



Partnering to Promote Sustainable Fisheries in Hawai'i

KEIKI FISHING CLUB • ULUA & PAPIO TAGGING • CORAL REEF FISH TAGGING • BARBLESS CIRCLE HOOK RESEARCH

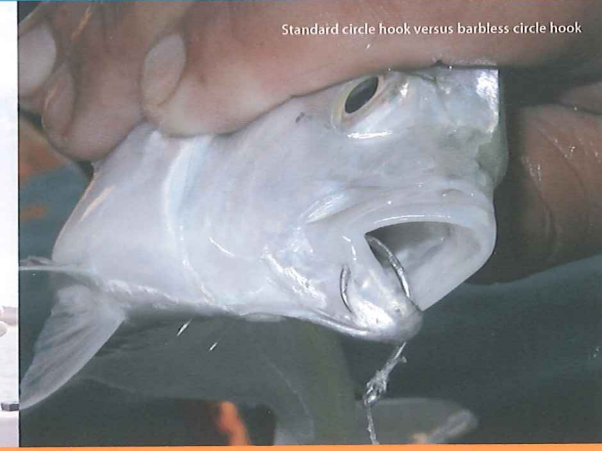
Public-private partnerships can play an important role in managing and conserving our marine resources. In Hawaii, the Kewalo Keiki Fishing Conservancy, Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources, National Marine Fishery Service and Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council have come together to work with the fishing community to promote marine resource stewardship and education and to support cooperative fisheries research.



Keiki Fishing Club



Tagging Programs



Standard circle hook versus barbless circle hook

Keiki Fishing Club



KEWALO KEIKI FISHING CONSERVANCY

- Kewalo Keiki Fishing Conservancy (KKFC) is a public, nonprofit 501 (c)3 organization dedicated to serving our islands' keiki by providing opportunities to experience the unique historical, cultural, and natural resource value of Kewalo Basin through quality fishing programs and research designed to perpetuate our role as responsible stewards of these resources and to preserve the historical significance of Kewalo Basin as the corner stone of Hawaii's thriving commercial fishing village.
- Kewalo Basin was built in Honolulu in the 1920's encompassing 55 acres including ocean acreage. In 1929 commercial fishing operations began utilizing Kewalo Basin. Harbor and waterfront activities included fishing vessel harborage, marine fueling, ice distribution, fresh fish processing, tuna cannery, vessel dry dock servicing, charter fishing, recreational shoreline fishing and coastal excursions and sight-seeing cruises.
- Today, many of the commercial fishing and support activities have relocated to Honolulu Harbor. However, Kewalo Basin remains an important port for commercial fishing vessels and is a viable part of Hawaii's recreational fishery.
- As island populations grow and shoreline habitats change, there are fewer opportunities for Hawaii's youth to

experience what our marine resources have to offer them as part of their island heritage. Reestablishing a connection between our keiki and the marine environment and grooming them to become responsible resource users is central to KKFC's mission. KKFC has partnered with federal and state agencies to provide quality fishing education and marine stewardship programs. These include:

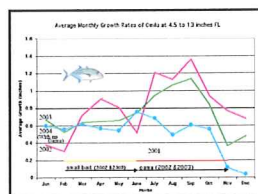
- Keiki Fishing Club program which is designed to provide Hawaii's keiki with opportunities to learn about and experience the sport of shoreline fishing that may not be available otherwise. The Club meets periodically for lessons and demonstrations by Hawaii's shoreline fishing experts, marine biologists, tackle shop owners and others.
- Partnerships with the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) and the National Marine Fishery Service to assist in collecting valuable fishery research information by participating in the DAR papio and ulua tagging program, Council coral reef tagging program and NMFS barbless circle hook study. In addition to research partnerships, KKFC educates Hawaii's youth to become responsible stewards by providing opportunities to participate in community service projects such as ocean and beach clean-ups which is part of being a responsible resource user.



Fish Tagging Projects

HDAR TAGGING PROGRAM

- The Ulua Tagging Project is an angler-based project where volunteer fishermen are asked to assist the State of Hawaii's Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) with the capture, tag, and release of fish species known locally as ulua and papio, also commonly referred to as jacks.
- The ulua and papio fishery is considered the biggest recreational fishery in the entire State of Hawaii and yet little information was available regarding the life history, biology, and habitat requirements for these species locally.



The Ulua Tagging Project forms partnerships between Hawaii's fishing communities and DAR to assist with gathering this much needed information on the biology of our ulua and papio resources which can provide the basis toward better management strategies for these species.



In less than 5 years, the combined efforts through these partnerships have helped us to gather a lifetime worth of data and information in a short period of time, some of which was previously unknown about Hawaii's ulua and papio resources.

- Through communication and sharing of data between fishermen, scientists, fishery managers and other various communities, we pass on values that promote a sense of respect, stewardship and responsibility toward the marine environment and our limited ocean resources.

The ultimate goal of this project is to promote conservation and management of the resources while providing for the needs of various communities throughout Hawaii.

- Total number of participating anglers 1341
- Total number of fish tagged 17,335
- Total number of recaptured fish: 2476

COUNCIL'S CORAL REEF FISH TAGGING PROJECT

- The Coral Reef Fish Tagging Project partners the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council with the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources and the Kewalo Keiki Fishing Conservancy

- The trial project tests the feasibility of including more coral reef species in the HDAR ulua/papio tagging program. Coral reef species that have been tagged through this program include bonefish, barracuda, goat fishes, surgeon fishes, eels, puffer fishes, damselfishes, butterfly fishes, akule, opelu, awa awa, stingrays, sharks and others.

- The project will also help determine the most appropriate and effective tag type to be used on other species; Optimal tag type, application location, tag size and ease of application will be evaluated through this trial.



- Over all tag retention and species ability to survive tagging stress will also be evaluated.

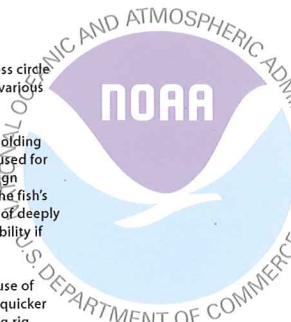
- The trial project leverages the experience, locale and knowledge of the Kewalo Keiki Fishing Conservancy to help administer the tagging project in consultation with HDAR and Council staff.

Species	Number Tagged	Size Range
Kaku	125	11.5" - 20.75"
Ulua	46	8.25" - 12.75"
Yellowstripe Weke	33	8.86" - 12.09"
Mamo	20	4.5" - 6.5"
Mopuchi	15	4.25" - 6.5"
Puaka	12	7.5" - 15"
Moana	10	6.83" - 7.25"
Toao	8	6.75" - 8.25"
Kala	7	8.25" - 16.25"
Awa awa	6	27.5" - 32"
Palaia	5	7" - 14"
Halibak	4	9.5" - 11.25"
Bali	4	2.25" - 9.25"
Kupipi	3	6.25" - 10.75"
Moi	3	2.25" - 7.9"
Oo	3	9.25" - 15.5"
Flounder	2	7.25" - 7.75"
Aweewe	1	7.25"
Brown Surgeon/Maili	1	7.25"
Damselfish	1	5.38"
Erismae	1	8.25"
Haka	1	8.75"
Hunihumu	1	7.5"
Louis/Bronetail	1	21.5"
Reef Shark	1	55.5"
Whase	1	6.75"
Total Species	26	Total Tagged 317

Standard Circle Hook vs Barbless Circle Hook

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

- This research seeks to test the effectiveness of barbless circle hooks (versus barbed circle hooks) to hook and land various species of fish in a shorecasting setting.
- The ancient circle hook was designed to have good holding power in the pre-barb years. Circle hooks have been used for centuries in many areas of the Pacific. Its unique design promotes the setting of the hook into the corner of the fish's jaw. In doing so it effectively reduces the possibility of deeply hooking a fish which can negatively affect its survivability if released.
- Damage to the fish may be further mitigated by the use of barbless hooks which would facilitate the easier and quicker release of any unwanted fish or in the case of a fishing rig being lost the barbless hook should have a good chance of falling out with minimal problems experienced by the fish.
- Information learned will be disseminated to Hawaii shorefishermen so they can make informed choices when fishing responsibly.



Barbless circle hook

