

# **Summary: Oahu Public Meeting on the draft Mau Zone Amendment**

Wednesday January 28, 1998  
Council Office  
1164 Bishop St.  
Honolulu

Council Member, Frank Farm, opened the public meeting at 7:00 pm. The start of the meeting was delayed 30 minutes in the hope that more fishermen would arrive. The time, date and location of the meeting was read for the official record. Mr. Farm noted that the purpose of the meeting was to receive input from the general public on the proposed limited access program for the NWHI Mau Zone. Participants were asked to identify themselves and affiliations prior to asking questions or providing testimony. Mr. Farm encouraged the fishermen to provide their address on the sign-in sheet so that related information could be sent to them in the future.

Mark Mitsuyasu reviewed the history of the Northwestern Hawaiian islands bottomfish fishery, current management regulations for both the Ho-omalu and Mau Zones and the reason for establishing a limited access system for the Mau Zone. Don Schug and Dave Kalthoff summarized the major elements of the draft amendment, including the 1) initial qualifying criteria; 2) target number; 3) community development program; 4) vessel ownership restrictions; 5) use-it or lose-it requirement; 6) transferability; 7) vessel replacement; 8) annual and five year review; and 9) permit duration.

Mr. Bill Mustard commended the Council for preparing a fair and comprehensive amendment. Mr. Richard Tamashiro, bottomfish fisherman, asked about the proposed lottery for allowing new entrants into the fishery when the number of participants falls below the target number. He stated that some consideration should be given to fishermen who fished for many years around the main Hawaiian islands but never got around to applying for a Mau Zone permit. Dave Kalthoff replied that that is one section of the amendment that should be reviewed before the document is finalized. Mr. Farm encouraged Mr. Tamashiro to become involved in Council activities through its advisory panels.

Mr. Farm stressed that the 5-year review would be an opportunity for the various elements of the limited access system to be evaluated and, if necessary, modified. Hearing no additional questions, Mr. Farm thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.