

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Land Division
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

August 9, 2024

Board of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii

PSF No. 23OD-059

Oahu

Amend Prior Board Action of August 11, 2023, Item D-3, Issuance of Right-of-Entry Permit for Ten (10) Days to Na Wahine O Ke Kai for the Finish Area of the Na Wahine O Ke Kai Women's Molokai to Oahu Outrigger Canoe Race to Take Place Over Two Days Each Year in September 2023, September 2024, September 2025, September 2026, and September 2027, at Waikiki, Honolulu, Oahu, Tax Map Key: (1) 2-3-037: portion of 021.

The purposes of this amendment are to (1) update the name of the permit holder, (2) add an additional portion of State land to the approved Right of Entry permits, (3) adjust the rental amount accordingly, and (4) amend the date of the 2024 race event.

APPLICANT:

Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Hawaii, a Hawaii 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

REMARKS:

At its meeting on August 11, 2023, under agenda item D-3, the Board approved a Right of Entry permit to Na Wahine O Ke Kai for use of a portion of Duke Kahanamoku Beach for the finish area for the annual Na Wahine O Ke Kai long distance canoe race. This is a women's racing event that launches on Molokai and traverses the Ka Iwi Channel between Molokai and Oahu. The Right of Entry approved by the Board includes Right of Entry permits for two-day periods in September 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027. **(Exhibit A)**

Staff notes that separate Right of Entry permits will be issued and separate rental amounts will be collected for each annual race event held pursuant to the Board's

authorization. No race event was held in 2023 due to the burden on Maui County's resources caused by the 2023 Lahaina wildfire.

The area of State land at issue in the present submittal is a portion of Duke Kahanamoku Beach located in Waikiki, Oahu. (**Exhibit B**) The use approved by the Board in 2023 is the finish line of the Na Wahine O Ke Kai Women's Molokai to Oahu outrigger canoe race. Staff notes that the Applicant will not conduct any commercial activity, including sales of merchandise, on the State land subject to the present Right of Entry permit.

The purpose of the present submittal is to amend the Right of Entry approved by the Board in 2023 to:

1. Change the name of the permit holder from Na Wahine O Ke Kai to Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Hawaii (OHCRA) to reflect a change in the sponsoring organization of the Na Wahine O Ke Kai women's Molokai to Oahu outrigger canoe race;
2. Reconfigure the layout of the permitted finish area, including the addition of a monitor screen so that spectators can follow the progress of the race in real time, resulting in the addition of 1,200 square feet to the permitted finish area;
3. Adjust the rental amount to reflect the increased area of State land that will be occupied by the Applicant under the Right of Entry permit; and
4. Amend the date of the approved the 2024 event.

For the first requested amendment, the name of the permit holder should be changed from Na Wahine O Ke Kai to Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Hawaii. Na Wahine O Ke Kai existed for several decades as both a registered Hawaii nonprofit corporation and as a registered trade name for the organization's flagship race event. In 2024, the nonprofit corporation's board of directors made the decision to dissolve the nonprofit corporation, entrust continued production of the race to OHCRA, and transfer the registered trade name of the race to OHCRA. This change was made to ensure the perpetuation of the iconic women's long distance canoe race and its tradition of celebrating women's strength, perseverance, and love for the ocean. OHCRA is a registered Hawaii nonprofit corporation with a long and successful track record of stewardship and preservation of the tradition and values of Hawaiian canoe racing and of producing world renowned race events.

Should the Board approve this portion of the request, Land Division will issue future Right of Entry permits that reflect the corrected name.

As to the second requested amendment, the Applicant requests authorization to reconfigure the permitted area. The prior permitted area consisted of 4,300 square feet including a finish area with awards tent and information; four pop-up tents for audio visual equipment, announcers, medical, and hospitality; and a canoe exit area for derigging canoes as depicted on page 11 of **Exhibit A**.

The reconfigured finish area will consist of the following, identified as Areas 1, 2, 3, and 8 on **Exhibit C**:¹

1. Area 1	
80' by 40' Finish area	
Including awards tent, medical services, webcast, and hospitality	3,200 square feet
2. Area 2	
Two 10' by 10' pop-up tents	200 square feet
3. Area 3	
50' by 30' Canoe exit area	
Derigging canoes, closing area, International paddlers area	1,500 square feet
4. Area 8	
30' by 20' Monitor Screen	
Screen and technical support	600 square feet
Total permitted area	5,500 square feet

The only new element within the reconfigured permit area is a 600 square foot area adjacent to the race finish line containing a monitor screen and technical support for the screen. This large screen will allow spectators and members of the general public who are passing through the area to follow the in-water progress of the racing canoes in real time. The reconfigured area also has enlarged the finish area to consolidate awards, medical, webcast, and hospitality and eliminate two of the four original freestanding pop-up tents. The reconfigured permit area including the monitor screen and enlarged finish area is a total of 1,200 square feet larger than the original permit area. (**Exhibit C**)

¹ Please note: Portions identified as Areas 4 through 7 are not included in the present submittal. In-ocean Finish Line and Areas 5 through 7 are subject to DOBOR jurisdiction and DOBOR permitting process. Area 4 is currently encumbered under Revocable Permit No. 7566. The Applicant will access Area 4 pursuant to agreement with the RP holder, Hilton Hawaiian Village. See **Exhibit A**, pages 4-5, for further discussion.

Staff notes that the area subject to the Right of Entry permit is open to the public and members of the general public are able to move freely within the Right of Entry area since the various portions occupied by the Applicant are separated by enough room to allow individuals to pass around them. Staff further notes that the reconfigured permit area is identical to that requested for the men's Molokai Hoe Long Distance Canoe Race, which is held in October of each year and is also sponsored and produced by the Applicant. **(Exhibit C)**

As to the third requested amendment, should the Board approve the additional square footage for the reconfigured permit area, Land Division has calculated that the addition of 1,200 square feet will result in an increase of \$240 to the annual rental amount owed. This amount is calculated according to Land Division's standard rental rate of \$0.10 per square foot per day.

Since the Board approved a rental amount of \$860 for each annual event under the Right of Entry approved in 2023, the adjusted rental amount for the 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027 race events would now total \$1,100 for each annual event. The total rent paid for all race events will be \$4,400. Should the Board approve this requested amendment, Land Division will collect the increased rental amount in each year for which the event is permitted.

As to the final requested amendment, the Applicant has requested that the 2024 event date be changed from Sunday, September 22 to Sunday, September 29. The approved permit term includes two days per year to allow the event organizers to set up the site the day before the event. Therefore, the permit term for the 2024 race event as approved by the Board is from 12:00 PM Saturday, September 21 through 6:00 PM Sunday, September 22. The amended 2024 permit term requested by the Applicant would be from 12:00 PM Saturday, September 28 through 6:00 PM Sunday, September 29.

Should the Board approve this final requested amendment, Land Division will issue a Right of Entry permit for the 2024 race event for the term of 12:00 PM Saturday, September 28 through 6:00 PM Sunday, September 29.

The Applicant has not had a lease, permit, easement, or other disposition of State lands terminated within the past five years due to non-compliance with such terms and conditions.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

In context of prior Board considerations of similar permit requests for canoe races that cross the Ka Iwi Channel, the impact of such events on the Molokai community

has been raised as a concern. The Applicant has provided Staff with information regarding its outreach to the Molokai host community, including a series of public meetings along with programs and initiatives to mitigate potential negative impacts to that community. **(Exhibit D)**

To address concerns about the impact of fishing from escort boats on the Molokai subsistence fishing community and near-shore fisheries, the Applicant has prohibited shore fishing by race participants, prohibited near shore fishing and recreational boating activities by escort boats, and implemented a three-mile buffer zone around the island within which recreational activities and fishing from escort boats are prohibited. The Applicant has also specified that escort boats should report to and moor at either Hale O Lono Harbor or Kaunakakai Harbor in compliance with the requisite permits. The Applicant has made compliance with these boating terms a requirement of race registration subject to penalties for noncompliance including race disqualification. **(Exhibit E)**

The Applicant has funded restoration and improvements to Hale O Lono Road and Hale O Lono Harbor for the past fifteen years. Since the race has not been held since 2019 due to the COVID pandemic and the Lahaina fires, the Applicant is working with local contractors and Molokai Ranch Properties to address the deferred and current maintenance needed to ensure safe and smooth access to Hale O Lono Harbor. **(Exhibit D)**

To mitigate disruptions in essential inter-island travel for Molokai residents, the Applicant has arranged for additional flights with Mokulele Airline to bring paddlers to Molokai. Paddlers will pay increased fees for inbound flights which enables discount outbound flights for Molokai residents. Mokulele Airlines has also agreed to reserve a number of flight options for local residents' emergency and last-minute travel needs. This initiative has been promoted in the Molokai Dispatch, the island's weekly newspaper. The Applicant has also encouraged race participants to travel to Molokai by boat or private air charter to preserve commercial air travel capacity for Molokai residents. **(Exhibit D)**

Further, the Applicant has pledged to share a portion of race proceeds with the 501(c)(3) organization, Friends of Molokai Middle School and High School, which supports the physical needs of the school, its sports teams, and sports activities. **(Exhibit D)**

There are no other pertinent issues or concerns regarding the subject request.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board authorize the following amendments to the Right of Entry permits approved by the Board at its meeting on August 11, 2023, under agenda item D-3:

1. Change the name of the permit holder from Na Wahine O Ke Kai to Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association Hawaii;
2. Add an additional 1,200 square feet to the right of entry area per day, for each annual event as described herein;
3. Increase the rental amount for the additional area by \$240 per each annual event; and
4. Amend the date of the 2024 event to 12:00 P.M. Saturday, September 28 to 6:00 P.M. Sunday, September 29, 2024.
5. All other terms and conditions listed in its August 11, 2023 approval to remain the same.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rebecca L. Anderson
Shoreline Specialist

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



Dawn N. S. Chang, Chairperson

AMENDED

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Land Division
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

August 11, 2023

Board of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii

PSF No. 23OD-059

Oahu

Issuance of Right-of-Entry Permit for Ten (10) Days to Na Wahine O Ke Kai for the Finish Area of the Na Wahine O Ke Kai Women's Molokai to Oahu Outrigger Canoe Race to Take Place Over Two Days Each Year in September 2023, September 2024, September 2025, September 2026, and September 2027, at Waikiki, Honolulu, Oahu, Tax Map Key: (1) 2-3-037: portion of 021.

APPLICANT:

Na Wahine O Ke Kai, a Hawaii 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Section 171-55, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), as amended.

LOCATION:

Portion of Government lands of Waikiki, Honolulu, Oahu, identified as tax map key: (1) 2-3-037: portions of 021, as shown on the attached **Exhibits A1 and A2**.

AREA:¹

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Tent for Finish Area, Award Ceremony, and Information Center | 2,400 square feet |
| 2. Pop-up Tent for Media Equipment | 100 square feet |
| 3. Pop-up Tent for Announcers | 100 square feet |
| 4. Pop-up Tent for Medical and Pop-up Tent for Hospitality | 200 square feet |
| 5. Canoe Unrigging and Loading Area | <u>1,500 square feet</u> |
| Total Area: | 4,300 square feet |

¹ Please note: This application covers only Areas 1 – 5 as indicated on the attached area map. Area 6 is subject to an existing Revocable Permit, as discussed below. Areas 7 and 8 are subject to jurisdiction of the Division of Boating and Ocean Resources. The applicant is requested to work with DOBOR on necessary authorizations for Areas 7 and 8.

as amended
**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF
LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
AT ITS MEETING HELD ON**
August 11, 2023 KH

ZONING:

State Land Use District: Urban

TRUST LAND STATUS:

Section 5(a) lands of the Hawaii Admission Act
DHHL 30% entitlement lands pursuant to the Hawaii State Constitution: No

CURRENT USE STATUS:

Requested area is unencumbered.

CHARACTER OF USE:

Na Wahine O Ke Kai Women's Molokai to Oahu Long Distance Outrigger Canoe Race.

TERM:

From 12:00 PM of the first day through 6:00 PM on the second day on the following dates:
September 23 – 24, 2023; September 21 – 22, 2024; September 27 – 28, 2025; September
26 – 27, 2026; and September 25 – 26, 2027.

RENTAL:

\$860.00 for each year's request (based on 10¢ per square foot per event day).²

COLLATERAL SECURITY DEPOSIT:

None

CHAPTER 343 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

In accordance with Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR")§ 11-200.1-15 and -16 and the Exemption List for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, reviewed and concurred on by the Environmental Council on November 10, 2020, the subject request is exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to General Exemption Type 1, which applies to "[o]perations, repairs or maintenance of existing structures, facilities, equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion or change of use beyond that previously existing." Specifically, the subject request is exempt under Item 44, which exempts "[p]ermits, licenses, registrations, and rights-of entry issued by the Department that are routine in nature, involving negligible impacts beyond that previously existing." It is expected that the subject request will have

² Please note: Rental amount will be charged annually for each scheduled event. Separate right-of-entry permits will be issued per event upon payment of the rental amount and provision of a certificate of insurance.

minimal or no significant effect on the environment and therefore should be declared exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment and the requirements of § 11-200.1-17, HAR (**Exhibit B**).

DCCA VERIFICATION:

Place of business registration confirmed: YES x NO ___
Registered business name confirmed: YES x NO ___
Applicant in good standing confirmed: YES x NO ___

REMARKS:

Na Wahine O Ke Kai is requesting to conduct beach activities on State-owned lands in conjunction with a long-distance outrigger canoe race event.

Na Wahine O Ke Kai is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to perpetuating Hawaiian outrigger canoe paddling and honoring, preserving, and perpetuating the combined culture, science, tradition, protocol, and innovation of the outrigger canoe. The organization's primary purpose is to support and conduct a women's long-distance canoe race each year and to promote interclub, interisland, and international Hawaiian outrigger canoe racing. Na Wahine O Ke Kai states that its mission is to "Provide an opportunity for women to challenge their mind, body and spirit through Hawaiian outrigger canoe racing."

Founded in 1979, Na Wahine O Ke Kai is the result of a quarter-century of advocacy by women who refused to submit to male paddlers' insistence that women were incapable of crossing the physically and mentally challenging Kaiwi Channel between Molokai and Oahu. Women were refused entry into the men's Molokai to Oahu races, which began in 1952, and were not allowed by coaches and race officials to organize their own similar events. In 1975, two all-women crews of Hawaii athletes proved their abilities in a successful, rogue crossing and the first official Na Wahine O Ke Kai race took place on October 17, 1979, with ten participating crews, all of which finished the race. Na Wahine O Ke Kai women's outrigger canoe race has been held annually since 1979, except 1980 and 2015, when it was cancelled due to unusually high surf, and 2020 – 2022, when it was cancelled due to travel restrictions and community exposure concerns related to COVID-19. The 2023 race marks the return of this legacy cultural event.

Na Wahine O Ke Kai women's long-distance canoe race covers approximately 41.6 nautical miles, mostly through the Kaiwi Channel between Oahu and Molokai. It begins at Hale O Lono/ Papohaku Beach on Molokai at approximately 8:00 AM and ends six to eight hours later at the finish line located in the water near the Hilton Hawaiian Village Pier at Duke Kahanamoku Beach on Oahu.

The race is scheduled for the following dates over the next five years: September 24, 2023; September 28, 2024; September 28, 2025; September 27, 2026; and September 26, 2027. The Applicant will begin set-up for race day at 12:00 PM on the day prior to each respective race day, which are the following dates: September 23, 2023; September 27, 2024;

September 27, 2025; September 26, 2026; and September 25, 2027. Once the canoe race is concluded, specified areas of the beach will then be utilized by the Applicant for closing purposes after each race day event. Closing activities will be completed by 6:00 PM on each respective race day. The beach and shoreline will remain open to the public at all times during the permit term.

The Applicant requests that the Board approve a right-of-entry permit for its use of five specific areas of the subject beach. This right-of-entry permit request includes only Beach Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, as indicated on the attached use map. See **Exhibit C**.

Beach Area 1 is a 60' x 40' tent located on the beach mauka of the ocean-based finish line, between the shoreline and the Hilton Hawaiian Villages property. Beach Area 1 will house the finish area, award ceremony, and information center.

Beach Area 2 is a 10' x 10' pop-up tent situated flush with the east-facing side of the Area 1 tent. Beach Area 2 will house media equipment for use during the race.

Beach Area 3 is a 10' x 10' pop-up tent also situated on the east-facing side of the Area 1 tent. Beach Area 3 will be used by the finish line announcers during the race.

Beach Area 4 is two 10' x 10' pop-up tents placed side by side a short distance from the west-facing side of the Area 1 tent. One tent will house medical support for the event and the other tent will be used as a hospitality area for race attendees, staff, and volunteers.

Beach Area 5 is a 30' x 50' area, with no tent, located a short distance to the west of Beach Area 4, near the Ala Wai Boat Harbor parking lot and helipad. Beach Area 5 will be used as a canoe exit area where participating teams can de-rig their canoes and prepare them to be loaded onto trailers parked in the Ala Wai Boat Harbor parking lot. The trailers will not be driven onto the beach and will remain parked in the Boat Harbor parking lot until they are driven away from the area via the Boat Harbor parking lot and city streets back to the competitors' respective halau or to Sand Island to await shipment off-island.

The Applicant is pursuing permits for the Molokai launch site and the ocean race route through the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR), Maui District Land Office, and Maui County, as applicable. The Applicant has stated that measures are being taken to mitigate the impact of the canoe race event on residents of Molokai, including measures to mitigate the impact of large numbers of travelers to that island. The Applicant is also pursuing permits for the Hilton parking lot and heli-pad site through DOBOR (identified as Areas 7, 8, and 9 on Exhibit C) and has received permission to use the Hilton Hawaiian Village (HHV) pier (identified as Area 6 on Exhibit C) through direct communications with HHV as discussed below. Staff has confirmed that the Maui agencies have received and are processing Applicant's permit requests. Therefore, Areas 6 through 9 identified on Exhibit C are not included in this ROE request.

According to the Applicant, a request has been made for access to the Hilton Hawaiian Village Pier (currently encumbered under Revocable Permit No. 7566), located adjacent to

where the finish line of the canoe race event will be designated. Revocable Permit No. 7566 requires a \$1.50 toll fee per paying customer. The Applicant reports that, historically, HHV has provided use of the pier for this event with no charge. Staff has confirmed with HHV personnel that HHV has granted permission for the Applicant to use the pier at no cost. Based on present assurance and historical practice, it is the staff's understanding that HHV will not be charging a fee to any of the canoe race officials nor to its participants for the use of the subject pier. Therefore, staff is of the opinion that HHV will not be required to pay the State for the toll fee.

Staff notes that the Applicant does not intend to conduct any commercial activity, including sales of pre-set chairs or merchandise sales, in the area subject to the present request. The Applicant has stated that it will conduct pre-event sales of merchandise through the Applicant's own means and in the HHV heli-pad area subject to a DOBOR permit. The Applicant has also assured staff that public access along the beach and shoreline will be preserved throughout the term of the permit.

The subject request pertains to the same race occurring annually over a five-year period, with the dates described in the TERM section. The Board has previously authorized a multi-year permit to this Applicant for the same annual race. At its meeting on September 8, 2017, under Agenda Items D-4 and D-5, respectively, the Board authorized permits for the Hale O Lono launch site on Molokai and the Duke Kahanamoku Beach finish site for annual races occurring from 2017 through 2020. The Board has also previously authorized multi-year permits for the substantially similar Molokai Hoe and Duke Kahanamoku men's long-distance canoe races. Based on past practice, and in consideration of the cultural and community importance of Na Wahine O Ke Kai women's long-distance canoe race, staff has no objections to the grant of a five-year permit pursuant to the present application.

The Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands has no objection to the issuance of the subject right-of-entry permit and concurs with the Environmental Assessment exemption pursuant to chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Applicant has not had a lease, permit, easement, or other disposition of State lands terminated within the past five years due to non-compliance with such terms and conditions.

There are no other pertinent issues or concerns regarding the subject request.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board

1. Declare that, after considering the potential effects of the proposed disposition as provided by Chapter 343, HRS, and section 11-200.1, HAR, this activity will likely have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and is therefore exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.
2. Authorize the issuance of five separate, annual right-of-entry permits to Na Wahine O Ke Kai covering the subject area for Na Wahine O Ke Kai women's long-distance

outrigger canoe race under the terms and conditions cited above, which are by this reference incorporated herein and further subject to the following:

- a. Annual payment of the rental amount stated above;
- b. The standard terms and conditions of the most current right-of-entry form, as may be amended from time to time;
- c. The Applicant shall conduct no sales or other commercial activities in the areas subject to this right-of-entry;
- d. The Applicant shall maintain public access to the shoreline and beach at all times during the term of this right-of-entry;
- e. Prior to each event authorized pursuant to this right-of-entry permit, the Applicant shall provide notice of the temporary use of public land to the community on Molokai and Oahu; and
- f. Such other terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Chairperson to best serve the interests of the State.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rebecca L. Anderson
Shoreline Specialist

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



Dawn N. S. Chang, Chairperson



Land Board Meeting: August 11, 2023; D-3: Approved as amended.

Approved as amended. The dates of the 2024 event were amended to reflect a set up date of September 21, 2024 and a race date of September 22, 2024.

TAX MAP KEY: (1) 2-3-037: PORTION OF 21



EXHIBIT A1

TAX MAP KEY: (1) 2-3-037: PORTION OF 21

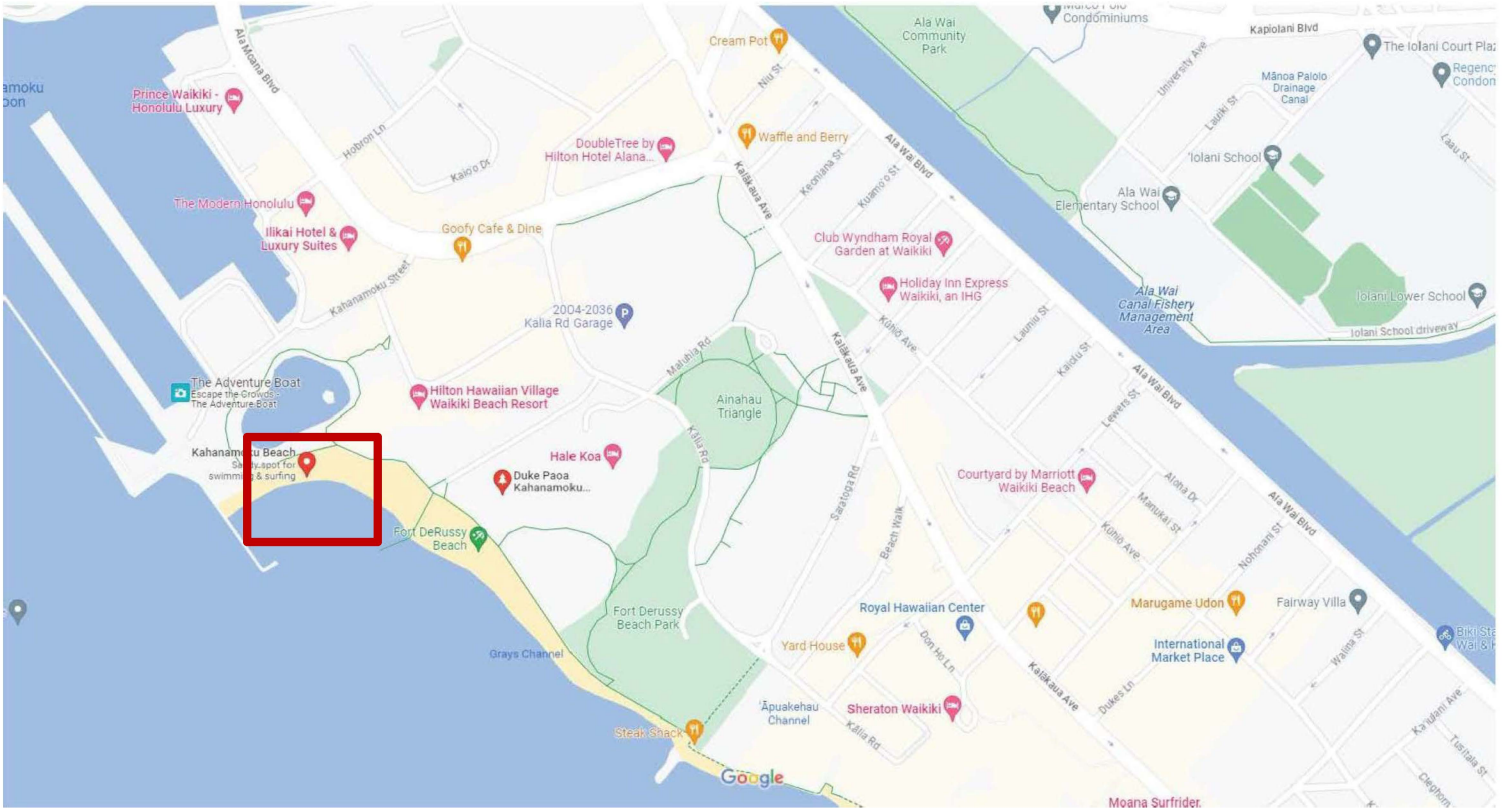


EXHIBIT A2

EXEMPTION NOTIFICATION

Regarding the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to Chapter 343, HRS and Chapter 11-200.1-15, HAR

Project Title: Na Wahine O Ke Kai Women's Long-Distance Canoe Race

Project / Reference No.: PSF 23OD-059

Project Location: Waikiki, Honolulu, Oahu, Tax Map Key: (1) 2-3-037: portion of: 021.

Project Description: Issuance of a Right-of-Entry Permit to Na Wahine O Ke Kai for Na Wahine O Ke Kai Women's Long-Distance Canoe Race

Chap. 343 Trigger(s): Use of State Land.

Exemption Class No: In accordance with Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR") Sections 11-200.1-15 and -16 and the Exemption List for the Department of Land and Natural Resources reviewed and concurred on by the Environmental Council on November 10, 2020, the subject request is exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to General Exemption Type 1 for "[o]perations, repairs or maintenance of existing structures, facilities, equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion or change of use beyond that previously existing." Specifically, the subject request is exempt under Part 1, Item 44, which applies to "[p]ermits, licenses, registrations, and rights-of-entry issued by the Department that are routine in nature, involving negligible impacts beyond that previously existing." It is expected that the subject request will have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and should be declared exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment and the requirements of Section 11-200.1-17, HAR.

Cumulative Impact of Planned Successive Actions in Same Place Significant? No. Similar events occur at the same location semi-annually, but not on a routine or regular basis (e.g. daily or weekly). As such, staff believes that there would be no significant cumulative impact as a result of the event.

EXHIBIT B

Action May Have
Significant Impact on
Particularly Sensitive
Environment?

The requested area is a portion of State beach visited frequently by tourists and residents and heavily impacted by human activity. Public access across the requested area is maintained by the Hilton Hawaiian Village staff. In addition, based on the analysis below, staff believes there would be no significant impact to sensitive environmental or ecological receptors.

Consulted Parties:

As noted in the submittal.

Analysis:

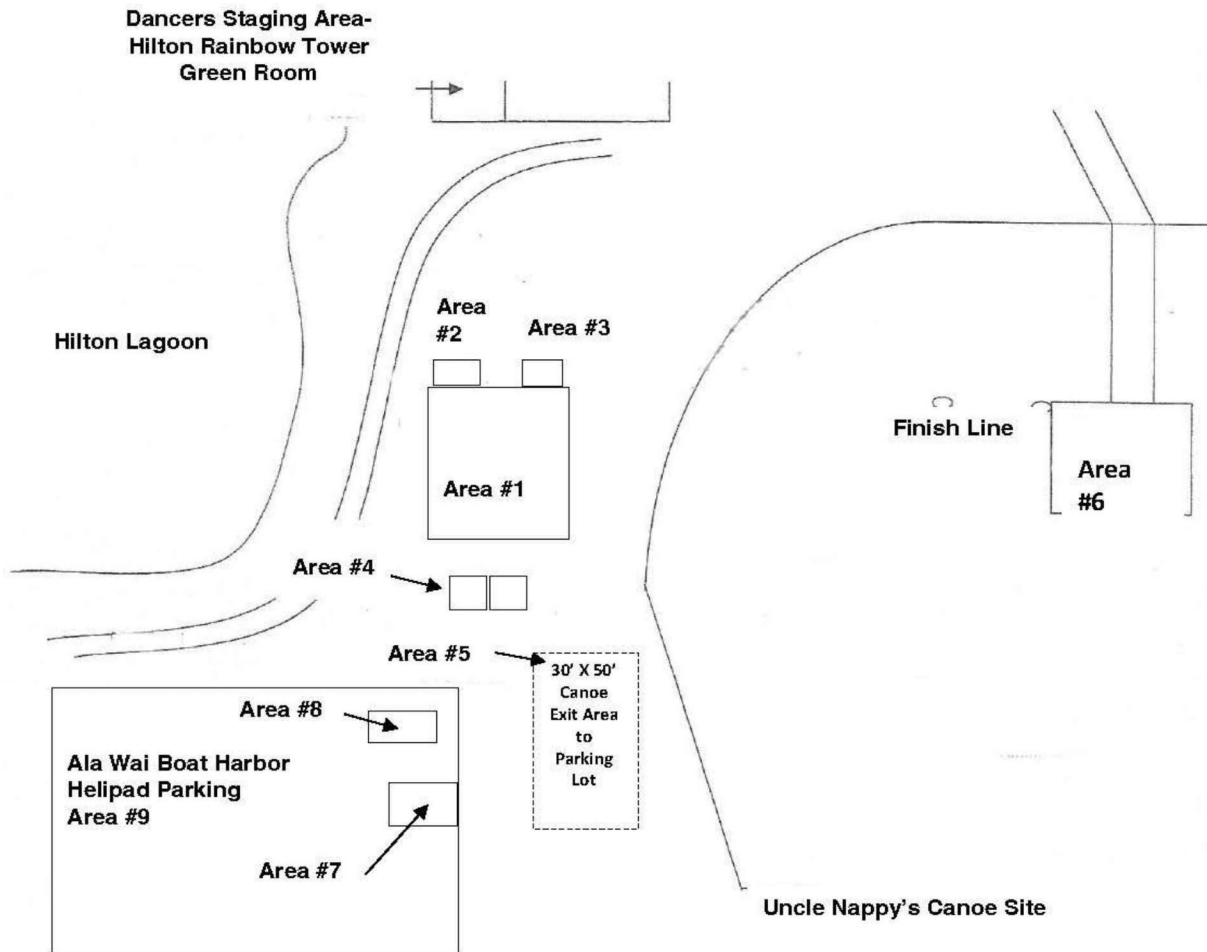
The Board has permitted similar events in the past and has issued multi-year permits for legacy canoe races based on the minimal environmental impact and community and cultural significance of such events. The proposed activity is of a similar type and scope of beach activities that have periodically occurred and continue to occur on this and other beach areas across the State. Such activities have resulted in no known significant impacts, whether immediate or cumulative, to the natural, environmental and/or cultural resources in the area. Staff also believes that the request would involve negligible or no expansion or change in use of the subject area beyond that previously existing.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board find that this project will probably have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and is presumed to be exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.

Na Wahine O Ke Kai September 25, 2023

Duke Kahanamoku Beach, Waikiki



- 1 – 60' X 40' Awards/Finish Area/Information
- 2 – 10' x 10' Pop-Up Tent for A/V Equipment (Flush with large tent)
- 3 – 10' x 10' Pop-Up Tent for Announcers
- 4 – Two (2) 10' x 10' Pop-Up Tents from Large Tent. 1 for Medical and 1 for Hospitality
- 5 – 30' x 50' Canoe Exit Area to Parking Lot (No Tent)
- 6 – Hilton Pier – Officials, Offloading, Timer
- 7 – Na Wahine Merchandise – 10' x 10' Pop Up
- 8 – OHCRA Trailer Parking
- 9 – Reserved Parking for Na Wahine Use

TAX MAP KEY: (1) 2-3-037: PORTION OF 21

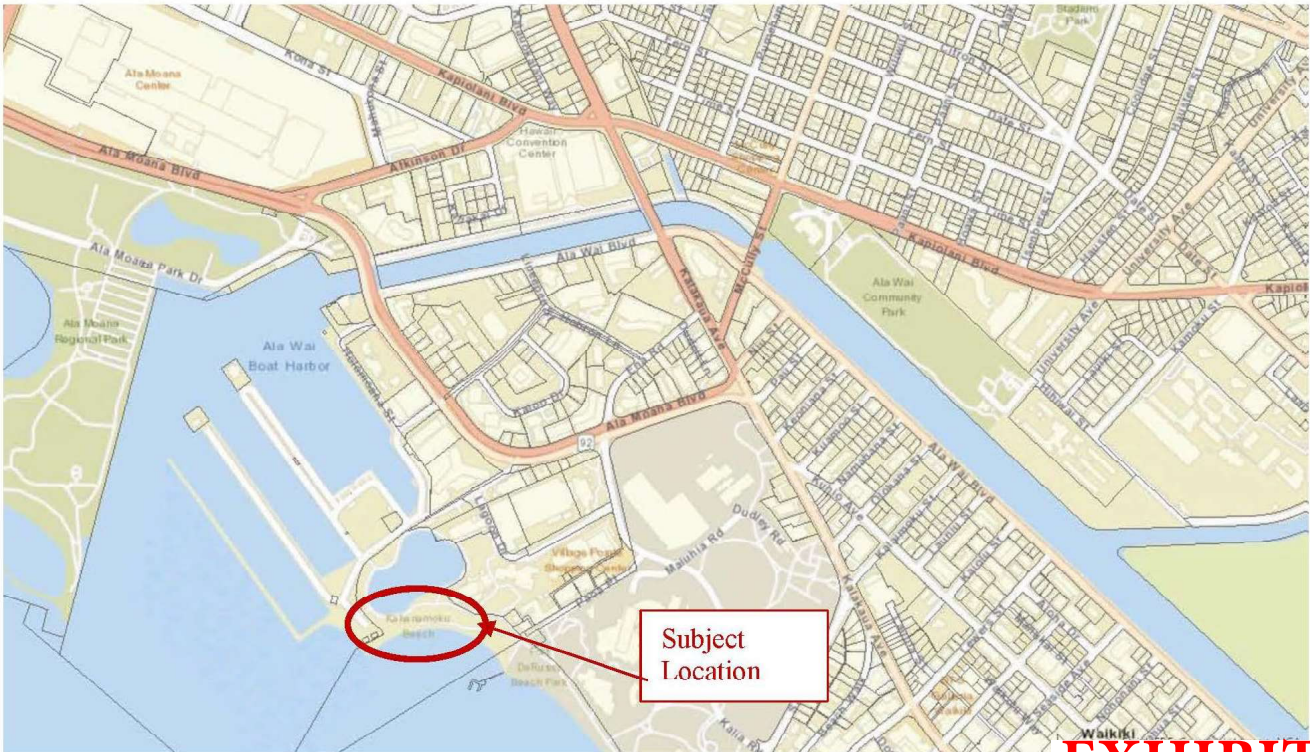
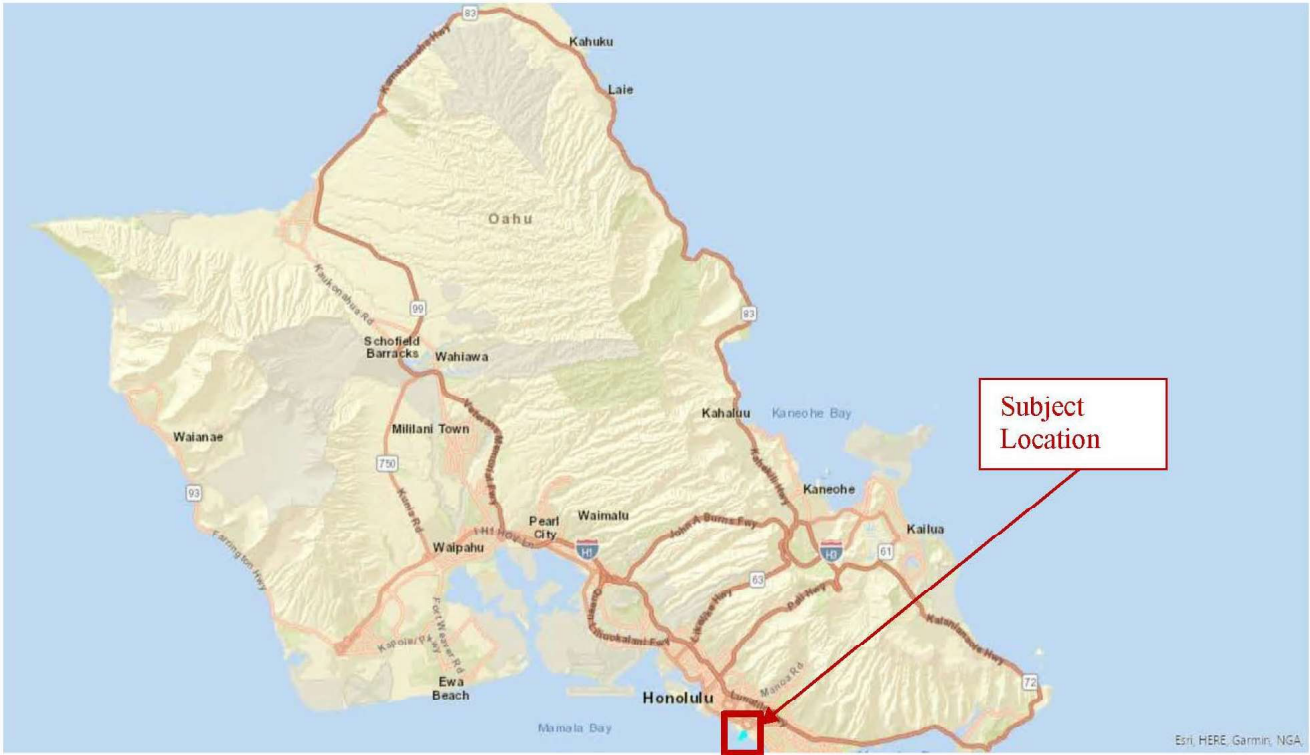
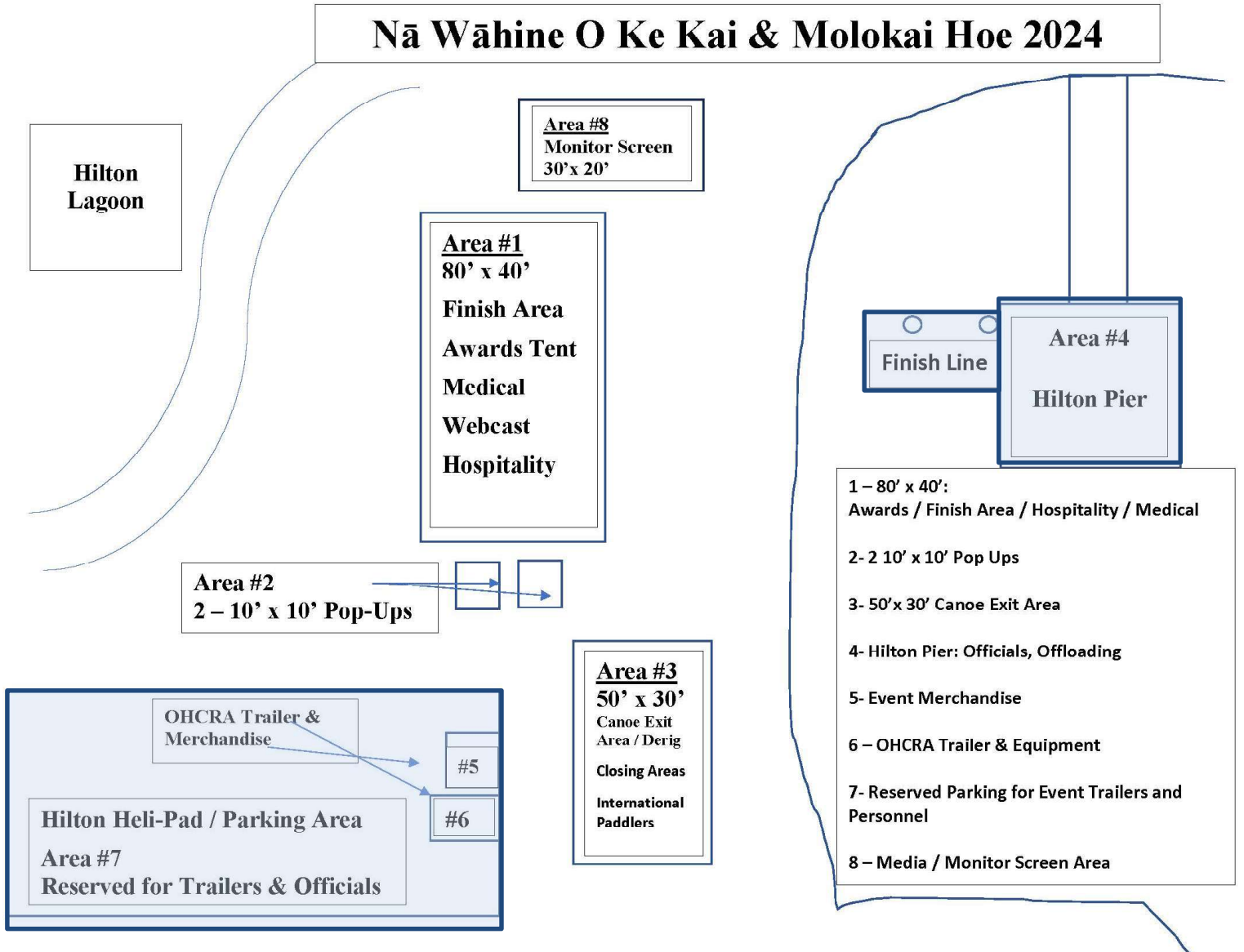


EXHIBIT B

Nā Wāhine O Ke Kai & Molokai Hoe 2024



Please note: Shaded areas are not included in the present submittal. In-ocean Finish Line and Areas 5 through 7 are subject to DOBOR jurisdiction. Area 4 is currently encumbered under Revocable Permit No. 7566. The Applicant will access Area 4 pursuant to agreement with the RP holder, Hilton Hawaiian Village. See **Exhibit A**, pages 4-5, for further discussion.



Memo

To: State Department of Land and Natural Resources

From: Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association (OHCRA)

Date: June 12, 2024

Subject: Efforts and Actions to Address Community Concerns for the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai Races

Introduction

Over the past two years, OHCRA has hosted and participated in multiple community meetings to engage with and gather feedback from the Molokai community. This memo outlines the concerns shared during these meetings and the actions OHCRA has taken to address them, ensuring the races honor the community's needs and heritage.

Community Engagement and Positive Feedback

The tone and spirit of aloha in every meeting on the island have been warm and welcoming. The most broadly attended meeting was in concert with OHA and included over 100 attendees and was recorded for long term viewing. Community members have unanimously supported the return of these two races, highlighting their historical and cultural significance. Since 1952, the Molokai Hoe has grown from a local competition to an international event, celebrated by paddlers worldwide and honoring the winning first crew hailing from Molokai. The return of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races is not just a sporting event but a cultural celebration that brings together paddlers, community members, and visitors to honor the rich history and traditions of canoe racing.

Community Integration and Economic Impact

OHCRA has collaborated with over 40 community leaders and island businesses to enhance community integration and economic impact. These events and collaborations not only provide economic benefits to the island but also strengthen the bonds between the paddling community and Molokai residents. The return of the races is a celebration of the island's rich history and a testament to the enduring spirit of canoe racing.

- **Kulaia Festival and Na Wahine O Ke Kai:** Participating and supporting the downtown Kaunakakai block party and vendor fair with food, arts, crafts, music, and entertainment.
- **Festivals of Aloha and Molokai Hoe:** Incorporating paddlers in dinner show at Hotel Molokai, and vendor fair at Mitchell Pauole for the men's crews – the annual planned parade through Kaunakakai is still pending.
- **Local Engagement:** Encouraging paddlers to engage with local vendors for personal rentals, catering, and transportation, fostering community relationships and economic benefits.

Addressing Specific Concerns

Escort Boat Fishing Concerns

Escort boat fishing concerns have been a longstanding issue that OHCRA has diligently addressed over the years. We recognize the importance of preserving the marine environment and respecting the local fishing practices of Molokai. To this end, OHCRA has implemented



several measures to ensure that the actions of escort boats align with the community's expectations and environmental standards.

- **Prohibition of Shore Fishing:** Strictly enforced rules against fishing on Molokai shores, with patrols conducted by OHCRA officials.
- **3-Mile Buffer Zone:** Implementation of a 3-mile buffer zone around the island, incorporated into the rules of participation and the Escort Boat Code of Conduct.
- See Website Notice: [OHCRA - Be Pono](#).

Escort Boat Mooring & Anchoring

Escort boat mooring and anchoring have been carefully managed to ensure the smooth and respectful operation of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races. While near-shore anchoring has been an issue with other races, it is not a primary concern for these events. Escort boats for the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai primarily moor at Hale O Lono Harbor and Kaunakakai Wharf under OHCRA permits. Many OHCRA officials' boats access the harbor from Maui and Lanai on the morning of the race. By coordinating mooring locations and securing necessary permits, OHCRA aims to maintain an organized and respectful presence in Molokai's waters.

- **Permitted Mooring Locations:** Escort boats for the races primarily moor at Hale O Lono Harbor and Kaunakakai Wharf under OHCRA permits. Officials' boats will access the harbor from Maui and Lanai.
See Website Notice: [OHCRA - Be Pono](#).

Road to Hale O Lono

For the past 15 years of races, OHCRA has funded the restoration and improvements of the road access to Hale O Lono. This year, due to a five-year hiatus and deferred maintenance, the endeavor will be larger and more comprehensive. Ensuring safe and smooth access to Hale O Lono is crucial for both race participants and local residents, and OHCRA is committed to collaborating with local contractors to achieve this goal.

- **Restoration Efforts:** Collaboration with local contractors/agencies and MPL to improve road access to Hale O Lono for both race participants and local residents.

Transportation, Air Travel and Community Benefits

Ensuring efficient transportation to Molokai is essential for the success of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races. To this end, OHCRA has coordinated various travel options to accommodate all participants while providing benefits to the local community.

- **Increased Flights by Mokulele Airlines:** Additional flights have been arranged with Mokulele routing through Molokai. Increased fares will be paid by paddlers covering deadhead flights inbound into MKK. Discounted outbound flights for Molokai residents will be offered. This initiative is promoted through The Molokai Dispatch.
- **Mokulele Reserved Flights:** Mokulele is holding a number of flight options for local resident emergencies and last-minute needs.
- **Travel by Boat:** Some crews will travel to Molokai by boat, ensuring flexibility and additional capacity for participants and also a cost-effective option for crews routing through Maui.
- **Private Air Charters:** Many crews have secured private air charters, providing tailored travel options to meet specific needs.



Race Entry Cap

To ensure the safety, organization, and overall quality of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races, OHCRA has implemented a cap on race entries. This measure helps manage the logistical complexities of the events and ensures a positive experience for all participants.

- **Monitoring Entries:** Committing to a cap of 100 crews, while recognizing that travel costs will likely limit participation naturally.

Community Give Back

The idea of partnering with a nonprofit and giving back to the community was an initiative led by OHCRA, reflecting our commitment to supporting the local youth and schools. As part of this effort, OHCRA has pledged a portion of race proceeds to the Friends of Molokai Middle School and High School, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to supporting the physical needs of the school, teams, and sports activities. This initiative ensures that the races contribute positively to the community, fostering growth and development for future generations.

Ongoing Communication and Transparency

OHCRA maintains regular communication with the Molokai community through the Molokai Community Advisory Council and frequent meetings with local leadership including Senator Lynn DeCoite. A meeting with the Senator is scheduled for June 19th to plan the opening ceremonies. Our commitment to transparency and ongoing dialogue ensures that we continue to address the community's needs and concerns effectively. *This offer was extended to Keani Rawlins-Fernandez for June, July and August meetings but she rejected.*

Celebrating Our Heritage

The return of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races is a significant milestone, celebrating the rich history and cultural heritage of canoe racing on Molokai. Since the first race in 1952, these events have symbolized the strength, endurance, and unity of the paddling community. By honoring the traditions and respecting the needs of the Molokai community, we continue to uphold the spirit of aloha and the legacy of our sport.

Conclusion

OHCRA is dedicated to honoring the rich heritage and cultural significance of the Molokai Hoe and Na Wahine O Ke Kai races. We remain committed to transparency, community engagement, and addressing the concerns of Molokai residents to ensure the continued success and respectful celebration of these historic events.

Mahalo,
Lapule Schulz, President
Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association (OHCRA)



OHCRA ORGANIZED MOLOKAI COMMUNITY MEETINGS

MOLOKAI ISLAND COMMUNITY MEETING – OHA

Monday, July 10, 2023 - 6:00 P.M.

Lanikeha Community Center - 2200 Farrington Avenue Ho‘olehua, HI 96729

Public Notice & Agenda -

<https://calendar.ehawaii.gov/calendar/attachment/111281329/07102023%20BOT%20MOLOKAI%20COMM%20MTG%20AS%20AMENDED.pdf>

Meeting Minutes –

<https://www.oha.org/wp-content/uploads/Final-BOT-Minutes-MKK-Comm-07102023.pdf>

OHCRA Held Paddling Community Meetings

Tuesday & Wednesday July 11 & 12, 2023

- Jerome Kalama, Wa‘akapaemua
- Ron Kimball, Wa‘akapaemua
- Penny Martin, Wa‘akapaemua
- Liko Wallace, Molokai Canoe Club
- Marshall Rosa, Community Member
- Rex Kamakana, Harbor Trailer
- Stacy Helm Crivello, Community Advocate
- Shirley Rawlins – Rawlins Texaco
- Moku Buchanan, Molokai Security
- Harley Tancayo, Harbor Agent
- Shawna Pua‘a-Kahookana, Harbor Security Young Brothers
- Peter Pale, Young Brothers
- Ipo Davis, Young Brothers
- Frank Keoho, Island Petroleum
- Keani Rawlins Fernandez, Maui County Council
- Zhantell Lindo, Maui County
- Keo Hirata, Maui County
- Mac Poepoe, Community Advocate
- Raquel Dudoit, Festivals of Aloha & Transportation
- Bill Dudoit, Alamo Car Rental
- Kim Svetin, Friends of Molokai Middle School & High School
- Keola Kino, Molokai Ranch

OHCRA ROAD AND HARBOR INSPECTION – HALE O LONO

Wednesday, January 4, 10:00 A.M.

- Hale O Lono Road – Keola Kino, Molokai Ranch
- Communication – Todd Svetin, General Manager Molokai Ranch

MOLOKAI PADDLING COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 12, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.

Paddlers Inn - 10 Mohala Street, Kaunakakai, HI, 96748

- Lori Buchanan, Aha Kiole
- Moku Buchanan, Molokai Security
- Liko Wallace, Molokai Canoe Club
- Michael Helm, Paddlers Inn
- Lorilei Rawlins Crivello, Kulaia Festivals, Aha Kiole
- Invited but declined: Keani Rawlins Fernandez, Maui County Council
- Siana Austin Hunt NWOKK/MH – Co-Race Organizer
- Ikaika Rogerson NWOKK/MH – Co-Race Organizer
- Luana Froiseth, NWOKK/MH Race Director



KAUNAKAKAI WHARF / HALE O LONO ROAD & HARBOR INSPECTION –
Tuesday, March 13, 2024 – 9:00 A.M.

MOLOKAI CHANNEL RACE FESTIVALS MEETING

Tuesday, March 13, 2024 – 11:00 A.M.
Kuha’o Business Center - 2 Kamoi St., Ste. 600, Kaunakakai, HI 96748
Present:

- Tylor Tanaka – Maui OED, Economic Development Specialist
- Lorilei Rawlins Crivello – Kulaia Festival Director
- Raymond Hiro – Festivals of Aloha Director
- Siana Austin Hunt NWOKK/MH – Co-Race Organizer
- Ikaika Rogerson NWOKK/MH – Co-Race Organizer
- Luana Froiseth, NWOKK/MH Race Director

MOLOKAI ISLAND COMMUNITY MEETING – ALL RACE ORGANIZERS

Monday, April 29, 2024 – 4:30 P.M.
DHHL Conference Room – Kulana ‘Oiwī - 2001, Kauahikaua and Chun. HI 460
Attended via Zoom – Ikaika Rogerson & Siana Hunt – Co-Race Organizers

Meeting Announcement – See Attached
Meeting Sign-In – See Attached
Meeting Minutes/Summary – See Attached

- Mike Takahashi, M20 Race Organizer
 - Jim Foti, Kanaka Ikaika Race Organizer
 - Ikaika Rogerson, NWOKK/MH Co-Race Organizer
 - Siana Austin Hunt, NWOKK/MH Co-Race Organizer
 - Clare Albino, Molokai Holokai Race Organizer
 - Manny Kulukulualani – Pa’a Race Organizer
 - Kealani Bartlett, M2M Race Organizer
 - Lorilei Rawlins Crivello, Kulaia Event Organizer
-
- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| • Gordon Albino | • Kekama Helm | • Keani Rawlins |
| • Robert Espaniola | • Kahiki Helm | • Fernandez |
| • Keola Kingsley | • Luana Alapa | • Tylor Tanaka |
| • Marshall Rosa | • Pohai Ryan | • Penny Martin |
| • Camie Kimball | • Byron Espaniola | • Kalei Pestrana |
| • Ron Kimball | • Moku Buchanan | • Kaleo Crivello |
| • Torrey Goodman | • Lori Buchanan | • Kawika Crivello |
| • Timothy Paul | • Liliana Napoleon | • Kai Bartlett |
| • Cindy Manaois | • Chad Lima | • Stacy Helm Crivello |
| • Jerome Kalama | • Clint Labrador | • Jimmy Austin |
| • Liko Wallace | • Chris Mangca | |



BE PONO

- As visitors to Moloka'i, please be respectful

BE PONO

Respect Your Host

For most of us, we are visitors to the island of Molokai. This island has a special place in our history, and we appreciate our hosts welcoming us each year. To keep the Aloha Spirit alive, as guests to this special island, please keep the following in mind.

What is Pono?

The word pono could be described as meaning to be respectful and to behave in a righteous manner. [Click here](#) for a more complete definition.

No Excessive Fishing from Escort Boats

The Molokai community has requested that canoe race escort boats maintain a 3-mile buffer around the island to respect the subsistence community fishing boundaries. OHCRA is working closely with DOBAR and DLNR to observe this 3-mile radius and support the fragile Molokai ecosystem. Escort boats may approach inside of the 3-mile boundary only to report to Hale O Lono and Kaunakakai harbors for race preparation and mooring.

Mooring and Anchoring of Boats

Since the race is taking place out of Hale O Lono Harbor, escort boats are asked to report and moor at this harbor or Kaunakakai Harbor (with a permit) primarily. Boat captains are asked to be mindful of anchor use and to observe the reef to the best of their ability to prevent damage.

Responsible Boating Practices

Near-shore recreational boating is not permitted. Boat captains are asked to strictly observe community beach and swimming areas responsibly.

Respect for Local Fishing Boundaries

The Molokai community has expressed concern over the amount of fish caught in the waters off Molokai by race escort boats. Please discuss this matter with your boat captains directly and ask that they be courteous to our local fishermen. When crossing the channel, remember to take only what you can eat and please be respectful of the concerns of our Molokai hosts.

All crews will be asked to agree to these terms in their race registration, and failure to observe these requests will result in penalties up to and including race disqualification.

LATEST NEWS



2024 PRESS RELEASE

EXHIBIT E

» 21 MAY 2024

 **HISTORIC HANDOVER: A NEW CHAPTER FOR NA WAHINE O KE KAI**
» 20 OCTOBER 2023



OUR SPONSORS

OHCRA would like to thank all those who participate each year in the Na Wahine O Ke Kai race and it doesn't go without saying that this event would not be possible without the assistance of our generous sponsors. Each year, we rely upon these sponsors to continue to support the race and we also invite new sponsors to come on board.

If you would like to talk to us about sponsorship opportunities for this race - please [Contact Us](#) for more information.



Na Wahine O Ke Kai is organized by the Oahu Hawaiian Canoe Racing Association
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For questions, suggestions and comments, please email us at: info@NaWahineOKeKai.com

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