



AccesSurf Hawai'i is a local non-profit dedicated to providing free programs for individuals with disabilities to enjoy beach and ocean activities such as surfing, swimming, and outrigger canoe paddling. Since 2006, we have served people of all ages and backgrounds, with a range of disabilities—physical, cognitive, and psychosocial.

With over 20% of Hawai'i's population diagnosed with a disability, AccesSurf stands out as the only organization in the state offering access to ocean and adaptive water sports. Our community-focused programs significantly impact participants and families by fostering inclusivity and promoting physical and mental well-being through outdoor activities. Each year, we host more than 60 program days, facilitating around 4,000 transformative experiences.

The ocean is Hawai'i's most valuable natural resource, and we believe everyone should have access to it. A critical component of our mission involves our adaptive equipment. We are currently seeking a location to store this essential gear and provide a space for community members to learn about our programs and adaptive equipment.

We strongly support the Board of Land and Natural Resources granting Blue Water Shrimp a permit extension for the use of the remaining old Haul Out lot in the Ala Wai. Blue Water Shrimp supports AccesSurf having a container in the lot for equipment storage and a place to park our vehicle, while allowing the remainder of the lot for public parking. Additionally, Blue Water Shrimp plans to pave the lot, greatly enhancing accessibility, which is desperately needed.

Having our equipment situated close to the beach will enable us to serve more individuals throughout the year and enhance our programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cara Short".

Cara Short
AccesSurf Executive Director
cara@accessurf.org



AccesSurf Hawai'i
PO Box 15152
Honolulu, HI, 96830



808-236-4200



info@accessurf.org



Tax ID: 20-4420646

From: [Shaina Bachstein](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] AccesSurf supports BWS permit
Date: Friday, October 4, 2024 4:53:14 AM

I strongly support the Board of Land and Natural Resources granting Blue Water Shrimp a permit extension for the use of the remaining old Haul Out lot in the Ala Wai. Blue Water Shrimp supports AccesSurf having a container in the lot for equipment storage and a place to park our vehicle, while allowing the remainder of the lot for public parking. Additionally, Blue Water Shrimp plans to pave the lot, greatly enhancing accessibility, which is desperately needed. Having our equipment situated close to the beach will enable us to serve more individuals throughout the year and enhance our programs.

AccesSurf relies on accessibility which is not found commonly on the islands. During Covid we searched high and low, circled the island to find accessible beaches and water ways for our community and were disappointed that the options were slim to none.

AccesSurf will greatly benefit from having access to our equipment to continue to create an ocean of possibilities to those with disabilities.

Shaina Bachstein
Program Communications Coordinator



From: [Grosz, Breana](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Cc: [Cara Short](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Permit Extension for Blue Water Shrimp
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 11:58:22 AM

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my strong support for the extension of the permit for Blue Water Shrimp to continue utilizing the old Haul Out lot in the Ala Wai. This extension is vital not only for Blue Water Shrimp but also for the broader community, as it will enhance accessibility and support local initiatives.

Blue Water Shrimp's collaboration with AccesSurf, which involves using a container for equipment storage and designated vehicle parking, demonstrates a commitment to community engagement. This arrangement will ensure that the remaining space is available for public parking, allowing more individuals to access the area. AccesSurf is a local nonprofit that helps people with disabilities surf and swim. Having a location in Honolulu is critical to serve our community. I have been volunteering with AccesSurf for over 10 years to give people like my cousin with Down's Syndrome an opportunity to have dedicated water programs, especially in Hawaii.

Furthermore, Blue Water Shrimp's plans to pave the lot are commendable. This improvement will significantly enhance accessibility, providing much-needed support for individuals with mobility challenges. By having equipment conveniently located near the beach, Blue Water Shrimp and AccesSurf can expand its outreach, serving more individuals throughout the year and improving its programs.

The positive impact of this permit extension cannot be overstated. It will foster greater community engagement, promote inclusivity, and ensure that essential services are readily available. I urge the Board to grant this extension and support the important work being done by Blue Water Shrimp.

Thanks,
Breana Grosz
General Manager
Former General Manager at International Market Place, and AccesSurf volunteer
808-492-6136

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From: [Buster Kawasaki](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please grant
Date: Saturday, October 5, 2024 3:23:03 PM

I strongly support the Board of Land and Natural Resources granting Blue Water Shrimp a permit extension for the use of the remaining old Haul Out lot in the Ala Wai. Blue Water Shrimp supports AccesSurf having a container in the lot for equipment storage and a place to park our vehicle, while allowing the remainder of the lot for public parking.

Having our equipment situated close to the beach will enable us to serve more individuals throughout the year and enhance our programs.

I've been fortunate to participate and volunteer with AccesSurf for the past 10 years. And I love it! It's my medicine and my therapy!

Please grant BWS a permit extension and allow AccesSurf to continue to provide An Ocean of Possibilities for us.

Thank you!

Buster Kawasaki

Blessings
Buster

From: [Stephanie Nadolny](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Blue Water Shrimp
Date: Friday, October 4, 2024 12:27:48 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am a volunteer and Board member with AccesSurf, one of the most amazing non-profits to serve individuals with disabilities in Hawaii. As the CEO of Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific, we regularly partner with AccesSurf to provide important, life changing activities to the people we serve.

I strongly support the Board of Land and Natural Resources granting Blue Water Shrimp a permit extension for the use of the remaining old Haul Out lot in the Ala Wai. Blue Water Shrimp supports AccesSurf having a container in the lot for equipment storage and a place to park our vehicle, while allowing the remainder of the lot for public parking. Additionally, Blue Water Shrimp plans to pave the lot, greatly enhancing accessibility, which is desperately needed. Having our equipment situated close to the beach will enable us to serve more individuals throughout the year and enhance our programs.

The current storage of AccesSurf equipment is inconvenient, inefficient and creates barriers to our programming.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Mahalo.

--

Stephanie Nadolny

President and CEO

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