

Help Protect HAWAII

When Snorkeling:

- Inspect and clean all dive gear for seaweed fragments and discard them before you leave a site.
- Dry your gear between uses.

When Fishing:

- Inspect and clean fishing gear after each use and discard seaweed fragments.

When Boating:

- Inspect anchors, mooring lines, propellers, and bilge for seaweed.
- Keep your hull clean.

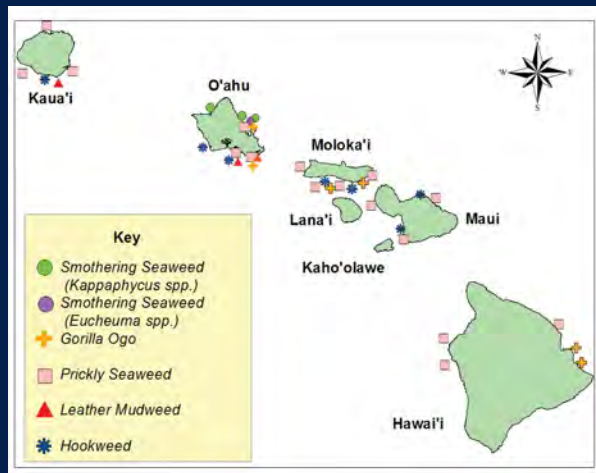
Report Invasive Species Outbreaks

Report to Eyes of the Reef Network at:

<http://eorhawaii.org>

Learn more at:

<http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/ais>



Confirmed Alien Algae Sightings

Invasive Species MANAGEMENT

Specially designed barges work in Kāneʻohe Bay to remove smothering seaweed (*Kappaphycus* and *Eucheuma* Spp.). Using suction pumps, divers vacuum alien algae off reefs onto the 'Super Sucker' barge. Algae is bagged as compost and donated to local farmers.



As part of the Super Sucker project, hatchery raised native Hawaiian collector urchins Hāwa'e (*Tripneustes gratilla*) are outplanted onto reefs after algae removal, where they graze on any remaining fragments and minimize re-growth.



The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



STOP THE INVASION



**Invasive seaweed kills
corals and reduces
fish habitat**



COMMON INVASIVE ALGAE OF HAWAII

The coral reefs of Hawai'i are home to over 5,000 species of marine plants and animals. Hawaiian corals grow in clear, shallow water with access to sunlight and low levels of nutrient input. A healthy coral reef depends on many herbivores (fish and invertebrates) to graze down algae and maintain ecosystem balance. Invasive species introduction disrupts the ecosystem balance and allow blooms of algae to overgrow coral. The loss of our reefs and the animals that depend on them impacts the quality of our island lifestyle. Listed here are the most destructive and problematic invasive algae for Hawai'i's reefs.

'Hookweed'

Hypnea musciformis



Grows with characteristic hooked branch tips
ID Feature: Soft, wiry texture, red and purple
Found on all main Hawaiian Islands

'Gorilla ogo'

Gracilaria salicornia



Grows in dense mats
ID Feature: Constricted nodules at tips
Found on O'ahu, Molokai, and Big Island

'Smothering Seaweed'

Eucheuma denticulatum



Grows in mounding mats
ID Feature: Thick spikey branches
Found only on O'ahu Windward Coast

'Prickly Seaweed'

Acanthophora spicifera



Grows in thin, pointed branches, prickly spines
ID Feature: Forms upright, bushy clumps
Found on all main Hawaiian Islands

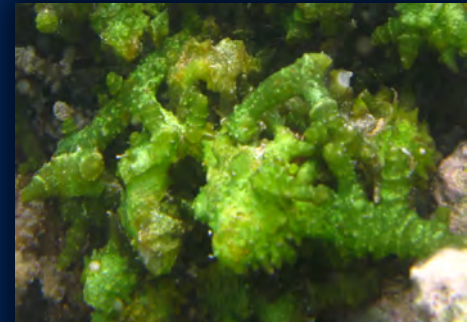
'Leather Mudweed'

Avrainvillea amadelpha



Grows in leathery clumps in mud and sand
ID Feature: Paddle-shaped 'leaves'
Found on O'ahu and Kauai

Kappaphycus alvarezii



Grows in mounding mats
ID Feature: Spikey branches, plastic texture
Found primarily on O'ahu Windward Coast.