



**Providing Community Access to Kaho‘olawe Through Virtual Resources (IMLS 4)
July 2021 – June 2023**

BACKGROUND

The proposed project seeks support to develop and pilot several digital and virtual reality tools that can provide safe and meaningful access to Reserve, including continuous live-streaming video from Kaho‘olawe, monthly 360 video access updates, and a Kaho‘olawe Virtual Reality (VR) Huaka‘i. These tools have the potential to serve as models for other natural museum spaces that hope to maintain or expand public access beyond a physical means to individuals both in Hawai‘i and around the world.

DELIVERABLES

- Sharing of live stream video from Kaho‘olawe on the KIRC website and social media posts
- Sharing of monthly 360 photo and video updates on the KIRC YouTube Channel and social media platforms
- Documentation of at least 50 archaeological and historic sites and features with 360-degree photography and videography
- Documentation of at least 50 site features and narratives through videography and oral records
- Development of a web-based interactive augmented and virtual reality experience published as a Virtual Reality Expedition through Google Earth for Education and made available on the KIRC website
- Promotion of the Kaho‘olawe Live Stream Cameras and VR Huaka‘i through the KIRC’s print and online social media outlets
- Monitoring website traffic related to the live stream and VR Huaka‘i content
- Evaluating user engagement and experience through focus group interview and feedback surveys

AWARD AMOUNT: \$98,230

FUNDER: IMLS Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

HIGHLIGHTS

- Provides \$83,280 in contractual costs for the communications on island.
- Funds will be used to acquire updated recording equipment for documentation.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

SPENT
\$63,443.11

BILLED
\$63,443.11

RECEIVED
\$59,756.94

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PROJECT UPDATE: July 2022 – January 2023

All visual imagery and video footage for this project has been captured. The project manager, the KIRC PIS is now working on changing out the existing content in the Google Map VR huaka’i for the 360 images and videos collected over the last year and half. The project team (Maggie Pulver and Carmela Noneza) attended the required ILMS grantee meeting at the 2022 ATALM conference in San Diego, CA in October. At the conference, the team presented a poster on the KIRC project and received a large number of visitors who were very interested in the project, Kaho’olawe, and the KIRC. The conference was a great networking opportunity where the KIRC team was able to meet and engage with other teams from Hawai’i, Alaska, and tribal nations.



Figure 1. Virtual Huaka'i QR Code



Figure 2. Drone footage of volunteers doing beach plantings in Honokanai'a.



Figure 3. Actual UXO unearthed in the last 4 years by ongoing erosion.