

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL HAWAII

IMPACT REPORT

2016



HO'I I KE KAI MOMONA

Conservation International works to return Hawaii's ocean to abundance, ensuring that a healthy environment will continue to benefit Hawai'i, now and into the future.

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

INCREASED FISHER COMPLIANCE TO **90%** THROUGH MARINE ENFORCEMENT PATROL

CATALYZED **\$300,000+** IN INVESTMENT FOR TRADITIONAL AQUACULTURE

CREATED HAWAI'I SEAFOOD MONTH, ENGAGING **54** SEAFOOD BUSINESSES,
SOURCING **18,000+** POUNDS OF LOCALLY LANDED SEAFOOD

INTEGRATED 17 REGULATIONS INTO A **SINGLE PERMIT**
FOR FISHPOND RESTORATION

DELIVERED **60,000** FISH FINGERLINGS TO CATALYZE TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN
AQUACULTURE

ENGAGED **2,400+** PARTICIPANTS IN **13** COMMUNITIES ON **6** ISLANDS TO REVIVE
SUSTAINABLE TRADITIONAL FISHING PRACTICES

ESTIMATED THE VALUE OF LOCAL CORAL REEF FISHERIES,
WHICH PROVIDE **7.5+ MILLION** MEALS PER YEAR TO COMMUNITIES

STOPPED **77** TONNES OF SEDIMENT FROM IMPACTING CORAL REEFS

Here we share five personal stories from across the pae'aina (archipelago). You'll meet the local heroes we partner with - who restore fishponds, save coral reefs,

champion sustainable local seafood in their businesses, and lead their communities in reviving traditional knowledge and management.

BRINGING THE FISH BACK

CI REVIVES TRADITIONAL AQUACULTURE PRACTICES

400

Traditional fishponds (Loko I'a) existed in pre-contact Hawai'i. Today, fewer than 50 are actively managed

2M

In the early 1900s, 100 traditional Hawaiian fishponds produced 2,000,000 pounds of seafood



Keli'i Kotubetey is part of a growing movement to restore Hawai'i's fish ponds, which once provided millions of pounds of seafood to local communities

Hawaiians had sophisticated fishpond aquaculture systems centuries before the arrival of Europeans. CI brings practitioners and communities together with the best available science and innovative financing and business models to revive traditional aquaculture practices and protect the coastal environment. Because fishponds sit in the coastal zone, they are subject to many regulations and a complex permitting process. CI worked with state and federal agencies to streamline the process, integrating 17 environmental regulations into a single permit. This effort, coupled with innovative production methods that combine traditional and modern approaches, is sparking community restoration efforts statewide - putting fish back in the fishponds.

“
The process from restoration to permitting to production is very costly. We're thankful that CI is helping us develop good business models that help us achieve the production we need to support our community food goals. Our strong partnership with CI is a modern representation of our ability to laulima -- or many hands working together,
”

says Keli'i Kotubetey, a fishpond practitioner. Leaders like Keli'i are reinvigorating traditional practices that protect native ecosystems while also providing food and livelihoods for their communities.

BETTER ENFORCEMENT, MORE FISH

PARTNERSHIPS FOR BETTER COMPLIANCE

1%

Only 1% of the State budget is dedicated to natural resource management in Hawai'i

30%

In the first few months of the new police unit, compliance increased by 30% in the patrol area, from 60% to 90%



Luna Kekoa, Makai Watch Coordinator for State of Hawai'i Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement



Increasing marine enforcement capacity in Hawai'i has been a strong focus of CI's work since 2011. In 2013, the Department of Land and Natural Resources entered into a public-private partnership with CI Hawai'i and the Harold KL Castle Foundation to launch a Community Fisheries Enforcement Unit, a dedicated marine patrol unit on Maui. In the first year of operation, the patrol unit improved compliance with fisheries regulations in the patrol area to 90%. CI is now working with leaders in state government to establish similar patrol units across the state. CI has also strengthened the Makai (Ocean) Watch program, which enables coastal communities to support compliance with regulations. One of the most significant contributions is the establishment of a Makai Watch Coordinator position within the state enforcement agency.

“
The Makai Watch Coordinator position is helping strengthen relationships between communities and the State of Hawai'i through training and education, as well as navigating the creation, implementation, and evaluation of the program. This fosters more effective collaboration and stewardship of Hawaii's marine resources,
”

explains Luna Kekoa, Makai Watch Coordinator. Under Luna's leadership, the Makai Watch program will continue to grow and create new opportunities for the State of Hawai'i natural resource management agency and communities to partner for better stewardship.



80%

People in Hawai'i consume 80% more seafood per year than the average U.S. citizen

INCENTIVIZING SUSTAINABILITY FROM HOOK TO PLATE

FISHERS AND CHEFS UNITE TO PROMOTE LOCAL SEAFOOD

50%

Less than 50% of all commercial seafood in Hawai'i comes from local sources

Fishers, chefs and consumers play important roles in addressing global overfishing. In 2015, CI's Hawai'i Seafood Month campaign brought together local fishers, seafood businesses, and more than 50 chefs and restaurants to celebrate fishing heritage and promote the sustainability of local fisheries.

The campaign offered consumers at participating retail and restaurant locations a unique opportunity to trace their seafood purchases from "hook to plate" and learn about the local fishers who harvest Hawaii's seafood.

“
This was as an incredible month-long opportunity to further educate the 500 guests that we feed daily about the seafood choices that we face and the profound effect that these choices have on the sustainability of a precious finite resource. This is the most impactful thing that chefs can do on a daily basis,
”

says Ed Kenney, a renowned Honolulu chef, sustainable food systems champion and owner of four restaurants, who helped drive the campaign. During the campaign, an estimated 18,000 pounds of locally landed seafood and 27 different species sold by seven seafood wholesalers and fishers throughout O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i Island, and Kauai were "traced" through a consumer-facing app-based traceability system. Nearly 10,000 restaurant guests were exposed to the campaign messaging.



Chef Ed Kenney maintains a strong commitment to serving and promoting ocean-friendly seafood in all of his restaurants

90%

90% of fish caught in coral reefs are used for subsistence and cultural purposes in Hawai'i



7.5M

Over 7.5 million meals come from Hawai'i's commercial and non-commercial reef fisheries



Ku'ulei Keakealani, a dedicated community leader and cultural practitioner in Kiholo Bay, Hawai'i Island.



Supporting local communities in their conservation efforts is a long-standing focus of CI's Hawai'i program. Our program supports knowledge sharing, co-development of monitoring tools, and capacity-building activities that focus on combining Western science and traditional ecological knowledge.

Our spawning seasons work is an example of how we work with communities to protect fish during spawning and limit harvest to sustainable levels. Based on traditional practices, this approach encourages pono (sustainable) traditional fishing practices.

“

CI has supported Hui Aloha Kiholo in our stewardship efforts by co-developing fisheries related monitoring projects for our fish spawning and fisher surveys. Surveys were conducted by lineal descendants of this ahupua'a (region) - demonstrating that traditional knowledge held by our people is just as relevant and valued as data obtained through scientific research,

”

says Ku'ulei Keakealani, who has dedicated her life to restoring Kiholo Bay to health.

**LOCAL
KNOWLEDGE +
SCIENCE**

**BRIDGING THE GAP FOR
RESOURCE MONITORING**

With many communities, CI Hawaii's support starts with bringing families together in community events to celebrate and learn about sustainable fishing practices. These community-led programs build a strong foundation of support to strengthen community conservation efforts.

“CI has been an integral part in our journey to plan and implement management planning for Miloli'i. This helps us to preserve the traditional practices of our kupuna who have set the foundation for all of us, ”

explains Kaimi Keaupiko, a native Hawaiian community organizer and cultural practitioner. Since 2010, CI has supported 39 camps in 13 communities with over 2,400 participants engaged in community-level resource education and management across 6 islands. CI is deeply engaged with communities to develop strategic plans to restore and sustain local resources and the benefits they provide for livelihoods, cultural perpetuation and well-being. To support a broader movement across the archipelago, CI has worked with partners to develop a platform of tools and resources enabling communities to share best practices and work together to implement effective conservation programs.



13%

only 13% of Hawai'i's near-shore waters are effectively managed



23

Communities have expressed interest in collaborating with the state government to manage coastal waters



A COMMUNITY-BASED MOVEMENT

LOCAL ACTION FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT



Kaimi Keaupiko leads the community organization Kalanihale, which plays a key role in community organization and reviving traditional practices, together with Pa'a Pono Miloli'i

OUR HAWAI‘I

\$115+ MILLION ANNUAL VALUE OF COASTAL AND OFFSHORE FISHERIES

100,000+ JOBS PROVIDED BY THE OCEAN ECONOMY

46% OF LOCALLY CONSUMED SEAFOOD IS **IMPORTED**

80% HIGHER LOCAL SEAFOOD CONSUMPTION THAN THE U.S. MAINLAND

1% OF LOCAL STATE BUDGET DEDICATED TO NATURAL RESOURCES

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Your financial support helps us
create a healthy, productive and
prosperous Hawai‘i,
now and into the future.

**CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL**



Conservation International Hawai‘i
7192 Kalaniana‘ole Highway, G230
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96825, USA

Explore more Conservation International stories at:

WWW.CONSERVATION.ORG/HAWAII

The CI logo, CI circle and line logo, the name "Conservation International Foundation," "NATURE IS SPEAKING," "NATURE DOESN'T NEED PEOPLE. PEOPLE NEED NATURE" and any other product or service name or slogan contained in this Website are trade/service marks of CI, its licensors, or other respective owners, and may not be used without the prior written permission of CI or the respective owners.

SUNSET FISHING, HAWAII ISLAND © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL PHOTO BY TROY K SHINN