



Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary

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Ocean Resources Management Plan, Coordinated Working Group
April 2, 2015*

What Are National Marine Sanctuaries?



“Areas of the marine environment with special conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, cultural, archeological, or esthetic qualities...”



National Marine Sanctuaries Act (Sec. 301)

What Are National Marine Sanctuaries?



“To facilitate all private and public uses to the extent compatible with the primary purpose of resource protection...”



National Marine Sanctuaries Act (Sec. 301)

National Marine Sanctuary System

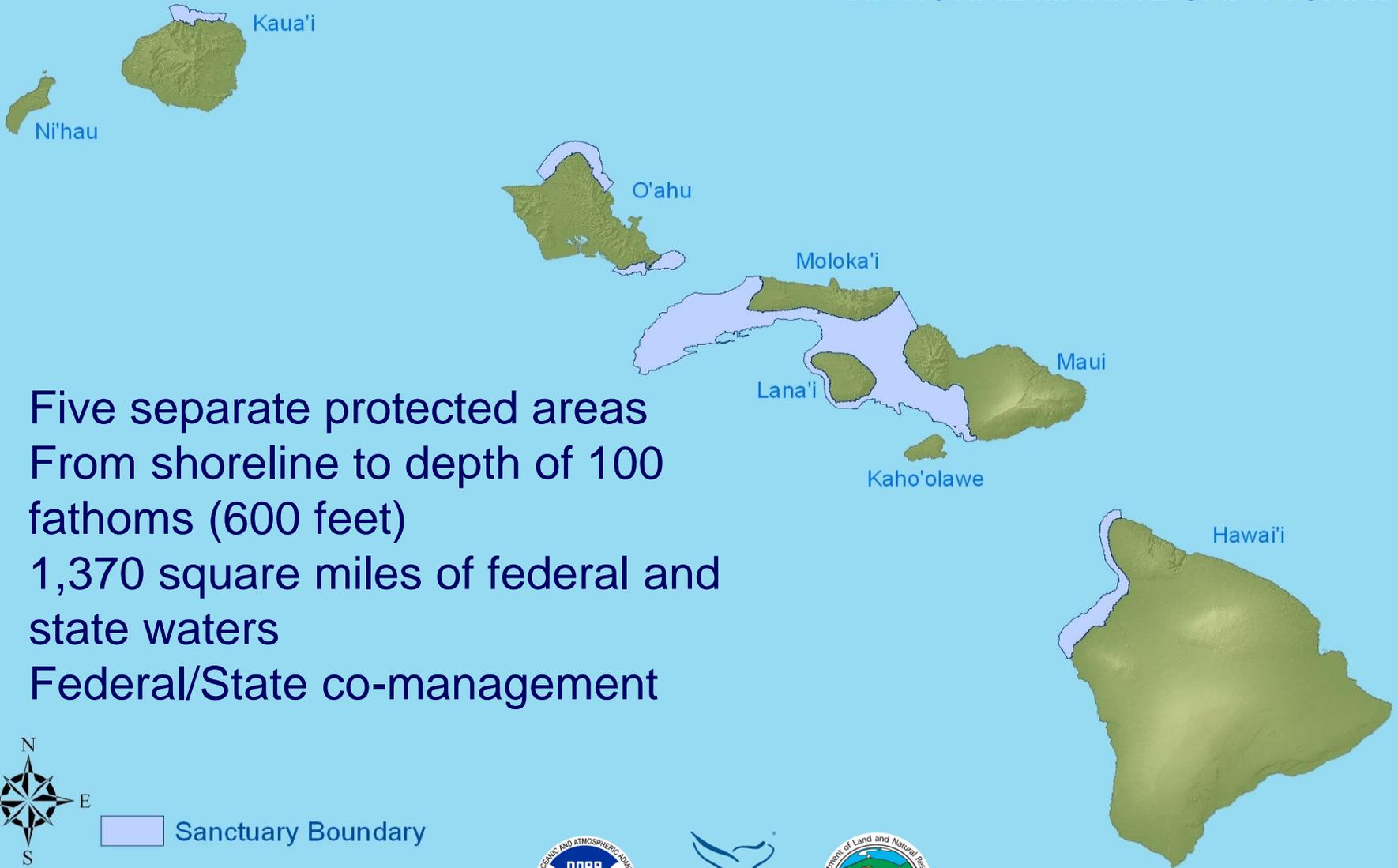


Purpose and Mission of the Sanctuary



Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY



- Five separate protected areas
- From shoreline to depth of 100 fathoms (600 feet)
- 1,370 square miles of federal and state waters
- Federal/State co-management



 Sanctuary Boundary

0 50 100 Kilometers

0 50 100 Miles



Sanctuary Management Plan Review

- Determine the future direction and scope of the sanctuary
- Address current and emerging issues
- Consider additional protection for marine and cultural resources of national significance



Public Scoping

12,583
Comments

Overarching Considerations

**Socioeconomic – Fishing –
Ocean Users – Livelihoods
– Access**

**Native Hawaiian Traditional
Perspectives**

Environmental Impacts

Community Engagement

Issues

Water Quality

**Humpback
Whale
Protection**

**Ecosystem
Protection:
Species and
Habitats**

Enforcement

**Marine
Animal
Assessment
& Response**

**Ocean
Literacy**

**Native
Hawaiian
Culture**

**Maritime
Heritage**

**Management
Effectiveness**

**Offshore
Development**

**Climate
Change**

Potential Management Solutions

Research

Outreach & Education

Boundaries & Zones

Regulations

Sanctuary Advisory Councils: Community-Based Advisors



- **Provide advice** on general management of the sanctuary
- **Serve as a liaison** between the sanctuary and its community, disseminating information about the sanctuary to the various constituencies of members and bringing the concerns of constituents and the public to sanctuary management.



Sanctuary Advisory Council



In **2012** the Sanctuary Advisory Council submitted **9** Working Group Reports with **150** recommended actions for the Sanctuary Management Plan. A total of **153** subject matter experts participated in **64** meetings contributing over **2000** volunteers hours.



Transitioning Towards a New Management Framework

Single Species Management of Humpback Whales



© Alamy

Ecosystem Based Management of the Marine Environment



Draft Management Plan



Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



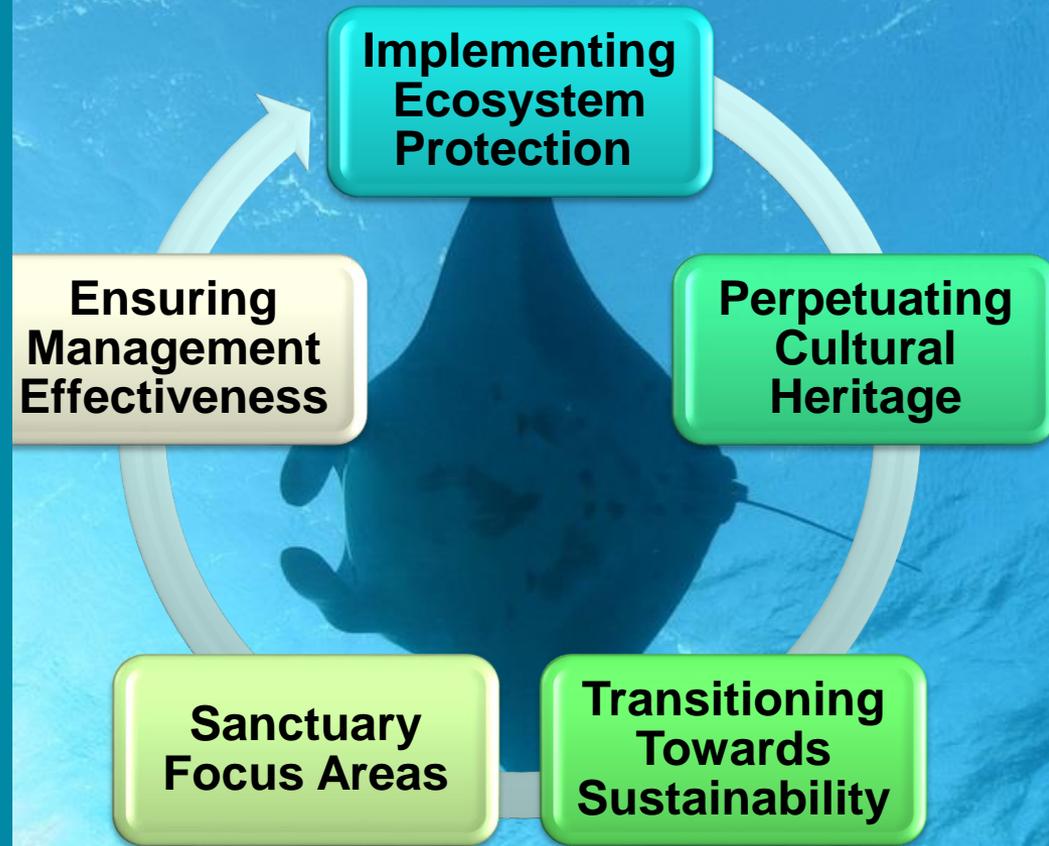
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS HUMPBACK WHALE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale
National Marine Sanctuary

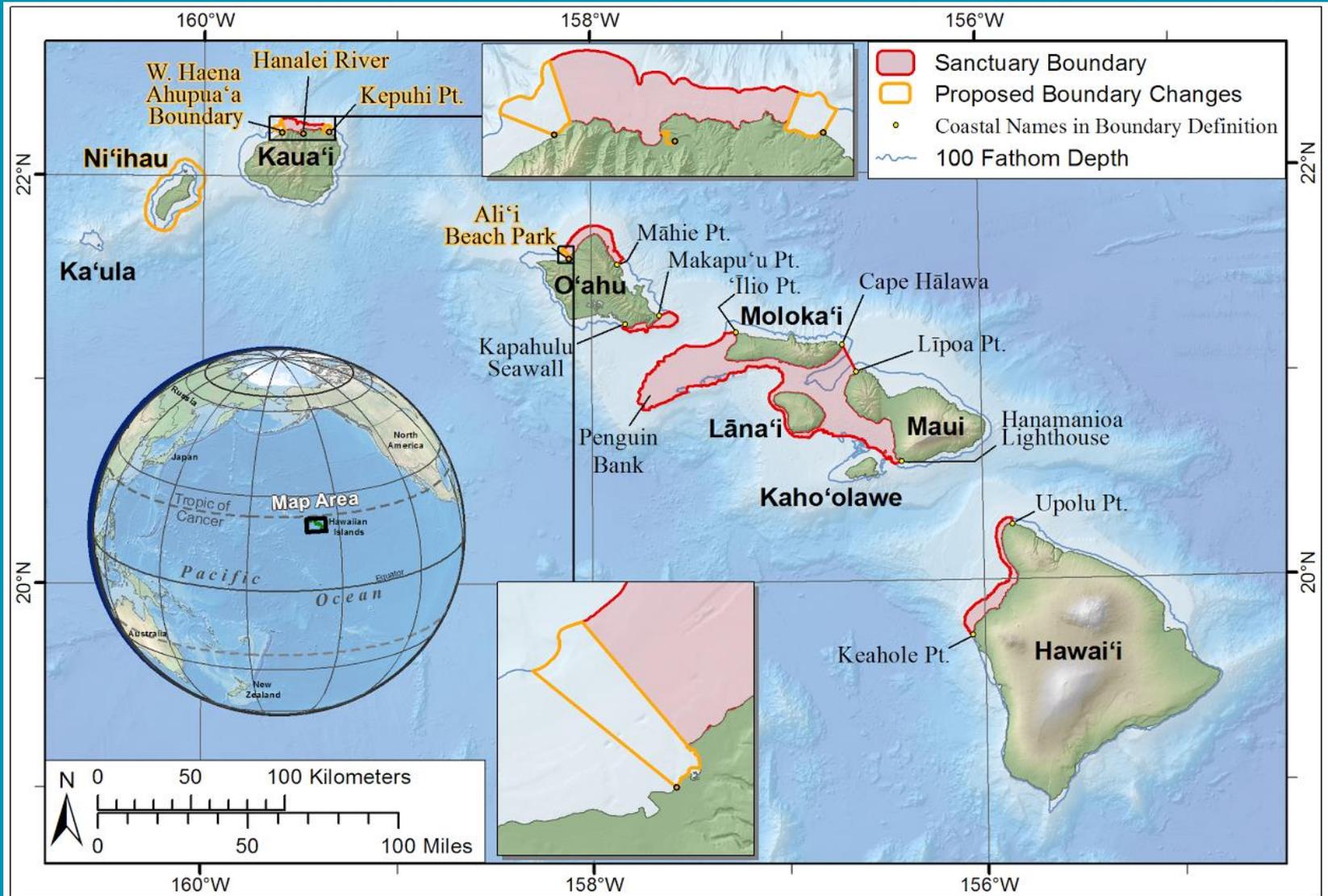
Draft Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement



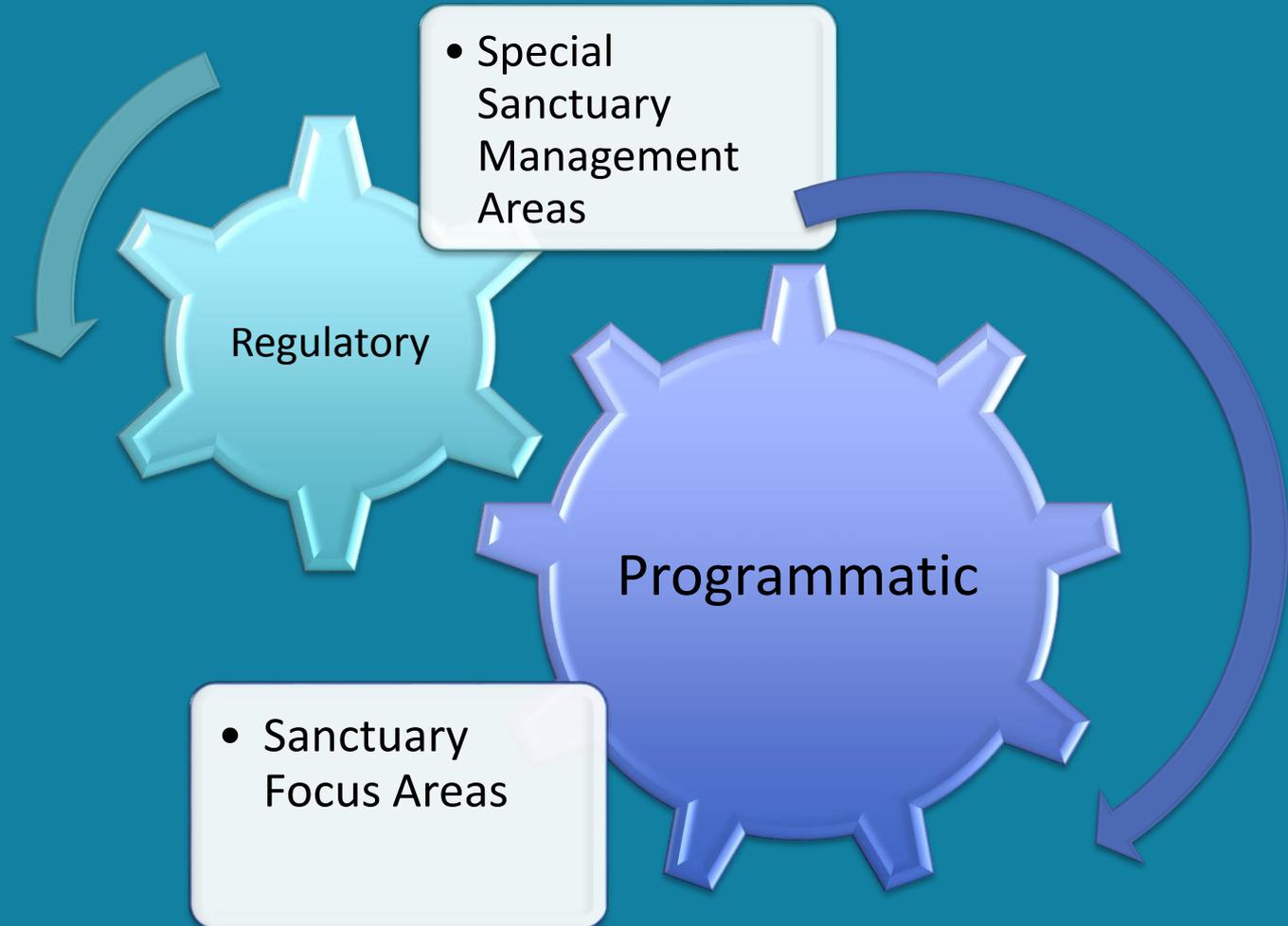
September 2014

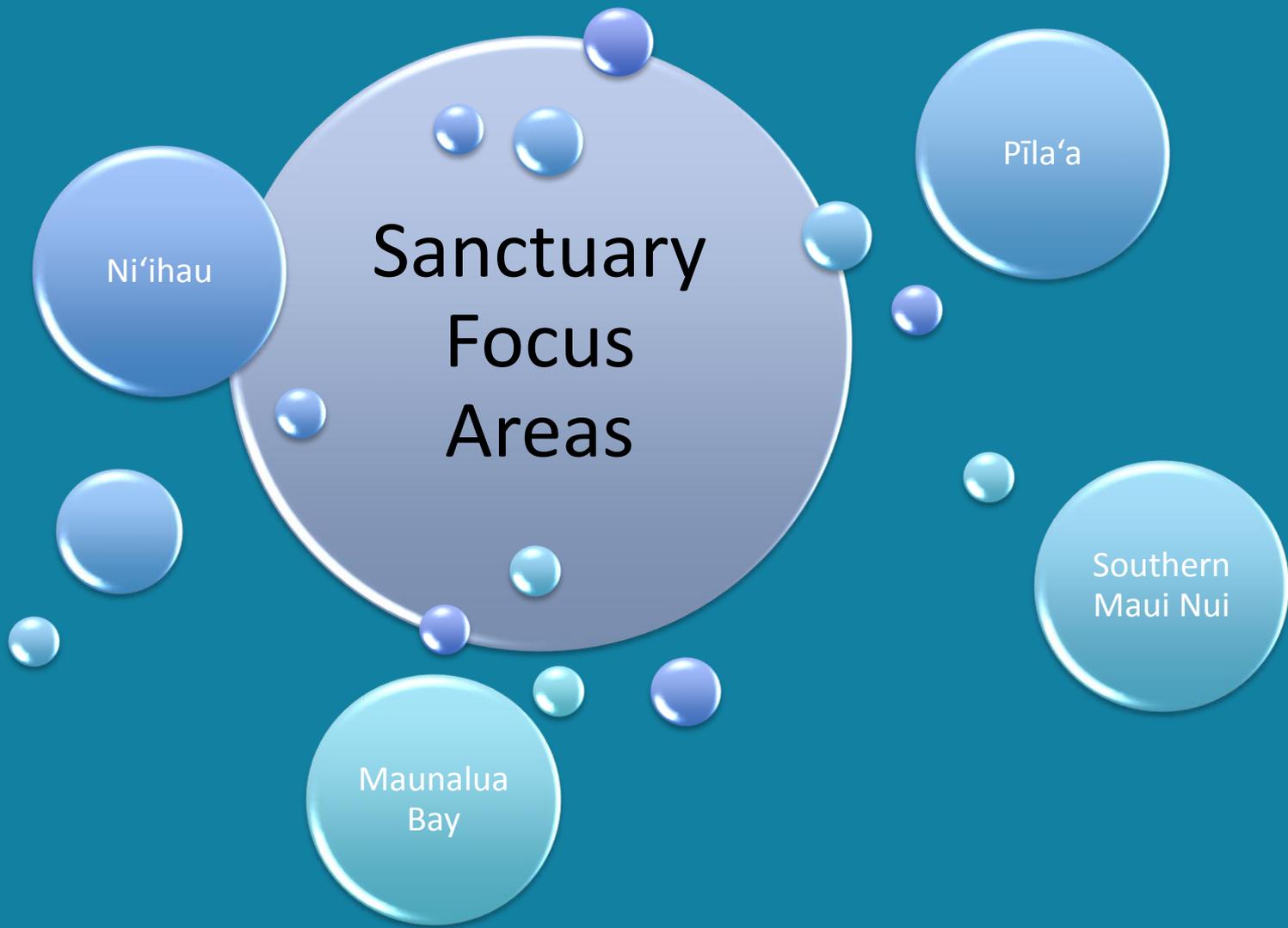


Proposed Boundary Changes

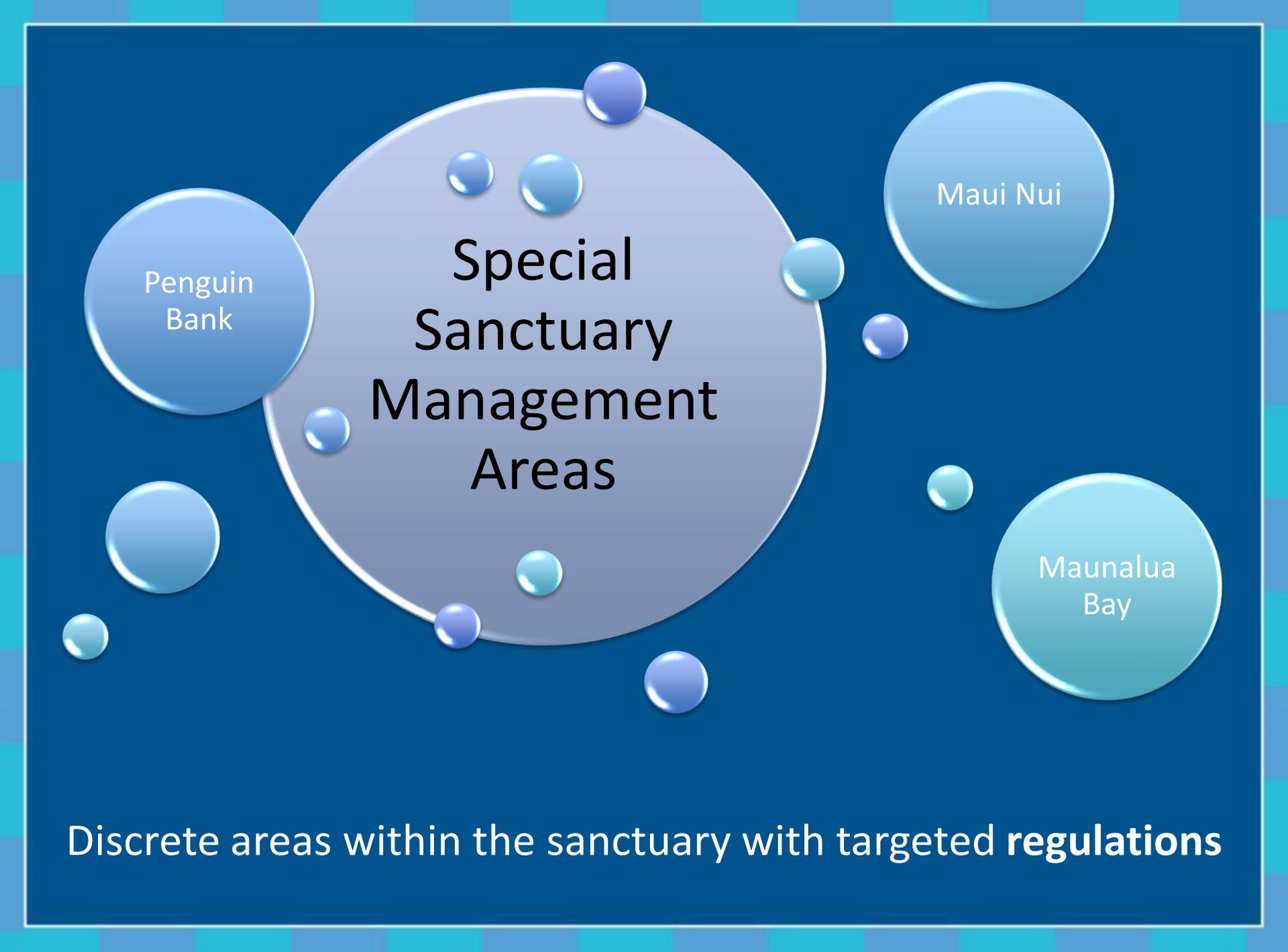


Transitioning towards a new management framework...





Discrete areas within the sanctuary with specific place-based **management actions**

A central light blue circle contains the text "Special Sanctuary Management Areas". Surrounding this central circle are several smaller, semi-transparent blue circles of varying sizes, some of which contain text. The background is a dark blue gradient with a pattern of small, light blue circles.

Special
Sanctuary
Management
Areas

Penguin
Bank

Maui Nui

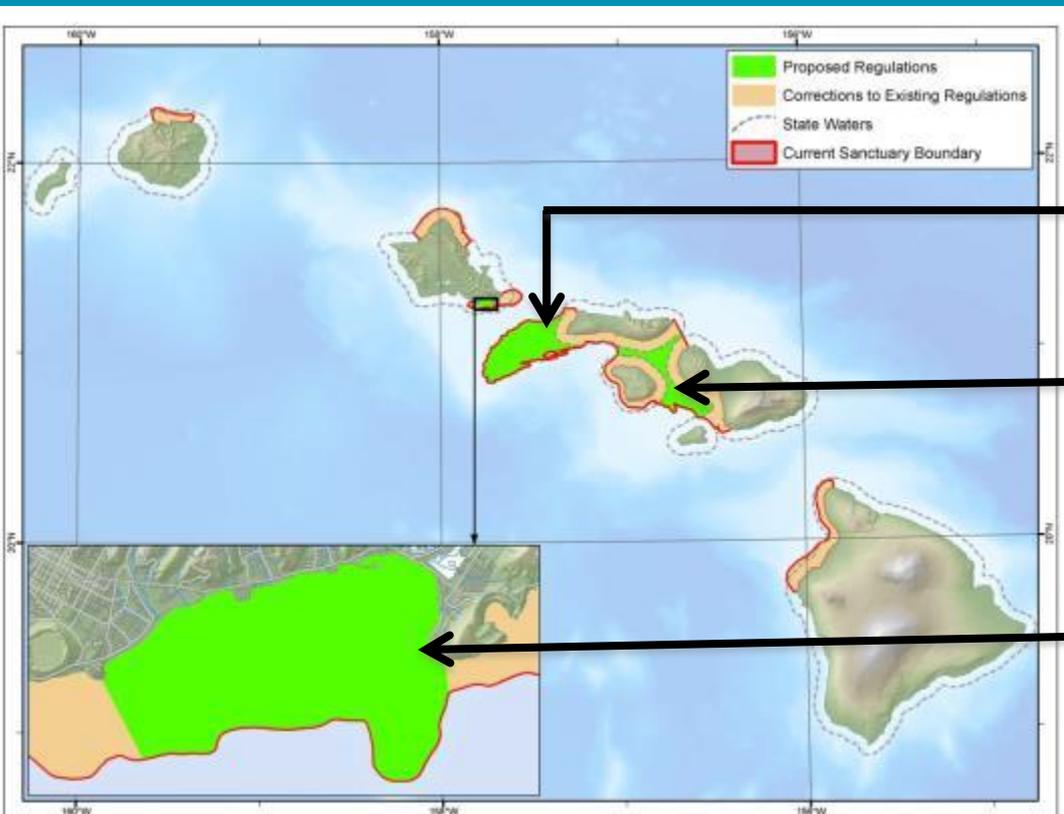
Maunalua
Bay

Discrete areas within the sanctuary with targeted **regulations**

Places Where Regulatory Changes are Considered



Targeted regulations are being considered for select areas (“Special Sanctuary Management Areas”)



**Penguin Banks
(federal waters)**

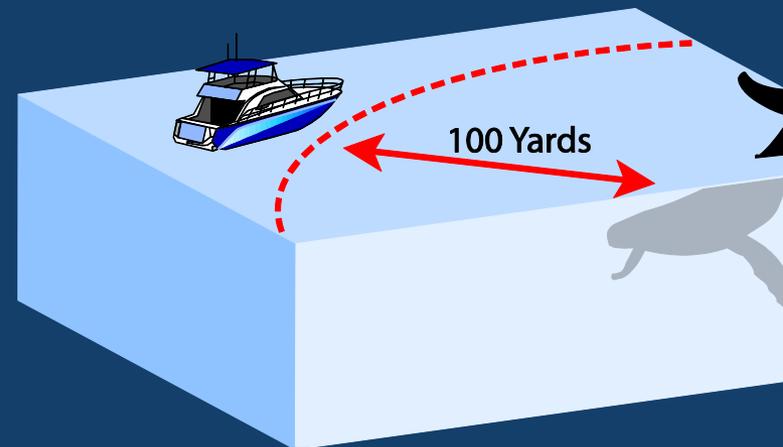
**Maui Nui Area
(federal waters)**

**Maunaloa Bay
(state waters)**

Sanctuary Regulations

Current Sanctuary Regulations

- Approaching within 100 yds of a humpback whale
- Operating aircraft within 1,000 ft of a humpback whale
- Taking any humpback whale
- Possessing any humpback whale
- Discharging material or altering the seabed of the sanctuary that injures a humpback whale or humpback whale habitat if in violation of a permit or authorization
- Interfering with an investigation



Proposed Regulations



Address marine resource issues

Historic/Cultural Resource Preservation

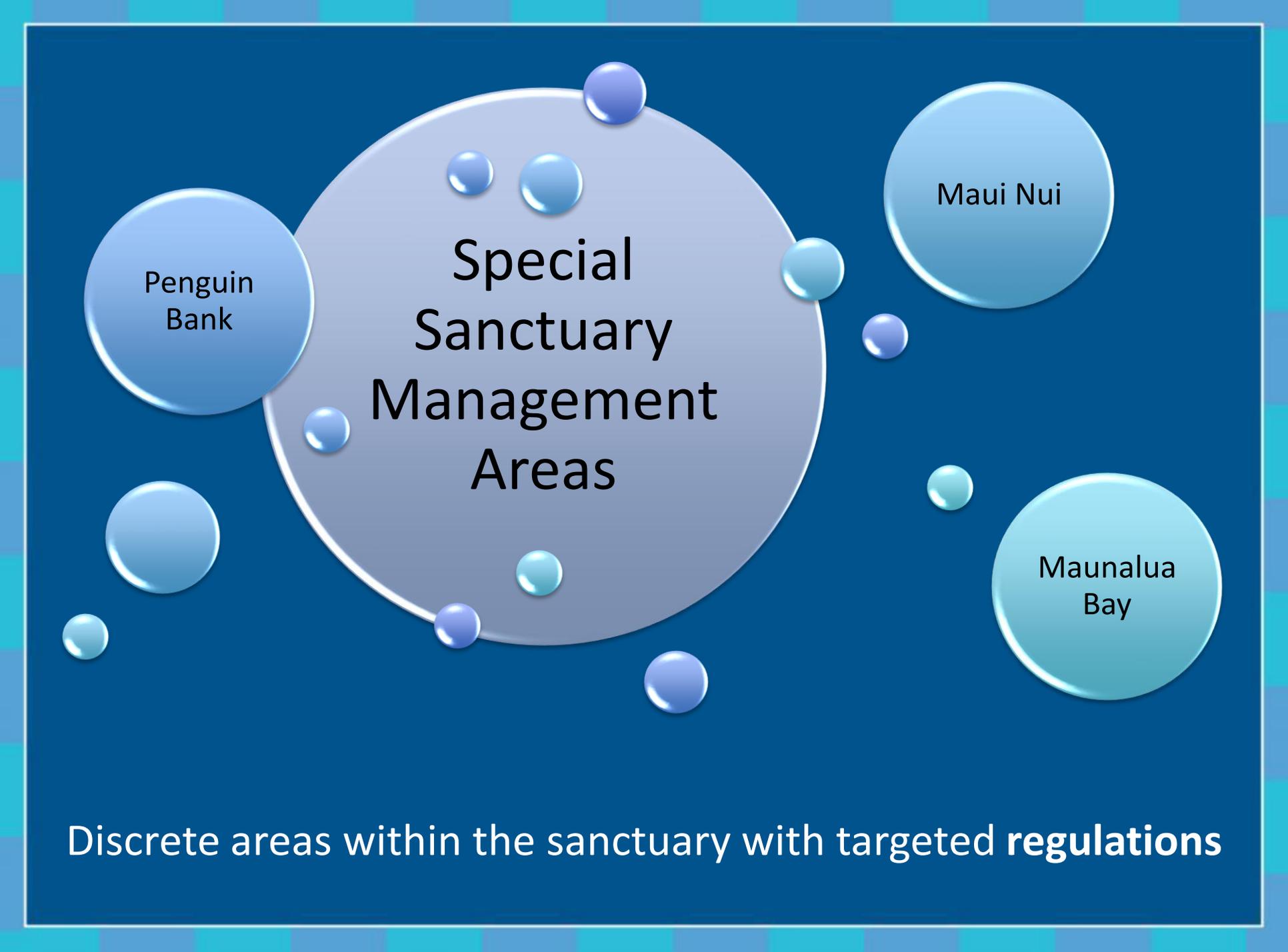
Marine Resource Conservation

Water Quality Protection

Habitat Protection

Enforcement

Special Sanctuary Management Areas



Special Sanctuary Management Areas

Penguin
Bank

Maui Nui

Maunalua
Bay

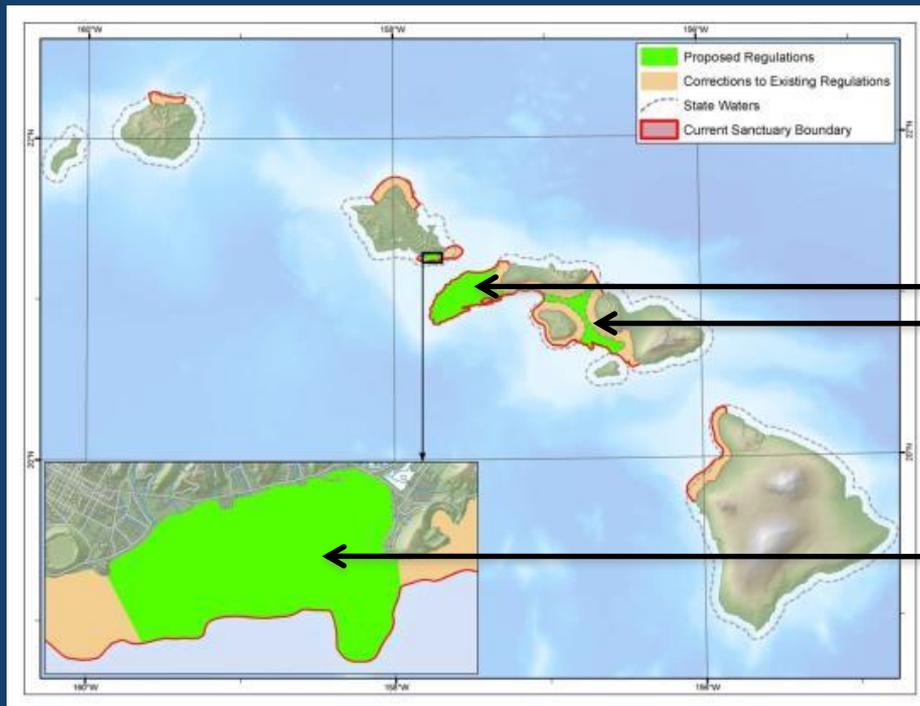
Discrete areas within the sanctuary with targeted **regulations**

Application of Sanctuary Regulations to Special Management Areas

- Taking or possessing marine species in addition to humpback whales
- Discharging from within the sanctuary
- Discharging from outside the sanctuary anything that enters and injures a sanctuary resource;
- Altering submerged lands
- Using explosives
- Introducing non-native species
- Damaging or destroying signs

Special Sanctuary Management Areas

Targeted regulations are being considered for discrete areas within the sanctuary



Penguin Bank and Maui Nui Areas (outside 3 nautical miles)

Maunalua Bay

Proposed Name Change

Proposed Name Change

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary



Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary - *Nā Kai 'Ewalu*



Next Phase of the Process

Next Steps



March, 2015

- Begin Public Comment Period

April-May, 2015

- Statewide Public Hearings

June 2015

- End Public Comment Period

Summer

- Brief Governors office

2016

- Release Final MP & EIS

Public Hearings

- Federal Register Notice published Friday, March 20:
 - Announced DMP/DEIS available
 - Opened 90-day public comment period until June 19, 2015
- Submit written Public Comments:
 - Online
 - E-mail
 - Fax
 - Phone
 - Letter
- Submit oral comments at public hearings.
- For more information:
http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/management/management_plan_review.html

National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



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