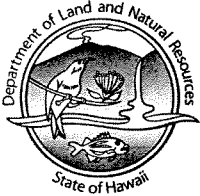


LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF AQUATIC RESOURCES  
1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 330  
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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

May 21, 2007

Dear Hawaii bottomfish fishers and marine dealers:

Please be advised that effective May 10, 2007, Hawaii's state waters were closed to bottomfish fishing. This closure will remain in effect until September 30, 2007. State waters will re-open to fishing for bottomfish on October 1, 2007. This closure to fishing affects seven bottomfish species – onaga, ehū, opakapaka, hapuupuu, kalekale, gindai, and lehi, referred to as the "Deep 7."

In addition, there are twelve bottomfish restricted fishing areas (BRFAs) around the main Hawaiian Islands which will remain closed to bottomfish fishing after the summer closure is lifted on October 1, 2007. To view the locations of these restricted areas, which were recently revised, as well as the remainder of the State's bottomfish regulations, please visit our website. Please note that all other applicable State regulations pertaining to bottomfish will still be in effect before and after the temporary summer closure. Our website is:

State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources  
<http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/dar>

The decision to establish a summer bottomfishing in State waters was made at the request of, and in consultation with, the federal government's NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service, which has implemented a similar closure to bottomfishing for federal waters surrounding the Main Hawaiian Islands during the same period. For more information on Federal regulations, please visit the website:

NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service  
Pacific Islands Regional Office  
<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>.

It is our hope that the combined efforts of both agencies, along with the understanding and cooperation of Hawaii's fishers and dealers, will result in the restoration and future sustainability of our valuable bottomfish resources. Should you have any question about this temporary closure, please contact the Division of Aquatic Resources office nearest you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Polhemus".

DAN POLHEMUS  
Administrator