



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office for Coastal Management**

Subject: Public Notice for NOAA's decision to Use the ACHP Exemption for Indigenous Knowledge-Informed Activities by Native Hawaiian Organizations to Document Compliance with National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation Process for the *University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (HISG) - 'Āina restoration through community governance to advance climate resilience in the Hawaiian Islands* - Limu (native seaweed) stewardship - outreach and annual statewide limu surveys by KUA

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management (OCM), is funding the *University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (HISG) - 'Āina restoration through community governance to advance climate resilience in the Hawaiian Islands*, as submitted by the HISG. NOAA OCM is therefore the federal agency responsible for compliance with Section 106 consultation requirements under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and the implementing regulations.

The 'Āina restoration through community governance to advance climate resilience in the Hawaiian Island project supports a variety of individual tasks and actions across the state which will be led by different subawardee organizations. The individual tasks support the overall project, but are not connected to other tasks in order to remain viable. Each task has independent utility and will undergo individual environmental compliance.

The Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA) is the subawardee for the following project task:

- Limu (native seaweed) stewardship - outreach and annual statewide limu surveys. The surveys will be conducted in groups of 10-15 surveyors with the intention to monitor limu species with visual observations and species collection. The project location is along the rocky, intertidal zones in the moku of Hāna and Kipahulu on the southeast coast of Maui and moku of Puna on the southeast coast of Hawai'i Island.

This notice serves to notify the public that NOAA OCM is using the ACHP Exemption for Indigenous Knowledge-Informed Activities by Native Hawaiian Organizations to document compliance with Section 106 consultations pursuant to 36 CFR part 800.2(c)(4) for this specific award task led by KUA. The KUA is an innovative, community-based initiative for protecting, restoring and caring for Hawai'i. KUA is advancing community-based natural resource management in Hawai'i, working together with government agencies and communities towards restoring Hawai'i communities' traditional role as caretakers of their lands and waters. Their leadership and expertise will be important to the success of this project.

Please contact Claire Saleh at claire.saleh@noaa.gov if you have any comments or questions about this action no later than May 8th.