# Hawaiian Monk Seal Ilio holo ikauaua

Public Opinion Survey

Survey for Lodging Operators



Your participation in this survey is voluntary. Any material that might identify you will be destroyed at the end of the study.

OMB Control #: XXXX-XXXX Expiration Date: xx/xx/xxxx Throughout this survey all references to monk seals mean Hawaiian monk seals.

Q 1. Have your clients ever reported observing a monk seal in the wild in Hawai'i (outside of zoos and aquaria)?

Yes (Go to Q 2) No (Go to Q 4)

Q 2. If clients have reported observing monk seals, how often in the past year has this happened?

1 time	2-5 times	6 10 times	More than 10
1 time		6-10 times	times

Q 3. If clients have reported observing a monk seal in the wild, where? (Mark all that apply)

Seal was on the beach
Seal was in the water
Client was on the beach
Client was in the water (swimming, snorkeling, diving,
etc.)
Client was on a commercial tour
Client was in a personal /non-commercial boat or other
type of watercraft
Don't know
Other (Please describe)

Q 4. Do you make a point of trying to locate monk seals for your clients to view?



Q 5. Do you discuss information about monk seals with your clients?

Never	Rarely	Only when they ask, or	With many	With every
		we see monk seals	clients	client

## WHAT DO PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT MONK SEALS?

Q 6. What is your level of knowledge about the Hawaiian monk seal?

No knowledge Small amount amount	
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Q 7. Do you think monk seals are native to the Hawaiian Islands?

Yes
No
Not sure

Q 8. Do you think the population of Hawaiian monk seals in general has been increasing or decreasing over the past twenty years?

Significant Slight (neither decrease decrease nor decreasing)	Slight increase	Significant increase	Not sure
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Hawaiian monk seals are legally protected under Federal and State laws.

- Q 9. Prior to this survey, were you aware of any legal protections in place for the Hawaiian monk seal?
- Yes (Go to Q 10) No (Go to Q 11)
- Q 10. How well do you think the monk seal is protected under current regulations?

	Protected.			
Not at all	,	Well	Over	Notauro
protected	but not	protected	protected	Not sure
protected	enough	protected	protected	

Q 11. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Protection of the Hawaiian monk seal is NOT very important because there are many types of seals throughout the world.

Strongly		Neither			Not
	Disagree	agree nor	Agree	Strongly	
disagree	C	disagree		agree	sure

Q 12. Are you familiar with the Endangered Species Act?

Never heard of it (Go to Q 14)
Heard of it, but don't know much about it
Somewhat familiar
Very familiar

Q 13. Do you think that violations of the Endangered Species Act are regularly enforced?

Yes
No
Not sure

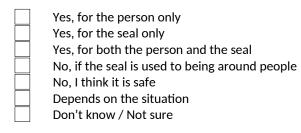
## HUMAN-MONK SEAL INTERACTIONS

Q 14. People have different opinions about what is considered appropriate behavior around wildlife. Which of the following, if any, do you consider appropriate behavior regarding monk seals? (Mark all that apply)

Viewing monk seals from 100 ft away Viewing monk seals from 10 ft away Approaching monk seals within 10 ft on land Touching monk seals Feeding monk seals Swimming close to monk seals Shooting at or around monk seals Photographing monk seals Fishing around monk seals Yelling, or making other very loud noises around monk seals Trying to scare monk seals away Allowing dogs to approach and/or interact with monk
seals

- Q 15. Do you think it is dangerous for people to approach monk seals on land?
  - Yes, for the person only
    Yes, for the seal only
    Yes, for both the person and the seal
    No, if the seal is used to being around people
    No, I think it is safe
    Depends on the situation
    Don't know / Not sure

Q 16. Do you think it is dangerous for people to swim with or be in close contact in the water with monk seals?



Q 17. If a client told you that they saw a monk seal, would you be likely to report it?

Yes
No
Not sure
Other (Please describe)

Q 18. Do you know which authorities to report monk seal sightings to?



Yes (Please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

No

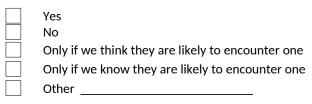
Q 19. Have clients ever reported encountering a monk seal while they were doing activities in the water near the hotel/ resort/ condo?

Yes (Go to Q 20) No (Go to Q 21) Not sure (Go to Q 21)

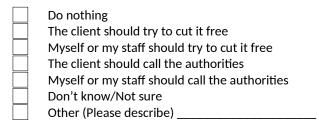
Q 20. If clients have reported encountering monk seals while in the water near the hotel/ resort/ condo, how often has it happened in the past year?

1 time	2-5 times	6-10 times	More than 10
1 time	2-5 times	o-10 times	times

Q 21. Are clients given any instruction on what to do if they encounter monk seals, either in the water or on the beach?



Q 22. If a client reported encountering a live monk seal tangled in a net, what would you suggest? (Mark all that apply)



## FISHING AND MONK SEALS

Q 23. Do clients fish on the hotel/resort/ condo property?



Yes (Go to Q 24) No (Go to Q 29)

Q 24. Do you think that if monk seals are present in an area where your clients are fishing, less fish are caught?

Yes
No
Not sure
Other (Please describe)

Q 25. Do you think that if the number of monk seals increases, your clients would catch less fish?



Q 26. If clients were fishing and a monk seal became hooked on a fishing line how would you likely respond? (Mark all that apply)

Cut the line
Try to get the hook free in some way
Call the authorities
Try to scare it away
Don't know/Not sure
Other (Please describe)

Q 27. Would you be willing to provide hooks without barbs to clients who fish in order to reduce the possibility of hooks becoming stuck in the mouths of monk seals?

Yes
No
Only if required by law
Only in areas where monk seals are present
Not sure

Q 28. Do believe that using hooks without barbs would affect fish catch?

Yes
No
Only for certain types of fish
Not sure

People have various opinions about whether fishing should be regulated to protect monk seals.

Q 29. Do you agree or disagree that regulations for recreational hook and line fishing in the main Hawaiian Islands should be enacted SPECIFICALLY to reduce or prevent monk seals from becoming hooked?

#### **RESTRICTING HUMAN ACTIVITY AROUND MONK SEALS**

Q 30. Do think certain human activities should be prohibited around monk seals?



hook and line

Yes (Go to Q 31) No (Go to Q 32)

Not sure (Go to Q 31)

Q 31. Do you think that any of the following human activities should be prohibited in the known presence of monk seals? (Mark all that apply)

Beach going Swimming Surfing Snorkeling and / or Diving Kayaking	Fishing with nets Boating (motor) Jet skis/Personal watercraft Water skiing, parasailing and other motorized towing activities Other
Spear fishing	– None of the activities listed should be prohibited.
Fishing with	

When monk seals haul out onto beaches that people frequent, an area around the monk seal is often roped off to ensure people do not try to get too close.

Q 32. Do you agree with current practice of closing a portion of the beach surrounding monk seals when they are present?

Yes
No
Not sure
Other (Please describe)

Female monk seals select a site to give birth, usually the same each year, and nurse their newborn pup for five to seven weeks. During this time the mother usually remains on land without eating.

Q 33. Do you think it is appropriate to close sections of beach areas that are heavily used by mother monk seals to human activity during the height of the birthing season (March & April)?

Yes
No
Only when a mother and pup are present
Not sure

Q 34. If small areas of beach near your hotel/ resort/ condo were blocked off from all human activity during periods of the monk seal birthing season, would you consider this a hardship?

Yes
No Only in certain instances (Please describe)

Not sure

# EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Q 35. How did you learn what to do or what not to do when encountering monk seals? (Mark all that apply).

I don't have any knowledge about what to do when encountering monk seals
Internet
Television
Newspaper
Magazines
Radio
Aquarium or zoo
Word of mouth (e.g., from friends and family)
From school - (learned it yourself, or learned it from a
 child who learned it in school)
From Federal programs (such as NOAA)
From State programs (such as Division of Aquatic
 Resources)
From law enforcement agents
From lifeguards
Other (Please describe)

Q 36. How effective do you think each of the following methods would be to help clients learn about wild monk seal conservation issues? (Mark one number for each category)

	Not at all effective	Somewhat effective	Very effective	Not sure
Educational brochures and pamphlets provided to the clients	1	2	3	0
Personal presentations given to the clients	1	2	3	0
Showing videos to the clients	1	2	3	0
Print materials (e.g. posters) displayed where they could be viewed by the clients	1	2	3	0
Posting information on social media (Facebook, MySpace, Twitter) for clients	1	2	3	0

Q 37. Do you have any other suggestions on ways to inform and educate people about monk seal conservation issues?

Q 38. Would one of the signs below, if placed near a monk seal, be likely to convince your clients not to disturb the seal?



Yes (If yes, please mark the one that would work best) No

Not sure (If not sure, please mark the sign you prefer) Both signs would be equally effective



Q 39. Would you be likely to provide or display educational materials to your clients about monk seals if they were provided free of charge?



The Hawaiian monk seal is an endangered species protected under Federal and State Law (16 USC 1538 and HAR 13-124).



Seals often rest on shore. Please avoid disturbing seals by giving them plenty of space, not making loud noises, and keeping all pets on a leash. If a seal is sighted or you observe someone harassing or approaching a seal, please report it immediately: Monk Seal Sighting Line: (808) 220-7802

NOAA's toll free / 24-hour hotline: 888-256-9840

It takes all of us to help protect these precious natural resources. MAHALO FOR YOUR KOKUA

No Not sul Other \_\_\_\_\_

Q 40. Would you be willing to participate in a training/educational workshop for hotel/ resort/ condo operators regarding monk seal issues, what activities can be conducted around monk seals without disturbing them, and methods of communicating conservation information to clients?

Yes
No
Not sure

Q 41. Would you be likely to participate in a one-day, semi-annual state wide monk seal count that takes place every April and October?

Yes
No
Not sure
Other

#### DEMOGRAPHICS

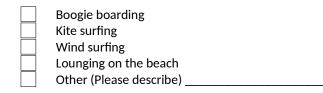
The following demographic information will be used to help make general conclusions about the survey participants. Any personal information will be destroyed at the end of the study.

Q 42. Which statement best describes the majority of your clients.

Permanent resident of Hawai'i
Part time residents of Hawai'i

Visitors to Hawai'i

- Q 43. What type of water activities do your clients engage in? (Mark all that apply)
  - Diving
    - Snorkeling
    - Fishing
  - Swimming
    - Surfing



Q 44. What is the highest level of education you have attained?

Some high school or less
High school diploma or equivalent
Some college, no degree
Two year degree (AA, AS) or technical school
Four year college graduate (BA, BS)
Some graduate work but did not receive a graduate
degree
Graduate degree (MA, MS, PhD, JD, MD, etc.)

Mahalo for taking the time to complete this survey. Your participation is greatly appreciated! Please use the space below to provide any additional comments.

This survey is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 20 minutes, including time for reviewing instructions, answering all questions and returning the survey to the administrator. Please send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other suggestions for reducing this burden to Jennifer Metz, National Marine Fisheries Service, Outreach and Education Specialist, Protected Resources Division, NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Regional Office, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-0047. All responses will be protected and will not be released for public use except in aggregate statistical form (and without providing and personally identifying characteristics). Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.