

Ocean Film Fest and the **Hawaiian Island Humpback Whale National Marine**

Sanctuary Present the First Annual *Ocean Film Series*

The first annual (Waimea) Ocean Film Series began making its' premier around the Big Island this winter. This year's event features a collection of films, all major cinema documentaries, which collectively paint a picture of what is going on in the ocean today. It will be shown for the first time on Maui at the National Marine Sanctuary Learning Center, 726 South Kihei Road, Kihei, Maui, HI, on **June 11th and 12th 2010**, in recognition of World Ocean Day.

The End of the Line – Friday, June 11th, 6:00 pm

Based on the book by Charles Clover, *The End of the Line* explores the devastating effect that overfishing is having on fish stocks and the health of our oceans. It examines what is causing the dilemma and what can be done to solve it. It chronicles how demand for cod off the coast of Newfoundland in the early 1990s led to the decimation of the most abundant cod population in the world, how species cannot survive at the rate they are being removed from the sea, and how farmed fish as a solution is a myth. Filmed across the world – from the Straits of Gibraltar to the coasts of Senegal and Alaska to the Tokyo fish market – featuring top scientists, indigenous fishermen and fisheries enforcement officials, *The End of the Line* is a wake-up call to the world. Already it is having an impact - in the UK major retailers have altered their fish sourcing policies as a result of the film, which has received widespread press coverage, been favorably reviewed, and has been complimented in the British parliament. Described by *The Economist* as, "The Inconvenient Truth about the Ocean."

A Sea Change – Friday, June 11th, 7:45 pm

Winner: Numerous International Awards

A Sea Change, is a beautiful, thought provoking and very important film about a phenomenon that's only recently being understood. (*A Sea Change* follows the journey of retired history teacher Sven Huseby on his quest to discover what is happening to the world's oceans. After reading Elizabeth Kolbert's "The Darkening Sea," Sven becomes obsessed with the rising acidity of the oceans and what this "sea change" bodes for mankind. His quest takes him to Alaska, California, Washington, and Norway as he uncovers a worldwide crisis that most people are unaware of. With beautiful imagery, it is also a paean to the ocean world and an intimate story of a Norwegian-American family whose heritage is bound up with the sea.

Addicted to Plastic – Friday, June 11th, 9:30 pm

"A sobering must-see and needs to be shown at every educational level globally!" Dr. James M. Cervino, Visiting Scientist, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Department of Marine Chemistry

For better and for worse, no ecosystem or segment of human activity has escaped the shrink-wrapped grasp of plastic. *Addicted To Plastic* is a global journey to investigate what we really know about the material of a thousand uses and why there's so darn much of it. On the way we discover a toxic legacy, and the men and women dedicated to cleaning it up.

Sharkwater – Saturday, June 12th, 5:00 pm

Winner: 31 International Awards

Driven by passion fed from a lifelong fascination with sharks, Stewart debunks historical stereotypes and media depictions of sharks as bloodthirsty, man-eating monsters and reveals the reality of sharks as pillars in the evolution of the seas.

Filmed in visually stunning, high definition video, Sharkwater takes you into the most shark rich waters of the world, exposing the exploitation and corruption surrounding the world's shark populations in the marine reserves of Cocos Island, Costa Rica and the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador. It will change the way you view sharks forever.

A Life Among Whales – Saturday, June 12th, 6:45 pm

Winner: Best Cinematography, United Nations Association Film Festival

Weaving together natural history and biography, A Life Among Whales is a fascinating exploration into the life and work of whale biologist and activist Roger Payne. Payne's electrifying discovery in the early 1970s that whales sing "songs" helped ignite the modern day environmental movement. With beautiful and haunting images, Payne challenges us to become the greatest generation of all. Saving earth's largest creatures would open the door to humanity's recognition of our true role in the biosphere.

The Cove – Saturday, June 12th, 8:00 pm

Rated PG-13, *The Cove* is a very powerful film, which just won an Oscar for this year's best documentary. Former dolphin trainer Ric O'Barry joins forces with filmmaker Louis Psihoyos to get to the truth of what's really going on in a remote cove near the town of Taiji. They will recruit an "Ocean's Eleven"-style team of underwater sound and camera experts, special effects artists, marine explorers, and world-class free divers who will carry out an undercover operation to photograph the off-limits cove, while playing a cloak-and-dagger game with those who would have them jailed. The result is a provocative mix of investigative journalism, eco-adventure and arresting imagery that adds up to an urgent plea for hope.

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For more information or to volunteer with NOAA's Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, please contact:

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