

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

DATE: November 2, 2022  
TIME: 2:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building  
Office of Planning and Sustainable Development  
235 S. Beretania Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

**AGENDA ITEM 1: Call to Order**

Mr. Marzan called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

The following were in attendance:

**MEMBERS:** Marques Marzan (Bishop Museum) [remote]  
Arthur Buto for Mary Alice Evans (Office of Planning and Sustainable  
Development) [in-person]  
Meyer Cummins (Land Survey Division) [remote]  
Keith Gutierrez (Office of Hawaiian Affairs)

**ABSENT:** Kapā Oliveira (University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa)  
Niniau Kawaihae (Department of Hawaiian Home Lands)  
Holly McEldowney (Department of Land and Natural Resources)

**GUESTS:** Jenny Runyon (USGS) [remote]  
Mr. Bobby Camara [remote]  
Dr. Jim Kauahikaua (USGS) [remote]

**AGENDA ITEM 2: Review of Meeting Minutes for October 5, 2022**

**MOTION:** Mr. Cummins moved to approve the minutes of October 5, 2022; Mr. Gutierrez seconded the motion.

*The members present voted unanimously to approve the revised meeting minutes of September 7, 2022.*

**AGENDA ITEM 3: Public Comments**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: Announcements**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM 5: Discussion and decision on Lō‘ihi Seamount / Kama‘ehuakanaloa**

Mr. Buto noted that this meeting is the third one at which this item has been on the agenda; decision making was deferred at previous meetings because there were only four members present, as there are again at this meeting. All members have had an opportunity to hear or read in the minutes the testimony of Dr. Smith and Mr. Camara’s responses to ACUF’s concerns.

Mr. Cummins acknowledged the question of HBGN’s authority to designate a name because this feature is beyond the 12-mile territorial limit. He supports the name change but is unsure about the extent to which the Board can influence ACUF’s decision to designate “Kama‘ehuakanaloa” as the primary name. Alternatively, Mr. Cummins would support suggesting it to ACUF as a variant name.

Mr. Camara reiterated some of the history of the naming of the feature. In 1955 at the request of Kenneth Emery the five seamounts were given Hawaiian names by Mrs. Pukui and Mrs. Hoku at Bishop Museum, and Dr. Gordon MacDonald at the Hawaiian volcano observatory. They provided Hawaiian descriptors based on Dr. Emery’s physical descriptions of the seamounts: “Lō‘ihi” for long; “‘Apu‘upu‘u” for bumpy; “Wini” for skinny, pointy; “Hohonu” for deep; and “Papa‘u” for shallow. There wasn’t any consideration given for a greater cultural meaning. Since that time appreciation for feature names in a cultural context has grown. The work involved in understanding the “Kama‘ehuakanaloa” name has taken more than 30 years.

There is cultural relevance to “Kama‘ehuakanaloa.” It means the “ruddy or red child of Kanaloa,” the elemental whose kuleana is the ocean. The redness referred to is the volcanism.

Citing the number of published works using “Lō‘ihi” is not a valid argument. Other longstanding feature names have been changed, Mt. McKinley, now “Denali,” and Ayers Rock in Australia, now “Uluru.” culture; doesn’t matter about the boundary. It is an active volcano; it belongs to the island of Hawai‘i. Mr. Camara feels strongly that ACUF should acknowledge the primacy of the Hawaiian culture regardless of the territorial boundary and accept the name as the primary feature name.

Mr. Marzan thanked Mr. Camara for his comments. He noted that animal and plant species are sometimes reclassified in order to get the correct associations and information across. The suggestion of naming this feature “Kama‘ehuakanaloa” is in alignment with Hawaiian cultural practice and understanding. Mr. Marzan would be supportive of that recommendation.

Mr. Cummins agrees with Mr. Camara and Mr. Marzan and supports the name. The Board as a State entity does not have any naming jurisdiction over this feature, but he feels that it’s important to make the arguments to support the name change to ACUF and SCUFN. The boundary lines are artificial, but they do matter with respect to the Board’s authority.

Mr. Marzan commented that if at a future meeting the Board chooses to make a decision and he and/or Mr. Cummins is not present, the members should have a sense of their positions. Mr. Cummins commented that the Board did make the decision last year to make the name change.

Mr. Marzan asked if there's something that the Board can do to make its desires known to ACUF and SCUFN given that a naming decision has already been made. Mr. Cummins suggested that we ask Dr. Smith about the next steps. Mr. Buto will reach out to Dr. Smith to get a sense of how the Board should proceed.

Mr. Cummins suggested putting together the material we have and tailor it to whatever form or process follows.

Mr. Gutierrez agrees with the approach of gathering more information about the process, the timeline, and the mechanism by which the Board can advocate for its position with ACUF.

Mr. Cummins noted that Dr. Jim Kauahikaua joined the meeting. Dr. Kauahikaua expressed his support for Mr. Camara's efforts to rename this feature. He acknowledged the significance of the 12-mile limit but thinks it's important for HBGN to strongly support the renaming. It's not in HBGN's purview, but its strong support may help to convince the international board to do what's right.

**MOTION:** Mr. Buto moved to defer decision making until more Board members are present. Mr. Cummins seconded the motion.

*The members present voted unanimously to defer further discussion and decision making until more members are present.*

*[Mr. Camara and Dr. Kauahikaua left the meeting]*

**AGENDA ITEM 6: Discussion and decision on selected place names on the Island of Hawai'i**

At last month's meeting Mr. Cummins said that he researched several maps in the Survey Office but didn't find out anything more about the features on the list. Other members present at that meeting had no additional information; Mr. Marzan and Mr. Gutierrez don't have any additional information either.

Mr. Buto noted that for the last several meetings the Board has been reviewing a list of several dozen names, eight names at a time. At previous meetings the Board has minimally concatenated "Kīpuka" with the name and added any unambiguous diacriticals, then marked the record with a "7" status code indicating that current references have been exhausted. The

names could come back for reconsideration at a future meeting if additional documentation or evidence surfaces.

*Status Key: 1 = Not Hawaiian; 2 = Not Reviewed; 3 = More Research Needed; 4 = HBGN Corrected; 5 = Already Correct in GNIS; 6 = Name Change; 7 = HBGN partial correction, exhausted available reference, and research resources*

Status	Feat ID	Feature Name	Feature Class	Corrected Name	Source	Notes	USGS Quad Name
7	365130	Kipuka Nahuaopala (historical)	Populated Place	Kīpukanahuaopala (historical)	HBGN	PNH: not listed; HBGN: concatenated per Style Guide, but more research needed; exhausted available reference and research resources, 11-02-2022	Naalehu
7	361314	Kipuka Paluli	Area	Kīpukapaluli	HBGN	PNH: not listed; HBGN: concatenated per Style Guide, but more research needed; exhausted available reference and research resources, 11-02-2022	Puulehua
7	361316	Kipuka Pau	Lava	Kīpukapau	HBGN	PNH: not listed; HBGN: concatenated per Style Guide, but more research needed; exhausted available reference and research resources, 11-02-2022	Kahuku Ranch
7	361317	Kipuka Peehi	Lava	Kīpukape'ehi	HBGN	PNH: not listed; HBGN: concatenated per Style Guide, but more research needed; exhausted available reference and research resources, 11-02-2022	Puookeokeo
7	361318	Kipuka Pele o Iki	Lava	Kīpukapeleoiki	HBGN	PNH: not listed; HBGN: concatenated per Style Guide, but more research needed; exhausted available reference and research resources, 11-02-2022	Puookeokeo
7	361321	Kipuka Pueo	Lava	Kīpukapueo	HBGN	PNH: not listed; HBGN: concatenated per Style Guide, but more research needed; exhausted available reference and research resources, 11-02-2022	Pohue Bay
7	361322	Kipuka Puu Kou	Lava	Kīpukapu'ukou	HBGN	PNH: not listed; HBGN: concatenated per Style Guide, but more research needed; exhausted available reference and research resources, 11-02-2022	Kahuku Ranch
7	361323	Kipuka Waiahuli	Lava	Kīpukawaiahuli	HBGN	PNH: not listed; HBGN: concatenated per Style Guide, but more research needed; exhausted available reference and research resources, 11-02-2022	Pohue Bay

**MOTION:** Mr. Buto moved to accept the changes reflected on the spreadsheet with the Status Code “7.” The motion was seconded by Mr. Cummins.

*The members present voted unanimously to accept the changes reflected on the spreadsheet with the Status Code “7.”*

**AGENDA ITEM 7: Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Mr. Cummins moved to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Mr. Buto.

Mr. Buto confirmed with members that they are available for the next scheduled meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

*The members present voted unanimously to adjourn.*

Mr. Marzan adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m.