

Aquatic Invasive Species Team Quarterly Update (2023 Q1&2)

January-June

Invasive Algae Management and Coral Restoration:

- Outplanted 120,800 urchins to Kāneʻohe Bay and reached 1 million total outplanted
- Conducted bi-annual SNAP survey in the Waikīkī Marine Life Conservation District
- Completed annual SNAP surveys of Kāneʻohe Bay
- Helped urchin hatchery with broodstock collections, spat counts, and harvesting
- Helped Mālama Maunalua implement an urchin caging study
- Completed final monitoring of *Avrainvillea erecta* off Sand Island
- Assisted coral nursery with outplanting of 20 and monitoring of 131 coral modules



Partner agency collaborations:

- Worked with DoD and other partner agencies to plan response to an invasive octocoral, *Unomia stolonifera*, in Pearl Harbor
- Helped USFWS with mapping surveys of Marine Corps Base Hawai'i
- Worked with NOAA to increase capacity for hull fouling inspections
- Participated in 3D Monitoring Workshop with Burns Lab and assisted them with structure from motion in Honolulu Harbor to study restoration efforts from dredging damage
- Provided field support to the Asner Lab for a remote-sensing water quality study

Vessel Groundings:

- Investigated reported damage on Reef 8 in Kāneʻohe Bay due to a twin hull small vessel
- Investigated grounding of a sailboat by airport runway

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Staff Updates:

- Hired Kate Gonzalez and Richard Chen as HCRI Fish and Habitat Monitoring Technicians
- Hired Ciara Branco as an 89-day Fisheries Technician
- Started Joshua Agua as a student helper



Outreach Events:

- Attended the Hawai'i Conservation Conference
- Tabled at Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea's Ocean Day
- Hosted an Association of Fish and Wildlife site visit
- Presented to students from Kupu Kāko'o Connection
- Hosted a booth at the Hawai'i State Capitol's Ocean Day
- Attended Science and Sustainability Day at Bishop Museum
- Attended Kāne'ohe Yacht Club Earth Awareness Celebration
- Participated in a legislative showcase hosted by the State Capitol
- Hosted a tour of the Ānuenue Fisheries Research Center for delegates
- Participated in planning of Hawai'i Invasive Species Awareness Month