



## HAWAI'I COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
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### **Hawai'i Community Foundation announces over \$1.4M in grants to support statewide goal to restore abundance to Hawai'i's nearshore waters**

Grants from the Marine 30x30 Pooled Fund will strengthen the collective work of partners to help achieve the call of having at least 30% of Hawai'i's nearshore waters effectively managed by 2030

HONOLULU, HAWAI'I — Tuesday, June 8 is World Oceans Day and today, the Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) announces \$1,474,140 as the first round of grants from the Marine 30x30 Pooled Fund to support the state's Holomua: Marine 30x30 Initiative—which calls for 30 percent of Hawai'i's nearshore coastal waters to be effectively managed by 2030. To date, \$7.15M in funds have been raised and will be spent over the next three years.

The first round of funding will advance a component critical to the initiative's success: the establishment of a statewide framework of information and data—sourced from both formal scientific monitoring and community-based monitoring—that will serve as a backbone for data-informed management decisions.

Specific recipients of funding include three nonprofit organizations who support nine communities statewide (O'ahu, Hawai'i Island, Maui, and Kaua'i) in the development of marine monitoring programs, the DLNR and Arizona State University's Hawai'i Monitoring and Reporting Collaborative (HIMARC). (More details can be found below.)

"In Hawai'i, our livelihoods have been long intertwined with our oceans," says Suzanne Case, Chairperson of the Hawai'i DLNR. "We are excited to collaborate with the Hawai'i Community Foundation and the community grantees to share and analyze data that will protect and restore our unique aquatic resources for future generations to enjoy."

Hawai'i leads the nation as the first state working to achieve the international conservation goal of protecting 30 percent of the planet by 2030 on a regional level. The Marine 30x30 Initiative is part of the state's Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative, a multi-pronged effort to ensure a healthy environment and economy for Hawai'i's people that was announced by Governor Ige in 2016 at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature conference in Honolulu.

The Marine 30x30 Pooled Fund was established with the understanding that philanthropy's role is vital to sustain progress and support communities and the state in its collaborative work of protecting and restoring our nearshore ocean waters. The Marine 30x30 Initiative is aligned with the goals of HCF's CHANGE Framework—which identifies six essential sectors, or areas, that affect the overall well-being of

our islands and people. Sustainable data within each area helps to reveal where investments and/or partnerships are needed.

“In Hawai‘i, all of us are connected to the ocean, from the air we breathe, to the food we eat, to where we recreate,” says Micah Kāne, CEO & President of Hawai‘i Community Foundation. “With the challenges facing our ocean today, the Marine 30x30 Initiative is the necessary call to action to ensure that our marine resources can thrive today and into the future.”

Shortly after taking office in 2021, President Biden announced an executive order to conserve at least 30 percent of U.S. lands and freshwater and 30 percent of U.S. ocean areas by 2030. Leading scientists agree that this level of protection can help prevent mass extinctions, preserve critical ecosystem services, and help avert the worst impacts of climate change.

The primary focus of the funding support to the communities is in the development of place-based monitoring programs that address community, cultural, and/or place-based priorities in a manner that can be integrated into the Marine 30x30 Initiative statewide monitoring plan. These grants demonstrate how systems change comes from cross-sector efforts and collaboration on resources and science.

Below are the grantees:

- Conservation International in Hawai‘i, which supports the following communities:
  - Hua ‘Āina O Hōnaunau – Hōnaunau Bay, Hawai‘i Island
  - Mālama Maunaloa – Maunaloa Bay, O‘ahu
  - Kalanihale – Miloli‘i, Hawai‘i Island
- Kua‘āina Ulu ‘Auamo (KUA), which supports the following communities:
  - Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea – Pūpūkea, O‘ahu
  - Save Honolua Coalition -- West Maui
  - Na Maka Onaona – Kīlauea, Kaua‘i
- The Nature Conservancy in Hawai‘i, which supports the following communities:
  - Ka‘ūpūlehu Marine Life Advisory Committee – Ka‘ūpūlehu, Hawai‘i Island
  - Hui Aloha Kīholo – Kīholo, Hawai‘i Island
  - Kīpahulu ‘Ohana – Kīpahulu, Maui
- State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources: funds will be used to implement the Holomua: Marine 30x30 Initiative, including work to advance: (1) community-focused public process, (2) communications, (3) data monitoring and analyses, (4) legal and regulatory work, (5) expansion of the Makai Watch program, and (6) interim evaluation of DAR’s progress on the Initiative.
- Arizona State University’s Hawai‘i Monitoring and Reporting Collaborative (HIMARC): HIMARC is a collaboration among organizations that are involved in monitoring and management of Hawai‘i’s nearshore waters. Existing data collected by these programs is combined and serves as a backbone for data informed management decisions. HIMARC will serve as the primary resource for data housing, calibration, and analyses.

“We are very grateful to be working with the Hawai‘i Community Foundation to support the state’s Holomua: Marine 30x30 Initiative,” says Ulalia Woodside, Executive Director of The Nature Conservancy’s Hawai‘i and Palmyra chapter. “HCF’s generous gift will help us support community partner efforts to blend science with traditional knowledge to ensure effective management of the coastal resources that sustain our culture, lives and livelihoods.”

The Marine 30x30 grants are made possible through the generous support of our funders:

- Vibrant Oceans Initiative, a program of Bloomberg Philanthropies
- Harold K. L. Castle Foundation
- Kamehameha Schools
- Koaniani Fund
- Marisla Foundation
- Oceans 5, a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors
- Orange County Community Foundation (Anonymous Donor)
- The Tiffany & Co. Foundation
- Weissman Family Foundation

To learn more about the Marine 30x30 Pooled Fund grants and initiative, please visit the HCF website: <https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/strengthening/marine-30x30>

**\*\*\*VISUAL ASSETS\*\*\***

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/151gequnnitezbg3/AAA8aAoSSqFTmsEFXASnRZ5ma?dl=0>

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#### About Hawai'i Community Foundation

With 105 years of community service, the Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) is one of the leading philanthropic institutions in the state. HCF is a steward of more than 1,000 funds, including more than 300 scholarship funds, created by donors who desire to transform lives and improve communities. In 2020, HCF distributed \$142.4 million in grants and contracts statewide, including \$9.2 million in scholarships. HCF also serves as a resource on community issues and trends in the nonprofit sector.