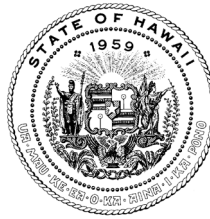


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committees on
WATER & LAND
and
CORRECTIONS, MILITARY, & VETERANS

Thursday, April 14, 2022
8:30 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 430, Via Videoconference

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 19, SENATE DRAFT 1
REQUESTING THAT JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM AND THE DIVISION
OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND
NATURAL RESOURCES COLLABORATE TO ESTABLISH A RECREATIONAL
AREA IN THE EAST LOCH OF PEARL HARBOR.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 19, Senate Draft 1 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to collaborate with Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to establish a recreational area in the East Loch of Pearl Harbor. **The Department offers the following comments.**

The Department's Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) administers the Ocean Recreation Management Area (ORMA) program under Hawaii Administrative Rules Chapter 13-256. DOBOR has authority to designate ORMAs around each of the islands in the State. A designated ORMA contains zones separated by activity type to increase user safety and reduce conflicts. The Department notes that Pearl Harbor waters are under Federal jurisdiction, and the Department therefore defers to any comments and recommendations the United States Navy may provide regarding establishment of a recreational area in the Pearl Harbor East Loch.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



PEARL CITY NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 21 <https://pearlcitynb.com/>

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BLVD, SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817
PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • <http://www.honolulu.gov/nco>

*Chair Larry Veray, Vice-Chair Dion Mesta, Secretary Shanda Delos Reyes, Treasurer Guy Inouye,
Kuni Agard, Charmaine Doran, Elayne Funakoshi, Jayden Liu, Lawrence Miyazono, Kelsey Poaha, Tony Velasco*

RESOLUTION REQUESTING A PUBLIC RECREATIONAL BOATING ZONE IN PEARL HARBOR

WHEREAS, Pearl Harbor is a natural estuary with 4 major lochs, 36 miles of shoreline and approximately 5,000 acres of water surface; and

WHEREAS, Pearl Harbor or Pu'uloa is a cultural, military, and historically significant site for the people of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, in 1887 the U.S. government obtained exclusive use of Pearl Harbor ("Harbor") and eventually integrated the harbor has a significant part of U.S. Navy operations in Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, for more than 30 years, the Pearl Harbor Navy Complex ("Complex") which includes the harbor and surrounding lands (Exhibit A), has been a top priority for the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the focus of numerous superfund studies and remediation projects; and

WHEREAS, the Navy continues to actively work with the community, the EPA, and the Hawai'i Department of Health to implement long-term dredging, testing, and remediation projects for the Complex area; and

WHEREAS, according to the EPA "there are no immediate threats to human health or the environment at the site"; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu's *Primary Urban Plan (2004)* states:

"In the Aiea-Pearl City region, Pearl Harbor's East Loch is a major visual feature and potential recreational asset for the region"; and

WHEREAS, similarly, the *Aiea-Pearl City Livable Communities Plan (2004)* under Future Recreation Projects 2006 - 2025iv includes the following item: "Discuss with the Navy the possibility of limited recreational boating in East Loch from Neal S. Blaisdell Park"; and

WHEREAS, the Navy's Morale, Welfare, Recreation ("MWR") program includes long-standing and successful boating and leisure watercraft activities in Pearl Harbor; and

WHEREAS, the MWR program encourages recreational canoeing, sailing, and kayaking from locations near the East Loch of Pearl Harbor for all military personnel, veterans, Department of Defense employees and their guests; and

WHEREAS, public ocean access and coastal recreational opportunities are of central importance to life in Hawai'i; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Pearl City Neighborhood Board ("Board") supports the establishment of a recreational zone in the East Loch of Pearl Harbor for public boating and other leisure watercraft activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board respectfully requests that the State of Hawai'i and Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam Command collaborate to create a public recreational boating zone for the Pearl City community and the people of Hawai'i; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board acknowledges that to maintain national security in Pearl Harbor the U.S. Navy and Coast Guard regularly evokes security protocols such as patrols vi and that these types of activities may continue with a public recreational zone; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board encourages the State of Hawai'i's Department of Land and Natural Resources and the City's Department of Parks and Recreation to explore developing small-scale facilities for recreational boating and watercraft activities near the Neil Blaisdell Park and/or the Aiea Bay State Recreation Area; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation, Governor David Ige, Commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor - Hickam, Commander, U.S. Coast Guard District 14, the State of Hawai'i's Military Liaison, Senator Clarence K. Nishihara and all members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs Committees, Senator Bennette E. Misalucha, Representative Sam Kong and all members of the Corrections, Military, & Veterans Committee, Representative Gregg Takayama, the Chairs and Members of the Aiea Neighborhood Board, Ewa Neighborhood Board, Waianae Neighborhood Board, Kailua Neighborhood Board, and the Waimanalo Neighborhood Board.

The Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21 voted at its November 23, 2021 Regular Board meeting, by 9-0-0 vote.

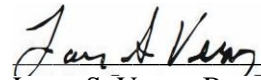
Respectfully Submitted By:



Charmaine T. Doran, Chair
Legislative and Capital Improvements
Committee



Shanda Delos Reyes, Vice-Chair
Legislative and Capital Improvements
Committee



Larry S. Veray, Board Chair



PEARL CITY NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD

i <https://semspub.epa.gov/work/09/100013061.pdf> ii

<https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=0904481> iii

<http://www.honoluluodpp.org/Portals/0/pdfs/planning/PUC/PrimaryUrbanCenterDP.pdf> iv

[http://www.honoluluodpp.org/Portals/0/pdfs/planning/SpecialAreaPlans/AieaPearlCityLC\(2004\).pdf](http://www.honoluluodpp.org/Portals/0/pdfs/planning/SpecialAreaPlans/AieaPearlCityLC(2004).pdf) v

<https://jbphh.greatlifehawaii.com/rec/marinas/rainbow-bay-marina> vi Downloadable PDF:

<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/content/dam/cnic/cnrh/pdfs/Joint%20Base%20Pearl%20Harbor%20Hickam/5000/JBPHHIN-ST%205510.2A%20SEA%20AREA%20ENTRY%20REG%20FOR%20RECREATION.pdf>

SCR-19-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/13/2022 11:53:45 AM

Testimony for WAL on 4/14/2022 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charmaine Doran	Neighborhood Board	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha! Honorable Committee members. Thank you for considering SCR 19. I am Charmaine T. Doran, member of the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21. It is an honor to submit testimony to your committee and on this important matter.

At the end of 2021, our board adopted a resolution requesting that the State work with the Military to establish a public recreation zone in the East Loch of Pearl Harbor. This resolution was prompted after we witnessed sailing, kayaking, and canoeing taking place in the Harbor on a regular basis. This practice has been in place for many decades.

Today, residents of Pearl City, Aiea, West Loch, Waipahu, and others, can walk to the water from City and State parks but cannot enter or use it. They can watch others paddle and sail, but we cannot do the same. Hawai'i has a long and strong history of serving and supporting the military. However, these antiquated practices further strain the relationship between Hawai'i's people and the federal government.

In other places such as California, the public is already granted access to the waters fronting and surrounding military bases. It's a simple fix as the military has the power to grant access and establish this type of public zone effortlessly.

In March, DLNR's Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) shared its authority to designate Ocean Recreation Management Areas (ORMA) throughout the State. According to DLNR, ORMA help to increase user safety and reduce conflicts by designating use zones. DLNR is right. An ORMA is exactly what is needed for the public in the harbor. A similar zone is already in place for recreational use of the harbor by the military.

We hope that DLNR will work on behalf of Hawai'i residents by leading these discussions with the Navy and officially supporting a public ORMA in the East Loch of Pearl Harbor. I am confident that with the State's involvement, one day soon both military children and our keiki can learn to canoe and sail together in Pearl Harbor.

A special thank you to Senator Misalucha and others for introducing and considering these measures.

I humbly ask for your support and passage of SCR 19.

Mahalo!

SCR-19-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 6:09:47 PM

Testimony for WAL on 4/14/2022 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samuel M Mitchell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a retired PHNSY employee and former HFEMTC & Machinists Union Steward / Officer, I think this is a great idea.

Having the Navy work more closely with the City & State would help develop trust and improve relations with the civilians on Oahu.

Samuel Mitchell (Member Makiki NB-10)