



*June 2019*

### Grant Update & Review

#### **NOAA Bay Watershed Educational Training (B-WET) Grant; Learning 'Āina Through Kaho'olawe and Arts Integration:**

● In August 2017, the Ocean Program was one of seven B-WET grant recipients in Hawaii. This grant is focused upon providing Pōmaika'i Elementary School 4<sup>th</sup> grade educators first-hand field experiences into managing/protecting a complete watershed system which will increase their knowledge in environmental literacy. The experiences will be integrated with Hawaiian cultural stewardship practices on Kaho'olawe. These on site field workshops utilize holistic management within an ahupua'a system of mauka to makai relationships. This grant will strengthen the teachers content knowledge and pedagogy skills to teach through the arts an understanding of the state of watersheds. The results of these workshops will create a database of art integrated lesson plans and resources compliant with the State of Hawaii Dept. of Education standards. Program staff will continue to support the educators in the enrichment and implementation of all curriculum created after completion of the workshops. Additionally, by digitally capturing these experiences they can be shared, taught and implemented in the classroom and other communities through video stories. This \$79,333 grant will run through July 2019. To date, the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teaching team has been to Kaho'olawe twice and the curriculum developed from the accesses have influenced over 200 students over the course of two school years. The history of Kaho'olawe, the current restoration efforts and the future possibilities for the island taught in a Science Technology Arts and Math (STEAM) format has covered subject matters from Hawaiian history to ecology to alternative energy to music composition. This broad spectrum of learning all done around a signal focal point, Kaho'olawe, is just one of the things that makes this project so unique and hopefully can serve as a leaping platform for other educational projects.



**A rendering of Kimo Mitchell done by 4<sup>th</sup> grade student Naomi Ibera**



**B-WET participating teachers pose with Restoration Manager, Paul Higashino. L to R: D. Sakuma, J. Shishido, Paul, W. Ortega, J. Isoe**



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### Grant Update & Review Cont.

#### **Final On Island Access For B-WET Teachers:**

● June 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> saw the third and final visit of teachers from our collaborating school Pōmaika'i Elementary. The six educators and one NOAA representative helped to plant 650 'aki'aki along the shoreline of Honukanaenae and another 1,609 native plants mauka in the DOH 4 planting area. This "hands on and in" learning experience was a great way to cap off the 24 month grant where the teachers learned the true meaning of the mauka to makai relationship of watersheds on Kaho'olawe.



**Pōmaika'i teachers makai planting**



**Pōmaika'i teachers mauka planting**

### Outreach and Education:

#### **Kamehameha Middle School:**

● On June 27<sup>th</sup> Ocean Program staff was invited to speak to Kamehameha Middle School students enrolled in a 4 week summer class program called, "Activating Your Activism." The 4 hour informal "talk story" covered Kaho'olawe's history up to current projects on island.

#### **Maui Police Department Summer Program**

● For a fifth year, the Ocean Program was asked to speak to the Maui Police Department's summer leadership program. The program focuses upon teaching and exposing 12-13 year old students to community groups and figures that contribute positive change and leadership. This year's one hour presentation centered around the efforts and sacrifices made by the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana (PKO) to stop the bombing on Kaho'olawe.

#### **2019 Maui Film Festival**

● Through great timing, a little bit of luck and the incredible efforts of Donnie Dawson (State Film Commissioner), Pōmaika'i teachers and Barry Rivers (Maui Film Festival Director), a short film about the history of Kaho'olawe made its debut at the Maui Film Festival on June 16<sup>th</sup>. The six minute stop animation film was entirely created by Pōmaika'i 4<sup>th</sup> grade students through the B-WET grant. The night time outdoor screening venue allowed approximately 2,000 visitors and residents to view and enjoy the students' extraordinary work.