



KAHOʻOLawe ISLAND RESERVE FY22 ANNUAL REPORT

July 2021 — June 2022

Kahoʻolawe Island Reserve Commission
Kūkulu ke ea a Kanaloa - The life and spirit of Kanaloa



State of Hawaiʻi



ALOHA



"Kaho`olawe is a sacred place.

One with cultural, political, and historical significance that connects us with our past, with our kūpuna, and with our practices.

We have kuleana to best steward Kaho`olawe for future generations."

These were the instructions given to me eight years ago by Dr. Emmett Noa Aluli when I was volun-told to serve on

the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). As I reflect on my service as a Commissioner and Chair, I am grateful to the dedicated staff, volunteers, partners and all of you that have responded to this same call to action. Together, we give life to Kanaloa Kaho`olawe. *I Ola Kanaloa! I Ola Kākou!*

Our work is in tribute to the vision and commitment of those that came before us including Emmett Aluli, founding member of the Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana, the original Chairperson of the KIRC, and a mentor and friend to many. Uncle Emmett's philosophy teaches us that *"the health of the land, is the health of the people, is the health of the nation."* Through KIRC's ocean restoration, native revegetation, and community education and volunteer programs, we steward the health of Kaho`olawe's lands and waters — the foundation of the future sovereign Hawaiian nation.

— Joshua Kaakua, KIRC Chair



The KIRC honors the life and legacy of Dr. Noa Emmett `Auwae Aluli, who was the KIRC's inaugural chairperson in 1994. Emmett served as a gentle but great leader with love, humility and kindness for the Aloha `Āina movement and Native Hawaiians.

One of Dr. Aluli's most outstanding achievements, the founding of the Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana (PKO), marked a historic turning point for Native Hawaiians and Hawai`i Nei and served as a catalyst for a Hawaiian cultural renaissance. Aluli was one of the celebrated "Kaho`olawe Nine" who staged the first occupation of the island in Jan. 1976. After the tragic disappearance at sea of charismatic PKO leader George Helm and Kimo Mitchell in 1977, Aluli emerged as leader of the PKO, serving on the congressional Kaho`olawe Island Conveyance Commission (KICC). Through its efforts, the abuse of Kaho`olawe as a military target was halted in 1990 by then-President George H. W. Bush and the island was returned to the people of Hawai`i in May 1994. Dr. Aluli was instrumental in crafting the state law mandating that the state hold the island in trust for eventual transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian entity.

The loss of this beloved physician and iconic leader is felt on Kaho`olawe, throughout the pae `āina and around the world. We will carry on his legacy as we continue to restore and revitalize Kaho`olawe now and for generations to come.



On November 30, 2022, the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission's (KIRC) first chairperson and founding member of the Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana (PKO), Dr. Emmett `auwae Aluli passed away.

I first met Emmett in 1981 as a junior at the Kamehameha Schools. Emmett had invited my mentor and future KIRC Commissioner, Dr. Charles "Doc" Burrows to bring a group of students to demonstrate that children could and should be allowed on Kaho`olawe as part of the PKO's recently won consent decree with the US Navy. Emmett believed that it was important for every generation to help with the healing of the island as it would be the next generation's kuleana to carry on what he had started.

I was too young to understand the political situation at the time but was excited to learn about the archaeological sites and stories of Kaho`olawe as Uncle Leslie Kuloloio and Uncle Harry Mitchell led us on hikes across the island. We left the island on Easter Sunday after Uncle Les led us in a sunrise service on the beach at Hakioawa. At the time, I thought this was just another one of the many adventures that Doc Burrows would take us on. Little did I know that this would be the start of my life's main work.

A decade later in the early 90's, I returned to Kaho`olawe as a young Navy Lieutenant, newly assigned as the Officer-in-Charge of the Kaho`olawe Project. I was asked to command the Navy unit responsible for complying with the military's responsibilities of the consent decree. During my first

year on island, Emmett invited me to participate in the PKO's Makahiki opening ceremony in 1993. I think it was in part a challenge to me as a native Hawaiian and Navy Officer, but also him reaching out to bring both the Navy and PKO closer together. Eventually, I was able to spend more time with Emmett and the PKO in Hakioawa where he would always include me and invited me to train as a mo`olono. It was through this that I better understood his purpose for Makahiki: "We bring Lono back to Kaho`olawe to bring the rains, raise the water table, and heal the island."

Another decade later, after the Navy's cleanup on the island, I was once again working with Emmett as the KIRC's Executive Director. Together, we worked closely on trying to keep the KIRC's efforts on Kaho`olawe alive with dwindling trust funds and sought new funding opportunities to continue the KIRC's mission. Together, we visited our legislators and convinced them that the healing of Kaho`olawe was of critical importance for the State of Hawaii. Emmett's last project with the KIRC, before stepping down as its longtime Chairperson, was the development of the strategic plan and new vision for Kaho`olawe entitled "I OLA KANALOA! Life to Kanaloa." This plan outlines a collective effort to protect and nurture Kanaloa, in all forms. The result will contribute to increasing its long-term bio-cultural health and sustainability.

My lasting memories of Emmett will always be of a dedicated Hawaiian activist who would invite a young Navy officer to participate with the `Ohana, despite being on opposing sides and eventually inviting me to be a small part of the continuance of his legacy.

— Michael K. Naho`opi`i, KIRC Executive Director

HISTORY

Kaho`olawe is the smallest of the eight main islands in the Hawaiian archipelago. Eleven miles long, seven miles wide and comprised of 28,800 acres, the island is of volcanic origin with the highest elevation at 1,477 feet. Its slopes are fissured with gulches 50 to 200 feet deep and formidable cliffs dominate the east and south coast. After 200 years of uncontrolled grazing by goats, sheep and cattle, and another 50 years of misuse as a live-fire training and bombing range by the U.S. Navy, approximately 30% of the island is barren due to severe erosion and a large proportion of its vegetation is alien invasive species.

A decades-long struggle by the people of Hawai`i, particularly the Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana (PKO), succeeded in stopping the bombing of Kaho`olawe and helped to spark the rebirth and spread of Native Hawaiian culture and values. A 1993 act of Congress conveyed Kaho`olawe back to the State of Hawai`i, but allowed the Navy to retain control of the island through 2003 while it conducted a 10-year cleanup of unexploded ordnance (UXO). Those efforts resulted in roughly 75% of the island being surface cleared (yellow areas in the map to the right), and 10% of that area being subsurface cleared to a depth of four feet (green areas), leaving 25% uncleared (red areas). UXO is still present and continues to pose a threat to the safety of anyone accessing the island or its waters.

A treasured resource for all of Hawai`i's people, Kaho`olawe is of tremendous significance to the Native Hawaiian people. In recognition of the special cultural and historic status of Kaho`olawe, the island and the waters within 2 nautical miles of its shores were designated a Reserve by the State of Hawai`i, to allow for the preservation of traditional Native Hawaiian cultural, spiritual and subsistence purposes, rights and practices. In 1994, the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) was established under the Hawai`i Revised Statutes, Chapter 6K, to manage Kaho`olawe, its surrounding waters, and its resources, in trust for the general public and for a future Native Hawaiian sovereign entity.

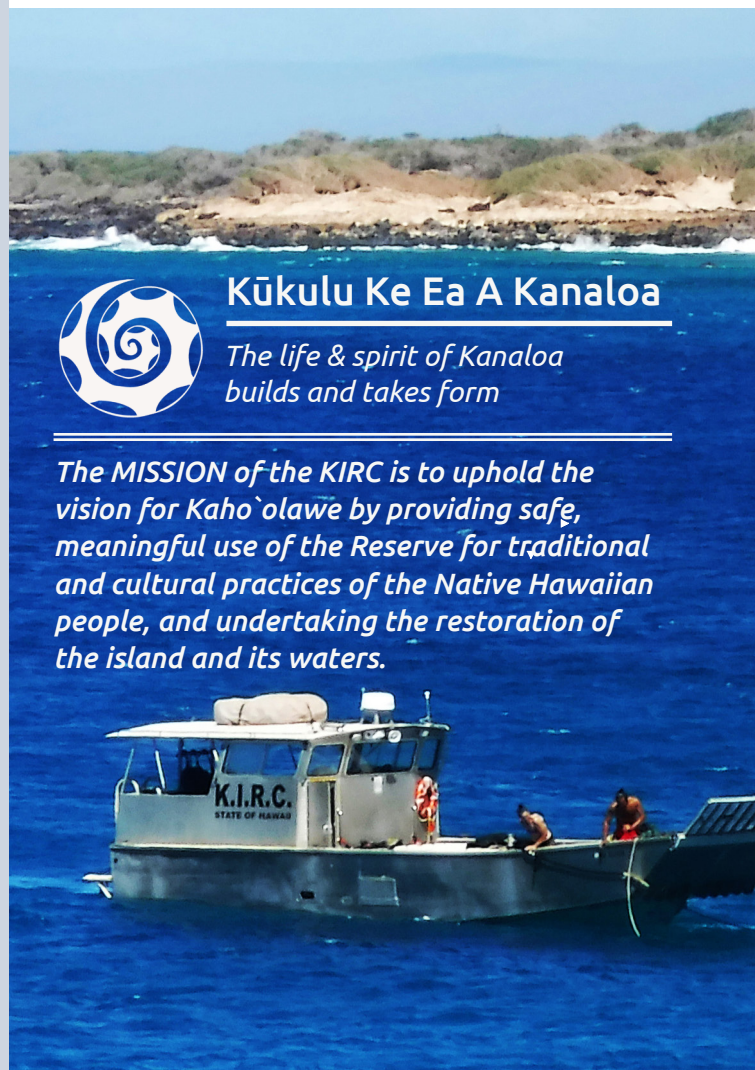
The KIRC gives dimension to its purpose with its Vision Statement, which calls not only for the Reserve's environmental restoration, but also for the restoration and growth of Native Hawaiian cultural practices through human access and engagement.

19
years managing
restoration

15,181
volunteers escorted &
trained

487,243
native plants
(re) introduced

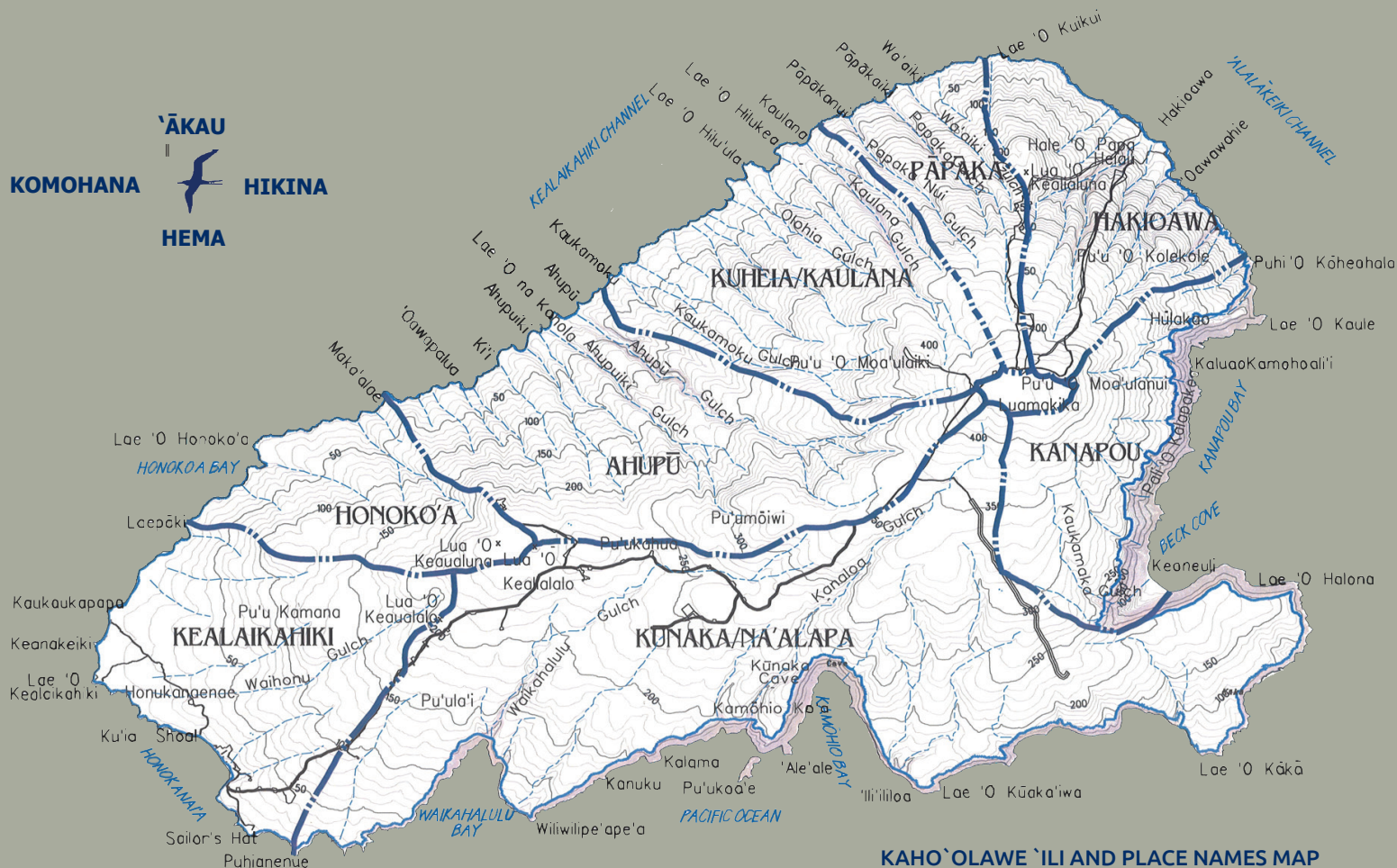
53
tons of marine
debris removed



Kūkulu Ke Ea A Kanaloa

*The life & spirit of Kanaloa
builds and takes form*

The MISSION of the KIRC is to uphold the vision for Kaho`olawe by providing safe, meaningful use of the Reserve for traditional and cultural practices of the Native Hawaiian people, and undertaking the restoration of the island and its waters.



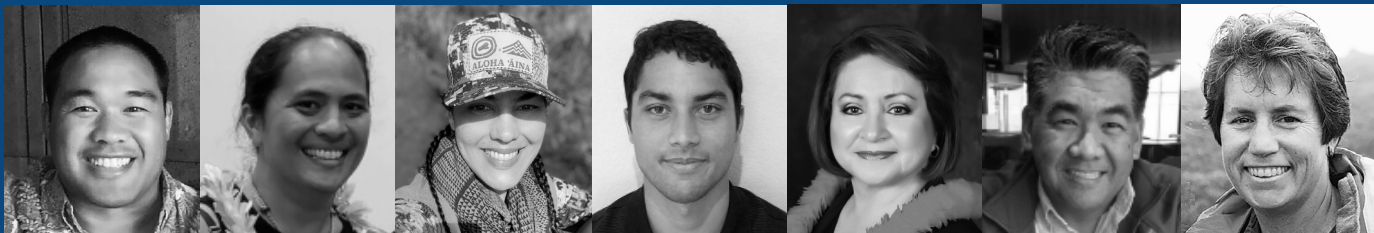
The Vision Statement for Kaho`olawe:

- ▶ *The kino (physical manifestation) of Kanaloa is restored. Forests and shrublands of native plants and other biota clothe its slopes and valleys. Pristine ocean waters and healthy reef ecosystems are the foundation that supports and surrounds the island.*
- ▶ *Nā po`e o Hawai`i (the people of Hawai`i) care for the land in a manner, which recognizes the island and ocean of Kanaloa as a living spiritual entity. Kanaloa is a pu`uhonua and wahi pana (a place of refuge, a sacred place) where native Hawaiian cultural practices flourish.*
- ▶ *The piko of Kanaloa (the navel, the center) is the crossroads of past and future generations from which the native Hawaiian lifestyle is spread throughout the islands.*

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

COMMISSIONERS

appointed by the Governor



Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana: Josh Kaakua, Chairperson (*Academic Program Officer, University of Hawai`i*)
Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana: Mikiala Pescaia (*Interpretive Park Ranger, Kalaupapa National Historic Park*)
Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana: `Ānela Evans (*Cultural Advisor and Practitioner, Four Seasons Resort, Lana`i*)
County of Maui: Saumalu Mataafa (*Executive Assistant, Department of Management*)
Office of Hawaiian Affairs: Carmen Hulu Lindsey, Vice Chairperson (*Trustee, Office of Hawaiian Affairs*)
Native Hawaiian Organization: Benton Keali`i Pang (*President, O`ahu Council, Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs*)
Department of Land and Natural Resources: Suzanne Case (*Chairperson, DLNR*)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

hired by the Commissioners

STAFF

hired by the Executive Director



CORE PROGRAMS



ADMINISTRATION

Supports all KIRC programs while also managing volunteers, GIS mapping, community outreach, archive and collections, fund development, finance and human resources.



OPERATIONS

Provides transport, maintenance, manpower and overall safety on Maui and within the Reserve.



RESTORATION

Restores native, land-based habitats and watersheds through innovative strategies addressing erosion control, invasive species removal, revegetation and ground water recharge.



OCEAN

Manages marine resources within the Reserve, fostering ancestral knowledge while integrating both ancient and modern resource management techniques.



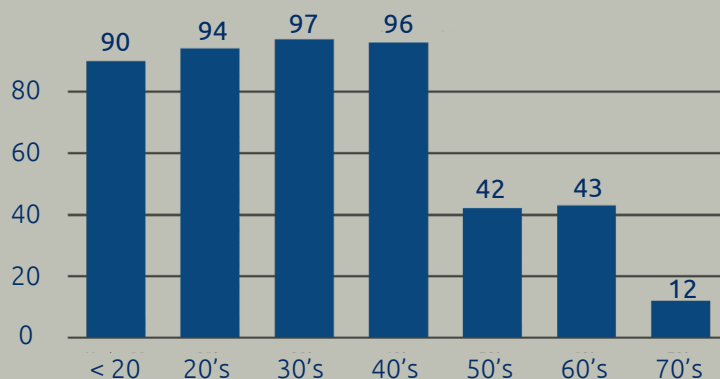
CULTURE

Provides for the care and protection of Kaho`olawe's cultural resources, as well as the expansion of meaningful, cultural use of the island.

VOLUNTEER WORKFORCE

The restoration of Kaho`olawe is a monumental endeavor that far exceeds the available funding and staffing of the KIRC. Realizing the vision for Kaho`olawe (*page 4*) will require thousands of hands over several generations. The KIRC relies on the efforts of dedicated and motivated community volunteers to maximize current restoration efforts in the Reserve. To date, the KIRC has welcomed, escorted and engaged more than 15,000 volunteers in the revitalization of hundreds of acres of Kaho`olawe's forest, wetlands, watersheds, and reefs, ultimately fulfilling its mission to provide safe and meaningful access to the public.

In FY22, **478** volunteers supported the KIRC in the restoration and revitalization of Kaho`olawe.



Number of Volunteers by Age

Community Volunteer Groups

Maui High School

Pacific American Foundation

Nalu Studies Program

Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana

Hawaiian Canoe Club

ChangeWorks

Maui Nui Seabird Restoration Project

Pueo Project

Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows

Kapa Sungear

Montessori Maui

Leeward Haleakalā

Watershed Restoration Project

Mālama Maui Nui

Maui Invasive Species Committee

University of Hawai`i Geology Program

Island Conservation

Wahine Kuamo`o

Hanona

Hawai`i State Legislators

"Kaho`olawe has taught me that any challenge is just an opportunity to overcome."

~ Kainoa Kaauamo, Hanona Volunteer

FINANCIALS

In 1993, the Hawai'i State Legislature allocated 11% of the U.S. Navy's \$400M federal unexploded ordnance clean-up budget to the newly established Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. This one time \$44M allowance became the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund, earmarked to carry out environmental restoration, archaeological and educational activities on Kaho'olawe while the island is held in trust for a future Native Hawaiian sovereign entity. Rules around federal appropriations required the money be spent and not be used to establish an endowment for the long-term restoration of the island.

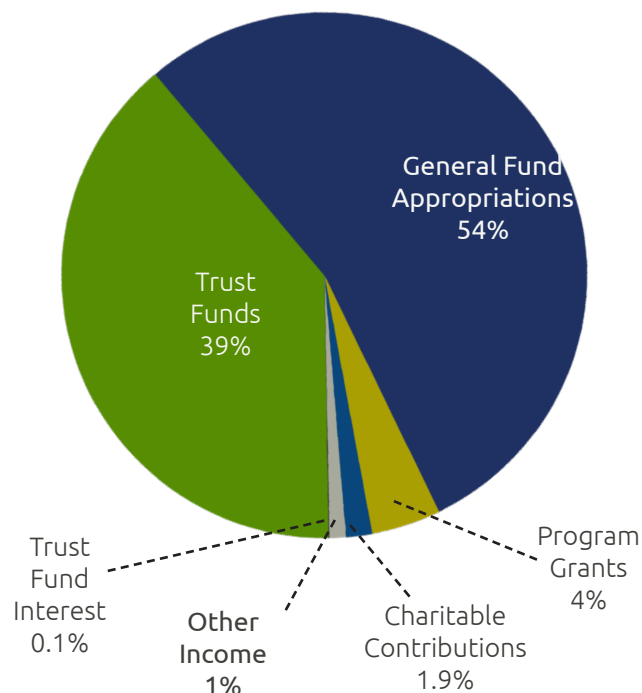
Though the Fund seemed considerable at the time, it was not substantial enough to last in perpetuity. As stated in the Federally-mandated Kaho'olawe Island Conveyance Commission final report to Congress in 1993, "in the short term, federal funds will provide the bulk of the program support for specific soil conservation projects and related activities. In the longer term, however, State revenues will be needed to continue and enhance those activities initiated with federal funds."

With the Trust Fund set to run out in 2015, the KIRC partnered with the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to publish *I Ola Kanaloa!*, a collaborative strategic plan for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve through 2026. Along with the refined goals and objectives outlined in *I Ola Kanaloa!*, the KIRC presented a Self-Sufficiency and Sustainability Plan to the Hawai'i State Legislature in 2016 and were allocated emergency funding from the State at a level that would maintain the current programs and operations at a reduced level.

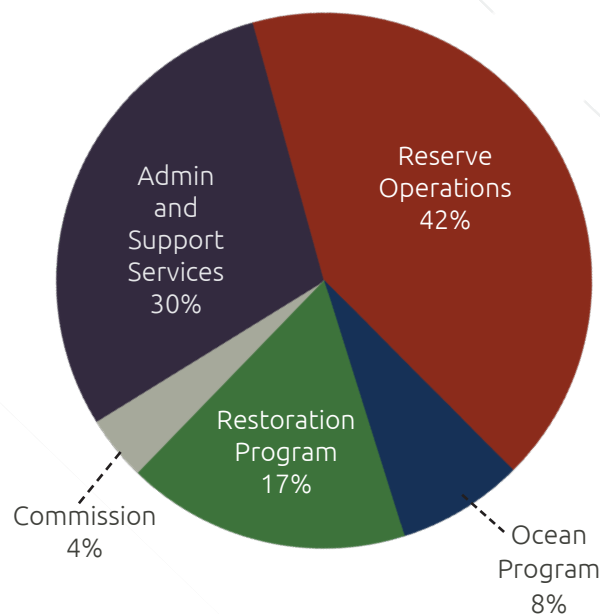
The State authorized permanent funding for the KIRC in 2018 in the form of 16 staff positions and administrative operating costs and temporary CIP funding to maintain basic field operations for ten consecutive days each month. Even with State funding, the KIRC still required support in the form of grants, Aloha Kaho'olawe memberships and public giving to complete projects on island.

The CIP funding was not renewed in 2020 and the COVID pandemic brought cuts to the KIRC's permanent funding, including two full-time positions and \$100,000 in operating funds. The KIRC continues to rely heavily on volunteer manpower, grant funding, in-kind donations and public giving to maintain and expand operations in the Reserve.

SUPPORT & REVENUE



OPERATING EXPENSES



TRUST FUND	FY20	FY21	FY22
Beginning Balance	\$578,324	\$1,512,867	\$1,500,239
Support & Revenue	\$2,018,873	\$1,829,754	\$1,113,686
Operating Expenses	\$1,084,331	\$1,842,382	\$1,831,280
Ending Balance	\$1,512,867	\$1,500,239	\$782,645

* In November 2019, the KIRC was one of five state agencies that received an \$800,000 lump sum payment from Bayer as part of the company's settlement agreement after pleading guilty to spraying, transporting and storing a banned pesticide at research facilities on Maui and Moloka'i.

¥ Last year of Dryland Forest CIP funding

§ The KIRC Cultural Resources Project Coordinator position was vacant during FY20 and cut from the General Fund Appropriation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

SUPPORT & REVENUE	FY20	FY21	FY22
General Fund Appropriations	\$1,104,258	\$1,007,882	\$986,673
Program Grants	\$81,435	\$18,000	\$78,197
Charitable Contributions	\$30,743	\$13,422	\$29,338
Other Income	\$800,000*	\$787,300¥	\$18,250
Interest on Trust Fund	\$2,438	\$3,150	\$1,178
Total Support & Revenue	\$2,018,873	\$1,055,354	\$1,113,686

OPERATING EXPENSES	FY20	FY21	FY22
Commission	\$53,756	\$47,101	\$72,498
Admin & Support Services	\$526,192	\$459,974	\$540,455
Reserve Operations	\$171,211	\$1,035,832	\$765,935
Ocean Program	\$128,015	\$112,974	\$139,643
Restoration Program	\$205,156	\$186,501	\$312,748
Cultural Program	\$0 [§]	\$0 [§]	\$0 [§]
Total Operating Expenses	\$1,084,331	\$1,510,781	\$1,831,280

FY22 GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS

Hakioawa Watershed Restoration (page 17)

Amount: \$80,665

Coastal and Upland Wetland Restoration on Kaho'olawe, HI (page)

Amount: \$100,000

Spreading Aloha 'Āina Through Community Engagement (page)

Amount: \$40,000

Enhancing Wetland Soils Using Biochar (page)

Amount: \$10,000

Engaging Hawai'i Communities through Kaho'olawe's Culture, History and Coastal Restoration (page 24)

Amount: \$18,000

Marine Debris Removal in Kanapou (page 23)

Amount: \$76,025

Coastal Wetland Enhancement in Honokanai'a (page 17)

Amount: \$355,531

Marine Science Education and Training from a Hawaiian Perspective on Kaho'olawe (page)

Amount: \$15,00

Kaho'olawe Living Library Expansion (page 24)

Amount: \$75,000

Expanding Public Access to Kaho'olawe through Live-Stream Video and Virtual Reality (page)

Amount: \$98,230

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The KIRC's 2022 legislative activity focused on restoring funding that was stripped in response to the State's austerity policies during the COVID lockdown. With the rapid return of tourism, the State economic outlook brightened.

The KIRC's initial request for the Governor's Administration budget submittal to the legislature included; 1) restoration of previous funding from Act 140 SLH 2018 (\$100,000) eliminated due to COVID budget; 2) restoration of the Cultural Resource Specialist position also eliminated in the COVID budget; 3) increase KIRC's general fund appropriation by \$500,000 for KIRC's on-island operations and logistic support; and 4) increase in personnel funding for an additional two new field staff. Out of these requests, the Governor put forth the first two requests

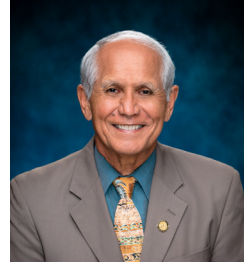
To pursue the rest of our requests, we enlisted the support of Representative Ryan Yamane and Senator Mike Gabbard to introduce companion bills that requested the additional \$500,000 in operating funds and the additional field personnel. Representative Yamane introduced House Bill 1577 which was passed its hearing by the House Committee on Water and Land as well as the House Committee on Finance and then moved to Senate where it was passed by the Senate Committee on Water and Land and the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs. Senator Mike Gabbard introduced Senate Bill 3013 which also passed hearings by the Senate Committee on Water and Land and the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs and both bills headed to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

While House Bill 1577 and Senate Bill 3013 were being heard in their respective committee hearings, the House Finance Committee held hearings on the Governor's Administration Budget request (House Bill 1600). Chairperson Representative Sylvia Luke and Vice Chairperson Representative Kyle Yamashita increased KIRC's initial first request to \$500,000 and added two new field positions instead of just one. When House Bill 1600 reached the Senate's Committee on Ways and Means, the funding request for \$500,000 was reduced back to its original \$100,000 request, but a \$500,000 Capital Improvement Project funding was added for repairs and improvements to the Honokanai`a Base Camp. House Bill 1600 then headed to conference committee hearings where the KIRC sought the support of former KIRC Commissioner and Vice Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, Senator Gil Keith-Agaran, to help restore some of the funding originally inserted into the bill by the House Finance Committee. Eventually coming out of the conference hearings, the KIRC ended the legislative session with a one-time infusion of \$400,000 in general funds for operations, two new permanent field positions and \$500,000 for capital improvement projects for the Honokanai`a Base Camp.

The KIRC would like to thank the continuing support of both Representative Ryan Yamane and Senator Mike Gabbard for introducing bills in support of KIRC funding resulting in the hearings and public outreach that we believed reinforced our gains in the Governor's Administration Budget. We would also like to thank the longtime support of outgoing House Finance Chairperson Sylvia Luke for all the years of working with the KIRC as it transitioned from trust funding to state general funding. We also thank and wish the best of luck to the new incoming House Finance Chairperson Kyle Yamashita as he has always been a supporter of the KIRC. Lastly, we would like to thank the long-time support of the Senate Ways and Means Chairperson Senator Donovan Dela Cruz and Vice Chairperson Gil Keith-Agaran for their dedication in helping the KIRC pursue financial sustainability.



Rep. Ryan Yamane



Sen. Mike Gabbard



Rep. Sylvia Luke







Rep. Kyle Yamashita



Sen. Gil Keith-Agaran



Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz

KIRC INITIATIVE	DETAILS	METHOD	RESULT
 <p>Restoration of previous funding from Act 140 SLH 2018 (\$100,000)</p>	The \$100,000 provided to the KIRC in Act 140 SLH 2018 was eliminated in the 2020 budget due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding was crucial to the KIRC's day-to-day operations.	Governor's Administration Budget HB1600	Approved in Governor's budget request and rolled into third request
 <p>Restoration of the Cultural Resource Specialist position</p>	The KIRC Cultural Resource Project Coordinator position was eliminated in the COVID-19 budget due to it being vacant in early 2020.	Governor's Administration Budget HB1600	Approved in Governor's budget and expanded to two new culture positions
 <p>Increase KIRC's General Fund appropriation by \$500,000</p>	Add funds to support KIRC's operations on Kaho'olawe and provide logistical support	Governor's Administration Budget HB1600 HB1577, SB3013	KIRC was given a one-time infusion of \$400,000 in general funds for operations and \$500,000 for capital improvement projects on Kaho'olawe
 <p>Increase in personnel funding for 2 new field staff</p>	Add personnel funds to allow the KIRC to hire two new permanent field positions.	Governor's Administration Budget HB1600 HB1577, SB3013	No additional field positions established

▼ *Hānaiakamalama (Southern Cross) seen in the evening sky from the KIRC Honokanai`a Base Camp during an evening kilo (observation) session with KIRC staff and volunteers.*





The KIRC provides all of the facilities, vehicles, equipment, supplies, utilities, services and manpower needed fulfill its mission (page 4) through the Operations Program. Key components of the program include: the KIRC's Kihei Education and Operations Center; landing craft, `Ōhua; Honokanai`a Base Camp on Kaho`olawe; Unexploded Ordnance and Industrial Safety.



▲ 100 kilowatt photovoltaic array that generates the camp's electrical power, reducing the KIRC's use of diesel fuel from 800 gallons per month to less than 20.



The KIRC's center of operation is located at Honokanai`a on the southern end of Kaho`olawe. The Honokanai`a base camp (pictured above) was built in the mid-1980's by the U.S. Navy to support military live fire weapons training on Kaho`olawe. Later modified to support the unexploded ordnance (UXO) cleanup project, it sustained a workforce of over 400 people and was designed to be resupplied via heavy lift helicopters and large ocean barges. When the KIRC was assigned management of Kaho`olawe, the remnant base provided a suitable site for KIRC's operational center but proved to be disproportionate to the agency's actual needs. Today, the 22-building camp includes facilities to house and feed our volunteer work crews and staff; generate and distribute electrical power; repair equipment and vehicles used to actively manage and restore Kaho`olawe, (including former military trucks, all-terrain vehicles and heavy machinery); store fuel for on-island vehicles and a generator; and maintain a potable water system that uses a reverse osmosis plant to generate fresh water from the ocean.

120
days camp
was open

598
volunteers and staff
supported in camp

3,840
manhours maintaining camp
infrastructure and utilities

28,200
gallons of fresh water
made

OPERATIONS

44

Alalākeiki Channel crossings

1,875

crew hours worked

668

passengers safely transported

15,000

payload capacity

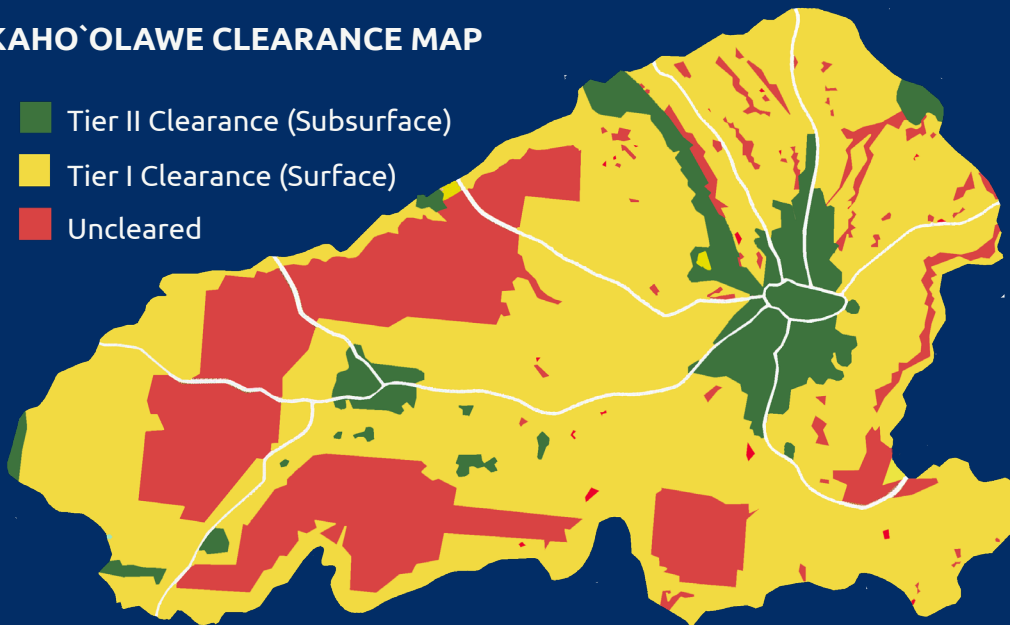


The KIRC's current operational vessel, 'Ōhūa (pictured above) is a 39-foot landing craft. Built in 2007 at a cost of \$400,000, the 'Ōhūa is the primary means of transport between Maui and Kaho'olawe for our staff, Base Camp support, volunteer workforce, materials, supplies, and equipment.

When the U.S. Navy transferred access of Kaho'olawe to the State of Hawai'i in 2004, it had not been entirely cleared of ordnance. At the completion of the Navy's 10-year clean-up project, 66% of the island had been surface cleared (*Tier I*), 10% had been subsurface cleared to a depth of 4-feet (*Tier II*), and 23% was left

KAHO'OLAWA CLEARANCE MAP

- Tier II Clearance (Subsurface)
- Tier I Clearance (Surface)
- Uncleared



uncleared, along with 100% of the waters surrounding the island. After nearly two decades of on-going erosion it is not uncommon to find new ordnance in previously cleared areas.

One of the core components of the Operations Program is to provide safety within the Reserve, which includes detecting unexploded ordnance (UXO), providing UXO escorts when required and developing UXO training and orientation guidelines for those entering the Reserve.

112,800

gallons of seawater pumped

300

gallons of diesel consumed

2,592

hours of energy produced

2,930

meals prepared



SPREADING ALOHA `ĀINA THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Funding Source: Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) Aloha `Āina program

Duration: January 2022 - December 2022

Amount: \$40,000

BACKGROUND

The HTA Aloha `Āina program provides funding support to responsible community-based entities with an emphasis on `āina-kanaka (land-human) relationships and knowledge that manage, preserve and regenerate Hawai'i's natural resources and environment. The KIRC was one of 31 awardees for calendar year 2022. The major goal of the project is connecting the KIRC's community volunteers to Kaho`olawe through active participation in the restoration of the island's natural environment.



FY22 ACTIVITIES

- ☑ Replaced the broken Honokanai`a Base Camp reverse osmosis system seawater pump which is used to produce potable fresh water from the ocean
- ☑ Escorted 150 community volunteers on safe and meaningful access to Kaho`olawe, actively engaging them in the island's restoration and revitalization through planting activities
- ☑ Reintroduced 2,000 plants in mauka hardpan areas
- ☑ Published 12 social media posts to share activities from the KIRC's volunteer program with the general public
- ☑ Engaged thousands of followers on social media

"For me, the most memorable part of the trip to Kaho`olawe was the fun conversations and bonds made in the Polaris rides to and from the work and cultural sites. I learned so much from the KIRC staff!"

~ Montessori Student, age 13,
KIRC Volunteer



▲ KIRC Restoration Manager, Paul Higashino, educating volunteers in the field.

▼ KIRC Volunteers loaded up in a polaris to head out to the day's worksite



OPERATIONS

“Slowly, slowly, the island is supporting more life. Slowly, slowly healing of the scars is taking place. The buried shrapnel will never be removed. Like people, this island has wounds. We all carry past hurts and injuries, and yet, we go on living, even thriving. I was so grateful to be part of this process for Kaho`olawe, for myself.”

~ Becca Kesler , Retired Punahou Kindergarten Teacher, KIRC Volunteer



▲ After a long day of hana in the field, KIRC staff and volunteers kūākūkā and kanikapila on the Honokanai`a Base Camp lanai, sharing stories and songs of Kaho`olawe and their own places to inspire future mele (song) about Kaho`olawe, Kanaloa and Aloha `Āina.

“During my time on Kaho`olawe, I learned that it’s the little things that contribute to the successful outcomes we hope for. I will apply that knowledge in my life and do small things that make a big difference in the long run.

~ Flor Armendariz, Kapa Sungear, KIRC Volunteer

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Spreading Aloha `Āina Through Community Engagement grant will run through the first half of FY23. During that time, KIRC staff will aim to escort another 150 community volunteers on safe and meaningful access, engaging them in the restoration and revitalization of Kaho`olawe. The KIRC Public Information Specialist will continue to share photos and videos from volunteer work trips on the KIRC's Instagram and Facebook pages. Follow us there for more updates!

Words used most frequently by community volunteers to describe their experience on Kaho`olawe





KA PALUPALU O KANALOA

BACKGROUND

Discovered in 1992 on Ale`ale, a seastack on Kaho`olawe's southern coast, the Ka Palupalu o Kanaloa (*Kanaloa kahoowlawensis*) is one of the worlds most endangered plants and was the first new genus to be described in Hawai`i since the 1940's. Comparing its pollen samples with an unknown pollen on Oahu, it was determined that Ka palu palu o Kanaloa had a wider distribution on Kaua`i, O`ahu and Maui in the past. It persisted in low land areas as a co-dominant with `a`ali`i and loulu palms, until it disappeared from the pollen record in 1565 AD. Unfortunately the two plants remaining in the wild have since been declared dead, but thanks to the efforts of a team of dedicated individuals twenty plants are being cultivated in several rare plant facilities on Maui.

▲ *‘Ale`ale, where last Kapalupalu O Kanaloa were found in the wild*



▼ *Parent plant and her two clones in residence at Ho`olawa Farms.*



ʻAleʻale seastack along the southern coast of Kahoʻolawe.



FY22 ACTIVITIES

- ☑ Held quarterly partnership meetings to discuss current state of the existing collection and future plans for propagation and cultivation
- ☑ Updated the draft Management Plan for review by the Partnership and Commission
- ☑ Seeds from the parent plant (opposite page) germinated two new seedlings
- ☑ Parent plant at Hoʻolawa Farms was moved from a temporary 15 gallon pot to a permanent redwood planter box

The fate and future of this critically endangered plant lies in the hands of the members of the Ka Palupalu o Kanaloa Partnership, which includes representatives from KIRC, Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Department of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW), Maui Nui Botanical Gardens (MNBG), Plant Extinction Prevention Program (PEPP), National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG), Protect Kahoʻolawe ʻOhana (PKO), Hoʻolawe Farms, Lyon Arboretum, and Mākena Golf and Beach Club (MGBC).

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Ka Palupalu o Kanaloa Partnership team will continue to hold quarterly management meetings to maintain an up-to-date account of the status of the existing living *in situ* collection. The team will also develop individual management plans for the sites what will serve as future homes for the expanding collection and begin to prepare those sites to receive Kanaloa plants in the upcoming year. The team will also be working on securing funding streams to support the propagation and cultivation of the plant in the long-term..

▼ *Ka Palupalu o Kanaloa seedlings at the Olinda Rare Plant Facility on Maui*





HAKIOAWA WATERSHED RESTORATION

Funding Source: State of Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH)
Clean Water Branch

Duration: March 2021 - October 2022

Amount: \$80,665

 *Hakioawa Watershed Restoration Project Site*

BACKGROUND

Since 2003, the State of Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH), Clean Water Branch has been supporting the KIRC's watershed restoration projects with grant money it receives from Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. Section 319 provides financial support to designated state and tribal agencies to implement management projects in areas with approved watershed-based plans. Two watersheds on Kaho'olawe, Kaulana and Hakioawa, have approved Watershed Plans that meet the EPA's nine minimum requirements. In March of 2021, the KIRC was awarded a fifth grant by the DOH to continue operations and maintenance in the Hakioawa Watershed project sites for 18 months, with goals to improve water quality by reducing soil erosion from storm water runoff and recharge the island's aquifer by slowing overland sheet flow and increasing water infiltration.



FY21 ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Hired a Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Specialist for one year
- ✓ Outplanted 5,000 seedlings from 12 native Hawaiian dryland forest species to increase the host plants for native Hawaiian insects
- ✓ Collected data from 8 soil erosion pin transects to compare restored and non-restored areas
- ✓ Collected data from the catchment rain gauge and Pokaneloa Stream gauge to compare rainfall and rises in the stream water levels
- ✓ Compiled drone imagery into a high definition orthomosaic photo depicting the soil erosion control and irrigated corridors along the contours of the project site.
- ✓ Collected `ōhai, pā`ū o hi`iaka and naio seed for propagation on Maui
- ✓ Added soil amendments to the pre-existing irrigated corridors





Opposite page: Volunteers outplanting native seedlings in natural indentations and bomb craters in the mauka hardpan of the Hakioawa watershed. Top left: Volunteers building a wattle. Top and bottom right: Volunteers adding soil amendments and plants to a constructed wattle. Bottom left: KIR Specialist II, Meghan Dunn, and community volunteers outplanting native seedlings in natural depressions and bomb craters.

‘Ohai	50
Pā`ū o Hi`iaka	50
‘A`ali`i	50
‘Aki`aki	50
‘Ewa Hinahina	50
Kāmanomano	50
Pili	50
‘Āweoweo	50
Kāwelu	50
Ma`o	50
Naio	50
Wiliwili	50

50 seedlings

▲ Number of each native species outplanted in the DOH project site.



WHAT'S NEXT?

The KIRC restoration staff will finish up with operations and maintenance project in the first half of FY23, with the grant closing out in October 2022. Meghan Dunn, the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Specialist II that was hired through the DOH grant, will remain with the KIRC, moving into a position in the Operations Program.



COASTAL AND UPLAND WETLAND RESTORATION

Funding Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) North American Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA) U.S. Small Grants

Duration: October 2021 - October 2023

Amount: \$100,000

▲ *Coastal and Upland Wetland Restoration sites*

BACKGROUND

Kaho`olawe is home to several seasonal ephemeral wetlands that support a variety of native wetland vegetation and invertebrates, as well as resident and migratory birds. The goal of the Coastal and Upland Wetlands Restoration project, funded by a grant from the USFWS NAWCA U.S. Small Grants program, is to enhance two of Kaho`olawe's seasonal wetlands through the removal of invasive species and the re-introduction native plants at the two sites. The first site is a 3.5-acre coastal wetland located at Keanakeiki. The second is a 20-acre upland wetland located at Lua O Kealialalo (see map). Once invasive species removal has begun in both sites, the Restoration staff, with the support of project partners from the Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana (PKO) and Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Program (MNSRP) and other community volunteers will outplant 2,000 native seedlings at Keanakeiki and 4,000 at Kealialalo.



▼ *Remnants of standing water in the Keanakeiki wetland after a heavy seasonal rain in November 2021*

FY22 ACTIVITIES

- ☑ Conducted all necessary federal and state compliance activities
- ☑ Documented the state of the project site before enhancement activities through photo points and aerial drone imagery
- ☑ Removed invasive buffleggrass, kiawe, koa haole and klu at Keanakeiki
- ☑ Applied herbicide to cut stumps of woody alien plants to prevent regrowth
- ☑ Collected ma`o seed from both sites for propagation on Maui
- ☑ Chipped kiawe at Keanakeiki for use as mulch at both sites

RESTORATION

WHAT'S NEXT?

The KIRC Restoration team, with the support of community volunteers, will continue to physically remove invasive species in both sites and apply herbicide to the stumps of woody alien plants to prevent regrowth. They will also begin to prepare the sites for planting, pre-digging holes and adding soil amendments and water to improve survivability. Out plantings of native species will begin in early 2023 during the rainy season. The team also hopes to extend invasive species removal and control beyond the actual project boundary after plantings have begun.



- ▲ *Before and after of the felling of a large kiawe tree in the project site.*
Logs cut from the above felled kiawe tree that were repurposed into planter boxes for the biochar project (pages 15-16)



- ▼ *KIRC volunteer clearing invasive grasses in the Keanakeiki site.*



- ▼ *Ma`o seeds collected by KIRC volunteers*



- Feral cat prints documented in the Kealialalo project site among the cracks left behind by standing water from a rain event.*





SOIL ENRICHMENT TRIALS IN DEGRADED MAUKA AND MAKAI WETLAND SITES

Funding Source: Ducks Unlimited, Inc., Pacific Birds Joint Venture

Duration: September 2021 - August 2022

Amount: \$10,000

BACKGROUND

Kaho`olawe loses nearly two million tons of soil each year due to the damage inflicted upon its landscapes over two centuries of overgrazing by feral and domesticated ungulates and five decades of misuse as a live-fire training and bombing range. Soil studies have shown that much of the remaining soil on Kaho`olawe lacks many components of a healthy soil profile. The use of biochar will improve soil health by creating a biological environment that will add carbon and other nutrients to the profile, increase microbial activity and retain moisture. This is extremely important on Kaho`olawe due to the arid and windy conditions. Unlike other areas on Kaho`olawe, these project sites have no irrigation so increasing the drought tolerance of native plants will improve the chances of survival and ultimately successful Hawaiian bird habitat restoration. By improving soil structure through increased soil organic matter, water holding capacity and improved porosity more nutrients will be available to plants increasing rates of survival and drought tolerance. Partnerships developed with `Ukiu Farms and the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH), Soil and Ecosystem Lab were key to developing this project

▲ Biochar Trial Locations



RESTORATION

FY22 ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Established experimental plots in existing project areas and base line values for the soil profile in the test plots
- ✓ Constructed planter boxes using kiawe logs resourced from the project sites (opposite page, bottom right)
- ✓ Collected leaf litter, lichen and other potential sources of native microbes on Kaho`olawe (top right) and brewed microbial compost tea on island
- ✓ Inoculated kiawe wood chips produced on Kaho`olawe with compost tea
- ✓ Added biochar soil amendment produced by `Ūkiu Farms and inoculated wood chips to planter boxes in all three test sites
- ✓ Soil tests performed by UH Soil and Ecosystems Lab
- ✓ Results were inconclusive due to extreme drought conditions



▼ Compost tea brewing in Honokanai`a Base Camp and then being used to inoculate the wood chips produced on site



WHAT'S NEXT?

The current grant will close just after the start of FY23. Initial study results show that the use of biochar and compost teas can have a positive impact on the health of Kaho`olawe's soils and ecosystems. The Restoration team will be seeking out additional funding to continue working with our partners at `Ūkiu Farms and the UH Soil and Ecosystem Lab in revitalizing Kaho`olawe's degraded ecosystems.





ENGAGING COMMUNITY THROUGH CULTURE, HISTORY, AND COASTAL RESTORATION ON KAHO`OLAWÉ

Funding Source: The Cooke Foundation

Duration: January 2021 - December 2021

Amount: \$20,000

▲ *Cooke Foundation Project Sites*

BACKGROUND

The Cooke Foundation awarded the KIRC Ocean team a one-year grant for \$20,000 to make a significant difference in the betterment and welfare of the people of Hawai'i in line with the Cooke foundation's mission. The main objectives of the Cooke Foundation project included outplanting 8,000 native plants and implementing the Emery method, a simple, rapid and inexpensive beach slope measurement protocol. The Emery tool consists of two rods marked off in feet and tens of feet with a rope between them which are then used to measure the change in slope between the two rods based on the level of the horizon. The KIRC Ocean staff then uses the data to create the beach profile. Measurements were taken for seven months, and a sample of the data is provided below. The graph shows the change in the beach slope between March and November due to accretion and erosion of the sand dunes. Though these changes are interesting, they do not provide a whole picture as beaches have natural seasonal variations. Future work will continue beach measurements to compare year-to-year slopes to distinguish seasonal variation from unsustainable erosion.



FY22 ACTIVITIES

- ☑ Outplanted 8,000 native seedlings
- ☑ Collected measurements of the Honokanai`a beach profile using the Emery tool
- ☑ Established seasonal baselines for the Honokanai`a beach profile
- ☑ Engaged thousands of followers online through social media posts
- ☑ Engaged hundreds of volunteers on island through restoration work projects and visits to cultural and archaeological sites

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Cooke Foundation grant ended in December 2021, but restoration efforts are ongoing in the `ili of Kealaikahiki. The KIRC Ocean Program will continue to seek support from the foundation for future planting projects.

▼ *KIRC volunteers planting in Honokanai`a*





▲ KIRC volunteers planting `aki`aki seedlings in Honokanai`a



◆ KIRC volunteers using the Emery tool



“My experience on Kaho`olawe taught me the importance of being a good steward to our environment. I will carry this with me back to my home.”

~ Chevy Chang, ChangeWorks Volunteer,



COASTAL WETLAND ENHANCEMENT IN HONOKANAI`A

Funding Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Program (CWC)

Duration: January 2022 - August 2024

Amount: \$355,531

BACKGROUND

Over the last 15 years, the KIRC Restoration and Ocean teams have outplanted more than 32,000 drought-resistant grasses and shrubs in the `ili of Kealaikahiki. The Ocean Program was awarded funding from the USFWS National Coastal Wetlands Conservation program to work in and around the 2.69-acre seasonal ephemeral wetland in Honokanai`a. The current project aims to stabilize the natural sand dunes and enhance the seasonal wetlands in Honoakanai`a, making them more attractive to native bird species and mitigating the future effects of climate change. Goals include the physical removal of alien invasive species, reintroduction of 10,000 native drought-tolerant seedlings, and improvement to the road that borders the wetland to reduce sedimentation and increase water flow into the wetland. The award is also providing funding for an Ocean Resource Specialist II (ORS II) for two years.

▲ *Honokanai`a Project Site*



▼ *Remnants of standing water in the Honokanai`a wetland after a high surf event in May 2022*

"Seeing the successful restoration and the dedication of the KIRC restoration team to rejuvenating the island is something that will stay with me for the rest of my life."

~ Dave Beilman, Professor, UH Geography

FY22 ACTIVITIES

- ☑ Removed invasive bufflegrass and kiawe
- ☑ Planted 3,000 native seedlings in cleared areas
- ☑ Partnered with a team from the University of Hawai`i Geography program for a pilot wetland monitoring study
- ☑ Deployed a long term water quality monitoring device
- ☑ Established a weather station in the project area to monitor rain events and precipitation levels



▲ `Aki`aki and akulikuli seedlings planted in Honokanai`a



OCEAN

▲ KIRC volunteers planting in Honokanai`a
Students and Professor Dave Beilman (right) from the UH Geography program installing the weather station in the project area



WHAT'S NEXT?

In FY23, the KIRC Ocean Program manager will hire the new Ocean Resource Specialist (ORSII). The team will also continue efforts to remove invasive species and out plant the remaining 7,000 `aki`aki and akulikuli plants in the project area, and begin working on improvements to the roadway in the project site to reduce sedimentation and increase water flow into the wetland.

▼ KIRC volunteers working in the Honokanai`a project site





MARINE DEBRIS REMOVAL FROM KANAPOU

Funding Source: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)
Fishing for Energy (FFE) program

Duration: January 2020 - June 2023

Amount: \$76,025

▲ *Kanapou Project Site*

BACKGROUND

Kanapou Bay, which spans over eight kilometers (five miles), is located on the eastern side of Kaho`olawe. The bay experiences a constant influx of marine debris due to the prevailing wind and ocean currents in that area. Since 2003, this has been the site of KIRC-coordinated large-scale annual cleanups. The sheer expense of these cleanups, due to the relative remoteness of the site and lack of infrastructure in place in Kanapou, has limited the frequency of clean-up efforts and resulted in large concentrations of debris accumulating over time.



The KIRC was awarded a grant for \$76,025 through NFWF's Fishing For Energy program that focused on the removal of derelict fishing gear and other marine debris from Kanapou. Originally projected to end in 2021, the rescheduling of volunteer accesses that were canceled in 2020 due to COVID-19 meant having to postpone the Kanapou clean up activities clean-up activities to 2021 and 2022. The KIRC was awarded an extension that will allow the grant to continue through the summer of 2023.

Marine debris on Keoneuli beach in Kanapou on Kaho`olawe prior to clean-up efforts in October 2021 ▼

FY22 ACTIVITIES

- ☑ Secured the helicopter contract for debris removal from island
- ☑ Conducted initial inspection of debris field to assess amount of debris and presence/absence of UXO
- ☑ Completed 1 of 3 accesses to collect, sort, aggregate and stock pile existing debris for eventual removal
- ☑ Purchased all necessary materials, equipment and supplies for the final 2 project accesses





▲ Pile of aggregated debris that will be flown off Maui for use by Mālama Maui Nui in research and design



▲ Kanapou Clean-Up Crew, October 2021



▲ Mālama Maui Nui Executive Director, Gabrielle Schruerger with her favorite find of the day

Majority of Keoneuli beach in Kanapou free of marine debris after clean-up efforts in October 2021

WHAT'S NEXT?

In FY23, the KIRC Ocean Program staff and volunteers will return to Kanapou first to prep the debris collected during the first project activity for removal and then to fly the debris off the beach to its final destination. The majority of the debris will be flown to Maui where our project partners from Mālama Maui Nui will use the material in the research and design of recycled products made from marine debris plastics. A small portion of the debris will remain on Kahoʻolawe, being flown up mauka for use in constructing erosion control devices.





KAHO`OLAWÉ LIVING LIBRARY EXPANSION

Funding Source: Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services (NANHMS) Program

Duration: August 2018 - July 2022

Amount: \$75,000



BACKGROUND

In 1981, a collection of archaeological objects collected on Kaho`olawe from 1977-1980 was placed on permanent loan to the Bailey House/Maui Historical Society by the US Navy through the Hawai`i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). The collection was transferred to the KIRC in 2015 and includes artifacts spanning from pre-European contact to historic times. In 2018, the KIRC was awarded a grant by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) through its Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program to rehouse a sample (roughly 10%) of this collection. This project, known as the Kaho`olawe Virtual Museum Stage 3: Collaborations & Special Collections, has allowed the KIRC to enhance the KIRC Living Library by providing a more robust database as well as the ability to publish its holdings onto this more dynamic KIRC Living Library website. Staff will continue to expand the records on this website as staffing and resources allow. It is hoped that this new version of the KIRC Living Library will encourage the public to explore and research the KIRC Archive holdings.



▼ *Tiny, adze fragment made of basalt photographed with identification tag*

KAHO`OLAWÉ SAMPLE
Number 150C-33.15
DESC.
ADZE FRAGMENT
BASALT
LOC.

Depth 5m from
Name CS Date 7 Feb. 1979
Remarks

FY22 ACTIVITIES

- ☒ Migrated 300 entries to the KIRC Past Perfect Database
- ☒ Shared the beta version of the Past Perfect entries with key community members for review
- ☒ Finalized the database and web page based on user feedback
- ☒ Launched the Past Perfect database on the KIRC website





▲ Photograph of petroglyphs found on Kaho`olawe

▼ Piece of hammer stone found on the island's surface in 1978

ADMINISTRATION



▲ Cowry shell lure

QR Code for
KIRC's Living
Library



Scan this QR code to access the KIRC's updated Living Library website where you can dive deeper into our existing collection.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Although the grant officially closed at the end of FY22, this project is ongoing, with new digital records being added to the database every day.

KAHO`OLAWA SAMPLE

Number 364I-32.1075

Desc. hammer stone
- possibly used in
glass manufacture

Loc. central feature
heavy glass flake
and core area

Depth surface from _____

Name M.C. Date _____

Remarks 12-10/78





EXPANDING PUBLIC ACCESS TO KAHO`OLawe THROUGH LIVE-STREAM AND VIRTUAL REALITY

Funding Source: Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)
Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services (NANHMS) Program

Duration: July 2021 - June 2023

Amount: \$98,230



BACKGROUND

The mission of the KIRC is to provide safe and meaningful access to the Reserve and its resources for the purpose of environmental restoration and the perpetuation of native Hawaiian cultural practices and traditions. Through the "Expanding Public Access to Kaho`olawe through Live-Stream and Virtual Reality" project the KIRC administrative staff was able to develop and pilot several digital and virtual reality tools that can full this mission from a distance, 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.

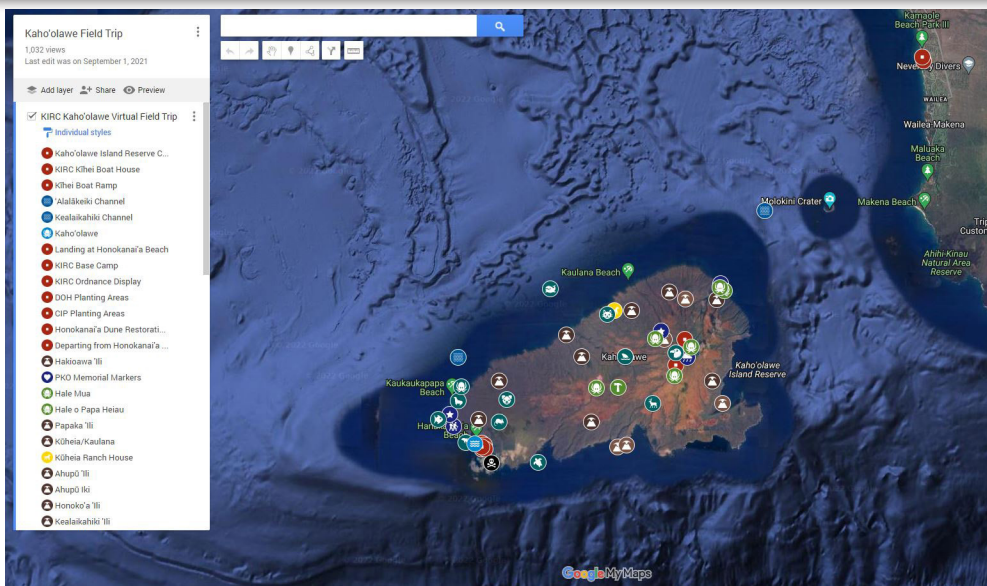


FY22 ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Captured video footage and 360 images for 30 of the 50 proposed sites on Kaho`olawe
- ✓ Processed more than 5,000 pieces of digital media
- ✓ Used a combination of new content and previously collected media to develop a pilot digital KIRC huaka`i on Google Maps
- ✓ Shared the pilot map-based huaka`i with local teacher contacts and the Maui Huliau Foundation for use as a virtual learning experience for students on Maui and outer islands

WHAT'S NEXT?

The project team document the remaining twenty sites on Kaho`olawe using 360-degree photographs and capture audio recordings of oral histories and other mo`olelo related to the documented sites for inclusion in the Virtual Huaka`i on Google Maps. Once complete, the map will be posted on the KIRC website.



◀ Landing page for KIRC Virtual Huaka`i on Google Map



Scan this QR code to access the KIRC's Virtual Huaka`i on Google Maps.

ADMINISTRATION

Flattened 360-degree image of the beach in Honokanai`a, Kaho`olawe.



Flattened 360-degree image of the mauka CIP planting area



Flattened 360-degree image of the view below Moa`Ula Iki



▼ 'Ohana kipuka planting in the Hakioawa watershed mauka hardpan area

MAHALO

to our FY22 Members and Donors!

PATRONS (\$500 and up)

Dave & Jane Culp	Joan Pedro
Stephen Hack	Ellen Pelissero
Hallett Hammatt	Diana Pheil
Patricia Justice	Darryl & Antonia Van Kampen
Manuel Kuloloio	Heather Wilkinson
Juliet McMullin	Four Seasons Resort, Maui

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Michael Gallagher	Katherine Steinberg
Mary Anna Grimes	Debra Trussel
Calvin Ichinose	Vernon Wong
Elden Ito	Pamela Zirker
Greg Jones	

Individual donations are critical to our efforts to protect, restore and preserve the ocean and land of this important cultural reserve. If you have been impacted by Kaho`olawe — as a volunteer, friend, teacher, student, researcher or other community or family member, we invite you to join today.

Frequently Asked Questions

What do you do out there?

In addition to restoring Kaho`olawe's devastated landscape, protecting its critical natural and cultural resources, and making vital improvements to the island's infrastructure, we are developing an integrated mauka to makai management system that balances the technical aspects of modern conservation principles with a traditional cultural perspective.

Why don't you take more people?"

The KIRC's work on Kaho`olawe is critically dependent upon its volunteers. We strive to make the most of our limited volunteer opportunities, but we are primarily restricted by available funding, safety and weather conditions. The number of requests we receive to go to Kaho`olawe far exceeds our logistical and financial capacity.

Did you clean up all of the bombs?"

The U.S. Navy is forever responsible for removing all unexploded ordnance (UXO) from the land and waters of Kaho`olawe, and the liability associated with its presence. The KIRC remains committed to that position and relies on the Federal Government to fulfill their obligation. Upon the 2004 completion of the Navy's cleanup, approximately 75% of the surface of the island was swept of ordnance with only 10% cleared down to the depth of four feet. Areas that have not been cleared remain "DANGEROUS TO THE PUBLIC AND ARE NOT SAFE." As formally agreed by the Navy and State, the Navy will return to dispose of any new UXO found in cleared areas. The KIRC has made regular requests to our congressional delegation for federal funds for the Navy to complete their obligation.

"Can I fish over there?"

Trolling is permitted on two scheduled weekends each month in waters deeper than 30 fathoms (180 feet). No other fishing, ocean recreation or activities are allowed within the Reserve. (Visit kahoolawe.hawaii.gov/announce to download a Trolling Right of Entry Registration Packet). The rules governing Reserve waters are enforced by the State of Hawai'i, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE), the KIRC and the U.S. Coast Guard. Any person violating these rules is guilty of a petty misdemeanor and shall be fined up to \$1,000 or imprisoned for up to 30 days. The KIRC may also assess administrative fines of up to \$10,000 per offense.

"How can I help?"

Pick your favorite way/s to connect with us (social media, newsletter, email list) to learn about work days and community events at our Kihei Boat House site; join the Kaho`olawe volunteer wait list; invite the KIRC to your space as a (free) speaker; read/ learn about/ share our online library and learning materials; testify at one or more legislative hearings; create a Kaho`olawe-inspired work of art to be shared; become a member; enroll as an intern; or let us know your own idea.

Aloha Kaho`olawe is a campaign to support Kaho`olawe restoration and access. Through this initiative, we invite participation via membership donations, partnerships and legislative support. By building consensus that there is value in the historical, cultural, ecological and community resources shared through Kaho`olawe, we aim to share this special place now and for generations to come.

Send this completed form with your donation to:
811 Kolu Street, Suite 201 | Wailuku, HI 96793.

Checks may be made payable to Kaho`olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund. You can also give online at kahoolawe.hawaii.gov/donations.shtml.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name and/ or company

Address

E-mail

Phone

GIFT TYPE:

- ☐ PATRON (\$500 & up)
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- ☐ SUSTAINER (\$50-\$99 | \$25 with student ID)
- ☐ SUPPORTER (OTHER) _____

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- ☐ Shirt
 - ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL
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Comments:

The Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) is a 170(c)1 government nonprofit, authorized per IRS Publication 557, to receive tax-deductible contributions to programs that serve a public purpose. Donors should always consult with their tax advisors before claiming any tax-deductible charitable contributions.



Back Cover: View of Mauna Kahalawai, central Maui and the western edge of Haleakalā from Wailuna, Kaho`olawe

Front Cover:

Kealaikahiki - View of `Ōhua, moored offshore in the waters of Honokanai`a

Honoka`a - Native seedling sprouting from seed in kīpuka pōhaku along the K-1 road

Ahupū - Sunrise over Haleakalā seen from Wailuna area on Kaho`olawe

Kuheia / Kaulana - Volunteers and KIRC staff preparing for a planting activity in Wailuna

Pāpāka - KIRC Logistics Specialist, Grant Thompson, working in the enging hold aboard the `Ōhua

Hakioawa - Thriving native plants from a previous DOH restoration project

Kanapou - Volunteers and KIRC staff laying gravel bags in large divots on the K-1 road

Kunaka / Na`alapa - Volunteers near Pōhaku Ahu Aikupele Kapili o Keaweiki at Pu`u o Moa `Ula Iki

Lua Makika - Hawaiian monk seal resting on the shores of Honokanai`a.



MAHALO

Kūkulu ke ea a kanaloa - The life and spirit of Kanaloa

Logo and motto of the KIRC, symbolizing the he`e, or octopus form of the god Kanaloa and the kupu o ka `āina, or re-greening of the island.



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*Download our free mobile app: **Kaho`olawe Island Guide***

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Report design by Maggie Pulver