

# HONOLULU AREA UNIFIED COMMAND

U.S. COAST GUARD • STATE OF HAWAII • TESORO HAWAII

Date: September 13, 1998

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Contact: Oil Spill Response Center  
Joint Information Center  
(808) 842-5058

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Number: 2

### Barking Sands and Polihale Beach Clean Up Demobilized

(Honolulu, Hawaii) The following is an update on the single point mooring spill clean up efforts:

- Clean up has stopped on two of the three beaches that had small tar balls wash ashore on Kauai yesterday although monitoring may be conducted, as appropriate. The U.S. Coast Guard, State of Hawaii and Tesoro Hawaii are continuing their joint oil spill clean up efforts on Kauai and responded to reports of tar balls at Nukoli'i Beach, Barking Sands and Polihale Beach. Beach surveys showed little, if any oil at Barking Sands and Polihale, and by the end of the day, the clean up at those beaches was completed however beaches will continue to be monitored. Tar balls were also found at Fuji Beach and clean up at that beach is underway. Clean up efforts at Nukoli'i Beach are continuing and proceeding smoothly.
- The State Department of Health has closed Fuji Beach and Nukoli'i Beach due to the tar balls in the area and to allow the clean up to continue.
- According to the State Department of Health, the tar balls pose no immediate danger to human health. If anyone experienced skin contact with a tar ball they should use hand cleaners, such as Lava, Citrikleen, or the type of soap used by mechanics, to remove the tar. They should not use a solvent to remove the tar.

*(more)*

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## Barking Sands and Polihale Beach Clean Up Completed- Release #2

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- More than 150 people from the U.S. Coast Guard, Tesoro Hawaii, the State of Hawaii and various oil spill response contractors are now participating in the clean up efforts at the Oil Spill Response Center in Honolulu and throughout Kauai.
- Tesoro Hawaii is working with the U.S. Coast Guard, Clean Islands Council and the Marine Spill Response Corporation, two oil spill response cooperatives, in the clean up efforts.
- Oil spill response teams are continuing ongoing survey work of all Kauai beaches to determine if more tar balls may have washed ashore.
- Two additional oiled birds were found and captured yesterday. The birds were sent to the treatment and rehabilitation center at the state Division of Forestry and Wildlife's Maui veterinary services office. A total of 22 oiled birds have been found. The birds include red-footed boobies, a brown booby and a petrel. Ten of the birds have died and the remaining birds are being treated. In addition to the Maui treatment and rehabilitation center, birds are being cared for and treated at Sea Life Park and at a facility established by the state Department of Land and Natural Resources on Kauai to provide initial care for the birds. Tesoro Hawaii and the Clean Islands Council have provided logistical support and equipment for the Maui facility. The International Bird Rescue Research Center is providing expertise and assistance.
- The Hawaii Forestry and Wildlife's Maui Veterinary Services Offices (MVSO), which is conducting the rehabilitation activities for birds on Maui, are seeking volunteers to assist with the care of the birds from 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Also, donations of bath towels for the bird cages and food for the volunteers would be appreciated. Individuals, who are at least 18 years old, interested in volunteering should contact Dr. Greg Massey with the MVSO at (808) 572-3502. The MVSO is located at 2600 Piihola Road in Makawao.

If Kauai residents see oiled birds, they may call the Hawaii Spill Response Center at (808) 847-8718.

After hours, residents may call the Coast Guard's Marine Safety Office at (808) 927-0830.

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A claims number has been established by Tesoro Hawaii. The phone number is (808) 532-9425 on Oahu. Neighbor Islands can call 1-800-900-3717 to reach Brandvold & Associates.

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