

LAWIAKEA
BALAZS

GEORGE BALAZS TEL (800) 286-2899

JAN 04 - Mead DAY 60 -
SEPT 05 9-4-2005

COMPOSITION P. 102
LAWIAKEA
HONULULU III

OFFICIAL® 100 sheets • 200 pages
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JAN 04 - SEPT 05
GEORGE BALAZS

3 OF 4



DAY 67
Sept. 11, 05 SUNDAY
"9-11" 4th Anniversary

ARWE
1130 am

overcast
Small surf waves
but no surfers.

IPM 29 people on beach, 17 in water
different directions
TOOK pictures of ARRAY of signs/setup
TRIPPING
STUMPS reading sawing.

11:57pm Big BUS
Royal STAR 841-STAR

www.superstarhawaii.com
"KAINOA" TOUR guide

Large gold BUS
PASSENGERS FROM
CRUISE SHIP.
BUS charter.

- INCIDENT REPORTS -

① 12:00 PM ~~4:45~~ MID BEACH out - 40+ from above bus
+ many others already on the beach crowding
around. Asked cooperation giving turtle
space - ^{from a} row on each side - don't crowd
in front of it. Local man ~30 y.o. tattoos
angry steps forward and said "you don't own
the beach", drew back arm threatening. Woman
with him grabbed his arm saying "come on come on"
I said not I don't own beach but am only
trying to look out for best interests of the
turtles. ^{+ gave everyone a chance to see the turtle.} They left. No people later expressed
sympathy for difficult job I have.

② Scallop out - 1:30 pm FAR BEACH

Man w/ large video camera entering
VIDEOTAPING me, crowd and Turtle

CONTINUED
 9/11/05 INCIDENT REPORT: I approached ^{led} who seemed to be
 SUNDAY lead man and gave him my card + vosa literature
 telling him I was gov. employe & hence any footage
 of me would need approval - please call me. I ask
 what kind of program and did they have ^{Hawaii} State filming
 permit - he said yes and yes also it was a true program
 I said local residents have problems/sensitivities about
 so many people coming here - he should try to lessen possib
 of program attracting even more people. Two women with
 group confronted me, one said I wasnt welcoming Japanese
 tourists - they lived on N. Shore (?) and welcomed them I
 said they had misunderstood me - I only expressed concern
 about being a true program - she then said "if wasnt
 was a "situation program" (?) I said all I knew was
 Man said yes it was a true program. They said the
 weren't aware of problems/traffic etc here and were
 going to report me. I said I had just given
 my card to the man and left to another part
 of the beach.

Man (4 months in Hawaii - possibly military - off people
 me - expressed sympathy - he heard everything.
 I gave him my card and asked like usual contact
 me on email as I suspected they were
 going to falsely complain. He said he would.

Sunday
Day 67
Continued

(13)

9/11/05 4:10pm out to beach - Fae Beach
Sunday LH 434769/B2D = L3
3 TOTAL on the beach all afternoon - still there
at 7 PM departure.

9/13/05 Turtle basking ^{NEAR} in front of Diane's house.
Tuesday ANDERSON'S
6 PM ~~THE~~ KAWAIILOA
SCL-77.2 SCL 1 km west
NO Previous tags. OF LANIAKEA.

Day 69
Laniakea

new LHF - 470B223763


Turtle did not move after being PIT tagged. Just opened eyes and closed them again

Date: Tue, 13 Sep 2005 01:41:34 EDT
From: Jokaloke@aol.com
To: gbalazs@honlab.nmfs.hawaii.edu
Subject: Hi George

Hi George,
All went well at Laniakea today. It was a relatively quiet day with L-1, L-2 and L-3 basking and the surf higher than I've seen it all summer. Tomorrow I'll be teaching until 1pm, then I'll be back on the North Shore until 6:00 pm, when I'll have to leave for a parent/teacher meeting. I hope you'll be excavating the nest sometime between 1:30 and 5:30 so I can watch or help.
Talk to you soon.
Aloha,
Joanne

DAY 69

9/13/05
Tuesday

"Carruthers West"
nest excavation
Bridget, GB, Diane Anderson,
Joanne Pellegrino

37 shells, 29 unshelled
N=66

NAF
(no apparent rotibility)

Red crust

||||

||| (minor)

i (minor)

(5)

||||

||||

1 (major)

1 (major)

||

2 minor
2 major
14

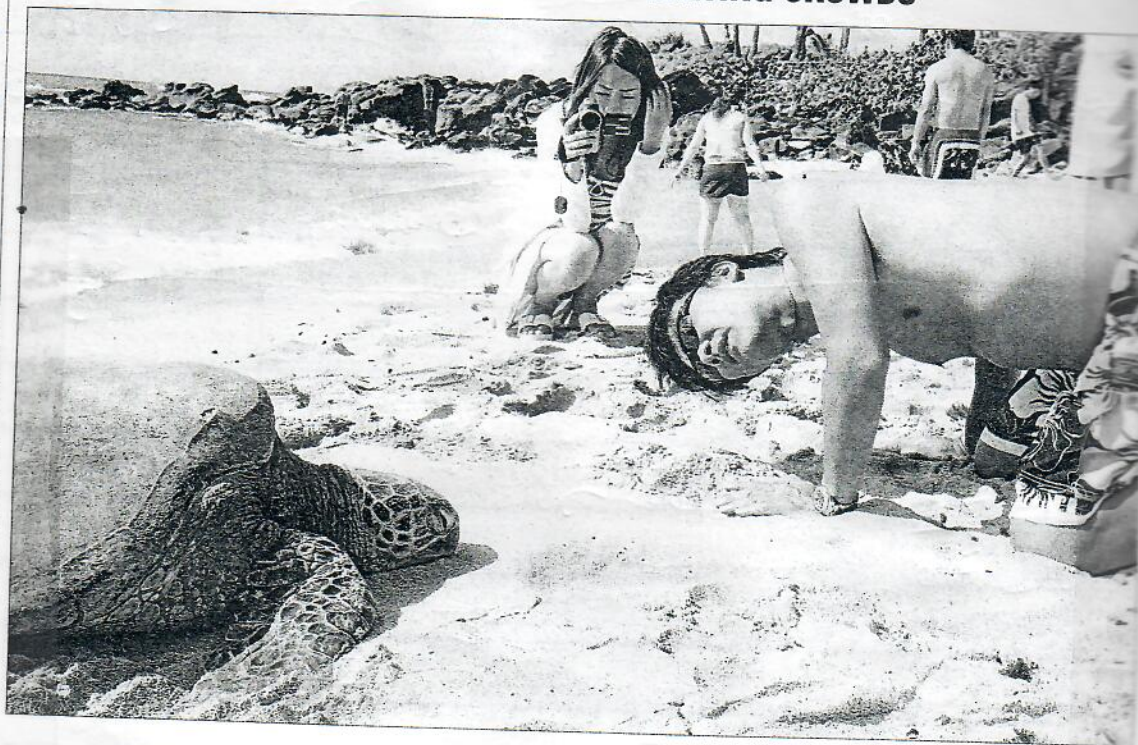
16 Red ~~stuff~~ ^{stuff}
combined and
sent to Dutton

in & also
for DNA
analysis.

Green Turtle?
Hawaiian?
SLP linked?

Go to book IV

ROADSIDE ATTRACTION DRAWING CROWDS



Toshiaki Koshimizu, a visitor from Japan, says hello to a sea turtle on Laniākea Beach yesterday afternoon. The turtles basking on the

beach are drawing big crowds of tourists, and neighborhood residents are unhappy with the traffic jams that result.

REBECCA BREYER | The Honolulu Advertiser

Turtle jams trouble North Shore

BY WILL HOOVER
AND BRIAN McINNIS
Advertiser Staff Writers

HALEIWA — North Shore residents say a recent phenomenon at Laniākea Beach, or “Turtle Beach” — namely hordes of gawkers stopping to snap photos of 200-pound sea turtles basking on the white sand — has created

a dangerous traffic bottleneck.

Pedestrians dashing back and forth on narrow, two-lane Kamehameha Highway next to the beach compete with irate, slow-moving motorists, and there is no crosswalk or sufficient parking area across from the beach.

The North Shore Neighborhood sub-committee held a

meeting last night to address traffic solutions.

“I watch this day after day after day,” said house painter Keith Adams, who has seen it all from his perch between the highway and the beach, where he has been painting a two-story home. Adams described the scene as a “new Waikīkī.”

In Hawai‘i, green sea turtles, or honu in Hawaiian, are a threatened species under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. People aren’t supposed to feed, touch, crowd, or tease them, but it happens.

Residents of Pohaku Loa Way.

SEE TURTLES, B6

(Go to p. 147)

MARINE TURTLE RESEARCH PROGRAM
NOAA NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
INTERNAL USE ONLY

CORI UNTANGLE

scattered CHB: L6 copy given *

FDPS:

LOGBOOK:

9/7/05 out
10:05 off by
CORI

SEA TURTLE STRANDING QUESTIONNAIRE:

"Stranding" is any injured, sick, dead, or abnormally behaving sea turtle ashore. Due to personnel safety concerns, we do not normally go into water over knee-deep to salvage a turtle, however we do record such reports. A physical response will be made to stranded (live or dead) turtles when appropriate and possible. Personnel and other resource limitations, including other cases in progress, may cause delays.

Name: C:C Lifeguards (RUSS) → LT Kelly # 638-0230 **Phone: 9/7/05 10:20 am
Mailing address: (optional) to send sea turtle literature) Lahae - 293-7771

Special contact (Lahae Daven) #293-7771 Email: ksgirls@hawaii.vr.com
PO Box 1033

LOCATION

Where is the turtle located? (name and specific area of beach, driving directions, etc.)

Lanaikea - "rights" surf spot, Haleiwa side
on beach walk towards Haleiwa, look for sandy channel off rock
beach where surfers enter. Turtle right there off end of ledge
waist deep water

Is the turtle on shore? If not, what is the distance from shore/ depth of water?
No waist deep water

Are there any obvious signs as to the cause of death/injury? Description? (tumors, fish hook/ line, etc.) OVER →

turtle swimming with net wrapped around RFF: red buoy (site of sm. next football)
on top of head. Probably piece of a throw net. Turtle still able to use both
flippers and swim. A tourist trying to help disentangle it thought the
net was wrapped tight: cutting into skin. Tourists could not catch turtle - swam out

TURTLE

Is the turtle alive or dead? (A) D Unknown

Is it possible for one person to lift and carry the turtle? Y (N)

"Best guess" of the weight of the turtle? lbs. Sub adult ("regular size") but not full grown

About how large is the turtle (shell length)?

Alive- What is the behavior of the turtle? (observed swimming, lethargic, buoyant, responsive, etc.)
Swimming

How long have you observed the turtle?

Dead- What is the condition of the turtle? (rotten, fresh, intact, etc.)

Is it above the high tide mark so it will not float away?

How much longer will you (the contact) be home/ on site?

Any evidence of law enforcement violation? If yes, please describe briefly: Yes - net

MTRP USE ONLY:

Name: BM
Literature sent? Yes

Notes: Lahae was paddling in from surfing when spotted a man trying to disentangle turtle. Could not get ahold of turtle, paddled in: went down to Oahu: reported it to lifeguard (Rocky). Dispatch called us about and gave us Lahae's #: law not on site. Lifeguards went to check it out and did not find turtle at 10:37am. BM notified Cori who's at Lahae's today: gave description of man (5'6", large shorts, wh. hair fall) for more details

SSG Pager 288-5685

NMFS-LE
541-2727
800-853-1964

BIG ISLAND
Hilo
327-7780 pgr.
327-7794 pgr.
327-7795 pgr.
Kona
881-4200

Mauli
Kihel area
278-3375
all other Maui areas
893-3172 pgr.

DOCARE

587-0077 Oahu
984-8110 Maui
974-6208 Hilo/ 327-4961 Kona/ 887-6196 Waimea
274-3344/ 274-3521 Kauai
563-5190 Molokai
565-7916 Lanai
5/23/2005

*RUSS said he'd call KE.

144

Turtles

CONTINUED FROM B1

a private street that connects with Kamehameha Highway where people have parked to see the turtles, have complained that traffic backs up so badly they cannot get out.

"(There should be) a designated parking area," said Hale'iwa resident Joanne Pettigrew, who lives right next to the popular turtle basking area and said she planned to attend last night's meeting. "But there's also the hazard factor for pedestrians with no crosswalk."

Adams said a constant, afternoon crowd of onlookers and photo snappers stop and make the dash across the highway.

"I saw a car hit a guy and drag him all the way from one side of the road to the other," Adams said. "Two police officers were standing there watching. The guy was later taken away in an ambulance."

The appearance of the turtles on the North Shore beach is nothing new — George Balazs, a turtle researcher with the Na-

tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, said they've been basking there since 1999. He believes they began to come ashore after their protected status led to a rise in population. The difference now is that the word has gotten out to various tour groups, which deposit tourists directly out of their vans onto the side of the highway.

North Shore lifeguards say the daily traffic snarl at Laniākea presents an ongoing safety hazard that grows to nightmare proportions on weekends.

What should take from 5 to 10 minutes — to get from Hale'iwa to Waimea Bay — takes from 45 minutes to an hour, they say.

"It's worse now than it's ever been," said veteran North Shore lifeguard Lt. Pat Kelly. "(The traffic) limits our ability to patrol between Waimea Bay and Hale'iwa, (because) that whole stretch, of about four and a half miles, we patrol with our trucks."

Balazs watched about 30 observers yesterday afternoon who inquisitively crowded around two large turtles. He liked the fact they had come out to appreciate nature, and fielded questions about the turtles' behavior, diet, and mating patterns while

he measured the shell of one dubbed Scallop. There are about 20 turtles who favor the waters off Laniākea, he said, but usually around two are on the beach at any given time. Pamphlets provide information for adults and children.

"Clearly, these people went out of their way to see a sea turtle," Balazs said.

A woman with "Hang Loose" written on the back of her yellow shorts hurriedly approached the turtles and immediately started taking pictures.

"Oh, my God," exclaimed Kris Schwartz of Rapid City, S.D. "I've never seen anything like this."

Although "Do Not Touch the Turtles" signs dot the beach, some visitors can't resist.

Cori Wilbanks, a marine turtle biotechnician with NOAA, was doing her best to prevent people from touching them. She said some people were feeding the turtles, which is dangerous because they begin to associate people with food.

"We're trying to get that un-

der control," Wilbanks said. "A lot of people are getting bit. So many little kids have gotten bloody fingers."

She said about 80 percent of people comply — the rest require some persuasion.

"No, don't touch the turtles," she said good-naturedly to two people who knelt to pat one of them. Three large yellow, red and blue signs behind the two women read, "Show Turtles Aloha — Do Not Feed, Handle, Crowd or Tease."

Adams said he saw a person sit on a turtle while it basked.

Author Audrey Sutherland, who lives down the street, favors restricted access to the turtles. "I think they're amazing animals," said Sutherland, who lived in Hale'iwa for 50 years. "But there needs to be a more permanent solution, like a fence across in front of the turtles."

Reach Will Hoover at wh Hoover@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8038; or Brian McInnis at bmcinnis@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8084.

INSIDE TODAY



Catching some rays

Sea turtles at Laniākea Beach draw crowds

HAWAII | B1



145

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Pacific Islands Regional Office
1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 1110
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-4700
(808) 973-2937 • Fax: (808) 973-2941

August 15, 2005

Representative Michael Y. Magaoay
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 418
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Representative Magaoay,

It has come to my attention that you will be convening a citizen's task force to address concerns stemming from increasing visitor volume at Laniakea Beach on the north shore of Oahu. As you are probably aware, NOAA Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service share responsibility for administering the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) for listed sea turtles. NOAA Fisheries Service has also been contacted by citizens expressing concern about the magnitude and nature of interactions between visitors and sea turtles at Laniakea. The situation involving interactions between visitors and protected sea turtles at Laniakea and other sites around Hawaii is an important issue for NOAA Fisheries Service. We have been in discussion with the other state and federal agencies responsible for sea turtle management in Hawaii and have recently expanded outreach efforts to educate visitors about NOAA's respectable wildlife viewing guidelines. The guidelines were developed with the intention of eliminating the potential for harm and harassment of protected wildlife. This expanded outreach campaign is in the initial phases and NOAA Fisheries Service is further developing this campaign by working with the various state and federal management and enforcement bodies to explore solutions for effectively reducing potential harm and harassment of protected sea turtles. We also aim to provide enforcement bodies with a clear distinction between interactions calling for education and violations warranting prosecution under the ESA.

My staff is happy to participate in sea turtle discussions with the Laniakea task force. We welcome the opportunity to describe the expanded outreach efforts to the residents of the north shore and to get their ideas and feedback. I have asked Brandee Gerke (944-2239) of my staff to be the point of contact for this task force. Brandee will be out of the office from August 22 through September 13, 2005. Jeff Mangel (944-2268) will be the primary contact from NOAA Fisheries Service, Pacific Islands Regional Office in her absence. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

William L. Robinson
Regional Administrator

cc: G. Antonelis, PIFSC
G. Balazs, PIFSC
J. Walters, DLNR/National Marine Sanctuary



241

MT	DATE	SEX	TAG ID	2nd TAG
Laniakea				
A	12/18/2003	Immature	445207276A	445249732A
L1	10/9/2003*	Male	500E072F73	500E1B0B5D
L2	9/18/2003*	Female	422D536E6C	4233400066
L3	9/18/2003	Female	4347691B2D	4358740927
L4	9/25/2003	Female	435B6A124B	435C27255A
L5	9/25/2003	Female	435B6D724E	4367476B71
L6	9/26/2003	Immature	433D493D66	433F397534
L7	9/26/2003	Male	4359054568	435B5D5F49
L8	10/1/2003	Female	433F403720	435C39116D
L9	10/1/2003	Immature	433C707505	434F633B14
L10	10/2/2003	Immature	4348146551	435C2C7A32
L11	10/10/2003	Male (maturing)	4250034951	442E084F24
L12	12/28/2003	Female	4452766010	4454191827
L13	2/3/2004	Female	W262	4135681523
L14	2/3/2004	Male	424E617752	42500G022E
L15	2/4/2004	Female	10485	424D247116
L16	2/4/2004	Female (maturing)	424D534219	425026320B
L17	4/2/2004	Immature	443A0B230B	44550C7411
-	6/30/2000	Female	413E195E1C	4136321B65
-	10/9/2004	Female	4453784E2B	scallop
-	6/19/2000	Female	502E4C2703	
<i>scallop</i>				
Peck's Property				
P1	9/26/2003	Female	434F3E4C5F	43675C540F
P2	9/26/2003	Immature	43496B487B	434F6F3D61
P3	9/26/2003	Immature	435244332E	435C4A2674
P4	4/1/2004	Immature	44524C2335	-
P5	4/1/2004	Immature	4250335954	-
P6	4/1/2004	Immature	4452505F5A	4454316D5A
P7	4/1/2004	Immature	424F386F40	44526B7574
P8	4/1/2004	Immature	445457074F	-
P9	4/1/2004	Male (maturing)	44524F5B04	4452626836
Honulani Iki				
I1	4/1/2004	Immature	443A125F7C	4455195466
Strandings				
A1	11/29/2001	Female	500E160459	5019414D5E
AT	10/5/1999	Male	(22)0E184936	(22)1A735C59
GA	10/26/2002	Immature	4135206432	41357E622D
3A	1/24/2004	Immature	4250044451	442C5C413A
S	9/26/2003	Immature	4347560817	43504B4F29

Howey? L18
L19
L20

4453784E2B scallop
4453784E2B subadult

147

CCL	TDR	Tumored	Shape	Injuries	"Name"
59.0	No	Yes			
90.5	Yes	No		Slight indent to shell/LHF 1/2 missing	Brutus
92.5	No	No		Healed crack on shell	
95.0	No	No	O	2nd L. lat	
93.0	Yes	No			
98.0	No	No	O	R. eye lens concave/1st L. lat.	
79.5	No	No	O	3rd L. lat.	
97.5	Yes	No		LHF 1/3 bitten off	
96.5	No	No			
69.0	No	No			
70.0	No	No		9-10th L./R. marg. miss/heal	
84.5	No	No			
94.0	No	No			Missy
96.5	No	Yes			
90.0	No	No		RHF amp/heal	
92.5	Yes	No		RHF tattered/heal	Mana
84.0	Yes	No			
70.5	No	Yes			
93.5	No	No		Nested at East Is. 6/2000	
-	No	No		Tagged while basking at Lani	
100.0	No	No		Nested at East Is. 6/2000	

52.5	No	Yes		LHF amp/heal	
81.0	No	No		LFF amp/heal	
63.5	No	Yes			
53.5	No	Yes			
57.0	No	Yes		Died on 4-11-04	
58.0	No	Yes			
70.0	No	Yes			
80.5	No	Yes		Died on 5-1-04	
84.5	No	No			

63.5	No	Yes			
------	----	-----	--	--	--

96.5	No				
93.0	No				
84.0	No				
63.0	No	No		RFF amp by Dr. Morris	
53.0	No	No			

MTRP/Laniakea/Laniakea.mototool.xls
 7-12-04/skkm/8-22-05 cbh

Editorials

Tuesday, August 16, 2005

OUR OPINION

Police should bring order to beach popular with turtles

THE ISSUE

Turtles basking at Laniakea Beach have drawn large numbers of tourists and created various problems.

THREATENED with becoming an endangered species, Hawaii's green sea turtles have made a dramatic recovery in recent decades, but their encouraging emergence has a down side. Hordes of tourists desiring to view the turtles at Laniakea Beach on Oahu's North Shore are causing traffic problems and some are harassing the stars of the show. Law-enforcement action is needed to bring order to the scene.

Before the state began protecting them in 1974 and the federal government listed them as a threatened species four years later, sea turtles were dwindling in number because of their destiny on the dinner table as steak, fritters or soup. Hawaiian waters are believed to be home for 35,000 mature green sea turtles, a nearly 600 percent increase from their years on the chef's list.

"To be dealing with the issue of crowding is certainly a lot more comfortable than it was in 1972 and 1973, when the same tourists that are now on the beach were ordering turtle steak for \$13.95," turtle expert George Balazs told the Star-Bulletin's Susan Essoyan. That doesn't mean authorities should blissfully look the other way.

Turtles have been drawn to the Laniakea Beach as a good place to sunbathe and dine on the seaweed in shallow waters. The attraction has

(149)

caused a traffic jam on Kamehameha Highway, where visitors stream from illegally parked tour vans to glimpse the critters. Residents have complained about their homes being blocked and their beach being commercialized.

In addition, Marine Turtle Research Program, part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, has received numerous complaints about the turtles being harassed by tourists. The turtles are vegetarians but have begun to nip hands-on-lookers with their sharp beaks.

The research program, headed by Balazs, has hung banners and signs urging people not to "crowd, handle, feed or tease" the turtles, warning that violators may face fines. The program recently launched a "show turtles aloha" campaign.

Balazs or a staff member has been staking out the beach daily, watching people's behavior and urging them to keep their distance. However, Denise Antolini, a professor of environmental law who lives in nearby Pupukea, said it would take "10 Georges" to assure acceptable conduct.

Antolini and other residents suggest formation of a task force to address ecological, traffic, safety and health issues to develop "a long-term solution that's beneficial to the turtles and the North Shore.

Such a strategy obviously is needed, although residents will have to accept that Mother Nature has turned their neighborhood into a tourist spot. Any task force should accept that reality and determine how to best handle the situation.

In the meantime, police should keep traffic flowing through the area and ticket, on a regular basis, vehicles that are illegally parked. If tour companies begin accepting parking tickets as the price of doing business, tow-aways may be appropriate.

Editorial - Our Opinion /2005/08/16/

<http://starbulletin.com/2005/08/16/editorial/editorials.html>

AUGUST 14, 05 = Day 39

Turtle trouble

Area residents complain about blocked homes and animal mistreatment

By Susan Essoyan
sessoyan@starbulletin.com

[sidebar]

SUNDAY STAR-BULLETIN
AUGUST 14, 2005

Turtle tips

Hawaiian green sea turtles are a threatened species protected by state and federal law. It is illegal to disturb them and violators are subject to fines.

- » Never feed or try to feed them.
- » Do not crowd, handle or tease them.
- » Observe turtles from a distance.
- » Always allow them a clear route to deeper water.
- » Do not touch them.

[end sidebar]

Beads of salt water gleamed in his dark hair as 25-year-old Josh Sebert stepped out of the ocean, breathless after snorkeling with Hawaiian green sea turtles at Laniakea Beach on Oahu's North Shore.

"There were two of them swimming around, and I was really, really close to them," he said last week, the imprint of his mask outlining his eager eyes. "They were eating, doing their thing, and it was awesome."

A few yards up the beach, a 230-pound turtle lay flaked out on the sand, eyes closed, as a dozen people clustered around, taking turns posing and snapping photos.

In the past few years, Laniakea has become a favorite spot for green sea turtles to bask in the sun and feed on the ample seaweed in its waters. As word has spread, this once-tranquil strip of white sand has turned into a tourism magnet with a new nickname: "Turtle Beach."

But its popularity is now posing problems -- for the threatened turtle species and for residents of the area. Over-eager visitors have been grabbing the turtles, luring them with handfuls of green seaweed and even building sand castles on their backs.

Curious beachgoers stream across Kamehameha Highway, risking accidents and slowing traffic to a stop on a daily basis. Illegally parked tour vans disgorge crowds. Residents complain about blocked access to their homes and commercialization of the beach.

"All of a sudden, it's like the tourist spot," said Toni Sickler, a North Shore resident who surfs often at Laniakea. "Somehow, somebody's got to take control. I'm all for people seeing the turtles, but they

don't keep their distance."

"People tug on the fins, because the parent wants to get the picture," she said. "And the turtles are getting aggressive because they're getting fed now all the time."

The situation is catching the attention of authorities. Reacting to numerous complaints of turtle harassment, the Marine Turtle Research Program, part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, launched a "show turtles aloha" campaign last month.

(15)

Bold yellow banners on the beach tell visitors "Please do not crowd, handle, feed or tease" the turtles. A permanent sign tacked to a twisted ironwood tree notes that it is illegal to disturb the turtles on land or in the ocean and that violators are subject to fines.

"It's gone from dozens of people daily to hundreds daily, up to a thousand, visiting the beach," said George Balazs, leader of the Marine Turtle Research Program. "Many of them were feeding the turtles. It has changed the turtles' behavior."

As these gentle, vegetarian creatures started to associate people with food, they have recently nipped children as well as adults with their sharp beaks, he said.

[photo 2 caption]

Tour bus visitors gathered to view and photograph a green sea turtle sunning itself at Laniakea Beach. The Marine Turtle Research Program advises people not to feed or tease the turtles with food and not to touch them. Incidents of nipping and biting by the turtles have been reported.

[end photo 2 caption]

[photo 3 caption]

Erin Seibert from the Marine Turtle Research Program observed a green sea turtle at Laniakea Beach with visitors Ed and Penny Meyers. Seibert spends time at the beach monitoring the turtles and educates visitors about the threatened species.

[end photo 3 caption]

Every day since July 7, either Balazs or a staff member has staked out the beach, monitoring people's behavior and urging them to enjoy the turtles from a distance. The program also has sent fliers to tour bus companies and tries to make personal contact with each van driver who comes to the beach.

But it's hard for one staff member a day to keep up with the constant flow of people to the beach. And the problems extend beyond the beach.

"I think it's great that George Balazs is personally monitoring the situation, but I think we need 10 Georges," said Denise Antolini, a professor of environmental law who lives in nearby Pupukea. She and other residents would like to see a task force address the ecological, traffic, safety and health issues, such as the lack of toilets.

"We need to bring together the large number of concerned residents and agencies with responsibility and come up with a long-term solution that's beneficial to the turtles and the North Shore," she said.

A few turtles began hauling out at Laniakea in early 2000, and wildlife officials were peppered with calls from people who thought the animals were in distress, Balazs said. But basking and resting on the beach is normal behavior for the species. Their numbers have grown, and 60 to 80 turtles now swim in the water at Laniakea on a good day, he said.

Green sea turtles are found throughout Hawaiian waters, and pop up regularly even in tourist hot spots like Waikiki and Hanauma Bay. But word of the turtle congregation at Laniakea has spread recently through guidebooks and other media, tour companies and even city bus drivers. The slowdown in traffic is enough to pique the interest of passersby.

"We were pretty much curious," said Miriam Whalay, who lives in Hanauma Bay.

1121

and stopped by the beach with her husband, Chris, last week. "The traffic just stopped right here. We were thinking there was some kind of festival in Haleiwa. I had no idea the turtles were here."

She was part of a group admiring a basking turtle known to scientists as "L-4." Balazs, on duty that day in a broad-brimmed cloth hat, said the female turtle had been clocked diving as deep as 330 feet in the ocean and makes a 1,000-mile round-trip to French Frigate Shoals to nest.

Balazs, a gregarious, 62-year-old biologist, knows the species better than any other human being, having devoted his life to their welfare. Balazs first became interested in Hawaiian sea turtles in 1969 when he and his wife, Linda, saw them being hoisted live from boats at Lahaina Harbor into waiting pickup trucks in a virtual assembly line, back in the days when turtles were hunted for their meat.

Concerned that the species might get wiped out, he began camping out in a pup tent at French Frigate Shoals in 1973 to document their numbers. Bolstered by that data, he later helped win a statewide ban on commercial harvesting in 1975. And in 1978, Hawaiian green sea turtles were named a threatened species under the federal Endangered Species Act.

The turtles have made a dramatic rebound since Balazs first started studying them. In 1973, the junior scientist found only 70 Hawaiian green sea turtles nesting on East Island in French Frigate Shoals. In the summer of 2004, his program counted 540 females there. The numbers fluctuate because every turtle doesn't nest every year, but Balazs called 2004 "our greatest year on record."

"It's an amazing story that we have 'problems' to deal with like this, in terms of a proliferation of sea turtles, a species that many, many people in Hawaii love," he said. "To be dealing with the issue of crowding is certainly a lot more comfortable than it was in 1972 and 1973, when the same tourists that are now on the beach were ordering turtle steak for \$13.95."

Still, residents are hoping some solutions will come quickly both for the turtles' sake and their own.

"Traffic used to back up when surf was giant, but now it backs up almost every day," said Gil Riviere, chairman of the North Shore Neighborhood Board's Traffic and Transportation Committee. "The bottleneck is right at Laniakea. People are feeling held hostage to their houses."

Balazs said his program will continue its presence on the beach at least until the winter swells begin, when he predicts that problems will ease up.

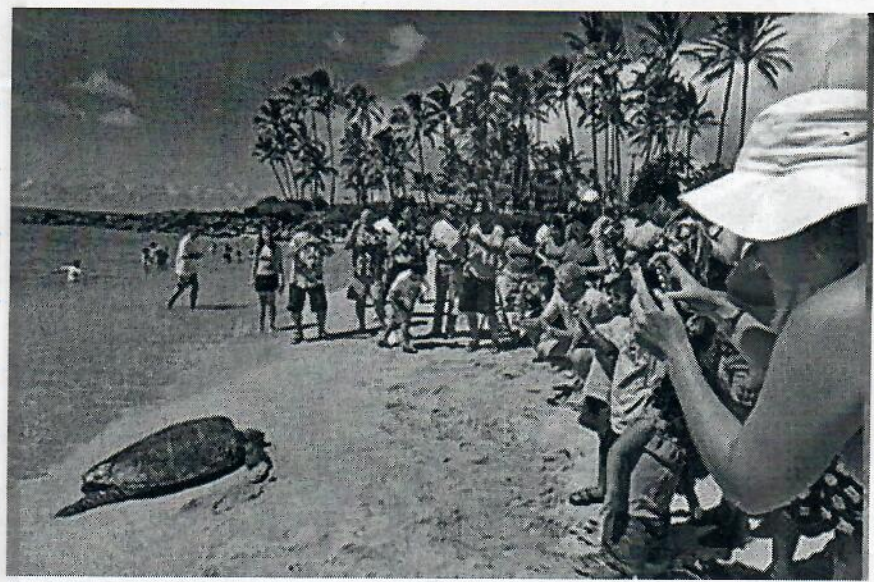
"As soon as school starts and the first north swell comes, the issues at Laniakea will decline considerably," he said. "People won't be coming in those high numbers. And when the waves get real big, much of the sand sucks away and there is less habitat to bask on. The turtles change their behavior."

"I've had people say we need to close off this beach, but that's not Hawaii," he added. "That's not why we protected this species. We have a growing, recovering population of green turtles. They're willing to share their habitat with the community, but we need to live up to our responsibility and treat them with respect."

[url]

<http://starbulletin.com/2005/08/14/news/story1.html>

August 3, 2005





Hawaii Surf n Sail

HAWAII 5-0

SURF

NEWZ

BY ACE

XCEL

Feed & Farm

AIM CHIROPRACTIC



PUEO Auto Sales

VICENTE HAWAII

JENEAL INTERNATIONAL

THIRTEEN CLOTHING

Hawaiian Cut
North Shore Tattoo
SOUTH SHORE
EQUIPMENT RENTAL

24 FITNESS

ACURA

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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THE HAWAII AMATEUR SURFING ASSOCIATION TOUR STARTS UP IN AUGUST! "OCEAN PRESENTS THE HASA SURF SERIES FOR 2005-2006 SEASON" Queens or Diamond Head Cliffs" are the venues for the first event Aug. 6-7, 2005 sponsored by "Croc's Inc." The second venue for HASA's 2005-2006 Season is "Court's or Kewalo's" on Sept 24-26.

If you go down to the "Turtle Beach" at Laniakea, the rules are now clearly "no touching, no feeding." The signs are up. You CAN get fined. Just respect it and do the right thing. Let the tourists and others know nicely if you are there. Pictures and video of the Honu are just fine!

That's the Surf News for now. Aloha ... Ace Cool!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2005 >> PAGE A12

Keep profiteers away from our beaches

Thank you for your recent coverage of Laniakea Beach and its turtles (Star-Bulletin, Aug. 14). Regarding the Aug. 16 editorial advice to North Shore residents that we should accept the reality that our neighborhood is a tourist spot: Natural attractions such as our surf breaks, small sandy beaches and Sharks Cove can only serve a limited number of people at one time. Weekends and holidays bring more people than these locations can safely accommodate. While we suffer from lack of parking and a single two-lane highway, we are wise enough to know that large parking lots, as proposed for Laniakea and Chun's Reef, and more roads will bring even more people to already overcrowded spots.

The only way to immediately relieve the pressure on our beaches, and the ocean and its creatures, is to prohibit the commercial use of resources that belong to the public. Why should a few profit while the residents of Oahu are crowded out?

Sally Youngblood
Haleiwa

155

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

On Oahu's North Shore, at Laniakea Beach, commercial tour buses, vans and limos routinely park in the clearly-posted No Parking Zone and City Bus Stop to let passengers out to visit the beach to see the surf and view sea turtles. The exact location is next to the intersection (Makai side) of Kamehameha Highway and Pohakuloa Way. Ten or more commercial tour vehicles do this on a daily basis. They park in the prohibited zones for times ranging from 10-30 minutes. Officers of the Honolulu Police Department seem to never issue citations to these violators, even though patrol cars and officer-owned cars with blue lights are often in the vicinity. Some officers even park in the shade nearby to apparently do paper work, eat lunch, or watch for car break-ins in the dirt parking area on the other (makai) side of Kamehameha Highway. Why aren't citations given? One would presume tickets are not being given because the same commercial operators park there day after day, and have been doing so for months—if not the past 2 years. A few parking tickets issued would quickly stop this illegal parking that clearly creates hazardous conditions for cars on Kamehameha Highway, as well as pedestrians including people waiting for the city bus. Huge tour buses, not uncommon, carrying 50 passengers or more create especially dangerous conditions when illegally parked at this location.

Some people in the neighborhood and elsewhere seem to blame the sea turtles for the parking and traffic congestion caused by tour vehicles. But it certainly seems that HPD is the entity at fault for not enforcing basic laws and using common sense

relating to "parking prohibitions"—the primary cause of the congestion and hazardous situation created. How many parking citations have been issued to commercial tour operators (and others) at this location in recent months? Will HPD increase enforcement by issuing parking tickets at this location before a traffic fatality or serious injury results? It's time for the police department to clean up this parking mess.

Note: Some of the recent commercial vehicles parking illegally include: Oahu Nature Tours; Enoa (for example PUC 894 C154 and PUC161); Roberts Tours (large buses); Island Scenery Explore Hawaii Tour (for example PUC 1137 C2 and 1137 C9); Discover Hidden Hawaii Tours (for example PUC 1514 C); Grayline Polynesian Adventure Tours (large buses); and Ilima (large buses, for example PUC1129 C877).

Kevin Chong

Sea Turtles in Trouble?
 Stranded Ashore Sick or Injured?
 Report cases to NOAA/NMFS
 983-5730
 Authorized Federal Agency
 See <http://www.turtles.org/nmfs>
 or Request Literature NMFS-178



Kokua Line

June Watanabe

Cars without plates can travel Nimitz

Wednesday, July 6, 2005

(157)

In that column, noted honu authority George Balazs said he believes most casual contact between humans and the Hawaiian sea turtles these days is not harmful and, in his eyes, often beneficial to both.

State wildlife enforcement officials agreed that most human contact did not appear to be harmful and that action was taken only for "egregious" activity. But they also said they did not want people to think they should touch or play with the turtles.

Gene Hester, resident agent in charge of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's office of law enforcement in Hawaii, recently contacted Kokua Line to say that the "legal response" to the question of how people are supposed to deal with turtles is that they are not to touch or handle them.

Federal criminal sanctions for harming or harassing the turtles, like state sanctions, are usually applied only "when something egregious happens to a turtle," he acknowledged.

However, observing that, Hester said federal authorities do "not condone behavior such as feeding turtles nor making physical contact in any way with them."

Instead, federal officials "encourage people to appreciate the wildlife and observe them from a distance."

To that end, he said both his office and the law enforcement division of the National Marine Fisheries Service "are currently pursuing options of expanded outreach that would educate the public to appreciate turtles and observe them from a distance."

However, nothing definite has been set up yet.

"We firmly believe that physical contact with the turtles is inappropriate behavior as intended by the law, and that ultimately it may be a child that loses a finger or is otherwise injured through petting or feeding of a turtle," Hester said.

More on turtles

Federal officials are hoping to implement an outreach project to educate the public on how to appreciate the Hawaiian sea turtles (honu) -- but only from a distance.

We weren't able to reach federal wildlife officials for comment about a reader's complaint that too many people harass sea turtles by getting too close to them (Kokua Line, June 5).

Ocean Watch

Monday, September 20, 1999

Oahu beach is prime spot for sea turtles

LAST week, I had one of the best Hawaii wildlife experiences I have ever had in the main islands.

I took my family to a North Shore beach near Laniakea to check out some sea turtles. Lately, I had heard, several self-assured greens have been coming to the shoreline in that area to graze. Beach-goers have been hand-feeding seaweed to the turtles, which are so tame they allow people to pet them.

Even though I knew this story before I arrived, I was still unprepared for the remarkable scene I found at this beach. Did I say several turtles? With little effort, my sister and I counted 42 individuals near the shoreline. In deeper water, the outlines of dozens more darkened the water.

Some turtles were big, some were small and some were in-between. All, however, had one thing in common: They had no fear of people.

In one area of the beach, spear-fishermen picked their way over seaweed-covered rocks to get to deep water, stepping over and around turtles in the process. The turtles just went on grazing.

In a nearby sandy place, people snorkeled with turtles, occasionally reaching out to stroke a shell or touch a flipper. The turtles did not flee.

And just feet from the beach, at least three 400-pound turtles accepted seaweed offerings from admiring humans. In the turtles' eagerness to eat, they even bumped and brushed our legs.

EVERYONE was having a wonderful time. As I stood in waist-deep water watching turtles swirl around me, a man from England asked if there were other places in Hawaii where the turtles were so tame.

Honolulu Star Bulletin (15)

"I don't know but I hope so," I told him. "It's the reward we get for protecting our turtles for the last 20 years."

A Japanese woman, spotting dozens of turtles grazing at the shoreline, shrieked with delight.

"You can snorkel with them here," I told her, when I saw her pacing up and down near the slick rocks.

"Really?" she asked. "It is OK?"

"Yes. Just don't bother them."

Soon this novice snorkeler was swimming between two huge turtles, a scene I found amazingly gratifying.

There was, however, one brief moment of trouble during that otherwise perfect day. With great dismay, I watched a boy and girl, about 10 and 12 years old, sit down hard on the back of one of the big, near-shore turtles. Apparently, the kids were trying to see if they could pin the animal in place.

There were no adults with these kids (I had seen a woman drop the kids and leave) so I scolded them roundly myself. The children leaped off the turtle and hurried down the beach, clearly embarrassed by the reprimand. Thereafter, the children treated the turtles with respect.

Since I first heard about this turtle-feeding-and-petting phenomenon, I have worried that this sort of abuse would occur. Now I believe that most people visiting there simply won't allow it. If I hadn't admonished the kids, I'm sure someone else would have.

Turtle lovers won't stand by and watch these gentle creatures be harassed.

Right now, this stretch of North Shore beach is one of Hawaii's premier nature-viewing spots. Hopefully, the turtles will continue going there and the state will make the place a marine sanctuary and beach park, including much-needed signs about Hawaii's sea turtles.

In the meantime, don't miss visiting this fantastic place. And if you see someone behaving poorly around the turtles, please ask them to stop.



Susan Scott

Turtles have found a haven in isle waters

Back in 1985, Craig and I bought a sailboat, a vessel well designed for offshore cruising. She was wide in the middle, a bit slow, but strong and beautiful.

With those qualities, the boat practically named itself. We changed the blue trim to green, painted a turtle on the transom and christened her Honu.

It's hard to believe now, but honu, the Hawaiian word for green sea turtle, wasn't common then, and I often had to explain the meaning of our boat's name.

Nor were the animals themselves easy to find. Spotting a turtle from the shoreline or a boat deck was a notable event.

But thanks to years of protection and public education, sea turtles are now Hawaii's darlings. You can't visit an art gallery, gift shop or even a grocery store here without seeing images of turtles.

And the real thing is common, too. Seeing turtles while boating these days is the norm, and divers and snorkelers swim regularly with these friendly, trusting reptiles.

Some honu have become so comfortable around people that dozens now visit Oahu's busy North Shore to graze on shoreline seaweed and bask in the warm white sand. There, countless people are getting a wildlife thrill of a lifetime by visiting these gentle giants.

People there also feed the turtles seaweed, a major part of the animals' diet, have their pictures taken with the resting reptiles and sometimes give the turtles little pats of affection.

Is this the way to treat a threatened species, protected by federal and state laws? The turtles apparently think it's just fine. We know this because for all their sociability, these creatures are still wild animals.

If this human attention frightened or annoyed them, the turtles would leave the area and not come back.

Some human activities, however, do hurt our turtles. In 2001 a strike from a speeding boat caused a serious shell injury to L2, a female turtle that frequently visits the North Shore beach known as HonuLani, near Laniakea.

L2 survived her grievous wound and made it to the beach, where federal biologists picked her up. Veterinarian and sea turtle specialist Robert Morris repaired L2's cracked shell with acrylic material used in human dentistry. Several months later the wound healed from the inside, and the patch fell off.

The hit left L2 with a nasty-looking scar, and well-wishers continued to report the injury. This month, turtle researcher George Balazs eased turtle fans' minds by gluing a small notice on L2's shell. "Old injury," her sticker says. "I'm fine now."

And fine she is. L2 swam 500 miles to French Frigate Shoals, our green turtles' main nesting grounds, laid her eggs and then returned.

You can help Hawaii's sea turtles by treating them with respect. It's illegal, and mean, to ride, sit on, tug, tease or hurt a turtle in any way.

It's OK to love them though; it's love that saved them.

It also made our boat name famous. In Hawaii, I no longer need to explain the meaning of the word honu.

Tourists should leave the turtles alone

I've been so happy to be coming out there next month to visit my family and enjoy the beauty of the islands, but stories like Susan Essoyan's "Turtle Trouble" (Star-Bulletin, Aug. 14) make me sad about some of the people who forget about why they wanted to go to Hawaii in the first place. We come to enjoy the beauty of the islands and respect it, or at least my wife and I do, not trample on it and possibly destroy what took years to create.

You'd think there would be a law banning people from messing with the turtles. It's one thing if one comes up to you in the ocean on its own; it's another to "bait" it in the water or bother it when it's on shore. I can understand taking a photo of it, because it's a beautiful animal, but I'm sure that you can do it without touching the turtle.

It would be sad for these turtles to no longer thrive in this area because people have destroyed their habitats or taught them to rely on being hand fed. I'm glad to see that someone like George Balazs, leader of the Marine Turtle Research Program, is helping to educate the masses. Thank you for your story.

Adam J. Watson
Kansas City, Mo.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2005 >> PAGE A14

SEA TURTLES IN TROUBLE?
STRANDED ASHORE SICK OR INJURED?
Report cases to NOAA/NMFS (808) 983-5730
Authorized Federal Agency
See <http://www.turtles.org/nmfs>
Request Literature: (808) 983-5730



Healthy turtles often bask in human company

A year and a half ago, I wrote about some large sea turtles that were regularly hanging around the shoreline at a North Shore beach near Laniakea. The turtles come there to eat the abundant seaweed growing on the rocks.

This seaweed-munching is typical of green turtles because seaweed makes up most of their diet. What is not typical is the fact that this turtle grazing area is often loaded with people. There are snorkelers, waders and anglers in the water and sunbathers, picnickers and beachcombers on the sand. The turtles, however, as long as they're left alone, are willing to share.

Now these turtles have taken their affability a step further. At least two of the big ones are routinely crawling onto the area's sand beach to sleep in the sun.

This is normal behavior for Hawaii's turtles. Although most of the world's sea turtles come ashore only to lay eggs, our greens also come ashore to rest.

In the past, these haul-outs took place in the tiny, remote islets of Hawaii's northwest chain. But as our turtles become more trusting of people, they are coming more to human-inhabited places.

Turtles currently rest on the sand at Punaluu and Puako on the Big Island and forage in bays full of snorkelers such as Hanauma Bay, Kau and Kona's Kahaluu Beach Park. Now Oahu's North Shore has a few sunbathers, too.

Federal biologists aren't sure what this turtle sociability on Oahu means. At first, workers worried that the turtles hauling out had tumors or some other malady. So far, however, they appear healthy. Apparently, these animals simply want to rest at that particular spot and don't mind human company.

This is good and bad. It's wonderful that some turtles have learned to trust humans; it shows the merit of protecting wild animals. But turtle biologists

(163)

are concerned that people will think these relaxing turtles are in trouble. Sometimes, well-meaning people throw water on beached turtles or try to drag them back into the ocean. Other times, people call the wildlife hot line and insist someone come and "rescue" a healthy basking turtle.

Some turtles beached on Oahu's North Shore certainly are in trouble. Distinguishing which phone calls are about stranded or sick turtles and which ones are about healthy, snoozing ones is a new problem for Oahu's wildlife workers.

The first step in helping our healthy, dozing turtles is informing others of this normal behavior. Besides word of mouth, signs have been erected at the Laniakea site reminding people that turtles are a protected species. Another sign explaining basking behavior is on the way. Here are some other things that can help Hawaii's turtles:

>> Remind people that it's not only cruel, but violates both federal and state laws to tug, sit upon, ride or hold turtles up for pictures. (One of these things has occurred each time I visited the North Shore site.)

>> Before calling authorities about a beached turtle, look for tumors, injuries or some form of entanglement. Tell the official what specifically seems to be wrong with the animal.

>> Keep this phone number, 983-5730, and call it for sea turtle (not whale or seal) strandings. For off hours, follow instructions on the recording.

To visit these remarkable turtles, go to Haleiwa. Drive about one mile out of town to where the ocean meets the road. Park at the large gravel pullout on the right. Cross the road carefully (the traffic there is terrible), and enjoy sharing the beach and bay with these remarkable animals.

Sea turtles can tolerate casual contact



KOKUA LINE

June Watanabe

Question: Since returning to the islands two years ago, I have been dismayed to find how often the turtles resting on the beaches are bothered by human contact. I have visited beaches on the North Shore and on the Big Island, and the situation is the same. The turtles are allowed little privacy and peace. They are constantly being closely surrounded to be photographed and touched. Even if there are signs to leave the turtles alone, they are ignored. Is there any beach patrol to keep an eye on these creatures? It seems as if this situation is tolerated to please the tourists. However, it is at the expense of the world's remaining turtles.

Answer: It obviously will surprise you to learn that, at least as far as Hawaiian green sea turtles are concerned, casual human contact, in most instances, is not considered bad.

This assessment comes from marine researcher George Balazs, a well-respected authority on the Hawaiian "honu."

Under state and federal acts, all sea turtles are protected from harm and harassment. In some areas, such as Florida, sea turtles are listed as "endangered," or facing extinction; in Hawaii, the green turtles — the species most people see — are categorized as "threatened," a step below the endangered stage.

He's studied and tracked Hawaiian turtles for more than 30 years, during which time they have gone from near extinction to being "very numerous throughout the Hawaiian Islands. There is hardly a place where turtles can't be seen," he said.

Balazs said he has no doubt that you are sincere in your concern for the well-being of the turtles. But, in his estimation — and emphasizing that he was speaking personally as a profes-

sional researcher and not officially on behalf of any agency — the Hawaiian sea turtles have become accustomed to living among humans.

"The turtles are in no way bothered by casual human contact," he said.

Having spent a good part of his life in the field studying and observing them, Balazs said he can "comfortably estimate that 99 percent" of some people's perception of harm or harassment of the turtles have "no basis in scientific fact."

But what constitutes harm or harassment? State officials we contacted agree that harm or harassment usually would involve something egregious, more than people taking photos or even getting close to the turtles.

Still, enforcement officials are hesitant to have people invade a turtle's space.

"We encourage people to appreciate the wildlife and observe them from a distance," said Francis Oishi, acting administrator of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources Aquatics Division. "That's the best way to enjoy those animals."

But first, if you witness someone killing, harming or harassing sea turtles, you are advised to call any of the following law enforcement agencies:

>> State Division of Conservation & Resources Enforcement, 587-0077.

>> U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 861-8525.

>> The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's fisheries law enforcement office, 541-2727 or 853-1964.

For illegal tour bus or vehicle parking, or other traffic violations that may be related to turtle-watching on the North Shore or elsewhere on Oahu, you are advised to call police at 911 and say it is a nonemergency.

If you find a sick, injured, or dead turtle, call 983-5730 to find out what to do regarding veterinary treatment or removal for scientific study.

This information was provided by Balazs, leader of the National Marine Fisheries Services Marine Turtle Research Project in Hawaii.

He said the turtles knowingly come to beaches and coastal waters already occupied by people — sometimes a great many people — and seem "very willing" to share space with them.

Over the three decades that he's observed them, the turtles' behaviors have changed from "outright mortal fear of humans hunting and killing them, to one of acceptance, curiosity (and) seeming 'friendship.'"

In turn, in his professional opinion, "the vast majority of people" demonstrate good manners that do not constitute harm or harassment. That's even if they may get close to them and take numerous photographs, he said.

Balazs does acknowledge that, sometimes, some people do exhibit "bad manners." But even then, he said their actions still do not necessarily constitute harm or harassment to the turtles.

Gary Moniz, administrator of the state Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement, agrees that most people could not be accused of harming or harassing the turtles.

Balazs "clearly outlines the basic threshold, which is that the everyday basic, simple small things really don't affect the turtles," Moniz said. "The issue of what actually constitutes harassment comes down to something real overt: trapping them with a net, spearing them or tying them up. We're talking about more than just a bump or a touch or a pat on the head, etc."

Moniz said prosecution historically has been handled on a case-by-case basis and based on much consultation with biolo-

gists as to "what these animals tolerate and what they don't tolerate."

It's rare that law enforcement officials run across people who physically do harm the turtles — "netting them, tying them, throwing them in a boat, shooting them, spearing, beating with a stick," he said.

"Netting probably happens more than any other type of behavior," Moniz said. But "most people know to release them from the net, and if they do that, that's fine."

Like Balazs, Moniz said he does not believe that most people's encounters with the turtles are malicious.

But he said he's hesitant to say that because "I don't want to give the impression that you can play with turtles. It's best to leave them alone, not to feed them, etc."

But he also doesn't want to give the message that "if you bump a turtle that you're going to go to jail."

Oishi's advice is "to appreciate them, but also to respect them."

We were not successful in reaching the pertinent federal law enforcement officials for comment. But, in Balazs's eyes, he believes "people's hearts are touched by the magnificence of these ocean creatures viewed up close and personal in the wild.

"There is no doubt about this whatsoever in my mind, and especially when youngsters are involved. The positive effects favorable to conservation are lasting, perhaps for a lifetime."

Got a question or complaint? Call 529-4773, fax 529-4750 or write to "Kokua Line," Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 7 Waterfront Plaza, Suite 210, Honolulu 96813. As many as possible will be answered. Send e-mail to

kokualine@starbulletin.com

Name: Annie Davis
Mailing address: (optional - to send sea turtle literature) N/A

Date/time of call: 5/18/05 3:15pm
**Phone: 47-3922

Email: will not be there much
except learn
(do not want to give
cell #)

LOCATION
Where is the turtle located?
Laniakea

TURTLE
Is the turtle alive or dead? A D
Is it possible for one person to lift and carry the turtle? Y Unknown
"Best guess" of the weight of the turtle? Med N lbs.
About how large is the turtle (shell length)? 2' (Subadult)

Alive - What is the behavior of the turtle? (observed swimming, lethargic, buoyant, responsive, etc.)
Chuck on left side in middle, NO bleeding, water spouting out
no signs, weak, eyes rolling

How much longer will you (the contact) be home/ on site? ~10 min

Any evidence of law enforcement violation? If yes, please describe briefly: NO

MTRP USE ONLY:
Name: BM
Literature sent? NO - already has
Notes: Contact claims to know of LZ and this turtle is smaller than her. She is leaving and no one else around with cell phone that would contact. She told a man at # 637-2211 (STST?) about the turtle; he is coming down to check it out and will call us.

SSG Pager 288-5685
DOCARE
587-0077 Oahu
984-8110 Maui
974-6208 Hilo/ 327-4961 Kona/ 887-6196 Waimea
274-3344/ 274-3521 Kauai
553-5190 Molokai
665-7916 Lanai

NMFS-LE
541-2727
800-853-1964

BIG ISLAND
Hilo
327-7780 pgr.
327-7794 pgr.
327-7795 pgr.
Kona
881-4300

Maui
Kihei area
278-3375
all other Maui areas
893-3172 pgr.

Date/time of call: 5/20/05 7:12am
**Phone: #677-1848

Name: Cheryl Dixon
Mailing address: (optional - to send sea turtle literature)

Email:

LOCATION

Where is the turtle located? (name and specific area of beach, driving directions, etc.)

unidentified - wants to volunteer available Monday: Friday, could be there 5 hrs, 100's by Waipahu

people not following rules, make sure they respect the signs
- willing to hand out fliers
- people pushing turtles, when trying to haul out
feeding pots etc.
want responsive etc.

MTRP USE ONLY:

Name: BM
Literature sent?

Notes:

level headed: enthusiastic to help



Posted on: Sunday, May 29, 2005

Pedestrian fatalities in Hawai'i, 1996-2003

- Where danger treads
- New law stresses drivers' role in crosswalk safety
- It can happen to anybody – and it does
- By the numbers
- Map: Serious pedestrian accidents



Pedestrian accidents discussion forum

Got a question or comment? Join our online discussion.

Advertiser Staff

<http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2005/May/29/Hn05p.html?...>

COUNTY	NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD AREA OR DISTRICT	NO. OF DEATHS	RANKING
Honolulu	Kalihi-Palama	21	1
Honolulu	Wai'anae	17	2
Big Island	North Kona	15	3
Maui	Wailuku	13	4
Honolulu	Aiea	12	5
Honolulu	Waipahu	10	6
Big Island	South Hilo	10	6
Big Island	Puna	9	7
Honolulu	Waikiki	8	8
Honolulu	North Shore	7	9
Honolulu	Downtown	6	10
Honolulu	Kailua	6	10
Honolulu	Pearl City	6	10
Honolulu	Wahiawa	6	10
Maui	Lahaina	6	10
Honolulu	Ala Moana/Kaka'ako	6	10
Honolulu	Diamond Head/Kapahulu/St. Louis	5	11
Honolulu	Ewa	5	11

(169)

Honolulu	Liliha/Kapalama	5	11
Honolulu	Kaimuki	4	12
Honolulu	Ko'olauloa	4	12
Honolulu	Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale	4	12
Honolulu	Palolo	4	12
Big Island	South Kohala	4	12
Honolulu	Airport	3	13
Honolulu	Aliamanu/Salt Lake/Foster Village	3	13
Honolulu	Kane'ohe	3	13
Honolulu	Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus	3	13
Honolulu	McCully/Mo'ili'i	3	13
Maui	Makawao	3	13
Honolulu	Hawaii Kai	2	14
Honolulu	Kahalu'u	2	14
Honolulu	Kalihi Valley	2	14
Honolulu	Nu'uanu/Punchbowl	2	14
Honolulu	Waimanalo	2	14
Big Island	Ka'u	2	14
Honolulu	Kuli'ou'ou-Kalani Iki	1	15
Honolulu	Manoa	1	15
Honolulu	Mililani/Waipio/Melemanu	1	15
Honolulu	Wai'alaie-Kahala	1	15
Kaua'i	Hanalei	1	15
Kaua'i	Kawaihau	1	15
Kaua'i	Koloa	1	15
Kaua'i	Lihu'e	1	15
Big Island	Hamakua	1	15
Big Island	North Kohala	1	15
Total		233	



KOKUA LINE

June Watanabe

Page 2
HSB 7-13-05

North Shore winter is ticket season

Question: On Oahu's North Shore, at Laniakea Beach, 10 or more commercial tour buses, vans and limos routinely park in the clearly posted "No Parking" zone and city bus stop to let passengers out to see the surf and sea turtles.

This is next to the intersection (makai side) of Kamehameha Highway and Pohakuloa Way. Honolulu police officers seem to never issue citations to these violators, even though patrol cars and officer-owned cars with blue lights are often in the vicinity. Why aren't citations given? I presume tickets are not being given because the same commercial operators park there day after day.

Answer: Officers from the Honolulu Police Department's Wahiawa station "do enforce 'no parking' signs along public property on Kamehameha Highway," said Maj. Michael Thomas.

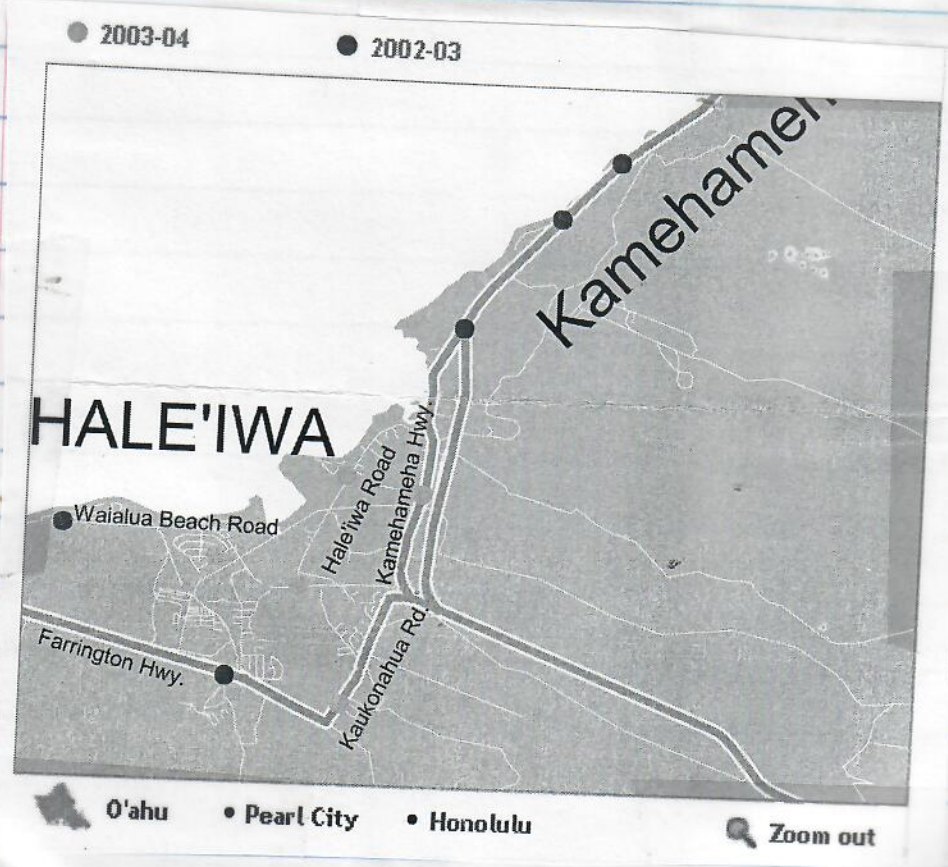
The question is whether the vehicles you see are parked on public or private property.

"We do cite those parked on 'no parking' areas on public property," Thomas emphasized. In that area of Kamehameha Highway, that basically would be from the bus stop on, he said.

He also said officers issue "tons of parking citations" especially during the winter high-surf season, because of the danger posed by illegal parking.

Subject: RE: Diana Linden
From: "Tomu world" <tomu@hawaii.gov>
Date: Fri, 03 Jun 2005 21:35:11
To: Cody.Hooven@hawaii.gov

Dear, please print this
...
From: "Cody Hooven" <cody.hooven@hawaii.gov>
Date: Thu, 02 Jun 2005
...
was explaining about
...
everyone else was respect
...
explained that we have
...
with her opinion





KOKUA LINE

June Watanabe

More on turtles

Federal officials are hoping to implement an outreach project to educate the public on how to appreciate the Hawaiian sea turtles (honu) — but only from a distance.

We weren't able to reach federal wildlife officials for comment about a reader's complaint that too many people harass sea turtles by getting too close to them (Kokua Line, June 5).

In that column, noted honu authority George Balazs said he believes most casual contact between humans and the Hawaiian sea turtles these days is not harmful and, in his eyes, often beneficial to both.

State wildlife enforcement officials agreed that most human contact did not appear to be harmful and that action was taken only for "egregious" activity. But they also said they did not want people to think they should touch or play with the turtles.

Gene Hester, resident agent in charge of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's office of law enforcement in Hawaii, recently contacted Kokua Line to say that the "legal response" to the question of how people are supposed to deal with turtles is that they are not to touch or handle them.

Federal criminal sanctions for harming or harassing the turtles, like state sanctions, are usually applied only "when something egregious happens to a turtle," he acknowledged.

However, observing that, Hester said federal authorities do "not condone behavior such as feeding turtles nor making physical contact in any way with them."

Instead, federal officials "encourage people to appreciate the wildlife and observe them from a distance."

To that end, he said both his office and the law enforcement division of the National Marine Fisheries Service "are currently pursuing options of expanded outreach that would educate the public to appreciate turtles and observe them from a distance."

However, nothing definite has been set up yet.

"We firmly believe that physical contact with the turtles is inappropriate behavior as intended by the law, and that ultimately it may be a child that loses a finger or is otherwise injured through petting or feeding of a turtle," Hester said.

Write to "Kokua Line" at
Honolulu Star-Bulletin,
7 Waterfront Plaza, Suite 210,
500 Ala Moana, Honolulu
96813; call 529-4773;
fax 529-4750; or e-mail
kokualine@starbulletin.com

Subject: RE: Dianna Linden
From: "honu world" <itsahonuworlindhawaii@hotmail.com>
Date: Fri, 03 Jun 2005 21:35:08 +0000
To: Cody.Hooven@noaa.gov

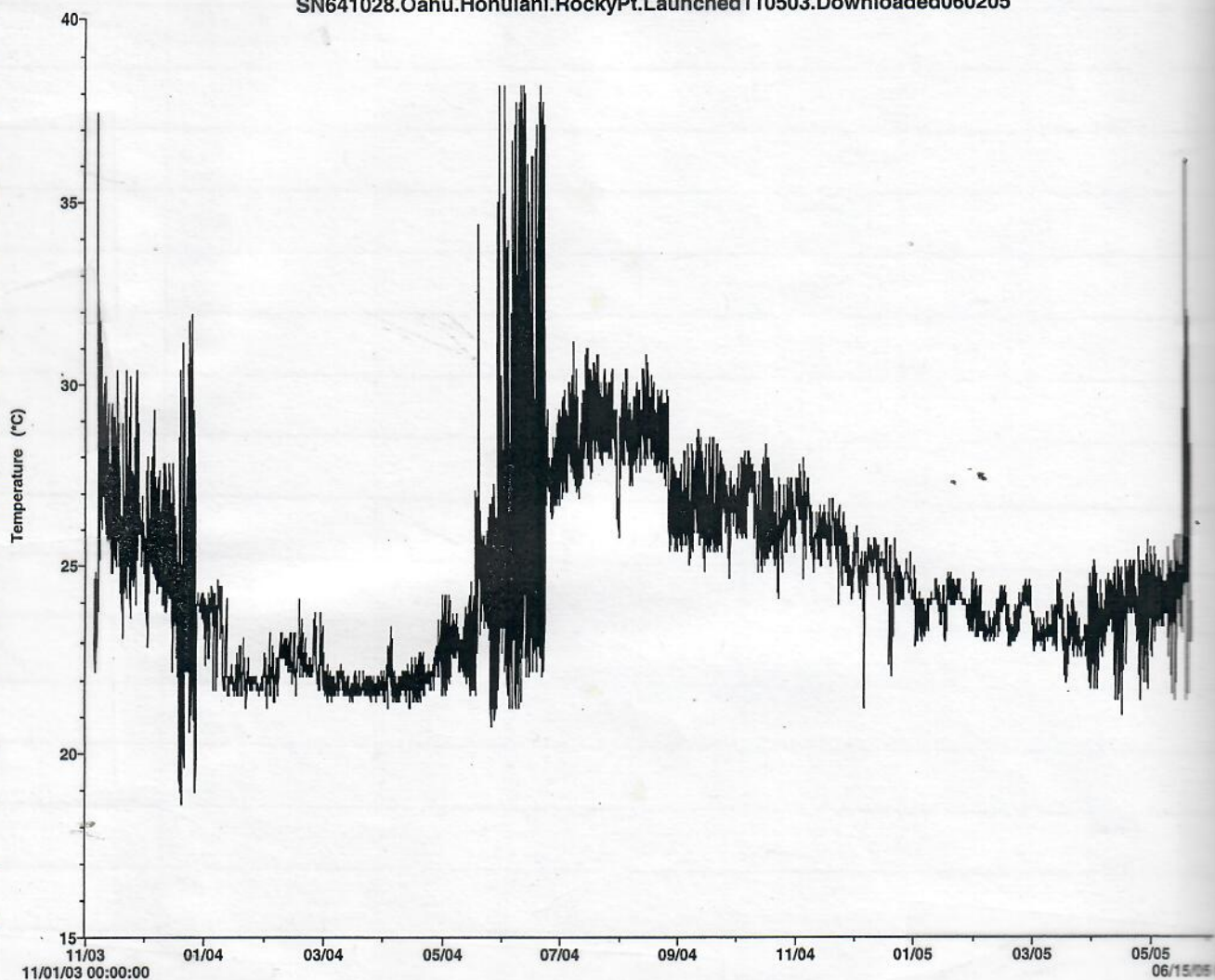
Roger. please print this and put into my box by printer for my return. thanks, good job, george

From: "Cody Hooven" <Cody.Hooven@noaa.gov>
To: "George H. Balazs" <gbalazs@honlab.nmfs.hawaii.edu>, honu world <itsahonuworlindhawaii@hotmail.com>
Subject: Dianna Linden
Date: Thu, 02 Jun 2005 10:22:19 -1000

She appreciated hearing about L2, L1, etc. She was at Laniakea yesterday too, and was complaining about the Japanese tour operator with the small bus that picks lots of seaweed and lets his tourists feed the turtles- you know him. She said everyone else was respectful of the turtles but him and wouldn't listen when she told him why he shouldn't feed the turtles... I gave her enforcement numbers and explained that we have no authority over that and made no comments on whether I agree/disagree. Apparently both a local and a non-local woman there disagreed with her so she was surprised. She sounded like she could have been a little forceful with her opinion...

She is going to Tibet until June 28, but will send you an email when she returns.

SN641028.Oahu.Honulani.RockyPt.Launched110503.Downloaded060205



OUR HONOLULU

By Bob Krauss

7/6/05 THA
Daily duck
feedings ^{BI}
support
life cycle

A woman tossed crumbs from an old bread bag while a mother held her baby up to watch 22 fuzzy little ducklings scamper to and fro right in the middle of Our Honolulu.

Feeding the ducks has become a morning ritual on lower Mānoa Stream where it runs into the Ala Wai.

The duck population has soared to about 50. Sex is rampant. Male ducks patrol the stream for likely females. They have no couth. The inevitable result is a lot of little ducks.

"Have you seen the new baby ducks?" is a standard greeting. "They're so cute."

Twenty-two ducklings is a record even for the Peking female, known to hatch 13 at a sitting. This event occurred last week Friday.

Actually, there were two mama ducks proudly waddling among their broods. The babies ranged from yellow to black.

It was a heart-warming domestic scene. But wait. Something moved over there in the mangroves. It was long and brown and low to the ground. Beady eyes, bushy tail. A mongoose. It was watching the ducklings as it licked its chops.

What was that black apparition slinking along the bank like a ghost haunting the stream, staying out of sight, a creature of the shadows? Was it a werewolf? No, it was a feral cat checking out the menu for dinner.

175

The mongoose and the cat have stiff competition. The rain forest of Our Honolulu is an unforgiving place. Meals are hard to come by. What the mongoose and cat don't eat, the rats gobble up, even crumbs the ducks leave behind.

It's ironic that feeding the ducks attracts rats that eat duck eggs. If you want to be logical, somebody should put up a sign: DO NOT FEED THE DUCKS.

But I think there are too many such signs in town already. They are examples of tunnel vision. People who put up signs like that do not understand the great forces of nature.

I am confident that feeding the ducks is part of a grand design intended to give pleasure to humans and to control the duck population at the same time.

What is happening along Mānoa Stream happens in all rain forests. Big animals eat little animals. Unless they do so, the population of one would overwhelm the others.

So it is on Mānoa Stream. A couple of years ago, there were maybe three or four ducks on the stream. They swam down from coops in a yard above the bridge. Since people began feeding the ducks, the population has exploded.

Duck feeders are outraged when humans scoop some ducks for dinner. This is not the proper response. After all, mongoose and cats do the same thing. If they didn't, we would be up to our ying-yang in ducks.

The ritual of feeding the ducks, therefore, can be appreciated on many levels because the entire life cycle is involved.

Me, I don't feed ducks. I count them. On Sunday, there were 18.

Reach Bob Krauss at 525-8073.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

If you live outside the North Shore area on Oahu, neighbor islands, or the mainland, you can subscribe to the North Shore News. Our annual subscription rate is \$25 for 25 issues delivered by standard bulk mail (2-3 weeks), or \$45 for 25 issues delivered by first class postage (3-5 days). Call our office for payment information at (808) 637-3138.

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E-MAIL: NShoreNews@aol.com

FAX: (808) 637-8862

DELIVER in person at 66-437 Kam. Hwy., Suite 210, Hale'iwa

PHONE: (808) 637-3138 • OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm

Phone toll free from Mainland: (866) 9NS-NEWS

Keep America & North Shore Beautiful

Chun's Reef

Adopt-A-Beach Clean-Up Schedule 2005

12 p.m.-3 p.m. Saturday

June 4	September 24
July 2	October 22
July 30	November 19
August 27	December 17

Meeting place: 61-529 Kam. Hwy., Haleiwa, Chun's Reef

Sponsored by: Save the Sea Turtles International "Non-profit" Foundation (STSTI), Keep North Shore Beautiful, Keep America Beautiful, National Recycling Coalition and Adopt-A-Beach Hawaii Inc.

Phone: 808-637-2211 Fax: 808-637-5003

Website: www.seaturtlesinternational.org and com

www.adoptabeachhawaii.com

Sea Turtles in Trouble?

Stranded Ashore Sick or Injured?

Report cases to NOAA/NMFS 983-5730

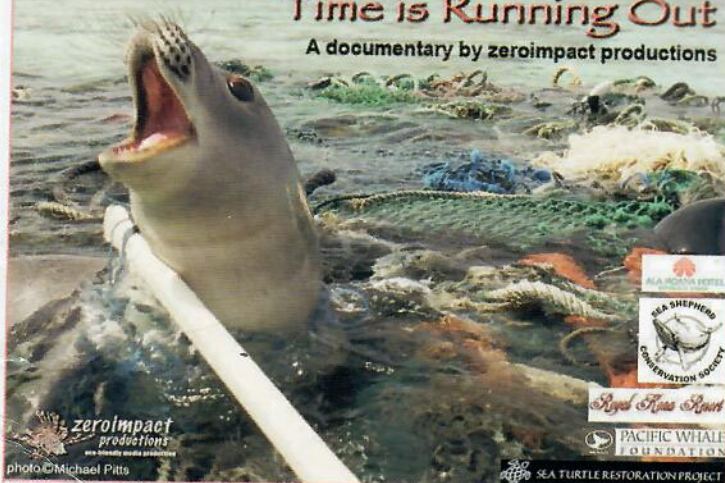
Authorized Federal Agency
See <http://www.turtles.org/nmfs>
or Request Literature 983-5730

Some of the world's most unique creatures are in danger of being lost... forever.

Oasis of the Pacific

Time is Running Out

A documentary by zeroimpact productions



zeroimpact productions
an environmentally sensitive production

photo © Michael Pitts

Royal Kona Resort

PACIFIC WHALE FOUNDATION

SEA TURTLE RESTORATION PROJECT

Time is running out for Hawaii's beleaguered marine life.



O'ahu North Shore Screening

Waimea Valley Audubon Center, Haleiwa

Sunday, August 14, 2005

Dinner at 6, Movie at 7:30 followed by a Q&A with the filmmakers and featured experts.
Cash bar and catering provided by Waimea Falls Grill. Tickets \$8 cash at the door
and at Snorkel Bob's Store.

Snorkel Bob's

A 38 minute documentary produced by Merril Le Bonof, Directed & Edited by Adam Bramley, Narrated by Christopher Kent



ROASTING IN LINE

6/29/05 A17 The Honolulu Advertiser
Hanauma a miserable experience

Much political prattle has been published in The Honolulu Advertiser, but "Hanauma Bay" is absurd.

The city plans to entice kama'āina back to Hanauma Bay by forcing them to lug their children, and everything else, one-half mile from the bus stop to the ticket gate, where they will be obliged to roast under the sun for a minimum of 30 minutes to show their photo ID.

Should anyone faint from the heat, or a nursing mother seek some shade, they will be forced back into the queue so the ticket clerk can see she is nursing an infant rather than a teenager, or dehydrated victim. Such inhumanity is excused by, "The fire marshal strictly enforces the number of people who can be in this area, so everyone needs to be where we can see them for an accurate count."

After that 30-, 60-, 90- or 180-minute wait, the 'ohana gets to roast under the sun in another queue for another 30 minutes to see a mandatory video that hasn't stopped anyone from walk-

ing on reefs or from drowning. Then, because only one or no transport is available, the 'ohana drags everyone and everything down the hill, jostled by all the other uptight video prisoners who have spent at least two hours at Hanauma Bay without any opportunity to stick one toe in the water.

By the time the 'ohana gets to the beach, members are more likely to see fish on the information booth than in the water because everyone wears fins that kick up the sand so no one can see his hand in front of his face. What fun!

Then it's "Lets go home, mom," and because only one or no transport is operating, it is the long trek up the hill, going past the old exit, and up the stairs all the way to the entrance gate before they get to turn around and walk that half-mile back to the bus stop where, just to make certain their visit is memorable, the city has chopped down the shade tree by the bus stop, so the 'ohana can look forward to their dehydrated bodies being roasted alive

before TheBus arrives (if ever).

During all this time of roasting in the sun, mothers play a little game with their children called "Count the Security Guards." Even adults enjoy this game because there are always more security guards at Hanauma Bay than at Honolulu Hale, the state Capitol and even the White House!

These security guards "control" the recreational experience, rather than look for terrorists. In other words, it is all a cash cow scam. It has nothing to do with "saving Hanauma Bay" or the coral (otherwise they would simply ban fins inside the reef so people could actually see marine life without sand blasting the coral and vegetation).

That's right, folks! This is Hawai'i, and it is all about money!

Why would anyone subject their children to a miserable day standing in the sun simply to enrich city contractors and other hands? Well, the city has this plan ... and several advisers, commissions and committees ...

RICO LEFFANTA | Waikiki

Letters policy

The Advertiser welcomes letters in good taste on any subject. Priority is given to letters exclusive to The Advertiser.

All letters must be accompanied by the writer's true name, address

and daytime telephone number, should be on a single subject and kept to 200 words or fewer. Letters of any length are subject to trimming and editing.

Writers are limited to one letter per 30 days.

All letters and articles submitted to The Advertiser may be published

or distributed in print, electronic and other forms.

E-mail: letters@honoluluadvertiser.com

Fax: 535-2415

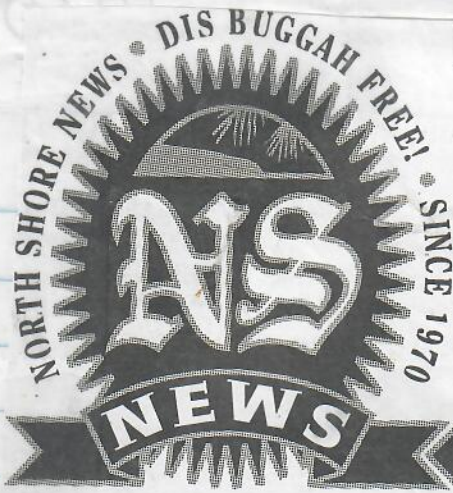
Mail: Letters to the Editor, The Honolulu Advertiser, P.O. Box 3110, Honolulu, HI 96802

On Fri, 2 Sep 2005, Reg WL wrote:

> Aloha George,

>

> I wanted to let you know that I have two Japanese students who will be
> doing some interviewing of Japanese visitors to Laniakea about their
> experience seeing the turtles. Their names are Migiwa Shimashita and
> Miya Akiba, and you will recognize them by the clipboards they will
> carry. Best regards, Regina



"E Ala Na Moku Kai Liloloa"

Firey Finish!

2005 World Fireknife Champion, Isitolo Oloa of Florida, is paraded on the Polynesian Cultural Center's main stage after his exciting one point victory over his nearest opponent in the finals. (Photo by Catalina Markowitz)



NORTH SHORE NEWS • May 25, 2005 • VOLUME 22, NUMBER 11



Turtle population makes a big comeback

The Hawai'i Green Sea Turtle is making a great comeback in Hawai'i and especially along Oahu's North Shore. The species

came under federal protection over 20 years ago. The turtles make numerous appearances daily along Hale'iwa shores but do they need

further protection from tour buses now frequenting popular feeding grounds. See page 20 Letter to the Editor. (Ron Valenciana photo)

179

Letters to the Editor

All that needs to be done is to rope off the area so that people cannot get so close to the turtles, periodically monitor the site and educate the public with better signs.

Please kokua!
Peter Holzman, Leucadia, Calif.

Tourists are bothering turtles on North Shore

Having been raised in Kailua to respect the ocean and all its amazing creatures, I was truly disappointed to witness what I did at a small cove called Turtle Beach on the North Shore. Here is a magnificent place where the threatened honu, or Hawaiian green turtle, has a wonderful source of food (limu), clean water and a comfortable beach (everything we all wish to have).

Unfortunately, the world's most disrespectful citizens: tourists, are endangering the turtles' rich amenities. While there with friends, I was astonished by the obsessive need for some people (especially tourists) to sit with, touch, photograph and bother the passive turtles, while invading their nesting area.

Case in point: One guy was in the water with mask and snorkel aggressively trying to get a photo of a turtle underwater, and as he tried to swim to get the shot, he hit another man standing in the water who fell onto the turtle.

Rubbish, human contact and harassment are not good for these animals. If we are not careful, we won't have any left to even look at.

If the Division of Aquatic Resources or other government office will not provide a peaceful place for the turtles to exist, I am urging the community and private industry to take action to help the turtles regain some serenity on that small, beautiful beach.

----- Forwarded message -----
Date: Sun, 16 Nov 2003 19:33:15 -1000
From: Marc Rice <mrice@hpa.edu>
To: George H. Balazs <gbalazs@honlab.nmfs.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Re: "Lost in Time with L4"

Here is an L7 graph which shows the beginning of basking (dry period) quite distinctly... The yellow line shows the dramatic increase in resistance on emergence... temperature also mirrors the emergent period by rising above water temp and then dropping below ambient water temp.. L4 TDR did not show this sharp demarcation.. Due to tag placement in the container or something to do with the tag... Maybe the rust you observed??? Lets talk.
Marc

Blue is dive and pink in temperature,, yellow is electrical resistance.

On 11/15/03 19:10, "George H. Balazs" <gbalazs@honlab.nmfs.hawaii.edu> wrote:

- >
- > Marc, I've spent 30 minutes this evening looking at the data graphs for
- > L4 and trying to understand. My greatest problem is ...time. I can't
- > get it to make sense based on what I know we did and when we did it and
- > what the turtle then did. I'm also up-in-the-air about the times
- > basking. We need to rely near exclusively on temperature, is what I
- > understand. But if the turtle is out at night (not unusual, as we know
- > from direct observations), the temperature won't be elevated (indeed may
- > be the same as the seawater- though I don't know that for a fact). I
- > wish we had an hour to go over this all together.
- >
- > Is 721 minutes on all the graphs (including the added one you sent for
- > L4 on 9/25) always indicate 12 noon? Aloha, George

La capitale delle Hawaii, 50° stato degli Usa, ha 2 milioni di abitanti

Honolulu, non solo palme in spiaggia e mare cristallino: la storia è sui fondali del Pacifico

Chi pensa ad Honolulu come ad un'isola di fine sabbia bianca, palme e mare cristallino, ha ragione, ma forse non conosce i grattacieli da capogiro della città, la movida notturna di Waikiki ed un aeroporto con voli da e per tutto il mondo. Capitale dello stato delle Hawaii, 50° degli Stati Uniti d'America, si trova sull'isola di Oahu. Si estende su 1560

km² ed è abitata da oltre 2 milioni di persone. Il nome Honolulu significa baia (Hono o Hana) protetta.

Le vallate sopra la città sono occupate da lussureggianti riserve naturali e attraversate da sentieri. A circa un'ora di macchina dalla capitale si aprono piccole baie in cui fare bagno o snorkelling, rilassanti parchi e cittadine tranquille dove dimenticare il chiasso del centro. Tra queste, certamente la zona del North Shore, prescelta anche dalle grandi tartarughe marine che si fermano sulla spiaggia per riposare e "prendere sole", dopo tante ore in acqua. Sorvegliate da ricercatori dell'università di Honolulu, identificate

con appositi microchip, non hanno paura dell'uomo, ma è preferibile non disturbarle troppo con carezze e foto.

Honolulu, però, non è solo un paradiso balneare da cartolina. È avvenuta qui, infatti, la più grande disfatta militare degli Usa: l'attacco giapponese a Pearl Harbor. La mattina del 7 dicembre del 1941 la base della



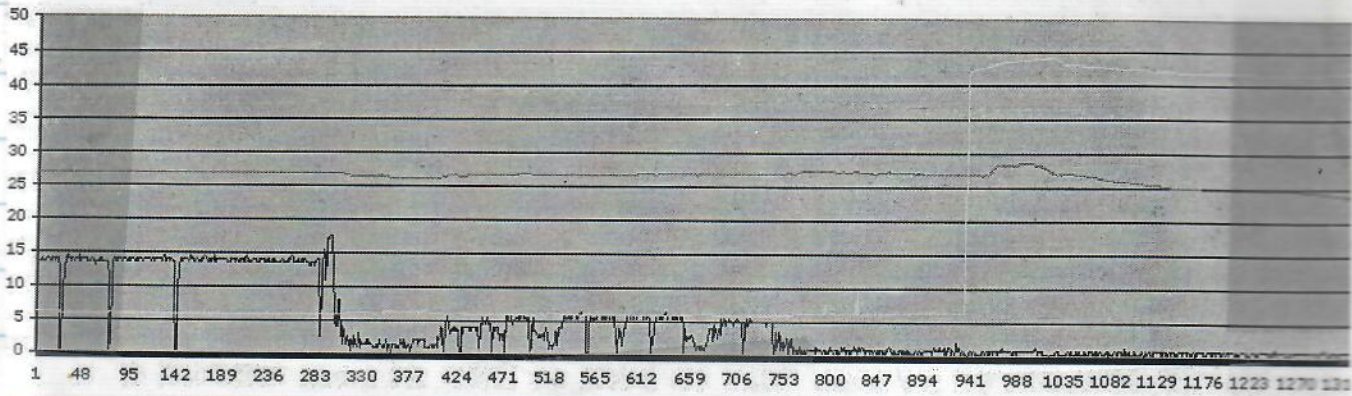
Una veduta di Honolulu

Marina americana fu attaccata a sorpresa da 6 portaerei giapponesi, 2.117 morti, 1.200 feriti, 5 navi affondate, 3 danneggiate. I fiori delle 'lai' (ghirlande del "benvenuto" tipicamente hawaiano) qui lasciano il posto a quelli dinanzi all'imponente muro con tutti nomi dei caduti. Il museo, realizzato sul posto dell'attacco, si affaccia sulla ciminiera dell'Arizona. La nave, carica di gasolio, si incendiò ed affondò nel giro di pochi minuti, trascinando nel Pacifico anche centinaia di militari. Dopo 54 anni, ancora perde benzina in mare, come fosse un invito a non dimenticare.

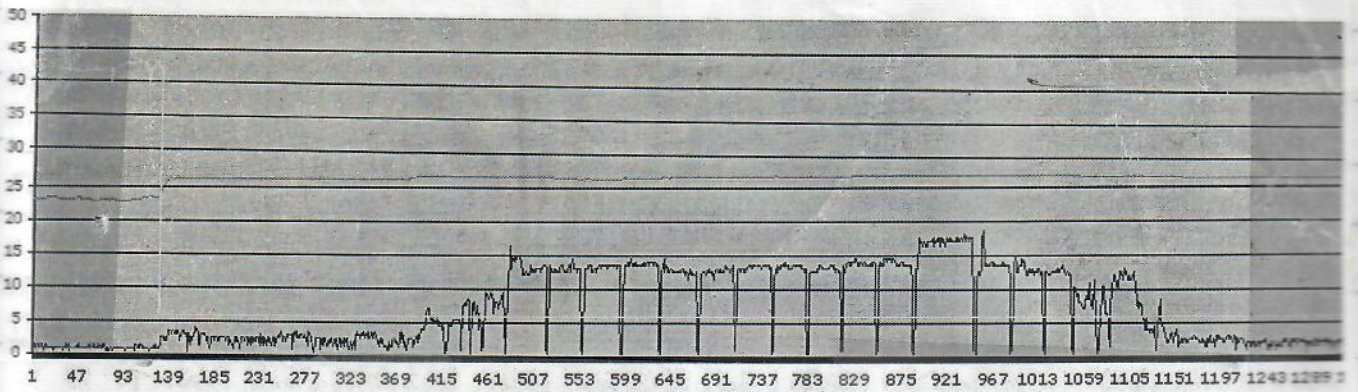
M.M.

18/05

17 - 11/11-resistance



17- 11-15-resistance



Date: Fri, 8 Jul 2005 00:32:06 -1000
From: pamela goodman-kilmer <pamgooder@hotmail.com>
To: george balazs <gbalazs@honlab.nmfs.hawaii.edu>, donskil <donskil@msa.com>
Subject: Re: Summer reading club at Schofield barracks

Dear George,

We picked up a copy of "Sea turtles No Na Honu Kai" at the presentation at Schofield, but if you have another publication the address is:

Evangeline Kilmer
67-331 Kaiea Place,
Waialua, HI 96791.

By the way, the day after the 4th, Evangeline said, "I'm afraid the fireworks on the beach will wash into the water and be swallowed by the turtles. Can we have a beach cleanup on our beach?" As a family on JULY 5th, we filled one large garage bag, daddy carried and 3 plastic shopping bags we carried, with 4th of July trash at three beach parks, Puuiki Park to Aweoweo Park, and Haleiwa Ali on the mission side. The neatest part was, other mothers and even visitors staying with our neighbors starting picking up and filling their own bags when they saw us. I was thinking next year it would be nice to send out a message before the 4th of July to our friends and home school groups to please pick up firework leftovers they see on the beach, to help protect the Sea Turtles and other Marine life.

All the best
Evangeline, Pam and Don

----- Original Message -----

From: George H. Balazs
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 6:23 AM
To: pamela goodman-kilmer
Subject: Re: Summer reading club at Schofield barracks

Wonderful to hear from you, things have been so hectic lately that I can't recall whether or not I wrote back to you! I have a new kids-type article on Hawaii sea turtles, I'd like to send a supply to you, can you please remind me of your postal mailing address. Warm Regards, George



Roberts Hawaii Tours



OCEAN WATCH

Susan Scott

Manta rays put on a show in Palmyra

I'M FOND of Palmyra's land crabs, but it's her lagoons that truly sing to me.

Among the members of this marine choir are some soloists that deserve mention: These are absent-minded manta rays, some cheeky black-tipped reef sharks and a batfish named Bruce.

Here in Palmyra, humans and manta rays have struck a deal: We attract food for the rays, and they entertain us. This symbiotic relationship, however, occurs only at night.

During the day, mantas cruise the lagoon eating plankton and socializing.

Sometimes, the slow-moving rays turn somersaults and expose their white undersides. So big and bright are these black fishes' bellies that one time I thought a bedsheet had blown into the lagoon, but no. It was only two mantas twirling in circles.

Occasionally the rays inexplicably leap from the water. These gentle creatures have neither stingers nor teeth, but still, a flat fish measuring 8 feet wide and 5 feet long belly-flopping on the water's surface gives you pause.

Palmyra's rays are entertaining enough by day, but turn the dock lights on at night, and the space between the camp's two piers becomes a manta merry-go-round. Rays swim head to tail in circles, scooping light-loving plankton into their mouths with paddle-shaped fins at the sides of their heads.

This phenomenon also occurs under some of Hawaii's shoreline lights, especially along the Kona Coast. If you swim quietly during this feeding, both here and there, the mantas usually ignore snorkelers.

Last week, the ones here ignored us so completely that a manta ran right into me. The ray quickly recovered from its surprise collision, and I from being shoved aside by a muscular fin, and we both returned to our respective activities of eating and watching.

The black-tipped reef sharks here have the opposite approach to human activity but are just as engaging.

While kayaking in deep water recently, I thought my paddle hit something solid. But after spotting the tip of a miniature dorsal fin, I realized that something solid hit my paddle. A small shark had bumped that moving object to check it out.

I arrived at my study site soon after, and as I stood in calf-deep water unloading my kayak, that shark swam up to my legs to check me out. To let the little guy know that something big was attached to those ankles, I stamped my feet. The fish disappeared with a splash.

Another charming friend I have in this lagoon is a juvenile batfish that took shelter among the rungs of my boarding ladder.

"Look, a batfish," Alex said as we were leaving the boat one day.

"That's a leaf," I said.

"It's a batfish."

"It's a leaf."

OK, it was a batfish. But in my defense, the young of these odd-shaped fish mimic drifting leaves.

We don't have batfish in Hawaii, but they are colorful members of other Pacific reefs. Bruce is an honored guest.

I look forward to living at anchor here for another six weeks. Palmyra's lagoon is playing my song.

Susan Scott can be reached at www.susanscott.net

20/8/05
AHT

Oahu Tour Operators- Laniakea

Name:	Address:	Phone:
Dieter's Creative Hawaiian Isle	PO Box 1796 Kailua 96734	262-1000
Discovering Hidden Hawaii Tours	3121 Mokihana Street PO Box 88022 Honolulu 96817 1/ res@discoverhawaii.com	737-3700
Discovery Aloha Inc.	2155 Kalakaua Ave., Suite 620 Honolulu 96815	926-4716
E Noa Corporation	Pier 31 791 N. Nimitz Hwy. 2/ Honolulu 96817 res3@enoa.com	591-2561
Hawaii Polonia Tours	2825 S. King Street, Suite 2704 3/ Honolulu 96826 bozena@aloha.net	955-4567
Ichiban Taxi and Limousine	2114 Liliha Street Honolulu 96817 (no email)	595-7733
Island Scenery	339 Saratoga Road Honolulu 96815 (not found in phonebook 06/05)	
Island World Tickets and Tours	205 Lewers Street 4/ Honolulu 96815 marcia@islandworldrealty.com	923-8687
Kekoa Native Hawaiian Tours	3422 Waialae Ave., Apt. 203 Alex Atienza Honolulu 96816	630-8205 will have email 6/28/05
Oahu Nature Tours	PO Box 8059 Michael Walther- owner 5/ Honolulu 96815 natureguide@oahunaturetours.com	924-2473
Polynesia Adventure Tours Inc.	1049 Kikowaena Place Glenda Santiago 6/ Honolulu 96819 glendasan@polyad.com	833-9600
Roberts Hawaii Tours	680 Iwilei Road, Suite 700 Paul Dower- Operations Dept. 7/ Honolulu 96817 paul.dower@robertshawaii.com	523-7750 831-1555

High s

Beaches closed;
waves up to 35 feet
likely after midnight

BY CURTIS LUM
AND ELOISE AGUIAR
Advertiser Staff Writers

WAIMEA BAY — Residents of the Islands' north- and west-facing shores were bracing last night for high surf that was expected to peak at 30 feet to 35 feet shortly after midnight.

O'ahu lifeguards closed all North Shore beaches yesterday afternoon after a high-surf warning was issued, but they had to make relatively few rescues. As of 11 p.m., there were no reports of road closures or property damage.

By early afternoon, lifeguards said the waves had risen to 18- to 22-foot faces. Bodo Van Der Leeden, lifeguard captain on the North Shore, said people were warned to keep their distance from the water because some waves were washing over the road in areas such as near the Rock Piles surf spot at Sunset Beach.

Francis Pedro, district coordinator for O'ahu Civil Defense, said it was the biggest surf he's seen in two years. Officials said it would probably peak with the plus-2.2-foot high tide at 1:50 a.m.

Schofield soldier Frank Durand, an Iraq war veteran, had waded out into waist-deep water at Waimea Bay yesterday afternoon when he was ordered back to shore by lifeguards.

Durand, 34, who returned on Valentine's Day after 14 months in Iraq, said he and his buddies would talk about how they were missing the big surf season back in Hawai'i. But yesterday may

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18- to 22-foot faces and lifeguards warned people to keep their distance from the water because waves were washing over the roads.

lighter than usual but that he expects more today.

"There's a lot of strong surging that's washing up the beach," said Kyle Pao, a lifeguard at 'Ehukai. "It's just a big mess out here."

SEE SURF, B6

stopped along Kamehameha Highway to watch the surf, but traffic was flowing through the community, according to several businesses. Bryan Smith, an employee at at Tropical Rush Surf Company, said traffic was

Tanya Chin, left, of Kaimuki, and Patty Boonsub, of Mānoa, checked out the surf at Waimea Bay yesterday. By early afternoon, waves rose to "know what they're doing, and for good reason."

Salt spray from the pounding waves shrouded the North Shore like fog, and was so thick in the air that one could taste it. A modest number of people

have been too close for comfort. "The currents were pretty strong, and I could already feel it sucking me in," Durand said. "I just wanted to go in where it breaks, just to get wet."

But the lifeguards, he said,

[HONOLULUADVERTISER.COM/localnews]

urf pounds North Shore

3/8/05 B1
THA

3/8/05 B1

Surf

CONTINUED FROM B1

Strong winds from the west and waves breaking everywhere, kind of out of control. No one is in the water at all."

Police stretched yellow tape at beaches, while lifeguards put warning signs and red flags in the sand.

"We're afraid that people will come down when it's dark and they'll want to get their feet wet," said city Ocean Safety Lt. John Hoogsteden. "The surf is so big that it can easily wash them from the beach out into the ocean and there would be no one here to save them."

Rough sea conditions resulted in an air rescue yesterday of two girls in their early teens from a rock just offshore from Lā'ie Point.

Fire Capt. Kenison Tejada said he and two girls, both local residents, swam out to the rock about 15 feet to 20 feet off shore from the Waimānalo side of the point but decided not to try to return to shore because of deteriorating sea conditions.

Fire officials received a distress call at about 12:45 p.m. and a Fire Department helicopter was dispatched to the scene.

Fire Capt. Ray Sheldon, of the Ka'a'awa fire station, said the helicopter picked up a rescue worker at Hukilau Beach in Lā'ie and ferried him to the rock in a net dangling from below the helicopter.

The helicopter then ferried the girls back to the beach one at a time and both were back on shore by about 1:30 p.m., Sheldon said.

Kaua'i lifeguards closed all



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Tommy and Angela Larson of Pecatonica, Ill., sunbathed at Waimea Bay yesterday. Lifeguards closed down all North Shore beaches later in the afternoon after a high-surf warning was issued. Surf was expected to reach 30 to 35 feet after midnight.

north shore beaches yesterday morning due to rising surf.

Firefighters at the Kaua'i Fire Department Hanalei Substation yesterday afternoon said the surf was averaging 25 feet, with bigger sets. There were no reports of incidents requiring rescues.

Richard Samiley, a worker at Surf N Sea, a retail and rental business, said people were coming into the shop yesterday, talking about the waves and how they expect to do some tow-in surfing today.

On big-wave days the shop doesn't rent surfboards, he said, adding that the company works with the lifeguards.

"We gotta watch their back

and they watch ours," Samiley said.

Advertiser staff writers David Waite and Jan TenBruggencate contributed to this report. Reach Curtis Lum at culum@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8025. Reach Eloise Aguiar at eaguiar@honoluluadvertiser.com or 234-5266.

HAWAII'S
NEWSPAPER

The Honolulu Advertiser

6/15 10:41 AM.

Hi Dr. Balazs

I talked to you last year regarding my interest
in helping w/ awareness of Hono preservation.

I am currently writing a children's book
and would like to include accurate scientific
info - specifically regarding one L-1 @

Laniakea - This year there are no white
letters on the beach markers there. I spotted
^{Hono} 8 on the sand yesterday - 5/31/05 - 1 w/ tracker attached
1 w/ fiberglass remnants of tracker - 1 with
badly damaged ^{L2?} carapace, 1 w/ fibropapilloma
on both eyes - ^{L7} almost blind, neck & cheek.

? (I sent you a photo of this Hono from my friends
phone - in case you were wondering why you got that.
I am hoping ^(the book) it will sell well and I plan

to contribute a percentage of the net to
whichever turtle preservation projects
you deem most in need of funds. If you
could put me in touch with whichever
researchers whose work is related to those

18

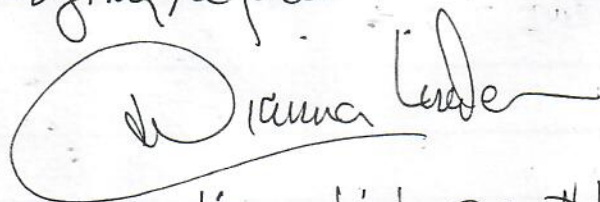
turtles, in particular, whomever did the
L-1, L-3, L-6 white numbering last
year, or the ^{current} tracking of said House
I would be very appreciative.

I will be here one more ~~day~~ ^{morning}
if you have time to SEE ME, My cell # is
30.508.1826.

I plan to go out to Laniakea again
today - perhaps Tables/sharks & Turtle bay
to observe current Resident House.

I must leave by 10AM tomorrow - here for
a very short visit this time - no advance ^{notice}
this the last there of today.

Thanks in advance for your
consideration of my request.



→ diannalinden@earthlink.net



Hawaii Surf n Sail

HAWAII 5-0
NEWZ
BY ACE

Candy Silver
Silver

HAWAII 5-0

BY ACE

AIM CHIROPRACTIC

SOUTH SEAS CYCLE SURF-N-SEA

XCEL



PUECO
Auto Sales

VICENTE HAWAII

JENEAL INTERNATIONAL

Hawaiian Cur North Shore Tattoo
NORTH SHORE EQUIPMENT RENTAL

Howzit North Shore! Summertime in Hawai'i is in full swing again! All the young kids from all the high schools and colleges from all over Hawai'i and across the country and around the world got out of school in early June. The action, which results from such an enormous exodus of "school's out we're on vacation" type party animals, has been non-stop here in the main tourist capitol of the Western World! It's like that every June in Hawai'i! The girls arrive by the planeloads in groups of generally a dozen or more at a time and just plain take over Waikiki. I think most of the mainland guys go elsewhere, thinking that Hawai'i is just a place where you try to get a tan on the beach and learn the hula. The local boys on vacation that live here generally stick around Hawai'i and VERY NEAR the beach in June, wouldn't you?

There have been plenty of turtles hanging out at Lani's looking for limu handouts from tourists and locals alike that flock to the famous "turtle beach" daily. You can feed them the green limu off the rocks, but just DON'T TOUCH THEM. It is illegal, it carries a heavy fine and there are cameras in the palm trees to make sure people comply with the law. If you do feed them, don't turn your back on the bolder ones. They will nip the back of your legs or someplace worse. Just a pinch of limu in front of their mouth given under the water and out past the shorebreak is the way to do it. If they are on or very close to the beach, give them their space... they probably want to be left alone. They are seeking sunshine and a peaceful

June 22, 2005

THIRTEEN CLOTHING
24 HOURS FITNESS
ACURA

