

MTRP Honulani Visitors Log

48 Primarily Negative Comments From the MTRP PIFSC Honulani Visitor's Logbook at Laniakea Beach on Oahu's North Shore 359 Days of the "Show Turtles Aloha" Campaign

7 July 2005 - 30 June 2006

Marine Turtle Research Program
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center
NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2396
gbalazs@honlab.nmfs.hawaii.edu

Date	Comments	Origin
7/7/2005	It's sad to see tourist not respecting the nature. Wish the gov. can enforce the rule put someone here to protect these natural beauty.	
7/8/2005	Stupid white people touching the turtles. NO respect!	Ka'a'awa, HI
7/8/2005	Get over it, we are not harming them, we are respecting them.	
7/9/2005	Great beach - too bad people Do Not Respect the turtles - time to set-up rangers etc. to protect them.	CA
7/12/2005	We want to see turtles! Keep people off this beach!	
7/29/2005	What a shame - the state of Hawaii should protect these beautiful creatures. Crowds surround, touch and yell. The state of Hawaii can do better!	Kaneohe, HI
7/29/2005	Problem is - people don't know how to treat these non-moving things as live animals...Watching people kick sand in their faces - unintentionally, but once they have their photos - they are done. But think your efforts to inform are worthy.	
8/4/2005	I've been to this beach approximately a dozen times in the last 2 years, and observed tourist behavior becoming increasingly aggressive toward the turtles. People seem to be oblivious to the signs, and uncaring about the plight of these beautiful, gentle creatures. Unfortunately, man seems to be nature's worst enemy. In view of the near extinction of sea turtles around the world, I think this beach should be closed to tourists, since they can't seem to respect the needs of the turtles. I hope these comments help.	Ohio
8/17/2005	Hello, I think tour buses should be restricted from this beach to prevent major crowding.	
8/20/2005	The guy kept bothering us cause we kept touching the turtles. Fun!	
8/22/2005	Needs to be enforcement! Many people are swimming and feeding them! No one respects them! Where is the enforcement - Roberts of Hawaii is horrible about this. Tour companies need to be trained to teach their guests what to do & not to do - There needs to be more monitoring!	HI
8/24/2005	People need to treat the turtles with more respect! Take care of there homes more and through away! (more trash cans on the beach)	
8/24/2005	There should be fences around where the turtles lay their eggs and more signs that say look and do not touch.	
8/26/2005	Too much crowding of the turtles.	
8/26/2005	Sad to see people using large floating nets to catch fish and other marine life on this beach. I see no reason for this harvest of precious marine life which takes away from what otherwise would be an enjoyable snorkeling trip. Very sad.	
9/2/2005	Not a good day to do construction on the parking lot!!!	
9/7/2005	Enjoyed watching the turtles swimming - many were touching and watching them closely. We read the signs and wondered why the others were petting them. Nice beach. P.S. We are 4 generations on vacation from Norway and Minnesota.	Norway
9/10/2005	Why are people allowed on this beach when the turtles are here? How can anyone be sure they are protected?	
9/11/2005	Give it a rest! Leave it natural - take the bureaucracy back to town!	Waialua, HI
9/11/2005	We need to give these creatures privacy!!!	Punalu'u, HI
9/13/2005	Most of the tourists are idiots. Cannot read (Especially Japanese). I would not want to be a turtle here. - Laniakea	

MTRP Honulani Visitors Log

Date	Comments	Origin
9/18/2005	The state (county) should fund the protection necessary to protect this amazing species. The tourists don't observe aloha with the sea turtles (most locals seem to understand)	Kapolei, HI
9/18/2005	Very saddened that visitors are permitted to approach so close to turtles!!! 5 m minimum in NZ.	New Zealand
9/18/2005	Why not close beach when turtles come ashore?	England
9/19/2005	Can we not close a little bit of beach just for the turtle. They never can come up at the water, before humans scares them I fill sorry for them	
9/19/2005	Section off a piece of the beach say 10 meters just for the turtles so that they can beach somewhere without people disturbing them. Its important that some of the beach remain for public use as well. That's what I think.	
9/26/2005	My vote is to close this beach to the public. This is totally wrong.	local
9/27/2005	Too bad everyone found this beach. Can you believe tour bus parking! What a difference one year makes!!	Canada
10/9/2005	Let's get some turtle and beach protection here! It's a super cool place but I wouldn't want it to be another Hanauma Bay case. Mahalo!	Honolulu, HI
10/16/2005	What happened to a little casual contact with the turtles is good for them and us? You guys have lost perspective with your ropes and signs. This used to be a natural wonder place where the turtles clearly showed they enjoyed or at least didn't mind human interaction by choosing to be here. You've turned it into a rules and regulations "zoo" and ruined the natural miracle that was happening here!	
10/29/2005	Enough with the turtle protection	
11/9/2005	Need more supervision of people on beach and swimmers. Permanently rope off small area for turtles to bask - allowing photos.	AZ
11/9/2005	Beautiful beach - definitely needs more supervision or permanent ropes	MO
11/23/2005	Need more than red rope to keep people out - how about a rock wall with permanent signs.	NY
12/15/2005	I love the turtles here. But, I think there should be a trash can near by so people don't litter. I also think that there shouldn't be a red rope because some people might want to feed the turtles, as long as they're not harassing them.	
12/15/2005	You should have more trash cans so people don't litter. The turtles might get sick, and they won't get fed.	
12/16/2005	I know you don't want the little kids to hurt or harass the turtles, but older and more responsible people should be able to take a closer look.	
12/20/2005	We saw people standing within 3 feet of a huge turtle. Can you not have an attendant here?	NY
12/23/2005	It is amazing to see these beautiful creatures in their natural habitat. Unfortunately I saw a lot of people crowding and touching the turtles, it's a shame people show so little respect.	
1/5/2006	No make house, go home! Keep Hawaiian Lands in Hawaiian Hands!	
1/14/2006	Beautiful! Unfortunately some people do not understand English or read signs!! Maybe, in order to protect the turtles state and local govt. need to rethink their protection laws (endangered species laws). Thank You.	Australia
3/2/2006	Thank you very much for the turtles - but please, please, please do not drive nails into this poor tree! Trees need love too!!! Mahalo nui loa and a hui hou!	North Shore, Oahu
3/4/2006	The tree can handle a few nails no worries. Turtles are fun.	
3/25/2006	This was once a great place, you should take all your signs out of here. You are ruining the area. Get out with all the garb...	Sunset Beach, HI
3/25/2006	I think this beach should be closed to the public or the red ropes should be farther from the turtles! Let them have their beach!!	Honolulu, HI
4/9/2006 11 am	People are suppose to stay 10' from turtles - there is no one monitoring today so tourist are harassing the turtles - this is very upsetting	
5/11/2006	I am outraged! Tourist are not treading the turtles with respect. There are being crowded, sat on and touched. Somebody with authority has to be here all the time! It's sad but people don't have respect and need regulation. What a pity!	California

MTRP Honulani Visitors Log

Date	Comments	Origin
6/1/2006	<p><i>Follow up correspondence to above comment</i> - Thank you for your email. Yes I was there about 10:00am that morning and one turtle was already on the beach and another was just about to come in. It had just rained a little bit when my husband and I got there and we had a chance from a safe distance (that is safe for the turtle) about 20 feet to view them. I love these amazing creatures and have a deep respect for them. So as we were admiring the view, when a bus with a bunch of tourists showed up, ran over to the turtles, with their kids and started to use them as photo ops and basically sitting on top of them. Walking around them kicking sand on them and touching them! I was chocked! Hence the note I was writing to you. Thank god, shortly after, your volunteers showed up, put out the rope and more signs out, and I had a wonderful talk with the woman, I forgot her name. I told her about what had happened, and she was also surprised that the turtles were already out on the beach that early. She asked me if I wanted to volunteer. I would love to but I live in California. Anyway I would like to thank you and your staff for responding to me and for your continued effort to keep these beautiful creatures safe. Mahalo.</p>	California
5/16/2006	<p>I am a local resident and I don't even like to come here anymore because I'm so worried someone's going to yell at me for stepping too close to the turtle. I respect this program but feel it may have some backlash. Thanks</p>	HI

N=48