

# Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII



## TWO HAWAII COASTAL RESTORATION PROJECTS SELECTED TO RECEIVE STIMULUS FUNDING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON – Senate Appropriations Chairman Daniel K. Inouye and Senator Daniel K. Akaka announced today that two of Hawaii’s coastal habitat restoration projects have been selected to receive funding from the *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration* (NOAA). The funding comes under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The Nature Conservancy will receive \$3.4 million to restore 23 acres of coral reefs through manual removal of invasive algae in East Honolulu’s Maunalua Bay. The Kohala Center will receive \$2.7 million to restore more than 1,460 acres of coastal and marine habitat by reducing the amount of sediment on coral reefs through erosion control and replanting native upland vegetation in Pelekane Bay.

The Nature Conservancy and the Kohala Center were two of 50 projects selected from a pool of 814 proposals submitted nationwide. NOAA worked through a selection process to identify and prioritize projects meeting the ARRA’s criteria. It is estimated that these two projects will support 79 local jobs in Hawaii.

“We are pleased that that two of Hawaii’s community-based coastal restoration projects successfully competed for stimulus funding,” said Chairman Inouye and Senator Akaka. “In addition to the jobs created by this funding, it also helps protect our environment and strengthen our coastal communities.”

For further information on funded projects nationwide, go to the NOAA Recovery Act website at <http://www.noaa.gov/recovery>

