

**Maui Nui
Community Managed Makai Area
Learning Network**



The Early Years: Laying the Foundation (2010-2013)

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Maui Nui Community Managed Makai Area Learning Network The Early Years: Laying the Foundation (2011-2013)

Introduction

This report documents and illustrates the arc of the Maui Nui Community Managed Makai Area Learning Network's evolution. From its impetus and origins to its establishment, current progress, and accomplishments over three years, from October 10, 2010 through September 9, 2013. The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i Chapter (TNC), has learned a tremendous amount in terms of understanding the capacity building needs around marine conservation in Hawai'i. Specifically, what it takes to initiate, support and sustain this network of community-based marine conservation practitioners. We hope this information, gleaned from our experiences as we strive to improve our practice and with our community partners, can inform future strategies and our supporters so that we may reach our collective goal of healthy, sustainable coral reefs, fisheries and communities.

Background

Since 2002, TNC has provided technical support for planning, science, and management at priority marine sites throughout the Hawaiian islands. We currently actively support multiple projects on Hawaii Island, O`ahu, and in Maui County, at sites where we have been invited by community groups.

In more than three decades in Hawai'i, the Conservancy has learned that lasting conservation success depends on building strong partnerships with the people who live in and care for their places. We work with local communities to improve marine resource management, knowing that lasting conservation results come through empowered communities.

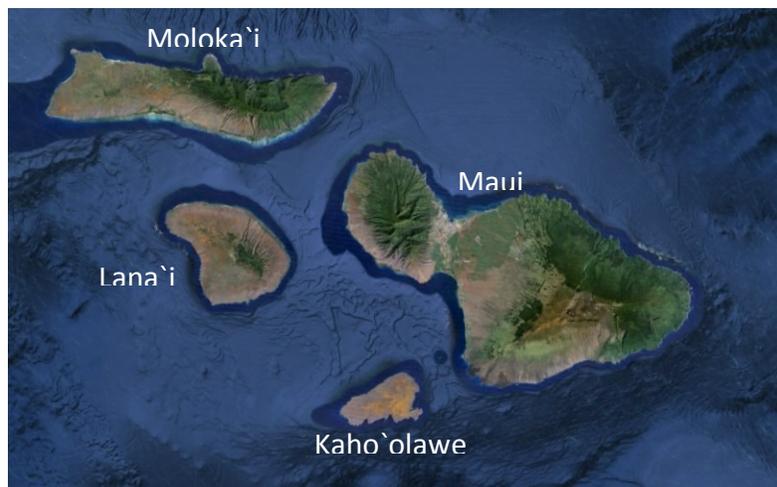
The Maui Nui Community Managed Makai Area Learning Network, also known as the "Maui Nui Network," was established by its founders to protect and restore healthy ecosystems on which the people of Maui Nui depend. As described in the network's founding agreement:

Our purpose is to share and learn from our diverse experiences, lessons and best practices to help each other to mālama our special areas. By working together, we better ourselves, each other, and the islands of Maui Nui. We are motivated by our love for our island home and are concerned for the sustainability of our natural resources, especially nearshore marine areas.¹

¹ Maui Nui Community Managed Makai Area Learning Network Agreement.

What's in a name?

A lot of time and thought was given to choosing the network name. The registered official name, Maui Nui Community Managed Makai Area Learning Network, is quite a mouthful and yet it accurately captures what this group strives for. For everyday usage, members prefer the simpler, shorter moniker Maui Nui Network. Maui Nui, or greater Maui, refers collectively to the islands of Maui, Moloka'i, Lana'i and Kaho'olawe. It is also the name given to the prehistoric Hawaiian island built from seven shield volcanoes. Over one million years ago, Maui Nui covered 14,600 square kilometers (5,600 sq mi), a land mass fifty percent larger than the present-day island of Hawai'i. As the volcanoes subsided and eroded, the saddles between them slowly flooded, forming four separate islands, Maui, Moloka'i, Lana'i and Kaho'olawe, around 200,000 years ago."²



The Maui Nui complex

The Hawaiian word, *makai* (seaward) was chosen over marine, to give it a localized focus that resonates with people living in Hawai'i. While the word marine has wider recognition and is understood beyond Hawai'i's shores, the network chose *makai* in recognition that they are at the very beginning of this effort and want to keep focused on the local significance of their work, before reaching out into wider regional and global marine audiences—a very *akamai* (smart) move! It is often easy to grow too quickly, and tempting to overreach without establishing key organizational and foundational components and a successful track record. If growth is too fast and unfocused, there is a risk of depleting limited resources, diffusing energy, losing valuable trust from funders, and in the long-run, overextending the communities. By focusing efforts geographically, this network was able to find common ground, establish a strong foundation, and move securely towards implementation of its goals, striving for long-term growth and sustainability.

² Pacific Islands Ecosystems Research Center (USGS).
<http://www.usgs.gov/ecosystems/pierc/research/maui.html>

The Founders

The eight founding members of the Maui Nui Network include six communities and two supporting organizations. The six communities (#1-6), supporting organizations (#7-8), and their respective signatories are:

1. Nā Mamo O Mū`olea (Claudia Kalaola)
2. Kīpahulu `Ohana (Leimamo Lind)
3. Wailuku Ahupua`a (James Carpio)
4. Mālama Mo`omomi (Mac Poepoe)
5. Maunalei Ahupua`a (Sol Kaho`ohalahala)
6. Polanui Hiu (Ekolu Lindsey)
7. Maui Nui Marine Resources Council (Robin Newbold)
8. The Nature Conservancy, Hawaii (Emily Fielding)

The six communities have voting privileges for formal decision-making, while the two supporting non-profit organizations, TNC and the Maui Nui Marine Resources Council, chose not to have voting rights. This choice was consciously made to reinforce and clarify that our main role and responsibility is to support the network.

The Nature Conservancy and Maui Nui Marine Resources Council began working together in 2009. In 2010, we co-sponsored a series of train-the-trainers workshops over the next year to share some of the steps required to build a community organization, involvement, and plan, as well as the value of a learning network. The participants of these workshops wrote a pre-network founding statement “Ho`omau”, which was later became part of the Maui Nui Network’s founding agreement. Many important relationships were built during the train-the-trainers workshops. In addition, three new community groups were formed by participants following the workshops. In 2012, these three groups were introduced to three existing community groups from Moloka`i and East Maui. It was these six groups that agreed to work together to consider the utility of forming a learning network. It took time for the founding members to get to know each other and to build sufficient trust in each other in order to establish the Maui Nui Network. Through many meetings, workshops and collaborative projects, these community groups were able to observe our intent and working styles and gauge the utility of engaging with us. The time and energy invested up front to build relationships and trust was absolutely necessary and could not have been hurried or skipped. The following section gives a brief background on each founding member, their missions and the context of our work with them through the Maui Nui Network.

The Maui Nui Network Dossiers

The founding members come from diverse backgrounds and community settings. Each member brings a different set of challenges, and their own inherent strengths and weaknesses, providing great learning opportunities for network members to share with and learn from each other. All members share common ground in their value for Hawai'i's host culture and place-based `ahupua`a management. This approach integrates communities, watershed, freshwater, and nearshore marine resources based on the fundamental linkages between all ecosystems from ridge to reef. Figure 1 shows the location and geographic locations of the six community member sites across Maui Nui.

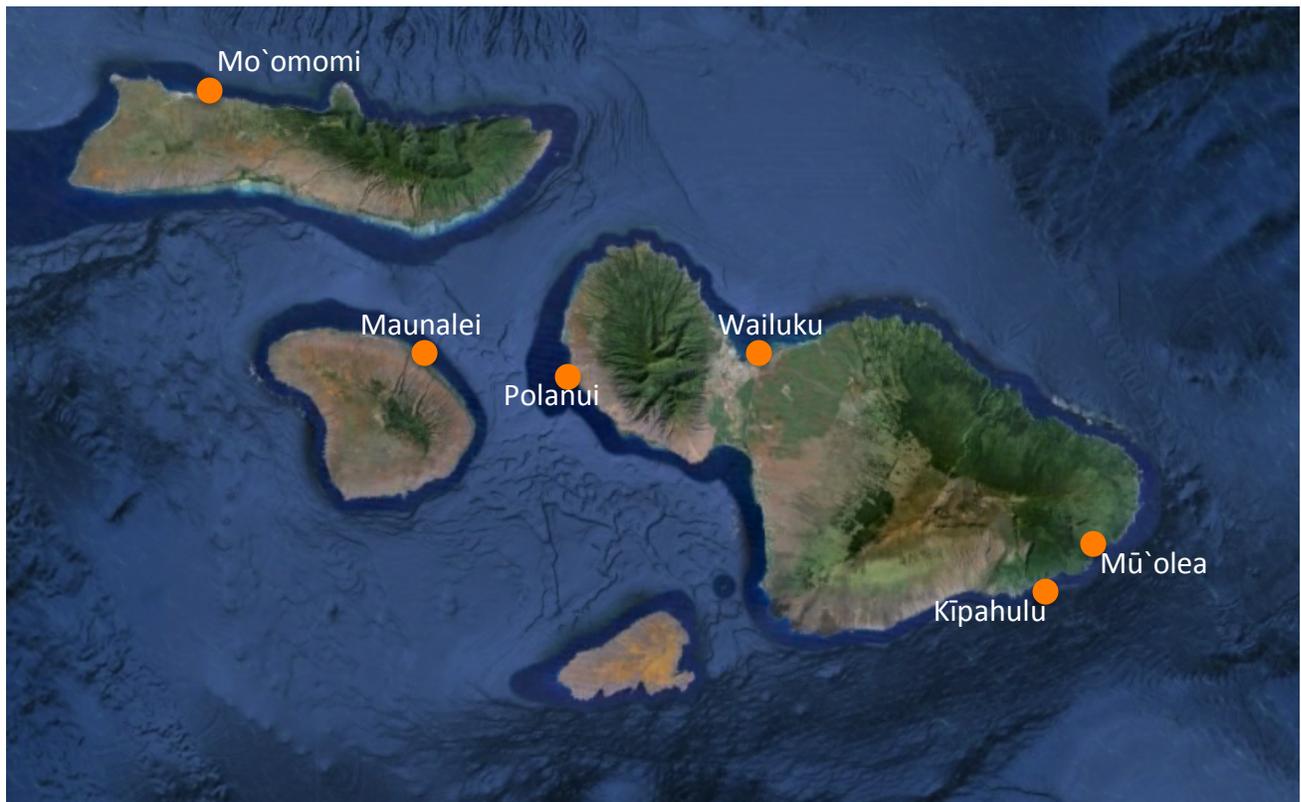


Figure 1. Location of the six Maui Nui Network member sites.

Mū`olea

The mission of community non-profit organization Nā Mamo O Mū`olea (NMOM) is to “perpetuate traditional ahupua`a management of the Mū`olea `ahupua`a and to restore and maintain Mū`olea’s natural, cultural, scenic, historic and marine resources for the benefit, education and enjoyment of our community and future generations.” Located in East Maui, just outside Hāna, the lineal descendants and kama`āina families of Mū`olea are tight-knit and have long, generational connections to their place. Their efforts to *mālama`āina* (care for the land) are focused on a 70-acre parcel with a historically and biologically rich coastline and coral

reefs that sustains the families of the area physically and culturally. We began working with this community organization in October 2007 and facilitated their process to develop a Community Action Plan (CAP). We also support their Annual Hāna Limu Festival (now in its 6th year) and their efforts to manage `opihi populations and other marine life and fisheries. Through these collaborations, we built a shared trust and made connections with other community groups through initial workshops focused on forming a learning network for Maui. NMOM is represented by board members Claudia Kalaola, Walter Pu, Scott Crawford, Hank Eharis, Jan Elliot and others.



Figure 2. Mū`olea representatives Walter Pū, Scott Crawford and Claudia Kalaola and an aerial image of the Mū`olea coastal area that they care for and protect.

Kīpahulu

In 1995, a small group of Native Hawaiian residents came together to revive, restore, and share the practices of traditional native Hawaiian culture with others in Kīpahulu, located in rural East Maui. They formed a non-profit organization, Kīpahulu `Ohana, which is dedicated to educating residents and visitors of the "ways of old" through cultural demonstrations and hands-on activities. Using the wisdom and spiritual guidance of *kūpuna* (elders, learned teachers), the group seeks to re-establish a Hawaiian lifestyle in Kīpahulu. They describe their vision as follows: "By initiating sustainable projects, dividing the labor, and sharing the results, we will preserve our culture."³

TNC's work with Kīpahulu `Ohana is focused on *makai* resource management via the *Mālama i ke kai* planning workshops, and provides biological monitoring of `opihi (since 2009) and fish biomass (since 2010). We facilitated their Community Action Plan for managing marine resources and are supporting their efforts to attain State of Hawai'i Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) designation for their coastal and reef area. Kīpahulu `Ohana is led by John and Tweetie Lind and represented in the Maui Nui Network by their daughter Leimamo Lind-Strauss along with Scott Crawford, and Greg and Eunice Lind.



Figure 3. Kīpahulu's rugged coastline and Kīpahulu `Ohana representatives Scott Crawford and Leimamo Lind-Strauss.

Wailuku

Jay Carpio, Maile Carpio, and Takeo Miyaguchi founded the Wailuku Ahupua`a Community Managed Makai Area community group in 2012. The Wailuku ahupua`a area encompasses the area from `Āo Stream to Baldwin Beach Park. The group is currently focusing on the *akule* (*bigeye scad*), *nehu* (endemic anchovy), and *manauea* (seaweed) fisheries of Kahului Harbor,

³ <http://www.kipahulu.org>

which is a state designated Fisheries Management Area (FMA). Compliance with FMA rules by local fishermen present many resource use challenges and conflicts. A brave group of committed fishers, the Carpios and Takeo Miyaguchi are addressing these challenges to reduce illegal fishing in the Harbor. They have conducted numerous `Ohana Lawai`a Camps for local youth and families, to educate the next generation of fishermen and women in *pono* (*right, proper*) practices. In addition, they are concerned about water quality and the nutrients and other pollutants entering the nearshore waters of the Wailuku ahupua`a from the wastewater treatment plant and the electrical power plant. The Wailuku Ahupua`a team was part of the Train the Trainers cohort from the beginning, October 10, 2010. They joined the Maui Nui Network as one the founding members. In 2012, their innovative programs were funded by Hawaii Fish Trust, a project of Conservation International. They also provide essential support to Maunalei Ahupua`a on Lāna`i.



Figure 4. Takeo Miyaguchi in-between Maile and Jay Carpio. Kahului Harbor and the wider Wailuku ahupua`a, the site of one of the largest coral reefs on Maui.

Maunalei

The Maunalei Ahupua`a Community Managed Mauka-Makai Area is on the island of Lāna`i, and is the site where the Maui Nui Network was officially launched in February 2013. The group had its early beginnings in Sol and Keoki Kahoohalahala and `Ohana's participation in the train-the-trainer workshop series beginning in October 2010. Since their programs were funded by Hawai`i Fish Trust/Conservation International in 2012, the group has made tremendous progress in stopping sediment from reaching the reef, understanding the biology of the reef, educating numerous groups about the history, fisheries, Hawaiian culture, and biology of the area, and hosting `Ohana Lawai`a Camps. The group has reached out into their community to promote soil, water and marine resource conservation. Due to the exploding deer population and proliferation of invasive plant species in their watershed, soil erosion is a huge problem. When it rains in this otherwise arid area, tons of sediment smothers the inner reef, degrading the habitat for fish and other reef species. Soil erosion control measures such as installation of gabions and planting of native species have been done and a monitoring program was established to better understand how to improve this situation.



Figure 5. Sol Kaho`ohalahala with the next generation—his granddaughter. Aerial photograph of the Maunalei reef and coastline.

Mo`omomi

Hui Mālama Mo`omomi led by Kelson “Uncle Mac” Poepoe is the trailblazing champion for community-based marine resource management in Hawai`i. The group began working in Mo`omomi, Moloka`i in the early 1990’s. As the first active community-managed area in modern times, the group produced a management plan and were the first state CBSFA (community based subsistence fishing area) designation in the State. The official designation ended after two years due to a sunset clause in the legislation. The Maui Nui Network is very fortunate that this seasoned veteran joined the network from the first meeting of the six communities in Ke`anae in September 2012. He embodies *pono* fisherman values and has been mentoring youth and working with his community of Ho`olehua to care for the ocean so that it can sustain them for future generations and perpetuate natural cycles. Uncle Mac and Mo`omomi inspires many communities across Hawai`i to understand native Hawaiian fishing and management practices, natural resource cycles and how to care for them.

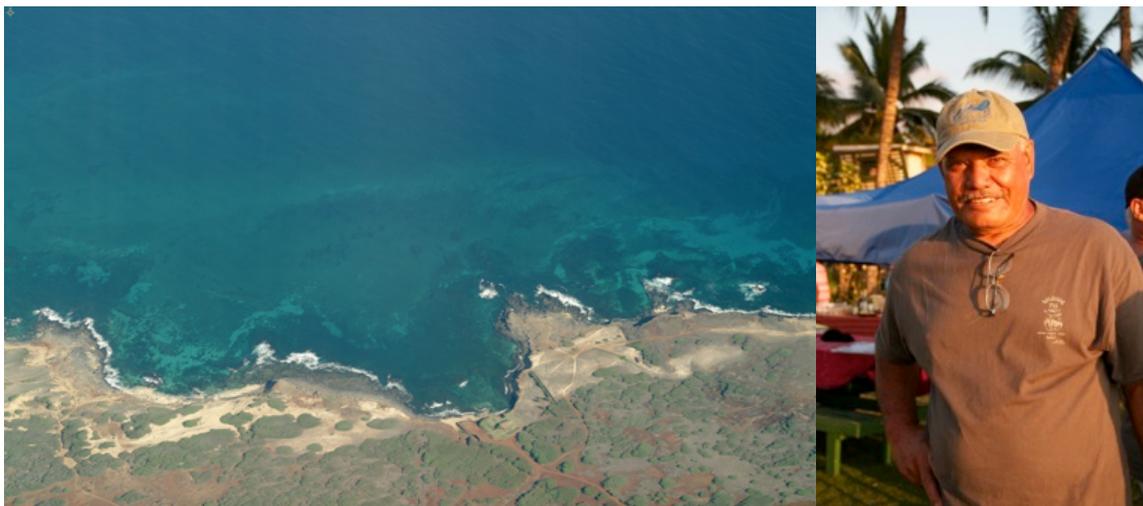


Figure 6. “Uncle Mac” Poepoe and aerial view of Mo`omomi’s coastline and reef system.

Polanui

Polanui is an ahupua`a in Lāhaina, Maui. It has a dynamic coral reef ecosystem, with resident reef sharks that live here to this day despite the heavy recreational use by tourists and residents, sedimentation, water quality, and overfishing issues. Being in an urban beach setting provides for many enthusiastic volunteers that the community group, Polanui Hiu, involves for the benefit of the marine resources. Polanui has produced a conservation action plan for the area, and has instituted community fish and water quality monitoring protocols. The community meets monthly on the first Saturday. Ekolu's father, the late Edwin Lindsey started the Maui Nui Marine Resources Council, a supporting member of the Maui Nui Network. Because many of the East Maui community members were students of the beloved and well-respected Ed Lindsey when he was a teacher in Hana, this connection bolstered the trust-building process with East Maui communities for network formation. Polanui Hiu graciously hosted the train-the-trainer events and several Maui Nui Network meetings. Polanui Hiu is represented by Ekolu Lindsey, Lisa Agdeppa, Scott Fisher, and Mark Hecht. Ekolu was the first chair of the network, serving for one year from September 2013 – 2014.



Figure 7. Ekolu Lindsey and Lisa Agdeppa from Polanui Hiu, and an aerial view of the shoreline and reef areas.

Maui Nui Marine Resources Council

The Maui Nui Marine Resource Council was formed in 2007 to be an effective voice for better marine resource management in Maui County. Following the lead of their founding chairman and community leader, Edwin Lindsey, the Council utilizes traditional Hawaiian principles in its meeting and endeavors. The mission of the MNMRC is “to bring human actions into balance with ecological principles through education, collaboration and advocacy so that our near-shore waters will be restored to health with abundant life and sustained for future generations.” Their vision is “to see the waters of Maui Nui are clean, coral reefs healthy and native fishes abundant”.

In 2010 TNC and MNMRC co-hosted the train-the-trainers workshops and the workshops that led to the formation of the network. MNMRC continues to co-convene the network meetings. Also in 2010, the MNMRC established the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Team composed of community members, scientists and cultural representatives, to develop a results-driven plan for the recovery of Maui's coral reefs, and produced Hawai'i's first coral reef recovery plan. In September 2013, the first two priority sites were selected for implementation of the plan: Olowalu reef in West Maui, and Polanui reef in Lāhaina. The MNMRC is represented by their chair and co-founder, Robin Newbold.



Figure 8. Robin Newbold, Chair of the Maui Nui Resources Council, and photo of a west Maui reef where the MNMRC is focusing coral reef recovery efforts.

The Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, together with our partners, initiated and provided the strategic direction for the formation of the Maui Nui Network. Through the support of NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program, Harold K.L. Castle Foundation and other private donors, the Maui Nui Network, just celebrated its first year anniversary in February 2014. Emily Fielding leads TNC's Maui Marine Conservation program and under her vision and guidance, this learning network is now maturing steadily. With the help and support of John Parks, Roxie Sylva and Manuel Mejia to conduct the Train the Trainers (TTT) series of workshops, which started in October 2010, community representatives from across Maui Nui got to know each other and build their marine conservation capacity and planning skills together in a friendly setting. John Parks (with TNC at the time) arranged for MNMRC members to meet the Fiji Locally-Managed Marine Area Network practitioners that were passing through Honolulu. This meeting and hearing about the success of the FLMMA Network planted the seed and inspired the Maui representatives and discussions about forming a similar network for Maui ensued. The Train the Trainer series provided time and structure for communities to meet and explore the idea of a network until it became a natural progression of this group, from which the Maui Nui Network sprung and evolved.



Figure 9. TNC Maui Marine Program staff (from left to right) Roxie Sylva and Emily Fielding, and TNC marine staff from O`ahu, Leilani Warren and Manuel Mejía.

Events in the Formation of the Maui Nui Network

Overview

At its core, the Maui Nui Network is about local communities coming together to openly discuss and learn from one-another's experiences what they value most about their community and marine resources, examine how these resources have changed over the years, explore what can be done to reverse this trend, and to organize and build plans for restoring and preserving the resource for generations to come.

We based the network approach on the success and lessons learned from the Locally Managed Marine Area Network, which formed in Fiji. The approach is to provide structure for the learning and sharing to take place at regular intervals, thereby meeting both cultural and biological needs and goals are achieved for the network sites. In addition, the network is poised to generate best practices, common measures of success, support for rule-making, and public policy for community-based management. It takes time and progress is incremental. However, we believe that once social and biological success is demonstrated in several key sites, and we pass this activation point, this patient and incremental approach will accelerate and spread quickly through other communities across Maui Nui.

To date, three of the six network sites are pursuing Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) designation and community-based fisheries rules through the administrative rule-making process. These three CMMA communities are Kīpahulu, Mo`omomi and Polanui. They have met several times with other like-minded communities and State representatives to achieve their community goals. Both train-the-trainers and network workshops and meetings mix serious business discussions about network governance and strategic plans with fun, hands-on activities. These meetings allow community members to share knowledge, build trust, make use of everyone's skills and expertise, while working towards a common goal of protecting important marine resources for their `ohana and keiki.

Over the years, there were many learning modules led and taught by TNC and others that covered topics such as:

- a) Participatory Assessment (understanding the resources in your area)
- b) Creating historical timelines, land use change maps and seasonal calendars
- c) Designing Project Scope and Resources
- d) Identifying Problems and Root Cause Analysis
- e) Prioritizing Problems
- f) Understanding Stakeholders
- g) Setting Community Values and Vision
- h) Coral monitoring and fish ID
- i) Setting Objectives, Strategic Actions and Action Steps
- j) Preparing for community work
- k) Facilitation
- l) Social Marketing
- m) Strategic communication

Palau-Hawai`i Learning Exchange

The demand for successful examples of good marine stewardship from the communities we work with was very high. When MNMRC members heard about the Fiji experience, it sparked a fire and they wanted to learn more. The Palau-Hawaii Learning Exchange in 2011-2012 was a catalytic experience for Maui Nui participants, where they learned and shared about community and government –led effective conservation efforts, decision-maker support, and how watershed- and nation-wide networks worked.



Figure 10. Participants in the Palau-Hawai`i Learning Exchange in 2011. Photo taken at the Republic of Palau national capitol lawn.

Ke`anae and Kahului, Maui

The next important waypoint in this journey was the first meeting where the six communities considered network formation—in beautiful Ke`anae—a half-way point and convenient meeting place for both east and west Maui communities to meet. This meeting’s theme was “Living today, sustaining the future” and was held at the YMCA’s Camp Ke`anae from September 7-9, 2012. The Chairman of the Board of the Land and Natural Resources, William Aila, was invited. He and his wife attended and he gave a very encouraging and inspiring talk to the group about how their communities are the *kīpuka* (pockets) of traditional management and that from these repositories of traditional knowledge and through *kuleana* (responsibility), they can influence and spread seeds of restoration to other communities. He urged the group to be patient and steadfast “like the strong cliffs of Ke`anae.” The outcome of this meeting was agreement to move forward with forming a network, a draft of the network charter, which went home to the various communities to review and approve. In December 2012, the groups reconvened in Kahului at the Na Kai Ewalu Canoe Club Hale to finalize the language for what became the network founding agreement (Appendix A).



Figure 11. Participants from the six communities, TNC, and MNMRC, and BLNR Chair and Mrs. Aila at the first network formation meeting in Ke`anae.



Figure 11. Participants at Kahului Harbor in December 2012, where they finalized agreement language.

Maunalei, Lāna`i

It was in Maunalei Ahupua`a on Lana`i, where the Maui Nui Community Managed Makai Area Learning Network was officially established and launched on February 22, 2013. The theme of the meeting was “Pupukahi I Holomua” or “Unite in order to progress.” There was a moving signing ceremony for the six founding community sites and the two supporting organizations. This event was made extra special in that we were on some of the only two percent of land still owned by Hawaiian families on Lāna`i, and that Polanui community representatives sailed across the channel from West Maui in a canoe and brought with them coconut seedlings to unite all the sites as one group. This unification of Maui Nui was symbolized through the planting of the coconut tree in Maunalei and each member imparted words of strength and encouragement for the tree and our network to grow strong.



Figure 12. Establishment of the Maui Nui Network in Maunalei, Lana'i in February 2013.

First semi-annual meeting – Polanui September 2013

In the first business meeting the group focused on the nuts and bolts of running the network, serving its needs and tending to business matters such as governance structure and strategic plan and priorities for the first year. The group agreed the different levels of membership within the network. Discussions were held about incorporating into a 501 c (3) and it was agreed upon that this was the route the Network would take to eventually grow on its own. Members also understood that TNC would be a strong supporting presence for at least the next two years and that this was enough time to mature and grow to be less reliant on the supporting organizations. A major accomplishment was the selection of a network chair for the next six years, with Polanui drawing the straw to be the first chair for the network's first year. The term schedule for the rotating chair for the network is:

- Year 1:** Polanui (October 2013-September 2014)
- Year 2:** Mū`olea (October 2014-September 2015)
- Year 3:** Wailuku (October 2015-September 2016)
- Year 4:** Maunalei (October 2016-September 2017)
- Year 5:** Kīpahulu (October 2017-September 2018)
- Year 6:** Mo`omomi (October 2018-September 2019)



Maui Nui Network's first annual meeting and Strategic Communications Workshop in Polanui, Maui on September 6-8, 2013.

TNC and SeaWeb gave a one and a half day Strategic Communications workshop, which covered: Introduction to Strategic Communications, Goal setting, Context and situation analysis, Targeting audiences, Messaging and messengers, Tactics and tools, Measurement and Evaluation. The network identified strategic communications as one of their highest training needs as it was felt that the raising their capacity in communications would help them improve their community outreach and engagement efforts to get the public to support their goals.

Looking Ahead

The Maui Nui Network is busy with finalizing its strategic plan and drafting its articles of incorporation and by-laws in order to file for its 501 c(3) status with the IRS. We held our second semi-annual meeting in February 2014, and will conduct outreach at the upcoming Taro Festival in Hana on May 3, and Olukai's Ho`olaulea on May 10, share about community managed areas and the network's approach to community-based conservation. In July 2014, the Network will host a forum at the Hawaii Conservation Conference and do a media launch.

Now that the charter agreement, governance structure and leadership schedule have been established, the Network will focus on providing relevant trainings and discussion forums for its members that will be beneficial for their on-the-ground needs and implementation of their strategic plans.

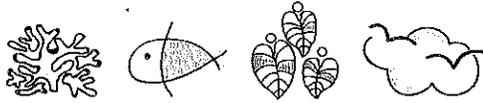
In order to see the Network achieve its full potential, TNC would like to continue convening the Network's semi-annual meetings and providing guidance on strategic growth. Establishing a collaborative learning network is difficult and the Network will benefit from continued assistance in the form of coordination and funding. While a foundation has been established, the Network is still young and needs support from TNC and the larger marine conservation community.



The Maui Nui Network has the power to catalyze and inspire change across the state, and beyond. Its success over the past three years demonstrates that a committed group of members can show incremental growth, meet communities' needs and preserve biodiversity simultaneously. We are deeply grateful to our donors for believing in this network and for their support that helped make it a reality in Hawai'i. *Mahalo Nui Loa!*

APPENDIX A.

MAUI NUI COMMUNITY MANAGED MAKAI AREA LEARNING NETWORK AGREEMENT



Maui Nui Community Managed Makai Area Learning Network

Agreement

We the undersigned, hereby establish this learning network of Maui Nui Community Managed Makai Areas to protect and restore healthy ecosystems that the people of Maui Nui depend on. Our purpose is to share and learn from our diverse experiences, lessons, and best practices to help each of us to *mālama* our areas. By working together, we better ourselves, each other, and the islands of Maui Nui. We are motivated by our love for our island home and are concerned for the sustainability of our natural resources, especially nearshore marine areas. We will actively and purposefully support community efforts to *mālama 'āina* under the direction of *nā kūpuna* and other knowledgeable community members. Our efforts will perpetuate core traditional Hawaiian values and practices. With humility, we put the fish first to ensure that *ka pae 'āina* will return to abundance during our lifetime and for future generations.

Vision

Our relationships are restored to both land and sea as we reach across communities and generations to enhance our strength through diversity. The land and sea are healthy and productive and our actions are consistent with *ahupua'a* stewardship practices and supported by the best of scientific insight.

Guiding Values

With aloha we commit to upholding these values in our work:

1. *Aho nui* our patience is expressed with perseverance
2. *Hiki nō!* we have a can-do attitude
3. *Ho'ihō'i* we strive to restore the land and sea to abundance
4. *Laulima* by working together we achieve our vision
5. *Lōkahi* in unity and agreement we are strong
6. *Mālama* our *kuleana* is to preserve, protect and maintain
7. *Pono* in all endeavors we seek balance, and the highest ethical standards

Focus

We focus on restoring balance to our *ahupua'a* by recognizing the relationship between the land and the sea. We overcome obstacles through our support of each other, sharing lessons, ideas, successes, challenges and best practices. We look to each other for inspiration, strength and support. Our efforts will:

- Build relationships
- Establish and utilize effective local management approaches
- Restore balance and health to marine ecosystems in Maui Nui
- Support a healthy, balanced community relationship with the *'āina*
- Raise capacity and recognition for community-led *ahupua'a* management
- Perpetuate traditional resource management systems for sustainability
- Build and gather support for and from DLNR Administrative Rules where applicable

Shared Kuleana

Together we commit to educate and restore our 'āina to provide a legacy for future generations of ecosystem health and food security. We further commit to:

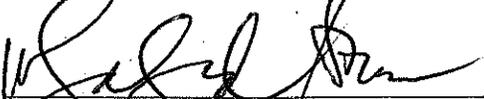
- Support each others' efforts
- Respect and recognize each other's strengths and weaknesses
- Help one another solve problems to increase the effectiveness of our work
- Communicate regularly
- Meet one or more times per year
- Document, share lessons learned, and adhere to *pōno* best practices
- Work together to analyze what is and is not working and to generate new knowledge, ideas, and solutions
- Have fun!

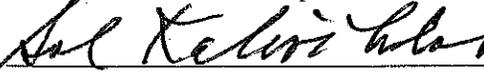
Benefits

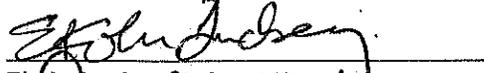
By working together, we accelerate and enhance the practice of stewardship through perpetuation of Hawaiian culture throughout Maui Nui. As member community groups, our mutual benefits include:

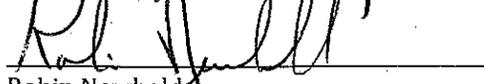
- Information, data, 'ike and *mana'o* collecting and sharing - allowing us to compare our efforts and to validate our work and cultural practices
- Coordination of effort for advocacy and education - enabling us to promote our collective priorities and improve our relationships with all levels of government
- Providing support for new community managed areas - thereby strengthening our foundation
- Respecting our differences - our diversity makes us strong
- Helping one another - we both give and receive
- Saving time and resources - by learning from others' failures and successes
- Having a support network - one that is geographically accessible and culturally relevant

On this 22th day of February 2013, we the undersigned agree to work together in fulfilling this agreement in the spirit of aloha.


Leimano Lind Strauss, Kīpahulu 'Ōhana


Sol Kaho'ohalahala, Maunalei Ahupua'a


Ekolu Lindsey, Polanui, Hiʻi


Robin Newbold,
Maui Nui Marine Resources Council


Kelson Poepoe, Mālama Mo'omomi


Claudia Kalaola, Nā Māno O Mānoa


James John K. Carpio, Wailuku Ahupua'a


Emily Fielding, The Nature Conservancy

