

## APPENDIX A

### HAWAIIAN SURFING TERMS

These definitions of Hawaiian surfing terms include their bibliographic sources, using the following key:

- A: Andrews, Lorrin, 1865  
 B: Beckwith, Martha, 1919  
 E: Emerson, Nathaniel B., 1909  
 F: Fornander, Abraham, 1916–1920  
 H: Hawaiian Ethnological Notes  
 I: I'i, John Papa, 1959  
 PE: Pukui, Mary Kawena, and Samuel Elbert, 1986  
 T: Thrum, 1896

*ahua*: any place inside where the surf first rises and breaks; *kūlana nalu* is where the surf rises and breaks again (T, p. 109)

*alaia*: a thin, broad surfboard good for fast-breaking surf, usually made from koa or breadfruit; also called *omo* (PE, p. 17); nine feet long (I, p. 135)

*'ale*: wave, crest of a wave, billow; apparently used more for open ocean swells than waves breaking on a shore (PE, p. 19)

*'ale laulooa*: a long and large wave (PE, p. 19)

*he'e*: to slide, to surf (PE, p. 63)

*he'e nalu*: to ride a surfboard; surfing; surf-rider; literally, wave-sliding (PE, p. 63)

*he'e pu'ewai*: to surf toward the mouth of a stream, or up a stream (PE, p. 63)

*he'e umauma*: body-surfing; to body-surf (PE, p. 63)

*heihei nalu*: a surfboard race (H, vol. 1, p. 656)

*honua nalu*: the base of a breaker (PE, p. 80)

*ho'onalu*: to form waves (PE, p. 260)

*huia*: an especially high wave formed by the meeting of two crests, characteristic of the surf of Kaipalaoa, Hawai'i; literally, joined (B, p. 627; PE, p. 86)

*huki*: to pull, as in paddling with hands, straining to pull the water back to catch a wave (PE, p. 87)

*kaha*: to surf; to body-surf (PE, p. 110)

*kākala*: the surf in which an *alaia* board is used; a curling wave (F, vol. 6, p. 206)

*kīko'o*: a twelve-to-eighteen-foot-long surfboard that is good for surf that breaks roughly but is difficult to handle (I, p. 135; PE, p. 150)

*kīoe*: a small surfboard (PE, p. 153)

*kīpapa*: prone position on a surfboard; to surf prone (PE, p. 154); a style of riding (T, p. 110)

*kūlana nalu*: place where the waves swell up and the surfer paddles to catch them, usually at the primary break farthest outside (PE, p. 179)

*lala*: riding at an angle; diagonal surf (PE, p. 191; seaward side of a cresting wave; crest of a wave (T, p. 109, 112)

*lauoa*: a long wave or surf breaking from one end of the beach to the other; one of two types of surfing waves, the other being the *'ōhū*, which rises without breaking; the same as a *kākala* (T, p. 109; PE, p. 196)

*lele wa'a*: canoe-leaping; jumping off a canoe with a surfboard onto a wave (I, p. 133; PE, p. 202)

*muku*: the cresting section of the wave face as opposed to the *honua*, the base (A, p. 109; PE, p. 256)

*nalu*: a wave; surf; full of waves; to form waves (PE, p. 260)

*nalu ha'i lala*: wave that breaks diagonally (PE, p. 260)

*nalu kua loloa*: long wave (PE, p. 260)

*nalu miki*: receding wave (PE, p. 260)

*nalu muku*: broken section of a wave (PE, p. 260)

*nalunalu*: rough, of a sea with high waves; to form high waves (PE, p. 260)

*nalu pū kī*: wave that shoots high (PE, p. 260)

*'ōhū*: one of two types of waves ridden, the other being *lauoa*; a low wave that rises without breaking but is of sufficient strength to be ridden with a surfboard (A, p. 109; PE, p. 278)

*olo*: a very long, narrow, and very thick surfboard with a marked double-convex lenticular cross-section; said to be reserved for the chiefs only and to be good for riding a non-breaking wave (see *'ōhū*) (T, p. 109; PE, p. 285; I, p. 135)

*omo*: a type of surfboard the same as the *alaia* (PE, p. 288)

*'onaulu loa*: a wave of great length and endurance (PE, p. 288; E, p. 35)

*ōnini*: a kind of surfboard difficult to manage, used by experts (*rare*, PE, p. 289); a thick surfboard of wiliwili wood (H, vol. 1, p. 655)

*'ōpu'u*: a large surf, swell (PE, p. 293)

*'ōwili*: a thick surfboard of wiliwili wood (A, p. 165; PE, p. 295)

*paha*: a kind of surfboard (*rare*, PE, p. 299)

*pākā*: to surf, as with a canoe, board, or body; to skim, as a surfing canoe (PE, p. 304)

*papa he'e nalu*: a surfboard; literally, a board [for] wave-sliding. *Hā'awi papa he'e nalu* is to give with the understanding that the object will be returned [surfboards were loaned rather than given away permanently] (PE, p. 317)

*pu'ua*: a surfboard (*rare*, PE, p. 358)