



## 2. OLA I KE KAI O KANALOA Ocean Resources Management Program

*Dec. '13 to Feb. '14*

### Ongoing Projects

#### **Field Surveys**

□ In December program staff made a trip to Kuheia to look at the possibility of conducting a marine debris removal project along the coast line of the ranch area. Very minimum debris was seen and collected. A total of 45 lbs was removed.

#### **Outreach and Education**

□ Program staff participated in the Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> “Whale Day” at Kalama Park. Staff spoke of the threats and dangers marine debris can impose on the ocean environment as well as to the marine life.

□ The Ocean Program has submitted an abstract for a presentation during the poster session at this year's Hawaii Conservation Conference. The poster will review the progress made in coastal habitat restoration on Kaho'olawe through the removal of marine debris. This is one of the mandatory outreach for the NOAA grant.

#### **Illegal Vessel Entry**

□ On Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>, an illegal vessel presence in the Reserve was reported to DoCARE. KIRC staff provided statements and photos. The vessel, Alika, was met at the Kihei Boat Ramp soon after. The case is being handled by Officer Cahill.



Staff conducted a debris clean up at Kuheia in December

#### **Hui Kāpehe Intern**

□ The Ocean Program has been paired with its first intern through the Cultural Program's Hui Kāpehe Program. Cheyenne “Keko” Aiu, is an UHMC student striving to obtain her marine science degree through the UH system. Her deep appreciation of the cultural connection between Kaho'olawe and the ocean makes her an excellent candidate who will receive the most from this experience.

#### **Monk Seal Stranding**

□ On Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> the Culture Program reported that a stranded (deceased) monk seal had been found at Kealaikahiki. NOAA was notified and the seal was buried at Kaukukapapa.



Vessel Alika's illegal presence in the Reserve was documented and reported to DoCARE



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Ocean Resources Management Program

*Dec. '13 to Feb. '14 cont.*

### Ongoing Projects

#### Grants

##### HCF Grant

From December '13 to February '14, six divers participated in the HCF grant for the purpose of removing non-native/invasive fish from the Honokanai'a area in four dives. A total of 288 pounds of Roi, Ta'ape and To'au were collected during this time bringing the total biomass for the grant to 602 pounds. The grant obligation is 500 pounds of biomass by December of '14. Additionally, volunteers have participated in monitoring surveys as well as the gut analysis conducted to identify what these fish are preying on as well as determining seasonal spawning cycles.



Non-native/invasive fish collected after a dive



Some of the prey consumed by the targeted fish

##### NOAA Marine Debris Grant

A group of volunteers assisted with the debris collection at Puhianenu in January. The group of 12 people made the two mile hike to the bay. Approximately 900 lbs of debris was collected from the small bay. There is now approximately a total of 2,000 pounds of debris that needs to be removed by helicopter.



Volunteers work together to remove marine debris from the coast line of Puhianenu