction with a submarine power transmission cable between Lana'i and O'ahu to include Moloka'i and Maui. The proposal may consist of 80-120 wind turbines serviced by as many or more service roads and a large inverter station on the rugged western portion of Lana'i requiring extensive moving of soil and deep foundations close to the shore and ocean resource. I am requesting
- the development of a plan to evaluate the impacts on the resource and
- in collaboration with the community a habitat preservation plan to protect the resource.
- Please inform us regularly of your progress in initiating such a process,
- Create a "special link" to permit us to maintain communications and to learn how best to participate. Lana'ians will support your agency's need for public funds to ensure plans meeting best practice standards. I believe now is the time to initiate a program well before the State and Federal Environmental Impact Statements are conducted. Your agency's participation is critical not just for Lana'i, but also for the state and the nation to protect this national resource.

- Research, outreach and education are very useful components and important to the Lanai community. Research provides more information, education is important for getting information into schools, outreach engages the community. Important for reaching out to the community.
- Testing/research with PMRF compare acoustic impact at PMRF to rest of island
- The sanctuary should expand the sanctuary to include all islands all the way around islands out to 100 fathoms depth. ["There is no clear purpose in increasing protection"] Obviously people need to be educated. Again, the oceans are in a serious state of decline - as well documented by science. The sanctuary should be educating the public on the realities.
- The sanctuary should expand to include sea turtles. ["No additional protection needed as current laws providing for large fines have been very successful."] Is it true that populations have "dramatically" increased? Based on what study? How many breeding pairs are on Kauai? How many have the Fibropapillomatosis virus? How many have been hit by boats this year?
- The Sanctuary should look at issues such as: wind farms, vessel speeds, west side of Lanai for undersea cable, a haul out area for Hawaiian monk seals
- There is some marine mammal feeding ground at Penguin Banks. The Sanctuary boundary ends at the feeding ground. I'm not sure what the marine mammal species is that feeds there, but I heard it in a talk at the Hawaii Conservation Conference. The Sanctuary could help with research if it expands.
- Too general [no access zones: create zones for species where there is no public access]; need to be more specific and support the no access with scientific data, not politics.
- Wailua, Waimea – expand system all the way around the island and have research to look at whole picture.
- Water quality in Hanelei is biggest concern - don't see as many fish in water as we used to – sanctuary could monitor.
- We look forward to planned water quality studies in the area (Puako).
- What is not understood is the connection between the condition of the reef and the health of Humpback whales. Considering that this species spends a significant amount of time in Maunalua Bay, potential connections should be investigated. Similarly, the condition of marine habit and food sources for other currently managed species found in the Bay such as the endangered Hawaiian Monk Seal (*Monachus schauinslandi*) and threatened Honu (*Chelonia mydas*) should also be considered.
- With regard to spinner dolphins, the Commission understands that the National Marine Fisheries Service is proceeding with a study to determine the effects of no-entry areas in certain coastal bays of Hawaii on spinner dolphin habitat-use patterns and abundance. If the results conclude that closing portions of bays to vessel traffic and swimmers is useful for preventing harassment or improving spinner dolphin survivorship or reproduction rates, then the sanctuary may be able to play a role in protecting them under a new management plan. For example, the sanctuary could consider permanent closure of areas deemed important for spinner dolphins or approach limits for boats, divers, and swimmers.

WATER QUALITY*Water Quality: General Concerns*

- A House Concurrent Resolution from the Hawaii State Legislature requested that the Sanctuary and certain state agencies prohibit the dumping of vessel sewage and treatment chemicals into Sanctuary waters (HCR 58 SD1, 2007). This Resolution asking for regulations protecting the water of the Sanctuary from vessel sewage passed both houses of the State Legislature without opposition. There also was extensive public support (from local and international environmental groups) and testimony for this Resolution. The Sanctuary never took action. Additionally the federal law cited in HCR 58 outlines the obligation of the Sanctuary to adopt rules that give protection to marine life. The Sanctuary has a legal obligation to do so. The EPA, the Hawaii State Legislature and the public expect and request the Sanctuary to take action.
- Agree with study of mauka activity affecting sanctuary waters
- Aquafarms, offshore – water quality around fish farms, bacteria diseases.
- Chemicals and pollution degrade Hawaii's waters and cause algae blooms which kill coral reefs and are toxic to marine mammals. Pesticides, PCDF's, dioxin" like PCB's, PBDE's and very high levels of heavy metals have been found in marine mammals. The abundance of plastic and marine debris in the ocean accounts for an increase in marine fatalities, including whale deaths.
- Concerned about water quality and how it affects people and marine resources—would like the sanctuary to do something with water quality.
- Coral reefs are endangered primarily due to distant point source pollution, local agricultural run off and global climate change. All three of these are worth fighting, but none of them will be meaningfully addressed by a Sanctuary. Otherwise, let the current Sanctuary get something substantial and meaningful done about any one of the above issues before requesting an expansion.
- Culture Ahupuaa system – mountain to the sea system of management .
- Do not expand sanctuary to include coral reef - Don't know- but if they would stop dumping garbage and poison into the ocean then the reefs wouldn't die and fish would be abundant they are always blaming overfishing but pollution is the problem.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Coral Reefs - Agricultural run off: very well put.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Coral Reefs - It's apparent that eg run off plays a huge role in the condition of the reef.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include coral reefs. It's do to run off (ditched) and other man made chemical.
- Do not expand sanctuary to include Hawaiian cultural Heritage. It's more do to runoff (rain).
- Do not expand the sanctuary in include coral reefs. Spend money on preventing pollution from resorts golf courses and heavy shoreline development.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef - Agriculture and golf courses would be away to help not expanding or implementing the humpback whale sanctuary expansion.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Coral reefs have been issue for many years. Don't u know turtles destroying reefs. Pollution, boating, not shoreline fishing.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Don't expand into sanctuary because of severe climate changes having an affect the reef then include over development on the islands conclude to run off that chokes out the reef.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Have state control run off problem w/ contractor or companies.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. The coral reef s will benefit most from sustainable farming practices and so would every other system/organism.Stop corporate ag!!

- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef. Watch closely when heavy rains are here to know the cause. What about "sun tan" lotion??
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - I am a recreational diver and I know I am no expert but I think the coral reefs are suffering the most from golf course runoffs. So why punish the fisherman and not the golf course owners.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - It is what man adds to ocean waters that degrades our reefs and near shore waters.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - They are dieing already pollution of the waters.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Also doing well with current silt and runoff laws and pollution laws.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Good comment about ag (...the cause of this decline appears more closely related to problems like agricultural run off...).
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Most damage is done by businesses with runoff.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Stop building hotels, vacations rental and all the other stuff that's polluting our shores then the reef will survive.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include Hawaiian Cultural Heritage. Again, the current indigenous gathering/ fishing rights need to be recognized and enforced /implemented.
- Document sources of chemical pollution within the sanctuary and develop point source mitigation where feasible.
- Don't expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs. Stop sewage pants from injecting waste water into underground streams.
- Don't expand to include sea turtles. Go to the real problum stop pluting the oceans.
- Fertilizer and invasive overgrowth needs to be resolved.
- Fuel dumping is an issue from planes (particularly military)
- Fund water quality monitoring
- Harassment, entanglement, water quality/pollution/ship strikes
- Humpback whale habitat can include water quality and human interaction.
- I agree water quality is an issue.
- Impacts of feces from domesticated animals (eg dogs on beaches) on marine life. There is a risk of disease spread from domesticated to wild animals we should be concerned with, too.
- Injection wells. Sanctuary should work on the issues. Protect corals because they are habitat for fish. Runoff is harming corals. Need to enforce runoff that harms corals.
- Look at the water quality from non-point source, too. Support enforcement of Clean Water Act that is being violated by state and county through injection wells.
- Mauka to makai connections need to be looked at. Should look at urban development and impacts on coral reefs. Look at deposition of sediment impacts on coral reefs.
- Nearshore pollution is a big issue. What's the sanctuary's stance on the city's waiver? What is the impact of the outfall pipes?
- Need to address NPS (non-point source pollution) issue and water feeding into reproductive areas – Mountain to makai – especially if adding other species.
- New injection wells near the coastline should not be permitted and old ones should be phased out as new technology is adopted and priority is given to funding injection well alternatives. The sanctuary could promote this as a means of improving water quality in targeted areas.
- No expand to include corals- Yes before you look to the water you need to control what happens on the land. We the people see first hand the damage runoff from silt and fertilizers of golf courses and hotels are doing
- No expand to include corals-should take care of run off first

- No expand to include corals-stop the run off first
- now that larger type agriculture like pineapple and sugar cane is PAU, whomever the new landlords are should be responsible to take care of the land. Keep it green so there is no erosion runoff of silt into the ocean. There land has the most chemical and fertilizers in the soil.
- Our reefs are being smothered and killed by sediment and runoff from construction, fertilizer, pesticides and sewage.
- Pollution and military testing are major concerns.
- Projects that address water quality and non-point source pollution.
- Proposed fish farms cause problems with water quality because of the fish food and poop in one area, cables (to hold down cages – causing problems with entanglement), whales will come close to the fish farms to eat the baby fish. Water quality problems will advance impacts on coral and visitor industry. Study what the impacts are of fish farms on local fishermen and commercial fishermen. What is the cultural take of fish farms as opposed to fish ponds?
- Protect our waters and you will be protecting our future.502
- Runoff from streams (address).
- Runoff, water quality, SONAR, stranding response are all issues. The ahupuaa system is always great. The reasons why marine mammals are stranding are linked to runoff, water quality, and SONAR. I would have liked to say a prayer for the animal before it went on the flight. This is the first time there was no prayer. NOAA staff body language was disappointing; they were too excited to use their new center; even though there was a tank available at the Maui Ocean Center. The number of strandings has quadrupled due to water quality, SONAR testing, and runoff. Hotel development and runoff should be addressed by the Sanctuary. Stream/river water should reach the ocean.
- Septic system and cesspools should be addressed to ensure good water quality.
- The Coast Guard here does not know about “pump, don’t dump” program.
- The fact that humpback whales do not feed here should not prevent water quality issues from being addressed. Do we really know how water quality issues affect newborn humpback calves? The presence of excessive nutrients, pharmaceuticals, hormones, etc. in injected wastewater that eventually reaches the ocean may have many impacts we have not yet determined.
- The identification and restoration of these sites (Hawaiian fish ponds) should be an integral part of any sanctuary plan. The restoration of the natural stream flow and surface runoff is essential to the health of these fishpond. Anything that has a negative effect on this effort such as pumping brackish water from heavily depleted ground water sources must be stopped. Applying brackish water in hillside irrigation is a "take" under the endangers species act i.e. "to destroy, injure, ... land plants, or to engage in and such conduct;" Not so long ago the indigenous Hawaiians feed more people on these islands than live here today utilizing those fish ponds. Today I understand we import 75% of our food.
- The problems are: overdevelopment, golf courses, etc. run off.
- The public sector should also do their to deter putting pollutants down the drain. Then the "coral" will survive. Otherwise no rules and regulations will be effective
- The Sanctuary has a volunteer water monitoring program but there appears to be no specific Sanctuary funding to support it. When will the Sanctuary actively participate in addressing the water quality issue by committing Sanctuary funds to it?
- The sanctuary should be expanded from humpback whales to other species (in air, land, water) The sanctuary should address not just sea life, but also sand erosion, bird life, water quality
- The sanctuary should expand to include dolphins. I am seeing much fewer dolphins then ever. They are being stressed by pollution, overfishing, sonar, habitat degradation, ALL proven scientifically.

- The sanctuary should go up the mountain, ahupuaa system. Go up the hill. (injection wells, feral ungulates)
- the sanctuary should have a major role in addressing two of the emerging topics presented on p. 23 - water quality (go beyond "a supporting role")
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Assessing golf courses near shorelines, their use of chemicals that run off into our ocean and limiting pollutants used.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Controlling the amounts of nitrogenous runoff would be more effective than sanctifying coral reefs.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. I agree. Agricultural and human expansion and land development are the culprits. Focus on the programs, on limiting the victim (the ocean). Fix the sources of the runoff.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Take care of the pollution going into the water, not the people using the water.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. You don't have to include coral because it is from run-off's is the problems in killing the reefs.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include sea turtles. To many turtles in addition they have a lot of tumors and growths on them from pollution and runoff's.
- The sanctuary should work on the water quality issue.
- The whales' habitat in Hawaiian waters and throughout the North Pacific remains under constant threat of degradation through marine debris, ocean acidification, and dangerous land-derived inputs to the whales' environment. Although some may argue that this degradation should include so-called "noise pollution", there is no credible evidence that either operational or environmental acoustic changes in the environment affect the whales or threaten the whales' continued wellbeing. Sanctuary management should develop and implement a comprehensive plan of action to address the major environmental threats to the whales' habitat: marine debris, human-derived pollutants, and ocean acidification.
- There must be more regulatory collaboration between land and ocean uses, especially regarding pollution, that would affect the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary must take a leading role in fostering this collaboration. The management plan should include an investigation of these issues and a plan to implement closer collaboration between the Sanctuary and other users.
- There should be water quality enforcement. Those creating pollution should be fined. Sanctuary should have enforcement team.
- Turtles are also protected and very plentiful. They do need help, a lot of them are covered with tumors from polluted water from agricultural run-off, chemicals from golf courses and swimming pools on the waterfront and sewage treatment plants injecting gray-water that is contaminated with untreated sewage water, bleach, chloring, and phosphates from laundry-mats that go directly in to underground streams and lava tubes that flow onto our near shore waters and coral reefs.
- Turtles are also protected and very plentiful. They do need help, a lot of them are covered with tumors from polluted water from agricultural run-off, chemicals from golf courses & swimming pools on the waterfront and sewage treatment plants injecting gray-water that is contaminated with untreated sewage water, bleach, chlorine, and phosphates from laundry-mats that go directly in to underground streams and lava tubes that flow onto our near shore waters and coral reefs.
- Water quality – what is the impact of runoff from construction and erosion on corals?
- Water quality and related enforcement.
- Water quality: Run-offs- Question how to address this?
- We can do something on land as well as in the water. Corporate NOAA should do more to be "green" such as energy efficiency to lessen our footprint. Link between impacts on land and ocean.

- We do know that other critically endangered species, including Hawaiian monk seals, hawksbill turtles and corals are adversely affected by poor water quality, as are dolphins and reef fish. Poor water quality means less food overall or more highly contaminated food sources for these marine inhabitants.
- We highly welcome your efforts and suggest that the kona district of Kaua'i's watershed master plan be adopted and identify that these areas are already encumbered by cultural native inhabitants of stewardship and practitioners that monitor and maintain their native habitat and its inhabitants and the regional watersheds (Le., coast, ocean, estuary, endemic and indigenous inhabitants and biota, minerals, submerged resources and lands, within, above, and all processes thereof) for many centuries and implement policies to adhere to pre-existing cultural watershed management plan to your current administrative policies and rules. As we continue to implement our management plans for the kona district of Kaua'i and our native population naturally grows, we welcome your efforts in our common goals. Since we are currently updating our 1994 legacy watershed plan for our implementation action plan 2010-2020, we humbly ask for your support and hope that we can work together to accomplish our mutual efforts of friendly cooperation.
- We need a more ecology-based sanctuary, e.g. land erosion and its effects on marine ecosystems
- What is the Sanctuary's position of the city waiver for outfall pipe pollution?
- Who do you call with water quality issues/to report dumping, etc.?
- Why something isn't being done about water quality where we swim? Dumping is going on so why isn't anything being done?
- Yes, we have some area's within the islands that have challenges with the depletion of coral life and shoreline reef fish, but much of this is attributed to the filth that is produced by runoffs and leaching of chemicals from land and the discharge of toxic waste from commercial ocean liners and other ocean going vessels including military type. It would be very wise if your agency concentrated it's efforts and funds on policing the high seas and stop the culprits that are using our ocean as a trash disposal.
- Your Water quality projects have failed in your tenure and we do not need more tax payers dollars in these hard times being spent to make our waters a Natinal Marine sanctuary for resources already protected by numerous Federal laws.

Water Quality: Potential Solutions

- Aquaculture in offshore waters: the fish isn't healthy, using lots of antibiotics, not healthy for us or the fish or ecosystem. The sanctuary shouldn't allow offshore aquaculture.
- As water quality in the sanctuary continues to decline due to human impacts, hawksbill food sources will be adversely affected. Making the sancutary or designated portions of it into additional marine preserves would help to solve this problem as well.
- Be a spotlight for issues like water quality and possible solutions.
- Chemicals & pollution create pathogen friendly environments in Hawaii's waters and cause algae blooms, which smother the reefs and are toxic to marine mammals. The ocean has become a toxic soup. There are increasing numbers of whales dying from fatal ingestion of garbage. Plastic bags, plastic of various kinds, discarded fishing nets, etc. have been found in their stomachs. I request the Sanctuary to fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Conduct additional research and management efforts on reducing the impacts of nonpoint source pollution on whale habitat.
- Connecting what happens on the land to what happens on the water will help strengthen and protect al life in the environment – Ecosystem-based management.

- Consider sedimentation. Possible partnership with Army Corps of Engineers. Best Management Practices, monitor construction, other activities that could lead to sedimentation. Programs, regulations to monitor sedimentation within sanctuary waters over and above other waters. Implement alt. approaches (BMP's) e.g. porous asphalt.
- Consideration of whether the Sanctuary's conservation efforts should include threatened and endangered species such as Hawaiian monk seals, spinner dolphins, sea turtles, and coral reefs should be based on an evaluation of the need for such efforts and of the effectiveness of marine protected areas in benefiting such species. For this and other reasons, additional funds should be dedicated to better regulatory monitoring and enforcement and to scientific research on the species' protection impacts related to water quality, acoustic noise sources, aquaculture, and offshore alternative energy development.
- Coral reefs: maybe monitor pollution runoffs streams, rivers! Monitor the Hawaiian monk seal they tear up everything!
- Cruise ships are increasing as is the dumping by cruise ships. There raw sewage smells. We need to get some effective laws to get control of illegal dumping from cruise ships
- Do not expand sanctuary to include coral reef. Coral reef destroyed by turtles, pollution, hurricanes remember we had (2). Those who use and not educated how to take and live the reefs.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reef - There should be stiffer fines and penalties for agriculture run off into our oceans.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - We need more education about urban run-off and agricultural practices that are the real culprits of reef destructions
- Erosion events – land-sea interface, what regulations are there to address the issue? Sanctuary should have regulations against damaging resources, for example if people cause erosion that then flows mud into coral reefs.
- Expand sanctuary to include water quality monitoring. Expand protection/add additional protection to monk seals, coral, shipwrecks and water quality programs/regulations.
- Finally, the sanctuary may be able to play an important role in addressing certain activities that have a clear potential for adversely affecting marine species and biological communities in waters surrounding the main Hawaiian Islands. For example, commercial and recreational fishing can incidentally take protected species, vessel traffic can kill, injure, or disturb individual animals, powerful sonar devices may injure or kill marine mammals and other marine species, and the installation of facilities or structures such as aquaculture pens or waste outfalls can preempt or modify habitat for marine life or introduce sources of pollution or disturbance to marine life. In many cases, the need or justification for regulatory measures may not be immediately apparent or may arise only after some future development proposal is made. In other cases, a need may be apparent, but further study is required to determine the most effective measures. For such activities where specific regulatory provisions may be needed in the foreseeable future but cannot be identified or developed as part of the ongoing management plan review, sanctuary managers should have authority to implement regulations as new information develops.
- Foster programs that monitor water quality around the islands if NOAA isn't doing it directly to address root cause of marine health issues.
- Fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticides and chemical runoff from golf courses.
- How about making stricter rules about sewage and chemicals that make it to our ocean.
- Identify and track terrigenous-based, ocean based, and atmospherically-delivered water pollutants.

- Launch island-wide effort to talk story with farmers and fishermen to discuss the connection between the land and the ocean and how one may influence the other.
- Little enforcement: need speed limits - strikes; sonar for military, beached whales, water quality (monk seals), reef
- Making sure people are aware of water quality issues and agencies responsible is a way sanctuary can help. Injection wells are beyond the scope of the sanctuary responsibility (regulations) but maybe it can help other agencies with the issue. Research and cooperation, not regulation in addressing water quality and effects on reef. Sanctuary can document changes over time, make sure public and agencies are aware of that.
- Marine conservation law and policy today favor an ecosystem approach to conservation and management. Not only do humpback whales require specific protective rules, so do the coral reef systems, water quality and other aspects of Sanctuary critical habitat.
- No expand to include corals-overdevelopment and too much tourism is the cause of reef damage. Nothing to do with Sanctuaries.
- No expand to include reefs- if the problem is the improper use of land and not the use of the ocean, why regulate the ocean. Regulate the land use
- No water quality, acoustic regulations, habitat preservation and restoration
- Not enough regulations to protect whales. Too much pollution
- Our coral reefs are being damaged by improper grubbing and grading of coastal lands, run off of non regulated pollutants and by introduced species of invasive seaweed and fishes. Less than 1% is due to direct contact by local recreation fishermen using nets, fishing lines or diving, surfing, body surfing or any other means of recreation or sustenance gathering. The issue regarding our reef and coral system and species is directly related to coastal property owners. Be it private or commercial properties that are not being policed by NOAA, DLNR, DAR or any other governmental agency, be it on the county, state or federal level. There should be an annual or at least bi-annual study done on coastal properties and their affects on our reefs and coral species.
- Please fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Pollution from land sources or from aquaculture are not acceptable in the Sanctuary, and must be monitored and regulated.
- Pollution rules. No dumping in the Sanctuary
- Pump-out stations at harbor. Water quality. Need to address policy or regulations against dumping of vessel discharges. Or better enforcement. Or more pump out stations.
- Sanctuary should be involved in water quality legislation. Need sanctuary enforcement and monitoring for water quality.
- Sanctuary should compare current data on marine environmental health (water quality, ...) to historical records and make available to the public.
- Sanctuary skews reports of direct human effects vs. non-direct human effects. To gain credibility with ocean users, the Sanctuary and NOAA would do well to differentiate the harm caused by direct human interaction with a given species (such as a human poaching turtles or shooting seals) as opposed to indirect human interaction (such as agricultural run-off or discarded fish nets). The amount of actual harm caused criminals intent on killing or injuring seals compared to the actual harm caused by indirect human action is insignificant!
- Sanctuary Water quality efforts ineffective. The Sanctuary has no leverage or powers over land based agricultural practices. It has even less control over international and national pollution. To imply otherwise is purely dishonest. This will not change with expanded boundaries.

- Sediment flowing into the water has a negative effect on habitat. I would like to see the boundary expanded to what was originally proposed. The current water treatment system needs to be replaced. Injection wells carry waste water right to the reef. Sanctuary should get involved in water quality. It impacts fish and corals. Need to do more testing and enforcement. County water treatment is not good enough. Need federal government to come in and help.
- Sewage dumping needs to be regulated (land source)
- Should do water quality testing
- Since, the 'Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary' has no rules or laws to protect whales in their mating/birthing/nursery waters, (other than 100-yard approach limit), I demand that you do your best and most compassionate job to enact rules and laws to protect the whales and their ocean habitat from Vessel Strikes, Sonar and Acoustic Impacts, Water Pollution, Habitat Degradation and Net Entanglement.
- Smokey Bear – need a catchy phrase or mascot. Develop a catchy slogan or memorable saying to further the education message. Have a teacher (DOE) running Whales on Wheels program with hands-on education (e.g., water quality testing), ahupua'a ownership of students, and track results over time (years).
- Sonar exercises, water pollution, ocean acidification, huge net fishing must stop or be greatly limited.
- Stripping fuel. Large ship oil stripping (every ship larger than 300 feet long) – every big ship operating today strips fuel and trash out at sea. Oil dumped directly into water. Sanctuary needs to address large problems. Need to go after the big problems, e.g., gill nets, oil stripping ... Need to educate about large problems.
- The Sanctuary has taken no action to protect our waters from water pollution. The Sanctuary should fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- The sanctuary is in nearshore waters close to humans. There has been an increase in unknown diseases in marine animals. We need more education to get the public to be more considerate of what they're dumping. We need to evaluate and be concerned with the impact of oil and nonpoint source pollutants in the storm drain system.
- The Sanctuary should also fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff. Chemicals & pollution create pathogen friendly environments in Hawaii's waters and cause algae blooms, which smother the reefs and are toxic to marine mammals. Pesticides, PCDD's, PCDF's, dioxin- like PCB's, PBDE's have been found in marine mammals. From a June 2010 report; cadmium, aluminum, chromium, lead, silver, mercury and titanium together are at the highest levels ever found in marine mammals.
- The Sanctuary should fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- The sanctuary should not expand to include coral reefs. Our plantation are no longer in operation which limits runoff problems and human pollution is being addressed through education on being more responsible.
- The sanctuary vision should include a plan for reducing its size or scope as species are removed from endangered status or reach pre-determined population levels. Ofcourse, if theres no need for laws or sanctuary's they should be removed untill there needed again. The laws put in place right now are working, theres no need for more. Stop wasting our tax dollars,, focus more on the real problems. Pollution and runoff, you stop thos our ocean will FLURISH.
- There is no need for additional regulations if the current regulations are not being enforced. However, new federal powers may be necessary to expand the sanctuary's powers to prevent

discharge of pollutants into sanctuary waters from sources outside of the sanctuary. Budget and manpower for enforcement should be a priority, not an afterthought.

- There must be more regulatory collaboration between land and ocean uses, especially regarding pollution that would affect the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary must take a leading role in fostering this collaboration. The management plan should include an investigation of these issues and a plan to implement closer collaboration between the Sanctuary and other users.
- Use of less toxic chemicals: control them!
- Water pollution/ quality: fund monitoring and make laws to protect water
- WATER POLLUTION: Fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Water quality studies should be done on a large scale.
- Water quality: Sanctuary should make water quality enforcement within boundaries a priority. Assist state and educate public on water quality.
- We at Hawaii Wildlife Fund deeply appreciate Councilwoman Johnson's identification of the four priority areas in her Resolution, with a specific call-out on how the defunct Hawaiian Superferry had threatened aquatic resources. Whether there is a Sanctuary or not, these are critical issues that remain unresolved. 1.) Vessel Speed Limit and 2.) Development of a system for reporting and preventing vessel collisions 3.) Regulation of sewage discharge 4.) Assessment of Navy sonar impacts
- We recommend that the Sanctuary take action to address water pollution and fund water quality monitoring. NOAA must advocate for stricter laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.

Water Quality: Area-Specific

- Anonprofit organization had to take the responsibility of raising funds to keep the voluntary pumping program going at this one harbor [Maalea Bay]. What about the other harbors in the Sanctuary?
- An area in the sanctuary, Kihei, is an example of coral reefs being inundated and killed by plant life because of the increase in nutrients and lack of fish to graze on the algae and other plant life. This is part of the Ma'alea Bay study area ...which shows reef collapse and invasive algae. Maui is losing this reef because of failure of the federal government, including the HIHWNMS, and state of Hawaii to prohibit destructive fishing practices and the dumping of vessel sewage.
- Consider No Discharge (pollutants) Areas: The continuing discharge into Maunalua Bay of runoff laden with sediment and related pollutants is in excess of what the Bay can process naturally. Maunalua Bay also has considerable boat traffic due to the presence of the Maunalua Bay Boat Ramp (operated by DOBOR) and the Hawai'i Kai Marina. We recommend that the HIHWNMS Plan review and revision process consider the establishment of No Discharge Areas within the Sanctuary, including in Maunalua Bay, as a tool for management. A monitoring component would also be essential.
- Cruise ships are dumping massive amounts of sewage, etc off of the Big Island. Is the toxicity in whales influenced by that? What will be done to address water quality in the sanctuary?
- Do not establish no take zones (fishing). Fish being depleted by pollution and invasive species.
- Do not expand the sanctuary to include coral reefs - If you dredge the rivers (Waimea for example) silt run off will decrease and small fish habitat improved.
- Fibropapillomatosis is a tumor disease that has reached epidemic proportions among Hawaii's Green sea turtle population. On the West coast of Maui 75 % of resident turtles are infected with this virus. Currently Maui puts 15 billion gallons of waste a year into coastal waters.

- Fishery hatchery within sanctuary off of Lanai. Waste nutrients will impact sanctuary resources. Sanctuary needs to be more involved in this project. Waste suspensions will have terrible impacts on whales.
- Funding is needed for infrastructure to expand the existing program of wastewater recycling at the Kihei plant and elsewhere. If the sanctuary expands its oversight to include preserving water quality within its boundaries or portions of its boundaries, most particularly within Ma'alaea Bay where so many critically endangered species are known to frequent, this would assist the County as well as private entities in addressing with elimination of injection wells and other practices known to affect water quality.
- Honolua Bay is area of importance. Has pump out facility. Have water quality testing. If resources are available there is no management plan for area yet. Save Honolua Bay Coalition – would like to work with sanctuary. Wants assistance with education on packing in, packing out at Honolua. Honolua Mokuluia which is currently grant-supported.
- I have been diving for 37 years in the nearshore reef systems. I feel distressed about the changes. The sanctuary should have “no take” zones to protect the nearshore reef systems (water quality, injection wells, runoff, effects of pineapple fields).
- Locals encounter sewage slicks after tour boats dump sewage on their trips to Molokini and Makena “Turtle Town”
- No no take zones-As a waterman who grew up in the islands I have seen for myself the causes of our problems and know if you don't stop pollution and runoff all else is wasted. The Sanctuary does not offer us any solution and seems to be taking credit for Federal laws already in place. It is obvious to me somebody is milking the tax payers for a lot of money and want more.
- Non point sources of pollution, e.g. agricultural runoff, siltation from construction activities, etc. also would need to be addressed. The creation of a marine preserve at Ma'alaea Bay would ensure that priority is given to these issues.
- Numerous injection wells, both public and private, are located within close proximity to Ma'alaea Bay. Encouraging, if not mandating, alternative technologies such as reclamation, enhanced nutrient removal and constructed wetlands would have the effect of controlling harmful nutrient levels of nitrogen and phosphorous within the Bay itself and help to protect and produce more food sources for critically endangered species.
- Penguin Banks – gray water is being emptied outside the sanctuary jurisdiction, we need to address the water quality impacts of this.
- Pollution is an issue and areas of no-take zones.
- Pump don't dump: sanctuary should help regulate this. Needs to be enforced for ALL commercial vessels (pumping NOT dumping). Fine violators, adding station as Kihei Harbor, need more people to help (southern waters of Maui the worst) with clean water tests and quality control. Commercial boats responsible. Should charge all boats for pumping: flat fee required. Need regulations for cruise lines (pump). Need someone responsible for monitoring/enforcing.
- Punish the landowners that allow silting and toxic effluents into the ocean (Robinson Sugar and Shrimp Farm).
- Punolai is dying. Should be part of sanctuary and like Molokini with protection, plaques for info, water quality, education, research.
- Rumor that water quality off Poipu is poor, perhaps due to hotels or from river outflow. Expand sanctuary into this area and look into water quality.
- Should re-visit the re-setting of the boundaries to the original boundary that was based on the scientific boundary of where whales are found, the 100 fathom isobaths. Should expand the boundaries based on science. Sanctuary should include all other marine species and what they feed

on. Need to look at the bathymetric maps. Need to look at all islands for expansion. There were 1,000-1500 whales in the North Pacific earlier, now there are 20,000 whales. Should move to a marine sanctuary (eg do water quality).

- The discharge of runoff, sediment and related pollutants into Maunalua Bay is considered one of the most damaging factors contributing to the deteriorating condition of the Bay. Improved tools for monitoring and controlling the land-based factors responsible for the degradation of coastal coral reefs and other resources are needed.
- The EPA is investigating the discharge of pollutants from Lahaina's wastewater injection wells into the nearshore waters of Kahekili, Ka'anapali. Wastewater is making its way into the Sanctuary waters where whales are birthing, humans are recreating and gathering food, making a living and seeking spiritual renewal. Yet this issue has become a political football, bouncing between DOH and the county. Despite our Mayor's stated noble goal of 100% wastewater re-use, her administration has not made progress in this regard. We need this issue to be resolved and the Whale Sanctuary should help us resolve this problem.
- The Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Act prohibits discharge of waste or deposit of any material that requires a federal permit into Sanctuary waters. The Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of pollutants from point sources to waters of the U. S. except as allowed under National Pollutant Elimination System Permits (NPDES). The County of Maui is allegedly discharging pollutants into waters of the U. S. without an NPDES permit. Therefore there is lack of compliance with both the Sanctuary Act and the Clean Water Act.
- The second thing the whale sanctuary can do for the community of Kaua'i is that they can solicit for legislation to "cover your dirt" Hundreds of acres of land is left fallow or dug up and left and the wind simply blows the topsoil into the ocean "silting out our coral heads". This agricultural practice is more detrimental to coral than any other human aspect including anchor drops and herbicides. If NOAA would help somehow bring about awareness and perhaps legislation to stop this practice, our corawould stand a chance.
- Water quality in Hanelei is biggest concern - don't see as many fish in water as we used to – sanctuary could monitor.
- Water quality in Kihei – fund projects to fix injection wells and protect water quality.
- Water quality: turtles in Pala'au (in the south shore of Molokai) have the highest rate of cancer in the world. The reason is Monsanto even though it is the biggest employer in this island. Stop GMO runoff into sanctuary. Monsanto helps fund the TNC reserves (through the Molokai Ranch through the Nature Conservancy) on Molokai, they give water to feral animals during summer. These animals would otherwise go into town to drink and get shot. Too many feral animals cause pollution too.
- We look forward to planned water quality studies in the area (Puako).

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

- :-((
- :D, let's also please be organic Vegans&Green (like sustainable energy!) 2 save our Earth Home!! :)),...Thank You~!,wishing You the most Happiest Days!!:D!****
- ABSOLUTELY NO LONGER NECESSARY!
- Add the prefix of Miss. as not every single woman wants to be designated as Ms.
- All animals are G-d's children and need protection-----their well being is an indicator ofur own well being. SAVE THE BABIES!!! THEY WERE HERE FIRST!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- all the fishing trawlers do not go to the hawaiian islands or anywhere their is big endangered mammals. right now all the mammals and animals are becoming less habitat
- Aloha!
- Animals cannot speak for themselves. We must speak for them... ALL of them.
- Animals matter. STOP! EXTINCTION, EXPLOITATION, EXPERIMENTATION ~ for that was all that was left for Man in the hierarchy of God's seven holy dayts. And Man looked about him and said that was good, for he was soverign with all else beneath his feet. And when finally all the animals disappeared from his world, there was only one day of the Creation left, that of himself and he found himself alone. He began to pray to bring them back, but they were gone forever. Piece by piece Man is dismantling the whole of Creation, polluting the air and oceans, obliterating forests, ravaging it's creatures. Inhumane slaughter of agricultural animals, cruelty, abuse and neglect of domestic animals, hunting & harvesting the lands and seas; many have heard their agonizing, painful cries, and only death could release them of their bondage. And Man grew afraid and prayed to bring them back, but they were gone forever.
- Animals: IT'S THEIR WORLD TOO!
- another of natures marvels,and all thay swim in the sea.
- Another proof of the immensity of our racist stupidity.
- Another thing that makes you go umm, umm, umm.
- Any whale will tell you, " we gotta keep the whole ocean safe and every one of us in it". The some of the parts make up the whole so leave no part out lest the whole be haved.
- As all other species on this planet are being eliminated, I'm trying to understand why it takes petitions and animal rights activists to get people who have the power to do the right thing...When will we not have to worry about these issues and get people in power who actually care about the planet? Is money the most important thing?
- Because that's all I eat and they keep me healthy. They're natural, from Mother Earth and good for me and all of us!
- Because the eco system is necessary for all beings and the benefit of mankind.
- because we need to help when ever we can before its to late
- BP wants to destroy us all
- Comments that come in from out of state should have absolutely no standing or impact in the outcome in the management plan review!
- considering the ocean takes up MOST OF THE EARTHS SURFACE we might just want to pay more attention here, HELLOOOO!!
- DON'T KILL INNOCENT ANIMALS!!

- Encompassing area for sanctuary, living
- Fish need love too
- Having had lived in Hawaii and a former SCUBA diver I always loved these animals and the Earth without them will deservedly die.
- Hawai is far from where I live, still I care for Hawaiian marine mammals because otherwise would be defending barbaric practise.
- Hello Hawaii?? Do you realise what you have?!
- Here to represent the whales.
- here we go!! get things done right..
- hi this is so important great fr johnnyb.
- HOTTEST ACTIVIST PETITION]---><http://www.thepetitionsite.com/23/abolish-the-slaughter-of-japanese-dolphins/>
- Humans do not have the right to ruin the planet for other species.
- i <3 marine mammals
- I Care!
- I could sign in my tears
- I DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY WARS THAT ARE POINTLESS, AND HAVE A NO WAY TO WIN-- AND WHAT ARE WE FIGHTING FOR ANYWAY??? NO ANSWERS!!! AND CONGRESS CAN ARGUE THAT THE MONEY FOR THE WARS IS A GOOD WAY TO SPEND INTO DEBT, BUT SPENDING IN ORDER TO LEAVE THE WILDLIFE AND ENVIROMENT IN GOOD CONDITION FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS IS NOT A GOOD WAY TO SPEND??? I DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE THINKING?!!!
- I hope that one day, animal safety, human security as the same crime as killing an animal, like the sin of killing
- I liken this attempt to retain and even expand the present sanctuary to a landlord (NOAA) that realizes that his tenant (humpback whale) is going to leave, and he is frantically looking for other tenants (additional species) to keep the sanctuary occupied and the revenue coming in to continue the payroll.
- I love then :)
- I prey you get the signatures u need them whats wrong with these people??
- I strongly see no need for its placement of the Northwestern Hawaiian Island monk seal into the sanctuary.
- I think all animals are beautiful and if there is not a desperate or even important need to kill them please don't.
- I think it is selfish for us human beings to let these animal species be endangered. These beautiful animals have existed longer than we have and we are destroying their homes. We owe them this.
- i think it should be banned . i won't let myself get into detail aat the moment because i'm sure we don't want to miss the olympics . i have signed a lot of petitions for these types of things . i am an animal freak like no word of as lie. i want animals to be treated right and with respect and care .
- I want those humans without a conscience to die out, they will know which ones.
- I whant help too

- If these islands were to be a marine sanctuary in time the only fish that would be around would be the taape!!
- I'm making a flyer about protecting dolphins because the people who are in china didn't know Japanese kill the dolphins.
- It's all connected.
- It's not rocket science!!!!
- It's vital work
- Keep our Oceans safe for those who are meant to be there
- Let her free a let her life where she belongs to nobody wants to see orcas making a fool of themselves in seaworld
- Let's do our part.
- Let's stop the war on animals.
- Ms. Chow, What your sanctuary is doing is liken to seeing a table full of hungry children and deciding who gets fed and who starves. If the santuary cannot expand and fulfill its obligations to all the sea life in the waters surrounding Hawaii than in a sense they are attempting to save one species while watching the others go extinct. Spend some time at other sanctuaries to get a model for a program and get to work before anymore die off.
- No species should suffer, please help
- No to the slaughter of marine animals, it's contemptible that governments around the world allow this!!
- Noted and signed!
- o~
- Oceans do not know about borders. It is our responsibility to protect them all around the World.
- of course we are all conected
- Once these magnificent creatures are gone....they are gone!
- Our earth asks for help.
- Our health and future is predicated upon the health of our oceans and their life! If our oceans die, we die. It is that simple.
- People can help on a personal level by going vegan.
- Please protect our natural heritage
- Please stop !
- Precious creatures!
- PROTEST ALL JAPANESE activities adn products until Tiji stops. What is this and why - see the documentary film - the Cove today.
- Sad enough for our planet to soon witness the elephants gone forever!
- Safe our planet please!
- Save the planet!
- save the world as God wanted.
- Signed and noted.
- Some divine power gave us the beautiful earth to live in and all we humans can do is to destroy what was given to us.
- STOP THE WHALING!
- stop this madness!

- Take care of them and the life will take care of you. What you give is what you get.
- Thank You Sanctuary. It boggles me that we are only now taking serious measures to protect our Planet. Cousteau tried to tell us before, but it seems like people thought they could wait.
- Thanks for "The Cove": enlightening and lovely and very sad. Lets stop this.
- That's sick.
- The animals go then we do too.
- The evil-ness of the human ego never ceases to disgust and infuriate me.
- The growth in population is not necessarily an indication of whale health because some of the species reproduce as a stress reflex.
- The islands are theirs too.
- The ocean is like magic. Don't destroy it.
- The state of our wildlife is essential for a healthy environment. I love Nature and want it protected!!!
- There appears to be no end to Man's capacity to destroy everything natural, and I mean relating to Nature, in his path
- There is so much majic in marine animals that more people have to understand.
- There's not only one fish in the sea...
- THIS IS A MUST, WHY ARE WE STILL DESTROYING NATURE IN THIS DAY AND AGE.
- This is wrong. Please help them!
- This year is Biological Diversity year.
- To trouble those wonderful creatures means to dig out your own gloom and doom
- Today is the day we protect you!
- try my best to help the animals
- umm lets see can we say BP Oil Disaster?
- WAKE UP people- Ill treatment has a nack for boomeranging !! What we do to them,we do to ourselves !
- We all are ONE. All of Creation is Sacred, therefore, All Life in Creation is SACRED. We must learn to stop harming and gain understanding that we must help Life, instead.
- We are all of one world
- We can change this mortality
- We cannot afford to ease up on the protection of our environment.
- We feel that moving the Monk Seal to Main Hawaiian Islands is a bad idea.
- We have to stop raping our oceans
- WE HUMAN RACE ARE THE WORSE PREDATORS
- We must start making nature a priority or else we will not have a sustainable world for future generations.
- We need to start protecting the seas, exploitation of the seas has gone on far too long!
- We need to stop foreign butchering of these animals. They need to start realizing that killing many whales there will be none in the near future.
- We share the world, not own it.
- When will we as a society ever really value the other inhabitants of the earth we share together? The time must be now to act. WE are losing these species due to our own greed and insensitivity.

- who wants a world where these marine mammals dont exist, i certaining dont...we are stuffing with the cycle of life people...they need to be in the waters, what will be over run if these are all killed and dont exist anymore???
- why do people OVERFISH? why do they CAPTURE animals? these people need to get a damn heart!!
- Why does it seem that Hawaii is not trying to preserve it's beautiful culture and just becoming another commercial state? There is talk of doing away with the International Market Place, the hotels look like those in Miami, New York or any other state. All the beautiful Hawaiian influence is disappearing. Now you aren't even protecting the Marine Mammals. Soon there will be no reason to visit Hawaii. We started back in te 70's and it was beautiful. Now the Sheraton Wakikii looks like a business hotel all the beutiful wind chime effects as you entered are gone, the shops that were there. Now the marine life, what a shame. I wish Hawaii would return to the beautiful islands it once was.
- With environmental disasters of colossal proportions like the BP oil spill further endangering imperiled marine life it is all the more essential that effective measures be taken to protect all living creatures that inhabit the oceans.
- Wouldn't it just be called favoritism or prejudice of one kind?
- yes protect them u killed enough of them for the japanese yen
- You destroy your treasures!
- YOU HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE SLAUGHTER IN TAIJI- PLEASE START USING IT.. THE KILLING IS GOING ON NOW- HOW DO YOU SLEEP AT NIGHT KNOWING YOU ARE DOING NOTHING TO CORRECT THIS INHUMANE AND CRUEL ACT UPON A SOCIETY THAT YOU CAN ACT UPON TO CORRECT? PLEASE HELP TODAY- HELP NOW- HELP IN ANY WAY SHAPE OR FORM YOU HAVE AVAILABLE-- WOULD YOU WANT THIS TO HAPPEN TO SOMETHING YOU LOVE? SOMEONE YOU KNOW LOVES SOMEONE- WE LOVE THE DOLPHINS AND THE WHALES.. PLEASE HELP US- BY DOING SOMETHING TO STOP THIS- WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT. GOD BLESS YOU.