

## HCP Committee

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**From:** Karla Peters <Karla.Peters@co.maui.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 4:06 PM  
**To:** HCP Committee  
**Cc:** Lisa Sakumoto; Samuel Marvel  
**Subject:** HCP-51  
**Attachments:** Maui VA Study\_County Council Presentation\_16Jun2022\_V2-FINAL.pdf

Aloha,

Attached is the presentation for Beach Parks Vulnerability and Adaptation Study Phase I- Executive Summary (HCP-51).

Thank you!  
Karla

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*Our Mission: "Provide safe, satisfying and cost effective recreational opportunities for the residents of and visitors to Maui County."*

County of Maui

# Beach Parks Vulnerability and Adaptation Study



Department of Parks and Recreation

Tetra Tech, Inc.

UH Sea Grant College Program



TETRA TECH

June 16, 2022









## Coastal erosion threatens parks

Baldwin Beach Park's doomed pavilion is a "*poster child*" for the damage coastal erosion and sea level rise cause.

This newspaper has been chronicling the pavilion's plight for decades. Almost every August or September we run a story or photos showing how currents, wind and waves have cut into the beach to create cliffs where a month earlier was a hill of gently sloping sand. The progression of photos shows the ocean advancing farther inland each year to nibble away at the pavilion and tumble its amenities and shade trees one by one into the sea.



## Study Objectives

- Assess vulnerability of parks to coastal hazards and sea level rise
- Evaluate the potential for each beach park to adapt to future conditions
- Provide information to guide decisions on capital projects
- Recommend policies, strategies, and actions to address the short and long-term impacts of climate change

# Two Phases

## Phase I (2020 – 2021)

- ⑩ Assessed vulnerability for 65 parks
- ⑩ Developed a range of adaptation strategies
- ⑩ Developed web-based mapping applications and train staff on use
  - Preparing draft interim report

## Phase 2 (2021 – 2022)

- Develop adaptation concepts and early actions for 5 parks
- Initiate community outreach
- Update web-based tools
- Final project report



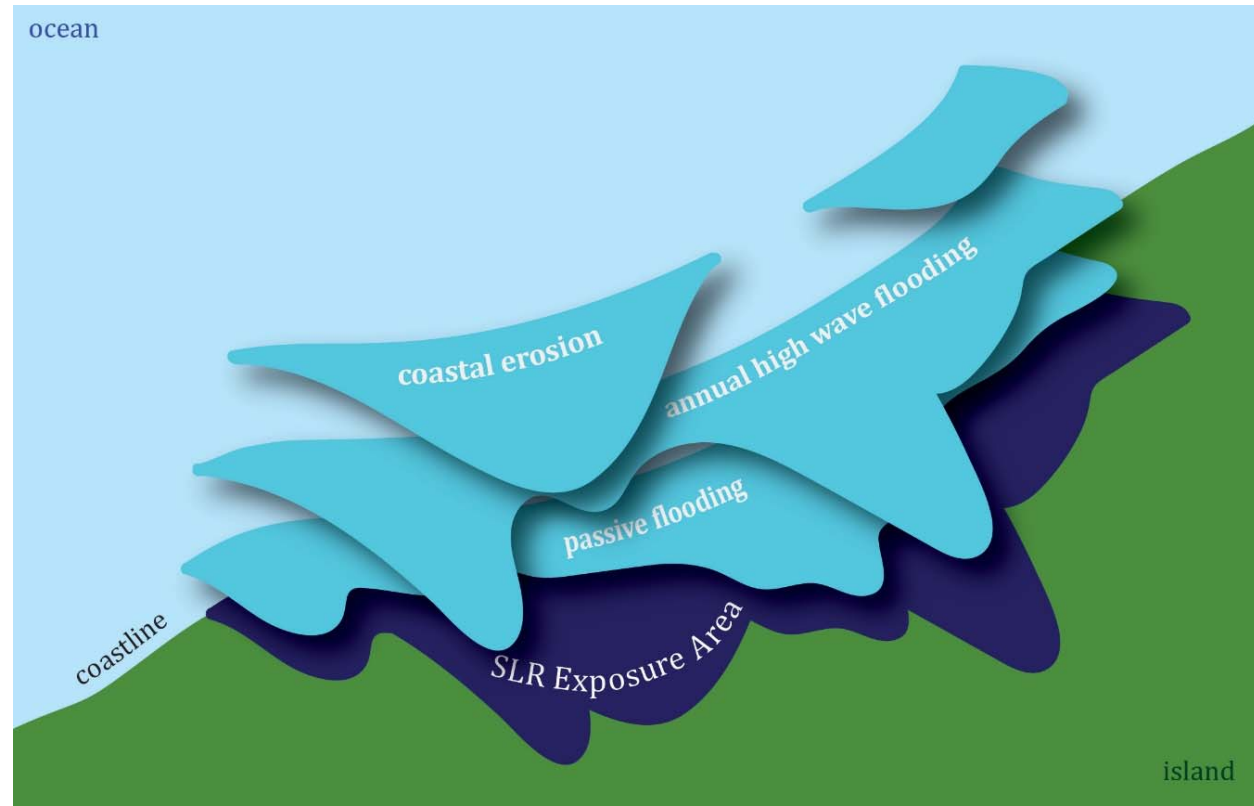
# Key Points

- County needs to start planning/budgeting now for SLR impacts and adaption, even though we think we might have 20-30 years
- This is not just a parks problem -- it involves almost all departments in the county and some state agencies
- Parks department will now be using the findings in future CIP projects and long-term planning



# Sea Level Rise Exposure Area (SLRXA)

- SLRXA depicts chronic coastal flooding and land loss with sea level rise from:
  - Passive flooding
  - Annual high wave flooding
  - Coastal erosion
- Vulnerability assessed for 2.0 and 3.0 feet of sea level rise.
  - SLRXA-2.0 (~2070, near-term)
  - SLRXA-3.2 (~2090, long-term)





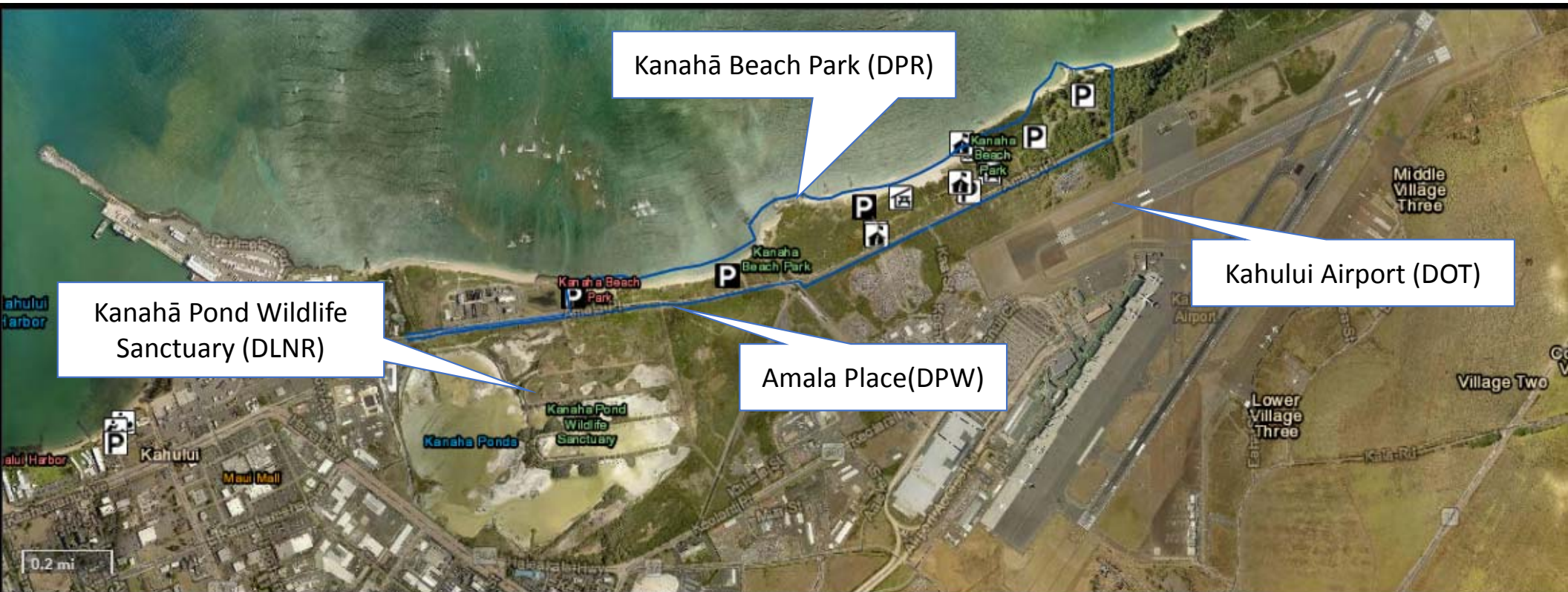
# Kanahā Beach Park

*a case for adaptation planning, interagency coordination, and investment*





# Kanahā Beach Park





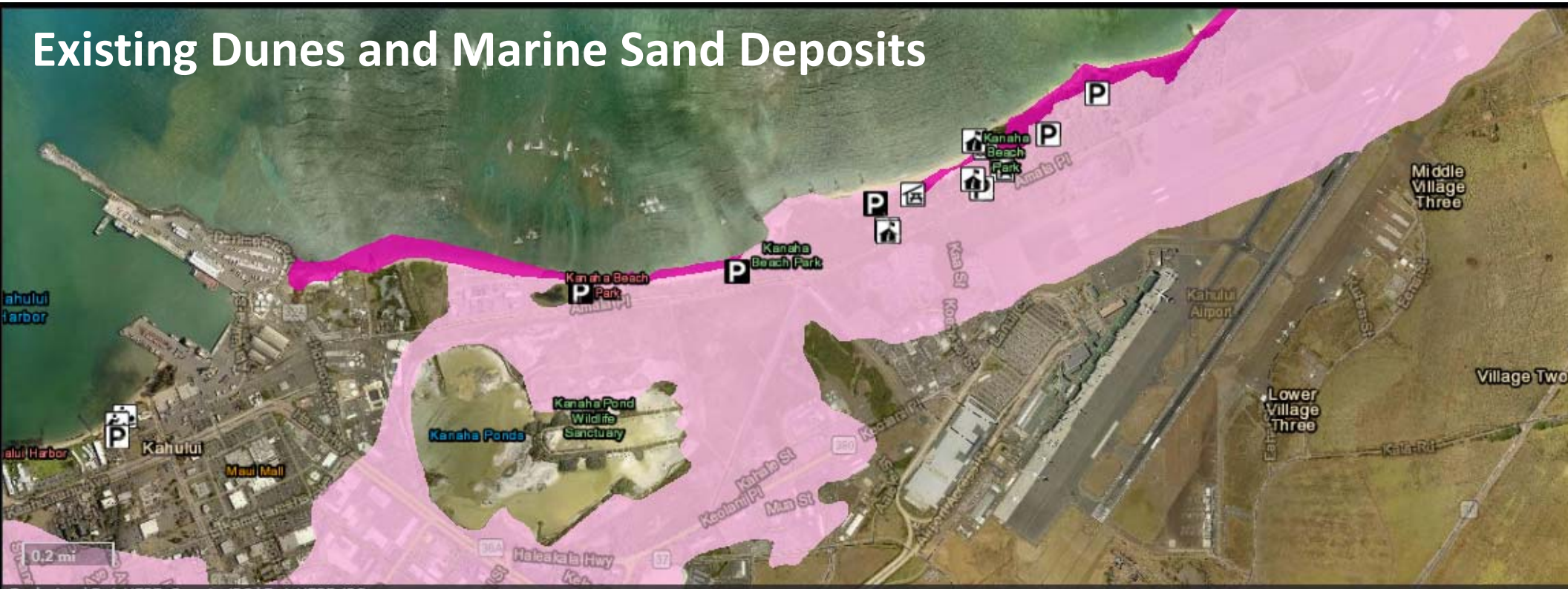
# Kanahā Beach Park

## Existing Wetlands



# Kanahā Beach Park

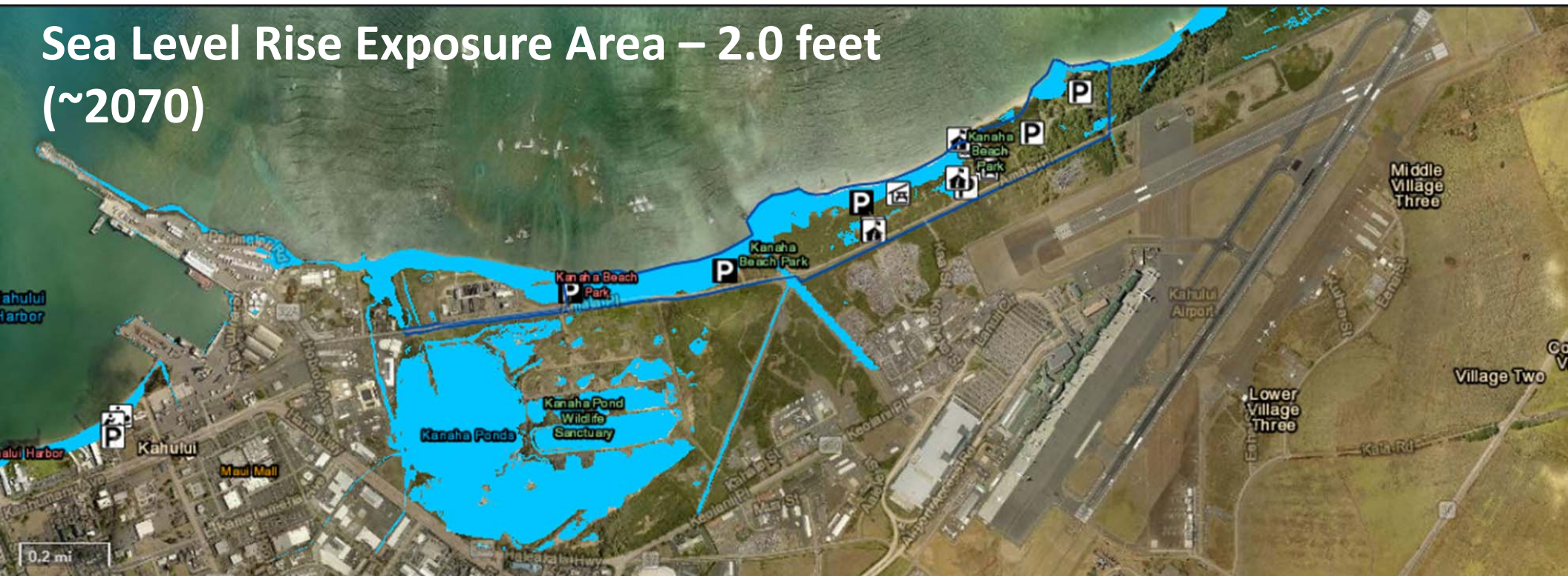
## Existing Dunes and Marine Sand Deposits





# Kanahā Beach Park

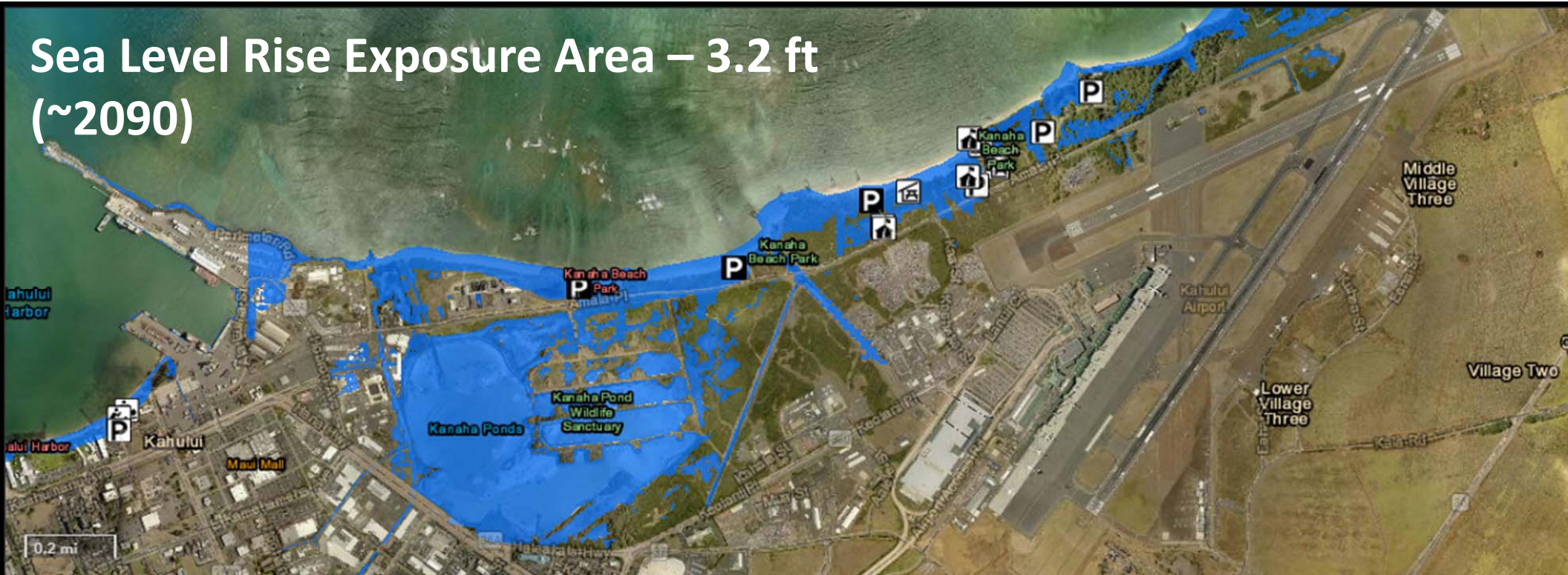
Sea Level Rise Exposure Area – 2.0 feet  
(~2070)





# Kanahā Beach Park

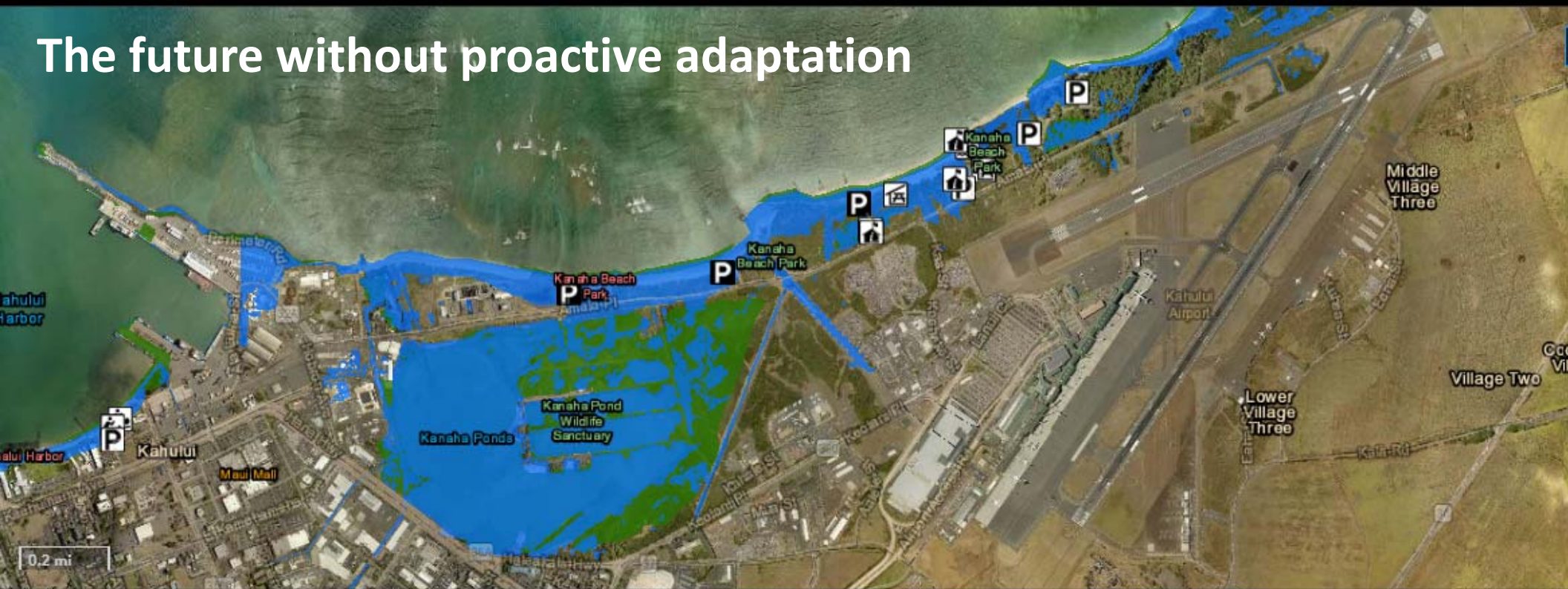
## Sea Level Rise Exposure Area – 3.2 ft (~2090)





# Kanahā Beach Park

The future without proactive adaptation



# Kanahā Beach Park VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT RESULTS



## Park Adaptation Potential

Park has medium potential to withstand impacts of sea level rise based on five indicators of vulnerability.

### Park Adaptation Potential based on Five Vulnerability Indicators

<p>Percent of park area in SLRXA-3.2 (~2070) <b>61%</b></p> <p>Adaptation Potential <b>Low</b></p> <p><i>A measure of park area exposed to chronic coastal flooding and land loss with 3.2 feet of sea level rise. The Sea Level Rise Exposure Area (SLRXA) is based on projections of passive inundation, erosion, and annual high wave run-up with sea level rise. The <u>higher</u> the percent area exposed the <u>lower</u> the adaptation potential.</i></p>	<p>Number of structures in SLRXA-2.0 (~2050) <b>4</b></p> <p>Adaptation Potential <b>Med</b></p> <p><i>A measure of the number of structures, parking lots and major upright structures, in the park such as pavilions and restrooms exposed in the SLRXA with 2.0 feet of sea level rise. The <u>higher</u> the number of structures exposed the <u>lower</u> the adaptation potential.</i></p>	<p>Miles of road in SLRXA-3.2 within a 0.5 mile-park buffer <b>0.8</b></p> <p>Adaptation Potential <b>Med</b></p> <p><i>A measure of the miles of highway and roads exposed to chronic coastal flooding and land loss with 3.2 feet of sea level rise. The <u>higher</u> the number of miles of road exposed the <u>lower</u> the adaptation potential.</i></p>
<p>Percent of park area with sand and dunes <b>94%</b></p> <p>Adaptation Potential <b>High</b></p> <p><i>A measure of the availability of sand and dune material to facilitate landward beach migration and sustainability with sea level rise and provide coastal protection services. The <u>higher</u> the percentage of park area with sand and dunes the <u>higher</u> adaptation potential.</i></p>	<p>Difference in percent of area in SLRXA-3.2 and SLRXA-2.0 <b>23%</b></p> <p>Adaptation Potential <b>Med</b></p> <p><i>A measure of the timing of exposure of the park to two sea level rise projections. The <u>lower</u> the difference in % area between the two projections the <u>lower</u> the adaptation potential rating as sea level rise impacts are projected to occur earlier (~2050).</i></p>	

### Additional Indicators to Support Planning and Decision-Making

<p>Percent of the park area within the 1%CFZ-3.2 <b>95%</b></p> <p><i>Measures of park exposure to severe event-based flooding:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Storm surge: 1%-Annual-Chance Coastal Flood Zone (1%CFZ) modeled with 3.2 feet of sea level rise</li> </ul>	<p>Percent of park area in FIRM Flood Zone A <b>5%</b></p> <p><i>Measures of park exposure to severe event-based flooding:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Riverine flooding: 1%-Annual-Chance Flood Zone based on historical data (Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Zone A).</li> </ul>	<p>Is park adjacent to federally designated critical terrestrial habitat for monk seals? <b>No</b></p> <p><i>The critical terrestrial habitat for the Hawaiian monk seal extends 5 m inland from the shoreline. This habitat is expected to migrate landward as sea level rise.</i></p>
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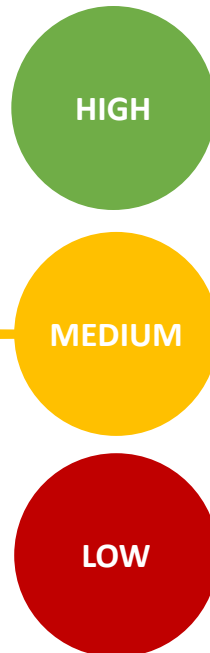
## FUTURE CONDITIONS

*Assessment of near-term and medium-term exposure and impacts of sea level rise on park assets based on five indicators*



## ADAPTATION POTENTIAL

*Rating of each park's potential for adaptation to sea level rise based on the assessment of future conditions for all 65 parks*

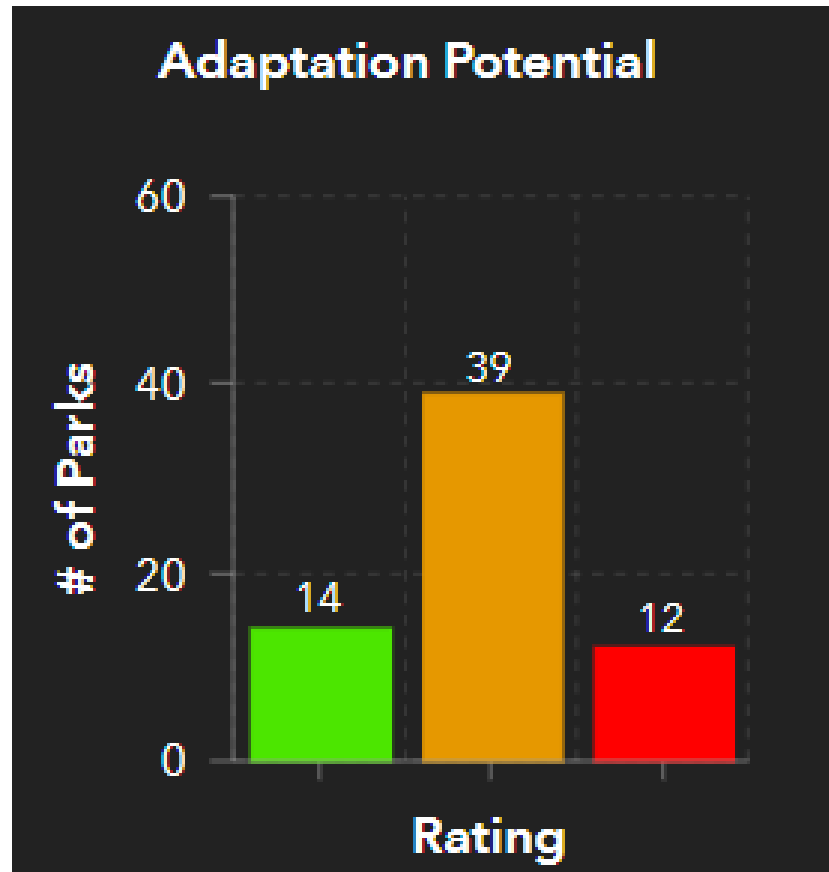


## ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

*Adaptation strategies based on future conditions, adaptation potential, and other factors*

- Assess park viability based on future access
- RESTORE DUNES AND/OR PRESERVE WETLANDS**
- Retreat/acquire land and relocate structures
- Fortify/raise shoreline revetment
- Maintain shoreline access only
- Maintain facilities/monitor conditions

## County-wide Results: Adaption Potential



Of the 65 parks in the study:

- 12 parks rated as Low Adaptation Potential
- 8 of the Low Adaptation parks are in West Maui

## County-wide: Adaption Strategies

### **Of the 65 parks in the study:**

- 20 parks Maintain facilities and monitor conditions
- 16 parks Assess park viability based on future access
- 12 parks Restore dunes and/or preserve wetlands
- 8 parks Maintain shoreline access only
- 6 parks Retreat/acquire land and relocate structures
- 3 parks Fortify/raise shoreline revetment



# DRAFT Policies

- **Protect public safety** by removing park structures and features damaged or exposed by severe coastal flooding and storm events
- Apply cultural protocols for adaptation actions
- Prioritize nature-based adaptation that restore coastal ecosystems and maintain ocean dependent uses
- Limit construction of new facilities exposed to 3.2 feet of sea level rise
- Retain undeveloped park land outside hazard areas for future parks
- Coordinate with county and state agencies on adaptation planning



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## Web Application for Public and Staff

- **Inform public about coastal threats to Maui County beach parks and DPR actions.**
- **Use by DPR staff for planning CIP projects as well as maintenance and renovation activities.**





## COUNTY OF MAUI BEACH PARK VULNERABILITY STUDY



## Project Overview

### Study Objectives

### Coastal Hazards of Concern

### Sea Level Rise Exposure Area

### Indicators

### Assessment Methodology

### Adaptation Potential

### Adaptation Strategies

## STUDY OBJECTIVES



Assess vulnerability of parks to coastal hazards and sea level rise

Determine the potential for each beach park to adapt to future conditions.



Develop a prioritization framework for investments in park infrastructure

Recommend policies, strategies, and actions to address the short and long term impacts of climate change.

## Project Overview

[Study Objectives](#)[Coastal Hazards of Concern](#)[Sea Level Rise Exposure Area](#)[Indicators](#)[Assessment Methodology](#)[Adaptation Potential](#)[Adaptation Strategies](#)

### INDICATORS USED TO ASSESS EXPOSURE AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF SEA LEVEL RISE ON PARK ASSETS



**PARK AREA**  
% of park area in  
SLRXA-3.2  
(~2070)



**PARK FACILITIES**  
Number of  
facilities in SLRXA-  
2.0 (~2050)



**PARK ACCESS**  
Miles of road in  
SLRXA-3.2 within  
a 0.5 mile-park  
buffer



**BEACH  
MIGRATION**  
% of park area  
with sand and  
dunes



**TIMING**  
Difference in % of  
park area in  
SLRXA-3.2 and  
SLRXA-2.0

### ADDITIONAL INDICATORS TO CONSIDER IN PLANNING DECISIONS



Percent of the park area  
within 1%CFZ-3.2



Percent of park area  
within the FEMA FIRM  
Zone A



Park is adjacent to  
federally designated  
critical terrestrial  
habitat extends 5 m  
inland from shoreline  
and will migrate  
landward as sea level  
rises



## Adaptation and Mapping Tool

District Selector

Central

East

Molokai

South

West

All Districts

1,009

Total Park Acreage

Last update: a few seconds ago

291.9

Acreage in SLRXA-3.2

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250

Total Facilities

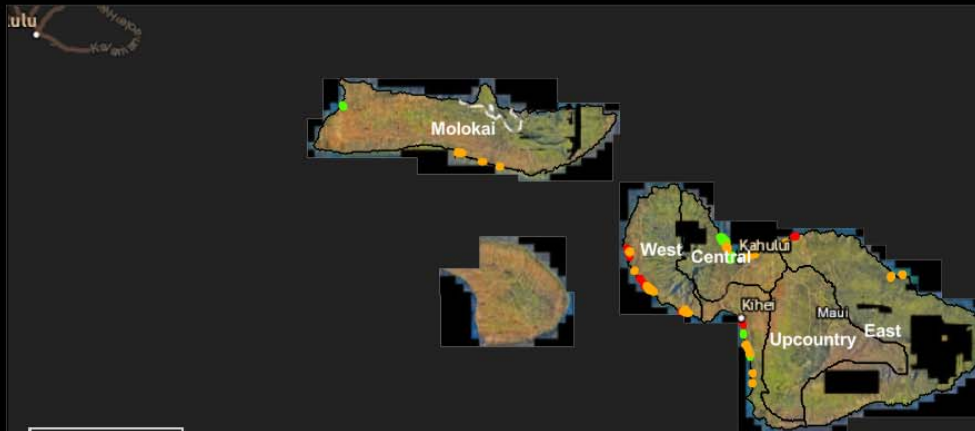
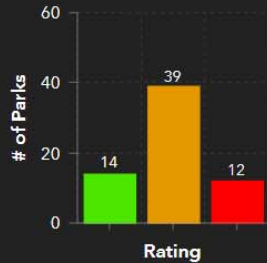
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103

Facilities in SLRXA-2.0

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## Adaptation Potential

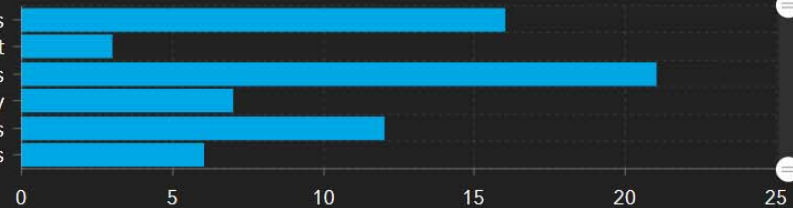


Eagleview | Esri, HERE, Garmin | Esri, HERE

Powered by Esri

## Adaptation Strategies

Assess park viability based on future access  
Fortify/raise shoreline revetment  
Maintain facilities and monitor conditions  
Maintain shoreline access only  
Restore dunes and/or preserve wetlands  
Retreat/acquire land and relocate structures



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## Park List

"Duke" Maliu Regional Park

Charley Young Park

Charley Young Park Parking Lot

D.T. Fleming Park

HA Baldwin Park

Halawa Park

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1 of 65

## "Duke" Maliu Regional Park

District Molokai

% Park Area in SLRXA-3.2 23

Facilities in SLRXA-2.0 0

Total Roads in SLRXA-3.2 (mi) 0.6

% of Park Area with 0

[Park Profile](#) [Click Link](#)

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## Adaptation and Mapping Tool

District Selector

Central

East

Molokai

South

West

All Districts



100

Total Park Acreage

Last update: a minute ago

61.1

Acreage in SLRXA-3.2

Last update: a minute ago

12

Total Facilities

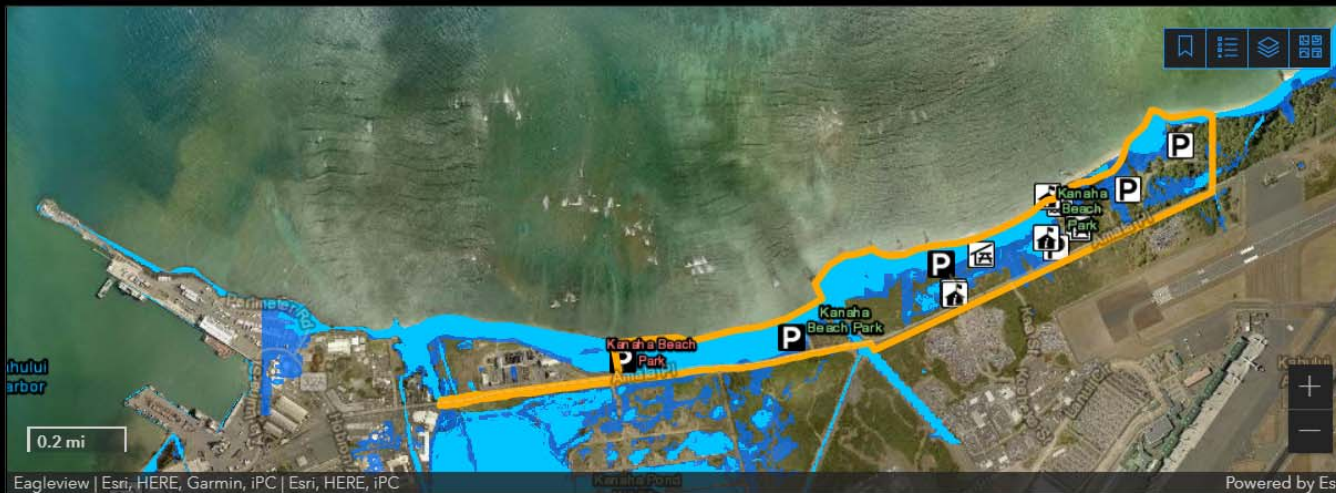
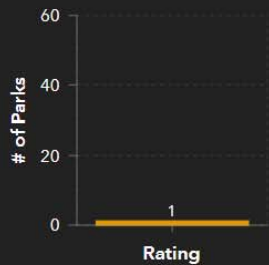
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4

Facilities in SLRXA-2.0

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## Adaptation Potential



## Adaptation Strategies

Restore dunes and/or preserve wetlands



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## Park List

Kamaoie Point

Kamehameha Brick Palace

Kamehameha Iki

Kanaha Beach Park

Kaonoulu Park

Kaunakakai Lighthouse Park

Last update: 3 minutes ago

## Kanaha Beach Park

District	Central
% Park Area in SLRXA-3.2	61
Facilities in SLRXA-2.0	4
Total Roads in SLRXA-3.2 (mi)	0.8
% of Park Area with Sand and Dunes	94

[Park Profile](#) [Click Link](#)

Last update: a minute ago





## Phase I (2020 – 2021)

- ⑩ Assessed vulnerability for 65 parks
- ⑩ Developed compendium adaptation strategies
- ⑩ Developed web-based mapping applications and train staff on use
- Preparing draft interim report

## Phase 2 (2021 – 2022)

- Develop adaptation concepts and early actions for 5 parks
- Initiate outreach to community
- Update web-based tools
- Final project report



## Near-Term Priorities

### *Beach Park Adaptation Fund* to support:

- **Public safety** by removing structures and features likely to be affected by high waves and coastal erosion in the near term
- **Adaptation plans, feasibility studies, and engineering designs** for one third of the parks that require active adaptation
- **Cultural site preservation** by developing park-specific cultural protocols with cultural practitioners and lineal descendants



# Mahalo

## Coastal Sand Dunes

### A Natural Protection

#### Shifting Sands

Sand dunes play an important role in protecting the shorelines and providing habitat for many of the unique plants and animals found in Hawai'i. Coastal erosion is a natural process; the dynamic nature of shorelines can be observed in the annual retreat and recovery of many beaches. Inappropriate land use practices and shoreline development, combined with rising sea levels accelerate beach loss. Healthy coastal dunes contribute to the seasonal fluctuation by releasing sand and helping to maintain beaches.

Naupaka - *Scaevola sericea*  
Native



Akia - *Wikstroemiauva-urui*  
Native



Pohuehue - *Ipomea pes-caprae*  
subsp. *brasilensis* - Native



'Aki'aki - *Sporobolus virginicus*  
Native



Photography by Forest & Kim Starr

#### Please Kōkua

Visitors can help restoration by staying off the dunes, keeping on the marked pedestrian trails or on the beach to avoid trampling the sensitive vegetation and joining us in our restoration efforts. Absolutely no bicycles or motorized vehicles are allowed.

#### Restoration

Reducing human foot traffic and replanting native plants contribute to the healthy restoration of this important dune habitat. Removal of invasive plants such as ironwood trees also contributes to the restoration process.

#### Why the Boardwalk?

This raised boardwalk helps keep foot traffic off the dunes, protecting vegetation, keeping sand in place and allowing the dunes to grow.