

**MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
LAND BOARD BRIEFING**

DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2008  
TIME: 3:00 P.M.  
PLACE: KALANIMOKU BUILDING  
LAND BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM 132  
1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Chairperson Laura Thielen called the briefing of the Board of Land and Natural Resources to order at 3:35 p.m. The following were in attendance:

**MEMBERS**

Laura Thielen  
Tim Johns  
Rob Pacheco  
Dr. Sam Gon

Jerry Edlao  
Ron Agor

**STAFF**

Athline Clark, DAR  
Carl Perkins, DAR

Dan Polhemus, DAR  
Cory Gain, State Monument

**OTHERS**

Susan White, Fish & Wildlife Service  
Marti Townsend, KAHEA  
Kevin Grant, Monument

Aulani Wilhem, NOAA  
Heidi Guth, OHA  
Danielle Carter, NOAA

{Note: language for deletion is [bracketed], new/added is underlined}

- Item 1.** Briefing on Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Management Plan, EA, and Associated Documents to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.  
*To be distributed.*

This is an informational briefing of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, non-action item, public meeting. Materials were submitted.

Chair Thielen has to leave and Member Johns will leave early. They have met on this.

Ms. Athline Clark representing Division of Aquatic Resources asked everyone to introduce themselves and presented the following.

### Materials

Hard copies and CDs of four volumes of the Draft Monument Management Plan were distributed to the Board. Volume one will be discussed today.

### Slide Presentation

#### Introduction -- Background History

A key component of Bush's Proclamation is to develop a Monument Management Plan based on a draft plan that was originally developed for the Northwest Hawaiian Islands National Sanctuary process. The 3 agencies involved are the State, NOAA and Fish & Wildlife Service. The Monument Management Structure was created by a Memorandum of Agreement. There are 3 components. First is the Senior Executive Board. This MOA was signed by the Governor, the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Interior. The Monument Management Board has representatives of the co-trustees and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) where there are two members from NOAA, Fish & Wildlife and the State. There is an inter-agency coordinating committee which is made up of other state and federal agencies.

History regarding Midway Atoll, U.S. Coral Reef Task Force, Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, scooping, and additional comments from the public in regards to the sanctuary plan. The sanctuary plan had a 5 year time horizon while this management plan has a 15 year horizon with revisions every 5 years. It merged aspects of Fish & Wildlife requirements including comprehensive conservation planning, compatibility determinations for wildlife first for all of the Fish & Wildlife refuge areas, all of the sanctuary planning processes, all the NIMPS requirements, State of Hawaii liens and referenced all other plans. Susan White explained that some things are at a programmatic level and others are more specific which is the best median they could come up with.

Volume 1 is the Draft Monument Management Plan, Volume 2 is the Environmental Assessment and associated Cultural Impacts Assessment, Volume 3 is the Draft Midway Services Plan and Volume 4 is the Conceptual Site Plan for Midway because Midway is the window to the Monument. More background was given on each volume.

Volume 1 – Draft Monument Management Plan: Susan White

#### I. Background of Action Plans

- A. Understanding and Interpreting the NWHI
  - 1. Marine Conservation Science Action Plan
    - a. Benthic mapping
    - b. Deep water mapping
    - c. Natural sciences plan
  - 2. Native Hawaiian Culture and History Action Plan
    - a. Cultural Resource Program
  - 3. Historic Resources Action Plan
    - a. Midway

4. Maritime Heritage Action Plan
  - a. Underwater resources
- B. Conserving Wildlife and Habitats
  1. Threatened and Endangered Species Action Plan
    - a. Fish & Wildlife Service
    - b. National Fisheries
  2. Migratory Birds Action Plan
    - a. Conservation
    - b. Removing threats
  3. Habitat Management and Conservation Action Plan
    - a. CCP requirements
    - b. Restoring native habitat
    - c. Laysan Island
    - d. Investigation of contaminants
- C. Reducing Threats to Monument Resources
  1. Marine Debris Action Plan
    - a. Develop strategies to reduce debris and work with different interests on the source.
  2. Alien Species Action Plan
    - a. Attack
    - b. Better understanding what threats they pose.
    - c. Eradication
  3. Maritime Transportation and Aviation Action Plan
    - a. Establishment
    - b. Coordinated efforts regarding shipwrecks.
  4. Emergency Response and Natural Resource Damage Assessment Action Plan
    - a. Protocols in place.
- D. Managing Human Uses
  1. Permitting Action Plan -- Volume 3
  2. Enforcement Action Plan
  3. Midway Atoll Visitor Services Action Plan
- F. Coordinating Conservation and Management Activities
  1. Agency Coordination Action Plan
  2. Constituency Building and Outreach Action Plan
    - a. Working with community.
  3. Native Hawaiian Community Involvement Action Plan
  4. Ocean Ecosystems Literacy Action Plan
    - a. Education
- G. Achieving Effective Monument Operations
  1. Central Operations Action Plan
  2. Information Management Action Plan
  3. Coordinated Field Operations Action Plan
  4. Evaluation Action Plan

## II. Public Process Overview – Aulani Wilhelm

### A. Draft Management Plan release on Earth Day.

1. 75 day Federal public comment.
2. 30 day State public comment starting June 8, 2008.
3. Currently in briefings.
4. July 8, 2008 is deadline for comments.
5. List of public meeting dates and places.
6. Advertising on neighbor islands. Staff can disseminate if need.
7. Postcards
8. Website
9. They will come back before close of public comment and welcome any comments from the Board.

### B. Preliminary Summary with the Board – Athline Clark

1. Staff will come back to the Board with what was heard during the public comment period and to answer any questions.
2. June 27, 2008 is the last opportunity for public comment before the Land Board.
3. Review and work towards final.
4. Staff will come back to the Board for the Board's recommendations for approval on the Management Plan.
5. September or October to the Governor for final decision.

The Board asked the number of comments received so far which were 6.

Also how does staff feel about it? Ms. White opinioned it isn't a perfect plan given the amount of time, but it is comprehensive. Ms. Clark added this is why the need for public comment.

The Board queried whether there will be an advisory counsel or an alliance where there could be a lot of input. What is the science based research, what is the permitting process and those might have differences of opinion between the co-trustees. Ms. Wilhelm referred to Appendix 3 for comment. Ms. Clark: This is not complete for the 15 year period and gave Midway as an example. They can't predict global warming situation and will reassess every 5 years. Ms. Wilhelm: There is a step-down plan with an overview of the process and then the public process.

The Board approves of this process and summarized. Ms. Clark suggested referring to the history. Member Johns recommended Member Gon focus on issues of the science plan, permitting issues and how the public will participate in management and/or evaluation/monitoring of the monument as this goes forward. Also because the co-trustees agree as proposed doesn't mean the Board gives up their obligation to decide whether the State resources, protected constitutionally or otherwise, are adequately protected in the plan. The Board's perspective is different from that of the public. Ms. Wilhelm referred to Chapter 2 which is the management framework. She understands the having a co-trustee group is unusual and the Board is part of it. Member Johns: Federal doesn't have the same obligation to protect native Hawaiian interests. Member Gon: There is specific focus in today's presentation. Ms. Clark: A native Hawaiian group assisted in development. Ms. Heidi Guth: OHA was very much involved.

There being no further business Member Tim Johns adjourned the briefing at 4:21 p.m. The recording and all written testimony submitted for the briefing was filed in the Chairperson's Office and are available for review.

Respectfully submitted,



Adaline Cummings  
Land Board Secretary

Approved for submittal:



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LAURA H. THIELEN  
Chairperson  
Department of Land and Natural Resources