

## TREASURE

## OUR

# hawai`i

## COASTS

## and

## ESTUARIES

miles of coastline  
**1,052**

coastal population in 2000  
**1,211,531**

fy03 czma core (section 306)  
funding  
**\$2,000,000**

fy03 czma enhancements  
(section 309) funding  
**\$175,000**

fy03 coastal nonpoint  
implementation  
**\$110,000**

THE UNIQUE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT OF HAWAI`I ENCOMPASSES VALUABLE CULTURAL AND ECOLOGICAL RESOURCES, INCLUDING PRISTINE WATERS, CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEMS, AND ENDANGERED SPECIES. COMPRISING OVER 20% OF AMERICA'S EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE, EFFECTIVE OCEAN MANAGEMENT IN HAWAI`I IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE NATION'S ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY LIVELIHOOD. ALL LAND RESOURCES WITHIN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CAN BE FOUND WITHIN 29 MILES FROM THE SHORELINE, DESIGNATING THE ENTIRE LAND MASS AS A COASTAL ZONE AND PROMOTING INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO ECOLOGICALLY BASED COASTAL AND OCEAN MANAGEMENT. THE ISLAND ENVIRONMENT ALSO FACILITATES INCREASED VULNERABILITY TO A RANGE OF NATURAL HAZARDS INCLUDING TSUNAMIS, HURRICANES, EARTHQUAKES, BLIZZARD WARNINGS, AND LAVA FLOWS. ECONOMICALLY, HAWAI`I'S PRIMARY INDUSTRY IS TOURISM.

THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT (CZMA) PROVIDES THE FRAMEWORK NECESSARY TO SUSTAIN THE ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL VALUE OF HAWAI`I'S COASTAL AREAS. THIS LAW, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA), RECOGNIZES A NATIONAL INTEREST IN OUR COASTAL AND OCEAN AREAS. IT ALLOWS STATES AND TERRITORIES, NOT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, TO DETERMINE HOW BEST TO BALANCE CONSERVATION OF THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT WITH HUMAN USES THAT DEPEND ON COASTAL RESOURCES.

### THE CZMA IN HAWAI`I

The CZMA establishes programs to balance the use and protection of America's coasts. The Coastal Management Program gives states a flexible framework to address a broad range of community development, economic and natural resource issues at the state and local level.

#### *Hawai`i Coastal Zone Management Program*

*Approved: 1978*

*Lead Agency: Hawai`i Office of Planning*

The Hawai`i Coastal Zone Management Program protects the state's many unique and valuable coastal resources through a number of state permits and



Special Area Management Plans developed by each of the county governments. Effective beach management, for example, is a critical concern for maintaining the quality of life for Hawai`i's residents and the stability of the tourism industry. The coastal program develops policies and programs to conserve and enhance beach resources while protecting near-shore properties and resources. The Hawai`i Coastal Management Program is also an active participant in the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force and the All Island Coral Reef Initiative.

In 2002, the Hawai`i Coastal Zone Management Program also hosted a regional workshop on Federal Consistency, a CZMA requirement that federal actions be consistent with state and territory coastal management programs. The purposes of the workshops are to help state, territory and federal agencies efficiently and effectively implement their programs by educating personnel on the CZMA and NOAA's Federal Consistency regulations, learning about each other's programs, and establishing new personal and professional relationships.

## PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

For several years, the Hawai`i Coastal Management Program, the Sea Grant Program, and the Center for Marine Conservation have coordinated the annual "Get the Drift and Bag It" coastal cleanup. In 1998, more than 4,000 volunteers throughout the state removed more than 220,000 pounds of debris from land and underwater sites.

The Hawai`i Coastal Management Program established the statewide Hazards Mitigation Forum to increase awareness, preparedness, and mitigation of natural hazards. The forum includes public and private agencies and strives to reduce the potential threat to life, property, and the environment.

Hawai`i formed the Marine and Coastal Zone Management Advisory Group and various subcommittees (e.g., Ocean Resources Management Plan implementation, Water Quality, and Coastal Erosion) to implement the goals, objectives, and priorities of the Ocean Resources Management Plan and to advise the coastal program on coastal resource management issues. The subcommittees consist of state and local agency representatives and non-governmental members.