



WHAT IS THE HAWAI‘I COASTAL USE MAPPING PROJECT?

The **Coastal Use Mapping Project** is designed to fill a critical information gap in ocean management by mapping significant human uses of the nearshore ocean area in the Kawaihae-Keāhole region. The intent is to gain a better understanding of the spatial range and intensity of key use types in this region in order to better inform resource management. To this end, a participatory GIS mapping workshop will be held where local resource users, scientists, and stakeholders will create maps of ocean uses. Data, maps, and analytical products will be made available to local community groups, state and federal agencies, NGOs, and to other interested parties.

WHY NOW, AND WHY KAWAIHAE-KEĀHOLE?

Coral reefs in Hawai‘i are facing increasing pressures from a growing variety of ocean uses, as well as increased coastal development and watershed impacts. The Coastal Use Mapping Project is intended as a first step to improving regional coastal and watershed management activities. The baseline information collected through this project will provide a better understanding of human uses, issues, and constraints in these regions. It can help inform management decisions to better protect the ecosystem, while minimizing impacts on those who depend on marine resources and reducing user conflict. The project includes collecting and mapping existing watershed information, and conducting a participatory mapping workshop and follow-up stakeholder interviews to gain a better understanding of key human uses and use motivations that affect the region. Through this process we hope to better understand:

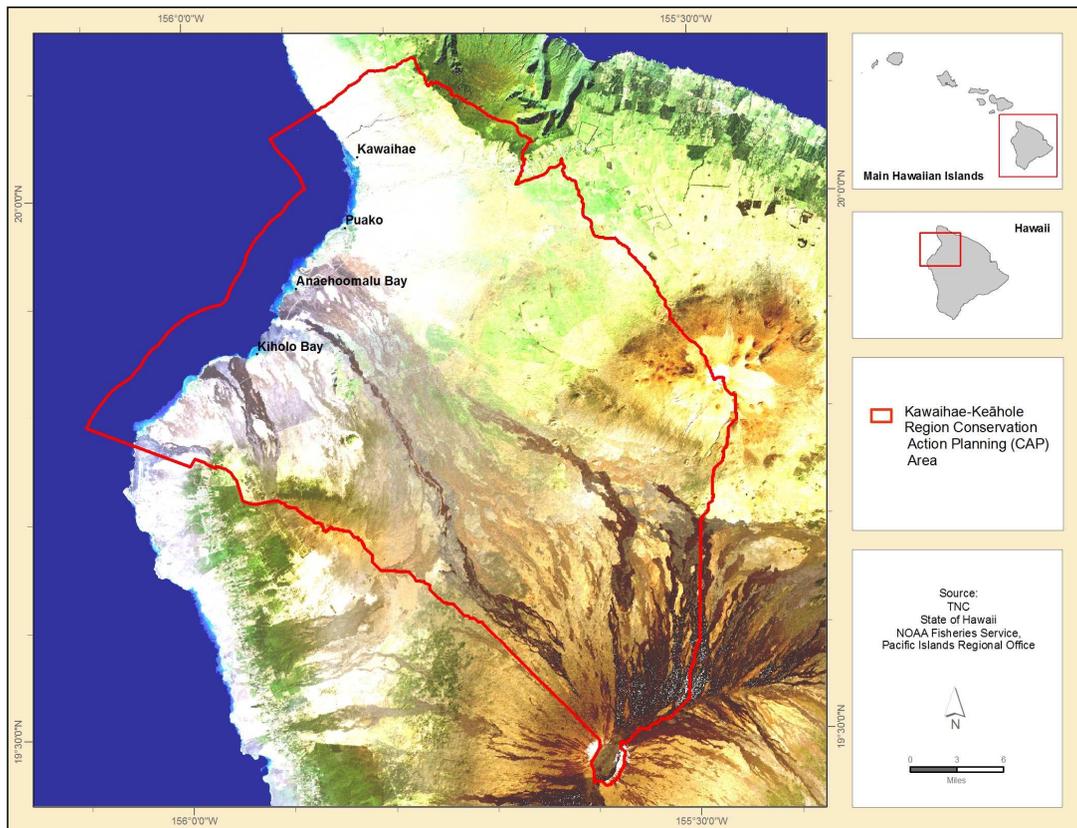
- Who are the primary resource users in the region?
- Where do activities take place, and where is activity most concentrated?
- To what extent do different user-groups rely on local coastal/marine resources?
- When do different activities take place?
- What are the observed impacts of different uses?
- What local management activities are already in place?
- Where is there a potential for user conflicts?
- What are the perceived problems (and potential solutions) in the region?
- Where do resource users receive information and what information sources do they trust?
- What are potential opportunities for management action?

WHO IS SPONSORING THE MAPPING PROJECT?

The Coastal Use Mapping Project is a partnership of the Hawai‘i Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR), NOAA’s Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC), NOAA’s Pacific Island Regional Office (PIRO), and NOAA’s Office of Coastal Resource Management (OCRM). Primary funding for the project is from NOAA’s Coral Reef Conservation Program, with in-kind support from DAR and the Nature Conservancy (TNC).

WHAT IS THE PROJECT AREA?

The Coastal Use Mapping Project will consider human uses from Kawaihae to Keāhole point. The participatory workshops will only address coastal and marine uses because terrestrial use is already spatially well-documented.



WHAT ARE THE OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES OF THE COASTAL USE MAPPING PROJECT?

The Coastal Use Mapping Project will produce the following outputs between August 2010 and December 2011:

- **Regional Maps of Coastal and Nearshore Ocean Uses** - Drawing upon the experience and knowledge of regional resource users, knowledgeable local stakeholders, and experts in coastal use and management on the island of Hawai'i, the project will develop comprehensive GIS mapping layers and analytical products reflecting the variety and extent of ocean uses in the region.
- **Interactive Digital Mapping Tool for Local Stakeholders and Natural Resource Management Agencies** - Once GIS layers are created, they will be assembled into a digital tool that will allow users to select for use-types of interest within the project region. Stakeholders will be able to understand how use-types relate to each other, the extent of different uses in different areas, and how coastal uses in the region relate to other spatial information (e.g., mooring sites, zoned areas, potential pollution sources).

HOW WILL THE PRODUCTS BE DISSEMINATED AND USED?

The Coastal Use Mapping Project was designed specifically to inform ongoing management and policy decisions among federal and state agencies responsible for nearshore coral reef ecosystems in Hawai'i. The information is intended to be made available to local stakeholders, community groups, and NGOs to help facilitate local natural resource stewardship efforts. The information gained through this process will provide data for an upcoming Conservation Action Planning (CAP) process, in collaboration with DAR, the Nature Conservancy, and the Keāhole – Kawaihae community. This region also includes a Hawai'i Coral Strategy priority site; for more information about the Strategy, visit <http://coralreef.noaa.gov/aboutcrp/strategy/reprioritization/managementpriorities/>. Data and products will be delivered to key agencies as they are completed and will be made available to any interested parties via various publicly accessible web sites.

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