

HBGN Correspondence re: Pu'unene Hawaiian Home Land vs. Pūlehunui Hawaiian Home Land

Joan Delos Santos to USBGN – 2/3/16:

Hi Jenny,

At our last meeting, we were checking the spelling of feature 2414182, Pu'unene Hawaiian Home Land. However when we look up the feature in GNIS, although the name was originally Pu'unene Hawaiian Homeland, it is now listed in the GNIS as Pūlehunui Hawaiian Home Land, with variant names Pu'unene and Puunene, and with an entry date of 2008. HBGN is not sure how the Pūlehunui Hawaiian Home Land name got in the database, it wasn't an HBGN decision.

It seems that perhaps this was a data entry error? Or did someone else submit the change?

I did find this reference to Pulehunui, with the name Puunene in parentheses, so just not quite sure what to make of this.

<http://dttl.hawaii.gov/lmd/commercial-properties/mixed-use-development-agreement-pulehunui-maui/>

Kamana'o Mills to Joan Delos Santos – 2/4/16:

I spoke with our Planning Office regarding the matter. (Kaleo Manuel)

According to Kaleo, Pu'unene was the name of an old hill in the area and the name of the sugar mill. When we went to Maui to conduct regional planning activities (in which we referred to the area as Pu'unene) we were corrected by the local community to call it Pulehunui. I'll dig around some more.

US BGN to Joan Delos Santos – 2/4/16:

Thanks for bringing this to our attention. The name in GNIS was provided to us by the Census Bureau (note the citation in the entry); Census is responsible for the names of civil entities in the database (which do not need formal BGN review or approval). I don't know if the typo was entered at their end or ours, so I'm forwarding your question to our contacts at Census. If they determine that Pūlehunui Hawaiian Home Land is an error, they will submit a correction to GNIS.

I see that we have a second entry in GNIS for Pūlehu Nui (civil) FID 363537), with a variant of Pulehunui (the latter name is what appeared on the older USGS topo, prior to the effort to add the writing marks). It's not clear to me the relationship between the two "civil" entities, but I'm sure Census can set us straight.

The map of Maui on this page uses Pulehunui to refer to the Homeland (although it's dated 2010 and perhaps it's been updated since): http://www.ohadatabook.com/2010_HHL.pdf

[The Census Bureau is] considered *the* authoritative source for anything classified as "civil".