

From: [Randy Fernley](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Oppose Kole Tang rulemaking (12/8/22)
Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022 10:40:31 AM

Hello All,

I strongly oppose the proposal to limit the take of Kole Tang to 5" or more.

As a former aquarium fisherman and having hopes that our current FEIS will pass, this proposal would severely limit our catch as Kole Tang are caught in much smaller sizes for the aquarium trade.

Likewise, Kole Tangs are profusely abundant throughout the Hawaiian Islands and do not need this type of draconian regulation.

Randy Fernley

From: juliaskaehu@gmail.com
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bag limit on uhu
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 1:18:43 PM

Aloha my name is Julius Kaehu I am a commercial fisherman from the east side of Waimanalo I am very concerned of the bag limit of 2 uhu Per person I propose against that I think an ideal number of bag limit should be at least 50 pounds per person. I think that's a reasonable number thank you Mahalo.

From: [Steve Kaiser](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Board Meeting December 8th Division of Aquatic Resources #5
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 9:06:24 AM

Aloha and thank you for allowing me to comment on the Rules changes under Admin Rules 13-95

The first issue is the allowing the take of female Kona Crabs. Its been almost 2 years since the law banning the take of female Kona Crabs was repealed by the Hawaii legislature. Many of us fishermen testified and we feel blessed that the science won out and we would be allowed to keep that part of the catch. And yet here we are years later and still not able to keep that catch. And in these tough economic times I urge you to make the changes as soon as possible. This fishery allows us to fish with low cost as fuel and ice consumption is low and we all know how those prices have increased. And those of us who made the investment in gear thinking we would be fishing already can final start to recoup the cost. So please lets move forward with all haste. Thank you

On another subject is increasing size limits on many of our herbaceous fish such as Manini Uhu and Kole seems well intended on first glance. But by taking the larger individuals we are removing the largest and biggest breeders. If we look at terrestrial management if the goal is to increase stock levels this would never be done. And as these species are primarily taken by spear a better approach would be to implement slot sizes which take only those sizes in the middle. When diving its easier to visual see those small and those large. Its much harder to see and discern what's a legal size when only targeting the larger size. Unfortunately by then the fish is taken. And again why target the best breeders? And a larger female can produce millions of more eggs! And many references can be found supporting this. And it has worked very will for Stripped Bass and Red Drum on the mainland. And Ive attached this as a <https://doi.org/10.1111/faf.12442> . And as Ive poinedt out being a visual fishery were a take cannot be released successfully after a take I feel this would be a very effective management tool. I will add that it has not worked in fisheries that are trophy fisheries where larger individuals are targeted. However this is not the case for these species. And here are are targeting food. So lets be progressive and move forward with the best available science

Mahalo for taking the time to share my thoughts

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From: [Jim Lovell](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] BLNR board meeting December 8 & 9 - Item F5
Date: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 10:39:44 AM

Aloha Board Members,

Item F5, that seeks to regulate the taking and selling of food fish needs to be amended to clarify that it is for the taking of food fish only and does not apply to the Aquarium industry that has its own regulations regarding these fish already in place.

Thanks You for your time!

Aloha
Jim Lovell

From: [David Ramos](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to rulemaking on proposed ban on Kole Tang.
Date: Sunday, December 4, 2022 6:22:38 PM

My name is Dave Ramos and I've been collecting Kole Tang for the aquarium trade for over 30 years until the ban a few years ago. There has never been a shortage of these tangs. Whatever fish are collected are quickly replaced by the spawn that now have room on the reef to feed and grow. If the reason for the proposed ban is due to the belief that the algae on the shore line are taking over the coral it's not because there is a lack of herbivores but because the runoff from development has channeled the fresh water to change the chemistry of the water. The fish that eat the algae don't like the water chemistry there so they move to deeper water.

Banning the Kole Tangs won't stop the algae growth but it will harm the fisherman and their families who are counting on the return of our fishing licences to collect Kole for the trade. It is my sincere belief that we need to look back to old Hawaii and see how the konohiki (tribal chief's) let the Lawai'a (Fishermen) make the Kapu on what to take and what to let grow. How else would they know not to over take if they didn't rely on the fishermen. Anyone who hasn't studied the ocean hands on simply doesn't know how reef fish react and breed and how it sustains itself. This of course allows people to make up their own story to have their agenda passed. Let's do the right thing and not let people who don't know how the reef's work whisper in the ear of those who make the rules to decide what's good for Hawaii's fishery. I have over 30 years of experince hands on in the ocean. There is no shortage of Kole. Mahalo Dave Ramos. Comercial Diver

From: [Michael Sur](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 1:22:02 PM

My name is Mike Sur, I have been a commercial fisherman 40 plus years. Our local reef fish is rooted in our local community, fish is food. With a bag limit of 2 uhu, our local markets would not have fish to sell to our kapunas. Only young guys would be able to eat uhu. I ask the land board to have a reasonable bag limit for our commercial fisherman. Other states support their local fisherman with quotas or bag limits or even sizes. Once a fish reaches a large size it would be off limits to harvest. A bag limit of 100 pounds could work for our market and fishers? We need to start from the bottom up, not the top down approach. Feel free to call me . 808 645 2871. Thank . Mikesur808@gmail.com