



DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

News Release

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

WILLIAM J. AILA JR.
CHAIRPERSON

For Immediate Release: September 17, 2012

**DLNR HOSTS PUBLIC TALK STORY AND MAPPING SESSION WITH
FISHERMEN AND OCEAN GATHERERS ON KAUA‘I AND NI‘IHAU**

LIHU‘E -- The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) invites fishermen and ocean gatherers of Ni‘ihau, Lehua Rock, Ka‘ula, and the Na Pali Coast to a talk story and mapping session aimed at helping to identify important use areas. The meeting and mapping session will be held starting at 8 a.m. Saturday, September 22, 2012, at King Kaumuali‘i Elementary School Cafeteria, located at 4380 Hanamaulu Rd. in Lihu‘e. This meeting is open to the public.

The information gathered at the meeting will be used to help the DLNR and the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (sanctuary) evaluate the potential impact various measures, now under considered by the sanctuary, may have on area fishermen and ocean gatherers. The sanctuary is administered by a partnership of the State of Hawai‘i through the DLNR and NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

“As the sanctuary goes through its management plan review process, it’s important that we understand how our potential actions might affect the community,” said William J. Aila Jr., DLNR Chairperson. “This meeting is part of that process. I look forward to talking with fishermen and gathers to collect information on important use areas and to hear their ideas and concerns.”

Meeting schedule:

- 8 to 10 a.m.: Open meeting with William J. Aila Jr.
- 10 a.m. until pau: Mapping session assisted by geographic information specialists with the Pacific Services Center and the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary

For those who are not able to participate in the Saturday mapping session, maps and instructions to provide input will be available after Sept. 24 at the Kaua‘i sanctuary office at 4370 Kukui Grove St., Suite 206, in Lihu‘e. The public will have until October 12 to return the maps and corresponding information.

For more information or to request maps, please contact Elia Herman of the Department of Land and Natural Resources at 808-587-0106 or Elia.Y.Herman@hawaii.gov.

###

For more information news media may contact:

Deborah Ward
DLNR Public Information Specialist
Phone: (808) 587-0320