

# THE HUI MĀLAMA LOKO I'A

Hui Mālama Loko I'a (the Hui) is a growing network of fishpond practitioners and organizations from across ka pae'āina o Hawai'i (the Hawaiian archipelago). Driven by kia'i loko (fishpond caretakers), the Hui was formed in 2004 as an opportunity for practitioners to empower each other and leverage their skills, knowledge and resources in the restoration and management of loko i'a (traditional Hawaiian fishponds).

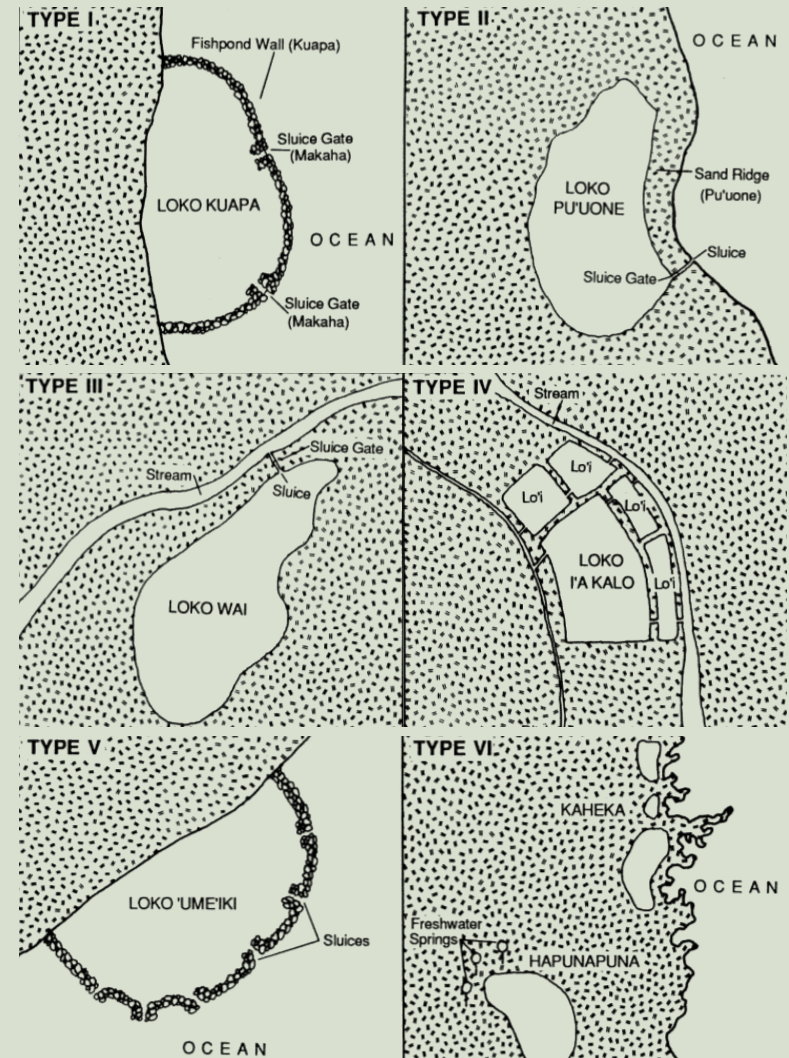
In 2013, KUA received funding to support the Hui in building its operational structure and overall capacity. Since then, KUA has been convening the Hui annually and continues to facilitate their collective discussions on moving forward together in their vision to *perpetuate 'āina momona through loko i'a culture*.

Four hundred eighty-eight fishpond sites were identified in the last statewide survey (DHM 1990). Among these 488 loko i'a sites, many are in degraded conditions, sometimes completely beyond repair or unrecognizable as fishponds. However, for the sites that remain there are communities and stewardship groups who actively restore or have expressed interest in reactivating the integrity and productivity of these places.

**Loko i'a, or Hawaiian fishponds, are unique aquaculture systems that exist throughout Hawai'i, and continue to feed and connect communities around the islands.**



**LOKO I'A** are important components of the ahupua'a (traditional land stewardship framework) that contribute to a healthy and robust food system. They are unique aquaculture systems that exist throughout Hawai'i, and were developed to optimize natural patterns of watersheds, nutrient cycles, and fish biology. There are six general types of loko i'a.

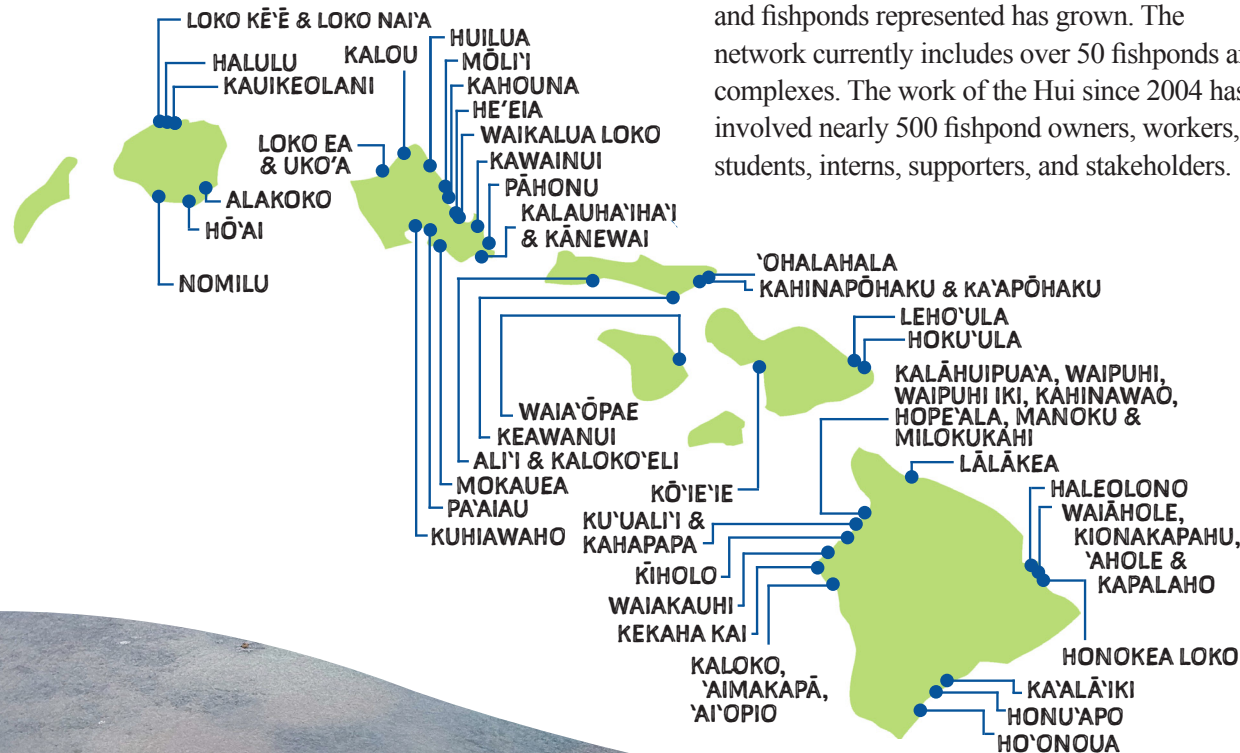


Figures modified from: DHM Planners Inc., Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Applied Research Group, Public Archaeology Section and Moon, O'Connor, Tam & Yuen. Hawaiian Fishpond Study: Islands of O'ahu, Moloka'i, Hawai'i, Maui, Lāna'i and Kaua'i. Honolulu: DHM Planners, 1989.





**OVER THE YEARS**, the number of participants and fishponds represented has grown. The network currently includes over 50 fishponds and complexes. The work of the Hui since 2004 has involved nearly 500 fishpond owners, workers, students, interns, supporters, and stakeholders.



**Today, Hawai'i's** communities are coming together. They are working to reclaim their role as stewards of their places, advancing just solutions to Hawai'i's most difficult environmental and social problems.

They are joined in this work by others who are researchers, teachers, businesses, artists, resource managers, decision-makers and individuals in Hawai'i and around the world.

KUA exists to serve this movement.

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### Supporting 'Ohana

Mahalo nui loa to our organizational partners, funders, supporters and individuals around Hawai'i and the world who help make this work possible.

For a full list of funders and to learn more about individual loko i'a organizations with their own online presence, visit:

[kuahawaii.org/huimalamalokoia](http://kuahawaii.org/huimalamalokoia)

PHOTO: SCOTT KANDA  
 DESIGN: MIWA TAMANAHA

[kuahawaii.org](http://kuahawaii.org)

808-672-2545  
[brenda@kuahawaii.org](mailto:brenda@kuahawaii.org)

