

## Letters | 8-29-15

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Time to bring the honu home

Cultural revival of the Hawaiian people over the past half century is one of the many joys I've witnessed since making Hawaii home in 1965. Caring for the land and sea, speaking Hawaiian, ocean voyaging, self-determination, and the quest for justice all come to mind. "Who we are is tied to where we are and where we come from." And so it is for the green sea turtle — the honu of Hawaii. The honu is bonded to the Hawaiian culture genetically, geographically and ecologically.

In the early 1970s, the honu's survival was in serious jeopardy until sensible management was restored by the State of Hawaii banning all commercial harvest. Since then, the turtle, like the Hawaiian culture itself, has flourished and expanded beyond all expectation.

The time has now come to return stewardship of the honu home to Hawaii where it rightfully belongs.

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