

The points below clearly summarize the major issues regarding this problem. I will add that I live in an area close to a water fall in Hilo. This water fall is a tourist attraction and is one of the sites visited by helicopters. I own an acre of land and value tremendously my space, particularly my peace and quiet. This seems harder and harder to achieve, with general noise from motorcycles, ATVs, loud and obnoxious car stereos AND repeated overhead flights of helicopters. I strongly object to not only the 500 foot exception but absolutely find a 300 foot limit unacceptable. The Hawaiian islands must maintain a certain degree of solitude and beauty that must not be comprimised in any way. Please maintain or INCREASE current minimum altitudes and eliminate exemptions from the altitude rule, and give the State and National Park Service the ability to restrict tour overflights from State and National Parks and wilderness areas.

ADDITIONAL POINTS: Government studies have demonstrated that the higher minimum altitude saves lives; constant noise has been shown to adversely impact human health; Hawaii's wildlife--especially forest birds--are negatively affected by overflight disruptions, from mating problems to abandonment of nests; constant noise in state and national parks can ruin the wilderness experience for hikers and campers; the state and National Park Service should have the ability to restrict or ban air tour flights over sensitive areas.