

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

Amendment to Chapter 13-256  
Hawaii Administrative Rules

1. Section 13-256-16 is amended to read as follows:

"§ 13-256-16. Thrill craft operations; general provisions.

(a) No person under fifteen years of age shall operate a thrill craft. No person shall permit, or mislead another person into permitting, a person under fifteen years of age to operate a thrill craft.

(b) No person shall operate thrill craft within a marine life conservation district or marine natural area reserve.

(c) Thrill craft operations shall be curtailed in certain designated areas as described in subchapters two through eleven as necessary, to: 1) avoid possible adverse impacts on humpback whales or other protected marine life; 2) provide for increased public access; 3) reduce user conflicts; and 4) promote overall public safety.

(d) Effective January 2005, all recreational thrill craft operators shall be required to possess, and make available upon demand of enforcement personnel, a certificate of completion from an accredited institution of higher education on the safe use and operation of a thrill craft. The State may recognize reciprocity with other states, i.e., the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved portion of the personal water craft course; however, all operators shall be required to complete the portions of a certificate course for Hawaii that includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) Local ocean safety principles and practices;
- (2) The historical, cultural, and customary practices of Hawaii's ocean users; and
- (3) Any rules or laws pertaining to protected species and thrill craft operation in the State.

(e) All thrill craft operators and passengers shall be required to wear a personal flotation device in accordance with section 13-243-1.

(f) All persons holding or receiving a certificate of completion under this rule are exempt from section 13-244-15.5 for purposes of operating thrill craft. [Eff 2/24/94; am 7/5/2003; am ] (Auth: HRS §§200-22, 200-24) (Imp: HRS §§ 200-22, 200-24)

2. Material, except source notes, to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New material is underscored.

3. Additions to update source notes to reflect this amendment is not underscored.

4. The amendment to section 13-256-16, Hawaii Administrative Rules, shall take effect ten days after filing with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

I certify that the foregoing are copies of the rules, drafted in the Ramseyer format pursuant to the requirements of section 91-4.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which were adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ by the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

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WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources

APPROVED FOR PUBLIC HEARING:

  
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Deputy Attorney General