

ON NOW: Watch Island News on Demand

Weather Alert: High Surf, High Surf, High Surf,...

7



Honolulu
Partly Cloudy

77° H°
L 73°

HOME NEWS WEATHER SPORTS

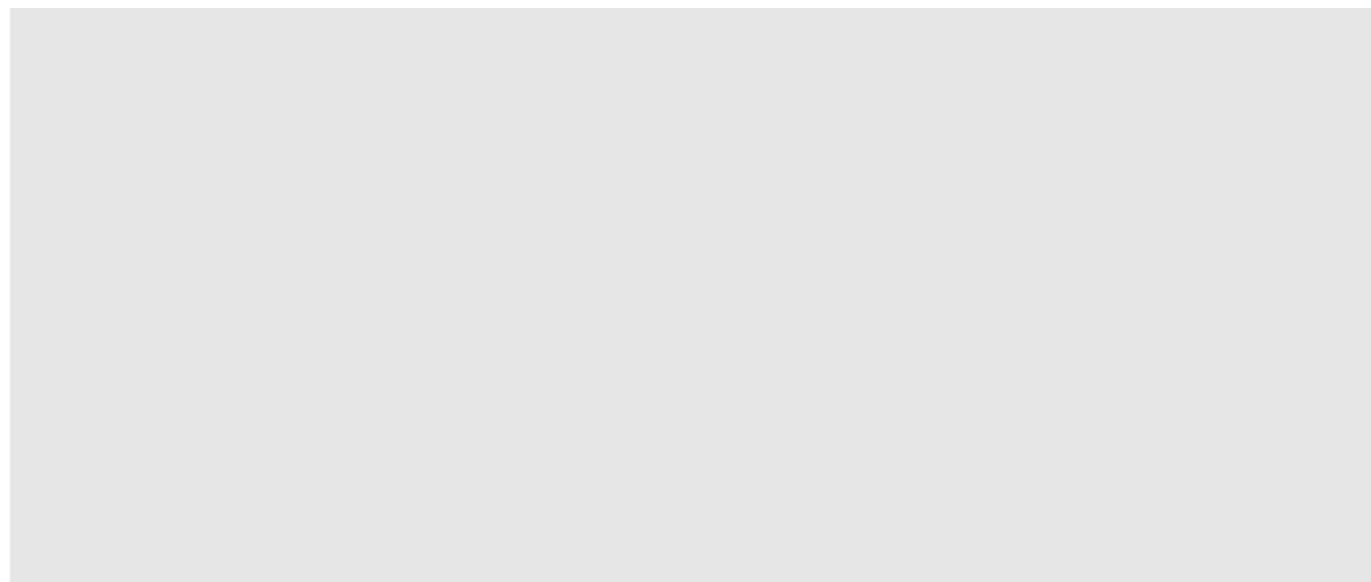
BEST OF HAWAII COMMUNITY VIDEO

FEATURES METV

Maui sea turtle photo causes uproar on social media

A picture posted on social media is making its rounds and turning some heads. A large group of people at Ho'okipa Beach is seen in the water near two turtles--bypassing a sign reading 'Stop do not pass this sign to view the turtles'. Jennie Montijo The po

Sunday, June 13th 2021, 4:47 PM HST





Jennie Montijo

A picture posted on social media is making its rounds and turning some heads.

A large group of people at Ho'okipa Beach is seen in the water near two turtles--bypassing a sign reading 'Stop do not pass this sign to view the turtles'.



Jennie Montijo

The poster wrote:

Today [Saturday] at 4:30pm there were just 2 turtles beached and sooo many people snorkeling around a turtle & standing in the water blocking access to the sand as the turtle was trying to come in (including GoPros within feet of the turtle. We spoke to a lifeguard who did use a speaker to ask them to move and very slowly they mostly did move - but then 15min later it looked the same again. It breaks my heart that this refuge for old turtles is being blocked by inconsiderate people.

Comments on the social media post expressed the same frustration, some writing, "this is infuriating"

and "I'm shocked!"

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, and Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources ask the public to do the following:

If you see a sea turtle on the beach, in the water, or observe any suspected nesting activity, please remember to:

- View sea turtles from a distance of at least 10 feet. Do not touch, feed, or chase them.
 - Harassing or disrupting a sea turtle or their nest can incur significant penalties, including fines of up to \$100,000 and imprisonment of up to one year.
- Avoid beach driving off-road vehicles (trucks and ATVs) on beaches that can crush nests, create tire ruts that trap hatchlings, and degrade habitats. Driving on the beach is also illegal in most areas.
 - Report illegal beach driving to the Police Department or to DOCARE (643-DLNR).
- Avoid shining bright lights near sea turtles or on nesting beach after dusk (such as flash photography, cell phone screen lights, vehicle lights, exterior building lights, beach fires, etc.).
 - Light pollution can disorient sea turtles and hatchlings, leading them to wander inland, into vegetation or roads, and away from the ocean.
 - If you suspect that you may live near a nesting beach, please contact the USFWS and request information on 'turtle friendly lighting.'
- Don't discard fishing line or other rubbish on the beach as sea turtles and their hatchlings can become entangled in them. E no'ono'ono pono – be considerate and mindful - and help to keep our reefs and beaches clean.
- Report any suspected nesting activities to NOAA by calling 1-888-256-9840 or by emailing RespectWildlife@noaa.gov.

Upcoming Events

Arrow Left

Arrow Right



Tue, Jul 06 @10:00am

Beyond Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience

Hawaii Convention Center



Tue, Jul 06 @11:00am

Ukulele Lessons

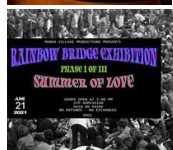
Manoa School of Music & the Arts



Tue, Jul 06 @11:00am

Guitar Lessons

Manoa School of Music & the Arts



Tue, Jul 06 @3:00pm

Manoa Village Gallery presents Summer of Love 2021

Manoa Village Gallery



Tue, Jul 06 @10:00am

Park West Gallery Art Exhibition: From Renoir to Kostabi

Waikiki Beach Walk

[See All Events](#)

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