



KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Open Waters” Schedule for January New Requirements in Effect

The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) announces that “open waters” trolling for KIRC permitted vessels only is scheduled for Saturday, January 24 through Sunday, January 25, 2009.

Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR 12-261) require that all vessels must register annually with the KIRC before entering the Reserve to troll during designated open waters trolling dates.¹ Effective January 2009, permits for open waters trolling are required. A \$25.00 permitting fee will be applied to the required registration process.

Access to the waters of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve is severely restricted due to the continued presence of unexploded ordnance, as well as for the protection of marine resources within the Reserve. However, for two scheduled weekends each month, limited trolling is allowed in the Reserve waters, defined as the waters within two nautical miles of Kaho'olawe island. All other fishing, ocean recreation, commercial and/or any other activities are strictly prohibited.

During the open waters weekends vessels registered with the KIRC may troll in the Reserve's Zone B waters, which are waters deeper than 30 fathoms; trollers must remain underway, making way at all times, and all lures or live bait must remain on the water surface.

To register with the KIRC, or for more information, contact Dean Tokishi at 808-243-5889, dtokishi@kirc.hawaii.gov, visit <http://kahoolawe.hawaii.gov> to download a registration packet, or pick up a registration packet at the Division of Boating and Recreation.

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¹ Failure to register with the KIRC may result in criminal and civil penalties. Criminal penalties may result in a fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment up to 30 days; administrative penalties may result in a fine of up to \$10,000 for a first violation; \$15,000 for a second violation within five years; and, as much as \$25,000 for a third or subsequent violation within five years of the last violation [HRS §6K-8, 8.5].