



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.

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FINANCIAL UPDATE

SPENT
\$98,230.00

BILLED
\$98,230

RECEIVED
\$59,756.94

PROJECT UPDATE: April-May 2024

The project team has completed all project deliverables and reporting for this grant. The Administrative Officer, Matt Hatakeyama verified all funds are at DLNR Fiscal Office and requested to be reimbursed into the KIRC Trust Fund. Staff is still awaiting DLNR Fiscal Office to place the funds in the KIRC Trust Fund.



Figure 1. Virtual Huaka'i QR Code