Past Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana Journeys

Since November 1984 the Protect Kahoʻolawe 'Ohana has hosted a range of communities from Hawaiʻi, the Pacific, and around the world:

- Public and private intermediate and high school students, home and charter school students, and college and university students
- Hālau hula, kapa beaters, wood workers, navigators, fishermen, stone workers, Hawaiian language speakers and canoe paddlers.



Namakapili, the name for the hale hālāwai or meeting house, in Hakioawa was completed in 2009. This hale is a testament of the 'Ohana's dedication to their relationships with the general community and Kaho'olawe.



'Ohana & volunteers monitor important cultural sites such as at Moa'ulaiki (above), observe and record surrounding elements, and conduct cultural ceremonies.

Mission of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana

To perpetuate Aloha 'Āina throughout our islands through cultural, educational, and spiritual activities that heal and revitalize the cultural and natural resources on Kanaloa Kaho'olawe.

Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana as Kahu'āina

In our work to heal Kahoʻolawe, we strengthen our relationship with the land and pay respect to our spirits of the land. On our own islands, we work to protect the natural and cultural resources of our ancestral lands.

Kanaloa Kaho'olawe

In recognition of Kaho'olawe as a sacred body form of Kanaloa, Hawaiian god of the ocean Hawaiian ancestors named the island Kohemālamalama O Kanaloa. It was a center for training navigators in celestial way finding across the vast Pacific, these navigational practices are still occurring today.

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2013 Protect Kahoʻolawe ʻOhana



Background

Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana

Founded in 1976, the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana ('Ohana) spearheaded the grassroots movement to stop the bombing of the island of Kanaloa-Kaho'olawe by the U.S. Navy,

- Through the efforts of the community and the 'Ohana, the bombing of Kaho'olawe was successfully stopped in 1990.
- For 37 years and ongoing, the 'Ohana provides stewardship of the island's cultural and natural resources and 'iwi kūpuna through work and ceremonies.
- The 'Ohana has safely involved more than 15,000 community participants from all islands and backgrounds in cultural and educational stewardship huaka'i.
- In 1993, the Hawai'i Legislature established the island of Kaho'olawe as a cultural reserve and trust for the sovereign Hawaiian nation. The island of Kaho'olawe is managed separately from other state lands by the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) for eventual transfer to the sovereign Hawaiian governing entity.



A view across the 'Alalākeiki channel to Pu'u Māhoe, where the Naulu rain cloud bridge extends to the island of Kanaloa Kaho'olawe, showering the island with life (above).

Ongoing

Kanaloa Kaho'olawe Educational Center

The sacred, environmental and cultural resources of Kaho'olawe provide unique huaka'i opportunities for many (right).



Ka 'Ai a Kanaloa

To manage the ocean resources of Kanaloa Kahoʻolawe, the 'Ohana organizes beach and shoreline clean-ups (above) and check dams for erosion control (below). In addition, the 'Ohana also monitors and eradicates land and ocean based invasive species while identifying key indicators of reef health.



Above and Right: Work projects on Kanaloa Kahoʻolawe include construction of the Ala Loa, or path that goes around the entire island. The Ala Loa is to be used year-around, but most specifically to carry Lono, the Hawaiian god of agriculture and fertility, during the ceremonial Makahiki circuit.

Legislative Goals



- 1. Confirmation of 'Ohana nominees Nāmaka Whitehead and Christopher Kaliko Baker, both appointed by Governor Abercrombie, to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission.
- 2. The federal trust monies for the restoration of Kanaloa Kahoʻolawe will run out at the end of 2013-2015 biennium. TheʻOhana advocates for the provision of State of Hawaiʻi resources to manage Kanaloa Kahoʻolawe during the transition to the sovereign entity as envisioned in Act 195, through the Kanaʻiolowalu Roll Commission, and other community efforts.
- 3. Protection of Nā 'Iwi Kūpuna on their respective 'āina and island.
- 4. Support Aloha 'Āina initiatives throughout Hawai'i

