

Report on: Motion 65
Report of: Kua‘āina Ulu ‘Auamo (KUA)
IUCN Indigenous People’s Organization member
Fr: Kevin Chang, Executive Director
Commissioner IUCN CEESP
CEESP Steering Committee Member
CEESP Theme on Culture and Conservation Co-chair

IN HAWAI‘I

For KUA and the community networks we support here in Hawai‘i, it should be noted that the State has begun to do work some work that supports the sentiments of this Motion.

In 1994 the state legislature passed a law that allowed the State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to begin working with Hawai‘i communities on co-governance of their fisheries based on customary and traditional practices “for the purpose of reaffirming and protecting fishing practices customarily and traditionally exercised for purposes of native Hawaiian subsistence, culture, and religion.” After a 20 year effort, in 2015, the State finally passed its first full Community-based subsistence fishing area (CBSFA) designation and rule package for Hā‘ena, Kaua‘i. Currently, a draft CBSFA proposal for Mo‘omomi, Moloka‘i, the first and original –now 25 year- effort that gave birth to the original CBSFA law, lies within the DLNR Division of Aquatic Resources awaiting the initiation of the administrative hearing and rulemaking process.

A number of rural and Native Hawaiian community groups work on possible rule packages and community outreach to discuss the idea as they await the hearings for Mo‘omomi.

ADVOCACY

KUA is cooperating with the IUCN Director General’s office to submit this motion along with Motion 75 on the “Affirmation of the Role of Indigenous Cultures in Global Conservation Efforts” in Hawai‘i to policy and decision-makers throughout the state of Hawai‘i.

KUA will do what it can do throughout the year with the networks it serves to encourage communities, organizations and leaders to utilize this motion as a part of their advocacy tool box.