The Kā‘anapali Beach project is co-sponsored by the State of Hawaii and the Kā‘anapali Operators Association. The proposed project includes beach restoration activities along nearly 7,500 feet of beach. Approximately 50,000 c.y. of sand would build the beach wider between Hanakaʻōʻō Beach Park and Hanakaʻōʻō Point, and nearly 25,000 c.y. of sand would be placed on the dry beach between Hanakaʻōʻō Point and Puʻu Kekaʻa.

A Best Management Practices Plan will be followed by the Contractor including safety practices such as signs, temporary barriers, and crossing guards on the beach to indicate to the public when it is safe to cross.

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Currently, sandbars form and are mobile along the shoreline, which can injure swimmers diving into what they expect to be deep water. This will continue during and after the project.

There are no lifeguards beyond Hanakaʻōʻō Beach Park. Reduced visibility from turbidity can disorient swimmers and lead to drowning. Silt curtains in the project area will extend below the water surface with anchors that can be an entanglement hazard for swimmers. For your safety, stay away from active sand placement and silt curtains.

There will be heavy equipment operating on the beach and in the water. For your safety and the safety of others, avoid entering these areas or look for crossing guards who will provide opportunities to cross the beach safely.

Currently, strong alongshore tidal and wave generated currents create cross-shore (“rip”) currents. The location and strength of currents may change during or after sand placement.

Historically, there have been numerous shark sightings near Kā‘anapali Beach, as well as stinging sea life such as the man-o-war or box jellyfish, which occasionally frequent the area. This is not expected to change due to the project.

The project will return roughly 75,000 cubic yards of sand to the beach. This restored sand will change seafloor conditions at and near the beach as the sand is mobilized following placement.

Long periods of calm (“lulls”) can be followed by brief periods of large waves (“sets”) along the shoreline. The project is not expected to change seasonal waves along the coastline.

Conditions at Kāanapali Beach can be hazardous to the public if they are unaware. Even though Kāanapali can be dangerous, the area continues to be a popular spot for recreation for both visitors and local residents. Understanding these hazards is the key to safe use of the beach.