

I ola nā kai o Hawai'i i ka nui i'a

So the waters of Hawai'i thrive with abundance

WHAT IS HOLOMUA?



There has been a lot of talk about the Holomua Marine Initiative, but what is this statewide initiative really about?

The Holomua Marine Initiative is a call to action for communities to come together to design an island-based management strategy in partnership with the Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) to ensure healthy reefs and abundant resources for future generations.

Today, we see that the fish, coral, and other resources that are central to our livelihoods, culture, health, and island lifestyle are not as healthy and abundant as they once were. This initiative will be working closely with fishers and other resource users to create marine resource management solutions that support healthy ecosystems and sustainable fishing practices.

Our marine environment is resilient but needs our kōkua to thrive again with abundance.

What happened to 30x30?

Holomua is dropping the 30x30 slogan and 30% target for the Holomua Marine Initiative. Many fishers have highlighted the need for effective management in all nearshore waters, and not just a select few areas. By dropping the 30% target and the goal of establishing a network of marine management areas comprising of 30% of our nearshore waters, resource users can utilize the full suite of management tools available for design management actions.

Why did DAR drop the 30% target?

Frustrations and concerns with the 30x30 target overshadowed other important aspects of the Holomua Marine initiative. This prevented meaningful conversations about the need for effective management to achieve our shared vision of the future of our marine resources. To ensure healthy reefs and abundant resources for present and future generations, we need to come together and focus on comprehensive management solutions.

What about the Maui pilot process?

Although the stated goal has changed, the process and our commitment has not. Even though the 30% target has been dropped, the Maui pilot process is still moving forward. We will continue working with Maui Navigation Team to develop island-based nearshore management actions that support sustainable fishing practices and healthy reefs.

What about the other islands?

At this time, Holomua is only focusing on the Maui pilot process. DAR is committed to continuing comanagement collaborations with communities statewide in areas where there is expressed interest. Currently the Holomua effort is focused on engaging with communities on the island of Maui to develop nearshore management actions with the Maui Navigation team.



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MAUI PILOT AT A GLANCE

How is the Maui pilot process going to work?

DAR is building a process to engage with you, those who know their island's reefs the best, and is taking a new approach to policy and rule making. At each step, DAR will be seeking public participation and providing updates through meetings, outreach events, and the Holomua website.

Community Talk Story

DAR hosted a series of public events to launch the initiative and how to participate in the design of Maui nearshore management actions. DAR solicited feedback on the composition of nominations for the Maui Navigation Teams at these events.

Maui Navigation Team

The Maui Navigation Team will consist of Maui locals who currently engage in fishing, harvesting, conservation, or cultural practices within Maui's nearshore waters. The teams will begin by reviewing scientific research and community concerns about marine resources shared during the Talk Story sessions.

Maui Management Proposal

The Navigation Team will work with DAR to propose management actions with identified priorities for Maui. The proposal then goes back out to the community for guidance, which the Maui Navigation Team will review and then consider revisions to the proposal.

Implementation

DAR will pursue any regulatory actions through the Chapter 91 process and pursue other management actions, such as restoration and enhancement, through permitting, fund raising, and collaborative partnerships.

Adaptive Monitoring

DAR will evaluate the effectiveness of implemented management actions through a robust monitoring program. Data collected will be publicly available and management will be adapted as needed to better achieve the set objectives.

Ready to get involved? Visit www.dlnr.hawaii.gov/holomua