Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary
Management Plan Review Public Scoping Meeting Comments

Name: DAN ROUDEBUSH Date: 8/11/10

Island: HAWAII Meeting Location: KEAUHOW BEACH HOTEL

Contact Information
326-2025

Comments: (1) Why is there a need to bring in other species like monk seals, turtles, etc? They are already protected by the endangered species act and Marine Mammals protection act. (Monk seals, other whales*, etc.

* over

(2) Expansion of sanctuary boundries is not needed & will create conflicts with fishermen. Bait schools for example hang out from 30-100 fathoms, ie: Grounds off Keahole Airport. Growth of whale population of 5-6% a year indicates current sanctuary boundries are sufficient

(3) Previous expansion of boundries was ~~vetoed~~ modified by Cayetano. There were reasons for this. What changes have occurred to resurrect the boundry expansion proposal?

(4) There is a rumor, (maybe true?) that certain Sanctuary Board members are proposing fines for fishing boats approaching whales in the sanctuary. They seem to feel that whales can be avoided. NOT TRUE as any fishermen can tell you frequently their numbers make avoidance impossible. To fine someone when the whale population continues to increase with fishing is concurrent is unwarranted

(5) over

Comments are due by October 16, 2010 to:

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary
6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy, Suite 301
Honolulu, HI 96825
Phone: 808-397-2651 x 267
Fax: 808-397-2650
Email: hihwmanagementplan@noaa.gov

Entanglement

*Other Whales

I understand there are in the Hawaiian Islands ~10-11 different whales, dolphins, porpoise etc. I have personally seen that various PODs cruise the island. They don't hang out in one place, sanctuary or otherwise. So what good is a sanctuary for cruising pods?

(5) One wonders how much the current staff wants to expand regulatory efforts. One would wish that they would keep such efforts as low as possible to accomplish objectives.

(6) Expanding the sanctuary to large limits may restrict commercial whale watching. I'm neutral on this issue but raise it as it has economic implications.