



Western
Pacific
Regional
Fishery
Management
Council

AGENDA

Kaua'i Fishing Community Consultation Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 4, 2025

Time: 6:00 – 8:30 PM

Location: Chiefess Kamakahalei Middle School, Līhu'e

Recap of April 2025 Consultation

Community Observations Heard:

- *Military still bombing Ka'ula Rock — impacts to fish and birds noted*
- *Homelessness, drugs, and access loss making fishing unsafe*
- *Too many turtles — interest in a cultural take system*
- *Shark and monk seal populations increasing; monk seals taking shibi*
- *Regulations not adaptive — every moku faces different challenges*
- *More fish offshore, fewer nearshore — fewer fishers remaining active*
- *"Instagram fishing" changing motivations and market dynamics*
- *Loss of local buyers; dependence on Costco and bulk supply chains*
- *Interest in reopening the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) bottomfish fishery*

Key Themes Identified:

- Rising cost of fishing keeping youth out of the trade
- Loss of traditional foodways and cultural practices
- Frustration over non-local funding and decision-making in Holomua
- Need for more local FADs and nearshore fishing opportunities
- Importance of defining "commercial fisher" and regulating online fish sales

Agenda

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| 1. Welcome and Introductions | PIFG |
| 2. Report and Information on Prior Meeting outcomes | PIFG |
| a. Overview of Kauai Small Boat Fisheries | DAR |
| b. Report on Shark Depredation in pelagic and bottomfish fisheries | DAR |
| c. Status update on cultural take of Green Sea Turtle | Council Staff |
| d. Translating Community Consultations to Action | Community |
| e. Restoring Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Fisheries | |
| Council Staff | |
| 3. Closing comments | PIFG |

Hosted by: Pacific Islands Fisheries Group & Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council