

**MINUTES DRAFT**  
**FOR THE MEETING OF THE**  
**HAWAI'I BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES**

DATE: May 4, 2021  
TIME: 2:30 p.m.  
PLACE: Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building  
Office of Planning, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Library  
235 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order**

Mr. Marzan called the meeting to order at 2: p.m.

The following were in attendance:

**MEMBERS:** Marques Marzan (Bishop Museum)  
Meyer Cummins (Land Survey Division)  
Niniau Kawaihae (Department of Hawaiian Home Lands)  
Kapā Oliveira (University of Hawai'i at Mānoa)  
Arthur Buto for Mary Alice Evans (Office of Planning)  
Brad Ka'aleleo Wong (Office of Hawaiian Affairs) *joined late at 3:00pm*  
Holly McEldowney (Department of Land and Natural Resources) *joined late at 3:20pm*

**ABSENT:** None

**GUESTS:** Regina Hilo (State Historic Preservation Division)  
Danielle Foster (NPS)  
Catherine Sullivan (NPS)  
Lamakū Mikahala Roy  
Bobby Camara  
Jennifer Runyon (USGS)  
Renee Pualani Louis

**AGENDA ITEM 2: Review of Meeting Minutes for April 6, 2021**

**MOTION:** Ms. Kawaihae moved to accept the minutes of April 6, 2021; Mr. Cummins seconded the motion.

*The members present voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of April 6, 2021.*

**AGENDA ITEM 3: Public Comments**

Mr. Buto shared an email from Jenny Runyon (USGS) with a link to the list of names that the US Board on Geographic Names reviewed at its latest meeting.

Mr. Buto shared an email from Lamakū Mikahala Roy requesting that the Board consider placing on a future agenda review of the process for name Ahu‘ailā‘au.

Lamakū Roy joined the meeting by phone and stated that she just sent another email to Mr. Buto that “captures the essence of a matter that is brought forward to you the Board members the claim that I had called this process flawed. I look for the opportunity to address this formally at your next meeting. This is my request.” She asked that Mr. Buto share the email on the screen and read it aloud for the benefit of the members present at the meeting. She also asked that it be forwarded to the Board.

Mr. Buto retrieved the email that she sent and read the following:

“In June, 1957 Mary Kawena Pukui and Samuel H. Elbert, in the preface to the first and second editions of the Hawaiian Dictionary highlighted the following phrase:

‘Ua ‘imihia ka māno wai o ko Hawai‘i Kūpuna’ translated, it means

‘The many sources of waters and life of Hawai‘i’s Ancestors have been sought after.’

In May, 2019 by my public testimony to the HBGN, I Lamakū Mikahala Roy, Kahu of Ahu‘ena Heiau at Kamakahonu, the first Lamakū of the modern era say

‘The sources of the waters and life of Hawai‘i’s Ancestors have been found at Kamakahonu; by the dedicated, persevering efforts of ‘Ōiwi loyal to their bloodlines and devoted to Akua Manamanaloa.’”

Lamakū Roy continued, “those are my words following the historic words of Samuel Elbert and Mary Kawena Pukui, who I have included a photo of, for it is inspiring to see her at age 14 in this photo, and that’s what you have. As she has at the base of this photo, the important ‘Ōlelo No‘eau, *‘A‘ohe pau ka ‘ike I ka hālau ho‘okahi – not all knowledge is found in one school.* It is an ‘ōlelo no‘eau compiled and presented in Hawai‘i Nei and treasured for its wisdom for all. My testimony and offering of the inoa la‘a sacred name given by Akua Manamanaloa for the great earth feature referred to locally as “Fissure 8,” should have caused pause for the reflection by HBGN members. Then at 6:27 pm of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, members received their official letter containing in detail sacred information from the ancestors of ‘Ōiwi of Kamakahonu who uphold the highest light of Akua at Kamakahonu. Instead on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 the next day, this committee announced the choice of name for Fissure 8. This action was unexpected. It reflects a process that is flawed. The letter to the Legislature and the members of HBGN, demonstrates the great differences in the geographic naming effort in America and the geographic naming process in Hawai‘i. Here is proof that ‘Ōiwi descend from Ancestors we now hear from. Here is the largest news for the planet in these moments. Here are times of great change in Hawai‘i and on the

earth. The guidelines for Hawaiian geographical naming call for change. Act 50, Chapter 4E, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, calls for change. Here is the essence of my complaint to the Board and my reasons for requesting being placed on your agenda for a more detailed view and validation of my point.”

Mr. Marzan asked for comments from Board members. Ms. Kawaihae commented that “the name that Pi'ilani Ka'awaloa and her cohort of kanaka 'ōiwi from Puna and their reasoning and testimony about how the inoa Ahu'ailā'au came to them. And I think because I know Pi'ilani and Kalani and all the other people who provided testimony in support of Ahu'ailā'au, and knowing Pi'ilani's mo'o kū'auhau and her genealogy with Aunty Minnie there in Puna, that is the reason that I made my decision to vote for Ahu'ailā'au as the inoa for Fissure 8. It wasn't out of disrespect for Lamakū Mikahala coming forward with her own mana'o that she had been given by Ke Akua. And as a Board member I also believe that Pi'ilani received her name in a similar fashion. And because she is from Puna and she is daughter of that 'āina, I stand by my decision to vote for Ahu'ailā'au.”

Mr. Marzan thanked Ms. Kawaihae for her comments and asked if other Board members had comments.

Lamakū Roy: “If there not others wishing to speak, I wish to bring forward the main testimony today. In my email to you requesting my words to be spoken today, I said to you it is not by chance that the voice of Akua Manamanaloa is made available at this time of the naming of this great earth feature. It is not just a pu'u, it is not just any eruption. It is an eruption of great earth's feature for the world and my testimony reflects that. If the Board had more time to hear my testimony and take it in, like I've asked the legislative members to do. It takes great time to comprehend. These are words of light of the ancestors. This is a gift of not one lifetime, ladies and gentlemen, this is a gift of all lifetimes. And I will say to you, Mr. Buto, in my email to you I said, it is not by chance that we are all gathered here by Akua. When we all seek remedy, we will find a remedy. And this is what our process has not deviated too far from in Hawai'i. I was always of the idea and understanding that you help in a healthy fashion bring forward the idea of spirit. But when I look at your Act 50, 4E, there is no word in those words to be found in spirit. This needs great change. Here is the opportunity to speak to you, the Board and to you Mr. Buto, manager, for these aspects. And also, I will say, that because I said that when we have a matter that we seek remedy for in a spiritual process, which is what I understand this process to be. Niniau you just said that in the deliberations of Pi'ilani's prayer... I would say that you agree to some degree in my words. I've trusted that the Board comes from this focus in all of my words to you, in all of our many meetings and recorded sessions. So, in this case, if we can all agree to ask Akua for a remedy of this, because you agree that my point is a valid one. I've heard this come from all of you. It is not by disrespect to me is what I hear from you. But I suggest that you need more time to take this in. The point is here if we can agree that we all agree in our source, and that the source is the place to go for sacred naming in Hawai'i. This is the point I bring forward. Then we can do this, and I have prayed if you have prayed this is well and good. I have prayed and I have an answer from Akua. Because this is the difference about my life and what I'm announcing to the world. I am the representative of Most High.

Ahu'ena Heiau is the first temple on the earth by the report of our ancestors. This is such huge proportions that it will take time. By rights all of you represent the working Hawai'i, by rights you should each of you have been streaming out my letter to your sources, your working places to let them know what is coming forward from Kamakahonu. Did you do that? Because your agencies represent the people. I look for an area where the people have an avenue to speak. I believe that I have been speaking through my own avenue created, because the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is there, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, but what about the people? The people I know can give comment in your meetings, this is well and fine, but on your Board, this is important to have represented more. Akua reported this to me to report to you. For this meeting and in response to my prayer, what are your words for our meeting. Here are the words for you to hear: 'the Kahu of Ahu'ena Heiau is to be a member of this Board in perpetuity of the services. The ancestors of 'Ōiwi who uphold the highest light of Akua will forever be asked to provide wisdom of Akua in all processes of the HBGN. Point 2, Akua has named Fissure 8. Akua forgives members of this Board for their actions, their proceeding of format of modern-day American society, forgetting the core process for naming the sacred lands of Hawai'i. Third Point: Akua blesses all involved parties in answer to the request for peace and remedy. The occurrence of the naming process of Fissure 8 will be recorded. He asked that I record this to be distributed to all public offices and forums and all offices of agencies represented on this Board. The history will tell how the fissure 8 was named 'Ōmakaolahoukaluaokalani by Akua Manamanaloa and also named by the people of Puna paia ala o kahala Ahu'ailā'au. Fissure 8 will be known by its inoa la'a and by Akua and by a name offered by the kupa o Puna in perpetuity. This is the answer of Akua, this is the remedy of Akua. I have no intention of backing down from this name that is given by Akua. This I most high god.

Mr. Marzan thanked Lamakū Roy but declined to add further discussion of the naming process of Fissure 8 to a future meeting agenda.

Lamakū Roy asked Mr. Marzan to reconsider his decision.

Mr. Buto suggested that Lamakū Roy work together with Pi'ilani Ka'awaloa and other name proposers to come to a common understanding. The legislative session is over for this year, but there's time for her to discuss with legislators to change Act 50.

Lamakū Roy expressed her frustration with the process and her treatment, "I give you all the opportunity to become conscious of how you are treating this history that comes your way. Instead of welcoming my participation, I have had nothing but a process to try to shut it down. And I would ask today that you acknowledge that your request to go to parties that are in the process that is embraced by hbgn at this time, I would like you to become conscious that you do not treat others this way... especially your own lāhui, your own 'ōiwi. Those of you of koko. I wish to make this conscious for you. This is a matter of spirit and a process that is open. I have suggested my speaking with others all along the way, but your rush to vote made it the case that this could not happen in time. I wish to go on record to say that. This process was underway, but you took a vote. This was not ready to be voted on. For my satisfaction, I am speaking on this and I wish you all to acknowledge this because

you are responsible for how you have acted. Akua sees everything. Do not forget to pray and keep your connection for these processes, because I told you ladies and gentlemen this is the fabric of what is karma. I do you a favor and a service here, I am to be respected so highly, and I do not get that from all of you. You have not even heard about my background, but neither has it occurred to any of you to inquire. It's as if you hear this happens every day."

Mr. Marzan again thanked Lamakū Roy for her comments and asked to move along with the agenda.

There were no further public comments.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: Announcements**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: Status of Bills in the Legislature**

The Legislature wrapped up this year's session. The surviving bill that directly affects this Board is SB1034, which codifies the use remote interactive conferencing technology, e.g., Zoom, that was allowed by the Governor's emergency proclamation in response to COVID. One amendment to this bill requires the Board to make a physical meeting location available if requested.

Mr. Marzan noted that Board member Ka'aleleo Wong joined the meeting at 3:00pm.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: Status of Permitted Interaction Group for Lo'ihī / Kama'ehu**

Mr. Buto noted that many of the current Board members were not members when this Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) was established. PIGs should have defined term during which to carry out their work. Mr. Buto recommended that this PIG be dissolved and if another PIG is desired, then a clear scope be provided and a clear expiration date of the PIG. An alternative is for the Board to consider the documentation that Mr. Camara provided.

Mr. Camara discussed the documentation that he provided about Lo'ihī and Kama'ehu a Kanaloa.

His work at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park involved place names and his association with Hālau O Kekuhi made him aware that the name Lo'ihī is not an appropriate one. He put together a packet of documentation that covers a broad range of information.

Included are:

- maps showing swarms of seismic activity in the underwater area around Lo'ihī
- He Mele Inoa no Aikanaka, a standard for Hālau O Kekuhi, that includes the line *Keiki ehu Kama ehu a Kanaloa*

- *Kamaehu a Kanaloa* also appeared in a mele printed in Ka Nupepa Kuokoa, November 8, 1862
- A CD issued by Hālau O Kekuhi, Puka Kama‘ehu: An Island is Born, a series of chants
- An email from Don Swanson, retired geologist at HAVO, discussing Emery’s paper naming the submarine seamounts, including *Lo ‘ihi*.

Mr. Camara researched the names through various sources, the Internet, hālau, Bishop Museum and didn’t find any additional names.

**MOTION:** Mr. Buto moved to dissolve the existing PIG for Kama‘ehu. Ms. Kawaihae seconded the motion.

Ms. Kawaihae thanked Bobby for the nostalgic memories of 1983 and learning how to dance *auaia*.

*The members present voted unanimously to approve the motion to dissolve the existing Permitted Interaction Group for Lo ‘ihi/Kama ‘ehu.*

Mr. Marzan acknowledged that Ms. McEldowney joined the meeting at 3:20pm.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: Review selected place names on the island of Hawai‘i (Camara)**

Mr. Camara gave some background and an overview of the name packets that Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park submitted. These names were reviewed and discussed by the Board in November 2020; a summary list was provided by Matt O’Donnell with responses in red provided by Danielle Foster and Catherine Sullivan.

[359142] **Hi‘iaka.** The name change is to delete the word “Crater” because it’s an English word and we want to honor Hawaiian place names. Technically it’s called a “lua poho,” a collapsed pit. There was some discussion at the park about adding “lua” as part of these names. There are craters whose names include “Lua,” like *Lua Poholo* and *Lua Halapepe*. The thought was that if the intent was to attach “lua” to the name, it would’ve been done earlier.

Some of the names are relatively modern. The mapping done surrounding Kaluapele in the late 1800’s employed Native Hawaiian guides, and the mappers, Emerson and Dodge knew the Hawaiian language, knew words, so they are trusted.

[not in GNIS] **Kūkamāhuākea.** This name is in local use. It is referenced in Desha’s Kamehameha and His Warrior Kekhaupi’o in the story of Keōua’s warriors being overcome by volcanic ash in the area called Kūkamāhuākea. Its literal meaning is “a broad place where steam rises.” It is the only place in the summit area that always steams.

[not in GNIS] **Akanikōlea.** Mr. Camara found a reference to this name in the Archives in an article written by Joseph Ilalaole. It is located on the southeast part of *Kaluapele* and is a big flat area. The “pinned” place on the map included with the documentation is where some believe that Kamapua‘a stood and taunted Pele; it’s the highest point in that flat place and the closest to the lua.

In the GNIS, *Akanikōlea* is listed as a variant for [364293] *Steaming Bluff*. NPS included notations about corrections needed in GNIS for this and other errors.

[not shown in GNIS] **Nāhuku.** NPS is asking in its packet for this record to be un-hidden in the GNIS, because *Thurston Lava Tube* is visited by hundreds of people per day – records for caves are normally hidden in the GNIS to protect resources. There are a handful of other exceptions in the GNIS where they are unhidden.

[361216] **Kaluapele.** Mr. Camara used Kalama’s map ca. 1837 at Lahainaluna; clearly labeled “*Kaluapele*” or “*Kīlauea*.” Other entries in Volcano House registers refer to it as *Lua o Pele*, *Lua a Pele*, *Kalua o Pele*, and *Kalua a Pele*. Names can change over time; *Kaluapele* goes back to the earliest printed document. The selection was approved by the park. *Kīlauea* is already a variant name for *Kīlauea Crater*.

[358689] **Uēaloha.** Currently a variant for Byron Ledge, *Uwēaloha*. It’s a division between Kīlauea Iki and Kaluapele. Want to elevate the variant name and follow current orthography.

[364390] **Uēkahuna.** The name change is to delete the word “Bluff” because it’s an English word and we want to honor Hawaiian place names.

[364943] **Kūpina‘i Pali.** On early maps after ca. 1845 it’s labeled as *Waldron’s Ledge*. The survey notes clearly show that the station name is Waldron and the place that it’s at is *Kūpina‘i Pali*. One of the variant names for *Waldron Ledge* is *Ka‘auea*, which is actually where the hula platform and the Volcano Arts Center are. Incorrect variant names are not deleted in the GNIS. The documentation includes a map by Brogan who was a park ranger; many of his names are based on the mapping by Emerson and Dodge, so many survey point names are included; per Mr. Camara, it’s “good to have” but it may not be accurate. For example, *Pali Aloha* on Brogan’s map is located where *Uēaloha* is, but they are actually different places. It is believed that *Pali Aloha* was the name of a tourist viewpoint that collapsed in 1983 during a big earthquake.

Ms. Oliveira asked if incorrect variant names can include “[sic]” as in indication that they are not correct.

[364293] **Wahinekapu.** According to Kanaka‘ole family tradition (Hālau O Kekuhi), this is the place name. There is another place called *Wahinekapu*, which is the prominent ledge just below *Uēkahuna*. Is it okay to have two places with the same name at the lua? Mr. Camara feels that having both is an opportunity to legitimize names used by two different groups of

people, held by two different traditions. This other *Wahinekapu* is not in the GNIS. Ms. Foster said that NPS would have to discuss internally and potentially create a separate packet for it at another time.

[1847309] **Ha‘akulamanu.** In Place Names of Hawai‘i, “old name for Sulphur Banks.”

[365204] **Moku‘āweoweo.** The name change is to delete the word “Caldera” because it’s an English word and we want to honor Hawaiian place names.

[362614] **Nāulu.** Jenny Runyon (USGS) and Matt O’Donnell (USGS consultant) reinforced that “Forest” is a special Feature Class that applies to National Forests. The Feature Class should be “Woods” and the name change is to delete the word “Forest” because it’s an English word and we want to honor Hawaiian place names.

[1853064] **Maunaulu.** Feature Class should be “Summit.”

[1847271] **Maunaulu Lava Shield.** Delete duplicate record. Referencing the same feature as [1853064].

Ms. Foster will send to Mr. Buto a spreadsheet that contains summary information in the Notes section for these name change packets.

During the next few months, NPS will be working on other name packets to delete “Crater” for other craters in the park, for other new names for places that people visit.

Mr. Buto will forward the packets to Jenny Runyon along with our minutes. Michael Shelton is the NPS representative on the US BGN.

Once the name changes are approved by the US BGN, NPS will start updating maps and interpretive materials they have. They’ve already started on some that have already been approved. They are also working on replacing road signs due to the 2018 eruption. Geologist Drew Downs at HAVO is going to start remapping the geology of the Southwest Rift Zone. Mr. Camara will be working with him on all of the pu‘u names to make sure they’re corrected ahead of time.

*Status Key: 1 = Not Hawaiian; 2 = Not Reviewed; 3 = More Research Needed; 4 = HBGN Corrected 5 = Already Correct in GNIS; 6 = Name Change*

Stat	FeatID	Name	Class	Corrected	Source	Notes	USGS Quad
6	359142	Hi‘iaka Crater	Crater	Hi‘iaka	HBGN	HAVO: deleting the word "Crater" to honor Hawaiian place names, 05-04-21	Makaopuhi Crater



Stat	FeatID	Name	Class	Corrected	Source	Notes	USGS Quad
				Kūkamāhuākea	NPS	NPS: in Desha: "Kamehameha and his Warrior Kekūhaupi'o", pp 278 to 280. "Here, however, is the report of the historians concerning this sudden terrible accident to Keōua's warriors: When the returning warriors descended to a certain place called Kukamahuakea, a very strong earthquake began to shake the earth which cracked and split." LIT: "broad place where steam rises" Not currently in GNIS, 05-04-21	
				Akanikōlea	NPS	NPS: Should be used for that "little high place" past Keanakāko'i as described by Ilalaole. In State Archives: M86, Kelsey Box 19, Folder 490, Volcano Notes (Stones of Puna. Crater Names); "Akani-kolea. When pass Keanakakoi, and go further down toward Kilauea, on your left is a little high place, Akani-kolea, flat, about 5 or 6 ft. high, and flat on top, quite long. Where Kamapuaa was standing up. Hiiaka saw Kama, beautiful man." Currently in GNIS as Variant for Steaming Bluff ID364293; Site on SE part of caldera of Kaluapele; big flat area, 05-04-21	
6		Thurston Lava Tube		Nāhuku	PNH	NPS: PNH. This cave is hidden in GNIS public records (doesn't need to be). Thurston Lava Tube would be variant, 05-04-21	
6	361216	Kīlauea Crater	Crater	Kaluapele	NPS	NPS: Kilauea was a Board Decision in 1897. Changed to Kīlauea in 1999. Lua Pele o Kilauea is currently listed as a variant. See map ("Kalama 1837.jpg" and "Kalama close KaluaPele.jpg") for Kaluapele as name. The name change recommendation would apply to the crater, not the volcano; Kalama's map (ca. 1837), 05-04-21	Kilauea Crater

Stat	FeatID	Name	Class	Corrected	Source	Notes	USGS Quad
6	358689	Byron Ledge	Bench	Uēaloha	NPS	NPS: Name is shown on Trails Illustrated Map; Uēaloha would be the correct spelling (not Uwēaloha); elevating the Variant name to the Primary and using current orthography, 05-04-21	Kilauea Crater
6	364943	Waldron Ledge	Bench	Kūpina'i Pali	NPS	NPS: See RegMap 1275, and accompanying Field Book. According to research by Bobby Camara, the benchmark and place name locations, correct in Field Book, are switched on the map. "Pali Aloha" appears on a map by Brumaghim 1931, in Supt Rpt, 1932. "...where Pele met and fell in love with Lohiau." Name appears in news accounts late 1920's, and captioned photos in Mission Houses Archives. No other references found. Name appears to be "modern." Judging from photos, location was likely between current "Waldron's Ledge" overlook and Volcano House; on early maps, "Waldron's Ledge;" survey notes show station name is Waldron, the place is Kūpina'i Pali; variant name is Ka'aua, 05-04-21	Kilauea Crater
6	364293	Steaming Bluff	Cliff	Wahinekapu	PNH	PNH: Location from Pua Kanahale family tradition. Name is found in chants in "Pele and Hiiaka" by Emerson, 05-04-21	Kilauea Crater
6	1847309	Sulphur Banks	<del>Basin</del> Bench	Ha'akulamanu	PNH	PNH: old name for Sulphur Banks, 05-04-21	Kilauea Crater
6	365204	Moku'āweoweo Caldera	Crater	Moku'āweoweo	HBGN	HBGN: deleting the word "Caldera" to honor Hawaiian place names, 05-04-21	Mauna Loa
6	364390	Uēkahuna Bluff	Cliff	Uēkahuna	HBGN	HBGN: deleting the word "Bluff" to honor Hawaiian place names, 05-04-21	Kilauea Crater
6	362614	Naulu Forest	<del>Forest</del> Woods	Nāulu		Feature class "Forest" should only refer to a National Forest; change to "Woods;" not adding Woods to name to honor Hawaiian place names, 05-04-21	Makaopuhi Crater

Stat	FeatID	Name	Class	Corrected	Source	Notes	USGS Quad
6	1853064	Mauna Ulu	RidgeSummit	Maunaulu		Based on the information BGN provided on Maunaulu (GNIS 1853064), we are submitting a packet to change the feature class of Maunaulu from " <b>Ridge</b> " to " <b>Summit</b> ," 05-04-21	Makaopuhi Crater
6	1847271	Maunaulu Lava Shield		remove		It also appears that there is duplication of Maunaulu in the GNIS system (as BGN also noted and based on the GIS map/coordinates) – there is a place name of Maunaulu Lava Shield (GNIS 1847271) – this one should be deleted as it is a duplicate of Maunaulu, 05-04-21	Makaopuhi Crater

**AGENDA ITEM 7: Adjourn**

Next meeting will be Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Mr. Marzan adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.