Hoʻōla Mokauea/Keʻehi

Restoring life to Mokauea & Keʻehi

I ka wā ma mua, ka wā ma hope
The future is in the past

Ka iʻa leo nui o Keʻehi
Loud-voiced fish of Keʻehi

Mahalo to Our Supporters:
Consuelo Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, Hawaiʻi People’s Fund, Honolulu Community College, Islander Institute, Kamehameha Schools, Kim Coco Fund for Justice, Kōkua Kalihī Valley–Hōʻoulu ʻĀina, Kuwahara ʻOhana, Marine Education Training Center, New Hope Canoe Club, and our many volunteers.

Volunteer or Donate!
Mokauea Fishermen’s Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Kēhaulani Kupihea
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Mokauea Fishermen’s Association
4 Sand Island Access Rd #3
Honolulu HI 96819

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Huaka‘i Mokauea:

Mokauea is a cultural, placed-based educational learning environment steeped in rich history. Understanding and perpetuating the unique ways of our Kūpuna and this wahi pana (legendary place) are the foundation of our restoration efforts.

Activities on Mokauea Include:

‘Imiolalimu
Observation of marine life found in limu

Kanu nā helehele Hawai‘i
Planting native plants

Kilo‘i ‘opala
Marine debris removal

Kilo‘i papa ola kai
Observation of reef animals

Mea kanu komo hewa
Removal of invasive species

Mālama Loko I‘a
Fishpond activities

He Wahi Pana o Ke‘ehi:

The Sacred Places of Ke‘ehi

This land once cradled a millennia of knowledge, inhabited by those familiar with the life and movements of the universe. Significant to our kūpuna, Ke‘ehi is mentioned in Ka Mele ‘o Kahikilaualani, a traditional Hawaiian migration chant. In the mo‘olelo of Hi‘iaakaikapoliopele, the goddess makes reference to the moku Kahaka‘aulana in her search for Pele‘ula. The royal line of Kamehameha also held these life giving elements as sacred. Native historians and residents such as David Malo Kupihea (konohiki of Ke‘ehi), Muriel Lupenui and many others recorded literature and music that meticulously painted the rich and beautiful landscape.

There are existing maps dating as far back as 1817, depicting approximately 40 fishponds (eventually destroyed by dredging), 7 fisheries and numerous salt beds. Kauikeaouli, King Kamehameha III designated Ke‘ehi in the 1830’s as the royal fishponds to be protected by the kingdom. Not one remains today.

We are fortunate to mālama Mokauea and sail in the wake of our ancestors by perpetuating the ways of ka wā kahiko.