

KEWALO HARBOR

NEWSLETTER



Go slow- Whales below

Whale season is in full swing. World-wide, one of the biggest threats now to many species of whales is vessel collisions, especially in high boat traffic areas. In Hawaii, nearly 66% of whale collision involve calves or young adults.

How can you help protect whales while on the water? Maintain a speed of 15 knots or less, or slowest planing speed, especially in water depths of 100 fathoms or less to reduce your risk of striking a whale. Also follow best practices, like posting a lookout.

Find more information here:
GoSlowWhalesBelow.org

Fish waste

Clean fish at home or offshore. Please bag your fish waste before you dispose of it in the trash. Fish parts can also be frozen and reused as bait.

When 3 miles offshore, fish waste may be tossed in open, unrestricted water.

Please do not throw your fish waste into the harbor !

Rule of the month

This month's rule pertains to the ongoing issue of divers, swimmers and surfers in Kewalo Harbor Navigation channel. The channel is defined as the area inbetween the channel markers and does not pertain to the shallow marginal reef line. The whole ruleset is pretty long so we shortened it down to the most frequently asked questions we received.

§13-245-9 Diver's flag.

(a) A 'diver's flag' as defined by rule and measuring not less than twelve inches by twelve inches shall be required to be displayed on the surface of the water by any person or group of persons engaged in free diving or SCUBA diving.

(d) No person shall engage in free diving or SCUBA diving, or display a diver's flag in a manner that shall unreasonably or unnecessarily interfere with vessels or with free and proper navigation of the waterways of the State.

(e) Except in cases of emergencies, free diving, swimming, or SCUBA diving within navigation channels shall be prohibited.

(f) All vessels shall be prohibited from approaching within one hundred feet of a displayed diver's flag or within fifty feet of a displayed diver's flag on navigable streams, except within marked navigation channels. Vessels approaching a displayed diver's flag to conduct SCUBA, snorkeling, or free diving activities within the one hundred foot or fifty foot restricted area shall be allowed to do so provided that the vessel approaches at a speed of a slow-no-wake.

(g) Vessels navigating through marked navigation channels are exempt from the distance restriction described in subsection (f) but shall proceed at a speed of slow-no-wake through the navigation channel when a diver's flag is displayed adjacent to the navigation channel.

(h) The diver's flag shall be displayed only when free diving or SCUBA diving is in progress, and its display in a water area when no diving is in progress in that area shall constitute a violation of this rules.

Stormwater BMP Tip



Vessel Maintenance and Repair

Use preventive engine maintenance, oil absorbents, and bilge pump-out services. Do not discharge oily bilge water to the harbor, storm drains, or on the ground.

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