

Volume 21

Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources

## Bottomfish News

### Four Bottomfish Restricted Fishing Areas (BRFA) to Open 08/06/2019

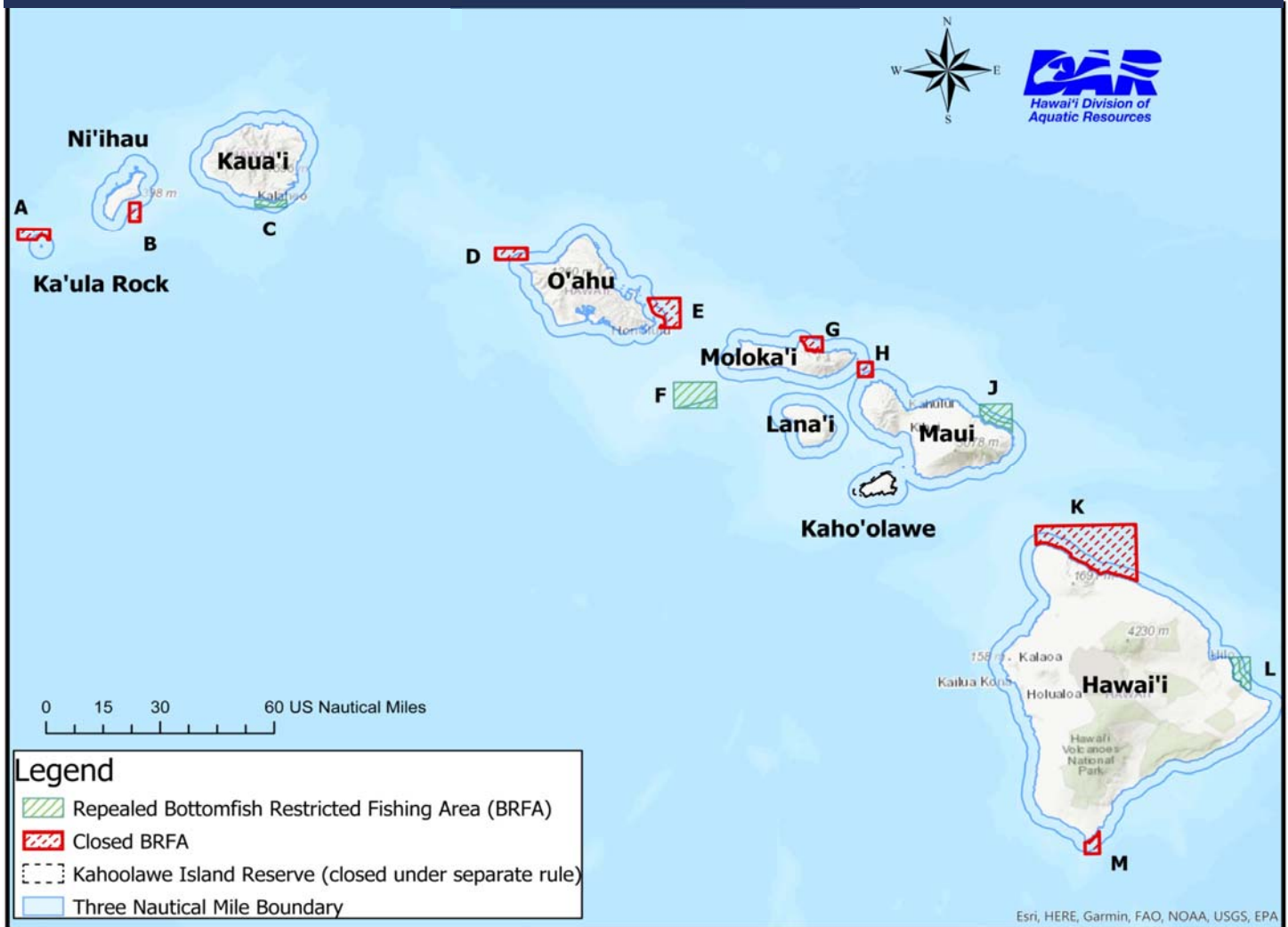


Figure 1. Picture including all BRFAs, closed and re-opened. DAR will be redefining the Deep-7 bottomfish catch reporting system. Reporting grids, used since 1948, will still be used but will be complemented by sub-grid overlays. This will allow the division to track fish caught in any of the re-opened BRFAs and institute any further management actions, including the amendment or immediate closure of a BRFA if necessary.

## BOTTOMFISHING TO RESUME IN ONE THIRD OF PREVIOUSLY RESTRICTED AREAS

Four of the twelve Bottomfish Restricted Fishing Areas (BRFAs) are open to fishing on July 01, 2019. The four BRFAs that will be open to fishing are BRFA C (Poipu, Kauai), BRFA F (Penguin Banks), BRFA J (Hana, Maui), and BRFA L (Leleiwai, Hawaii Island). For commercial fishermen refined reporting details will be required when reporting commercial take of Deep-7 bottomfish species from BRFAs. This entails providing the commercial catch reporting area number followed by the BRFA letter that the fish was taken from.

The BRFA reporting requirement is based on a condition placed on our Division by the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR). The BLNR has required our Division to report back to them on what has occurred in the BRFAs that have been opened. We plan to include the pounds of fish that were taken from the opened BRFAs and Catch Per Unit Effort from open BRFAs in relation to other commercial catch reporting area. The BRFA relevant refined reporting details mentioned above will provide our Division with the data needing for our report to the BLNR on January 2022.

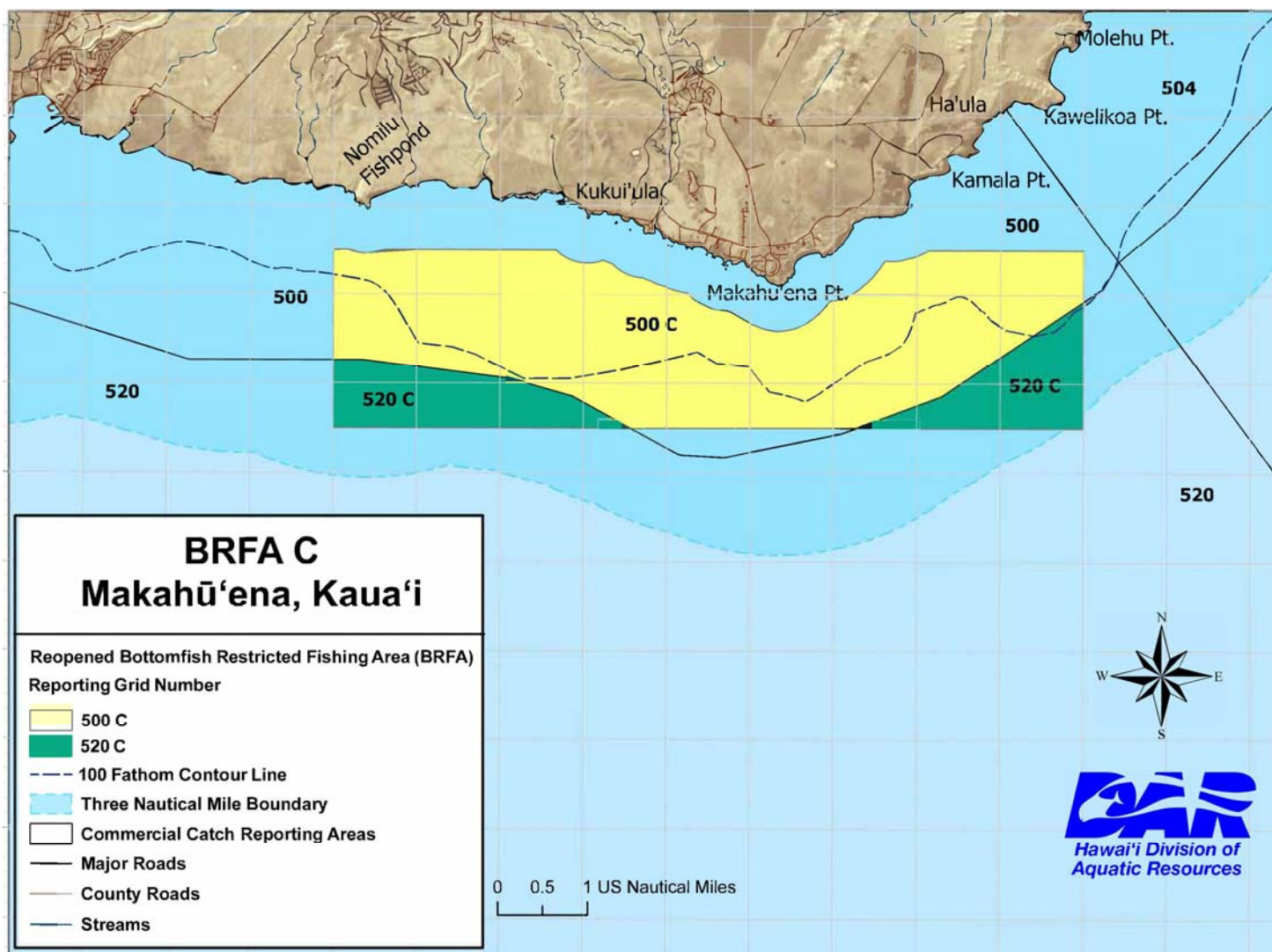


Figure 2. Location of BRFA C, off Poipu Kauai.



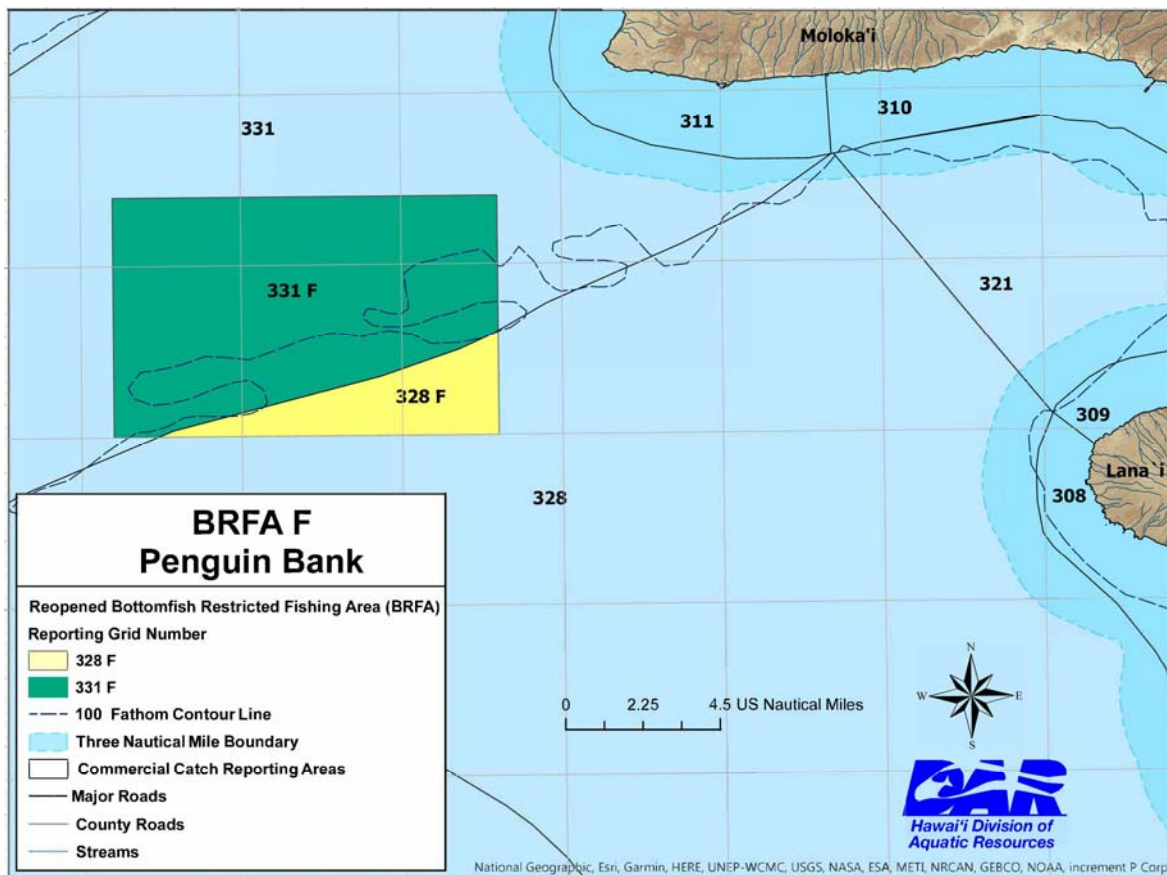


Figure 3. Location of BRFA F off Penguin

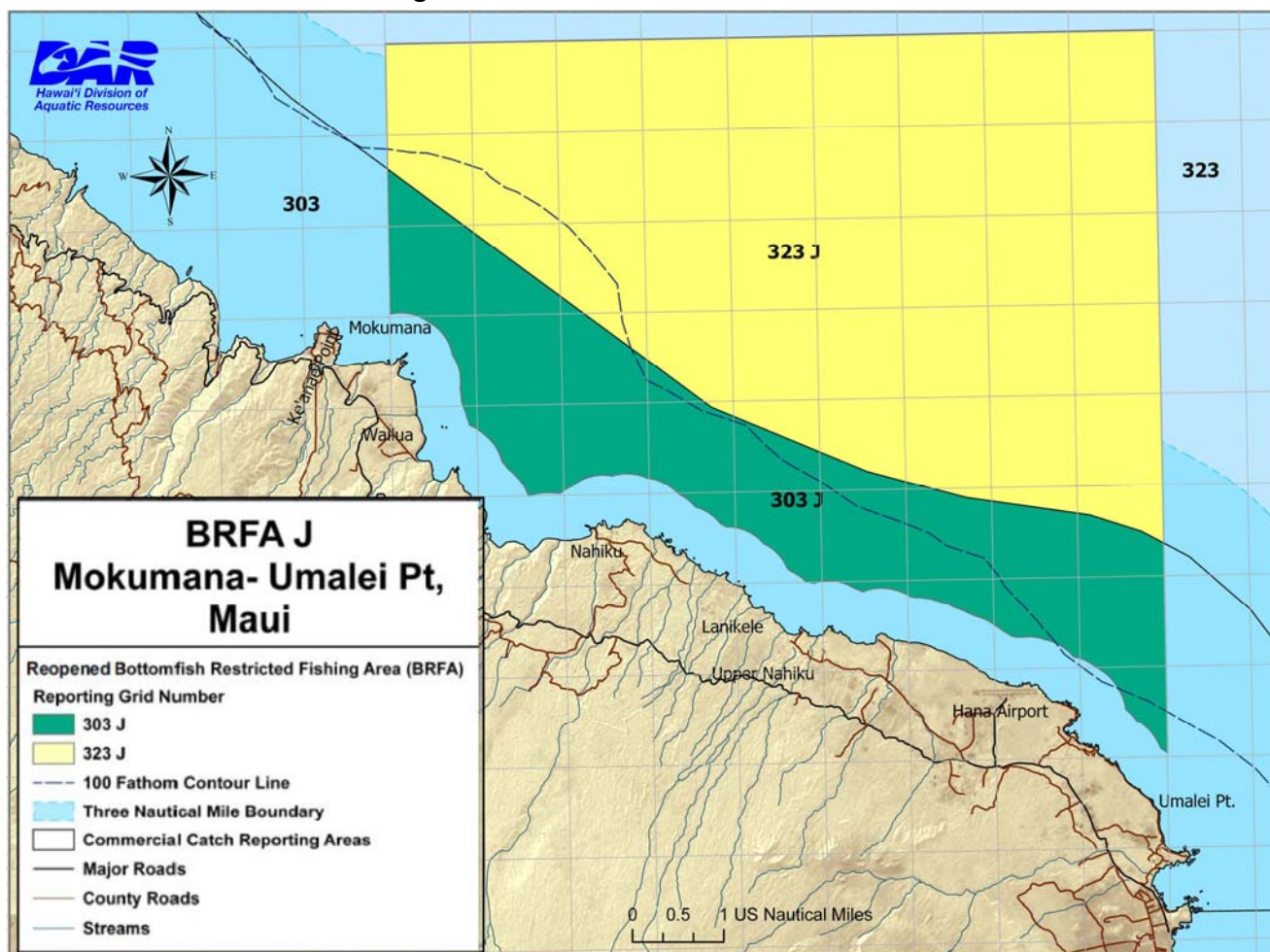


Figure 4. Location of BRFA J off Hāna, Maui.

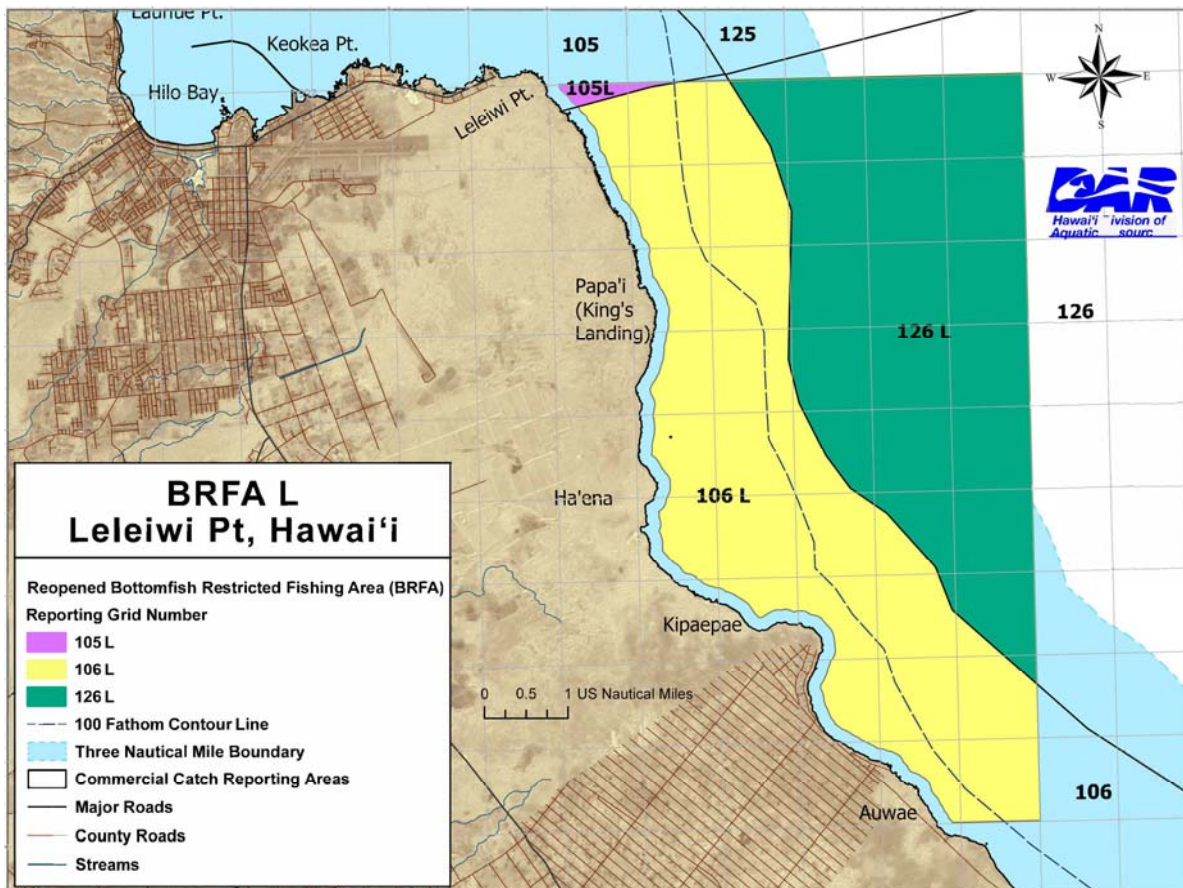


Figure 5. Location of BRFA L off Hilo, Hawai'i.

## MHI Deep 7 Bottomfish Fishery Total Catch 2016-2019 Federal Fishing Years

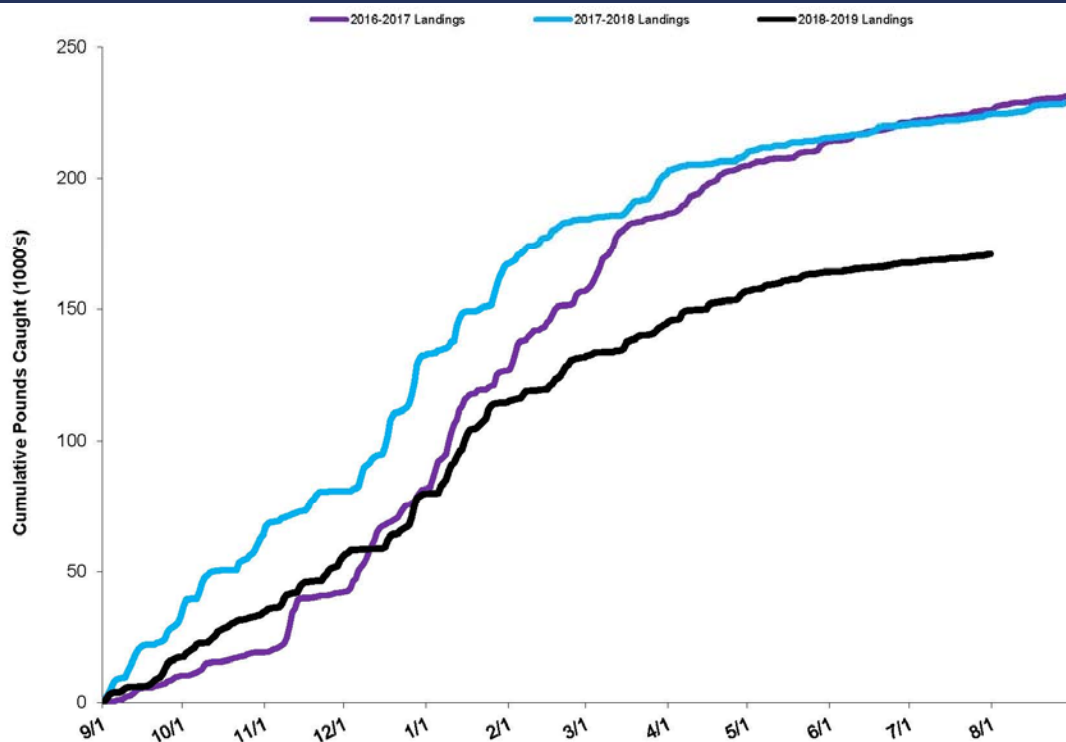


Figure 6. A comparison of the past three bottomfish fishing years, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, and 2018-2019 total pounds landed. The 2019 landings started slow this year, and remained low with windy weather.

## MHI Deep 7 Bottomfish Total Reported Pounds by Grid Area

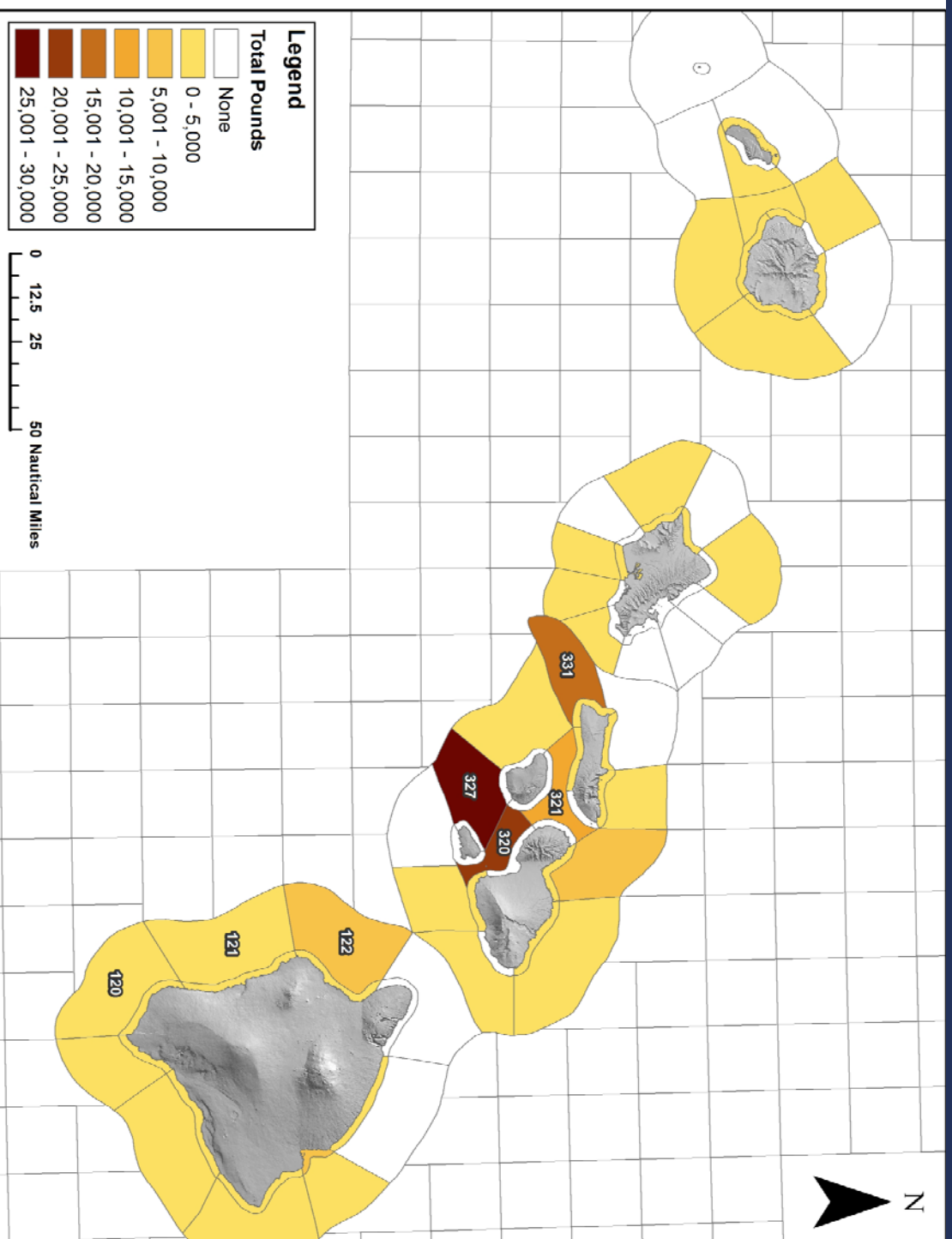


Figure 7. The total pounds of non-confidential catch for the 2018–2019 federal fishing year, 170,919 lbs., reported by grid area. The darker the color the more pounds were reported for that grid. In the Penguin Banks grid # 331 alone, reported 18,738 lbs., or 11% of the total pounds. The three areas included in the Maui triangle, # 320, 327, and 321 represent over 64,000 lbs, or 38% of the total catch. Grid areas off Hawaii County, 122, 121, and 101 represented 15,700 lbs., or 9% of the total catch.



## Total Number of Pounds Reported by Each County

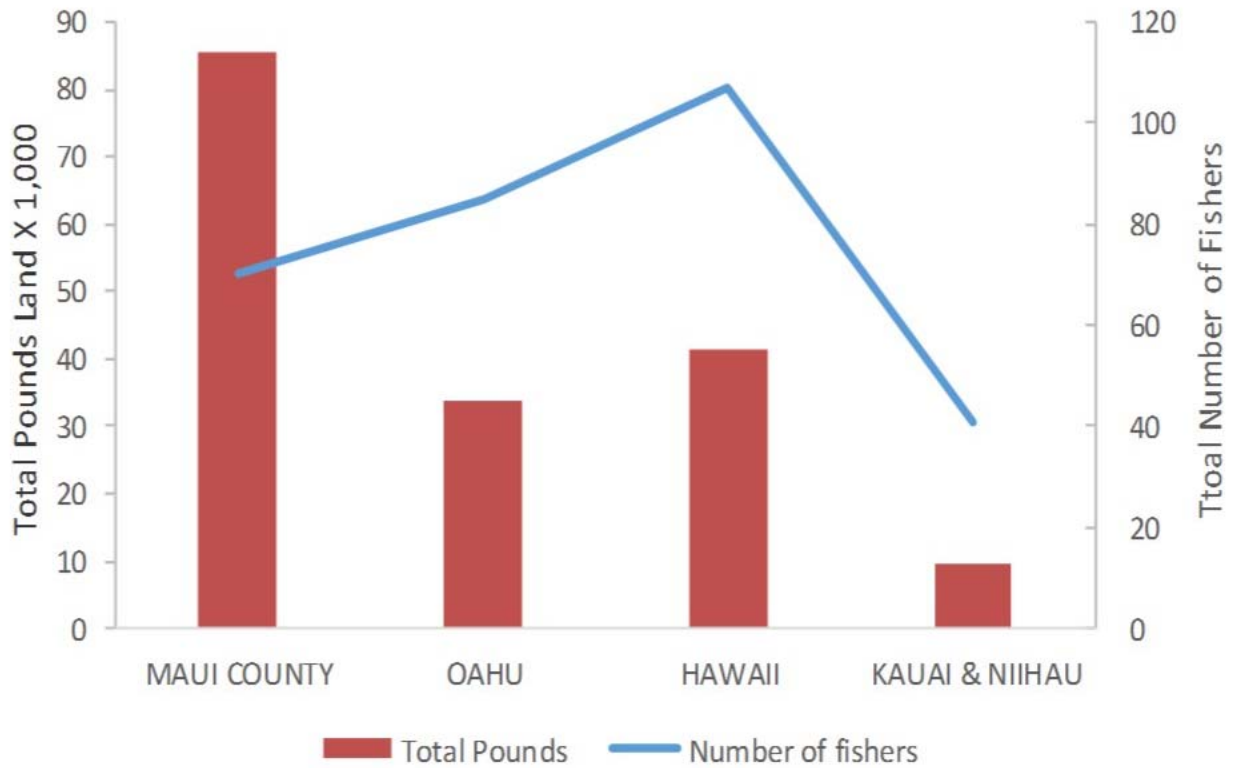


Figure 8. The total pounds of Deep 7 landed for each county and the number of reporting fishers. The reported county comes from the designated port of landing reported on the Deep-7 bottomfish report.

## Total Pounds of Reported Catch by Species

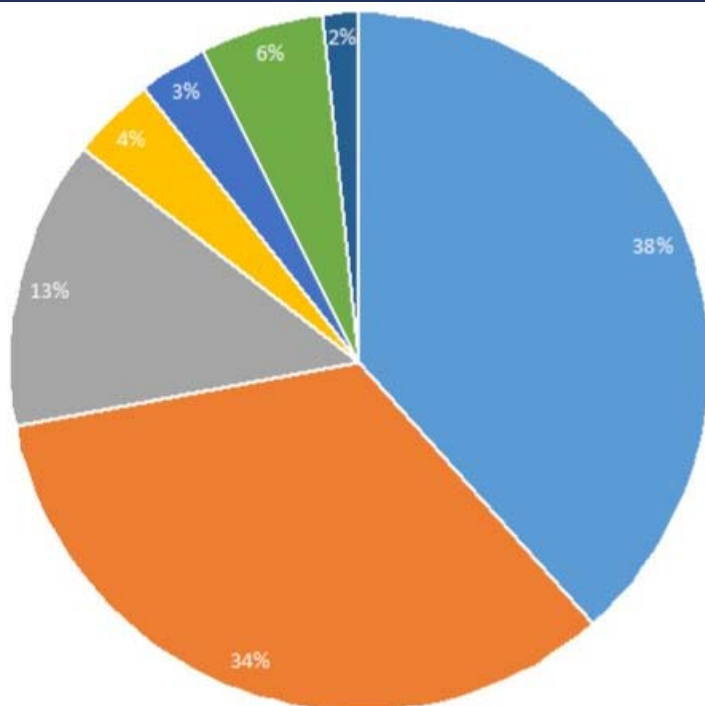


Figure 9. The total pounds of Deep 7 catch listed by species caught in the 2018-2019 bottomfish season. Opakapaka accounted for 38% of all reported catch, 65,726 lbs, while Onaga was second with 34%, or 57,480 lbs.



■ Opakapaka ■ Onaga ■ Ehu ■ Lehi ■ Hapuupuu ■ Kalekale ■ Gindai

## Total Number of Pounds and Fishers Reported by Each Species

Month	Deep 7	Fishing Report				Dealer Report				
		no. fishers	no. trips	pieces	lbs.	no. fishers	no. dealers	pieces	lbs. sold	value
TOTAL	Opakapaka	222	1,120	15,741	65,726	201	37	14,759	62,415	\$500,775
	Onaga	154	840	9,874	57,480	134	37	9,087	53,116	\$523,290
	Ehu	212	944	10,760	22,792	175	40	8,494	18,503	\$131,231
	Lehi	92	285	1,014	6,745	88	19	935	6,405	\$32,135
	Hapuupuu	104	229	424	5,498	91	25	361	4,800	\$30,311
	Kalekale	165	683	5,644	9,794	137	28	4,128	7,688	\$37,166
	Gindai	122	329	1,423	2,883	88	26	945	1,873	\$9,224
	SUM	303	1,872	44,880	170,919	269	50	38,709	154,799	\$1,264,132

As of 08/06/19

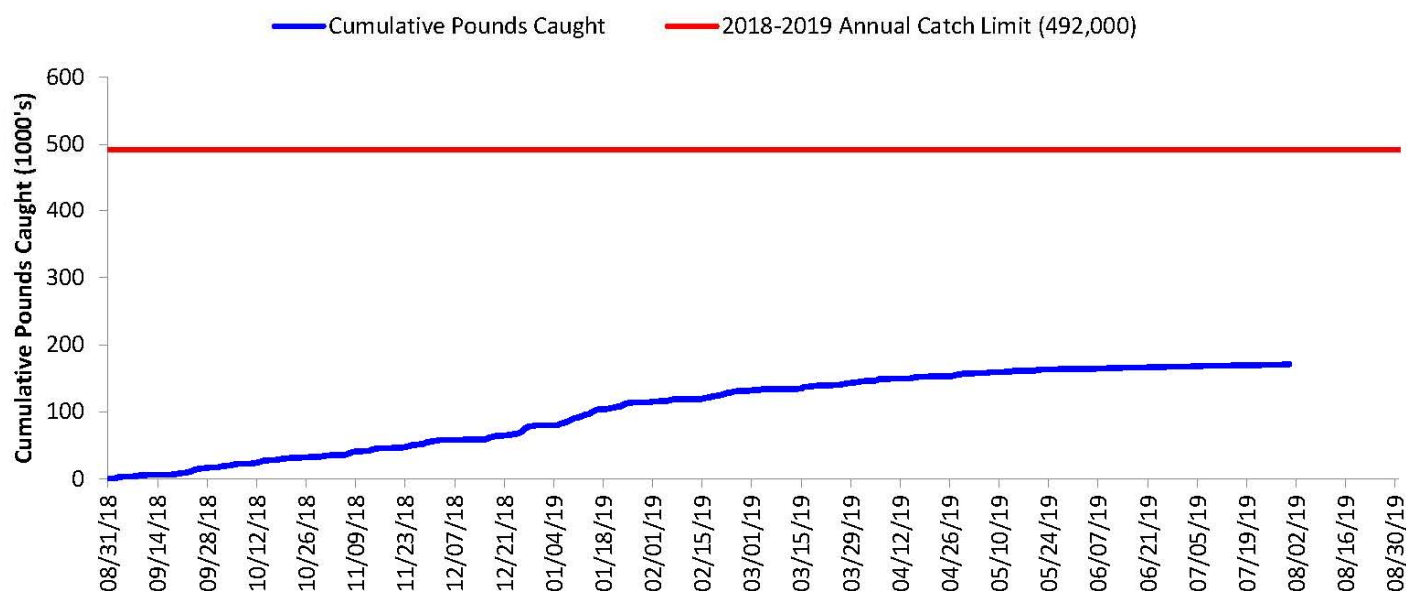
ACL: 492,000 34.7%

Total Landings (lbs.) Reported by Fishers from September 2018 to Present:

170,919 34.7% of ACL

## Cumulative Pounds for the 2018-2019 Bottomfish Federal Fishing Year

### Main Hawaiian Islands Monthly Catch of Deep 7 Bottomfish (Includes ONLY data Received and Processed as of 08/06/2019)



State of Hawaii  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Division of Aquatic Resources  
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 330  
Honolulu, HI 96813



- Bottomfish trip reports are due within 5 days of trip end.
- Late trip reports are subject to a fine.
- Reports can be entered online: [dlnr.ehawaii.gov/cmls](http://dlnr.ehawaii.gov/cmls) or using a paper form, please call 808-587-0109 for a trip report book or visit your local DAR office.



Division of Aquatic Resources  
Hawaii Department of Land and  
Natural Resources

Dear Commercial Bottomfish fishers and dealers, We welcome your feedback. Please let us know what kind of information is useful to you. Any feedback about the newsletter, positive or negative, is greatly appreciated!

**PLEASE CALL, Reggie Kokubun, (808) 587-0084 or e-mail [dlnr.ar.bf@Hawaii.gov](mailto:dlnr.ar.bf@Hawaii.gov)**

**Mahalo! – DAR**

Statistical Unit

Thank you to everyone that has contributed your help, ideas and pictures. This will be my last newsletter, as I will start a new job in July. I really appreciate the kindness, helpfulness, and patience all of you have shown me. Aloha, a hui hou.

Editor: Kimberlee Harding