



What is Threatening Kapoho Tide Pools?



Where are the Kapoho Tide Pools?

The Kapoho Tide Pools are located in Kapoho, Hawai'i near the eastern tip of the island of Hawai'i.

What is Threatening Kapoho Tide Pools?

- Mangrove is a coastal tree that thrives in salt and brackish water, and creates its very own ecosystem, a mangrove swamp. The mangrove is not native to Hawai'i, but like many other alien species it finds Hawai'i an ideal place to settle down and thrive.
- They are establishing themselves throughout the tide pools and coral gardens, and if this continues the tide pools and coral gardens will turn into a mangrove swamp instead.
- Red mangrove in Hawai'i is a highly invasive alien that contributes to decreased water quality by dropping large amounts of organic matter, resulting in nutrient loading and anoxia, sedimentation, and hypersalinization, conditions favoring alien fish and excluding coral and associated organisms.
- Now the tide pools are included in the Marine Life Conservation District and protected by law.
- The program objective is to eradicate mangroves from Hawai'i Island, to restore the natural terrestrial and aquatic coastal ecosystems and protect the rest of the coastline from encroachment by invasive mangroves.

What Can You Do to Help?

You can volunteer or donate to Malama O Puna (www.malamaopuna.org). They are a Hawai'i non-profit corporation and 501(c)(3) volunteer service organization which focuses on the environment. Their mission is to assure critical habitat for native species and open space for future generations through environmental education, hands-on projects, advocacy, watch-dogging and land trusting.



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