

QUARTERLY REPORT #4 for 2017

FOR PERIOD COVERING

Oct 1, 2017 to Dec. 31, 2017

It's a rare occurrence, but Haleakala gets a light dusting on snow on Dec. 21st, just in time for Christmas. Department of Health identifies 14 priority areas for cesspool upgrades to protect drinking and recreational waters and Maui's Upcountry area is at the top of the list. It's also humpback whale season in Hawaii, and our coverage of the wintering whales from their spectacle off the Honoapiilani to entanglement stories get widespread attention. Maui police arrested a 17-year-old Kahului boy for arson in connection with an investigation into a fire that destroyed several classrooms at Kahului School. Sexual misconduct allegations and the #metoo hashtag get media coverage with Hawaii lawmakers calling on the president to answer to allegations. The 2017 hurricane season featured two tropical cyclones in the Central Pacific Hurricane Center area of responsibility, which is below the seasonal average. This was the first month for the reinstatement of the Attack Warning Signal testing since testing ended in the mid-1990s after the waning of the Cold War in the 1980s. Island Air announced it will be closing operations as of 12:01 a.m. Nov. 11, 2017. Island Air had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. State Rep. Kaniela Ing of Maui will join "Resistance" groups in sending a message to President Donald Trump by holding a sign that reads "Aloha means goodbye"

THE FOLLOWING IS A SELECTION OF THE TOP STORIES COVERED BY PACIFIC RADIO GROUP ON THE GIVEN DAYS.

12.31.17	Year in Review: A Look at Maui's Top Headlines from 2017	Here is a look of the top Maui headlines in 2017
12.29.17	Maui Committee to Hear Bill: No Smoking in Cars with Kids Present	Under PEA-41, individuals would be prohibited from smoking in vehicles when persons under the age of 18 are present.
12.29.17	Hawai'i Minimum Wage to Increase to \$10.10 in 2018	This is Hawai'i's 4th and final rise in the minimum wage since 2015. The minimum wage had stayed the same for 8 years (it remained at \$7.25 from 1/07-1/15).
12.27.17	1,275 Rocks Returned to Haleakalā in 2017	Letters of apology to Pele, the Hawaiian goddess of fire and volcanoes, often accompany these rocks.
12.26.17	Entangled Humpback Whale Freed Off Maui	An entangled adult humpback whale was freed by a team of trained responders off Lahaina, Maui on Christmas Day. It was trailing 400' of heavy gauge line.
12.26.17	Police Issue Illegal Aerial Fireworks Warning	Police issued a warning asking for the public's help in reporting the location of illegal aerial fireworks and the identity of people in possession of them.
12.21.17	Vandal Hits 19 Maui County Vehicles	Security video shows the suspect pounding something into the tires to damage them.
12.21.17	Let it Snow! Small Flurries at Haleakalā	Haleakalā, Maui has reports of extremely light, intermittent snow this morning, but not enough to stick around for long.
12.21.17	Record Daily Maximum Rainfall Set in Kahului	24-hour rain totals (through 5 a.m. on 12.21.17) were in excess of 8 inches at rain gauges at West Wailuaiki (8.32) and Wailuku (8.35). Kahului recorded 5.78
12.20.17	Severe Weather, Road Closure Updates: Maui Under Flood Watch	The National Weather Service has EXTENDED a FLASH FLOOD WATCH for MAUI COUNTY in effect until late tonight.
12.19.17	Near-Fatal Accident on Haleakalā Highway, Pukalani	A silver 2017 Nissan sedan was traveling mauka-bound on Haleakalā Highway when it crossed left of center and collided into a 2013 Kenworth dump truck...
12.19.17	Upcountry Maui is a Priority Area for Cesspool Upgrades	Department of Health identifies 14 priority areas for cesspool upgrades to protect drinking and recreational waters
12.18.17	DOH Launches Media Campaign on Rat Lungworm Prevention	Public education announcements are now running on 40 radio stations and seven television stations to build awareness about rat lungworm disease prevention
12.18.17	Rep. Ing Proposes Net Neutrality Bill	State Representative Kaniela Saito Ing will propose legislation to explore the feasibility of public or community-owned, high-speed broadband in Hawai'i.
12.18.17	Hawai'i Humpback Whale Season Underway	As 12,000 humpback whales migrate to Hawai'i each year. Approaching humpback whales within 100 yards or within 1,000 feet by air is illegal.
12.16.17	Teen Arrested and Charged for Kahului School Arson	Maui police arrested a 17-year-old Kahului boy for arson in connection with an investigation into a fire that destroyed several classrooms at Kahului School.
12.14.17	Honoapi'ilani Bypass From Olowalu to Keawe St Slated for March Completion	A list of current and future projects that the state DOT has planned in Maui County was unveiled along with a progress, timelines, costs and scope.
12.14.17	Holiday Drive Sober Campaign Runs From	The Maui Police Department is participating in the national Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over enforcement campaign, which began on Dec. 13, 2017, and continues into the

	Dec. 13 into New Year	New Year.
12.13.17	AG Chin Issues Opinion on Hawai'i Shoreline Migration	The opinion states that BLNR should charge former owners fair market value in return for an easement interest in the land.
12.13.17	Hawai'i Mayors Pledge: 100% Renewable Ground Transportation by 2045	Mayor Arakawa: "It is vitally important that we chart a new course that steers us away from fossil fuel use and carbon emissions in our ground transportation."
12.13.17	Hawai'i Vehicle Fatalities Surpass 100 in 2017	DOT officials: "Working together, we can reduce Hawai'i's annual traffic fatalities from 101, to 80 or fewer by 2018, toward the ultimate goal of zero deaths."
12.13.17	Hanabusa Joins Call for Investigation into Sexual Misconduct Allegations Against President	US Rep. Hanabusa of Hawai'i joined 58 of her colleagues in calling on a House Committee to investigate allegations of sexual misconduct against President Trump.
12.12.17	Deadly Motorcycle Accident Claims Life of Kahului Man	A Kahului man suffered fatal injuries in a motorcycle accident in Ha'ikū on Monday. Maui police have since identified the victim as 64-year-old Dean Line Sr.
12.11.17	Need for Lifeguard Tower at Pu'u Keka'a Explored	A proposal to move a lifeguard tower from Hanaka'o'o Beach Park about a mile north to Pu'u Keka'a ("Black Rock") in Kā'anapali, is up for discussion.
12.7.17	Maui Police Launch Attempted Murder Investigation Following Stabbing in Olowalu	Maui police have launched a second degree attempted murder investigation following a stabbing reported in Olowalu on Wednesday night, Dec. 6, 2017.
12.6.17	2017 Hurricane Season Brings Two Cyclones to Central Pacific	The 2017 hurricane season featured two tropical cyclones in the Central Pacific Hurricane Center area of responsibility, which is below the seasonal average.
12.6.17	Hirono Calls on Franken to Step Down as "Silence Breakers" Named TIME Person of the Year	Franken faces mounting allegations of sexual misconduct. Sen. Hirono said that while she considers Franken to be a good Senator and friend, she cannot excuse...
12.1.17	Hawai'i Completes First Attack Warning Test Since Cold War	This was the first month for the reinstatement of the Attack Warning Signal testing since testing ended in the mid-1990s after the waning of the Cold War in the 1980s.
11.30.17	Maui Police Captain Enters Not Guilty Plea in Sex Assault Case	A high-ranking Maui police officer entered a not guilty plea today to a misdemeanor sex assault charge and requested that the matter be set for jury trial.
11.30.17	Arson Investigation Kahului Elementary School	The Maui Police Department is asking the public for any information about the arson that occurred at Kahului Elementary School on Friday, Nov. 24, 2017.
11.29.17	Emergency Proclamation: 400 Dead Trees Along Pi'iholo Rd to be Removed	More than 400 dead eucalyptus trees along Pi'iholo Road will be removed before any more falling trees cause property damage, injury or death this winter.
11.29.17	Travelers Should Not Be Alarmed by Attack Warning Signal	President and CEO of Hawai'i Tourism Authority issued a statement to reassure visitors about the monthly Attack Warning Signal
11.29.17	Kahului School Remains Closed to Students Until Monday, Dec. 4	Kahului Elementary School will remain closed for all students through this week and reopen on Monday, Dec. 4, due to damage caused by a fire on Nov. 24, 2017.
11.27.17	Extradition Hearing Set for Hawai'i State Hospital Escapee	Saito was given the choice to either admit his identity and agree to extradition back to Hawai'i or ask for a hearing to be scheduled to contest extradition. Saito chose the latter option.
11.27.17	Beach User Hui Sues DLNR over Kā'anapali Tour Boat Operators	A lawsuit has been filed against the state Department of Land and Natural Resources over the current permitting system for tour boat operators off of Kā'anapali Beach.
11.21.17	Hawai'i Lawmakers Call on FCC to Protect Net Neutrality	Hawai'i lawmakers are among those voicing concerns with the Federal Communications Commission's plan to dismantle landmark net neutrality rules.
11.17.17	Oregon Man Dies, Fell Ill While Snorkeling at 'Āhihi-Kina'u	The snorkeler was brought to shore after reportedly experiencing a medical emergency in waters at the 'Āhihi-Kina'u Natural Area Reserve.
11.17.17	Interstellar Object Discovered with Maui Telescope Gets Hawaiian Name: "Oumuamua"	The interstellar object that was discovered last month with the Pan-STARRS 1 telescope atop Haleakalā on Maui, now has a name -- 'Oumuamua.
11.17.17	Update: Police Investigate Unattended Death Near Kahului Elementary	The investigation stems from the discovery of a lifeless body of an adult male, found near the campus of Kahului Elementary School at 6:46 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 17, 2017.
11.15.17	BREAKING: Hawai'i	Maui Now has learned that an arrest has been made for a mental health patient who

	Mental Health Escapee Arrested in California	escaped from the Hawai'i State Hospital in Kane'ohe over the weekend.
11.14.17	UPDATE BREAKING: Saito Landed in California 2 Hours Before Being Reported Missing	Sources tell Maui Now that a man who escaped from the Hawai'i State Hospital was only on Maui for a short while before boarding another flight for the mainland
11.10.17	Maui Committee to Hear From Experts on Sunscreen and Coral Reef Damage	The presentation comes as the committee considers proposed legislation that would ban the use of sunscreen containing oxybenzone and octinoxate in Maui County.
11.10.17	Maui Drug Court Reaches Milestone of 600 Graduates	The milestone event marked the successful completion of the program by more than 600 graduates since the Maui Drug Court first convened in 2000.
11.9.17	BREAKING: Island Air to Shut Down After 37 Years	Island Air announced today it will be closing operations as of 12:01 a.m. Nov. 11, 2017. Island Air had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection
11.2.17	"Aloha Means Goodbye": Maui Rep. Ing Resists Trump's Hawai'i Visit	State Rep. Kaniela Ing of Maui will join "Resistance" groups in sending a message to President Donald Trump by holding a sign that reads "Aloha means goodbye"
11.1.17	Traffic Advisory/Updates: Honoapi'ialani Accident at McGregor Pt	Maui police are responding to a report of a motor vehicle accident on the Honoapi'ialani Highway in the area of McGregor Point, reported at around 6:15 a.m.
10.31.17	Maui Health System Implements Change for Patients Requesting Private Postpartum Rooms	Effective Nov. 1, 2017, Maui Health System will no longer collect fees for private postpartum rooms at the Maui Memorial Medical Center.
10.31.17	US Senators, Schatz Introduce Bill to Prevent Pre-emptive Strike on North Korea	The bill would prohibit funds from being used for kinetic military operations without Congressional approval unless the US faces an imminent threat or such action is necessary to defend citizens
10.30.17	BREAKING: Rare Sighting of Whale Shark off Molokini	An island photographer captured a rare sighting of a Whale Shark near Molokini Crater today, her second sighting at the location in seven months.
10.28.17	Walsh and Alms Secure Pe'ahi Challenge Win at "Jaws" on Maui	Ian Walsh of Maui, Hawai'i has secured his maiden win on the Big Wave Tour by winning the final of the Pe'ahi Challenge at Pe'ahi/Jaws, Maui today.
10.27.17	Pi'ilani Hwy Near Kalepa Point CLOSED Due to Landslide	The Department of Public Works would like to remind all residents and visitors that Pi'ilani Highway near Kalepa Point is closed due to safety reasons.
10.27.17	BREAKING: Scathing Audit Criticizes Maui Fire Dept Premium/Overtime Pay	The audit noted an increase of 60%--or \$1.4 million--in overtime pay "without a notable increase in emergency incidents, staffing levels, or absences."
10.24.17	Update: 40,000 Gallons of Wastewater Overflows at Kahului Harbor	The public is advised to stay out of the waters north of Kahului Harbor from Kanaloa Avenue to Linekona Street.
10.22.17	Flash Flood Watch Issued for Maui County; Flood Advisory for Lāna'i and Moloka'i	Heavy showers associated with an upper trough and cold front moving down the island chain could result in flash flooding Monday through Tuesday.
10.20.17	Lokelani Intermediate and Kihei Elementary Lock Down, Man Seen with Rifle	At around 2 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 20, Lokelani Intermediate School and Kihei Elementary were put on lock down.
10.20.17	MFD Ends Search for Downed Helicopter Off Moloka'i	Except for the uninflated life vest retrieved on Tuesday, no other items or aircraft debris was ever found by Maui firefighters over the three-day search.
10.18.17	PHOTO UPDATE: Coast Guard Continues Search for Missing Helicopter	The US Coast Guard is continuing the search for two people who were aboard a Robinson R44 helicopter that went missing off the northwest side of Moloka'i 10.18.17
10.18.17	13 Traffic Fatalities in Maui County since Jan. 1	Since Jan. 1 there have been 13 traffic fatalities on Maui compared to 16 the same time last year.
10.18.17	Hotel Wailea Ranked No. 1 in Hawai'i	Condé Nast Traveler today announced the results of the 2017 Reader's Choice Awards, ranking Hotel Wailea as the #1 Top Hotel in Hawai'i.
10.16.17	Photo Update: Crime Stoppers Seeks Public's Assistance in Wailuku	A vehicle traveling north on Waiale Road hit a pedestrian walking east across the roadway, then fled prior to police arrival.

	Hit-and-Run Fatality	
1.16.17	Discrimination Lawsuit Filed Against Maui County	A discrimination lawsuit was filed against Maui County by Robert Straub, who worked in the Maui County Business Resource Center at Maui Mall in Kahului.
10.13.17	Mayor Arakawa Accused of Breaking Campaign Spending Laws	The commission claims he characterized the funds as "advertisements" instead of charitable donations to nonprofits
10.12.17	Traffic Alert: Car Accident Reported Near Scenic Lookout, Mā'alaea	Maui Now has received information regarding a two car crash near the scenic lookout at Mā'alaea, one of the vehicles involved has flipped over.
10.10.17	VIDEO: First Whales of the Season Spotted	Pacific Whale Foundation spotted their first whale of the season today, Oct. 10, 2017, at 9:32 a.m. off the coast of Kapalua in West Maui.
10..5.17	Maui's Kama'ole Parks Reopened After Shark Incident	Maui ocean safety lifeguards closed the beaches and ocean waters between Kama'ole Beach Park I and Kama'ole Beach Park III due to a shark incident today.
10.3.17	Ha'ikū Woman Dies in Single-Vehicle Crash	The female driver went up a dirt embankment and came to rest after colliding with a tree.
10.3.17	MPD & NPS Seek Public's Help in Kīpahulu Fatality	Maui Police and the National Park Service is seeking the public's assistance with information regarding the identity of a male individual recovered in Kīpahulu.
10.2.17	UH Mānoa Study: Ocean Warming Increases Potential of Destructive Cyclones	The group found that for every degree Celsius increase of sea surface temperature, the destructive potential of typhoons in the western North Pacific can increase by 340%
10.2.17	UPDATE: 59 Dead, 527 Hurt in Las Vegas Shooting	Authorities say the number of people killed in Sunday night's mass shooting has risen to 59; 527 were wounded.
10.1.17	Four Dead, Three Injured in Kā'anapali Crash	A fatal motor vehicle collision occurred on Honoapi'ilani Highway (30) just south of Keka'a Drive in Kā'anapali on Saturday, Sept. 30, last night.