



Providing Community Access to Kaho‘olawe Through Virtual Resources

BACKGROUND

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

DELIVERABLES

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

AWARD AMOUNT: \$98,230

FUNDER: IMLS Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

HIGHLIGHTS

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

FINANCIAL UPDATE

<i>SPENT</i>	<i>BILLED</i>	<i>RECEIVED</i>
\$3,365.56	\$3,365.56	\$0

PROJECT UPDATE: March 2022 – June 2022

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All the 360 photo and video footage captured during the July 2021 and April 2022 accesses has been processed. This content includes KIRC Honokanai'a Base Camp, Honokanai'a Beach, Keanakeiki and Kealialalo Wetlands, Moa'ula Iki, Moa'ula Nui, Ipu a Kane rain ko'a, Kealaikahiki, and Sailor's Hat. Staff has also begun to gather the text and record the audio files that will accompany the images and videos. The Google Maps version of the huaka'i is currently available for public viewing (https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1QqBx2DYwRz2198NKyZLxL9Ud2OKp_kj4&usp=sharing). During the April 2022 weekday access, the project coordinator collected additional photos and videos to be used in the live stream social media posts for 2022. In May, most of the grants digital hardware was purchased, along with the Spring 2022 newsletter.



Figure 2. Panoramic View of LZ1

Figure 1. Aerial View of the Star Compass at Kealaikahiki



Figure 3. Panoramic View of Base Camp at Night



Figure 4. Virtual Huaka'i QR Code