



DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

News Release

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GOVERNOR

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DLNR SETS PRESENTATIONS ON FISHERIES DATA, FOLLOWED BY INFORMATION MEETINGS TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE REGULATIONS FOR CERTAIN MARINE FISH

HONOLULU – The Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) invites the public to participate in continuing public meetings to discuss possible regulations for certain marine fish species. The Division has posted on its website several reports on the outcomes of the first round of public meetings (held in January through March this year), the results of mail surveys, and other pertinent information.

Interested parties may find these useful for the upcoming meetings. The website address: <http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/dar/announcements.html#pubmeetings>.

[O‘ahu meetings have been divided into two parts:](#)

Information presentations:

Seminar-type presentations scheduled on September 10 and 15 will be devoted to a presentation by DAR staff on commercial fishery data analysis. These presentations are meant to augment or support the evaluation of the present rules and are a basis for revising them. A question-and-answer session will follow.

Presentations will focus on at least three main fish families that aquatic resources managers believe may be in need of updated regulations. The species of concern are: Parrotfish (*uhu*), Goatfish (*weke*), and Jacks (*ulua/papio*).

The schedule for the fishery data analysis presentations will be:

- Honolulu – September 10, 2009, 11 a.m. -12 p.m., 1151 Punchbowl Street, Kalanimoku state office building, DLNR Board Room 132.
- Honolulu – September 15, 2009, 6-8 p.m., Kawanānakoā middle school cafeteria, 49 Funchal Street.

Public information meetings

Information meetings will then be held on Sept. 24, Oct. 8 and 13, which will focus on using various measures to regulate the harvesting of marine life that may be at risk of being over-harvested, and that could improve the conditions of the fisheries for species of concern. The fishery information provided in the afore-mentioned presentations will support these discussions. DLNR biologists would also like to discuss other methods to manage fisheries, including the use of daily bag limits. No rule changes have yet been drafted.

The schedule for the public information meetings will be:

Honolulu – September 24, 2009, 2-4 p.m., 1151 Punchbowl Street,
Kalanimoku state office building, DLNR Board Room 132.

Honolulu – October 8, 2009, 6-8 p.m., 1151 Punchbowl Street,
Kalanimoku state office building, DLNR Board Room 132.

Kane‘ohe – October 13, 2009, 6-8 p.m., Ben Parker Elementary School cafeteria,
45-259 Waikalua Road.

Only one meeting is scheduled on Lana‘i, which will be a public informational meeting:

Lana‘i – September 10, 2009, 5-7 p.m., Lana‘i Public Library.

Public meetings have already been held in Hilo, Kona, Maui, and Kaua‘i.

“The previous round of meetings held earlier this year presented information on these fishes, and we listened to the concerns and suggestions from the public regarding them,” said Laura H. Thielen, DLNR Chairperson.

“The input we received, along with results from mail-in surveys, has assisted the Division of Aquatic Resources toward the development of draft rules that would support the conservation of our marine fishery resources while balancing the needs of recreational, subsistence and commercial fishermen,” she said.

For more information contact DAR offices at: Maui (808) 243-5294; and Honolulu (808) 587-0100.

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