

**From:** [Gary Elster](#)  
**To:** [DLNR, BLNR, Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Representative Tyson Miyake](#); [Senator Troy Hashimoto](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Nakoa fine and alternative method of removing grounded vessels namely re flotation  
**Date:** Saturday, April 27, 2024 10:18:20 AM

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Dear Chairman Chang and Members of the Board of BLNR:

I appreciate your increasing the fine against the owners or lessees of the Nakoa for the costs and damages to the natural resources caused in part by the need to tug the vessel off the reef. I hope that one day that fine will be collected.

That said my research has revealed that there is a better way to remove vessels grounded on our reefs and beaches that will cause far less damage in the removal process.

That method would involve surrounding the offending vessel with inflatable tubes and floating it off. I found one company that specializes in that. Its name is Pronal and following is a link to its site <https://www.pronal.com/en/projects/refloat-a-boat-with-inflatable-lifting-systems/>

For the preservation of our reefs and beaches from future inevitable grounding please consider employing such a system.

Aloha

Gary Elster

808-250-3726

