



Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission

Ka Huaka'i i Kaho'olawe



*He ali'i ka 'āina,
he kauwā ke kanaka.*

*The land is chief,
man is its servant.*



WARNING! Kaho'olawe and its surrounding waters contain quantities of unexploded ordnance (UXO) that are hazardous to public health and safety. Unauthorized entry onto the island and/or within a two-mile perimeter of its surrounding waters is prohibited (HAR §13-260).

Opportunities for access are available, however. For more information, please visit the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) website at www.kahoolawe.hawaii.gov.

Kaho'olawe... An Experience of a Lifetime!

Your visit to the island of Kaho'olawe will doubtlessly be an experience to remember and to treasure forever. Many who have come before you - on either a KIRC access or a Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana huaka'i - have expressed feelings of being "forever changed!"

The enclosed information aims to ensure a safe and meaningful trip. Please read, sign, and return completed Volunteer Emergency Forms no later than three weeks prior to your scheduled access date.

Please read each document thoroughly. As the warning above reads, there are serious safety hazards within the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve due to the continued presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO). Before you visit, it is required that you familiarize yourself with, are fully aware of, and agree to all policies and safety precautions in place for your protection.

We hope that your experience will leave you fulfilled, energized, and inspired to aid in the restoration of this exceptional island reserve and in the preservation of Native Hawaiian culture. Mahalo a nui for dedicating your personal time toward the healing of Kaho'olawe.



In the event of hazardous weather and/or ocean conditions, safety concerns or any and all other issues, the KIRC reserves the right to cancel and/or modify logistics for a volunteer access at any time, for any reason.



‘Ikepāpālua

KIRC Vision Statement

One Hawaiian phrase that captures a people’s vision of what they may anticipate in the future is ‘Ikepāpālua. For the Kaho‘olawe Island Reseve Commission, this is,

“The kino (physical manifestation) of Kanaloa is restored. Forests and shrub lands 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 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 a wahi pana (a place of refuge and 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.”

Through your volunteerism, you become a partner in this vision. Although the fruits of these labors may not be seen within this lifetime, the restoration of this island, its surrounding waters, its people, and its indigenous culture will serve many generations to come.



Aloha ‘Āina

Within Hawaiian traditions and values, “connections” - between and among persons, families, kūpuna, ali‘i, connections to the land and sea -- are critical to understanding and respect. The more an individual is “connected” to a place, for example, the more that individual will value, honor and care (mālama) for it.

Hawaiians refer to their special relationship with their lands as “aloha ‘āina” - a concept not limited to land alone, but one that embraces the animals, plants, and climatic variations associated with both the land and the sea. Aloha ‘āina means caring for and maintaining a unique and special connection to the land of one’s ancestors, birthplace, the land and the ocean that feeds, and where one lives and works. Aloha ‘āina is a deeply felt appreciation that comes from knowing a place’s history, traditions, why it is organized just so, and, of course, one’s connection to it.

Kaho‘olawe is recognized by federal, state, and county governments as a wahi pana (special place) and a pu‘uhonua (place of refuge).

As a wahi pana, the island is dedicated to Kanaloa, the honored and respected ancestor/deity who cares for the foundation of the Earth and the atmospheric conditions of the ocean and the heavens.

As a pu‘uhonua, Kaho‘olawe is a refuge, or “safe” place for people to practice and live aloha ‘āina that, in turn, guides the care and management of the island and its surrounding waters.



Nā 'Ili O Kaho'olawe

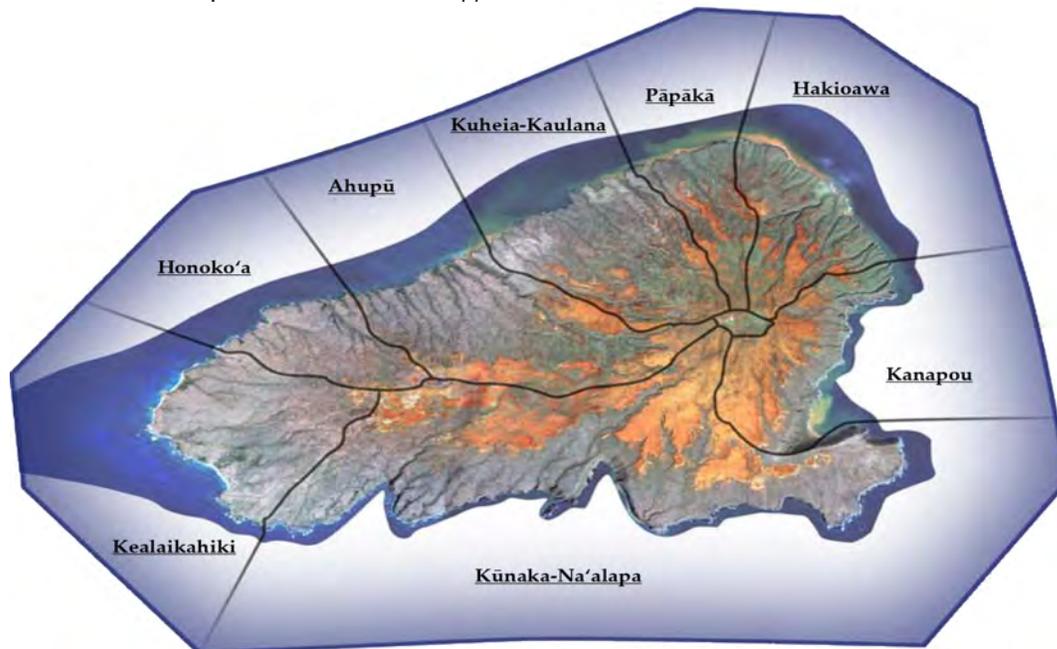
Ancient Hawaiians were exceptional stewards of their lands. Through complicated systems of land use and tenure, they produced a vast array of products. Ahupua'a are defined as land divisions that most often ran from the mountains to the sea. Ahupua'a were further divided into smaller bisections called 'ili. In describing principles underlying the ahupua'a land use, the court of the Hawaiian Kingdom determined that:

“...a land should run from the sea to the mountains, thus affording to the chief and his people a fishery residence at the warm seaside, together with the products of the high lands, such as fuel, canoe timber, mountain birds, and the right of way to the same, and all the varied products of the intermediate land as might be suitable to the soil and the climate of the different altitudes...”
(In Re Boundaries of Pulehunui, 1879)

The entire island of Kaho'olawe is an ahupua'a within the Maui moku (district) of Honua'ula. A map, found in the State Survey Office written circa 1895 by a man named Kauwekane from Honua'ula, identified the names and approximate locations of twelve 'ili on Kaho'olawe. These were later combined to form eight new 'ili adapted to fit contemporary geographical conditions of Kaho'olawe.

On Kaho'olawe, each 'ili is composed of several watersheds that run from the island's central spine to the sea. Ridge lines differentiate 'ili boundaries. Natural watersheds, valley bottoms, and embayments, as well as traditional and contemporary cultural uses of named places, help define the 'ili.

Today, the 'ili concept remains a valuable planning tool as it recognizes the integral relationships among soil disturbances - water, erosion, and runoff - that occur within those watersheds, thereby focusing current land use practices in healing Kaho'olawe's natural and cultural resources.





History of Kaho'olawe

Circa 400 A.D. Polynesians settle the Hawaiian archipelago.

1027 Earliest existing radiocarbon date for a Hawaiian presence on Kaho'olawe.

1150-1400 Kaho'olawe figures prominently in voyages between Hawai'i and the islands of Southern Polynesia.

1600 A thriving Hawaiian community is established on Kaho'olawe by this date.



1778 British ships under the command of Captain James Cook enter Hawaiian waters.

1779 Following Captain Cook's death, his ships sail past the southwestern tip of Kaho'olawe but sight, "neither houses, trees, nor any cultivation."

1793 Maui chief Kamohomoho informs British Captain George Vancouver that Kalani'ōpu'u's wars of conquest have left Lāna'i and Kaho'olawe "nearly over-run with weeds, and exhausted of their inhabitants."

1813 The merchant ship Lark runs aground on Kaho'olawe. Surviving crew members are thought to have been the first foreigners to set foot on the island.

1819 Kamehameha I dies. Liholiho, his son and successor, abolishes the 'Ai Kapu - the traditional system of social and religious laws.

1824 Ka'ahumanu, a favored wife of Kamehameha I, proclaims a missionary-inspired code of laws with punishment for crimes including threat of "banishment to Tahoorawe (Kaho'olawe)."

1826 First criminals exiled to Kaho'olawe.

1828 Lahaina mission station reports Kaho'olawe possesses one school with 28 pupils, both adults and children.

1831 Missionary census estimates a total of 80 inhabitants on Kaho'olawe.

1841 Boats from a U.S. exploring expedition become wrecked near western tip of Kaho'olawe. Castaways hike to penal settlement at Kaulana and report, "a collection of 8 huts, and an unfinished adobe church housing 15 male convicts."

1848 The institution of the Māhele replaces traditional land stewardship with the western concept of private ownership. Kaho'olawe is among former crown lands transferred to the Hawaiian government.

1850 Landing at Hakioawa Bay, adventurer Edward Perkins notes large herds of wild goats and the damage done to native plants.

1852 Last prisoner on Kaho'olawe removed due to serious illness.

1857 Government inspection finds "some fishermen living on Kaho'olawe, maybe not over fifteen..."

1858 The Hawaiian government leases Kaho'olawe to R.C. Wyllie, Chancellor of the Kingdom, and Elisha H. Allen, Minister of the Interior, for a period of 20 years at \$505 per year for ranching purposes. Their surveyor finds 50 Hawaiians in part-time residence on the island.



History of Kaho'olawe (cont'd.)

1859 Approximately 2,000 sheep are shipped to and released on Kaho'olawe.

1864 Elisha H. Allen and C.G. Hopkins obtain a new lease for 50 years at \$250 per year.

1866 Hawaiian government census records 11 males and 7 females on Kaho'olawe, with 16 of these individuals being Hawaiian or part-Hawaiian. All appear to be employed by the ranch.

1875 King Kalākaua and his entourage visit the island, noting the presence of, "20,000 sheep, 10 horses, 6 native men, 2 white men, 2 full-Hawaiian women, 2 small children, 4 houses, 2 dogs, and a few hundred goats." The writer also notes the growth of māmane, 'ākia nene'e, wiliwili, māniana, pili, and other native flora. (*Ka Lāhui Hawai'i*, 30 December 1875)

1879 Reports of severe overgrazing with "the upper plains entirely denuded of top soil...the whole interior plain has been so swept by wind and floods, that nothing but a very hard red grit is left."



1880 Elisha H. Allen transfers lease title to Albert D. Courtney and William H. Cummins.

1884 Kaho'olawe Stock Ranch is listed as possessing, "9,000 goats, 2,000 sheep, 200 head cattle, and 40 horses."

1893 On January 17, Queen Lili'uokalani and the Hawaiian government is overthrown by a group of American businessmen.

1898 Hawai'i becomes a territory of the United States.

1906 After passing through numerous hands, lease to Kaho'olawe is acquired by Eben P. Low.

1910 To prevent further environmental degradation, Gov. Walter F. Frear declares Kaho'olawe a forest reserve under the control of the Board of Agriculture and Forestry.

1913 A scientific expedition from the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum spends two weeks exploring Kaho'olawe, collecting biological samples and locating a number of ancient Hawaiian sites. John F.G. Stokes, an expedition archaeologist, returns to conduct excavations at a fishing shrine in Kamohio Bay.

1918 Kaho'olawe is withdrawn from forest reserve and leased to rancher Angus MacPhee for 21 years at \$600 per year.

1920 H.A. Baldwin joins MacPhee to form Kaho'olawe Ranch Company.

1931 Bishop Museum mounts a one-week scientific expedition to Kaho'olawe. Archaeologist Gilbert McAllister subsequently publishes, *Archaeology of Kaho'olawe*, describing 50 early Hawaiian sites.

1933 Baldwin and MacPhee obtain a second 21-year lease at a rent of \$100 per year.

1941 U.S. Army signs a sublease with Kaho'olawe Ranch Company, acquiring bombing rights for \$1 per year. The Honolulu Advertiser reports the goat population on Kaho'olawe at 25. On December 8, 1941, Kaho'olawe is sequestered by the U.S. Navy for use as a live ordnance training area.



History of Kaho'olawe (cont'd.)

1942-1945 Kaho'olawe's southern and eastern cliffs serve as targets for torpedo bomb testing. Its west end beaches serve as dress rehearsal landing areas for Tarawa, Okinawa, and Iwo Jima.

1953 President Eisenhower signs Executive Order 10436, reserving Kaho'olawe, "for the use of the United States for naval purposes," and placing the island under jurisdiction of the secretary of the U.S. Navy. The order also stipulates that the Navy, when Kaho'olawe is no longer needed, would return the island in a condition "suitable for human habitation."

1959 Hawai'i becomes a U.S. state.

1965 The U.S. Navy detonates 500 tons of TNT near the bay of Honokanai'a to simulate an atomic blast and observe its effects on ships offshore.



1969 The discovery of an unexploded 500 lb. bomb in a west Maui field prompts U.S. Representative Patsy Mink to call for a halt to U.S. Navy bombing of Kaho'olawe.

1976 On January 4, nine individuals make the first successful landing on Kaho'olawe to protest the Navy's continued use of the island as a bombing target. The Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana is formed and files a federal lawsuit charging the U.S. Navy with violating laws

pertaining to the environment, historic preservation, and religious freedom.

1977 Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana members Kimo Mitchell and George Helm are lost at sea in the waters off Kaho'olawe during an effort to protest the bombing. The U.S. Federal Court orders the Department of Defense to conduct an inventory of ancient Kaho'olawe sites.

1980 U.S. Navy and the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana sign a Consent Decree allowing the 'Ohana regular access for religious, cultural, education, and restoration activities.

1981 Documentation of more than 540 traditional sites results in the entire island being placed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.

1982 The Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana conducts the first Makahiki on Kaho'olawe since the early 1800s.

1990 United States President George Bush issues a memorandum temporarily halting the bombing. The U.S. Congress establishes the Kaho'olawe Island Conveyance Commission to, "study and recommend terms and conditions for returning Kaho'olawe...to the State of Hawai'i."

1992 A healing ceremony is held on Kaho'olawe that aimed to hasten its return to the people of Hawai'i. The following year, the U.S. Congress votes to end military use of the island and authorizes \$400 million to clear the island of ordnance. The State of Hawai'i designates Kaho'olawe as a natural and cultural reserve, "to be used exclusively for the preservation and practice of all rights customarily and traditionally exercised by Native Hawaiians for cultural, spiritual, and subsistence purposes." The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) is created to plan for the island's future.



History of Kaho'olawe (cont'd.)

1993 Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawai'i) sponsors Title X of the 1994 Department of Defense Appropriations Act, which authorizes conveyance of Kaho'olawe and its surrounding waters back to the State of Hawai'i. Congress votes to end military use of Kaho'olawe and authorizes \$400 million for ordnance removal.

1994 Title to Kaho'olawe is officially transferred from the U.S. Navy to the State of Hawai'i, "to be held in trust until the formation of a federally-recognized sovereign Hawaiian entity."

1997-1998 The U.S. Navy awards contracts for the removal of unexploded ordnance on Kaho'olawe.

2003 Transfer of access control is returned from the U.S. Navy to the State of Hawai'i on November 11, 2003 in a ceremony at 'Iolani Palace.

2004 The U.S. Navy ends the Kaho'olawe UXO Clearance Project. At its completion, approximately 75% of the island was surface cleared of unexploded ordnance (UXO). Of this area, 10% of the island, or 2,647 acres, was additionally cleared to the depth of four feet. Twenty-five percent, or 6,692 acres, was not cleared and unescorted access to these areas remains unsafe.

2013 The State of Hawai'i conducted an audit of the Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund. The findings indicated that 13% of the island was restored in 18 years with an expenditure of \$51 million. It was recommended that the KIRC create a comprehensive and measurable plan for the island that includes areas to be restored, scope of work, estimated costs, and timeframes for completion. The audit also urged the KIRC to focus on fundraising.



Kumu Hula Frank Kawaikapuokalani Hewett performs a hula at the 2003 Transfer Ceremony.



Flora

Protocol for the Prevention of Alien Species Introduction

Control of introduced plants and animals and restoration of native plants and animals are principal goals of the KIRC to restore Kaho'olawe. New accidental entries to the island add to an already extensive list of alien species, resource management workers, with increased urgency, call for stricter control measures to prevent alien ingress into natural areas. Every person is a possible vector (transmitter or carrier) of alien species. Taking preventative measures to hinder the introduction of alien invasive species to Kaho'olawe is crucial to preserving the native environment. These measures include:

1. **Inspecting all clothing, gear, and equipment before coming to Kaho'olawe.** Field pests include weed, seeds, and insects. Thoroughly clean footwear, socks, pant legs, jackets, rain gear, tools, packs, and other containers.
2. **Thoroughly wash and dry all swim clothes and gear.** Dip snorkel and fins in a light bleach solution prior to your Kaho'olawe access. Invasive algae is just as dangerous as terrestrial weeds.
3. **Become acquainted with Hawai'i's invasive species, their status, and locales.** Learn which are localized to your area and be alert for those established on other islands or natural areas.
4. **Keep localized infestations from becoming established on other islands or in other preserves.** Avoid spreading pests from your home that your destination may not have, and vice versa, by inspecting and cleaning gear before each departure.



Ma'o (Gossypium sandwicense), a native cotton, was once prominent on Kaho'olawe's west end. After enduring multiple fires and prolonged periods of drought, a few surviving ma'o may be still be found on the island.



Fauna

Contrary to popular belief, Kaho'olawe not only supports many animal species, it is also a haven for endangered species protected designated by federal and state law. The KIRC encourages respect for and peaceful coexistence with these creatures and their habitats and will not tolerate disregard for protective rules and regulations.

Fish

Within the reserve waters that surround Kaho'olawe, several federally protected marine species may be found. These include dolphins (nai'a), humpback whales (koholā), monk seals (īlioholoikauaua), green sea turtles (honu), and hawksbill turtles (honu 'ea). By law, these species are not to be approached or bothered and a minimum 50-foot distance must be maintained from the animal. If any protected species is sighted, leave the area immediately and notify KIRC personnel immediately.

Birds

Several land and marine birds frequent Kaho'olawe. It is not uncommon to see the Hawaiian owl (pueo), the common house finch and frigate birds ('iwa) flying about in the same area. Respect their space and do not disturb them. Notify KIRC staff immediately if rare or unusual bird species are sighted, if nesting is occurring, or if an injury is apparent.

Bees & Other Insects

Numerous insect species are found on Kaho'olawe. In summer months when water is scarce on the island, honeybees are attracted to leaking coolers, water bottles, and even duct tape. Persons allergic to bee stings must carry an epinephrine kit (epi-pen) with them at all times while on Kaho'olawe.

Ants are also prevalent and will invade a backpack or bed if food is nearby. Do not take food or snacks into the huts and clean out backpacks after each workday.

Other notable insects are centipedes, scorpions, brown recluse spiders, wasps, and black and brown widow spiders. Please notify KIRC staff of any insect bite or sting or if any of these creatures are seen lurking about.

Mammals

Occasionally feral cats and field mice appear. Please do not feed them. Rodent blooms are sometimes experienced in the summer and at times, can force a temporary closure of the Honokanai'a Base Camp operations. It is, therefore, required that all volunteers eat within the Hale Āina (dining hall) and that all edible products are disposed of properly. In an effort to prevent rodent intrusion, storage of snacks and/or eating within the berthing huts is highly discouraged.



The 'ua'u (Pterodroma sandwichensis) is an endemic and endangered Hawaiian bird that nests on the Pu'ukoa'e seastack.



Transportation Safety

With no harbor or airport, transportation to Kaho'olawe is inherently difficult. The most common means of transportation to and from the island is via the KIRC's cargo and passenger landing vessel, the *Ōhua*. Occasionally, helicopter transport may be required. Because we are at the will of Mother Nature and cannot predict precise ocean and weather conditions, it is imperative to maintain the utmost safety in all transportation operations.

Boat Safety

- Pay close attention to the captain and crew during pre-voyage safety briefings and at all times while on board and around the vessel.
- Life vests are required to be worn by all passengers seated on the forward cargo deck. Vests are available for all passengers and will be provided for you prior to departure.
- Everyone should be seated and have one hand ahold of the boat at all times, especially on the forward cargo deck.
- Upon arrival to Kaho'olawe, the captain will determine whether to land the vessel or to moor offshore. Most commonly, the vessel will land on shore and unload passengers and cargo. In the event of large and/or frequent shorebreak, the vessel may moor off shore and passengers must swim to shore.



Helicopter Safety

In special or emergency circumstances, the use of helicopters to transport passengers and cargo may be required. Please abide by the following safety protocols when in and around helicopters. A detailed safety briefing will also be given prior to flight.

- Ensure that you have the pilot's attention before approaching the aircraft and always approach in full view of the pilot. Never approach a helicopter from the rear of the aircraft.
- Follow the pilot's instructions at all times. Do not board or leave the helicopter without the pilot's permission.
- Always approach or depart a helicopter in a crouched position. Gusts of wind can cause the rotor blades to drop dangerously low to the ground.
- Safety helmets or hats must be held securely to prevent their being blow away or blown up into the helicopter rotors by the rotor blast. If an item is blown away, do not attempt to retrieve it.
- Keep clear of the helicopter's main and tail rotors at all times. Do not walk to the rear of the helicopter when entering or exiting.
- Stay at least 100 feet away from helicopters at all times unless you have a specific task that requires otherwise.



Volunteer Rules & Regulations

Prior to a Kaho'olawe access, each volunteer is required to carefully review documents in the KIRC Volunteer Packet. Each volunteer is subject to the same State of Hawai'i laws and ethical codes as all KIRC and State of Hawai'i employees.

1. In signing the KIRC waivers and Volunteer Agreement, each volunteer accepts personal responsibility for his/her own behavior and agrees to abide by the KIRC rules and regulations and State of Hawai'i law and behave accordingly.
2. A chaperone/group leader/advisor is required to supervise all youth groups. The chaperone is fully responsible for the behavior and actions of the group. For children under the age of 12, there must be one adult chaperone per child. For children ages 13-17, there must be one adult chaperone for every five minors.
3. Inappropriate action by any volunteer may be grounds for immediate removal from Kaho'olawe at the expense of the individual, organization, school or agency that he/she represents.
4. While volunteers are on Kaho'olawe, they must abide by the rules of the KIRC and stay within designated areas prescribed by the KIRC staff. Swimming is only allowed when supervised by a KIRC staff member in designated swimming areas.
5. Respect natural resources. Everything from the land and sea must remain on the island and must be left in their natural state. Protected marine mammals (i.e. turtles and monk seals) are to be avoided at all times. Do not destroy, deface, or remove any natural resource.
6. Respect cultural areas and practices. Individuals are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is culturally responsible and respectful at all times. All archaeological, historical, cultural and religious objects are to remain on Kaho'olawe. Known historical, cultural, and/or religiously sensitive sites are to be avoided. Cultural activities occurring on Kaho'olawe shall not be interfered with. All archaeological, historical, cultural, and religious sites and areas shall be left in their natural state. Do not destroy, deface, or remove any cultural feature.
7. ABSOLUTELY NO FISHING OR REMOVAL OF ORGANISMS.
8. Ethics policies applicable to paid staff within the KIRC apply equally to volunteers. Ethics are defined by the State Ethics Code, Chapter 84, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS).
9. Drug-Free Workplace Policy - the KIRC complies fully with the provisions of the 1988 Drug-Free Workplace Act requiring employers to ensure that the workplace is free of illegal use, possession or distribution of controlled substances. **KAHO'OLAWA IS A DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE LOCATION. ANYONE CAUGHT WITH THESE ITEMS WILL BE IMMEDIATELY REMOVED FROM THE ISLAND AT THE VIOLATOR'S COST.**

SAFETY IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE WHEN ONE VISITS KAHO'OLAWA. THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS MUST BE ABIDED BY WHEN ON THE ISLAND.



Personal Safety & Well-Being

Each individual best knows the limitations of their own physical, mental, and spiritual capabilities. Therefore, it's important that each individual take responsibility to consciously monitor themselves and abide by these precautionary measures to prevent serious injury and/or illness. It is imperative to the safety and well-being of all that each and every individual is aware of what they are and are not capable of doing.

- **Know your limits and advise your supervisor and KIRC staff accordingly.** Disclose any and all physical limitations on your Volunteer Emergency Form. (Information is kept confidential and only disclosed on a need-to-know basis).
- **Drink water all day.** The winds and arid conditions of Kaho'olawe can dehydrate a person quickly. Heat exhaustion, dehydration, and heat stroke are very serious concerns.
- **Be aware of the conditions and events going on around you at all times.** Stay clear of heavy machinery, moving vehicles, and potential hazards.
- **Bring all required medication(s) with you.** If you have any medical conditions, please disclose any medical conditions on your Volunteer Emergency Form.
- **Volunteers with asthma or allergies, especially to bee stings, must bring their medications on the access and must disclose any and all conditions on the Volunteer Emergency Form.**
- **Use protective gear at all times** -- hats, sunglasses, long-sleeved shirts, sunscreen, etc. The proper use of personal protective equipment (PPEs) are required when working. These may include, but are not limited to:
 - ◇ Chaps, helmet and safety glasses/eye protection when working with machinery such as weedwhackers and chainsaws.
 - ◇ T-shirts or long-sleeved shirts while working.
 - ◇ Gloves when needed.
 - ◇ Sturdy shoes when needed.

What to Expect on Kaho'olawe

- Climate is hot and dry; expect dust, wind and limited shade. Be able to work in the hot sun all day. The work is hard, but the company is good.
- Restroom facilities are limited while in the field.
- Teamwork is essential for a successful work trip. Come prepared to work hard. Remember that Kaho'olawe was used as a bombing range. Therefore, activities on island are limited and regulated due to the continued presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO). Transport to and from the island and/or work may be delayed due to logistics coordination, safety, or weather conditions. Come with patience and a positive attitude.
- Meals are provided from dinner on the first day through lunch on the last day. You will need to bring a lunch for the first day. Drinking water is provided. Bring your own reusable water bottle.



Packing for Kaho'olawe

Packing Checklist

- Swim clothes
- 3-mil contractor clean up bags (4)
- Sturdy boots (ankle protecting)
- Long pants (2-3)
- T-shirts or long sleeved shirts for field work (3-4). No tank tops.
- Jacket or sweater (1)
- Underwear and socks (enough for 4-5 days)
- Personal toiletries (shampoo, washcloth, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.) Bring only enough for 4-5 days.
- Towel
- Sleep clothes
- After work clothes (casual shorts, t-shirt, tank top, slippers)
- All required medication, contact solution, glasses
- Heavy-duty work gloves
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Reusable water bottle
- Lunch for first day
- Optional: hat, camera, flashlight

Volunteers do not need to bring any linen, blankets, or pillows. Fresh linen and bedding is provided. No fishing equipment is allowed (unless otherwise specified).

Bio-Security

The KIRC asks for your assistance in preventing the further introduction of unwanted and/or invasive flora and fauna to Kaho'olawe. The following precautionary steps should be taken before your access to the island.

- Inspect all gear and equipment before packing. Field pests include weeds, seeds, and insects. Clods of dirt or mud often mask these hazardous hitchhikers. Clean footwear, socks, pant legs, jackets, rain gear, tools, bags and backpacks thoroughly.
- Thoroughly wash and dry all swim clothes and gear. Dip snorkel and fins in a light bleach solution or scrub with dishsoap and water. Invasive algae is just as threatening as terrestrial weeds.

All accesses to Kaho'olawe are drug and alcohol free. Individuals caught using or in possession of such substance and/or paraphernalia will be reprimanded and may be subject to removal at his/her own expense.



Protocol for Kaho‘olawe

In line with traditional Native Hawaiian protocol, all individuals who desire to access Kaho‘olawe are required to ask permission. This is done through chanting an Oli Kāhea, an entrance chant. When departing Kaho‘olawe, established protocol calls for the chanting of an Oli Ho‘oku‘u, or a request for release. The following oli are specific to Kaho‘olawe and are used when entering and leaving the island.

Oli Kāhea

He haki nu‘anu‘a nei kai
‘O ‘awa ana i uka
Pehea e hiki aku ai
‘O ka leo
Mai pa‘a i ka leo

Request to Enter

Indeed a rough and crashing sea
Echoing into the uplands
How is it that one lands?
It is the voice
Do not hold back the voice

Oli Ho‘oku‘u/Ke Noi ‘A‘ama

‘O ‘awekuhi ‘o kai uli
kuhikau, kuhikau
E hō mai i ‘a‘ama,
i ‘a‘ama aha
I ‘a‘ama ‘ia au

Request for Release

Pointing tentacle of the deep sea
Direct, direct
Grant also an ‘a‘ama
An ‘a‘ama for what?
Releasing me from my obligations as your guest

