

Mullet species in Hawai'i



'Ama'ama

Native Regulated

- · Largest of mullet species in Hawai'i
- Found in estuaries, streams, marine, coastal, and reef environments
- Spawns during winter months
- Important game/food fish, excellent eating
- Revered in Hawaiian culture and legends
- Unique fishery in Hilo
 - -only place in the world where a chain diatom is used as bait



Uouoa Native

Not Regulated

• Mid-sized of the three mullet species

- Found in marine, coastal, reef and occasionally estuarine habitats
- Favor areas of high surge (white water)
- Usually caught with cast or scoop nets
- Excellent eating
 - according to Hawaiian legend, nightmares or restless sleep may occur if the head is eaten



Kanda Introduced

Not Regulated

Accidentally introduced in the 1950's

- Smallest of the three mullet species
- Found in estuaries, streams, marine, coastal, and reef environments
- Year round spawning with summer and winter peaks
- Excellent eating although difficult to catch
- Displacing native 'ama'ama throughout the state





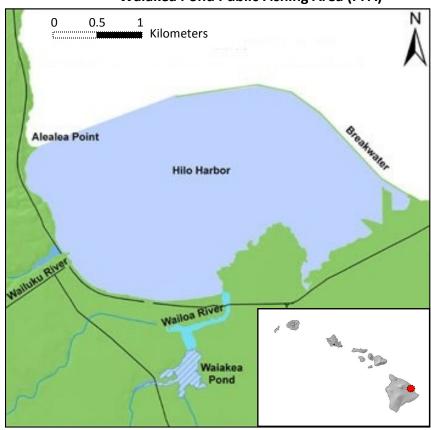




Tandem hooks baited with chain diatoms to catch 'ama 'ama in Wailoa River, Hilo Hawai'i

'Ama'ama Regulations for

Hilo Bay: Hilo Harbor, Wailuku River, Wailoa River, Waiākea Pond Public Fishing Area (PFA)



• Bag limit of 10 'ama'ama 11" FL or greater per day during open season

For further information and rules please contact the nearest Division of Aquatic Resources office or visit—http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/dar