

HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION · DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

**G-2**

**Draft South Molokai Shoreline Erosion  
Management Plan (SM-SEMP)**

March 21-22, 2022

# DRAFT SOUTH MOLOKA‘I SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN

## PRESENTATION TOPICS

- Project purpose
- Planning goal and principles
- Planning process
- Planning context
  - Location within the ahupua‘a
  - Physical characteristics
  - Human induced change
  - Littoral “beach” cells
  - Sea level rise and erosion issues and challenges
- Shoreline erosion management options
- SM-SEMP recommendations
  - Overall core strategies and actions
  - Site specific recommendations (littoral “beach” cells A-D)



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# **SOUTH MOLOKA'I SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN**

## **SM-SEMP Purpose:**

Provide a roadmap to enable DHHL to proactively plan for and manage shoreline erosion.

## **The plan does this by:**

1. Investigating the underlying causes of shoreline erosion, and the likely future progression;
2. Identifying effective and sustainable shoreline erosion management strategies that maintain natural processes and consider community needs; and
3. Educating the community as to the causes of shoreline erosion and appropriate management responses.

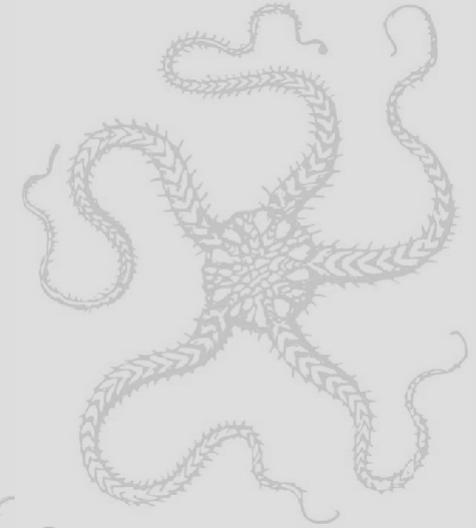
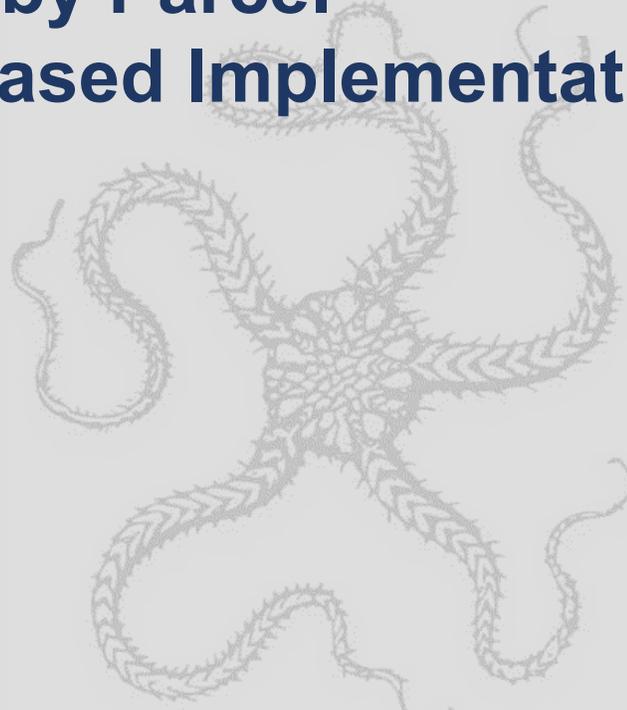
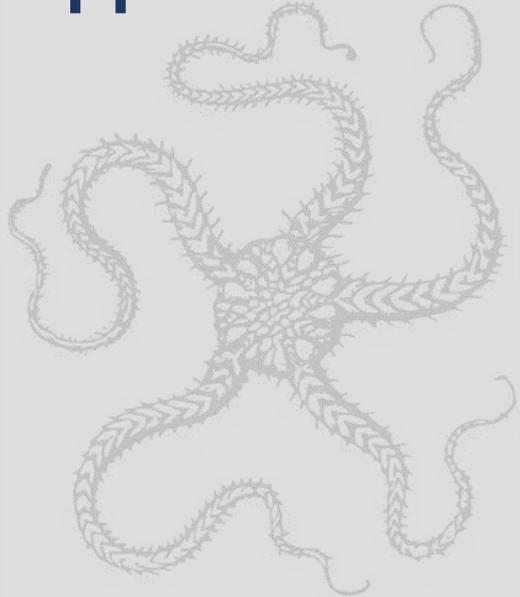


## **Planning Goal:**

*Work with the beneficiary community to create a shoreline erosion management plan that is informed by Native Hawaiian knowledge and values, is respectful of the project area's unique communities, and leads to a healthier and more resilient shoreline for generations of homesteaders and the broader community.*

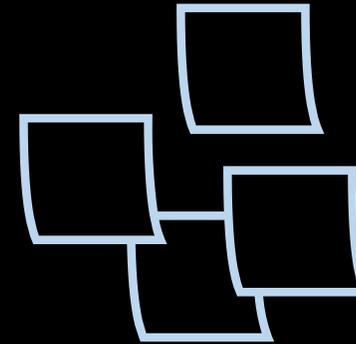
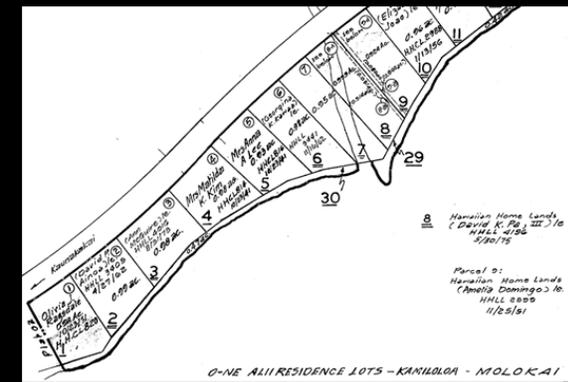
## **Planning Principles:**

- ❖ **Traditional Ecological Knowledge**
- ❖ **Ahupua‘a – Mauka to Makai – Approach**
- ❖ **Place Based (culture, nature, history)**
- ❖ **Littoral Beach Cell – not Parcel by Parcel**
- ❖ **Opportunities for Community Based Implementation**



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## Planning Process:



### PHASE 1 Desktop Research

### PHASE 2 Field Surveys

### PHASE 3 Stakeholder Outreach

### PHASE 4 Stakeholder Vetting of Draft Recommendations

### PHASE 5 Prepare the Draft and Final SM-SEMP

Document the project area's mo'olelo, history, terrestrial environment, physical coastal processes, and erosion hotspots within the context of the project area's ahupua'a.

Conduct field observations of shoreline conditions to gather valuable background data and photographs of past flooding, shore conditions, shore reference features, and shoreline change.

Work with Hawaiian Homestead beneficiaries, lineal descendants, government, and community stakeholders to identify shoreline erosion threats and appropriate management responses.

Prepare conceptual draft recommendations for vetting by a diverse group of Hawaiian Homesteaders and other stakeholders.

Prepare the Draft and Final SM-SEMP using information generated through the first four phases.

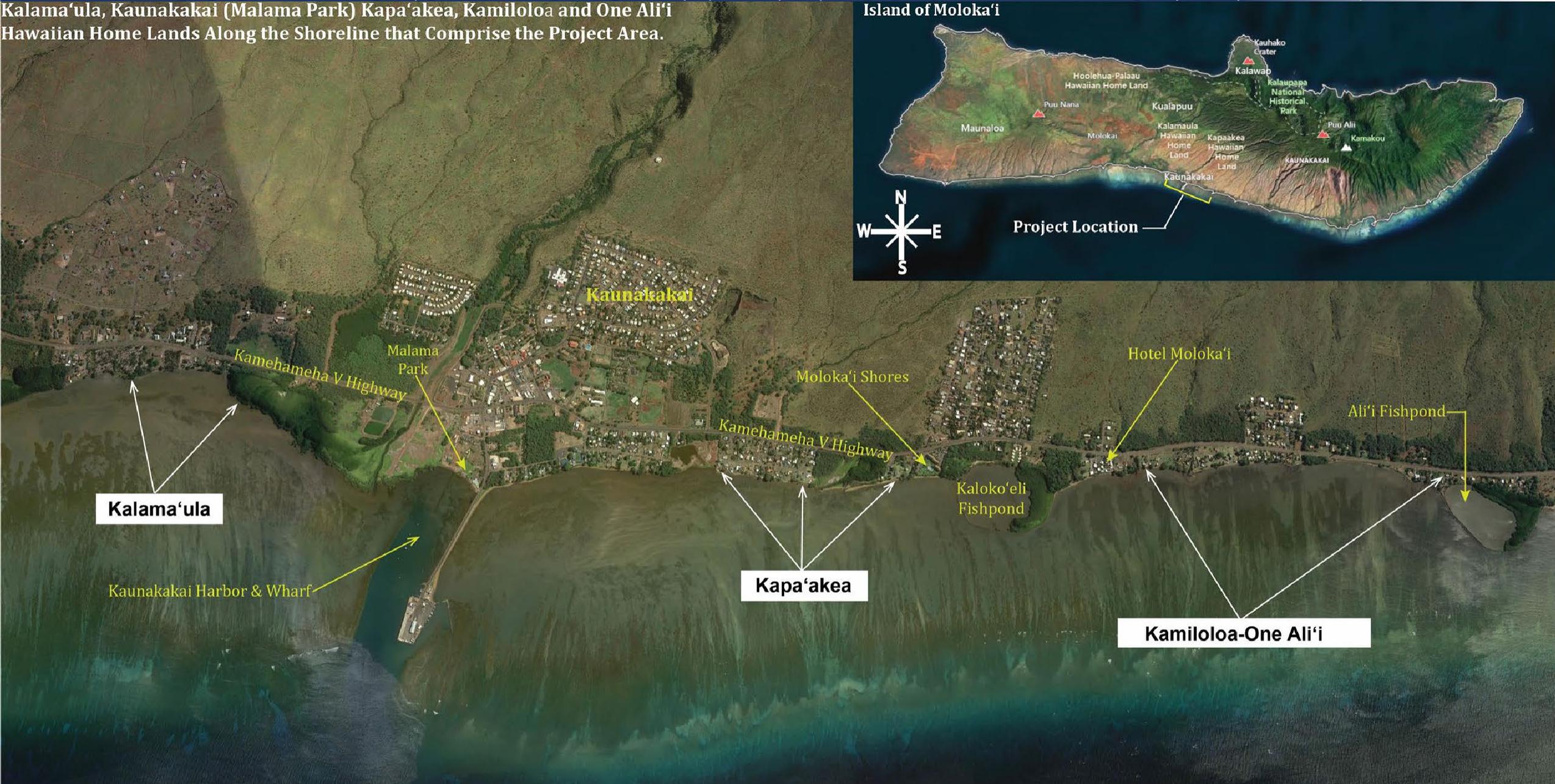
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# **PLANNING CONTEXT**

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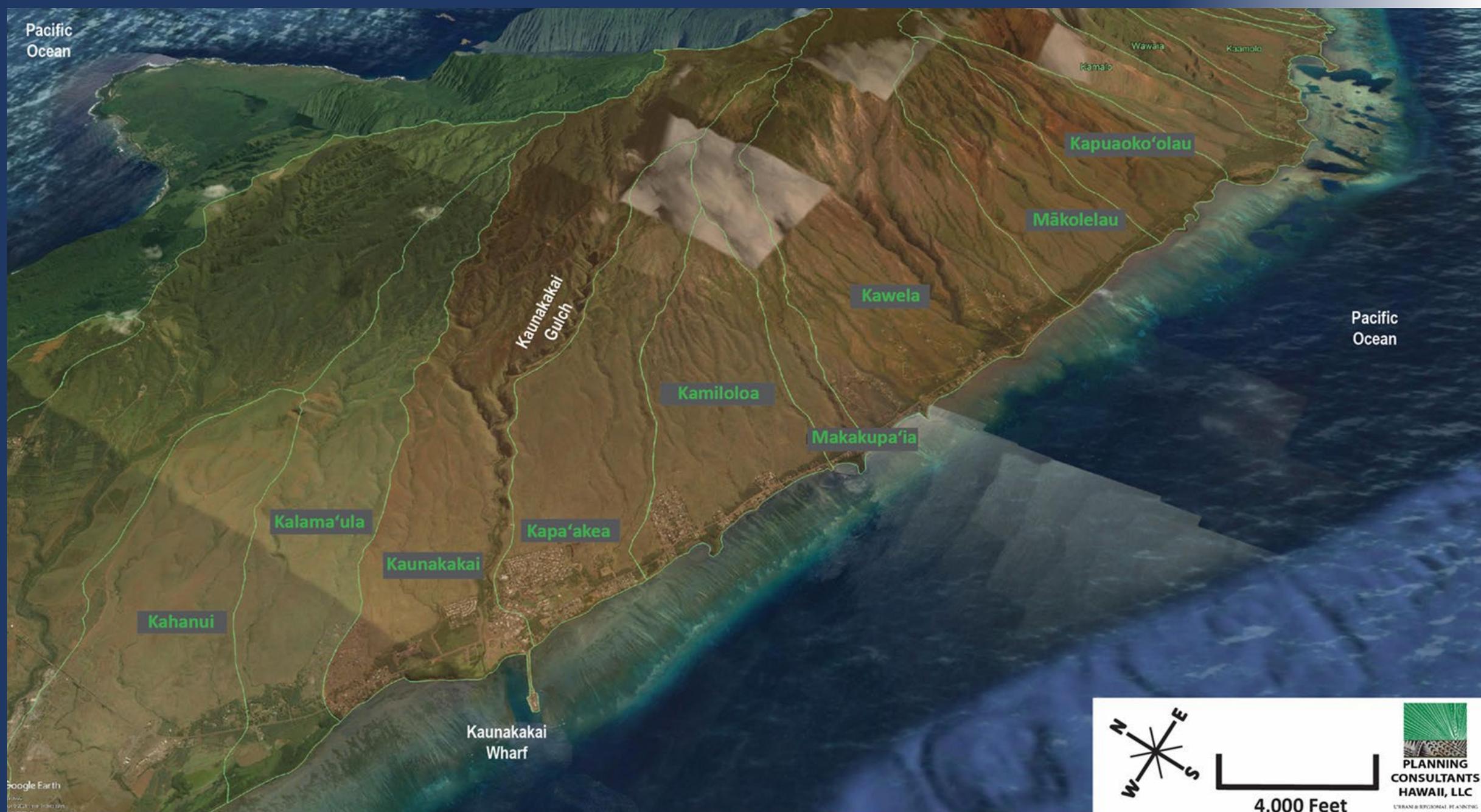
Kalama'ula, Kaunakakai (Malama Park) Kapa'akea, Kamiloloa and One Ali'i Hawaiian Home Lands Along the Shoreline that Comprise the Project Area.



Project Area

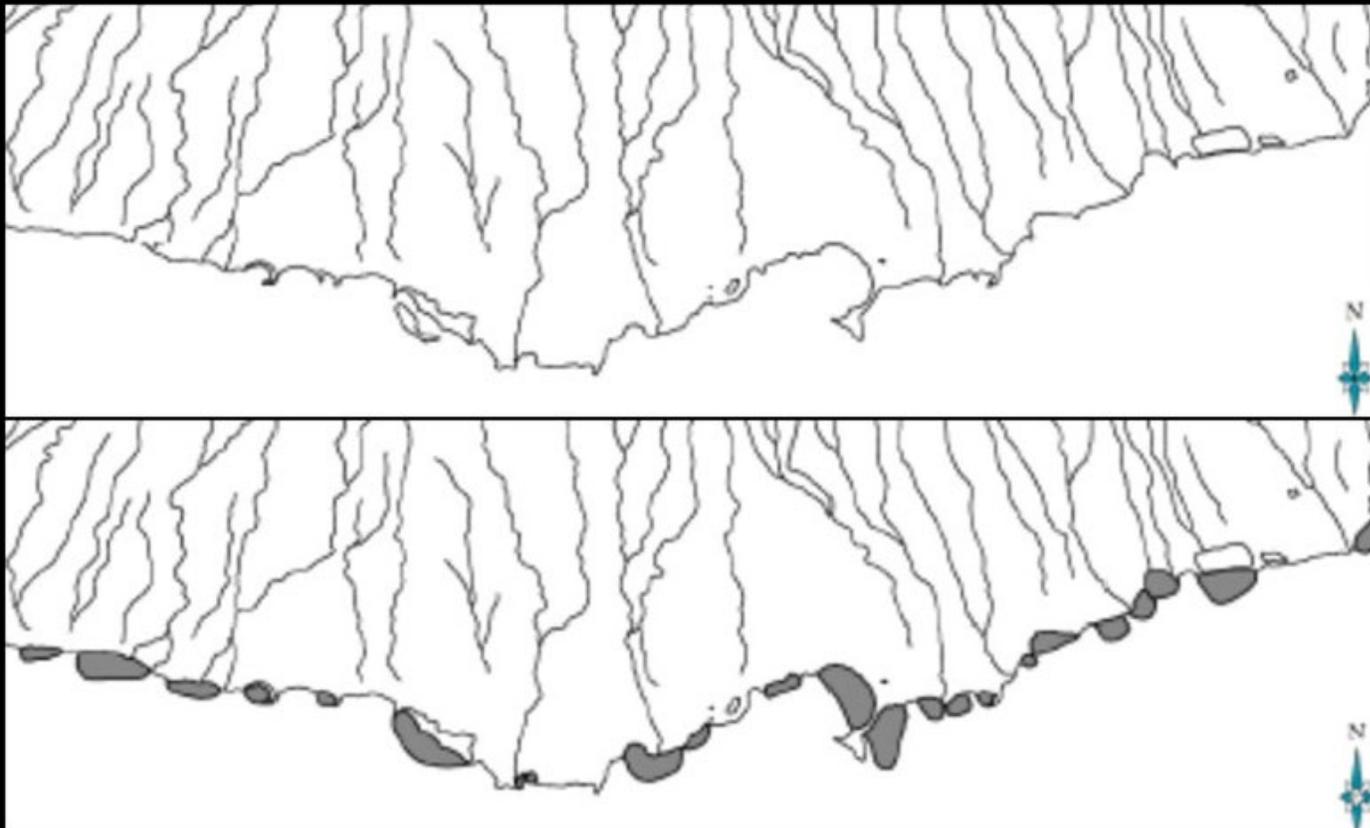
# DRAFT SOUTH MOLOKA'I SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Relation of the Project Area to the Ahupua'a



PLANNING CONSULTANTS HAWAII, LLC  
UTERANI & ASSOCIATES, INC. PLANNING

# Human Induced Change An Evolving Shoreline



Portion of the Southeastern coast of Moloka'i with and without fishponds.  
(Roberts, Lucile M., 4)

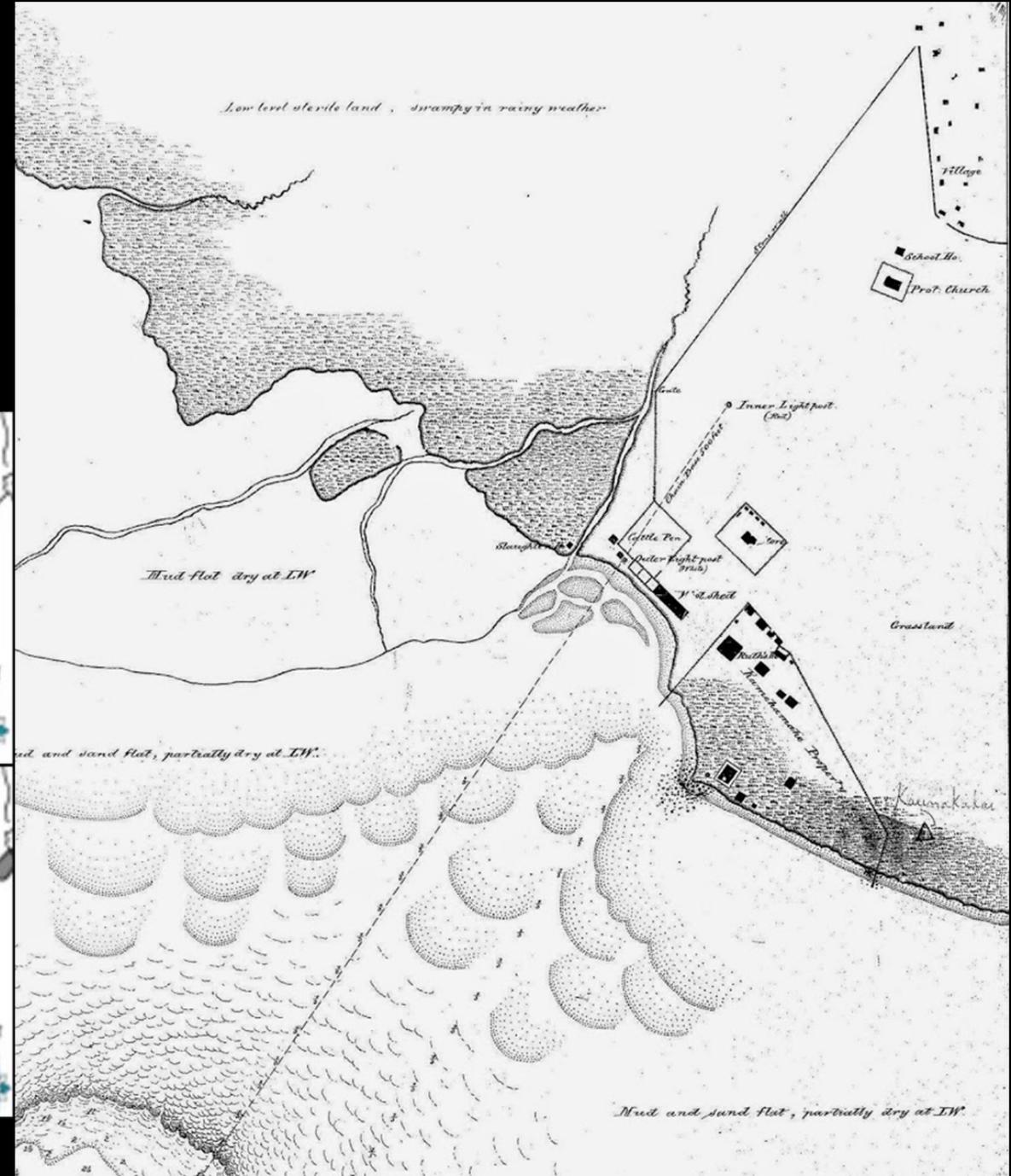
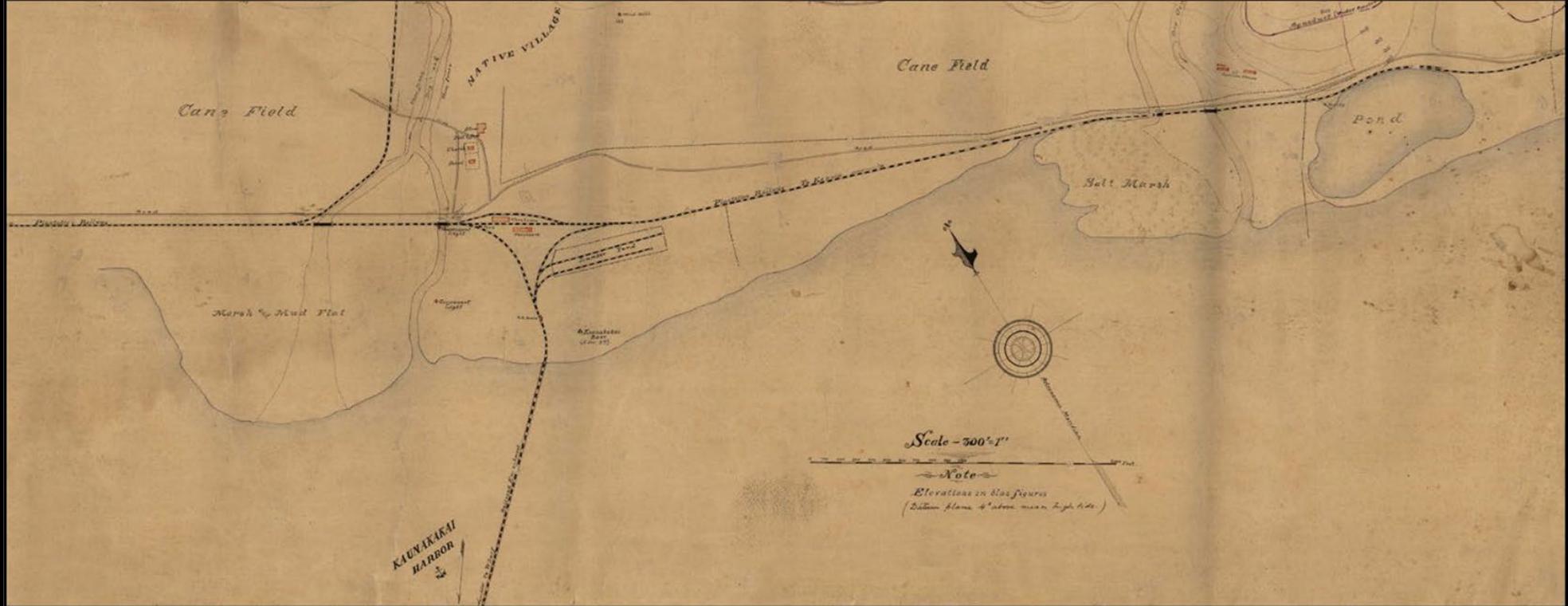


Figure 3.5: Kaunakakai Harbor, Moloka'i by G. E. G. Jackson, 1882



Hawaiian Government Survey,  
Molokai Middle & West Section, M.D.  
Monsarrat 1886.



Kaunakakai and Vicinity, American Sugar  
Co., Molokai Hawaiian Islands, May 1900.

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# **SOUTH MOLOKA'I SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN**



*USGS, aerial imagery of Kaunakakai and adjacent coastline. February 27, 1950.*

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# **SOUTH MOLOKA'I SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN**



*Aerial Imagery, South Shore Moloka'i, 2021 (Google Earth Image 2021 Maxar Technologies, Data SOEST/UHM)*

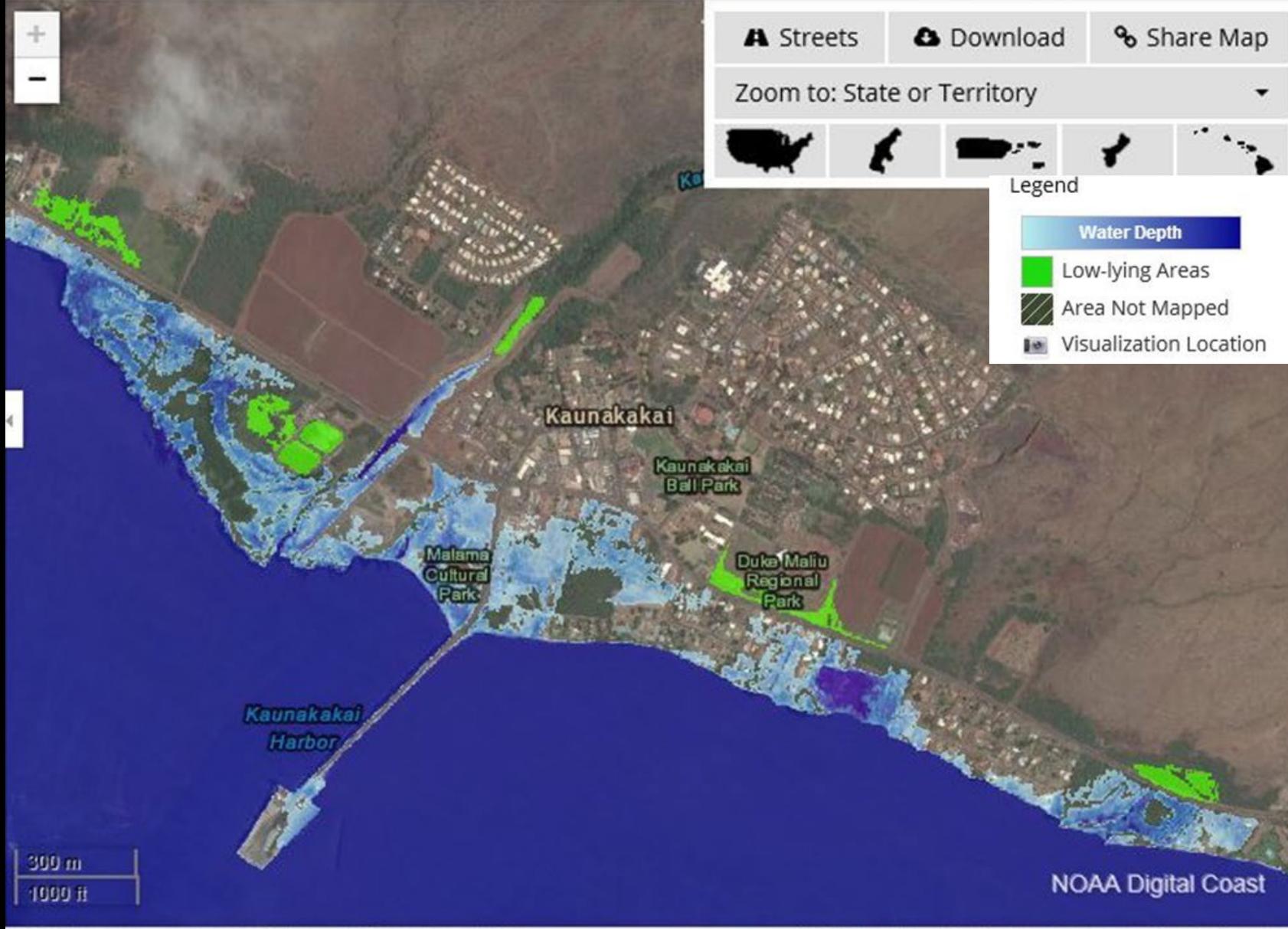
# DRAFT SOUTH MOLOKA'I SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN



# DRAFT SOUTH MOLOKA'I SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN

## Sea Level Rise Issues and Challenges

- Coastal flooding and erosion
- Impact on community infrastructure such as Kamehameha V Highway and parks
- Loss of land and structures
- Damage to property
- Cesspool and septic system failure
- Impact on native flora and fauna
- Impact on cultural resources
- Access to and along the shoreline
- Diminished coastal water quality



**Projected Sea Level Rise of 3.2 Feet by Year 2100**

## Shoreline Erosion Management Options



**Realign**

### 1. Adaptive realignment

Relocate, reorient, reposition, retreat, redevelop & rebuild



**Accommodate**

### 2. Hazard accommodation

Elevate, reconfigure, waterproof, reinforce & strengthen



**Protect**

### 3. Protection from coastal hazards

Nature-based restoration, rock sill & sedge, dry stack wall, rubble mound, groin, revetment & seawall

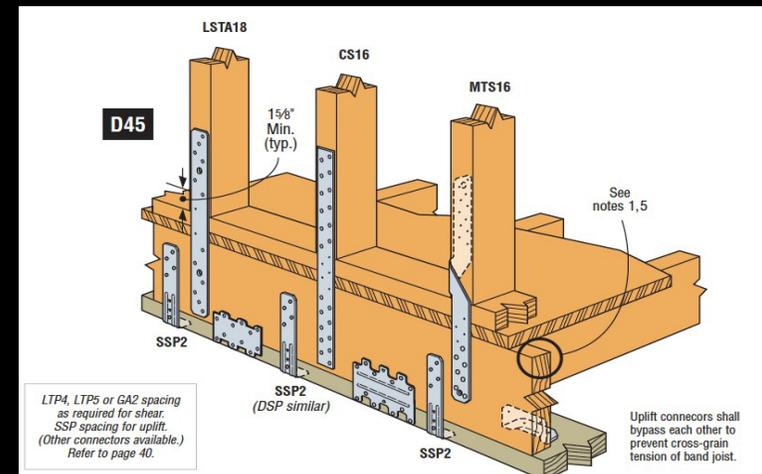
## Adaptive Realignment

- *Relocate* or *Rebuild* on higher locations of a property
- *Reorient* dwellings and *Reposition* buildings to be perpendicular to the shore rather than parallel to it
- *Reposition* buildings to reduce exposure to coastal hazards
- *Retreat* to mauka lands
- *Redevelop* further inland and out of harm's way



## Hazard Accommodation

- **Elevate** the building allowing the building to be removed if threatened and use the first floor for parking and live upstairs.
- **Reconfigure** a dwelling so that the kitchen, major appliances, and utilities are on the mauka or inland side of a house
- **Prohibit** or **Limit** slab on grade construction in flood and sea level rise inundation zones
- **Reinforce** and **Retrofit** dwellings to **strengthen** the building with hurricane clips and continuous load path to minimize damage



# SOUTH MOLOKA'I SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN

## Protection from Coastal Hazards

### GREEN - SOFTER TECHNIQUES

### GRAY - HARDER TECHNIQUES

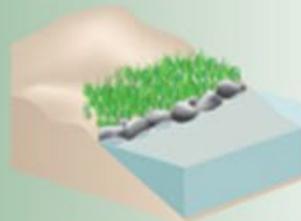
#### *Living Shorelines*



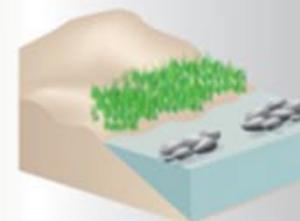
**VEGETATION ONLY -**  
Provides a buffer to upland areas and breaks small waves. Suitable only for low wave energy environments.



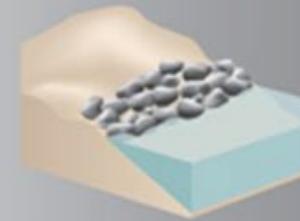
**EDGING -**  
Added structure holds the toe of existing or vegetated slope in place.



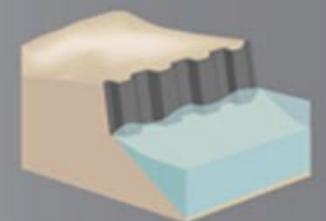
**SILLS -**  
Parallel to existing or vegetated shoreline, reduces wave energy, and prevents erosion. Suitable for most areas except high wave energy environments.



**BREAKWATER -**  
(vegetation optional) - Offshore structures intended to break waves, reducing the force of wave action, and encourage sediment accretion. Suitable for most areas.



**REVETMENT -**  
Lays over the slope of the shoreline and protects it from erosion and waves. Suitable for sites with pre-existing hardened shoreline structures.



**BULKHEAD -**  
Vertical wall parallel to the shoreline intended to hold soil in place. Suitable for areas highly vulnerable to storm surge and wave forces.

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2021 FOCUS GROUP MEETING: for 8 types of threatened resources, the group rated 10 possible remedies

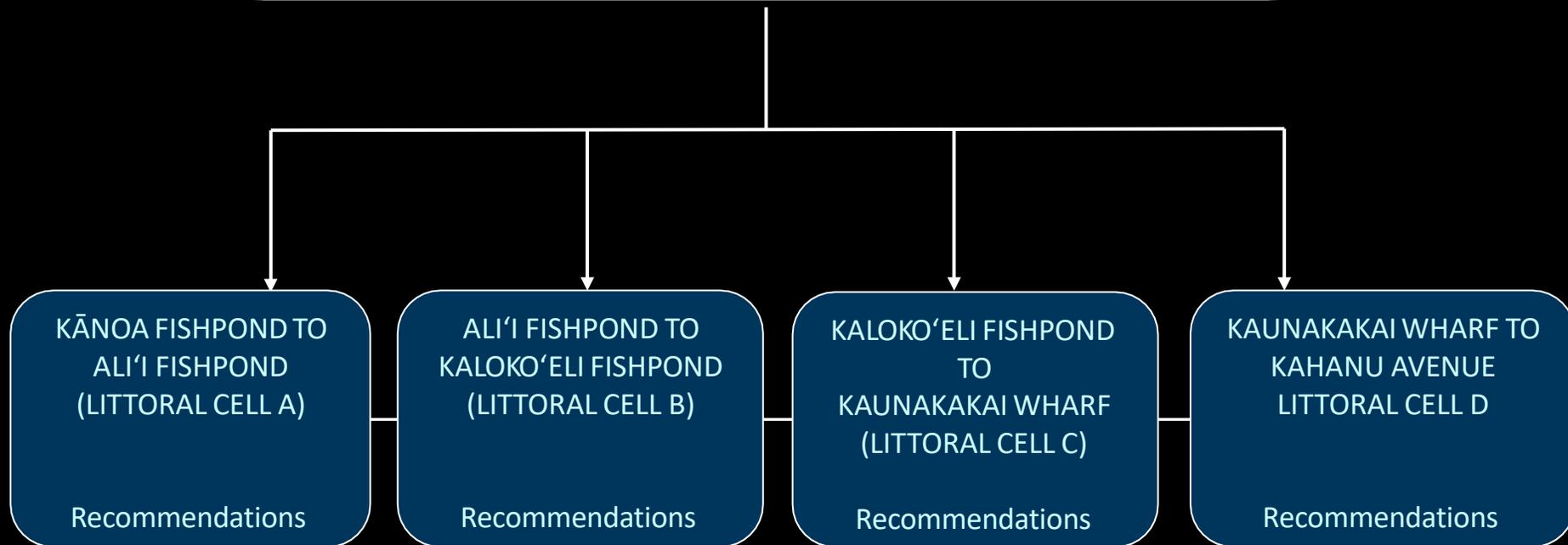
TABLE 2 - THREATENED ASSETS AND POSSIBLE REMEDIES

	WHAT IS UNDER THREAT	RESPONSE or REMEDY	X = Dislike ✓ = OK ♥ = Like	WHAT ARE THE COSTS & BENEFITS: Effectiveness, Environmental, Pollution & Visual Impacts
PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE (flood inundation, erosion)		1. Soft & Green	1. _____	1. _____
		2. Sand Bags	2. _____	2. _____
		3. Rock Sill & Sedge	3. _____	3. _____
		4. Rock Gabions	4. _____	4. _____
		5. Boulder Mound	5. _____	5. _____
		6. Sheet Pile Bulkhead	6. _____	6. _____
		7. Seawall	7. _____	7. _____
		8. Rock Revetment	8. _____	8. _____
		9. Groin	9. _____	9. _____
		10. Realign / Retreat	10. _____	10. _____
				

## **Chapter 6: Recommendations**

### **Overall SM-SEMP Area**

- Core Strategies
- Actions



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## OVERALL SM-SEMP CORE STRATEGIES AND ACTION HIGHLIGHTS

### CORE STRATEGIES

### Action Highlights<sup>1</sup>

Restore natural shoreline function.

- Remove and replace invasive plants and trees with climate adapted, drought tolerant native grasses, shrubs, and trees such as ‘aki‘aki grass, pōhuehue, naupaka, and milo.
- Develop a detailed vegetation management plan to guide shoreline and dune restoration within the SM-SEMP Area.
- Remove man-made debris between the high and low water line including tires, appliances, vehicle parts, concrete and asphalt rubble, CMU blocks, pallets, steel and plastic drums, and other non-indigenous materials and dispose of it properly.

Educate beneficiaries on the causes and consequences of sea level rise and coastal erosion, including appropriate mitigation measures.

Provide beneficiaries living in flood prone areas with the following information:

- “Answers to Questions about Substantially Improved / Substantially Damaged Buildings”, FEMA publication 213, August 2018.
- “Homeowners Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards” 4th Edition, by Dennis Hwang and Darren Okimoto, Sea Grant, University of Hawai‘i.
- Flood zone and sea level rise exposure maps.

Strengthen the regulation and management of shoreline resources.

- Recommend consistency with identified State of Hawai‘i and Maui County regulations governing buildings and construction, the shoreline, and flood hazard areas.
- Recommend consistency with Federal and State DLNR regulations regarding shoreline surveys, armoring, and coastal construction on submerged lands.

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Adapt structures and systems to better withstand coastal hazards.

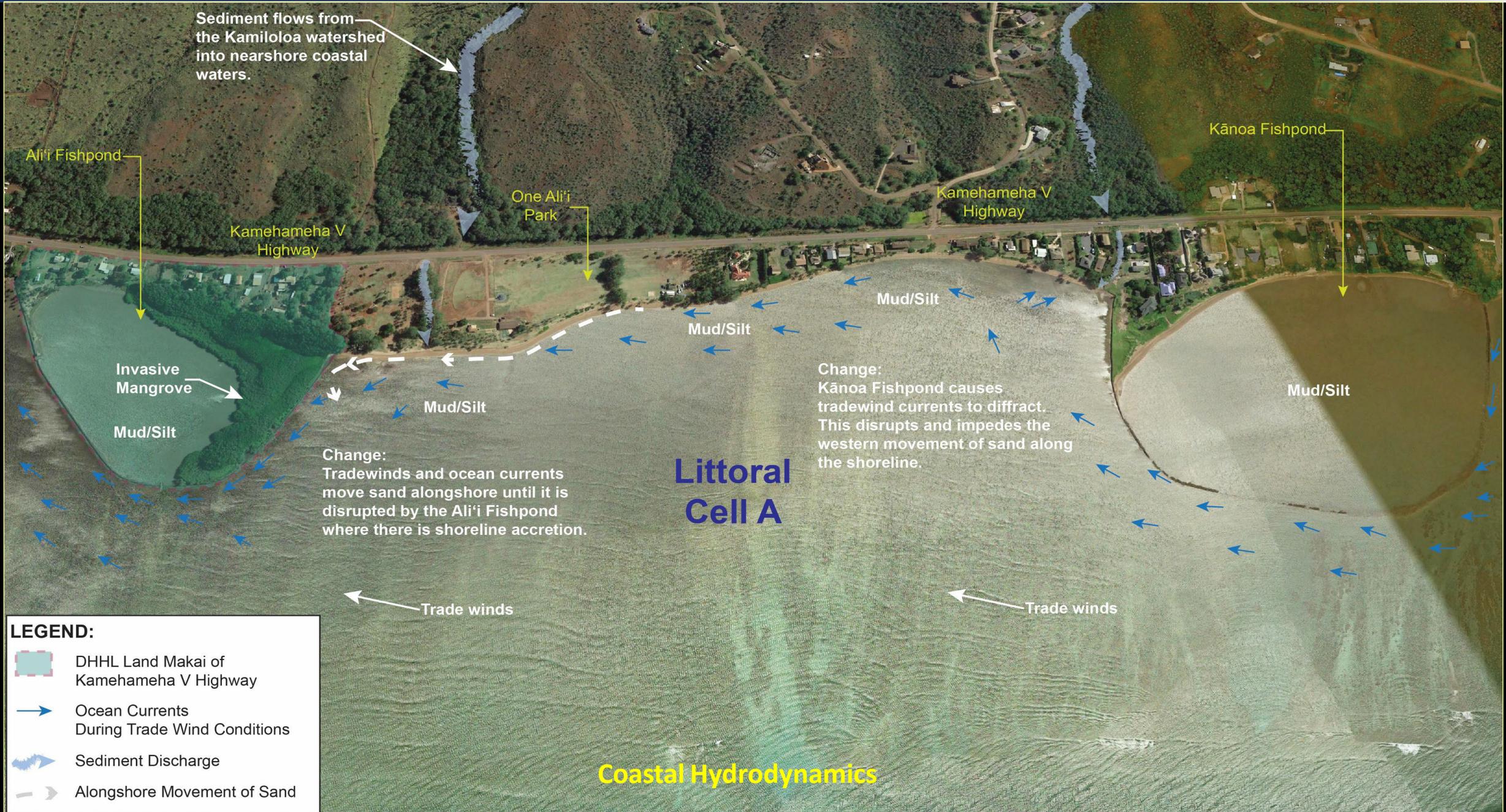
- Require new dwellings to be elevated above flood hazard zones (base flood elevation, SLR inundation) by more than one foot in elevation (freeboard).
- Encourage lessees to reconfigure dwellings by moving the kitchen mauka and elevating food preparation areas so that stove, refrigerator, and appliances are elevated or located at the highest, driest part of the property.
- **Convert cesspools to septic systems wherever feasible to reduce the risk of contaminated water and protect beneficiary health.**

Prepare for the relocation, or retirement, of structures out of areas threatened by sea level rise and coastal erosion.

- **Prepare a community-based plan for the relocation of vulnerable buildings, infrastructure, and public facilities away from areas threatened by sea level rise and/or coastal erosion.**
- Prepare and implement a planned obsolescence strategy for infrastructure at risk of damage from SLR, coastal erosion, and flooding including roads, drainages, wastewater treatment, and centralized utility systems and services.

<sup>1</sup> This table includes a sample of the SM-SEMP's highlighted actions. A complete list of the SM-SEMP's actions is in Chapter 6.

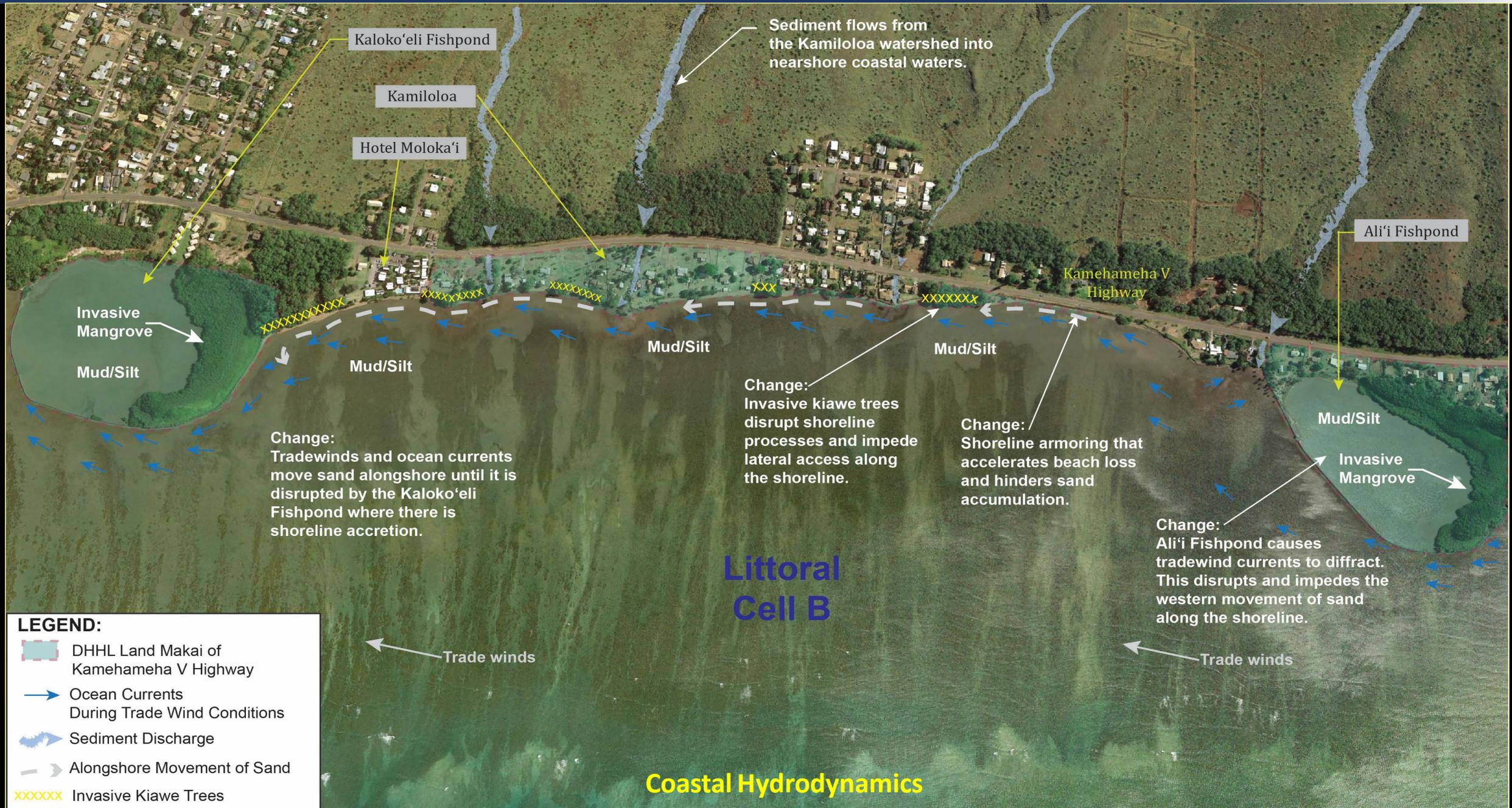
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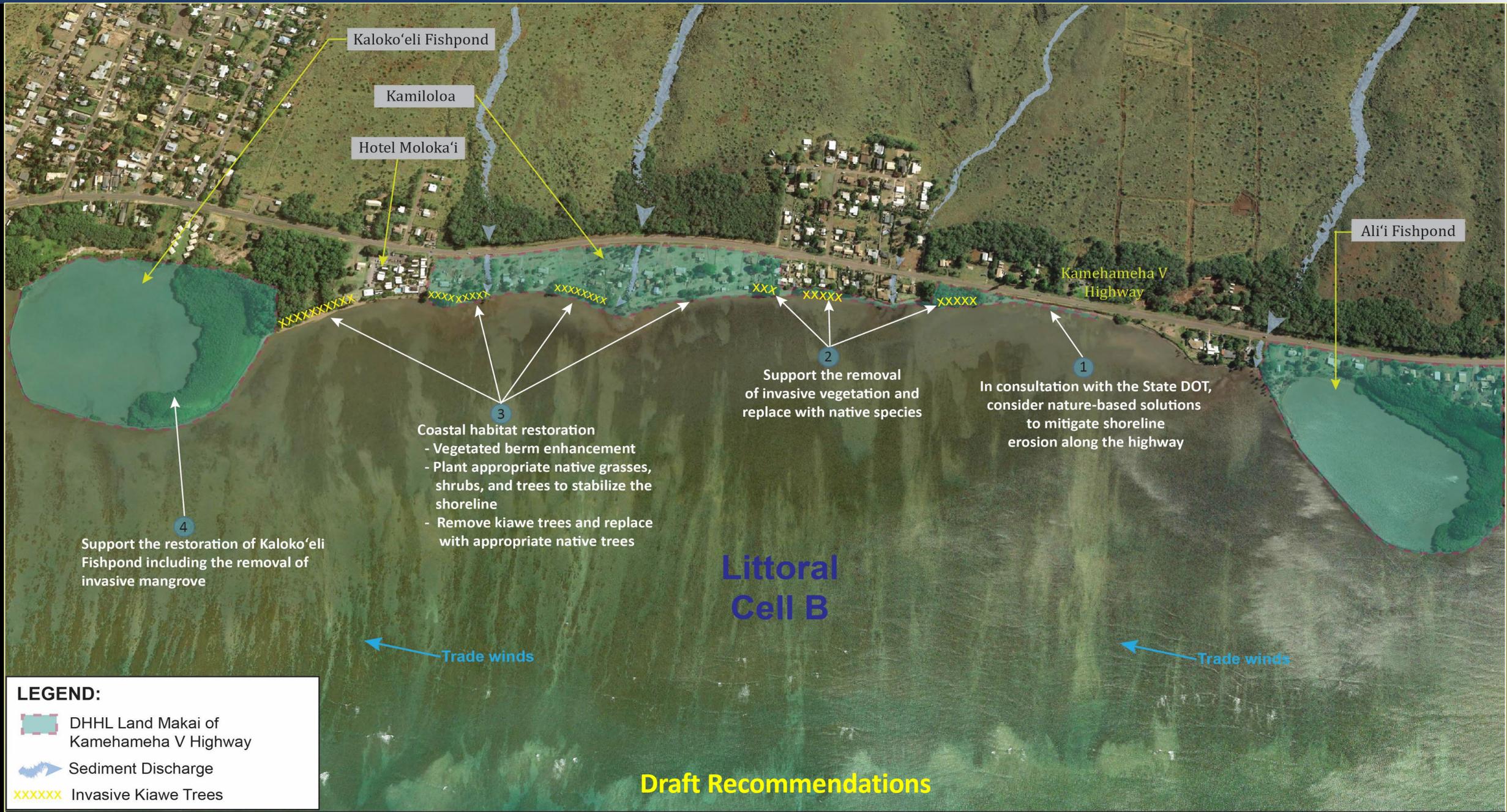
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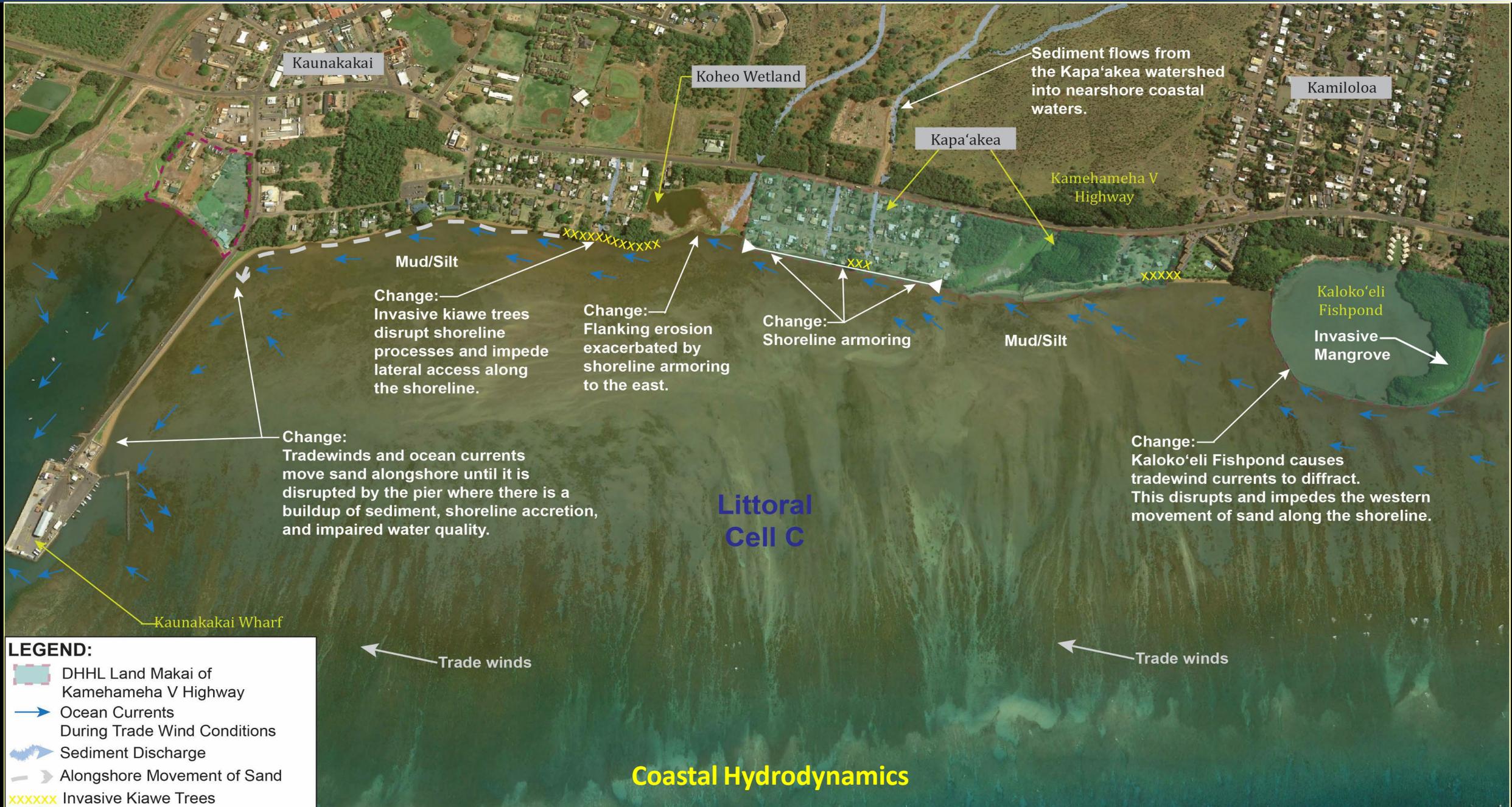
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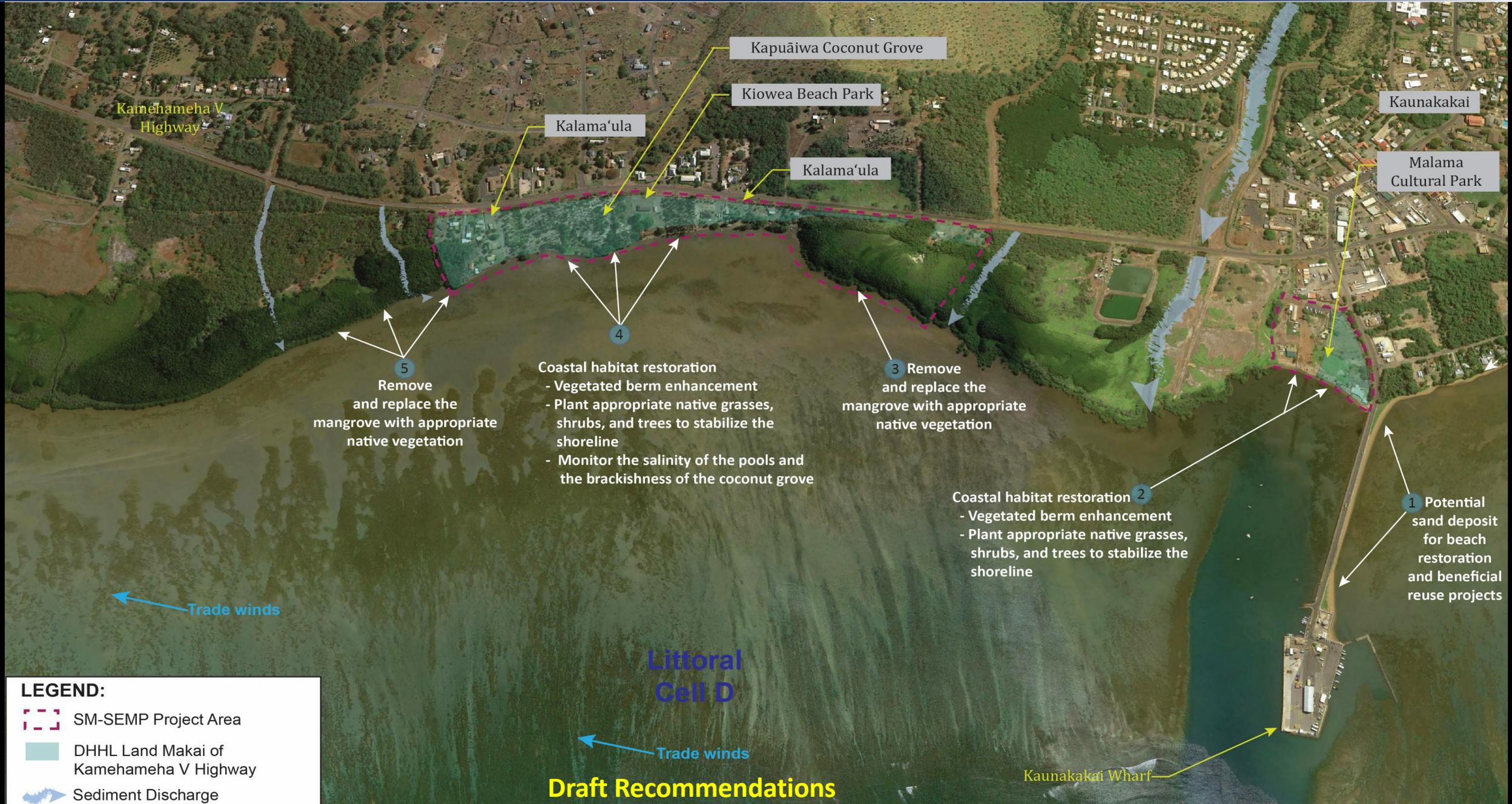
**LEGEND:**

- DHHL Land Makai of Kamehameha V Highway
- Sediment Discharge
- xxxxxx Remove Kiawe Trees and Replace with Natives

**Draft Recommendations**



# DRAFT SOUTH MOLOKA'I SHORELINE EROSION MANAGEMENT PLAN



Kamehameha V Highway

Kapuāiwa Coconut Grove

Kiowea Beach Park

Kaunakakai

Kalama'ula

Kalama'ula

Malama Cultural Park

5  
Remove and replace the mangrove with appropriate native vegetation

4  
Coastal habitat restoration  
- Vegetated berm enhancement  
- Plant appropriate native grasses, shrubs, and trees to stabilize the shoreline  
- Monitor the salinity of the pools and the brackishness of the coconut grove

3  
Remove and replace the mangrove with appropriate native vegetation

2  
Coastal habitat restoration  
- Vegetated berm enhancement  
- Plant appropriate native grasses, shrubs, and trees to stabilize the shoreline

1  
Potential sand deposit for beach restoration and beneficial reuse projects

Trade winds

Littoral Cell D

Trade winds

Kaunakakai Wharf

**LEGEND:**

-  SM-SEMP Project Area
-  DHHL Land Makai of Kamehameha V Highway
-  Sediment Discharge

**Draft Recommendations**



# Next Steps

- Draft SM-SEMP ready for HHC review and comment
- Preparing for 2nd focus group meeting in late March / early April 2022.
- Final Draft of SM-SEMP will be brought to HHC at its regular meeting on Molokai in April 2022.
- PO will be scheduling an in-person community open house for Molokai coastal homesteaders to review findings and recommendations and explore opportunities for beneficiary participation in implementation.
- PO starting scoping and procurement for “Developing Community Resilience for Molokai Coastal Homesteads” project (2022-2024).

# MAHALO

