

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

Sylvia Luke
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA KŪ WĀ



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

REF: OCCL: LH

CDUA: OA-3997

Berna Senelly, Senior Regulatory & Community Lead
Oceanit
828 Fort Street Mall, Suite 600
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Acceptance Date: June 25, 2026
180 Expiration Date: December 22, 2026

06/25/2026

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE AND PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION
Conservation District Use Application (CDUA) File No. OA-3997
(BOARD PERMIT)

Dear Berna Senelly:

This acknowledges the receipt and acceptance for processing of the CDUA OA-3997, for the 3D Printed Concrete REEFrame project. The project area consists of approximately 11.4 acres near the 'Apuakehau Channel, off of Waikiki Beach. Project area is located in water depths between 40 and 60 feet on submerged lands, and lies within the **Resource** subzone of the Conservation District, makai of Tax Map Keys (TMK): (1) 2-6-005, (1) 2-6-004, and (1) 2-6-002.

The REEFrame project proposes the installation of a permanent coral nursery on submerged lands off Waikiki Beach, utilizing naturally shaped, 3D-printed concrete modules. These modules are specifically designed to mimic the structural complexity of natural reef systems, incorporating intentional elements such as holes, crevices, and ledges to provide shelter for marine herbivores, fish, and invertebrates. Each unit is equipped with attachment points for corals of opportunity, which are healthy coral fragments salvaged from storm damage or human activity.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) encompasses approximately 11.4 acres, with 150 modules occupying roughly 5,400 square feet. Modules will be fabricated on the mainland and shipped to Hawaii for deployment by construction barges, with placement occurring at a minimum 100-foot buffer from the existing reef edge. Construction is anticipated to commence in late 2026 or early 2027. Following installation, the site will be monitored periodically to evaluate successful coral recruitment and colonization, while the project serves as a template for future restoration efforts throughout the state.

After reviewing the application, the Department finds that:

1. The proposed land use is an identified land use in the **Resource** subzone of the Conservation District, pursuant to Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) §13-5-22 R-2 ARTIFICIAL REEFS (D-1) *Artificial reefs*;

2. Pursuant to HAR §13-5-40, A public hearing shall be held: (4) *On all applications determined by the chairperson that the scope of proposed use, or the public interest, requires a public hearing on the application.* The Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands will contact you to facilitate the hearing;
3. Pursuant to HAR §13-5-31, Permit applications, the permit requires that an environmental assessment be carried out. The draft environmental assessment (DEA) will be submitted to the Office of Environmental Review Program (ERP) for publication on the July 8, 2026, Environmental Notice; and
4. The subject area does not appear to be in the Special Management Area.

The OCCL offers the following comments:

1. Please provide a photograph of the proposed project area and a rendering illustrating the full deployment of the modules; and
2. Please clarify the discrepancy regarding the foundation composition, as both sand and limestone are identified in the Draft EA.

Upon completion of the application review process, your CDUA will be placed on the agenda of the Board of Land and Natural Resources for their consideration. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Leland Henobio of our office of Conservation and Coastal Lands at Leland.Henobio@Hawaii.gov.

Sincerely,



Ryan K. P. Kanaka'ole, Acting Chairperson
Board of Land and Natural Resources

mc

CC: *O'ahu Board Member
O'ahu District Land Office
Division of Aquatic Resources
Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement
Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation
Department of Health
Department of Land and Natural Resources Engineering Division
Office of Hawai'ian Affairs/ Ahu Moku
City and County of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting
Waikiki Neighborhood Board
Waikiki-Kapahulu Public Library
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Army Corps of Engineers*