

## Malama Kai Foundation Day-Use Mooring Working Group

Malama Kai Foundation recognizes there are challenges inherent in managing the statewide day-use mooring (DMB) system utilizing dedicated volunteers. These challenges include, but are not limited to:

- regular inspection and maintenance of moorings
- installation of new moorings
- If quality control to ensure that standard procedures for maintenance and installation are followed
- addressing issues, concerns and potential user conflicts
- identifying and helping validate potential new mooring sites
- Improvement for the first fundraising to support the program
- maintaining a statewide database that documents maintenance and installation activity

To address these challenges the Malama Kai Foundation (MKF) has formed a statewide Day-Use Mooring Working Group (DMWG). The working group goal is to help improve the efficiency, coordination, communication, and standardization of the state's day-use mooring program.

The DMWG will be chaired by the MKF Executive Director and include one representative from Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Lanai, and Hawaii Island.











Meetings will generally be virtual meeting or conference call, unless funding is available for face-to-face meetings. The number and frequency of meetings will be determined by the DMWG.

## The purpose of the DMWG is described below.

- 1. Share experiences, successes, challenges and other information to help improve the statewide system.
- 2. Island representatives will coordinate the volunteer efforts on their island to maintain existing moorings and install new moorings.
- 3. Advise MKF and DLNR of issues and concerns related to day-use moorings and provide potential solutions.
- 4. Facilitate open communication with the Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) on each island, especially with DAR biologists.
- 5. Explore ways to improve best practices for installer training, maintenance, and installation of moorings.
- 6. Advocate and help with statewide standardization and quality control.
- 7. Capture and provide data on mooring maintenance and installation for input into a statewide database that documents all maintenance and installation activity.
- 8. Advise MKF on potential fundraising efforts to support the program and assist with implementation, if possible.
- 9. Advise MKF on the best methods for communication statewide and ways to improve the efficiency and overall coordination of the program.
- 10.Advise MKF and DLNR on potential new day-use mooring sites and help evaluate sites based on established site selection criteria and program objectives.

Additional responsibilities for island representatives of the DMWG include:

Help document the value of volunteer time and equipment for MKF to use as match for grants that provide funding for the program.

## **Current DMWG Members:**

Kauai: Marvin Otsuji - Seasport Divers

Oahu: Devon Merrifield - Aquazone Scuba Diving and Water Sports

Maui: Steve Juarez - Hawaiian Rafting Adventures

Lanai: Victoria Martocci – Extended Horizons Hawaii: Terry Leicher – Jack's Diving Locker

MKF ED: Terry O'Halloran