Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Pacific Island Network

Keeping the Spirit of Kaloko-Honokōhau Alive

***Kaloko kuapā*, Kaloko Fishpond wall**

Nä wai ola o Kane (life-giving waters of the god, *Kane*) provides the life essence in this dry district of West Hawai'i Island. Native Hawaiian conservation values protect the use of the land, sky, and sea by laying out specific guidelines for interactions between humans and nature. *Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park* contains visible reminders, such as *heiau* (temples), *loko i'a* (fishponds), and *ki'i pohaku* (petroglyphs) that speak of the spirit of this place. Today, changes of population, resource use, and development alter the environment by compromising groundwater flow, marine life, and native species. The current challenge for this fragile national park is to keep the spirit alive by preserving these unique cultural and natural resources in the face of a rapidly developing landscape.

***'Ilima*, a native plant for medicinal use**

~1200 — A settlement is in place and the *Kaloko Fishpond* is constructed

1778 — Western contact accelerates changes in native culture, practice, and population

1819 — The *kapu* system is abolished after Kamehameha I dies, initiating major cultural changes

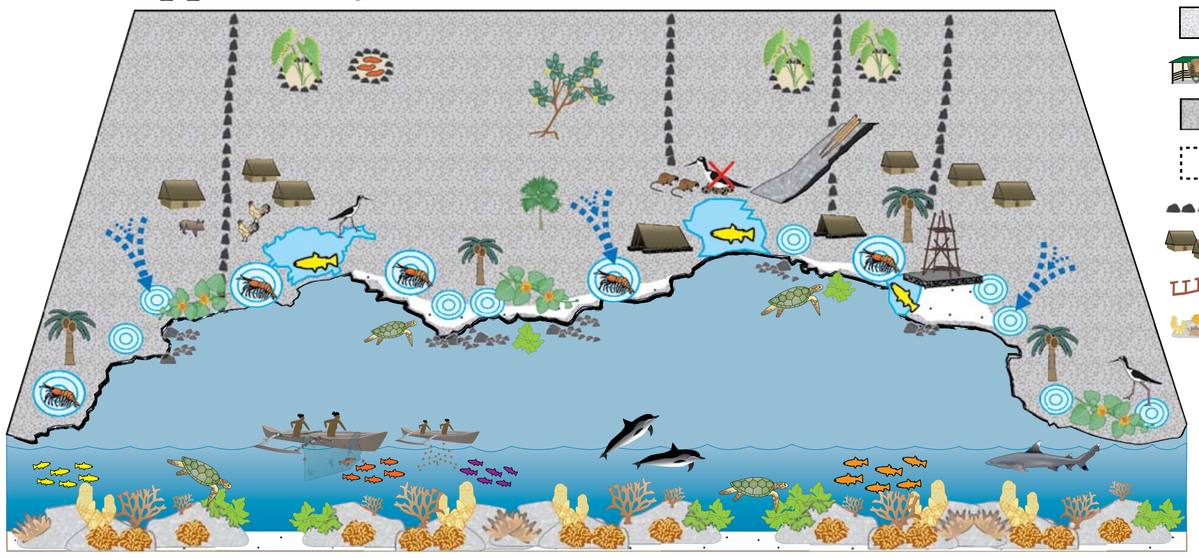
1848 — *Great Mahele*, a private property law, causes social and land use changes

1962 — *Honokōhau* settlement becomes a National Historic Landmark

1978 — *Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park* is established

Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park

approx. 1650 — *present*



Cultural and Natural Resources

- villages and sacred sites such as *heiau* (temples) were built along the coast
- a large stone slide was built for *hōlua*, sledding sport of the *ali'i* (chiefs)
- early Polynesians brought many plants and animals for their use
- a few harmful species, such as rats, arrived unseen with the Polynesians
- native plants were maintained for medicinal and ceremonial use
- taro and sweet potato were cultivated in planters on the lava fields
- groundwater recharged coastal pools and wetlands with fresh water
- *'ōpae 'ula* (red shrimp), used for fish bait, lived in coastal brackish pools
- many resident and migratory birds used the coastal wetlands
- fish were trapped and raised in *loko* (ponds) for the *ali'i* (chiefs)
- feeding fish by canoe, then netting, maintained the *ko'a* (fishing grounds)
- abundant and diverse marine life communities existed along the reefs

Cultural and Natural Resources

- historic and sacred sites remain culturally significant and relevent today
- invasive plants are removed and native plants are restored by park staff
- endangered *ae'o* (Hawaiian stilt) and other birds nest in park wetlands
- fed by groundwater, brackish pools still support unique and rare species

Threats and Human Impacts

- introduced cats, rats, and mongoose threaten native bird populations
- dense development and heavy traffic cause light, air, and noise pollution
- future urban developments will threaten groundwater resources
- wells extract groundwater, leading to salt water intrusion into coastal pools
- excess nutrient runoff stimulates algae blooms, which can kill coral
- overfishing, increased boat traffic, and underwater noise affect marine life
- invasive marine species transported by boats can damage native reef species

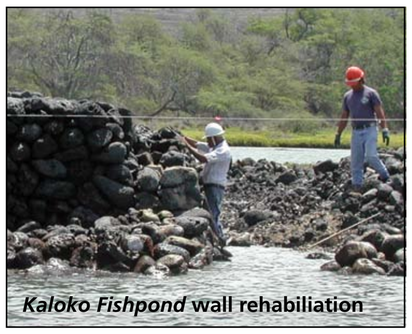
unique red shrimp in brackish pools

***honu*, green sea turtle**

boat harbor, south of park

new development, north of park

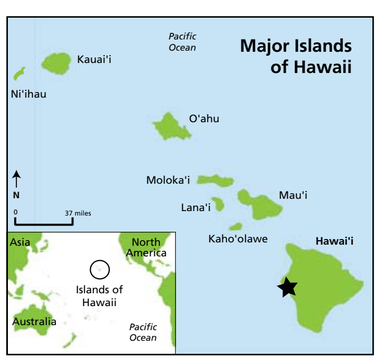
***loulu*, a native palm replanted**



***Kaloko Fishpond* wall rehabiliation**

Cultural and Natural Resources ⇨ *Threats and Human Impacts* ⇨ *Management Initiatives*

pools and wetlands fed by groundwater	proposed developments threaten groundwater	• limit groundwater withdrawal and pollutant inputs
unique and culturally significant native plants	invasive plants outcompeting native plants	• remove invasives and restore native plants
migratory and resident wetland birds	introduced mammals reducing bird populations	• reduce populations of small introduced mammals
coast with high coral cover and fish diversity	unregulated fishing reducing fish populations	• collaborate with state on marine resource management



Kaloko-Honokōhau National Historical Park (star) on the island of *Hawai'i.*

KALOKO-HONOKŌHAU NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK **www.nps.gov/kaho**

PACIFIC ISLAND NETWORK INVENTORY & MONITORING PROGRAM

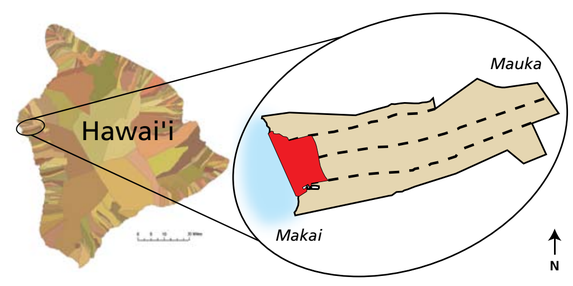
National Park Service

http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/pacn/

INTEGRATION & APPLICATION NETWORK (IAN)

University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

www.ian.umces.edu



Ahupua'a land division map (left) with *Hualalai* watershed (circled) and park (red).