In this FY19 Year-In-Review, we highlight some of the ways the work on Kahoʻolawe is connected with the greater paeʻāina. This collective impact work reinforces our vision that the piko of Kanaloa is the crossroads of past and future generations from which the native Hawaiian lifestyle is spread throughout the islands. Therefore, our collective impact work is meant to connect us not only by place and space but also in time and generations of past, current, and future. For example, when educators and kumu serve as volunteers on island, they learn about and build on the efforts of our contemporary and traditional history. The expectation is that they will connect the lessons learned from Kahoʻolawe with their students, colleagues, and young people. It is noted that volunteers and supporters of Kahoʻolawe come from across the State, continental U.S., and abroad.

Lastly, I’d like to acknowledge the service of past Chair Michelle McLean of the County of Maui and commissioner Kaliko Baker of the Protect Kahoʻolawe ‘Ohana and University of Hawai‘i Kawaihuelani Center for Hawaiian Language who, after consecutive, four-year terms completed their service on the KIRC at the end of FY19. Congratulations, as well, to KIRC Administrative Officer Kaʻōnohi Lee who recently retired after many years with the KIRC staff. We welcome Saumue Mataʻafa from County of Maui and Mikiʻala Pescaia from the Protect Kahoʻolawe ‘Ohana and Kalaupapa National Historical Park onto the Commission and like a quick and efficient water change the waʻa moves ahead.

I Ola Kanaloa! I ola kākou nei! Life to Kanaloa, life to us all!

— Joshua Kaakua, KIRC Chair
One of the major focal points for Fiscal Year 19 was finding ways to extend the KIRC’s work on Kahoʻolawe across the pae ʻāina through community partnerships and outreach. Due to our limited funding, we must place restraints on the number of volunteers that we host on Kahoʻolawe. In order to expand the impact of KIRC’s work on Kahoʻolawe, we are always looking at ways to extend the experiences acquired on Kahoʻolawe to as broad an audience as possible.

We are constantly pursuing new and innovative ways to expand safe and meaningful access to Kahoʻolawe indirectly through community outreach. A partnership with the Maui Ocean Center created a space where both kamaʻāina and visitors could learn about Kahoʻolawe through an exhibit that highlights its history, as well as the island’s environmental, cultural and archaeological significance. The purpose of the carefully and thoughtfully curated exhibit is to create more awareness of the geography, history, culture and restoration of the island, as well as the power and capacity to effect change and cultivate hope for the island’s future. The KIRC also collaborated with the Protect Kahoʻolawe ʻOhana (PKO) and the Hawaiʻi Department of Education Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design to create a special full day event as part of the 2019 iTeach Conference. The event brought together middle school students from nine different schools to solve a challenge centered around Kahoʻolawe. After being given a brief introduction on the geology and history of Kahoʻolawe, as well as background information on the current conditions and restoration efforts on the island, students were grouped together at different stations and worked on developing potential solutions to the posed challenge, which were then showcased to everyone attending the event.

We have found that KIRC volunteers are not only the core of our workforce, transforming the island’s desolate landscape into a vibrant living community, but also our best emissaries for outreach. Over the last two years, the KIRC was able to partner with a small cadre of elementary school teachers looking to develop in-classroom arts-integrated curriculum centered around Kahoʻolawe. Although only the teachers were able to make the journey to Kahoʻolawe, they were able to expand the impact of their work trip to island to their fourth grade students. These students then spent the school year creating written and visual works of art, including an iStopMotion animated film and an interpretive play that featured original songs, hula, and a heartfelt story line, about the history and healing of Kahoʻolawe. The animated short film was featured at the Maui Film Festival this past summer, and is currently being featured in the exhibit at the Maui Ocean Center. The play was performed in the new King Kekaulike High School Performing Arts Center, open to the Pōmaikaʻi Elementary School community and the general public. The initial contact of a few teachers wanting to share their experience and what they learned about the historical damage and present-day healing of Kahoʻolawe has now touched hundreds of students and thousands of community members across Maui.

Until we can host everyone that wants to make the journey to Kahoʻolawe and experience first-hand the transformative nature of the island, we depend on a host of community partnerships and outreach opportunities to share the stories of our past and to teach the next generation to care for the land so that the damage that was done on Kahoʻolawe will not be repeated anywhere else in our Hawaiian Islands.

— Michael K. Nāhoʻopiʻi, KIRC Executive Director
Kahoʻolawe is the smallest of the eight main islands in the Hawaiian Archipelago. Eleven miles long, seven miles wide and comprised of 28,800 acres, the island is of volcanic origin with the highest elevation at 1,477 feet. Its slopes are fissured with gulches 50 to 200 feet deep and formidable cliffs dominate the east and south coast. Approximately 30% of the island is barren due to severe erosion.

Following 200 years of uncontrolled grazing, Kahoʻolawe and its surrounding waters were under the control of the U.S. Navy from 1941 to 1994, and were used as a live-fire training area. Despite clearance efforts, unexploded ordnance (UXO) is still present and continues to pose a threat to the safety of anyone accessing the island or its waters.

A decades-long struggle by the people of Hawaiʻi, particularly the Protect Kahoʻolawe ‘Ohana (PKO), succeeded in stopping the bombing of Kahoʻolawe and helped to spark the rebirth and spread of Native Hawaiian culture and values. A 1993 act of Congress conveyed Kahoʻolawe back to the State of Hawaiʻi, but allowed the Navy to retain control of the island through 2003 while it conducted a 10-year cleanup of UXO.

A treasured resource for all of Hawaiʻi’s people, Kahoʻolawe is of tremendous significance to the Native Hawaiian people. In recognition of the special cultural and historic status of Kahoʻolawe, the island and the waters within 2 nautical miles of its shores were designated by the State of Hawaiʻi as the Kahoʻolawe Island Reserve in 1993, to allow for the preservation of traditional Native Hawaiian cultural, spiritual and subsistence purposes, rights and practices.

In 1994, the Kahoʻolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) was established by the State of Hawaiʻi, under the Hawaiʻi Revised Statutes, Chapter 6K, to manage Kahoʻolawe, its surrounding waters, and its resources, in trust for the general public and for a future Native Hawaiian sovereign entity.

The KIRC mission is to implement the vision for Kahoʻolawe Island in which the kino (body) of Kahoʻolawe is restored and nā poe o Hawaiʻi (the people of Hawaiʻi) care for the land. We pledge to provide for the meaningful, safe use of Kahoʻolawe for the purpose of the traditional and cultural practices of the Native Hawaiian people, and to undertake the restoration of the island and its waters.

“I was out on the water and observed the KIRC vessel returning to Kihei Boat Ramp around 10:00am. Your Captain displayed exemplary professionalism with a slow down well outside the recreation area and a nice long slow approach to the harbor. That day there were snorkelers, paddlers, divers and turtles all enjoying the area. I appreciate your captain’s leadership in demonstrating how all operators should conduct their vessels in nearshore waters.” — Rep. Tina Wildberger, South Maui, District 11
The kino of Kanaloa is restored. Forests and shrublands 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 poʻe o Hawaiʻi care for the land in a manner which recognizes the island and ocean of Kanaloa as a living spiritual entity. Kanaloa is a puʻuhonua and wahi pana where native Hawaiian cultural practices flourish.

The piko of Kanaloa is the crossroads of past and future generations from which the native Hawaiian lifestyle is spread throughout the islands.

“There is mutual value in our work on Kahoʻolawe: building community, immersing ourselves fully, efficient action, conserving resources, other centered awareness and service ... I am deeply grateful for the precious opportunity to serve and learn on Kahoʻolawe. Mysterious seeds were planted in me. I am looking forward to seeing what grows and sharing what I am sure will be beautiful bounty.”
— Cathy Kawano-Ching, Volunteer
KAHOʻOLawe TIMELINE

ORIGINS & EARLY CONTACT

- **1027:** Earliest existing radiocarbon date (from petroglyph sites) for Hawaiians on Kahoʻolawe.
- **1600:** A thriving Hawaiian community exists on Kahoʻolawe, fishing the island’s waters and farming its upland slopes.
- **1779:** Following Captain Cook’s death, his ships sail past the southwestern tip of Kahoʻolawe but sight “neither houses, trees, nor any cultivation.”
- **1793:** Maui Chief Kamohomohomo informs British Captain Vancouver that, due to Kamehameha’s wars of conquest, Lānaʻi and Kahoʻolawe “which had formerly been as fruitful and populous islands, were nearly overrun with weeds, and exhausted of their inhabitants.”

MISSIONARY PERIOD

- **1820:** First Protestant missionaries arrive in Hawai‘i.
- **1826:** First criminals—a woman charged with adultery and a man convicted of theft—are exiled to Kahoʻolawe.
- **1831:** Missionary census estimates 80 island inhabitants.
- **1837:** Missionary census reports 20 children, all attending school, on island.
- **1848:** Kamehameha III institutes the Great Mahele, replacing traditional land stewardship with the western concept of land ownership; Kahoʻolawe is among former “crown lands” transferred to the Hawaiian government.
- **1850:** Adventurer Edward Perkins visits island; notes large herds of goats damaging native vegetation.
- **1852:** 28 pupils (adults as well as children) possesses one school with heiau (temples) are burned
- **1853:** Liholiho abolishes the traditional system of social and religious laws; heiau (temples) are burned and images of the gods are overthrown.

RANCHING PERIOD

- **1858:** Government leases Kahoʻolawe to R.C. Wyllie and Elisha H. Allen for 20 years at $505 per year; survey finds 50 Hawaiians in part-time residence.
- **1875:** King Kalakaua and his entourage visit the island, noting 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.”
- **1893:** With support of U.S. Marines, a Committee of Safety consisting of white businessmen overthrows the government of Queen Liliʻuokalani.
- **1918:** Kahoʻolawe withdrawn from forest reserve and leased to rancher Angus MacPhee for 21 years at $600 per year.

MILITARY, PROTEST, JOINT-USE PERIOD

- **1931:** Bishop Museum sends scientific expedition to island, leading to publication of Archaeology of Kahoʻolawe.
- **1941:** After Pearl Harbor is attacked, martial law is declared in Hawaii and Kaho‘olawe is seized by military for training and use as bombing target.
- **1953:** President Eisenhower signs Executive Order reserving Kaho‘olawe for use by Navy, with stipulation that when Navy no longer needs the island it will be returned in a condition “reasonably safe for human habitation, without cost to the Territory.”
- **1976:** “Kaho‘olawe Nine” make first, unauthorized landing on Kaho‘olawe; Protect Kaho‘olawe Ohana files lawsuit against Navy to stop bombing.
- **1980:** Navy and Protect Kaho‘olawe Ohana sign Consent Decree allowing them regular access to island for religious, cultural, educational and restoration activities.
- **1993:** Congress votes to end military use of Kaho‘olawe; State of Hawaii creates Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to plan the island’s future. 1993: Navy removes the last goat.

- **1824:** Kaʻahumanu proclaims a new code of laws including the threat of “banishment to the island of Tahoora we [Kaho‘olawe]” for lawbreakers.
- **1828:** Lahaina mission station reports Kaho‘olawe possesses one school with 28 pupils (adults as well as children).
- **1841:** Boats from the U.S. Exploring Expedition are welcomed near the western tip of Kaho‘olawe; castaways hike to penal settlement of Kaulana, “a collection of 8 huts and an unfinished adobe church” inhabited by 15 male convicts.
- **1990:** President Bush halts bombing; U.S. Congress establishes the KICC to study and recommend terms for returning Kaho‘olawe to the State of Hawai‘i.
1993: First Hōkūle'a navigators visit to affirm that Kaho‘olawe is a good place for navigation training.

1995: Palapala Ho‘onohonoho Moku‘āina O Kaho‘olawe (Kaho‘olawe Use Plan) completed

1997: The first rain ko’a is built on island to honor Kane and to call for rain, launching a series of cultural construction projects.

1996: Bishop Museum exhibits "Kaho‘olawe: Rebirth of a Sacred Hawaiian Island" exploring culture, spiritual practices and political aspirations of native Hawaiians.

1997—1998: Navy awards contracts for the removal of unexploded ordnance on Kaho‘olawe and commences the Kaho‘olawe UXO Clearance Project; 10% of the $400M budget becomes the Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund to launch restoration.

2001: First gathering of traditional sailing canoes at Honokanai‘a.

2002: 500,000 gallon rain catchment system and Lehua rain ko’a are built; executive order designates eight acres of Kihei property for the KIRC’s future use as an operations, education and cultural center; “Ke Aloha Kupa’a I Ka ‘Aina” - Steadfast Love for the Land exhibit is featured at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

2003: Access Guide Training Program is developed with Access and Risk Management Plan; transfer of access control is returned from the U.S. Navy to the State of Hawai’i in a ceremony at ‘Iolani Palace on Nov. 13.

2004: U.S. Navy ends the UXO Clearance Project. 25% remains uncleared and unsafe for unescorted access; the KIRC’s Kihei Boat House is built and used as the Maui operations center; gathering of canoes to honor participants of the early protest movements; Kuhi Ke’e, a modern cultural site at Kealaikahiki to mark the return of voyaging canoes to Kaho‘olawe, is constructed; large-scale planting projects begin, initiated by Clean Water Act section 319 funding.

2008: Boat operations replace helicopter use; conversion of existing on-island, ex-Navy facility to Culture/Education Center.

2009: Kūkulu Ke Ea a Kanaloa, the Culture Plan for Kaho‘olawe is completed; first solar panels are installed on island (powering Honokanai‘a’s hot-water system), launching the long-term plan for Kaho‘olawe to become the first energy self-sustaining island in Hawai‘i; Ala Loa project is initiated and trail construction begins.

2011: First food crops (uala) are harvested on-island.

2014: I Ola Kanaloa, a collaborative vision for Kaho‘olawe by 2026, is completed by the KIRC, PKO and OHA; Kihei Boat House property begins community-use programming; He Moku Pōina ‘Ole (The Island Does Not Forget / An Island Not Forgotten), exhibit at Maui Historical Society.

2018: Honokanai’a Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Project is completed laying the foundation for energy independence and long-term sustainability for Kaho‘olawe; Kaho‘olawe Native Dryland Forest Project begins, significantly expanding the current on-island irrigation system into new hardpan areas to create new planting areas; design process for the KIRC Education & Operations Center at Kihei.

2019: Kaho‘olawe: A Story of History and Healing exhibit opens at the Maui Ocean Center.
By statute, the Commission consists of 7 members appointed by the Governor provided that 1 is a member of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana (PKO); 2 are appointed from a list provided by the PKO; 1 is a trustee or representative of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA); 1 is a county official appointed from a list provided by the Mayor of the County of Maui; 1 is the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR); and 1 is appointed from a list provided by Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHO). KIRC staff is comprised of:

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
*(hired by the Commissioners)*

**STAFF**
*(hired by the Executive Director)*

- **ADMINISTRATION**
  - Administrative Officer
  - GIS/LAN Specialist
  - Commission Coordinator
  - Administrative Specialist III

- **OPERATIONS**
  - Maintenance & Vessel Specialist
  - Logistics Specialist
  - UXO Safety Specialist

- **RESTORATION**
  - Natural Resources Specialist (NRS) V
  - NRS III
  - NRS III

- **OCEAN**
  - Ocean Resources Specialist (ORS) III
  - ORS II

- **CULTURAL**
  - Cultural Resources Project Coordinator

* Term ended in FY19.

The ADMINISTRATION Program supports all KIRC programs while also managing volunteers, GIS mapping, community outreach, library, archive and collections management, fund development, finance and human resources.

The OPERATIONS Program provides transport, maintenance, manpower and overall safety within the Reserve.

The RESTORATION Program restores native, land-based habitats and watersheds through innovative strategies addressing erosion control, habitat restoration, and enhancement of the island’s natural water systems.

The OCEAN Program manages marine resources within the Reserve, fostering ancestral knowledge while integrating both ancient and modern resource management techniques.

The CULTURAL Program provides for the care and protection of Kaho‘olawe’s cultural resources, as well as the expansion of meaningful, cultural use of the island.
“From the bottom of my heart, thank you so very much for the invitation to Kahoʻolawe, and taking such good care of everyone. I am honored to have been there. The whole access, from safely managing people to doing what you do, is immense and intense. I’ve come away with incredible respect for your work and staff. I appreciate the KIRC staff’s incredible patience, tolerance, humor, expertise, knowledge and generosity in sharing this sacred place.”

– Natalie Krawciw, Hawaiian Sailing Canoe Association Volunteer

The KIRC personnel hard at work in the field on Kahoʻolawe.
Row 1: Michael Nahoʻopiʻi, Executive Director
Row 2: Grant Thompson, Logistics Specialist; Cassie Smith, Volunteer Coordinator; Lopaka White, Maintenance & Vessel Specialist
Row 3: Lyman Abbott, NRS II; Paul Higashino, Restoration Program Manager, NRS V; James Bruch, NRS II
Row 4: Dean Tokishi, Ocean Program Manager, ORS III; Courtney Kerr, ORS II
Row 5: Maggie Pulver, Public Information Specialist; Carmela Noneza, GIS/LAN Specialist
MĀLAMA
The KIRC has been tasked with a monumental endeavor that has and will continue to require thousands of hands over several generations to accomplish. By partnering with communities, school groups, professional organizations, conservation agencies, foundations and public outlets, the KIRC works to foster a culture of stewardship and conservation for Kahoʻolawe and for all of Hawaiʻi’s cultural and natural resources.

During FY19, 783 volunteers accessed Kahoʻolawe through 33 service trips.

FY19 VOLUNTEER GROUPS
Andaz Maui  Ka Ipu Kukui  Nā Hanona Kūlike ‘O Piʻilani
Auwahi Wind  Kamehameha Schools Kumu B Credit Course  Nā Papio
Daihonzen  King Kekaulike High School  Pōmaikaʻi Elementary School
Department of Forestry and Wildlife  Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project  Protect Kahoʻolawe ʻOhana
Four Seasons Maui  Maui Nature Center  Punahou School
Hawaiian Canoe Club  Miliilani High School  University of Hawaiʻi ʻŌlelo Hawaiʻi
Hawaiian Sailing Canoe Association  Mortenson Ranch Family  University of Hawaiʻi Sustainability Initiative
Hui Kāpehe

“One thing I learned while on island that I can apply back home is how culture and place are not static, but always fluid and moving. Kahoʻolawe’s landscape changes as the elements change, and the Island adapts. I also learned that we are all so much more connected to each other than we realize at times.”

– Jeeyun Lee, Hawaiʻi Nature Center Volunteer
Participant responses to the “Describe your volunteer experience in three words” prompt from the Post Volunteer Access Survey:

- Inspiring
- Educational
- Amazing
- Fun
- Aloha
- Connect
- Enlightened
- Awesome
- Humbled
- New
- Unforgettable
- Best
- Treasure
- Awesome
- Interesting
- Memorable
- Critical
- Essential
- Insightful
- Memorable
- Spiritual
- Transformative
- Emotional
- Community
- Cultural
- Unique
- Innovative
- Powerful
- One
- Perfect
- Aloha
- Powerful
- Hawaiian
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**BACKGROUND**

From its inception by the State of Hawai‘i in 1993, the KIRC was funded through the Kaho‘olawe Island Rehabilitation Trust Fund — originating from a portion of the federal funding allocated to the Navy’s unexploded ordnance clearance project (ending in 2003). In 2014, the KIRC partnered with PKO (Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana) and OHA (Office of Hawaiian Affairs) to publish a collaborative plan for the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve through 2026 (entitled I Ola Kanaloa!).

With refined goals and objectives adopted by each organization, the KIRC presented its self-sustainability financial plan to the Hawai‘i State Legislator in 2016. Supported by an Aloha Kaho‘olawe campaign, which called for memberships, shared information and public testimony to affirm the KIRC’s restoration and access programs, the State authorized permanent funding for KIRC staff and additional CIP funding for KIRC operations in 2018. Programs that bring community volunteers to the Reserve continue to rely on funds raised through donations, grants and memberships.

**STATE FUNDED PROJECTS**

A 2-year dryland forest restoration project (FY19 & FY20: $1.5M) funded through the State of Hawai‘i Capital Improvement Project (CIP), as well as the design of our Kaho‘olawe Operations and Education Center at Kihei ($500,000), also through CIP.

A newly extended grant by DLNR’s Water Security Advisory Group (WSAG) will engage community volunteers this year in the planting of 10,000 native plants and construction of 500 feet of soil erosion control devices geared to restore 100 acres of Kaho‘olawe’s Hakioawa Watershed. (September 2017 — February 2019: $100,000)

A decade-long partnership with The State of Hawai‘i Department of Health, Clean Water Branch has continued to address a Tier One area (see p. 3) of the Hakioawa Watershed with native plantings, erosion control and non-native species removal. (August 9, 2018 — August 8, 2019: $49,586)

**GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS**

Native Hawaiian Museum Services’ Institute of Museum and Library Services supported two separate projects in FY19:

» expansion of the Kaho‘olawe Island Guide and Kaho‘olawe Living Library (August 1, 2016 — July 31, 2019: $124,976)

» rehousing of Navy Collection and expansion of Kaho‘olawe Living Library (August 1, 2018 — July 31, 2020: $75,000)

KIRC Ocean Program staff and their partners from Pōmaika‘i Elementary School completed the NOAA Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Hawaii Program grant for Learning Āina Through Kaho‘olawe and Arts Integration, and helped the teachers to develop a land and ocean based curriculum for 4th graders. (August 2017 — July 2019: $79,333)
"I will always have a special place in my heart for Kahoʻolawe. This island changed my life. I am forever grateful for everyone that make sit possible for people to continue to visit and restore this beautiful place. Mahalo for all of your hard work. I love you guys!"
– Madison-Rose Strahan, Mauna Kahālāwai (West Maui) Watershed Partnership
The 2019 Legislative Session focused on the new biennium budget for FY20/21. In the previous biennium budget (FY18/19), the Governor submitted to the legislature his Administration’s budget that included funding for the KIRC positions and additional operating funds to support our Maui-based operations. Initially, the KIRC was seeking 19 staff positions and successfully received general funds in Act 49 SLH2017 for 15 staff positions and a little over $200,000 in operating expenses. In the following 2018 Legislative session we sought in the supplemental budget requests to restore some the KIRC staff positions lost in Act 49 and to seek additional operating funds for on-island operating expenses. We were able to successfully regain general funding for the Cultural Resource Project Coordinator (CRPC) position and an additional $100,000 in operating expenses under special legislation in Act 140 SLH2018.

For the 2019 Legislative Session, the KIRC was focused on moving the CRPC position and additional funds received in the previous year from special legislation into the Administration’s budget, as well as requesting additional KIRC staff positions to support operations and additional general funds to sustain on-island, base camp expenses.

A unique budget process was used this past session. The Administration’s budget was separated into recurring elements from the previous biennium budget and new funding requests for new biennium were introduced as separate bills depending upon their committee assignments and given full hearing by experts in the legislature based on their subject matter before being heard by the full house and senate. The recurring budget elements were introduced as HB2.

In the final conference hearing, the KIRC’s 15 positions and operating expenses approved the previous year were added to the departments baseline funding in Act 5 SLH2019. The KIRC’s requests for the CRPC position and an additional $100,000 was heard through the session initially through a series of DLNR funding bills that eventually were consolidated into a separate State-wide budget bill and added to the department’s baseline funding in Act 113 SLH2019.

Additional bills relating to Kahoʻolawe were also introduced this session. Representative Ryan Yamane introduced three bills in support of KIRC relating to; 1) supporting native dryland forest restoration on Kahoʻolawe (HB454); 2) support additional manpower and funding for KIRC operations (HB455) and 3) transferring Kīhei Small Boat Harbor to the KIRC. Senator Maile Shimabukuro introduced a companion bill to support additional KIRC manpower and operational funding (SB1296). All bills were well received and was able to gain a lot of public testimony in support of the measure, but these additional measures were not able to make it to the end.

Our goals for the next session are to continue seeking additional general funds to continue field operations as well as begin seeking Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding to begin building our Kahoʻolawe Operations and Education Center at Kīhei.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>METHOD</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Budget HB2</td>
<td>Passed with 15 positions</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Budget HB116</td>
<td>Passed with CRPC and $100K for FY20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill introduced by Rep. Yamane, HB1405</td>
<td>Did not pass</td>
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<td>Admin budget request</td>
<td>Was not included</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill introduced by Rep. Yamane and Sen. Shimabukuro, HB455 and SB1296</td>
<td>Both did not pass</td>
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<td>Admin budget request</td>
<td>Was not included</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill introduced by Rep Yamane, HB454 for $3M in general funds</td>
<td>Did not pass</td>
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<td>Admin budget request for $500K</td>
<td>Was not included</td>
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<td>Bill introduced by Rep Yamane, HB455 for $1M</td>
<td>Was not included</td>
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<tr>
<td>Request for inclusion in area representative’s capital request</td>
<td>Was not included</td>
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Mahalo to Rep. Yamane and Sen. Shimabukuro for introducing and supporting bills and legislation that sought to fund the KIRC’s future restoration of Kahoʻolawe.

Rep. Yamane
Sen. Shimabukuro

Rep. Ryan Yamane and Rep. Lynn Decoite at the upgraded PV System in the Honokanai’a Base Camp (above top) and in the Dryland Forest Project area in Kūnaka/Naʻalapa (above bottom).
In January 2019, a new exhibit “Kaho‘olawe - A Story of History and Healing”, developed through a collaboration between the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission and the Maui Ocean Center, opened to the public. The purpose of the carefully and thoughtfully curated exhibit is to create more awareness of the geography, history, culture and restoration of the island, as well as the power and capacity to effect change and cultivate hope for the island’s future.

The exhibit provides MOC visitors with an opportunity to learn about Kaho‘olawe and its history, as well as the island’s environmental, cultural and archaeological significance. Designed to show the power of change, both good and bad, the exhibit follows the timeline of Kaho‘olawe’s story from the first Hawaiian settlements to current restoration efforts.

The Kaho‘olawe gallery at the Maui Ocean Center is home to previously exhibited content from the Bishop Museum in Honolulu and the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C, as well as new content that provides insight into the island’s connections to celestial navigation, the marine life that inhabits its waters, the threat of marine debris, and the role of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana, the KIRC and the many volunteers have played and continue to play in the protection, preservation and restoration of Kaho‘olawe.
BACKGROUND
In Fiscal Year 2017, the KIRC was awarded a two-year grant from the NOAA Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program, for its “Learning ‘Āina Through Kahoʻolawe and Arts Integration” project. The KIRC Ocean Program staff partnered with teachers from Pōmaikaʻi Elementary School to develop a 4th grade mauka-to-makai curriculum that aims to increase student watershed understanding and stewardship through a combination of outdoor and in the classroom learning.

FY19 UPDATE
FY19 saw the completion of the project. Over the two years of the project, the KIRC Ocean Program staff worked directly with five teachers from Pōmaikaʻi Elementary School, deepening their content knowledge and strengthening their pedagogy skills through two first-hand field experiences on Kahoʻolawe and monthly mentoring sessions on Maui. Overall, the project impacted 25 teachers and 186 students directly and over 3600 students and community members indirectly.

PROJECT OUTCOMES
- Standards-aligned STEAM curriculum with 27 lesson plans that will be published statewide by the Hawaiʻi Department of Education (www.pomaikaikahooolawe.weebly.com)
- Student-created video that was featured at the Maui Film Festival and now plays regularly in the Maui Ocean Center Kahoʻolawe exhibit
- Keiki Songs for Change, Kahoʻolawe album available on iTunes and Amazon Music

Partnership between KIRC Ocean Program Staff and Pōmaikaʻi Elementary supported by NOAA B-WET Grant award of $79,333

5 teachers from Pōmaikaʻi Elementary actively participated in the project

Participating in 2 volunteer accesses on Kahoʻolawe

Working regularly with KIRC Ocean Program Staff on Maui
“The work of these young filmmakers blew me away and agreeing to screen it at the Celestial Cinema as part of the Maui Film Festival was the easiest decision I made this year. Simply put, I loved it.”

– Barry Rivers, Director of the Maui Film Festival

The Wiliwili tree that survived through more than 100 years of overgrazing and 50 years of bombing served as inspiration to the students and was the star of their culminating performance, which told the history of Kahoʻolawe through the eyes of the island’s flora and fauna.

Scan this QR code to view the short film produced by the 4th grade students at Pōmaikaʻi Elementary School!
BACKGROUND

In FY18, the KIRC was appropriated CIP funding for the Kahoʻolawe Native Dryland Forest Project, which allowed for the significant expansion of our current irrigation system, ultimately extending our reach into new hardpan areas in the Kamōhio Watershed, where new dryland forest planting areas could be established. This project, with its dedicated funding, manpower and supplies, has provided a large leap forward in the re-greening of the island – KIRC’S main priority in the collaborative I Ola Kanaloa plan through 2026.

FY19 PROGRESS

☑ 18 new irrigation lines installed across a 25 acre project site
☑ Dedicated work crew prepared new planting areas by boring holes and amending soil in hardpan areas
☑ 14,000 native plants outplanted in mauka project area along irrigation lines, as well as in and around vegetated hummocks
☑ 230,000 gallons of water collected by the water catchment system and delivered by the irrigation lines has been used to establish the new outplantings
☑ 2,250 native plantings in the Honokainai’a and Kealaikahiki coastal project areas
☑ On-going management and removal of invasive weeds along Kuamo’o Road and in the Pōkāneloa area
☑ On-going documentation and monitoring project progress and forest growth to comply with historic preservation and environmental requirements
☑ Solar powered pumping system installed to move water from catchments to planting sites

WHAT’S NEXT?

KIRC staff will continue to water, monitor and document previous planting sites, tracking plant survival rates and removing invasive species. A new 25 acre project site was established in the fall of 2019 with the goal of another 14,800 plants to be placed on irrigation lines, as well as in and around natural rivulets and vegetated hummocks through FY20.
Before and after shots at 3 unique photopoints in the Dryland Forest Restoration project area. Photo credit: Paul Meyer.

Volunteers working in the Dryland Forest Restoration Project site. Photo credit: Paul Meyer.
HAKIOAWA WATERSHED RESTORATION

CLEAN WATER ACT

BACKGROUND
Since 2003, the State of Hawaiʻi Department of Health (DOH), Clean Water Branch has been supporting the KIRC’s Hakioawa Watershed Restoration project. The DOH grant supports efforts to prevent erosion, permanent loss of archaeological sites, fatal impacts to near-shore coastal reef ecosystems and pollution of our global waters.

FY19 PROGRESS
☑ 200 volunteers contributed a total of 3020 hours to the project
☑ Approximately 2260 feet of wattles were constructed along 8 contours in the project site
☑ Over 20 gabions were built and captured soil runoff during rain events, significantly reducing non-point sedimentation in near-shore coastal reefs
☑ 10,000 native plants from 16 different species were outplanted on irrigation

WHAT’S NEXT?
The KIRC was recently awarded a one year DOH grant to continue with operations and maintenance in the project site through 2020.
GROUND WATER RECHARGE

BACKGROUND
In FY19, the KIRC received a 6 month extension to the DLNR Water Security Advisory Group (WSAG) grant awarded in the previous fiscal year to support the Hakioawa Watershed Restoration project. The ultimate goal of the WSAG grant was to reduce Total Maximum Daily Load by 20% in the Hakioawa Watershed through habitat restoration and soil erosion control.

FY19 PROGRESS
- A total of 10,000 native plants were outplanted on irrigation lines
- Introduced native plants observed to be creating habitat for native insects and ‘Ōpeʻapeʻa (Hawaiian Hoary Bat).
- A total of 500 feet of wattles were constructed with the support of volunteers
- Soil infiltration rates improved significantly in restored areas when compared to non-restored areas
- Utilizing native plant species in restoration efforts increases water infiltration rates into the soil
- Outplanted sites have a significant difference in native species presence after restoration

Total Maximum Daily Load is the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can receive while still meeting water quality standards.

Gabions are “catch dams” made from geotextile baskets filled with rocks, and placed in rivulets to slow the flow of water, while capturing valuable soil in the process.

Wattles are erosion and sediment control devices made from rocks wrapped with geotextiles and burlap, that shorten slope lengths, reduce water flow velocities, and trap sediment on site.
THE KAHOʻOLawe LIVING LIBRARY

BACKGROUND

Since 2014, the KIRC received grant support through the Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services to further the KIRC mission of providing access to Kahoʻolawe through the development and creation of resources that can provide virtual access to the Reserve.

Designed in collaboration with cultural and library science consultants, the Kahoʻolawe Living Library now features an online archive of historical, archaeological, and geographical images, documents and videos.

The Living Library project was expanded in 2016 to include the development of a mobile “app” that would provide a new level of engagement for those interested in virtually exploring the Reserve. The app was created in collaboration with Koa IT.

FY19 PROGRESS

✓ Developed reporting function for recording environmental and faunal observations
✓ Upgraded mobile phone applications for iOS and Android users
✓ Expanded app to include: POI (Points of Interest), on-island volunteer survey, Ask the KIRC and Daily Picks
✓ Enhanced and expanded KIRC archives room
✓ Conducted outreach including presentations, press releases, and social media postings
✓ Continued to expand the KIRC Living Library

livinglibrary.kahoolawe.hawaii.gov

WHAT’S NEXT?

In FY19 a third IMLS grant was awarded to further expand the Living Library to allow for collaborations and to include special collections. Expansion will continue through July of 2020.
KAHOʻOLAZE ISLAND GUIDE MOBILE APP

FY19 saw the expansion of the Kahoʻolawe Island Guide mobile "app", a work-in-progress by design, and developed with the support of KOA IT. The app still features a map of the Reserve divided by ʻili (smaller sections of an ahupuaʻa) with clickable images, oral histories and artifacts, but was upgraded to include several new features and capabilities which are highlighted below.

Both the Kahoʻolawe Living Library and Island Guide app will continue to evolve as the KIRC’s collection grows.

KAHOʻOLAZE ISLAND GUIDE UPDATES

POINTS OF INTEREST (POI)

With each start up, a new Point of Interest, or POI, is featured through a pop-up before the home screen launches. Users have the option to explore these places and features in more detail or to close the window and go on to the home screen. Users can also choose to disable this feature.

DAILY PICKS and ASK THE KIRC

The photos on the home screen of the app are now connected to the KIRC Instagram account, updating and shifting with each new posting. There is also an “Ask the KIRC” button on the home screen that provides a direct link to the KIRC administrator email account.

REPORTING OBSERVATIONS

On-island volunteers and KIRC staff can now record observations of environmental phenomenon seen on the island in real time using the reporting function on the Island Guide app. Each observation submitted is automatically time stamped and tagged with a GPS location.

Download the updated “Kahoʻolawe Island Guide” from your app store!
Kaho‘olawe and its surrounding waters still contain unexploded ordnance (UXO) that have the potential to cause significant injury or death. The Reserve also poses natural and environmental hazards to humans in the form of geographic isolation, arid conditions, no potable water, rough seas and dangerous ocean currents, as well as steep and uneven terrain.

In 2003, the Access Guide Training Program was developed with the Access and Risk Management Plan (ARMP) to guide the KIRC in fulfilling its mission to provide meaningful, safe use of Kaho‘olawe in the face of the many challenges described above.

Becoming an Access Guide is a tremendous responsibility, requiring a significant level of training both in the classroom and in the field, as well as a series of written and practical exams. Ten new Access Guides were certified in FY19, generating a total of sixty qualified individuals.

Row 1: KIRC Executive Director Mike Naho‘opi‘i leading the land navigation, radio communications and communication protocol course.

Row 2: Base Camp Technician Johny Moniz teaching the access Guide Trainees about Vehicle Operation, Maintenance and Safety.

Row 3: EOD Specialist Eric Brundage educating the Access Guide trainees about UXO recognition, safety, avoidance and reporting at the display board in the KIRC Honokana‘a Base Camp (left); UXO Technician Arcus Aikau conducting a metal detector operation course (middle); PKO member C.J. Elizares receiving his Access Guide certificate (right).

Row 4: KIRC Staff members Cassie Smith receiving her Access Guide certificates.
FIRST AID AND CPR CERTIFICATION

All Reserve Access Guides must maintain valid and current First Aid and CPR certifications in order to be considered qualified. The same is true for the KIRC field staff who are often the first line of support on Kahoʻolawe. In May, the KIRC staff participated in an all-day on-site First Aid and CPR training as part of their regular professional development.

ʻŌHUA CREW TRAINING

Being a member of the KIRC field staff means being a crew member aboard the ʻŌhua, the KIRC’s 39-foot landing craft that serves as the primary means of transportation to & from Kahoʻolawe for our volunteer force, staff, Base Camp team, cargo, fuel and more.

ʻŌhua Captain Lopaka White demonstrating how to deploy an emergency flare (top); Ocean Resource Specialist II Courtney Kerr learning how to steer (bottom); KIRC Logistical Specialist Grant Thompson showcasing ʻŌhua’s emergency equipment and explaining how and when to use specific pieces of gear (right).
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

"What happened to the money?"
Until Fiscal Year 2016, KIRC funding came largely from a limited trust fund established in 1994 during the federal unexploded ordnance cleanup of Kahoʻolawe. This federal appropriation totaling $44 million, (AVG: $2M per year), though considerable, was not substantial enough to establish an endowment for the long-term restoration of Kahoʻolawe. Today, the KIRC appeals to grant makers for specific project support; to the State of Hawaiʻi for support through legislative bills; and to individuals through donations, memberships and permit fees. (See page 24 to help)

"Did you clean up all of the bombs?"
The United States Navy is forever responsible for removing all unexploded ordnance (bombs) from the land and waters of Kahoʻolawe — and the liability associated with its presence. The KIRC remains committed to that position and relies on the Federal Government to fulfill their obligation. Upon the 2004 completion of the Navy’s cleanup, approximately 75% of the surface of the island was swept of ordnance with only 10% cleared down to the depth of four feet (see page 3). Areas that have not been cleared remain “DANGEROUS TO THE PUBLIC AND ARE NOT SAFE.” As formally agreed by the Navy and State, the Navy will return to dispose of any new unexploded ordnance (UXO) found in cleared areas. The KIRC has made regular requests to our congressional delegation for federal funds for the Navy to complete their obligation.

"What do you do out there?"
In addition to a variety of projects to restore Kahoʻolawe’s devastated landscape, protect its critical natural and cultural resources, and make vital improvements to the island’s infrastructure, we are developing an integrated mauka to makai resource management system that balances the technical aspects of modern conservation principles with a traditional cultural perspective.

"Can I fish over there?"
Trolling is permitted on two scheduled weekends each month in waters deeper than 30 fathoms (180 feet). No other fishing, ocean recreation or activities are allowed within the Reserve. (Visit kahoolawe.hawaii.gov/announce to download a Trolling Right of Entry Registration Packet). The rules governing Reserve waters are enforced by the State of Hawai’i, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE), the KIRC and the U.S. Coast Guard. Any person violating these rules is guilty of a petty misdemeanor and shall be fined up to $1,000 or imprisoned for up to 30 days. The KIRC may also assess administrative fines of up to $10,000 per offense.

"Why don’t you take more people?"
The KIRC’s work on Kahoʻolawe is critically dependent upon its volunteers. We strive to make the most of our limited volunteer opportunities, but we are primarily restricted by available funding, safety and weather conditions. The number of requests we receive to go to Kahoʻolawe far exceeds our ability to take everyone, therefore we ask for your patience and understanding.

"How can I help?"
Pick your favorite way/s to connect with us (social media, newsletter, email list) to learn about work days and community events at our Kihei Boat House site; join the Kahoʻolawe volunteer waitlist; invite the KIRC to your space as a (free) speaker; read/ learn about/ share our online library and learning materials; testify at one or more legislative hearings; create a Kahoʻolawe-inspired work of art to be shared; become a member; enroll as an intern; or let us know your own idea. (Links on back cover)
ʻŌhua and crew in the ʻAlalākeki Channel with Haleakalā and Molokini in the background.
What is the Kahoʻolawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund?

In 1993, 11% of the U.S. Navy’s $400M federal unexploded ordnance clean-up budget was allocated to the newly established Kahoʻolawe Island Reserve Commission by the Hawaiʻi State Legislature. This one time allowance became the Kahoʻolawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund, earmarked to carry out long-term environmental restoration, archaeological and educational activities on Kahoʻolawe while held in trust for a future Native Hawaiian sovereign entity. These activities were designed to carry out the terms and conditions of the MOU between the State and the Navy regarding the island’s return. The $44M federal fund was appropriated by congress and transferred to the Trust Fund, with the last appropriation made in 2004.

Until Fiscal Year 2016, KIRC funding came largely from the limited Trust Fund (AVG: $2M per year), and though the Fund seemed considerable, it was not substantial enough to establish an endowment for the long-term restoration of the island. Restoration of Kahoʻolawe is a monumental endeavor that far exceeds the available funding and staffing of the KIRC. It is an effort that will require thousands of hands over several generations to accomplish.

Today, the KIRC appeals to grant makers for specific project support; to the State of Hawaiʻi for support through legislative bills; and to individuals through donations, memberships and permit fees.

MAHALO TO OUR FY19 DONORS AND PARTNERS

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Pōmaikaʻiʻi Elementary School
Pueo Project
Taxoplasmosis and At-Large Cat Technical Working Group

“There is an old French proverb that says, ‘Gratitude is the memory of the heart.’ Thank you for letting me experience Kahoʻolawe. The work that KIRC, the KIRC staff and volunteers are doing is the epitome of altruism which not only benefits nature, but also the culture of the Hawaiian people. It was an honor to experience first-hand the work that is being undertaken to restore the island. The memories from that brief stay will last a lifetime.”
— Pat Justice, Volunteer and Patron
ALOHA KAHOʻOLAWE

Aloha Kahoʻolawe is a campaign to support Kahoʻolawe restoration and access. Through this initiative, we invite participation via membership donations, partnerships and legislative support. By building consensus that there is value in the historical, cultural, ecological and community building resources shared through Kahoʻolawe, we aim to share this special place now and for generations to come.

Individual donations are critical to our efforts to protect, restore and preserve the ocean and land of this important cultural reserve.

If you have been impacted by Kahoʻolawe — as a volunteer, friend, teacher, student, researcher or other community or family member, we invite you to join today.

GIVING LEVELS & BENEFITS:

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Kūkulu ke ea a kanaloa - The life and spirit of Kanaloa

Logo and motto of the KIRC, symbolizing the he’e, or octopus form of the god Kanaloa and the kupu o ka ‘āina, or re-greening of the island.