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Ariyoshi, Akaka to hold news conference regarding monument expansion

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Former Gov. George Ariyoshi, ex-U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka and others will hold a news conference Tuesday to speak out against the proposed expansion of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

The news conference will take place at 10 a.m. at the Capitol Rotunda. They will share their letter to President Barack Obama, which former Gov. Ben Cayetano also signed, opposing the expansion.

The other speakers scheduled to attend include Peter Apo, a trustee of the **Office of Hawaiian Affairs**; Annelie Amaral of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs; Leon Siu of Hawaiian Kingdom; and Sean Martin of the Hawaii Longline Association.

On July 15, fishermen, fishing supply vendors, some of Hawaii's top chefs and others attended a rally in opposition to the proposed expansion of the monument.

The crowd of over 200 expressed a variety of concerns about the federal government's proposal to extend the physical boundary of monument – a marine protected area just northwest of Hawaii – from 139,800 square miles to 582,578 square miles.

The expansion would limit access to fishing in the protected area.



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Protestors rally on July 15 against the proposed expansion of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.