

## Kauai Day-Use Mooring Buoy 10 Year Plan Workshop

August 27, 2009 from 4:30 pm-6:30 pm at Wilcox Elementary School

### Group Comments:

- Most boaters do not know where moorings are located
- A greater effort is needed to inform boaters where moorings are located, rules for use, and why day-use moorings should be used
- Not all commercial boaters know their location
- Most recreational boaters are unaware of day-use moorings and where they are located
- Non-resident boaters, including international boaters, are unaware. Information needs to be available and accessible to all boaters.
- Suggested ways to inform boaters are:
  - Coast Guard, Coast Pilot, charts
  - Create a day-use mooring pamphlet that shows locations – DOBOR could hand it out when visiting boaters get anchoring permit.
- Day-use moorings on Kauai's north Na Pali coast should be removed each year before the winter season
  - Potential safety hazard at some surfing areas
  - Significant potential that mooring tackle (mooring line and buoys) would be destroyed by large swells in winter
- High probability that moorings near or in Haena/Hanalei would be very controversial and would get push-back from community there
- Who benefits from day-use moorings?
  - The general public benefits because coral reefs are protected and thereby healthier.
  - Visitors benefit because coral reefs are protected and marine ecosystems are better for viewing.
  - Visitors who are divers or snorkelers especially benefit.

- Future generations benefit because coral reefs have protection from anchors and thereby are healthier.
- Assists reef sustainability and resilience in dealing with other challenges that can degrade reefs.
- Marine ecosystems and fish benefit – fishers benefit from healthy coral reefs

**Rules and Regs:**

- Day-Use mooring rules should be enforced and citations given to violators.
  - Lack of enforcement capability on Kauai – 1 DOBOR staff able to patrol and only 2 DOCARE for Kokee to Poipu to Haena
- Should day-use moorings allow overnight moorings?
  - Overnight use would help for resident and visiting boaters who are currently anchoring around the island
  - Management and regulation would need to be considered
- Regulations should specific what sea conditions are acceptable for mooring use
  - When weather and sea conditions are bad (swells, high wind, etc) day-use moorings should not be used

**Sustainable Funding of Program:**

- Create fees based on use permits
  - DOBOR currently has permits for commercial and for use of boat launch ramps
- Get NOAA grants and do annual day-use mooring fundraisers
- Try to get residents to give donations
- Have a Grateful Dead benefit concert