

Comments Received via E-mail

Emailed comments

Commenting Individual/Organization	Email address	Date Received	Comment
Jeffrey Mullis	jeffreymullis@gmail.com	1/9/2014	I am a long time resident of Kaneohe and want to express my concern regarding designating Kaneohe Bay as a NERR site. Having grown up in Kaneohe, I am accustomed to being able to fish and spearfish in the bay as a way of life. I am very concerned that designating Kaneohe Bay as a NERR site will interfere with activities that have long been a part of our way of life in Hawaii. As a fisherman I care tremendously about the environment and understand the need to protect and care for it; however, I am not convinced that designating Kaneohe Bay as a NERR site is the best way to go about accomplishing this. I would like to offer my strong opposition to this proposal for your consideration.
Roy Sokolowski CIV COMPACFLT, N01CE1RS	roy.sokolowski@navy.mil	1/9/2014	Site selection criteria number 11 states that the site be "Minimally affected by humans (although diverted streams are acceptable)" this selection criteria makes Kaneohe Bay an unsuitable selection as a NERR's site. Kaneohe Bay is completely surrounded by human developments (housing, roads, a Marine Corps Air Station, extensive fishing, tourist and other human activities). Additionally because it is surrounded on land by human development the amount of non-point source pollution and run off from roads and state or county highways affect Kaneohe Bay much greater than the "minimally affected by humans" standard. Kaneohe Bay does not meet the stated requirements as a NERR's site and should be eliminated from further consideration.
Randy Iijima	riijima@hawaiewater.com	1/9/2014	I am a third generation resident born and raised in Kaneohe and have been an active user of the bay and it's resources for over 40 years. I am very concerned the proposal to designate Kaneohe Bay as a NERR site will have a significant negative financial impact on the commercial activities as well as affect the life style and cultural practices of the residents that have been part of Kaneohe Bay for generations. As a fisherman I feel a personal connection to the bay and understand and believe there is a need to care for and protect this precious natural resource. I do not believe designating the bay as a NERR site will accomplish this. I strongly oppose the designation of Kaneohe Bay as a NERR site and ask that you consider all options (enforce existing rules and regulations) to maintain and preserve this resource.
Bryan Ikeda	brywenz@yahoo.com	1/9/2014	Site selection criteria number 11 states that the site be "Minimally affected by humans (although diverted streams are acceptable)" this selection criteria makes Kaneohe Bay an unsuitable selection as a NERR's site. Kaneohe Bay is completely surrounded by human developments (housing, roads, a Marine Corps Air Station, extensive fishing, tourist and other human activities). Additionally because it is surrounded on land by human development the amount of non-point source pollution and run off from roads and state or county highways affect Kaneohe Bay much greater than the "minimally affected by humans" standard. Kaneohe Bay does not meet the stated requirements as a NERR's site and should be eliminated from further consideration. I am very concerned that designating Kaneohe Bay as a NERR site will interfere with activities that have long been a part of our way of life in Hawaii. As a fisherman and diver, I care tremendously about the environment and understand the need to protect and care for it; however, I am not convinced that designating Kaneohe Bay as a NERR site is the best way to go about accomplishing this. I would like to offer my strong opposition to this proposal.
KEOLA HAYES	keolahayes@gmail.com	1/10/2014	I am a long time resident of Kaneohe and want to express my concern regarding designating Kaneohe Bay as a NERR site. Having grown up in Kaneohe, I am accustomed to being able to fish and spearfish in the bay as a way of life. I am very concerned that designating Kaneohe Bay as a NERR site will interfere with activities that have long been a part of our way of life in Hawaii. As a fisherman I care tremendously about the environment and understand the need to protect and care for it; however, I am not convinced that designating Kaneohe Bay as a NERR site is the best way to go about accomplishing this. I would like to offer my strong opposition to this proposal for your consideration. Site selection criteria number 11 states that the site be "Minimally affected by humans (although diverted streams are acceptable)" this selection criteria makes Kaneohe Bay an unsuitable selection as a NERR's site. Kaneohe Bay is completely surrounded by human developments (housing, roads, a Marine Corps Air Station, extensive fishing, tourist and other human activities). Additionally because it is surrounded on land by human development the amount of non-point source pollution and run off from roads and state or county highways affect Kaneohe Bay much greater than the "minimally affected by humans" standard. Kaneohe Bay does not meet the stated requirements as a NERR's site and should be eliminated from further consideration.
HCDA letter of support		1/10/2014	Attached.
Ron Tubbs, RT Distributors	rtubbs@hawaii.rr.com	1/13/2014	NERRS site for Kaneohe Bay can you provide me with more information on this. I missed last week's meeting. Will there be more meetings?

Emailed comments

Larry Kunz	larrison1930@hawaiiintel.net	2/4/2014	<p>In regards to the NERR Heeia matter. First off I think it is a lousy idea. A total waste of tax payer's money. Where are the complaints about the area that needs to be studied? No study needed about the major problem in Kaneohe and Kailua if you ask anybody living near Heeia. It's the constant air craft noise from the Marine base. How will this boondoggle designation do anything about that?</p> <p>The key words in the notification letter I just received are very telling. "Permissible uses, managed uses, buffer area, monitoring, stewardship, management decisions" all reek of government controls.</p> <p>Ever increasing government controls are what is stifling our life style and freedom everywhere.</p> <p>I remember one of our former presidents saying, "If you hear anybody say, I'm from the government and I'm here to help you? Run for the hills"</p>
Makani Christensen	makani.christensen@gmail.com	2/8/2014	<p>My name is Makani Christensen. I'm a fisherman and a Guide. Are you closing the area between coconut island and the pond off from fishing? These are tako grounds and fly fishing grounds that a few users use.</p>
Kelvin K.F. Ching	bnikelvin@gmail.com	2/10/2014	<p>I oppose the NERRS designation in Heeia.</p> <p>Don't allow this to happen. You are asking for community input and we say no. No way. Adopt the Kaneohe Master Plan the way it is and honor the community who has worked so hard to create that plan. If everyone really wanted to do what's best, they'd be supporting the Master Plan in its entirety.</p> <p>If there is money to put toward the area, give it without the NERRS designation. By creating NERRS, you are further dividing the community instead of creating cohesion among us. Those in support of NERRS designation are willing to be bought, they're willing to sell their soul and do not realize the long term problems they are creating for the community as a whole. This is history repeating itself. The same way the Hawaiians were overthrown in the 1800s, it's happening all over again. Step back and take a look at how you are being used as sacrificial lambs for an ulterior motive. Wake up before it's too late.</p>
Kelvin K.F. Ching	bnikelvin@gmail.com	2/10/2014	<p>Submit your testimony today for it to be considered for Feb 27 meeting at King. If they get their foot in the door, imagine the precedence it sets for the rest of the bay and the rest of the state. Additionally, realize the "partners" include but not limited to Nature Conservancy, Conservation International and others. They divide and conquer families by using key community members for an agenda not really known to many. They approach key community members and propose millions of dollars for a cause and these members become blinded to the big picture and it's affects on the very community they think they are improving. If things are as transparent as some claim, why did you not hear about this from them? My testimony is below.</p> <p>I oppose the NERRS designation in Heeia.</p> <p>Don't allow this to happen. You are asking for community input and we say no. No way. Adopt the Kaneohe Master Plan the way it is and honor the community who has worked so hard to create that plan. If everyone really wanted to do what's best, they'd be supporting the Master Plan in its entirety.</p> <p>If there is money to put toward the area, give it without the NERRS designation. By creating NERRS, you are further dividing the community instead of creating cohesion among us. Those in support of NERRS designation are willing to be bought, they're willing to sell their soul and do not realize the long term problems they are creating for the community as a whole. This is history repeating itself. The same way the Hawaiians were overthrown, it's happening all over again. Step back and take a look at how you are being used as sacrificial lambs for an ulterior motive.</p>
John Akima	omiluhunter@gmail.com	2/10/2014	<p>I would like to express my concerns on this matter, first concerns is that the public will lose free access to the area regardless of what is being said. I am sure that a reserve would limit movement, and limit the amount of sea life taken among other things. Sure everyone states that nothing has been said about any restrictions, but what would a reserve be without some kind of restriction / monitoring? I am sure that we the general public will be allowed to transit through the reserve however stopping will probably be prohibited without written approval and the same as taking sea life would most likely be by permit only. Once again this both will require prior approval and more than likely a cost which all proceeds going to the "reserve".</p> <p>Once approval has been given as a NEERS then all gloves will come off and it will become a government and their partnership directed program with the appearance that public meetings will be held to solicit ideas if it meets what the "partnerships" have in mind.</p> <p>I completely understand that the "partnership" are 100 % sold on the idea! why wouldn't they be , they will be getting "federal funding for their programs" which in turns puts money in their pockets at the end of the day no matter how you slice it. Of course this ensures longevity in their programs and retirement!</p> <p>I am completely against this designation as it will only take away from our history, culture and way of life.</p>

Emailed comments

<p>Ben Wong</p>	<p>letsgofishinghawaii@gmail.com</p>	<p>2/7/2014</p>	<p>es-tu-ary [es-choo-er-ee] Show IPA noun, plural es-tu-ar-ies. 1. that part of the mouth or lower course of a river in which the river's current meets the sea's tide. 2. an arm or inlet of the sea at the lower end of a river. (Dictionary.com)</p> <p>es-tu-ary : an area where a river flows into the sea : a water passage where the tide meets a river current; especially : an arm of the sea at the lower end of a river (Merriam – Webster)</p> <p>February 7, 2014 To whom it may concern: I attended the King Intermediate public meeting with optimism. With the word “estuary” being paired with the word “restoration”, well, the thought that clean freshwater from our mountains could once again reach our bay is certainly what many Kaneohe Bay resource users would support. Kaneohe Bay marine life, to include opae, o’opu, ama’ama, and Samoan crab would thrive in healthy estuary ecosystems. Unfortunately, the rain runoff containing acidic red dirt and automobile pollutants from our streets has replaced what used to be clean rainwater from the Koolaus. After the public meeting, many of the concerns of the attendees became mine. Little of what was discussed suggested improvement for the resource users of Kaneohe Bay.</p> <p>But my main concern is this: In an effort to justify another management system (Heeia NERRS) and the monies that would come with it, many testified to Kaneohe Bay as being “dead” and “dying”. In the 1960s, the bay received treated effluent from the Aikahi sewage plant. The e coli levels in the bay were unhealthy for humans, but the bay was nutrient rich for marine life. We had opae in abundance living in the green limu. Schools of omaka, awa awa, sardines, and popaa traveled under dense layers of jellyfish. Morning schools of nehu and halulu breaking the surface of the bay were common.</p>
<p>Ben Wong CONT'D</p>			<p>By the 1970s the sewage outfall was redirected to the ocean outside of Mokapu. The bay’s ecosystem went into shock. With the water quality change the limu disappeared, along with the opae, the schools of nehu, omaka, halulu, etc... I do not advocate returning the bay to high levels of e coli, but this period, the 1970s to the 1980s, show that resource users dealt with changes to the bay’s environment.</p> <p>Over those decades we heard and read about coral bleaching come and go. We heard and read about invasive coral sponge come and go. The health of our Kbay coral has been a source of hand wringing for many. But did you know, that the coral reef around Coconut Island grew so aggressively, that as a result, coral heads were sealing navigation channels facilitating the island. In the early 2000s, since dredging had become illegal, the navy divers from the marine base engaged in “coral transplanting” by breaking the coral off to widen and deepen the channels and placing the pieces in the middle of the bay.</p>
<p>Ben Wong CONT'D</p>			<p>Also at about this timeline, the late 1990s, I would drop one piece of net or 45 minutes just before nautical sunset. Up to 50 pieces including moi, papio, mullet, oio, lae, akule, omaka, weke, kumu, uhu, palani, would get caught in my 3-inch eye net with a length of 125 feet. I haven’t engaged in this activity since then, but by the end of the 1990s, the fishery had bounced back strongly.</p> <p>So those who continue to say the bay is hurting, are they repeating what someone else has said or are they truly witness to a decline I’ve missed seeing.</p>
<p>Ben Wong CONT'D</p>			<p>The frustrations and distrust by those in attendance come from many variables. Many in attendance have been Kaneohe residents for generations and are concerned and suspicious of how their interests may be sacrificed by others.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The lack of enforcement of current netting regulations. 2. The discourteous confrontations by Marine Base patrol. 3. The increase in size of Marine Base restricted areas. 4. The Marine Base restricted areas continue to be unmarked. 5. Reckless drivers of Marine Base boat rentals. <p>Add to this list the newly proposed sanctuary, and you can see how some are worried that their concerns will be thrown under the bus by those who would benefit from the monies that would come with Federal Approval for a NERRS.</p> <p>Very disconcerting to those at the meeting was the proposed map of the estuary sanctuary, which seems to include much area of the bay far from where freshwater meets the sea.</p> <p>Thank you for this opportunity to give testimony. PDF attached.</p>

Emailed comments

Bradd Haituka	bonefishless@gmail.com	2/12/2014	<p>I am writing to voice my strong opposition to having a NERR set-up in my back yard. As stated in your literature fora site to be considered as a NERR site :</p> <p>Site selection criteria number 11 states that the site be "Minimally affected by humans (although diverted streams are acceptable)" this selection criteria makes Kaneohe Bay an unsuitable selection as a NERR's site. Kaneohe Bay is completely surrounded by human developments (housing, roads, a Marine Corps Air Station, extensive fishing, tourist and other human activities). Additionally because it is surrounded on land by human development the amount of non-point source pollution and run off from roads and state or county highways affect Kaneohe Bay much greater than the "minimally affected by humans" standard. Kaneohe Bay does not meet the stated requirements as a NERR's site and should be eliminated from further consideration.</p>
Billy Chang	bcsc@hawaii.rr.com	2/12/2014	<p>I oppose the NERRS designation in Heeia.</p> <p>Do not allow this to happen. You are asking for community input and I say no. Adopt the Kaneohe Master Plan the way it is and honor the community who has worked so hard to create that plan. If everyone really wanted to do what's best, they'd be supporting the Master Plan in its entirety.</p> <p>If there is money to put toward the area, give it without the NERRS designation. By creating NERRS, you will further dividing the community instead of creating cohesion and end up pitting the various stakeholders against each other. Those in support of NERRS designation do not realize the long term problems they will be creating for the community.</p>
Dan Rubinoff	rubinoff@hawaii.edu	2/14/2014	<p>I am writing in strong support of the establishment of an NERR for Kaneohe Bay. While there are private fishing interests who oppose any restrictions on fishing anywhere in the state, it has been repeatedly demonstrated around the world that reserves actually enhance the fishing resources adjacent to the reserves. It's unfortunate that a few short-sighted interest groups oppose a longer term opportunity to understand and protect our marine resources. Further, the current proposal doesn't even ban fishing! So the opposition here seems to be preemptive and reactionary. We know the fisheries are not doing well and that research is needed to make them sustainable. This NERR will be a first important step and is in an ideal location for sound and effective research to take place. There really couldn't be a better situation. If, down the line, fishing restrictions are considered, then the fishing interests will have a chance to speak their minds, but right now they are simply opposing a sound research infrastructure from which we will ALL benefit.</p>
Susan Carstenn	environalo@gmail.com	2/15/2014	<p>I strongly support He`eia estuaries nomination as a NERR. I have been working in the He`eia watershed for over 10 years and this designation will add to the on going efforts of the entire community to understand the interactions of humans and nature. Doug Harper's efforts, on behalf of the NOAA Sentinel Site designation, to bring the community together will be enhanced. This is an exciting time.</p>
Megan Donahue	megan.j.donahue@gmail.com	2/15/2014	<p>I am writing in support of the He'eia NERR designation. Kane'ohe Bay is an amazing success story. Throughout the 70s and 80s, He'eia and other communities around Kaneohe Bay fought development plans to keep Kane'ohe from turning into Hawaii Kai. The sewage outfall that once entered the south bay, causing extreme eutrophication and algal blooms, was diverted and coral cover increased throughout the Bay. The mangrove that invaded the coastline, starting from He'eia in the early 1900s, is being slowly removed from He'eia fishpond. And while many problems remain, including invasive limu and overfishing, the He'eia community has come together in an active plan to restore the ahupua'a. The NERR designation will provide funding to monitor the continued improvement of Kane'ohe Bay: how Kaneohe Bay reefs respond to the restored lo'i and loko i'a, as well as response to climate change. Perhaps we can better understand how restoration mauka will change the reefs makai, and this understanding can help restoration efforts throughout Hawai'i. The NERR designation will not impact fishing or recreational use of Kane'ohe Bay. Indeed, NERR designation is toothless in this regard. But it will allow us to better understand how Kane'ohe Bay reefs are changing through time and give us metrics to improve our management.</p>
John M. Sandor	sandball@aol.com	2/16/2014	<p>I am in favor of moving forward with any project to help improve the water quality of Kaneohe Bay. It always makes me sad to see the southern bay turn brown after heavy rains. There has to be better way to trap sediments before they get discharged to muddy the bay waters. I suppose that natural wetlands used to do that job, but since the coastline has been developed those no longer exist. A solution is out there, it just needs to be found and implemented.</p>

Emailed comments

<p>Koolaupoko Civic Club letter of support</p>		<p>2/19/2014</p>	<p>KO'OLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB NERRS DESIGNATION Re: Designation of He' eia Ahupua' a/Estuary as a NERRS Site Aloha, Ms. Arbin: On behalf of the Ko' olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, I wish to add our voice of strong support for the designation of He'eia estuary as a federal National Estuarine Research Reserve System site. The Ko' olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club is the second largest of all 68 Hawaiian Civic Clubs nationwide. Most of our members live and work in the Kane' ohe Bay region, which includes the important ahupua' a (land division) of He'eia. We are deeply concerned about the environmental health and sustainability of this ecosystem to survive and thrive in generations to come. What is unique about this estuary, however, is that there are still sufficient natural resources that can be restored or rehabilitated to become more sustainable, whether for food or water production. We are also looking at the long-term health of the bay itself, which once thrived with ample schools of fish but which has endured a variety of environmental challenges over the past two decades. Our organization believes that He' eia offers the NERRS program an excellent opportunity to fulfill its mission, which is to bring science and communities together to solve our coastal problems. We would like to see, through the work product of NERRS, identification of the environmental problems and their causes that the area is facing; and a work plan of actions needed to address those problems to enhance a healthy sustainability for this estuary. We urge the State of Hawai'i to continue its efforts to promote He'eia estuary for designation by the Federal government as a NERRS site in the Pacific region. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at (808) 23 5-8111. Me kealoha pumehana, ~~~ ALICEP. HEWETT President cc: Governor Abercrombie</p>
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Emailed comments

Koolau Foundation letter of support		2/19/2014	<p>Subject: NERRS Designation of He' eia Estuary - Support</p> <p>Dear Ms. Arbin:</p> <p>The Ko 'olau Foundation offers its full support for the designation of He' eia estuary as one of the federal National Estuary Research Reserve System sites for the Pacific area. Our Foundation, which works closely with the communities in and around He' eia and Kane' ohe Bay, has been engaged for years in planning for establishment of a cultural preserve in the upland areas of this region. Waters flowing from Ha 'iku Valley find their way to the estuary and the bay itself.</p> <p>We believe that NERRS will help identify environmental challenges this area faces, including any that may have come from the lands we are hoping to restore upslope from the estuary. Armed with the knowledge that can be gained from a NERRS designation, our community can find ways to address these problems and seek solutions.</p> <p>We urge Governor Abercrombie and the Office of Planning to proceed post-haste to seek federal designation of He' eia estuary as the NERRS site for Hawai 'i.</p> <p>Mahalo for this opportunity to share our thoughts regarding this important undertaking.</p> <p>Sincerely, ~.~</p> <p>MAHEALANI CYPHER Secretary to the Board of Directors, Koolau Foundation</p>
Angel England	a.England@comties.com	2/18/2014	<p>I am writing to support Kaneohe Bay becoming a NERRS site. As a resident of Kaneohe Bay I am interested in finding out how we can clean up the bay. Researching the issues is the only way to find out what is occurring to we can discover ways to improve our water quality, fish and coral habitats for fisherman, snorkelers, divers, boaters and all habitants of the ocean and for our future generations. Many coastal areas are becoming "dead" zones where the water cannot support or sustain life. It would be a shame if Kaneohe Bay became a "dead zone".</p>
Heather Ylitalo-Ward	hylitalo@gmail.com	2/18/2014	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am writing to provide my support of designating Kaneohe Bay as a NERRS site. I think Kaneohe Bay would greatly benefit form this designation.</p> <p>Thank you for your time</p>
Visakha Gibbons	gabbard1@capitol.hawaii.gov	2/18/2014	<p>I hope you're well. Mahalo for inviting Senator Mike Gabbard to the public meeting on Feb 27. Sorry, he won't be able to attend due to prior engagements.</p> <p>Thank you very much,</p>
Brian Bowen	bbowen@hawaii.edu	2/19/2014	<p>I am writing to register my wholehearted support for the NERRS site in Kaneohe Bay. As a research scientist at HIMB, I know that Kaneohe Bay is among the best characterized coral reef habitats in the world. Dozens of M.S. and Ph.D. projects have been done there, which provides a tremendous scientific foundation for assessing future changes. Further, Kaneohe Bay is the only lagoon habitat that is readily accessible in Hawaii. By proxy, that makes it the only NERRS site in the U.S.A. with the features of an estuary, a lagoon, and a coral reef ecosystem. Finally, Kaneohe Bay is the focus of intense public interest and tourism, which makes it a great place to inform our citizens and visitors about conservation issues.</p> <p>Thanks you for creating a forum to discuss this possibility.</p>
Sharon Lowrie	coconutkai@hotmail.com	2/19/2014	<p>I live on the Bay and watch brown water flood into it to smother the reefs fter hev y rains. We used to have clams and edible oysters but humans have caused. disaster to the by with thwir building sites. i do hope you can help to clen up thw by. thank you.</p>

Emailed comments

Amy Moran	morana@hawaii.edu	2/22/2014	For many years I lived in Oregon near a new NERRS site. The NERRS there had very good interactions with the local community. It brought nothing but good to the natural ecosystem and fisheries. I am very much in favor of the Heeia NERRS site.
Ricardo Zanre	rzanre@yahoo.co.uk	2/24/2014	I'm a resident of He'eia and am familiar with the great work being done by grassroots community groups, such as Paepae o He'eia and Kako'o 'Oiwī, to restore coastal ecosystems and their function, improving stewardship of local natural resources for the benefit of local communities. I support these community groups' desire for NERR site designation as it will improve collaboration between them and Government agencies, providing the necessary resources to properly research and understand the issues that are negatively affecting the coastal ecosystem of He'eia and Kaneohe Bay, helping to improve decision making for the management of natural resources that the local community all depend upon. The associated support that NERR also provides for educational programs will help us all to better understand the issues affecting Kaneohe Bay and enable us to adjust our behaviors accordingly to improve the health of the Bay.
Angela Kawelo	hkawelo@hotmail.com	2/25/2014	Aloha, Please find attached my testimony for the designated He'eia NERR site. I am in support of the designation. Hi'ilei Kawelo
Kristina Jenkins	kjenkins@tnc.org	2/25/2014	The Nature Conservancy (TNC) strongly supports the designation of He'eia, O'ahu as a National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR). If selected as a NERR, He'eia will provide an ideal site for culturally-relevant research and education. The NERR designation will also provide a way to strengthen the community's role in managing Kāne'ohe Bay and the surrounding watershed. TNC has two long-term projects underway in Kāne'ohe Bay, in partnership with state and community organizations. We are removing invasive algae with the State of Hawai'i Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) and assessing its effects on fish and corals. We are also monitoring water quality in the He'eia ahupua'a with local non-profit organization Kāko'o 'Oiwī to determine the effects of their community-based efforts to restore over 400 acres of wetlands. We anticipate that our current and future projects in He'eia will contribute to NERR research and educational programs, and that TNC will be an on-going active partner in the He'eia NERR. NERR designation does not include the closure of the bay to fishing or other recreational or commercial uses. Rather, the purpose of the NERR is research and education. It will be a place to teach and learn about marine science, traditional ecological knowledge, and what makes the bay such a special place. What we learn in the NERR can inform community efforts to manage the bay sustainably by providing information about the health of the bay, what is affecting it, and how it is changing over time. On-going community engagement is essential for good stewardship of the bay, and critical to the success of the He'eia NERR. Thank you for the opportunity to support the designation of He'eia as a National Estuarine Research Reserve. Suzanne D. Case Executive Director

Emailed comments

<p>Jade M. S. Delevaux</p>	<p>jade.delevaux@gmail.com</p>	<p>2/26/2014</p>	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am would like to submit a testimony in favor of the NERRS designation site in Kaneohe. I am a PhD student in the department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management at the University of Hawai`i. From an ecological standpoint, reviving Ahupua`a management requires restoring mauka and makai simultaneously given the underlying connectivity of the system as whole. From a social standpoint, reviving Ahupua`a is also an opportunity to enhance Native Hawaiian wellbeing. This designation can further support social and ecological health, through strengthening already ongoing efforts in the area, restoring, and caring for the Aina, while enhancing collaborative management. This is an opportunity to deepened existing community effort, existing partnerships between communities and scientists, and now there is a window to involve managers in a more cohesive manner.</p> <p>Please find this electronic testimony as proof of my support for the NERRS designation. Do not hesitate to contact me if you need further information</p> <p>Mahalo Jade M. S. Delevaux Graduate Research Asssitant, UH Manoa</p>
<p>Jason Philibotte, Conservation International</p>	<p>jphilibotte@conservation.org</p>	<p>2/26/2014</p>	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>Conservation International's Hawai'i Fish Trust program has invested more than \$1.8 million in projects supporting ho'i i ke kai momona--- a return to an abundant ocean--- across Hawai'i. Our projects and partners in and around He'eia have demonstrated the area's importance and we are pleased to provide this letter of support.</p> <p>A National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) would provide an opportunity for both short and long---term research and education, as well as improved ahupua'a management. We understand that the NERR designation does not include the closure of the bay to fishing or other recreational or commercial uses; it is consistent with our goal of securing our future of sustainable fish. It will be a place to teach and learn about marine science, traditional ecological knowledge, and what makes the bay such a special place.</p> <p>The Hawai'i Fish Trust strongly supports the designation of He'eia, O'ahu as a NERR. If selected, He'eia will provide an ideal site for culturally---relevant research and education, helping management agencies and leading to better resource management. The NERR designation will also provide a way to strengthen the community's role in managing Kāne'ohe Bay and the surrounding watershed.</p> <p>On---going community engagement is essential for good stewardship of the bay, and critical to the success of the He'eia NERR. Thank you for the opportunity to support the designation of He'eia as a National Estuarine Research Reserve.</p>

Emailed comments

<p>Rafael Bergstrom</p>	<p>rafberg81@gmail.com</p>	<p>2/26/2014</p>	<p>I would like to voice my strong support for the designation of a National Estuarine Research Reserve in Kane‘ohe Bay. Our rapidly increasing human impact on our valuable and vulnerable near-shore ecosystems is highly apparent and creating a reserve which protects and creates baseline studies for efforts at restoration will be a vital tool for a healthy marine ecosystem into the future. I am a recent graduate of the Master’s program in the Department of Natural Resources at UH Manoa and have begun working for the Surfrider Foundation which has a distinct focus in coastal zone management, water quality, and community engagement. Additionally, I have spent time working and volunteering in the Ko‘olaupoko Moku with organizations like Paepae O He‘eia and Papahana Kuaola through my involvement with the Hawaiian Youth Conservation Corps. As these organizations continue their restoration efforts mauka to makai and organizations like Hui O Ko‘olaupoko empower our communities to work towards residential sustainability, it will be of great importance to have monitoring systems in place to measure the impacts of upland work on the health of the bay. Given the diverse group of community organizations who support this designation as well as the research focus of HIMB, the area seems an ideal fit for the overarching goals of NERRS. This team of community stewards is the embodiment of a system in which environmental protection, education, and awareness are fostered from the ground up while being supported through a national program.</p> <p>Before coming to Hawai‘i I called California my home and was fortunate enough to volunteer for the Elkhorn Slough Foundation, the caretakers of the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve on the central California coast. This was some of my first exposure to the environmental management field and I got to see in action how NERRS was working to engage a wide variety of stakeholders in its efforts to maintain, restore, and protect a fascinatingly unique ecosystem vital to the migrations of the Pacific Flyway. The opportunities for education to all ages as well as the recreational possibilities through an extensive trail system were very impressive.</p> <p>Hawai‘i has the appeal of filling a gap in tropical NERRS as well illuminating the impacts that rapid growth has had on the island of Oahu. I appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinion on this matter and hope that your attention is always turned to community engagement. The concerns of those in opposition to such a system must also be heard and I firmly believe that the organizations discussed above, as well as others who support the NERRS designation will actively work to make this an equitable solution for all involved.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, Rafael Bergstrom</p>
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Emailed comments

<p>Pua'ala Pascua</p>	<p>puaalaikahoni@gmail.com</p>	<p>2/26/2014</p>	<p>To whom it may concern, Aloha. My name is Pua'ala Pascua, and I'm a graduate student in the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management. I write this testimony today, not only as an academic researcher, but also as a Native Hawaiian lineal descendent of He'eia with multigenerational ties to the Ko'amokumoku, the fragmented reef of Kāne'ohe Bay. Although my parents moved my immediate family away from Kāne'ohe and into town when I was 10 years old, He'eia is my kulāiwi. Generations upon generations of my kūpuna cared for and relied upon the abundant natural resources of the area, and when it was their time to go, their bones were placed into the earth and they became the soil that allowed these resources to thrive. Thus caring for these natural resources IS caring for kūpuna. In my personal opinion, Native Hawaiian stewardship practices of both terrestrial and marine resources are heavily dependent upon critical observation and real time monitoring of ecosystem health. In traditional times we had kia manu, bird catchers who knew the seasonal molting patterns of select native birds so that their harvest of feathers would not impact the natural bird population. We also had kilo i'a, fishery observers who knew the seasonal spawning and fish migration patterns so that catch would minimally impact fish abundance. Hawai'i has transformed drastically since then, and the decline of specialized positions like these strongly correlate with the declining health of our environment. This He'eia NERR designation provides the State of Hawai'i, the non-profit mālama 'āina groups of He'eia, and all He'eia community members with critical resources to be able to do just that, monitor the health of our environment in real time, then make management decisions based off of those observations. This is not at all a new idea, we've just lost this practice a little along the way. Although the degradation of our estuarine environment can be attributed to a number of both land-based and marine-based stressors, the first step to remediation is to understand the environmental processes that are occurring right now, then identifying an equitable way to address those concerns. This NERR proposal was compiled by some of the most resourceful, connected, and capable representatives from stewardship, researcher, and Native Hawaiian stakeholder groups in He'eia. Under their guidance and leadership, I'm sure this project will definitely thrive. With that said, I do think one concern I have regarding this designation, is to ensure their participation and representation for the duration of the NERR project. The NERR website mentions that particular consideration will go into the preservation and integrity of landscape-scale ecosystems, however I do hope that at the He'eia NERR site, special consideration will be given to bio-cultural research that enables communities and non-profits as participants in the process. I know that much of this consideration will be addressed in subsequent planning periods but an initial statement on commitment early on, would really help clarify these issues so that more individuals can get behind this project. Overall I think</p>
<p>Pua'ala Pascua (CONT'D)</p>			<p>it's a great thing for He'eia, and in the right hands, this research will really advance not only our estuarine health, but our ecosystem health, and ideally our Native Hawaiian health too. Mahalo nui for your time and consideration, Pua'ala Pascua</p>
<p>Raymond Sanborn, President, Kama'aina Kids; Andy Carre, Park Manager, He'eia State Park</p>	<p>andy@heeistatepark.org</p>	<p>2/27/2014</p>	<p>See attached letter.</p>

Emailed comments

<p>Lauren Esaki</p>	<p>lesaki@hawaii.edu</p>	<p>2/27/2014</p>	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I am voicing my support for the establishment of a National Estuarine Research Reserve System in Kāneʻohe. Although I am not from the area (originally from Kauaʻi), I think that any NERRS designation in Hawaiʻi would be beneficial to the collective efforts of those seeking to better understand and mālama our ʻāina.</p> <p>From my understanding, an NERRS designation does not and will not affect the current recreational or commercial activities occurring in Kāneʻohe Bay. The designation will simply allocate more resources to both learn about and educate the public about our aquatic resources. Our current understandings of our estuaries are limited in Hawaiʻi, and place specific knowledge is especially key to better managing and understanding our roles within the ecosystems in which we live in, recreate in, and perpetuate culture in.</p> <p>Specifically in Kāneʻohe, excellent collaborative efforts within the fields of natural resource management and Hawaiian cultural practices are already well established with Kakoʻo ʻOiwī and Paepae o Heʻeia. NERRS would help to further elevate and build upon the expertise of existing organizations and individuals, and form an even more cohesive body of researchers and educators, equipped with the proper resources to learn about and protect an important area of Oʻahu. I hope that this opportunity is awarded to Kāneʻohe for a more sustainable future.</p>
<p>Sam Monet</p>	<p>monets001@hawaii.rr.com</p>	<p>2/27/2014</p>	<p>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Public Meeting on the Proposed Heeia Site for a National Estuarine Research Reserve in Hawaii</p> <p>please identify and provide a map or chart of the proposed sanitary</p> <p>thanks</p>
<p>Nancy Davlantes</p>	<p>ndavlantes@aol.com</p>	<p>2/27/2014</p>	<p>Aloha --</p> <p>Please add my name to those who support the designation of Heʻeia, Oʻahu as a National Estuarine Research Reserve. If selected as a NERR, Heʻeia would provide an ideal site for culturally-relevant research and education. The designation would also provide a way to strengthen the communityʻs role in managing Kāneʻohe Bay and the surrounding watershed.</p> <p>What is learned in the NERR can inform community efforts to manage the bay sustainably by providing information about its health, what is affecting it, and how it is changing over time. On-going community engagement is essential for good stewardship of the bay, and critical to the success of the Heʻeia NERR.</p> <p>Mahalo for the opportunity to support the designation of Heʻeia as a National Estuarine Research Reserve.</p>

Emailed comments

<p>Lea Hong Hawaiian Islands State Director The Trust for Public Land</p>	<p>Lea.Hong@tpl.org</p>	<p>2/27/2014</p>	<p>Aloha -</p> <p>The Trust for Public Land's Hawaiian Islands Field Office supports the designation of Hei'eia, O'ahu as a National Estuarine Research Reserve or NERR. NERRS constitute a national network of 28 areas that have been established for long-term research, water quality monitoring, education and coastal stewardship.</p> <p>Designation of He'eia as a NERR will enable more research, allow for additional educational programming and outreach, increase our understanding of the impacts of climate change, and provide opportunities for funding to support research infrastructure and educational field trips.</p> <p>So long as the designation will not decrease recreational and traditional and customary access to the shoreline and bay, The Trust for Public Land supports the proposed NERR designation.</p> <p>Mahalo -</p> <p>Lea</p>
<p>Jill Zamzow</p>	<p>jzamzow@gmail.com</p>	<p>2/27/2014</p>	<p>Aloha,</p> <p>I would like to express my support for the designation of He'eia, Oahu as a NERR. Kaneohe Bay, and He'eia in particular, are very special places. I live in He'eia watershed, and do my fair share of outreach in my official capacity, however, these comments should be taken from me speaking as a citizen, and resident, of He'eia, Oahu, and not in any sense be taken to reflect the feelings of the Coral Reef Ecosystem Division, the Pacific Islands Fishery Science Center, nor the National Marine Fisheries Service.</p> <p>I moved to Hawaii in 1995, and was a student at Moku o Lo'e, Coconut Island, for 8 years while I completed my Masters and PhD at the University of Hawaii. I owned a 25' sailboat moored offshore of He'eia for many years, and she is still in He'eia Harbor to this day. I have kayaked, paddled, swam, dove, snorkeled, reef-walked, power boated, jet ski-ed, sailed, windsurfed, SUP-ed, pulled alien limu, picked up plastic, cans, fishing leads, broken glass,, and pretty much anything else you can think of, in and around He'eia Kea Pier, and across the bay and around O'ahu, the main Hawaiian Islands, and beyond.</p> <p>I am a reef fish researcher, and I see first hand the detrimental effects to the reefs and fishes that are caused by insults such as trash, poor water quality, lay net fishing, other non-pono fishing practices. I analyze data for the Division of Aquatic Resources, so that they can try to change some of these problems by getting new legislative rules passed. My husband is a professor at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, so I still get out to Coconut Island now and then, and it is heartening to see the slow changes there, away from heaps of trash, and toward sustainability.</p> <p>Nearly every day, I see evidence of the good that TNC Hawaii is doing, particularly with respect to education, communication and community involvement. I would therefore urge you to seriously consider the He'eia watershed as a National Estuarine Research Reserve, for it would be a valuable addition to your program, and one that is sure to pay off for the community.</p> <p>Cheers,</p>

Emailed comments

<p>Jennifer Manuel</p>	<p>jennifer.manuel@lejardinacademy.org</p>	<p>2/27/2014</p>	<p>Aloha,</p> <p>My fourth graders at Le Jardin Academy in Kailua, HI, wanted to express several reasons why they think that we should make a difference in ocean conservation. My students are hoping that scientists and researchers can pull invasive species and hold fishing for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We (fourth graders) want to be able to enjoy this amazing and sacred place for our future generations. 2. It will be safer for scientists and researchers to pull invasive species without fishing going on at the same time. 3. If people don't do something about the invasive species, there will be an overpopulation of invasive species. 4. We (fourth graders) want to protect endangered species in the ocean ecosystem. 5. We have a personal connection with He'eia Fishponds and want to preserve the ocean and reef around it. <p>I hope this information helps in the board meeting tonight. My students are passionate about their ahupua'a and want to voice their opinions!</p> <p>Mahalo.</p>
<p>Kapua Kawelo and Joby Rohrer</p>	<p>jobykapua@hawaiiantel.net</p>	<p>2/28/2014</p>	<p>Aloha,</p> <p>Please accept my written testimony. I also testified last night at the hearing in person but this is more comprehensive. Also John Reppun from the KEY project in Waihee Valley suggested that any NERR announcements could be posted on their community bulletin board there. I will forward the email from him if you are interested in sending him any info as the process moves forward.</p> <p>Mahalo, Kapua Kawelo</p> <p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I am a Ko'olaupoko community member and resident and I strongly support the NERR designation for the Hee'ia Watershed including the near shore reef areas in that Ahupua'a. I commend the many community groups who are stakeholders in this proposal and who continue to conduct community restoration and education in their various ways to the benefit of Koolau-poko! This NERR designation will bring more recognition and support to these grass roots efforts.</p> <p>This NERR designation is an opportunity for us to completely restore an ahupua'a on O'ahu, the most heavily populated of our islands. It can serve as a living laboratory, helping us to answer the difficult questions about what is causing the decline in our resources. It is likely a combination of many problems including, alien species, erosion, pollution and, yes, overfishing and unsustainable fishing practices. This designation may finally provide the place where the relative importance of each contributing factor can be investigated and used to guide future rules and regulations related to these topics.</p> <p>Let's face it, Kaneohe Bay is a troubled natural resource. The days of burgeoning hukilau nets and boiling schools of fish are no longer. In the olden days, a Konohiki had overarching authority to close various fisheries in order to preserve the resources for future generations and to sustain the community. Today, unfortunately, this system is broken. The DLNR who sets fishing regulations is too lax, often succumbing to the political pressures of particular stakeholders. None of the users of the bay want to hand down a fish graveyard to our keiki and have them ask why we did not make some sacrifices for the future while there was still time. If designated, hopefully, the research conducted within the He'eia Ahupua'a will help guide our practices and decisions in order to preserve our precious Kaneohe Bay for future generations. Just as my Tutu Kane taught his children about the importance of using our natural resources respectfully, so do I teach my children the same.</p> <p>If this designation proceeds, I look forward to participating in the development of a management plan for the area. I feel I can offer many specific suggestions about this ahupua'a and look forward to the opportunity contribute to this planning process.</p>

Emailed comments

Kapua Kawelo and Joby Rohrer (CONT'D)			Aloha, Kapua Kawelo 47-533 Melekula Rd. Kaneohe, HI 96744
Kapua Kawelo and Joby Rohrer	jobykapua@hawaiiantel.net	2/28/2014	As promised a suggestion that meeting announcements could be posted regarding the NERR at the KEY project in Waihee if you are interested.
Jobriath Rohrer	jobyrohrer@gmail.com	2/28/2014	To whom it may concern: I am writing in support of the NERR designation. I wholeheartedly support the Heeia community groups that the are proponents of this project. Their efforts and intentions are exactly what is needed in Heeia and across all Hawaii's watersheds; restoration of the resources, education of the community and development of sustainable local food networks. I hope that this designation will bring more resources to these important efforts. I have lived in Kahaluu for 15 year and Hawaii almost my life. I am very proud that my family eats fish from the windward side, grows vegetables in our garden and eats fruit from our family's trees. I want to continue to live from the resource within our community and want to understand, support and participate in sustaining our land and sea for generations to come. Sincerely, Joby Rohrer
Ron Weidenbach	hawaiifish@gmail.com	3/2/2014	I sent in comments this afternoon regarding my support for adding He' eia, Hawaii to the NERRS, with a Cc to myself, and never received my Cc so am wondering if the link provided for such testimony failed. Please advise whterh or nor you received my testimony. Thank you, Ron Weidenbach
Ron Weidenbach	hawaiifish@gmail.com	3/4/2014	Aloha, My name is Ronald P. Weidenbach and I am emailing in support of the designation of He' eia, Oahu as an addition to the NERRP. This my second attempt to try and submit testimony in support of adding He' eia, Oahu to the NERRP. I was a member of the original University of Miami, Rosentiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, Rookery Bay research team, Naples, Florida, led by Bernard Yokel, Ph.D., and funded by the National Audubon Society, the Nature Conservancy, and the Collier County Conservancy, that conducted the extensive base-line research efforts leading to the preservation of this prime example of a Florida mangrove estuarine resource, and the establishment of the National Estuarine Research Reserve Program (NERRP). I am also a member of the University of Hawaii Sea Grant Advisory Board that has supported the funding of multiple research efforts on He' eia, Oahu. Although the two ecosystems are vastly different, the He' eia site is a prime and well preserved example of how ancient Hawaiians sustainably managed estuarine environments to support the food production needs of their society, and offers numerous research opportunities that could provide valuable lessons to modern-day society as we seek to become more sustainable in our coastal food production efforts while also conserving our valuable coastal resources. Given this important research opportunity, I hope that NOAA will favorably consider designation of He- eia, Oahu into the NERRS. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
Raymond Joao	rjoao@hawaii.rr.com	3/5/2014	Heeia area encompasses so many qualities of the classic Ahapua'a model that we cannot afford to allow this asset to go unprotected. Raymond Joao

Emailed comments

<p>Kamakani Dancil</p>	<p>kadancil@ksbe.edu</p>	<p>3/5/2014</p>	<p>Aloha,</p> <p>Please find our questions/comments below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will there be any changes to the boundaries of the proposed NERR site? 2. How and by whom will the research be implemented? 3. What will be considered public information of the research findings? 4. What are the implications, as a result of the NERRS Designation, for management or regulations as it affects private lands? 5. How and by whom will access be managed to private lands? 6. In general, KS is supportive of the NERRS designation. <p>Mahalo, kama</p>
<p>Jacqueline Baker</p>	<p>jacqueline.s.baker@gmail.com or Bakerjs@hawaii.edu</p>	<p>3/6/2014</p>	<p>My name is Jacqueline Baker. I am a law student at William S. Richardson School of Law in Hawaii and I'm interested in this matter because I'm attending law school specifically to get involved in ocean and coastal conservation efforts. I am not local to Hawaii and I do not have any connection to the Heeia area community but I still care about the preservation of unique aquatic environments that are in trouble. Therefore, I support the proposal to list this area as a NERR estuary.</p> <p>I am primarily in support of this designation because it is clearly a community effort and would place the estuary in a situation where the local community will be the primary governing body, but with the added benefit of access to federal resources. As I understand, NERR's primary role will be to simply provide the local area with the tools and knowledge to better combat the problems facing the Heeia estuary.</p> <p>The second reason why I support this designation is because I believe it could lead to the discovery of valuable scientific information. NERR has estuaries all over the country but Heeia would be the first estuary in Pacific waters. Designation of Heeia as a NERR estuary will allow for scientific observation of a new type of habitat. Heeia will differ from any other type of estuary and by engaging in the kind of scientific study that will be part of the NERR designation, the local community will understand these waters that much better and will be better equipped to develop more effective conservation measures.</p> <p>I understand that a few fisherman have raised concerns regarding the right to fish in these waters of the area is placed under further regulatory provisions; however, not only are there no current indications that fishing will be restricted, fishermen must look to the future and realize that if steps are not taken to preserve and protect the estuary then one day there could be no fish left to fish.</p> <p>I support the designation of the Heeia site as a NERR estuary because I believe it will lead to better scientific understanding and community management and will preserve the waters for use by future generations. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.</p> <p>Jacqueline Baker</p>

Emailed comments

<p>Gerald Takayesu Head, Storm Water Quality Branch Division of Environmental Quality Department of Environmental Services City and County of Honolulu</p>	<p>gtakayesu@honolulu.gov</p>	<p>3/7/2014</p>	<p>Comments contained within a letter from agency. (ATTACHED)</p>
<p>Ilona Lopes</p>	<p>jonesjen@hawaii.rr.com</p>		<p>Aloha Rebecka, Our Jones Ohana is a registered organization of over 300 members who are descendants of Heeia Ahupuaa. We have lived on this land for over 200 years. At our last meeting the information of this proposal Reserve System was presented to us by Rocky Kaluhiwa. Our family organization would like to go on record as being in full support of this research reserve. Mahalo,  President William Claude & Ma`ema`e Jones Ohana</p>



HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



KAKA'KO
KALAELOA

Neil Abercrombie
Governor

Brian Lee
Chairperson

Anthony J. H. Ching
Executive Director

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File: PL HEEIA 17.2.1

January 8, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jesse Souki, Director
State of Hawaii Office of Planning

FROM: *Anthony J. H. Ching*
Anthony J. H. Ching, Executive Director
Hawaii Community Development Authority

SUBJECT: Site Selection for the National Estuarine Research Reserve
System ("NERRS") in Hawaii

We offer our full support for the selection of the Heeia Estuary in Kaneohe Bay as the preferred site for designation as a NERRS in Hawaii. The Hawaii Community Development Authority is landowner of the Heeia Community Development District ("CDD"), identified as Tax Map Key: 1-4-06-16:001. The Heeia CDD is included in the proposed Heeia Estuary boundary area. We believe that the NERRS program is consistent with the goals and objectives of Chapter 206E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, pertaining to the development of culturally appropriate agriculture, education, and natural-resource restoration and management of the Heeia wetlands.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

AJHC/ST:py

c: Kanekoa Schultz, Kako'o Oiwi



RE: Submission of comments due
Hi'ilei Kawelo to: Rebecka J Arbin

03/10/2014 01:33 PM

History:

This message has been replied to and forwarded.

February 24, 14

Re: Designated He'eia NERR Site

To whom it may concern, aloha,

My name is Hi'ilei Kawelo, Executive Director of the non-profit organization, Paepae o He'eia that manages and has been caring for He'eia Fishpond over the last 13 years since 2001. Paepae o He'eia is one of the partnering organizations that put the proposal forth for the He'eia NERR. Other partners include the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology, Kako'o 'O'iwi, Kama'aina Kids, Papahana Kuaola, Ko'olau Foundation and the Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club. All organizations have and continue to do work in the ahupua'a of He'eia. I have nothing to hide, and I have no hidden agenda. My work is simple and transparent, I want to continue to fish in the Bay, want to see our watersheds improved so that the freshwater making its way to the Bay is as clean as possible and want to restore He'eia Fishpond so that we can raise fish and eat fish that has been sustainably-grown!

I strongly support the He'eia NERR designation.

While I have a professional interest in the designation, meaning, additional funding for the ahupua'a of He'eia in the areas of research, education and stewardship, this testimony that I'm submitting is on behalf of myself as a community member, resident of Kahalu'u and a 5th-generation fisher of Kāne'ohe Bay.

I grew up fishing. I only fish in Kāne'ohe Bay. I grew up gathering limu, catching crab, catching he'e, spear fishing, torching, setting fish traps, laying net, surrounding schools of Mullet, Pu'alu and Weke. I grew up the same way as many other fishermen of the Kāne'ohe Bay area. Despite my first love of fishing, for the past 15 years, I have been working to restore He'eia Fishpond, it has become my life's work! I take pride in my work knowing that this is my community and the the life of a fishpond caretaker is in my blood. My great-great grandfather, (John) Kawelo lived at Wailau, now referred to as the area St. Johns by the Sea. He, in his time living there worked on the walls and cared for the small fishpond referred to as Senator Fong's pond. On my Chinese side, my great-grandfater, my kung kung and his family took care of a fishpond in Kāne'ohe, Kahanahou Fishpond.

My dad, uncles and cousins many years ago during the late 80's, early 90's served on the Kāne'ohe Bay Task Force that created the 1991 Kāne'ohe Bay Master Plan. I served on the Long-Range Planning Committee and served as the Kāne'ohe Bay Regional Council's Fishing Representative and Chair. I acknowledge the Plan and the many hours and comprimises that were made between the community, fishers, recreational users and commercial interests represented on the Task Force. Now, almost 25 years later, the Plan is still valid but it is just that, a plan, not rule, not law, and not enforceable. Portions of the Plan have been adopted as rule, for example, those recommendations having to do with boating and commercial recreational activity. I believe much of what is happening now in the community is reflective of

the recommendations made by the Master Plan. I believe the works within the ahupua'a of He'eia are all positive and are consistent with the recommendations of the Master Plan. When the Master Plan was written, there weren't as many community-based stewardship and restoration activities as there are now between Kāne'ohe and Kualoa. Times have changed in the last 25 years since the Master Plan was written. We continue to fish in the Bay and gather resources along the shoreline, but I worry the extent to which we can go on the way we do. In the last 25 years there has been a huge increase in the number of users of the Bay, with that comes increased pressures on the resources. Within the He'eia ahupua'a, we have built a partnership that's taken 15 years and are continuing to strengthen our relationships and collaborations. We're attempting to restore an ahupua'a complete with a healthy watershed, forest, stream, lo'i, fishpond, estuary and reef, something that's never been done in the entire State of Hawai'i.

I consider myself fortunate to be one of a select few individuals that is able to live and work in my community. I pride myself on the work that I'm able to do and the positive impacts that my work is having in our community. It's my life's mission to make the practice of 'āina-based learning and community stewardship regular in our community. The ahupua'a of He'eia is providing the model of community-based stewardship and management, mauka to makai in the Kane'ohe Bay area, I can't wait to see what will happen in the rest of our Kāne'ohe Bay ahupua'a. Change is uncomfortable, but change we must, evolve we must.

The He'eia NERR is a good thing for our community and hope that through the designation process we can further work to model community-based stewardship and be the example for Hawaii of what it means to be a healthy functioning ahupua'a in the 21st century.

Me ka ha'aha'a,
Hi'ilei Kawelo

Hi'ilei Kawelo Executive Director Paepae o He'eia, He'eia Fishpond www.paepaeoheeia.org
office: 236-6178 fax:234-1999

To: hkawelo@hotmail.com
Subject: Submission of comments due
From: Rebecka.J.Arbin@dbedt.hawaii.gov
Date: Mon, 10 Mar 2014 13:06:40 -1000

Hi Hiilei,

Did you re-send your comment letter to the NOAA email address? Can you please re-send it to me as well? I want to make sure we get your comments recorded.

I'll be compiling all the comments and look forward to getting yours soon!

Thanks,

Rebecka

Rebecka Arbin
Planner
Coastal Zone Management Program
Office of Planning
Dept. of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

235 S. Beretania St. 6th Floor
P. O. Box 2359
Honolulu, HI 96804

(808) 587-2831





A Non-Profit Organization

February 27, 2014

Re: Support for He'eia Ahupua'a to be designated as a National Estuarine Research Reserve

He'eia State Park strongly supports the nomination of He'eia, O'ahu for designation as a NERR (National Estuarine Research Reserve). It is our belief that this designation would improve the quality of He'eia's ecology from mountain to ocean by enabling more research, education, and community based programs.

He'eia State Park is operated and managed by Kama'aina Kids, a not-for-profit youth education/enrichment provider. We operate educational eco-tours in Kane'ohe Bay for children and adults. In addition to our daily eco-tours and our youth water sports programs, we have many other organizations and programs that utilize park facilities on a daily basis. Each of them is community based, and focused very much on both cultural and ecological education and preservation. We feel strongly that a NERR designation would help us to provide more and better opportunities to the community. We believe that this designation will enable better awareness raising and education, and that in turn will make the entire ahupua'a a healthier environment.

Thank you very much for your consideration in this process. Kama'aina Kids and He'eia State Park will support it in any way that we can. And we look forward to all the good that can come from this designation.

Sincerely,

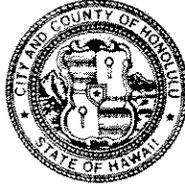
Raymond Sanborn, President, Kama'aina Kids

Andy Carre, Park Manager, He'eia State Park

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

1000 ULUOHIA STREET, SUITE 308, KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-3486 • FAX: (808) 768-3487 • WEBSITE: <http://envhonolulu.org>

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



LORI M.K. KAHIKINA, P.E.
DIRECTOR

TIMOTHY A. HOUGHTON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ROSS S. TANIMOTO, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

IN REPLY REFER TO:

SWQ 14-016

March 7, 2014

www.hawaii.nerr.comments@noaa.gov

Mr. Jesse K. Souki, Director
State Office of Planning, State of Hawaii
235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: Comment on the Proposed Selection of Heeia Estuary
as a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Estuarine Research Reserve System Site

Dear Mr. Souki:

The City and County of Honolulu's Department of Environmental Services (ENV) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposal to designate the Heeia estuary in Kaneohe Bay as part of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS).

The department supports the goals and objectives of the proposal to nominate the Heeia estuary being included in NOAA's NERRS. As the nearshore waters of Kaneohe Bay are designated as Class AA water that are to be protected, it is appropriate for the Heeia area to be the subject of long term research, water quality monitoring, education and coastal stewardship.

The department is interested in learning more of NERRS and the changes planned for the area should the designation of the Heeia area be approved, as the City has substantial interest in the area with Kamehameha Highway and the Heeia Valley Nature Park being under City maintenance responsibility. Please keep us informed of the developments of the Heeia estuary designation and additional opportunities to provide input to the project.

If you have any questions, please contact Gerald Takayesu of our Storm Water Quality Branch, Division of Environmental Quality, at 768-3287

Sincerely,


Lori M.K. Kahikina, P.E.
Director

cc: DPR
DDC
DFM

Mailed postcards, 2/26/14

Aloha,

I fully support the designation of
a N.E.R.R.S site at He'ia estuary in Hawai'i
O'ahu

Charlotte Lyman

45-705 Kamehameha Hwy #307
Kaneohe O'ahu HI 96744

I fully support the designation
of a N.E.R.R.S site at He'ia estuary
in Hawai'i.

Elgin M. Duarte

720 Pihemele Way

He'ia O'ahu HI 96734

I fully support the designation of a
NERRS site at He'eia estuary in Hawaii.

Shandry Lopes
1169 Aukele St.
Kailua, H.I.
96734

I fully support the designation
of a NERRS site at
He'eia estuary in Hawaii.

Elizabeth C. Lau
47-665 Ahuimanu Rd.
Kaneohe Hi 96744

Mercury E. Chow
117 Palapa St.
Kailua, HI 96734

I fully support the designation of a
NERRS site at Heeia estuary
in Hawaii.

Sally Kalubay
47-545 Menehuna Place
Kaneohe, HI 96744

I fully support the designation
of a NERES site at He'eia Estuary
in Hawaii.

Nancy Davlante

45-571 Awenere Pl.
A

Kaneohe, HI 96744

I absolutely and completely support the
designation of a NERES site at He'eia
estuary, in Kaneohe Bay, Oahu, Hawaii.

Jennifer Nakamura

Jenny Nakamura

47-410 Kapehe St.

Kaneohe HI 96744

I fully support the
designation of a NERPS site
at He'eia estuary in Hawaii.

Joyce Hunter, Ph.D.
720 Pahumela Way
Kaikea, HI, 96734

I fully support the
designation of a NERPS
site at He'eia estuary
in Hawaii.

Daphne Garcia
45-479 Makalani St.
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Comments Received on Comment Slips at Public Meeting, 1/9/14

Comment:

I am strongly supportive of the NERRS site in Hevia. Many people at the public meeting seem to be misinformed about the regulations for NERRS. Other people who are supportive of the NERRS are probably afraid to speak out against fisherman, so there seemed to be more negative comments than there are in the community.

Optional:

Name: _____

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: _____

Comment:

HIGIA STREAMS PROBABLY HAS THE LEAST IMPACT ON BAY REEFS OF ANY OF THE MAJOR STREAMS ENTERING THE BAY. FOCUSING ON THIS ONE SUB-COMPONENT OF THE BAY'S WATERSHED DISTRACTS ATTENTION FROM THE SEDIMENTATION, NUTRIENT INPUT + WATER DIVERSION PROBLEMS WHICH ARE MORE ACUTE WHERE THE OTHER STREAMS ENTER.

RATIONALE FOR THE RED OUTLINE ON 'GOOGLE EARTH' VIEW IS NOT CLEAR. IT IGNORES THE EFFECT OF TRADEWINDS ON CIRCULATION IN THE BAY

Optional:

Name: _____

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: JSTIMSON@HAWAII.EDU

Comment:

- 1) As part of developing the Management plan, review and incorporate the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan ~~with~~ ~~revisions~~ ~~and~~ ~~recommendations~~ recommendations
- 2) Who will be the lead state agency or university managing the Heia NERR

Optional:

Name: Amy Luersey

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: luersena001@hawaii.gov

Comment:

Change is always good in all of our lives, And my Comment is that there should Be a moderate or Slight Changes First. ~~A~~ A Drastic Change like Stopping all Fishing in Kaneohe is NOT Happening as Far as our culture goes, or is.
Thank you

Optional:

Name:

Larry Anthony Lopez Jr

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address:

853-7692

Comment:

Why did you choose to have a public hearing after the site was selected?

Is this the best or most representative site of a Hawaii estuary?

Why ~~were~~ there ~~more~~ wasn't ~~more~~ more (state) / community input sought during the site selection?

Optional:

Name: Ms. Hoala Fraiola

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: hoala@gmail.com

Comment:

Access public law 95-341

Religion Access
Chuganua

Optional:

Name: Luwella K. Leonard

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: 85-1363 Halapoe Pl.

Waianae, HI 96792

Comment:

Can research initiatives be added to the proposal?

~~Will you~~ Will you/can you send out the proposal to the community so that we can comment on it?

Optional:

Name: ^{Ms.} Hoala Fraiola

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: hoala@gmail.com

Comment:

More info on subject, I am a landowner
on beachfront north of Kaneohe
bay, I am a fisherman, and a taro
farmer, native Hawaiian, with these
rights to be ~~responsible~~, just
responding, please get back to me

Optional: I am interested and committed for
Name: Keoki Fukumitsu best interest

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: Keoki Kaloman@gmail.com
cell # 808-589-6146

Comment:

1. who are the "community partners"?
2. What are their Goals and Objectives? SPECIFIC GOALS
3. Who and How was the "degraded" condition of the bay determined? What are the specific needs?
4. Who are the leaders? ~~and~~ organizational chart?

Optional:

Name: TROY OGASAWARA

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: TROYO@GESTECHSOLUTIONS.COM

Comment:

Looking at the map of the designated area, it's clear there are lots of elements that can interfere with long-term research. Residential streets and other sources of contamination makes it less ideal than a contained site such as Kahana Valley and Bay. That site is not surrounded by sources of potential contamination that can adversely affect a long-term study.

Optional:

Name: Sean Sensai, Hawaii Goes Fishing

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: sean@HawaiiGoesFishing.com

Let's look at other sites that would be better suited for this.

Comment:

Why wasn't the state of Hawaii's
Division of Aquatic Resources
consulted and included in this
process? Where are DAR's
representatives?

Optional:

Name:

Ms. Hoala Fraiola

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address:

hoala@gmail.com

Comment:

Why is there no research
being ^{done} that is estuarine focused?
~~being~~

Is this a national estuarine
research reserve? OR a cultural
rehabilitation site?

Optional:

Name: ms. Hoala Fraiola

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: hoala@gmail.com

Comment:

- How Will this benefit the entire
Kāne'ohe Bay from a scientific
standpoint? - How is He'eia representative
of a Hawaii estuary other than ~~that~~
having a strong community connection?

Optional:

Name: ^{Ms.} Hoala Fraiola

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: hoala@gmail.com

Comment:

Don't Close the Bay

Optional:

Name: Carl Hillen

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: Carl Hillen 78@ hawaii.net

Verbalized Comments from Public Meeting, 1/9/14

SENATOR CLAYTON HEE	<p>Thank you. Aloha, everyone. I came to offer my strong support for this program on a couple fronts. One is that this program provides an opportunity to leverage federal dollars, \$1 million, and provides the state the opportunity to enhance science through the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology at the University of Hawaii and does so to address climate change and does so without inhibiting the ongoing activities of people who are fishers in Kaneohe Bay, people who collect resources in Kaneohe Bay, people who participate on a daily basis as I did growing up on Mahalani Circle. Like many of the old-timers here, I have experienced many changes. I was one of the – I was very young when clams were being dug at the end of Waikalua Road and going to see the sewage kill everything in the south end of the bay. This provides a tremendous opportunity to provide for the next generation and the next generation, and it does so without inhibiting or precluding the activities, the ongoing activities of fishers in Kaneohe Bay. I understand that there may be those who may not support this program for various reasons. I want to be clear that this is just the beginning from my perspective, Heeia, and it is the beginning of an opportunity to protect the bay, its resources. I applaud the governor for stepping up, and I assure you and the governor I will do everything I can to make sure that the matching funds are included in the state budget. I'm very humble to be able to live in my lifetime to see a bay that was at one time the toilet bowl of the windward side be cleaned up and have the federal government participate so that all of us can enjoy the bay as I did when I was a youngster. So mahalo to all of you for coming. Aloha.</p>
REPRESENTATIVE JESSICA WOOLEY	<p>I also -- I am from the State House and want to also express my support and really thank the governor for his leadership on this. It is such a great opportunity, and I think one of the aspects I really get excited about is it starts at the community level and it focuses on the community first, and then it takes it up and out and addresses a problem that affects everybody in the world, in my opinion, global climate change. We really are on the forefront of that issue, and we should be looking very closely at the science, at everything we can figure out about how it affects our lives, our environment. So I really applaud his effort and all the community leaders who are stepping forward. And there are going to be concerns. There are going to be a lot of questions, and I'm sure everybody's not going to agree on everything, but that's the wonderful thing about getting the city and working together on a project like this. Just seeing the people in the room, I think, shows that there are a lot of people who want to take advantage of this opportunity and make sure we address those challenges. So I want to leave with just a mahalo and it's a new day and thank you, everybody, for putting in the time tonight and taking time out of your family's day as well. Aloha.</p>
MR. ERIK FRANKLIN	<p>Aloha. Good evening. I just wanted to invite -- I was a member of the siteselection team that presented for Heeia. I'm a professor at the University of Hawaii, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. And as part of the community, I just wanted to stand up and basically introduce myself and see if you have any questions about the process and what we went through to make the decision and kind of the science behind it and maybe some of the resources that would be available that you'd be interested in. Please come and talk to me throughout the evening. Thanks.</p>
MS. JO-ANN LEONG	<p>My name is JoAnn Leong. I am a professor and the director of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. I was born and raised on Oahu and I grew up in Kapahulu and spent all weekends in Kaneohe. So this is my home. And we went through this -- When I took the directorship of HIMB, we worked with the community and we are working with the community now. It represents 10 to 12 years of outreach and effort with them, and it has been a wonderful experience. But we saw this opportunity as a group to put this Heeia estuary together as a NERR site, and it was coming together of Paepae OHeeia, Kako O Oiwi, Ko'olaupoko Civic Club, Kama'aina Kids and many of the other community members that because I'm standing up in front of you, it's gone from my brain. But it has been a really great experience. They all feel that it's something that we can do here. It's about time Kaneohe got some of those federal dollars. It's time. And it's time for us to now begin to now work as a community to try and restore it because those are the resources -- I used to go fishing every weekend. I can't do that now. And my dad goes out and he collects and catches the same puffer fish every time and throws it in. He used to be a good fisherman. It's just that it's not the same. And like Clayton and Jessica Wooley, I want to bring it back.</p>
MR. DON MAY	<p>My name is Don May. I'm at 46-240 Ahui Nani almost across the way here, and moved there because we have a delightful view of this wonderful wetland that's down here. I can only applaud and thank all of you so very much for carrying this all this far. I'm also chair and current director of a group called Earth Corps that does restorations elsewhere, and like other folks, I came from Santa Monica forebears back to when it was part of Mexico and a fisherman and watched the decline of the Santa Monica Bay, primarily because of sewage being dumped out there, and was appalled when I moved over here to see the same unfortunate thing unfolding right here. So Marian Kelly did a lot of the original work, an old friend, on fishponds and Heeia's fishpond in particular. So we watched this for a long time. The one thing that we noticed touring around on the wetland reserves, what made them the one thing that they all had in common that made them successful was a broad base of community support that realized just how important that wetland was to their community. So I'm especially delighted to see outreach and all the folks that are here. I will get some comments in when I can make something meaningful in writing. Thanks.</p>

<p>MR. LARRY LOPEZ, JR.</p>	<p>Aloha. My name is Larry Lopez, Jr., and I'm born and raised here in Kaneohe Bay, ku'u home o Kahaluu. I just wanted to stress that, you know, as I grew up, everybody knows me. I'm the Kahaluu crab master. But growing up, you know, there was a lot of ground. We could go almost anyplace in the bay and crab and fish, but as we grew up and years went by, signs went up. You know, my places of fishing and crabbing got smaller and tighter. I'm just concerned about that even getting more and more stressful, you know, when you get signs and, you know, game warden coming up, "Oh, you cannot do this anymore." A lot of us know where I'm coming from.</p> <p>You know, I graduated and I went over to Aku Fishing. So we catch nehu in the bay, and you don't get nehu outside of that bay. So it's kind of concerning for me, and I'm just speaking for those guys when they gotta catch their bait to go out fishing, how are they going to go do that, you know, if they're going to shut that down, all fishing? So it's kind of concerning, you know, as far as going ahead and doing this shutdown. So I'm here to represent for those guys who are in our culture. A lot of our culture, we do a lot of our fishing in the bay, you know. So it's going to be kind of hard, but, you know, change is good and I'm willing to participate. We have -- you know, we have to participate and get along. So, hopefully, this thing is not too congesting for us like it already is getting, you know. We cannot even go by Coconut Island. We cannot go by the marine base. You know, it's getting pretty tight in this bay, but I hope we can all get along and work with these guys. Thank you.</p>
<p>MR. KELVIN CHING</p>	<p>My name is Kelvin Ching. I'm also born and raised Kahaluu. I'm kind of disappointed to hear of this whole planning process just two days ago. When I personally attended public hearings after public hearings back in the late 80's, I think it was '89 when the master plan process was started, and thousands upon thousands of hours to create that master plan, and the thing is pretty much rubbish right now. I hope you guys spoke to some people, but I don't think that's representative of the full amount of time and effort that went into that plan. It's very sad and it's very difficult for me to trust city, state, federal on any level whatsoever when you guys call this a community-based plan and you guys starting from the top down. This stuff is done already. How can we kill it? That's what I want to know. There's no trust coming from me and my family because of the things that has been done to us. Just like what Mr. Lopez was saying, you guys did one fast one on us on Kapapa Island. Pretty much the same thing. We used to camp on that island. We used to go out. One lady did one study saying that the humans and the birds could coexist. The plan calls for an adoption of the island from the community. What does the state do? Shut us out. In the same time that they're proposing all of this, they say that tourists can go up to what, 300 people per day or something like that or 30 people per day and then what? They shut out the locals. We no can even go above the high-tide water without thinking that we're going to get caught. How the kids going to go learn how for fish? This is sad. What kind of community-based management is this? Look at what the bay doing now? You guys, Coconut Island, excuse me. Maybe not you guys personally, but Coconut Island in general. Look at the bay. Look at all the limu. You guys brought 'em in. Now you guys get grants for clean 'em up. You guys create your own problems so you get more grants. Kind of sad, you know. What about the taro now, the other taro that's taking over the bay? You guys know about that? You guys blame the fishermen. Yeah, the fishermen take and I think we all agree we take, but there's a whole lot of other reasons why the bay is in decline. And, yeah, I understand the money part. Money is good. Why we gotta have the designation? Why we gotta shut people out? Because you know what, guaranteed you guys are going to say people no can do this, no can do that. This is just a foot in the door. Once the door is cracked open, you guys going to open 'em up wider. That's the trust that I have. Zero. Okay? I hope you guys take that into consideration because so many people, they give up coming to these meetings already. The thousands and thousands of hours we had to the regional council, that went shut down. What's going on? Anybody reach out to the regional council, previous members? Because I was there. I didn't hear this through neighborhood boards. I hope you guys went there. I just heard about this meeting two days ago. Literally. That's sad. We don't even get to look at this stuff. We got three minutes we gotta do it. We no can even look at this stuff. That's the kind of community management. How you guys reaching out to the community? You guys gotta go talk to people. Go knock on doors. Just cut the money and you get deadlines. Do 'em right. That's sad.</p>

<p>MS. JENNIFER NAKAMURA</p>	<p>Okay. Just to follow up, not just what the governor had to say, but to follow up on the comments prior, just so everybody knows, the planning is actually not a plan that was directed and implemented straight from the state. It actually is not from the top down. It is from the bottom up. There is a number -- there are, I should say, a number of community organizations, such as, Kako O Oiwi, Paepae O Heeia, Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, Ko'olau Foundation. Yes, in partnership with UH because UH provides funding to preserve and, you know, sometimes to help with more research for the things that we did grow up loving and learning here.</p> <p>We work with -- some of the kapunas that are in these organizations have been taking care of, very specifically, Heeia from the mountain to the ocean for the last 20 years. Some of their ohanas have been here for 200 years as the stewards of Heeia.</p> <p>Another thing I think is really important to note is in this plan, there is no ban on fishing. In this plan, you are still able to fish. You're still able to paddle your canoe. You're still able to go diving. You're still able to go crabbing. They are not banning the activities that we already have or enjoy or live. Some of the kapunas that are involved or have been involved in this project from the beginning, their original intention was to see the life come back to the bay.</p> <p>I was born in 1983. I remember in the '90s playing in Kaneohe Bay and there was not much left. There was a lot of dust and dirt, and we lived on Lilipuna. My mom said when they were little, there were oysters and fish all at the pier right at our, you know, property line, but by the time I was 10, there were no oysters in my yard anymore. And I think significantly, you know, into the early 2000s, we saw a lot of fish and a lot of, you know, animals and a lot of life come back, and maybe that has something to do with the efforts that people, you know, from our community have put into restoring things.</p> <p>I'm not sure if you guys are aware, but from the valley, up in Haiku Valley, you know, those projects, things like that, the amount of work that's been put into our community not only as far as intellectual or paperwork or like technical work, but also physical labor and people in the streams, people bringing the kids to learn how to cultivate or keep the streams free and clear so that the water can flow back so that our bay can, you know, be restored to have the cycle and be clean and, you know, so that we can propagate, produce and sustain ourselves in this place that we love.</p> <p>So I just wanted to really make it clear that it's not going to be a state -- it's not a state trick. It's not a -- and I'm totally -- I'm totally with -- I agree totally. I've been to so many city and county meetings. So I can empathize with the gentleman because there's a lot of times where I've gone to meetings and I'm like in tears, and it's hard because, you know, emotionally, we love the place that we're from. We love the activities that we take part in. We love the land. I'm sure we all feel that way. And I want you to know that the organizations that I mentioned that are partnering to work together to do this project have nothing but the best intentions for our community, for the kids. Like I said, there's absolutely no language that says that they're going to ban fishing. And, actually, the intention is because we want the community's support and we want everybody to be together so that we all, you know, can continue to maintain and enjoy what we already have.</p> <p>As far as the management plan, you know, later in the future, it's not going to be -- like I said, it's not really from the top down. It's really from the bottom up. And I think that you might be relieved if you come and talk to the members that are our partners, you might feel some kind of relief, and you might actually want to be more involved in what they're doing when you get the chance to hear everything that's been going on. And it really is impressive. So I really suggest, you know, finding out more and reaching out to everyone and getting involved and everything like that, so...</p>
<p>MR. JACK JOHNSON</p>	<p>My name is Jack. I was called before. So I'll go ahead and speak. First, I'm sure I speak for everybody when I -- a lot of us -- Hats off to trying to clean, as the senator stated, the toilet bowl is what Kaneohe Bay has become. The second and I realize, Governor, you have your process and procedures to get the answers, but I feel that over half the people in this room would sleep better tonight if we actually knew from a competent authority such as yourself or a senator. Jennifer did state that there are no impacts against personal boating and fishermen and other commercial entities that work in the bay, but I think we really need an answer to clear our heads and make us feel better. Is there going to be any impacts with recreational boating and fisher -- fishing in that bay with this -- with this thing?</p>

<p>MR. MICHAEL CHUNG</p>	<p>Hi, everyone. My name is Michael Chung. If you guys don't know me, I'm always down at the pier. I'm always in the bay, always with my kids fishing, diving, crabbing. Our family's been fishing in this area for years. My grandfather built the first house in Pokole. While they were dredging the channel to fill in the fishpond, his house was being built. So we've been here for, I'd say, about 60, 70, 80, maybe 80 years. Okay. I'm kind of sad that, like my other cousin Kelvin said, that we're kind of afraid of what's going on because we weren't notified. We only had to look at the literature, but we got it right here. Nothing was sent out. My own cousin who's proposing this -- I mean, she's on the site thing. -- hasn't approached us. I wish she did because, I mean, she has her agenda too and she wants to do this and I -- you know, she does a lot for the fishpond, but sometimes we don't see eye to eye.</p> <p>Okay. Like Kelvin said, you know, if you're going to protect this area or protect the bay when you get the foot in the door, where else are you going to go? We don't want to see any of our bay gone. We're already -- like was said, Kapapa is off limits already to us to camp overnight. We can go on the island daytime, but we cannot camp overnight. My family -- all my family members used to camp there. We used to take our kapuna out there. There's burial out there. There's a lot of history out there that we used to take care. We used to coexist with the birds, and we went through various meetings for that, but now I don't know. Can you bring that back? You said, you know, that you could bring back too.</p> <p>You know, there's fishing clubs that's been going out there for over 50 years. That's their annual event. Why can't we let them go? They've been going there for ages and coexisting with the birds. One -- I mean, this is just an example. One bunch of homeless guys go out there, and they screw everything up for everybody. Why can't we just eliminate them? You know, you look at the island now, everything's overgrown, all the weeds, everything. Those guys from Atlapac, they used to take care of the island. They used to lawn mower the grass back in the day. Why can't we have that kind of thing? We can only go there overnight now on certain days with a permit, and a permit is only 10 people per permit.</p> <p>Yeah, sure.</p> <p>All right. I'm very glad and I'm pretty sure Atlapac is very glad to have this option. But what happens when you don't get re-elected or something like that? You know what I mean? No, no, no. I mean, we see it all over. I work for the fire department. We got a new chief. Everything changes. A new person comes in and they have their own agenda. You know what I mean? You know what I mean.</p> <p>I know that. You just approved it. All right. I hope -- I hope it's true.</p> <p>You know, 'cause like you said, Kaneohe Regional Task Force, they had that plan and basically nothing was implemented.</p> <p>All right. Thank you. Also, getting back to my agenda, you know, like you guys said about water issues and Lopez brought up the aku boat, you know, they've been taking our water from Waiahole, Waikane, all of that, and that water is needed for the bait. The bait comes. The moi comes, the mullet, everything. Okay. So we need the water. We need that freshwater that's going the other side. Okay? I know they need it for the homes and people and the farms, but if we're talking about the bait fish and everything, we need it here. Okay? And we only got one aku boat. Let me remind you. We only got one aku boat, and don't ever say that they are catching all the bait because you only got one boat.</p>
<p>MR. CHUNG (CONT'D)</p>	<p>Also, what about the invasive seaweeds that UH here, University of Hawaii, let go? It's rampant throughout the bay, inshore, offshore, on our reefs. If you look in front Heeia's fishpond, it's loaded all the way throughout the whole bay. Why can't something be done with that? I mean, it's covering -- it's blanketing our coral and sand. You know, and we talk about there's an invasive coral. If you are out there and you're looking for your he'e or octopus, you know that's invasive because it's covering up the coral that the octopus likes, you know. So I mean, it's -- how are we going to do that, you know?</p> <p>You gotta keep an eye on 'em. That's what you're saying.</p> <p>Okay. Thank you. Wait. One last thing.</p> <p>Where does the tour groups go that's inside here? Are they going to leave? You know what I mean? Because this reef right here is where the tourists are and over here (indicating).</p> <p>They're diving inside here and they got their jet skis and everything and they're anchored over here. Are they going to be displaced? I mean, I don't see anybody that's representing them here, but everybody wants to know because as fishermen, if they're being displaced, where are they going? Are they going out to another reef where we go?</p> <p>Because I have issues with them. They're supposed to be on one side of this reef, but they're not. They're on this side. So I gotta tell the harbor master, and he's gotta talk to them. They know the rules. All these commercial guys know the rules, but they're not following it.</p> <p>It is, and believe me, enforcement is hard. Give them money. Give enforcement money. They need it.</p> <p>All right. I'll talk to them and tell them I told you that. Thank you.</p>

<p>MR. KAUAOA FRAIOLA</p>	<p>Well, mahalo for having this community meeting, you guys, and it makes me really proud to see our community together here and discussing, presenting our different views and respecting each other, and we're going through this process because I think it's very important for us to do this together and to move slowly together. Because I too was surprised when I heard that, you know, there was this going to be this site because I work in this area. I grew up in this area. I do research in this area. And all of a sudden, I heard that it had been proposed as a potential site and that it was coming from the community, and I thought, oh, what am I? I said, oh, I guess they never have time to talk to everybody because you get plenty of us guys and some of us guys maybe wasn't in their groups. But, you know, I applaud that we're here talking about it, and I understand what the governor and what Director Souki's talking about. Like this is part of the planning. Yeah, the other part was part of the ground up and we're the rest of the ground up, I guess, from how I understand it here tonight. I have concerns, and Director Souki knows and NOAA knows because I wrote something out to explain it. So no need me go over through all that kind of stuff again because plenty of you guys that wasn't on the list already got to talk several times. I don't know. But I like to keep everybody here. I want to keep everybody here, but I do have concerns and, you know, I hope as we move through this process, that those concerns are taken seriously and that people who do have concerns are respected and not treated as outsiders; that we're all in this together. People have concerns, people who support it and are pushing it forward and that only together we can move forward and do what the community wants and what's in the best interest of the community, and the community, community, community. And I think that was it, and so I guess I'll give it to the next person. Thank you very much.</p>
<p>AUDIENCE MEMBER</p>	<p>Part of -- I think just maybe part of the trust issue with the community in a plan like this, if we could see the emails and the comments of other community members not redacted, that would be really good, I think. That's just a suggestion.</p>
<p>MS. LUWELLA LEONARDI</p>	<p>Thank you, Governor. Thank you for that intention. I don't know if you remember me, but I walked up to you and I said, "You're going to be my governor, and what I'd like to see is a fisherman in your cabinet." So thank you. My name is Luwella Leonardi, and, yes, I am Attilio's wife. So I want to make a comment about the water. It's really important because I'm on DHHL. I'm on Hawaiian Homes. We are now going through water policy, and it's such a huge, huge problem right now. The fact is I'm from Waianae. The reason why I'm here is because I attended the first CZM in Waianae. People from Kailua and everyone else has come out to Waianae. Then the meetings were taken outer islands. Then there was another meeting, and in-between that one was at King -- no, at Washington Intermediate. There Mr. Copa was there. In-between that, we had a meeting with Mr. Copa and George Parish and all the fishermen in the office. So it's been pretty interesting. I've been going through a lot. The reason why I'm here is because my mo'okuauhau is here. Edward Ni'aupi'o was the only taro farmer, and Pukunitsu (phonetic) is in here tonight. He was the only taro farmer with McAllister and Andy who did some research, and it was because he knew where the water is and he was strong enough to stand firm in Waimanalo. You can read the story in Sites of Oahu. The other problem is my dad died and born in the same place. We still have that address in Maunawili. The other problem is Heeia, which is Heeia from mountain to sea, ahupua'a, that's a problem that we in Waianae are struggling with right now. Talk about the bottom line. This is my bottom line and this is the truth. Come out to Waianae Harbor. The bottom line there is the little children that are growing up under the tree. That's my bottom line. And I feed homeless twice a week over there, and we finally got everybody else to come in and join us. We have about maybe about 150 people living under the tree. I was there when Sus Ono also -- also did the -- down at Sand Island when you got rid of the people there. I just want to let you know fishermen are part of the homeless and they're out there, and I am so ma'a to what they have to say about how to take care of the ocean, how to take care of the shoreline.</p>

<p>MS. LEONARDI (CONT'D)</p>	<p>If you go down to Waianae Harbor, you will see the kids respecting the opae ula. That is our sacred -- our sacred place, but is it alive? No. It is there and every day when the rain starts, our people look forward for the opae ula to fill up with water because they know the opae will grow. But here's the thing, we don't have any groundwater surface protection in Waianae, and I hope and pray that I never see that happen here on this side. And, yes, I was in Kahana Bay before those six wells were drilled so that -- I'll be honest with you, so that Kailua could have their swimming pool filled with water. That's the reason why a lot of the water -- that six water wells was drilled. I was there when Mr. Bernie -- when Mr. Sus Ono was arguing with us. Thanks to Marian Kelly who came out. She put a stop to the draft, the deep-draft harbor of Kahana Bay. The reason why I'm so onto this, because my grandfather -- I was born and raised in -- I was born in Kapahulu. My grandfather was a captain of Hawaiian Dredging. He did all the dredging in his time. So I know what dredging means. And it was also a very family sad legacy for us. But I want to take you back. We also did public law of 95-341, which is access, which is the religious access from mountain to sea, religious access for us. I was with Uncle Sam Lono. My husband carried Mr. Uncle Sam Lono out of the valley when he was working for the fire department. He carried Uncle Sam Lono his last trip out of the valley. I also took my husband up to see the taro farms that are growing up there because Uncle Sam's brother took over the area. You need to understand the Hawaiian culture. You need to go back 200 years and peril (sic) out all the scientists. I know this because I sat in a cafeteria just like this in sixth grade when Chad Pryor (phonetic) came in and said, "Oh, we're going to feed the world." All that I can remember him doing was putting a wholphin and -- a dolphin and a whale together and coming up with a wholphin. I got pictures of the wholphin. I thought he was cute. But did that feed the world?</p>
<p>MS. LEONARDI (CONT'D)</p>	<p>Now, the other problem I'm concerned is JoAnn, JoAnn Leong, she's in charge of Coconut Island. Well, she's going to retire soon, and she does some fantastic research on cancer. I'm concerned who's going to be next in her line. I am concerned who's going to be the next scientist. I want to see somebody that comes from our island that becomes that scientist that's in charge -- the director of Coconut Island. The other problem too, I work in the DOE. We cannot teach our children how to fish in the DOE. We have to do -- we have to do facts and data and charts and whatever. We cannot teach our children how to take care of the aina pragmatically. We cannot do that. So there's a lot more. I know about the gorilla weed and that other weed because I filmed it over in Hawaii Kai and how it's spreading all the way out to Waikiki. If you really want to know what happens to your shoreline, we did a hukilau and we did some measurements and it was really sad. A huge hukilau in Pokai Bay. There's nothing out there. All the fishermen out there cry. There's nothing out there. There is something wrong with our environment. The sludge, you want to talk about sludge? Come out to my area where I live. You'll see a whole field of sludge that came from Hawaii Kai with the mud weed and the gorilla weed and possibly coqui frogs. That's the only reason why we want it out of Waianae. We don't want the coqui frogs that possibly may grow in our community. We don't want the mud weed. We need to eat the limu. Remember, my bottom line is those children that are living under the tree... Okay. My summary is -- very quickly, my summary, Governor, I was surprised to see you tonight. Be aware of the CZM. Get on their site. Know this article was at the very, very bottom of the corner of the newspaper. I called everyone I could think of to be at this meeting. And for it to happen here in Heeia, this is the best place to be to talk about fishing. We are all dependent upon you throughout the entire archipelago, not just in Hawaii, the entire archipelago, and you can put Palmyra in there too. We are dependent upon Heeia because you can do it for us. We can't do it. We don't have our groundwater surface protection. Every drop of water on Mount Kaala is taken out of our community. None of it is flowing to our shoreline. So if you really to want to see this phenomenon, come on down, see our children growing up under the tree and look at the opae ula that the kids take care of and make sure nobody hana'ino that opae ula. So there's a lot of work to do, yes. I mean, I wish we could do without it, but I don't think so. The damage is so great. I talk to William Aina all of the time whenever I see him, and I'm in the classroom trying to do coral and both sides are not working. So the coral is important. I'm proud of President Bush for doing that sanctuary for the coral because we've got global warming coming and we've got a lot of work to do, and, again, we cannot teach our children how to fish or take care of the shoreline. They get that from their families, but they can do the science. We can do the science and we have a future. We can change. I don't know how to do it. I just don't have the answers. Thank you, Governor.</p>

<p>MR. THEODORE</p>	<p>I just came. I came late, but I was telling that young lady there and the guy I had one question, but I changed. I have one more. My first question is we're supposed to be out of here by 7:00? I mean, 5:30 to 7:00, that's all the public is worth? Oh, okay. I would figure at least we could have at least two to three hours meeting because we got a lot of people here that has a lot of questions, especially when people speak.</p> <p>But, anyway, my question is can you turn to that area that had the red outline of the area that is the boundary? Okay. You see that area there, my question is what criteria was used to make an areathis fast for this estuary reserve? The thing is the Hawaiians -- Okay. Well, this area here is not accessible to everybody because a lot of people, they fish from shore. They walk on shoreline. So my theory is you start from shoreline. You don't include a whole vast area one time. You work the shoreline first and you see how it works. Then if you want to go to that small little poepoes (phonetic) or reefs, then you work that area. Don't include the whole vast area one time, especially when a lot of the people who's on this committee or so forth, they designate this area when a lot of them, they don't know this area. They only get information from people or scientists or whoever who went to this area.</p> <p>Fishermen like us, we frequent that area. Like me, I've been here 30 years. People here 40, 50 years, even longer, they know these reefs. Like Mike Chung was saying about the octopus, that's seasonal. So a lot of the area here is seasonal fishing. So I know this estuary is important, but the thing is you start from the small areas first. The Hawaiians just do the same thing. They start from areas. They work their areas. When it's done, they harvest what they need. Then they move to other areas and they kapu that area. That's how it's gotta be done. You cannot just close a whole vast area.</p> <p>No. It's going to close. It's a reserve. It's a reserve. What is a reserve? You cannot fish there; right?</p> <p>Oh, the uses don't change?</p> <p>That's what they all say. Thank you.</p>
<p>MS. ROCKY KALUHIWA</p>	<p>Jesse, just to go backtrack and brush up everybody on the history of the Heeia ahupua'a because our family's been here over 200 years. My grandfather was the last of the konohiki for the Heeia ahupua'a. But backtrack, remember now, Heeia Kea was once going to be a nuclear power plant. 1975, we won that not to be a nuclear power plant. So what is it now? It's a designated city park. The meadowlands, they call it the meadowlands, the loi lands, is now under HCDA. That was once going to be another Hawaii Kai. We fought that. We saved that. The fishpond was going to be covered up. It was going to be like Mahalani Circle. If not, they were going to make a 500-berth marina. We fought that. Heeia State Park, they were going to make a hotel out there. We fought that for Heeia. Coconut Island, there was going -- the Japanese was going to make a big development out there. We fought that. We went to the University of Hawaii. Ahu o Laka, everybody was angry because they're putting three weekends a year a restriction on drinking. I said to myself what did they want? A 12-step program out there? What is three weekends? There's no problem with that. That worked out. We cannot live in the past. This is the past. We saved our ahupua'a. Now we want to restore it to its best and we can do it together as a community. And why they came to Heeia is because Heeia is already designated as a sentinel district because the people of Heeia is already working together mauka, makai. All of the projects are already working together in harmony. The lady previous speaker spoke about my Uncle Sam Lono. These are our families. We all have kuleana lands here. My family ran the last poi mills. We got two poi mills in Heeia. We're trying to restore that. Give us a break. Why they met with the Heeia ahupua'a people? It's because we're talking about Heeia. Eventually, we're going to branch out to everybody else. So if we had everybody, it's going to be like tonight. Two hours is not enough. So let us move on. The Kaneohe Bay Regional Council, it's not dead yet. This has to go before the Kaneohe Bay Regional Council. I asked Senator Hee. He said, "Well, talk to Representative Ito." And I also asked the DLNR. That's still ongoing. We still have to go together. You know, we can do this together if we're going -- HIMB, I was one of them totally again HIMB because of the limu. You can't blame JoAnn Leong. New administration, they're cleaning up the mistakes that we made in the '60s. So give it a break. Let's work it together as a community. We're going to fight each other, it's just going to put each other back down to the toilet. Thank you.</p>

Comments Received on Comment Slips at Public Meeting, 2/27/14

Comment:

I WOULD JUST LIKE CONFIRMATION THAT
SOMEONE WOULD STILL BE ABLE TO
ANCHOR AND SNORKEL AT A CORAL HEAD
INSIDE THE NEERS SITE

Optional:

Name: DAN WILLIAMS

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: ROLLERSKATE-HI@CLEARWIRE.NET

Comment: support the NERRS

- would like to expand the NERRS boundary to include all of the HCDA lands.
- would like to make sure that the agriculture, fishing, & aquaculture activities remain w/in the NERRS area.
- Partners should include ~~more~~ community groups & NGO's such as Conservation International.

Optional:

Name: JASON PHILIBOTTE

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: jphilibotte@yahoo.com

Comment:

Boundary of the NERR should include the entire ahupua'a of Heala for a more comprehensive application of management, research, resource, and a whole systems approach

Optional:

Name: Donna A. K. Camvil

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: 358-1354

donnaond@hawaii.edu

Comment:

I've fished all my life in K Bay
leave the bay along for our family
and friends. The bay is used for
source for alot of families

Optional:

Name:

R. Patacsi

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address:

r.patacsi@yahoo.com

Comment:

Kaneohe bay has been apart of my life for as long as I can remember. I am 20 years old, but my family and I have ^{been} fishing & diving ~~and~~ there for as long as I can remember. ~~#~~ The bay is where my ~~my~~ parents taught me how to swim and do all my water sport activities. The Nerr sounds like a great idea as long as I am able to continue my normal activities.

Optional:

Name: Austin.

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: _____

Comment:

Please provide us ^{a colored} an areial view of this huge proposal.

Optional:

Name: Josephine Patacsil

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: P.O. Box 478
Kaneohe, Hi 96744

Comment:

Diving should not be taken away just so people can use it as a research site. The area for research doesn't need to be so big. It could be a little section of Kaneohe Bay. You can't just come and take away something that people have been doing since their childhood. Just because you have money doesn't mean you can do whatever you want.

Optional:

Name: _____

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: _____

Comment:

aerial map without
shading

Optional:

Name: _____

Contact Phone/Email/Mailing address: _____

Verbalized Comments from Public Meeting, 2/27/14

<p>MR. KUKEA-SHULTZ</p>	<p>Aloha. My name is Kanekoa Kukea-Shultz. I'm the executive director for Kako O Oihi. I'm also speaking on behalf of Nature Conservancy. Can you hear me? We support the NERR. We're restoring our point today whether there are taro patches in there, and the reason why we support it is the fact that it gives opportunity for our children to really get the best experiences in terms of research and education on how estuaries are impacted. Whether it's through our farming, fishing, cultural activities, the NERR is just a great opportunity for us in terms of funding to further our ability to take care of our children and take care of our people and the future of Hawaii. So we definitely strongly support it. Mahalo.</p>
<p>MR. CHING</p>	<p>My name is Kelvin Ching, and I was here the other week for the other meeting. My testimony still stands. To answer the question simply, I oppose. I appreciate that folks went over the comments. You folks heard us. We see some suggestions that you folks have actually listened and put the public comments on an active -- on the website. Thank you for that. The fellow earlier, he said, you know, the good things about this NERRS is that we can implement parts of the Master Plan, and I totally disagree with that. They already implemented parts of the Master Plan and that's the problem I have with it is when they implement parts of it, it affects other parts which should have been implemented, but it doesn't get implemented. The best solution is to not have this NERRS. If there's money to be put towards this area, come on down, put it in. Just don't have the designation. The problem that I see is right now, you say that there will be fishing allowed, but who knows what's going to happen in the future. There is nothing -- I have seen nothing in any of this that prevents it forever going forward and that's the problem I have. Okay? And I agree with all the other testimony that came up about opposing it. The definition of an estuarine, it's not all the way out to HIMB. I agree that the lo'i is a good thing for the future. I agree the fishpond is good for the future. That's preserving history. We need that, but we cannot afford the potential to be closing off fishing only for certain people and not everybody can go. The ocean is for everybody, and that's what's important. So don't let it happen. I disagree. I oppose the NERRS designation.</p>
<p>MS. HIILEI KAWELO</p>	<p>Aloha mai kakou. My name is Hiilei Kawelo. I am kind of wearing multiple hats right now. I'm one of the -- we're one of the partners that put forth this application. I represent -- I'm executive director of Paepae O He'eia, but I actually am here tonight to submit testimony on behalf of myself as a fifth generation fisher of Kaneohe Bay. My sister is here as well. Actually, we have a very long line of fishing in our ohana and very long line of family</p>
<p>MS. HIILEI KAWELO CONT'D</p>	<p>members that have cared for various fishponds along the Kaneohe Bay coast. I too am very passionate like my cousin Kelvin about the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan as many of our family members have contributed 25 years ago when the plan was created a lot of mana'o, and there was a lot of compromise made amongst the varying interests within Kaneohe Bay. 25 years is a very long time. A lot has changed in 25 years. The community has changed. And it's very nice to see the extent to which our community is taking control of our resources. No longer are we standing by and watching others control it for us or telling us what to do. The community is doing what we feel is right to benefit our ahupua'a. I am a Kahalu'u resident. My ohana comes from Ka'alaea and Kahalu'u. I work in He'eia.</p>
<p>MS. HIILEI KAWELO CONT'D</p>	<p>So I have the privilege really of being able to drive to work five miles roundtrip every day and work in my community of which I live in. I pride myself as being a fisherperson not limited to one specific type of fishing, but many different styles of fishing. I love to fish. I love to see my ohana fish. I love to eat fish. I love to see my niece and nephew eat fish. This NERRS designation, I am in very strong support of because I feel that our community has a lot to learn. I feel our community needs to learn from examples that are put forth by, basically, my generation. And I'm not trying to step on anybody's toes or undo what has been done, you know, in the last 25 years. I'm just saying that rather than look at the negatives of, you know, the fish and seas that government has in protecting our resources, why not look at the</p>

<p>MS. HIILEI KAWELO CONT'D</p>	<p>positives of what's going on in the community? And I feel like a NERRS designation for He'eia could provide the much needed resources to support those activities, whether they be stewardship activities, research activities, education activities. I do not feel like -- I don't feel threatened in any way by the designation as others may do. And their mistrust of government is, I think, very much founded and rooted in a long history of mistrust, but I feel like it's an opportunity for us to change that. And so I'm here representing myself and my little ohana and kind of just looking towards a pretty promising future for our community, and not just in He'eia, but up and down the Ko'olaupoko coast, yeah? He'eia is a very small part of a very large bay of Kaneohe, and so I feel like isolating our He'eia really discounts the other ahupua'a that are within Kaneohe Bay. You don't want to leave them out because they're all part of our estuary, our bigger estuary of Kaneohe, but I feel like He'eia is an opportunity to start, yeah, start someplace, provide an example, provide a model for others to follow. Yeah. Mahalo.</p>
<p>MS. CAMVEL</p>	<p>Aloha mai kakou. My name is Donna Ann Kameha'iku Camvel. My family, the Lihue, Kahanu, Paoa, Kea, Lono ohana are kama'aina of the He'eia. We reside in the ili o Ioleka'a and kuleana land that has been in our family for well over 150 years. I am -- you know, I'm a doctoral candidate at the University of Hawaii specializing in indigenous politics, but I also currently serve my passion and my community currently doing ethnographic field notes down in the wetland of He'eia in Hawaii. I'm here to provide testimony in support of the selection of He'eia as a NERR site. I'm studying environmental policy planning as well as natural resource environment management, and I support totally community-based resource management through collaborative partnerships. These partnerships produce and contain and draw from a wealth of knowledge, skills, education, and mostly -- the most important part, a culture foundation which serves the aina, the wai and the kai of our ahupua'a, including near-shore fisheries. The benefits of a designation as a NERR site will enable research, research groups, okay -- Now, let's not be afraid. -- research that will aid He'eia in managing one of the most precious mixes of kai and wai, that of our estuary. This is where the wai meets the kai; right? This is where the mix of brackish waters produce our muliwai, yeah? This muliwai is extremely important and a vital, necessary component to a functioning ecosystem that hopes to restore itself. So here in He'eia, our muliwai remains. Maika'i. Mahalo ke akua.</p>
<p>MS. CAMVEL CONT'D</p>	<p>We still have that muliwai, but it has been under the onslaught of environmental and historical rain degradation, all kinds of things that have happened over the last 25 to 100, and even further than that, years of history of neglect and now being restored by our younger generations. And this is why we must support it and not be afraid. As a community, each and every one of us has the ability to be a part of this, to address any fears you may have about the banning or the kapu of fishing in certain places. You are here not only as part of this designation site, but overall a complete resource management system at</p>
<p>MS. CAMVEL CONT'D</p>	<p>your hands, at your fingertips in which you can be involved. So think about the future. Think about our kids. For us, it's a no-brainer. 50 years from now, I'm not going to be here, but I sure hope the bay is. I sure hope the muliwai is. I sure hope to see at least an acre or two, maybe three of kalo when I leave planted in the wetland. We have partners in this particular ahupua'a who have been working for the last 25 years. I want to say people like myself. I call myself a kahuna because, you know, I knew Hiilei when she was just starting out and it's wonderful to see. As a community, if we are going to restore food production, if we are going to produce food, I mean, let's be real, people.</p>
<p>MS. CAMVEL CONT'D</p>	<p>The future don't look so good. It's time for us to, as Hiilei said, take back your community. Part of doing that is not being so afraid. If you are afraid that your fishing will be cut off, if you're afraid that somehow a selection somewhere is going to ban you from going where you always used to go, well, don't be afraid. Be part of the process that helps you alieve (sic) some of those fears. Think about food production. Think about the kai, the wai. Think about Papa-Hanau-Moku-Akea. Think about the aina, yeah? As community members, we are here to malama her. We are here to advocate for her. So it's wonderful. Whether you agree or disagree, it's all good mana. But when we have advocacy for the man, we have to think about the future and the past, bring it all together, stir it all up and think about what we can do to make it better. Our kupuna knew how to manage resources, but the landscape has changed. So that landscape now is something new. In order to mitigate the problems that are contained within our ahupua'a, we have to use science. We have to use things, research. We even have to create new ways in which to go about doing those things. It's trial and error. It's all theoretical, but it's all</p>

<p>MS. CAMVEL CONT'D</p>	<p>heartfelt for the most part. So this may be an opportunity to expand what we currently know about our resources and the management by enabling this NERR site. I believe at the initial front end, it's mostly about research. So one of the ways to make that happen and start heading down that road is to support it. I support it with eyes wide open, as we should all be, with care and love of our ahupua'a and our community, but we cannot be afraid anymore and so afraid that you are not going to be giving to the aina or what could make it better. I cannot stress to you no more important how it is in terms of wai and the waters and how good they must remain in order to feed the kai down here so that the muliwai operates. From that we can get fish, yeah? So I want to mahalo kakou. Mahalo for listening to me. That's just my mana'o as someone who comes from here and has been in the process with ohanas and stuff, but mahalo. Mahalo for listening.</p>
<p>MS. DEBORAH LEE</p>	<p>Thank you. Hi. My name is Deborah Lee, and I first saw Kaneohe Bay in the mid 1970s and was spellbound then and I still am now. I'm in favor of the NERR designation for several reasons which I'll go into. You specifically wanted us to address the boundaries of that designation tonight, and so I'm first going to do that. I've seen other aquaculture projects and I've heard of them that are in trial stages here on the island that have less success than they could have because they do not have control over the upland area. You know, there's a golf course with runoff that's competing with the success of the project low near the estuaries. I'm sure we're all aware of projects like that. So this includes enough upland area to make sure that whatever money is spent has the most success possible. I also wanted to address that I'm hearing some concerns about maybe big government having some control over this area, and I just feel that parties that are involved, NOAA and HIMB, the University of Hawaii, they all have the same heartfelt mission to preserve this area that we all have locally so they can be part of a unified ohana in some respect. I personally have spent the last, you know, the last five years working with another department that's part of the Department of Commerce, and they may sound really big, but when you think about it, they have the commercial services under them and NOAA and a lot of agencies that have a lot of brainpower and resources, not only the financial resources, but a lot of scientists and people that dedicate their lives to preserving areas like this, and not just on the mainland, but globally. So they have knowledge of other similar marine environments to ours around the world. So they just have to bring us up to speed and help educate us. One of my jobs was to help local businesses succeed, and the Department of Commerce, they gave you the umbrella, the support financially and, you know, the education to help do this, but they didn't interfere beyond that. They really turned it over to the local area people and they're our government. So you know their phone numbers. You know where to find them. They're not invisible, and they can be approached if you feel that there is something that you'd like to change.</p>

<p>MS. KALUHIWA</p>	<p>Aloha. My name is Rocky Kaluhiwa, and I'm the vice president of the Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, and we were part of the group that initiated to put in for the NERR, but tonight I'd also like to wear the hat of my ohana. My ohana has been here for over 200 years. My grandfather was the last konohiki for the ahupua'a of He'eia. I was born and raised in the ili of Haiku. I recently, since I married my husband in 1959, been living in the ili of He'eia Kea. I just want to give you guys a short history of He'eia. Our family fought against all of the developments, the wrong kind of development for He'eia since the early '70s. Remember when He'eia Kea was going to be a nuclear power plant? We fought against that. Remember when He'eia State Park was going to be a hotel? We fought against that. I remember when the pier was going to be built. As a young girl, I took out letters – I had petitions for people to sign to have the He'eia Kea Pier built. The He'eia meadowlands, that was going to be another Hawaii Kai. Part of the plan was even to raze the broken bridge and leave a drawbridge. We fought against that. Paepae O He'eia, the fishpond, is a good job. That was going to be a 500-berth marina. We fought against that. We didn't win the law and it's a good place. Haiku right now, we fought the area in Haiku. These are the things we fought for and, you know, it's now -- we need to develop it. Better development for the people. No houses. Fishing. And if people think that I'm going to go and support the NERR and thinking that it's going to close the fishing, that's crazy. I would never do that. My grandfather was, believe it or not, a turtle fisherman. It's against the law now. So it's against the law. But if it was going to close fishing, I would be against it, but it's not. For your information, He'eia has two designations right now for the federal government. We are one of, I think, nine in-the-nation sentinel districts. We have recently become an observatory district on a national level. It doesn't mean nothing. It does mean something, but it doesn't mean you cannot go fishing. Everything stays the same. Don't be scared like Nani said. We have to look forward to the future. And come to talking about Kaneohe Bay Regional Council, I went and testified this past month on two bills for the Kaneohe Bay Regional Council and it is alive. They are going to start meeting on that. They did agree for four meetings a year. So this can be incorporated with that. I'm just letting you know my family had a meeting. We're organized. We have almost a thousand members. I have 89 first cousins. Our family still resides on the kuleana lands of the Haiku ward. There are 26 homes there. They are also in support -- they are writing a letter to support this NERR. Mahalo.</p>
<p>MR. HECKMAN</p>	<p>I apologize. I've got a head cold. I'm going to read mine so I don't muck it up too much. My name is Mark Heckman. I'm community education program coordinator for the Moku o Loe, Coconut Island. As such, it's our programs that provide the bulk of the access to Moku o Loe to schoolchildren and the community. We hosted over 5,000 people last year in that program to the island. About half of those was community groups, but the other half were schoolchildren, an awful lot of them from the windward side. They come to the island to learn about the research, learn a little bit about the history, take classes, attend marine science overnights, but most importantly, they come out to start the process of being our next generation of marine scientists, marine managers, ocean business people, ocean appreciators, and they'll be able to use traditional knowledge, modern techniques and tools, hopefully, to make a better world. I am strongly in support of the NERRS designation. It gives the opportunity to improve the water coming into the bay. Better water in, better fish, better bay, better corals and so on.</p>
<p>MR. HECKMAN CONT'D</p>	<p>Regarding the boundaries, it's not huge, but it might be a size that we can actually, you know, take care of. We can actually accomplish something in that size. We gotta kind of ramp up here. Monitoring in the NERRS will give us a snapshot of the health of the bay and the lands leading into it. The intent of the NERRS, it seems to me, is to provide support to the activities that the community already engages in. When I looked at the other NERRS across the country, a number of them supported fishing tournaments. That was one of the activities they did. So if you want to promote fishing, get in there, get in the management council early on and tell the people</p>
<p>MR. HECKMAN CONT'D</p>	<p>what you want. Make it so. Oahu is still growing. Although I work in Kaneohe and I've only been in Hawaii about 25 some years, but my wife is the one that got me here. I live in Kailua, and the sudden influx of visitors to Lanikai and Kailua beaches, the busloads of visitors over the last couple years without preplanning or thought, it's both impressive and it's rather scary. Could this happen in Kaneohe Bay? Sure. If there is not a clear vision and clear commitment to making the bay the highest quality possible and if we don't make it clear that there are people keeping track of what's going on in the bay, it can happen. So here is one more tool for the community to utilize, to take the pulse of one slice of the bay, to provide a training ground for our windward students. We all hear report after report of how things are going wrong, how the world's getting</p>

MR. HECKMAN CONT'D	worse with global warming, fishery collapse. It goes on and on. Perhaps the most important thing is to figure out ways to make sure that our kids can imagine a world that they are headed into that will be a good place. The NERR site will provide a setting for our local students to learn how to utilize traditional and modern thinking and tools to create a future that they want to live in. So I'm in support.
MR. PHILIBOTTE	Aloha, everyone. My name is Jason Philibotte. I've lived in Hawaii for 10 years now, but I think I want to bring a different perspective to this. I'm in support of the NERRS. And, actually, I pretty much owe everything that I've learned about the ocean to
MR. PHILIBOTTE CONT'D	actually living on a NERRS. I'm originally from Massachusetts. I grew up on Waquoit Bay, which is a NERRS designation, and this is where I learned how to fish. This is where I learned how to sail. This is where I learned how to snorkel, water-ski. Any activities that had to do with the water, this is where I learned it. Not only did I learn these things, but as a graduate student when I went to college, I came back to Waquoit Bay and I did some of my graduate research there looking at the lifecycle of young fish and how they came in and used the estuary and how they were being affected by nutrients. This really helped shape who I am and what I'm here for today. You know, now that I'm in Hawaii, I'm working on seafood security issues. I'm working in partnership with Paepae, with Kapoho, and I don't think that I would be here and be doing these things if it wasn't the opportunity that I had growing up on a NERRS. So now that I'm here in Hawaii, it's my hope that when I have children, they'll be able to have the same opportunity, the same opportunity that all of you have as well. So I think that's why I'm in support of this. Thank you.
MR. MEYERS	Mahalo for letting me talk. Good evening, neighbors friends, family. My name is Steven Meyers. I'm born and raised in He'eia ahupua'a on the water. I have seen the changes over the years. I have seen the stewardship of our state just decimate our bay. I have seen Coconut Island, who I've got my niece-in-law and my sister-in-law, my cousin's children go through the program. I love the program. I've spent many hours -- I kissed my first girl on Coconut Island playing spin the bottle when I was a kid. I've been there and I've seen in front of my house turn from a vibrant, white sands, pristine koawan (phonetic) with live reefs and kole and o'opu and everything coming in, and I've seen just throughout my life the demise of the bay through the stewardship of the people in charge right now. I'm very leery about NERRS because, well, for one, I didn't get much input on your program, your foundation, and I hear beautiful things about it, and then I hear detrimental things about it. And I think for us to come up with some kind of conclusion on voting on whether you're going to be in for the next 5, 10, 50 years, it demands more introspection and inspection.
MR. MEYERS CONT'D	So I cannot put forth my granting this to be something that's going to happen in my backyard. I know that we have many issues in Hawaii, and a lot of them you aren't concerned with or do you recognize or understand. I know this watershed here, this whole wetland that you're going to be taking charge of, so to speak, you know, the waters of Hawaii are in public trust and that's for the public good, so they can have food security, Mr. Philibotte. And I think that they're giving up generations living here respective of the aina, respective of the practices that know much better than our DLNR lead people, our state lead people, and I -- and looking throughout my life in the past history of what I saw once to be a very vibrant bay turned into a mud pit, it doesn't give me much confidence to back anything that they're trying to shove down my throat. And I literally say trying to shove down my throat. I'm surrounded by your red wine studagry (sic), and I can't justify, you know, putting another weight around my neck or allowing you to have authority over that weight, you know. I think our little auntie over here, she's concerned for the Native Hawaiians and the taro farming and this and that.

MR. MEYERS CONT'D	<p>I think that's beautiful. I think we should open up all those lands there and have community, family farming. Many of us here in Hawaii -- Kaneohe here has been the fastest growing town in this island chain for many decades, and many people here that were brought up -- My mother, born and raised Kaneohe, she graduated from Benjamin Parker High School. It was a farming community back then. You know, she was lucky if she could jump on a water-buffalo-pulled cart to get to Benjamin Parker from her house. Her mother, you know, she worked for Kaneohe Ranch. She planted a lot of the big Norfolk trees you see at Castle Junction up there on the hillside, you know, to pay her rent, and then at night, she'd make tofu and walk it down to Kahalu'u and sell blocks of tofu. You know, we're talking about teaching the young generation, the keiki. Well, I'll tell you what, they taught my mother this kind of stuff and they took advantage of her and her upbringing here, and now, you know, we're going to what, you know, manipulate some young innocent minds to, you know, some more abuse? I think what we've gotta do is listen to this middle generation here on thoughts and really be given the proper amount of time to decide what avenue to take that would be best. You know, if we're really truly concerned with the bay, I think the real root of the bay right now is the lack of freshwater that we get in the bay. Everything is being diverted down to water golf courses in Hawaii Kai and what have you, and the streams that are constricted with the concrete boundaries in the bay now. I used to see right across right here just inside of He'eia and Coconut Island -- Okay. I appreciate you giving me the chance, and I hope better judgment besets upon all of our shoulders because what has happened and what might be happening in the near future is on our shoulders to give to our next generation. Thank you. God bless.</p>
MR. INOUYE	<p>Hello. My name is Russ Inouye. I run He'eia Pier General Store and Deli. I'm friends with everybody here. I listen to all the uncles every morning. You hear different stories. His father was like a father to me that taught me a lot about fishing in the bay. You hear about back in the day things and what used to be, what can be or what we will never see anymore and my kids especially, you know. So I love the tako, but Kako O Oiwi and Paepae have their plans and things like that, and I also understand the mistrust that the uncles have that I hear at the pier every morning why they don't like that, why they're afraid of it. I understand why Kelvin --</p>
MR. INOUYE CONT'D	<p>I'm friends with Kelvin too. -- like why there's mistrust and the things that come out. What I really want to know is if we can designate the area and support the NERRS, how come we cannot simply say that there's a guarantee that fishing and diving won't be shut down? Plain and simple. Common sense is how I was raised. You tell the community and you put it in writing, "1,000 years from now, there's still going to be fishing and diving," you're going to get support from the uncles because they all are family members and support these guys. So I don't understand why it cannot be put down black and white, "Fishing and diving guaranteed never going to shut down in the bay." Support the NEERS, we support them. Why is it so hard? I am for the NERRS with the guarantee that the bay will not get shut down for fishing and diving.</p>
MR. ITO	<p>Aloha. My name is Wally Ito, and my interest and passion is limu. So I grow limu for restoration purposes. I educate myself about limu, and I work with Uncle Henry Chang Wo to pass on our knowledge about limu. So anybody who want to talk story about limu, you know, come talk story. So when I heard about this NERRS designation, you know, good stuff, the internet. You can find a lot of information, and one of the things that, you know, and somebody can correct me if I'm wrong, but as far as being designated a NERRS system, the federal government provides no control. They said nothing about how you're going to manage a fishery. What they do say is that once the area is established as a NERRS, then it's the state's responsibility to designate, you know, the fishery management. So all of this mana'o about fishing and it going to take away my fishing rights, you know, I agree. I'm a fisherman. I'm a diver. I've been diving for 50 years. I want to be able to dive too, yeah? I want to be able to continue diving, but this is not the forum for that part of the conversation. Once we establish, if this NERRS is established, then the state is going to have to hold the same type of open hearing to get -- you know, to establish how we're going to use it and how we're going -- what kind of rules. And the state -- we heard as far as the state is concerned about the NERRS area, they can</p>
MR. ITO CONT'D	<p>do anything from zero, you know, no take to no control. You guys can do anything you want all the way. I'm talking downrange, but that has to be established by the state after we establish the NERRS. One more point about, you know, there was a slight mention about the ecology of the estuary system. I just want to make a point that the estuary is like a nursery, yeah, for the marine environment, but not only marine environment, but all your waters mauka. There was a lot of -- you know, the hihiwai, o'opu, opae, there's been lot of their lifecycle in the muliwai and in the area right around the estuary. So if we can preserve, restore the estuary, you know, you're going to get more fish. You're going to get more hihiwai, more opae mauka. So I think this is a very important designation. I'm 100 percent in support.</p>

MS. KAPUA KAWELO	<p>Aloha. My name is Kapua Kawelo. I'm Hiilei's sister, not that it's a mystery. I just have a few thoughts about this designation relative to my family's long-standing history with the bay, using the bay. My dad is a fisherman. My grandpa was a fisherman. His grandpa was a fisherman. I mean, there's many generations using this bay. So the last thing we want to do is see the bay become a place that people cannot use. That being said, I think that it's worth some serious recognition on the part of this community that Kaneohe Bay is broke, yeah? You don't see fish like you're supposed to see out there of the days of old; right? Full hukilau nets. You don't see top predators, you know, hunting all these wonderful schools of bay fish. You're not seeing that because it is broken. It is unhealthy. It is our kuleana as a community to step into this discussion. As you guys said, I read. DLNR is not doing what they should be doing. They are going to be a partner in this process. This is an opportunity for us to restore a watershed from mauka to makai. This is an opportunity that we can't pass up. It gives support to the groups that are already doing wonderful things out there and they can't do it alone.</p>
MS. KAPUA KAWELO CONT'D	<p>We can't solve this by only addressing the upland challenges; right? The threats don't just include -- Everybody in all these meetings I've ever been to is pointing fingers at everybody else. All these factors, alien species, limu, overfishing, unsustainable fishing practices, pollution, erosion, water, lack of water going to the system, these are all things we have to do research on because until we get the foundation to understand what's really happening, we're just -- we're just spinning our wheels; right? We're not -- we cannot try to solve these problems without having better understanding, and if we cannot trust anybody, how can we trust anybody more than the people who are putting in this application? Like I ask you that. These people are working their blood, sweat and tears in our community. Not just my sister, but Kako O Oiwi, all these people, this is what they do because they love it, they believe in it and they want to see their -- this resource preserved for future generations.</p>
MS. KAPUA KAWELO CONT'D	<p>And I think, you know, it's pilau if we cannot see that and open our eyes. We all live on the bay. We know this resource and it's time for this NERRS designation. I think it will give recognition and financial support for the organizations that already do so much for our community and give back to our community, and the days of, you know, standing back and waiting for things to happen are over. We just grab the wheel and we say this is what we want to learn. This is what we want to understand. Give us funding for this and do it. And that's -- that's my mana'o. I don't work every day with these guys, but I volunteer with all of them. What they do is amazing. I want my keiki to see fish. I want my keiki to be able to gather from this resource that their papa gathered from, that his papa gathered from, and tutus and kanes way before that. And if it that's not available for my kids and for their kids, then what have I done in my lifetime; right? So that's my mana'o. Mahalo.</p>
MS. CAMVEL	<p>Aloha. It's me again. Anyway, I just have another suggestion. When we look at the ahupua'a and we're sort of addressing it, think about it like an archaeologist. We're making it all discontinuous when really it's just one whole system's approach. So I would like to suggest that we consider expanding the boundaries to the entire ahupua'a of He'eia. I know everybody might go, "Hah? What you talking about?" But it's probably better than trying to go after a special management district with DLNR where you're involved with we have what we have in our ahupua'a a plethora of multi-jurisdictional multi-agencies that we have to deal with.</p>
MS. CAMVEL CONT'D	<p>I think that if we consider a boundary as a whole system's approach to ecological revival and restoration, we cannot separate the two. Part of the problem I have in my current research is that, you know, we're only focusing on the coastal. Kapua said, you know, too much on the uppers, but in truth, it really requires us to address the entire system because what happens at the top of</p>
MS. CAMVEL CONT'D	<p>lolika'a (phonetic) Stream where I'm at totally affects the muliwai down here. So my suggestion is, you know, maybe phasing in or I don't know how that works, and, you know, that might be biting off more than you can chew, but I also think that this is an opportunity to take a whole system's approach on a particular ahupua'a. In 1998 when we first started, that's what we wanted to do, the whole thing. People were like, "Hey? No way you can do that." So I think if you think about it that way, it's like what can we do as a community all working together to restore food; right? Because that's what we should be thinking about. Food, food. So that's all.</p>

MR. REPPUN	Charlie Reppun. I just have a question. Why does the upper boundary end at Kahekili Highway? Why doesn't the boundary include -- if it's an estuarine system, you gotta include the source of the water and there's no housing there. Why doesn't it go to the top? It should go -- it should include the entire source of water.
MR. FRAIOLA	Aloha mai kakou. Kauaoa Makaua Fraiola. I know plenty you guys, Hiilei, Kako O Oiwi, Paepae O He'eia, Rocky, Charlie. But, anyway, I don't belong to any of their organizations, but I do – I really respect the work that they do, especially, you know, all the guys that are on the proposal like Paepae O He'eia and Kako O Oiwi and HIMB. I really like what they do out there. I think they are good people trying to do something good for our bay and our community, and I support the NERR. I think it's an opportunity to bring in some resources and do some good things, but I -- I also am a fisherman and I grew up fishing in the bay. I don't have as many generations of fishermen as a lot of the people here. I can't pass several fingers on them, but I love the bay just as much. I understand people's concerns, and, you know, I don't know hat's going to happen, but I think it's a good opportunity to eventually to do something awesome. And I think -- you know, I heard a lot about this opportunity like maybe expand it throughout He'eia, make it bigger in the ahupua'a and kind of create an ahupua'a reserve, I guess, so to speak. But coming from a different ahupua'a in the bay, Waiahole, and like Hiilei echoed, there's a connection between the stewards. They don't really stand alone; that only they can thrive on it together.
MR. FRAIOLA CONT'D	And I think, you know, maybe there was talk of like expanding the opportunities. I mean, I don't know if it's going to be restrictive or not, but I think of it as an opportunity, an expanding opportunity to the rest of the ahupua'a ohana, the ahupua'a as ohana together helping each other. Then maybe it will be good to have some ahupua'a that have estuaries that are still pretty functional with less restoration needed, but maybe that can serve as benchmarks or targets and that can also open up opportunity to, you know, give a chance for these great organizations like Paepae O He'eia and Kako O Oiwi to lend their mana'o and experience doing education with the communities to our other ahupua'a that probably would like to start that, but maybe don't
MR. FRAIOLA CONT'D	know where to begin. You know, a lot of them are much, much smaller than He'eia with less the brainpower that can be spent towards these kinds of activities. In Waiahole a lot more people are farming and fishing and stuff and they could use a little bit of mentoring maybe. I think if I like to add anything else to this besides my sport, something different is that there's an opportunity for us to work together as a bay, and I'd like to see these kinds of educational -- I see it more than just research, but this is educational opportunity, opportunity to engage the rest of the community. I'd like to see those opportunities like -- I'd like to see something in the plan that engages the networks specifically and to be down and say, "Okay. Look, as part of our goal is to do outreach to other ahupua'a, to do educational opportunities there and --" I'm really nervous. I can't even remember what I said. I don't usually get up and speak in front of people. I usually just stay in the background. So that's my mana'o. Mahalo.
MS. ROBERTS	Hi. Thank you for letting me speak. My name is Ceil Roberts. I'm a relative newcomer. I have only lived in He'eia for 20 years. I started out on the mud flat right next to the fishpond. I have a great connection to this. I won't go into it, but if you look at the map or the
MS. ROBERTS CONT'D	picture, it shows us what we're talking about. We are unique within the United States. Puerto Rico is not a state. We are. We have the only tropical coral estuarine environment of all of them. We have an opportunity here that nobody else has. We already have HIMB and all the research being done on the reef by the scientists there. We already have a Hawaiian fishpond, a functioning Hawaiian fishpond. Nobody else has anything like the fishponds in Hawaii. And we have the mauka side. Even though we don't go all the way up to the ridge, we have a large part of the ahupua'a. Think about it. We have an opportunity nobody else has. So I am very much in favor as a 20-year newcomer of putting in this NERR. Thank you.
MR. CHAFFIN	My name is Mike Chaffin, 30 years here just across the road. We don't live on the bay, but we live on the wetlands that are behind our house. I just got a comment for against because I don't quite understand what's coming at us. I just don't think there's enough detail there, and maybe that's an inevitable part of this because each NERR is different, but I would have a cautionary comment to make. We all have electricity. How many of you

<p>MR. CHAFFIN CONT'D</p>	<p>have any idea what went on in the last regulatory hearing or the last public hearing for HECO? These things tend to get ahead of us and get away from us so we get back to our lives. If this many people show up each time NERR or the state offers an opportunity to comment, I would be very optimistic. If, as is so often the case, we get busy or we get pulled back into our busy lives, it will gravitate to a few people with very specific goals and agenda, which may be good, may be bad, may be indifferent. I cannot say at this point, obviously, but if you're going to turn, you have the responsibility for the maintenance of this area. We've been here 30 years, by the way, I</p>
<p>MR. CHAFFIN CONT'D</p>	<p>should add. My children are raised here. My grandchildren will be raised here. If we're going to turn that over to government entities, we run it as a partnership, but the government is always there. The partners may or may not be. I would suggest we think about the post office and the IRS and the VA and so on and so forth. The goals are good. The ideals are indeed ideal. The reality is sometimes a whole lot less than we expect because we don't stay involved. So if you support this system or if you don't support this system, every meeting that is held for the benefit of the public ought to look like this or even more so. If it does, then I have confidence of what will come of it is good. I may not agree with all of it. You may not agree with all of it, but it will be a consensus in the community that works for the good of the community. If, as is so often the case, these meetings atrophy to a few officials that show up and a few zealots, if you will, then it may be something that we turn out not to like so very much. What was described in the Northeast sounded very ideal to me. I could get behind that. I just hope we have the will and the energy to maintain our current commitment and maintain it going forward to observe, participate and to modify and to build an organization or a plan that really makes sense for the community as a whole.</p>
<p>MR. FUKUMITSU</p>	<p>Good evening. My name is Keoki Fukumitsu. I was trying to stay quiet in my corner over there. This is kind of relevant because I was just putting a fishery proposal together to submit before the state, and I was on-line looking for some information and then I got wind of this project that was going on. So I'm real interested. I think that, you know, definitely, the impact of Kaneohe Bay speaks for itself already, and I like the fact that the ahupua'a system with the buffer zone going on, the watershed management, the ecology, environment, and most of all, I was looking at the opportunity for my own kids. If you come down to -- I'm from Waiahole-Waikane, Hakipu'u Valley, and this is where my program that I've been proposing is going to be generated. Of course, we have nine ahupua'a that enter into Kaneohe Bay. So Kaneohe Bay has always been like the source. Everything enters into there. All the resources enter into there, and you can tell the way how things are changing because it's pretty dormant.</p>
<p>MR. FUKUMITSU CONT'D</p>	<p>Anyway, I was looking at getting the kids into getting into like the hatchery, the nursery, you know, running the reefs, the Coastal Zone Management, the Ocean Resource Management, the county plan on sustainability on Ko'olaupoko, and looking at job opportunities so my kids -- I've personally got 11 grandchildren. I would love to see them, you know, picking up some he'e alongside the scientists and getting more information and stuff like that. I know it's pretty delicate because a lot of times the scientists can take the credit and run with it. So, of course, the people are going to be cautious. But then we should begin to use those things to train our kids to utilize these resources in a sanctuary, and it all has to do with the whole Kaneohe Bay. You know, all these nine ahupua'as, they all link up. Without this water management, it doesn't develop into the Ocean Resource Management unless we make a complete ahupua'a kind of a program. But for me, education always leads to more opportunity so that -- You know, what I recognize a lot in the bay or in fishing is that those whose lifestyle depended on fishing, even though their jobs were not sufficient enough they could rely on fishing and at the same time, the grassroots guys can go fishing. So it's a balance of their survival at this moment. So I'm just kind of watching and looking and seeing the pros and the cons of what's going on in this kind of community meeting, so I myself know where to make my move as far as teaching our kids the mauka-makai. And I'm talking like Kahalu'u Elementary School, Waiahole Elementary School and Kaaawa Elementary School. And, you know, instead of our kids learning about fishing, they're learning more about McDonald's. So, you know, and then all the way on up, instead of overcatching the fish, overfishing, learning to give back. So I think one of the comments I had is giving back. We only know how to catch the fish. So we have to know how to plant the fish and it starts the mauka-makai. Anyway, I just thank you for the opportunity.</p>

<p>MS. RUMPUNGWORN</p>	<p>Hello. As everyone knows, I just kind of walked in. My name is Madori Rumpungworn. Oh, that's for you. R-u-m-p-u-n-g-w-o-r-n. I just walked in. I just quickly glanced at what you guys had for presentation today. I didn't see all of it. Sorry. But I am a natural scientist student at the university, and I would say the least we have grave concerns for the ecology and the water resources here, and I hope that we not only include the wellness of the water and the land that's around us and that we live on and nourish ourselves with, but also the social aspect because sometimes people suffer as well. Again, I wish I had more to comment on the actual material, but I really hope to be a part of like what we can do to help change it. We have a sustainability summit coming up in a few weeks, and if some of you key members are interested, please come by because we need to start doing more things than getting reusable cups because sustainability isn't just about recycling. It's about a lifestyle.</p>
<p>MS. LEONARDI</p>	<p>I sort of waited for last minute. It was a strategy of mine. The last time I was here, I spoke, and I thank all of you for giving me the welcome here. I'm actually from Waianae. My name is Luwella Leonardi. I also grew up in Waimanalo. My mo'okuauhau is from here. I'm a thousand years here. I can go back to my kuleana and I can show you where my kupunas are still underground in our backyard. I came here tonight with some tools because I knew through -- because Hawaii is like that with ethnicity, ethno, because we're sentimental. We want something positive. We want to give our children something. We want to go to the shopping center and give them something. This is where we are. But when it comes down to</p>
<p>MS. LEONARDI CONT'D</p>	<p>masonry, my family were one of those people that went to the rock quarry and prepared 4,000 pohakus to build a church here in Kaneohe. That's my ohana when it comes down to the work itself, the hard work, when it comes down to looking at our aina from where our spirits are. I came last time to talk about public law 95-341. What is that? That gives me access from mountain to sea under the U.S. law. Okay? I do access here at Nuuanu at 4:00 o'clock in the morning. I do access at 4:00 o'clock in the morning at Mokapu. So I wanted to make sure that</p>
<p>MS. LEONARDI CONT'D</p>	<p>NERRS understands public law 95-341 and not just flip me off. Am I still on? Okay. So that's the reason why I came. And then I was listening to everyone else's mana'o, and I just want to say NERRS understands public law 95-341 and not just flip me off. Am I still on? Okay. So that's the reason why I came. And then I was listening to everyone else's mana'o, and I just want to say coming from Waimanalo, Sea Life Park, you know, Sea Life Park where it's built was a heiau. Today it has a church on it for weddings, for Japanese people to come and get married there or anyone who wants to get married. That's what had happened to us. That's what had happened to our culture. Okay? So I prepared this. First of all, this is the Muliwai song right there. So I'm on task, yes? Okay? On the other side is Aloha Oe. So I'm still on task; right? And in it, it says, "Thou sweet rose of Maunawili and aloha oe," in the third verse. You can go to my dad's yard. We're still growing that exact rose that the queen talks about in her -- in her Aloha Oe song.</p>

<p>MS. LEONARDI CONT'D</p>	<p>Okay. On the other side, McAllister scientist came here. Over here is a picture at the bottom, Makai Pier right at the top. They're standing on the koa. That's Edward Ni'aupi'o. That is my grandfather's brother. Okay? And he's showing McAllister, the scientist, what our koa is about, but today we have Makai Pier on it. Okay. On the next page, my tutu-man go around and show McAllister and Handy all the heiaus in He'eia. Are we preserving that in our -- in our thoughts tonight? I don't think so. Sites of Oahu, you can go to page 244 and you can read my tutu-man's testimony there, Edward Ni'aupi'o, on Sites of Oahu. That's written by -- I mean, interviewed by Handy, by the way. Okay. And then the other side, Handy talks about -- asks my tutu-man about all the taro patches, and he makes my tutu-man out to be ignorant. He says he doesn't have memory to give him all the names of where the streams are and who owns the taro patches, but I know how my tutu-man was thinking. He's saying, "Oh, I going to give him all the names and all the streams, and they're going to come and aihue." That's why my tutu-man didn't tell him the names. Okay. So -- So these materials I brought because I knew tonight -- I took a tally up the ayes and the noes, and I felt that tonight is final. Okay, He'eia, people who live here? I felt that it was final. Actually, I got that at the last meeting when the governor said "usage." Okay. When it comes down to usage, I don't know if you heard that word, "usage." How many of you heard the word "usage" out of the governor's mouth? Okay. The only usage we have of Hawaiian usage is for water. It's in your Hawaii Revised Statutes. Okay. You need to know that. That's where our usage is water. Are you going to hold onto your water rights? Are you going -- through the NERRS, or are you going to give it up to the common ground? Okay? So it's up to you folks. I'm asked to be wrapped up in two minutes. That's why I put this together so I no can go on and on and on. I also teach. I teach every day five days a week and on the weekends. So I teach our children what hydrological cycle is, and I take them outside and I show them how it works.</p>
<p>MS. LEONARDI CONT'D</p>	<p>So right now out in Waianae -- Wait, wait. Let me tell you one more thing. I have two maps to make sure that the scientists in this room know the boundaries of our ahupua'a. One was given to me by Don Mitchell. Okay? And I brought two maps of the same map. One was done in 1913 and the other one was done in 1929. Why I would do that? Because I want you to know where is Ko'olaupoko and Ko'olauloa. Ko'olauloa is on the side of Ko'olaupoko. So did we hear all these different ahupua'a voices, or are we just hearing the different group leaders here? So there's one here and then there's another one here. I wanted to make sure that this was done. The other thing that I heard last week is that this is the second meeting or that was the first meeting. A'ole, people. 2,019, us from Waianae, this is how many meetings we had statewide from CZM. This is a lot of work for the whole 2013. I am not here for just a second time. Okay. So the CZM meeting, we talked. We came through. We met with the groups. We went with the Stratton (phonetic) report. I talked to Tom over and over. He's on my iPod, and I talk to him all the time. I have meetings with him about CZM. Go to the map. Look at the 28 or 29 listings on that in the back of the maps. Go on your internet. Look for those areas. Look for how many suits going on. The environmental is suing the NERRS. Look for those things. Find out why. The reason why the high court does not send -- you lose in high court is because it's for the good of the public and because policy is set -- sets the rules, and if the state is going according to the rules, then it's set. If the business community is going to sell some of the -- a part of the thousand acres, you got no choice. It's going to be gone. Reusable energy -- if a corporation come here with reusable energy, it's gone. You have nothing to do. You cannot -- You cannot have Hawaii usage. Renewable energy is owned by corporations like HECO. They do that in Waianae and they do that Waimanalo. Mostly in Waianae. Come out to Waianae. My main concern is my Hawaiian people, our kanakas, what happens here, this is the bottom line to our kanakas. They go out with their fishing nets or their slings, and it all gets taken away and then they get a citation, and they don't know how to go to court because it's in Kapolei. Before you know it, they got a warrant. Before you know it, they're in jail. This is where the maka'ainana in He'eia is going to go. And that is the bottom line.</p>
<p>MR. MEYERS</p>	<p>Thank you so much. And I know. And if I can apologize, I know myself you folks come here and you don't understand why there's so much emotionally charged issues here.</p>

<p>MR. MEYERS CONT'D</p>	<p>It's because we the little people of the state, so to speak, had been kind of overrun and ignored, and that's why we're just now trying to set some kind of, you know, parameters for our own neighborhoods. And I know it's completely -- You know, some of these topics are outside of your realm of understanding. What I would like to do is say to him over there, I came over to his side of the bay and I got some opae to replace mine on my side of the bay, but I never asked you guys permission and I'm sorry for that. But I get opae on my side of the bay, I come back and put it back in Hakipu'u. Okay. See, that's how we do business. Each and every ahupua'a, we ask permission to enter and, you know, explain what we are doing when we go inside their backyard, and that's what the local people are used to doing, to be neighborly with one another, and a lot of the state politics and federal politics, they don't have that kind of understanding. They just come in and say, "Move over. We're doing this." And that's why you're feeling so much pent-up emotions over here. I've got a couple -- I know folks out in Coconut Island and you guys want to just benefit the world and make everything better, but in my own history watching you, being a neighbor of you, you know, I've seen you acclimate tilapias to be saltwater fish, and then you let them loose in the bay. Now they're all over in front of my house eating the natural indigenous fish. Okay. And, you know, the ogo, the invasive species of seaweed, that was brought in and granted permission by the state through UH and through commercial entities. Am I wrong? Okay. Oh, not HIMB. They were granted permission, and, you know, the commercial entity fell apart and dissolved, and now we've got this huge problem to deal with. And that's what happens when the community isn't involved, and that's why you have so much charged issues about what's happening, you know. He'eia ahupua'a, I watch the guys in Safeway. They've got the guys that come in and scrub and chemically clean their floors, and they pour it in buckets and they go right outside and dump it into the parking lot which drains right into the bay. And mahalo for listening to me. I'm sorry if I offended anyone.</p>
<p>AUDIENCE MEMBER</p>	<p>At what point do the boundaries get finalized?</p>
<p>MR. MEYERS:</p>	<p>Excuse me. We need NOAA's approval or do we have the approval of the community? Does that make a difference? I thought we, the ommunity, that was our -- input is what approves or disapproves it. So when do we have that say so?</p>
<p>MS. LEONARDI</p>	<p>Okay. I have a question, and the question is how many acres is that because I -- Yes. It's over a thousand. There's a breakdown. And then 18 because the numbers doesn't add up. All of you can call the number and get the acreage, and I think you need to do that because it's already keyed in as to how many acreage per land use and ocean use.</p>