



March 6, 2022

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command
Attention: Andrea Von Burg Hall
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI
96860-3134

By Electronic Submission <https://www.pearlharbordrydockeis.org/#!/publicComments>

Re: Comments to the Draft EIS for Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility Dry Dock and Waterfront Production Facility at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Oahu, Hawaii, February 2022

Aloha Andrea,

I am writing on behalf of the `Aiea Community Association (ACA), whose longstanding purpose is to promote the common interests and the general welfare of the residents, businesses and visitors of `Aiea, Hawai`i, which neighbors the Pearl Harbor Shipyard and area of interest in the above-referenced draft EIS.

The ACA is a Concurring Party to the Programmatic Agreement among the Commander Navy Region Hawaii, the Hawaii State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regarding Shipyard Modernization for the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Through our participation in this process, we have had an opportunity to tour the project site and have a deep appreciation for the cultural and traditional history of the area that housed three traditional fishponds beloved by the Native Hawaiian people for centuries, including, some of our members. In 2019, leaders of ACA participated in the Navy's blessing and bestowing of the Hawaiian name, *Keaoonāmanō, The Realm of the Sharks*, on Dry Dock 1, in honor of the ancestral guardians who lived in the space and protected the people from the man-eating sharks and all harm.

The ACA's interest in restoration of Native Hawaiian cultural spaces in Pearl Harbor dates back over two decades when it first communicated its request to the Navy to assist in the restoration of the historic Loko i`a Pā`aiāu. This vision was incorporated into the City and County of Honolulu's 2001 Master Plan for the Pearl Harbor Historic Trail (PHHT), a multi-use path running from Halawa to Nanakuli, linking neighborhoods, historic sites, recreational areas, and nature along the old O`ahu Railway & Land Company (OR&L)'s right of way. In 2014, that vision was brought to life, when the Navy, Uncle Shad Kane and several of our community members gathered at the Kalaeloa Heritage Center to discuss if any had an interest in restoring the fishpond. The Ali`i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club (APHCC), a member of the ACA Board, quickly accepted, and within two years, a MOU was signed between the Navy and the APHCC.

Since then, an award-winning and nationally recognized relationship has blossomed between the Navy, Ali`i Pauahi, the ACA, Native Hawaiians, and the community as a whole, with thousands of community and service member volunteer hours and resources having been contributed, to date.

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The ACA features this project on our website (<https://www.aieacommunity.org/projects/loko-paaiau-fishpond/>) and also includes updates on our monthly meeting agenda. Our members regularly attend community workdays and provide valuable community engagement support throughout the network of business, governmental and civic organizations. The success of this partnership has drawn the attention of local, national and international organizations and visitors and has been featured in several media outlets, including, a Hawai`i State Department of Education documentary, Kai Piha: Nā Loko I`a, featuring four fishpond restoration projects in Hawai`i, that recently aired on Hawai`i Public Television. This educational piece is shared throughout the Department's Statewide system and was also featured in a Historic Hawai`i Foundation community event, in October 2021.

As Loko i`a Pā`aiāu is in the project's APE, we are particularly interested in Chapter 4 of the Draft EIS, which pertains to potential mitigation measures for consideration to minimize or offset adverse impacts from the proposed project. We strongly echo the Ali`i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club's recommendations for full restoration of the fishpond, as articulated in the 10-year plan which it submitted on February 24, 2022, in any mitigation plan.

Thank you for your time and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (808) 429-1282 or by email claire2164@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Claire J. Tamamoto'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, flowing 'C' and a decorative flourish at the end.

Claire J. Tamamoto
'Aiea Community Association

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