



SUMMER 2022 EDITION

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO
TROPICAL CONSERVATION BIOLOGY
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



Summer Celebrations!

TCBES Semesterly Newsletter



"Kamali'i Andrade and Ka'ehukai Goin (new TCBES student) crane their boat's load of marine debris from Kamokuokamohoali'i. (Photo credit: James Morioka/PMDP)" -University of Hawai'i News

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- New and graduating students
- HCC honorable mentions
- 100 lbs of marine debris extracted
- New TCBES associate director and Dean of CNHS

E Komo Mai

WELCOME BACK TCBES STUDENTS, STAFF, FACULTY, AND A BIG WELCOME TO THE NEW 2022 COHORT. HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER!

TCBES Seminars

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW UPCOMING SEMINARS [HERE](#)

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NEW AND GRADUATING STUDENTS

Congratulations graduating students!

Kelly Goodale

"Examining nesting and basking trends in the Hawaiian green turtle population on O'ahu."

Advisor: Pat Hart & Lisa Canale

John Graves

"Zen and the art of counting fish."

Advisor: Lisa Canale

Joseph (Crispin) Nakoa

"Detection of sewage pollution in coastal waters with river and groundwater inputs, Hilo, Hawai'i, USA."

Advisor: Tracy Wiegner & Steven Colbert

Shayla Waiki

"Assessing the connectivity of on-site sewage disposal systems to nearshore waters and water quality in Keaukaha, Hawai'i, USA."

Advisor: Steven Colbert & Tracy Wiegner

Connect with us!



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TCBES fall 2022 cohort gather outside before class.

Back row: Nai'a, Anna, Christian, Ioanna, Leslie, Ben, Ally, Sibley, Brian, Hannah, Ka'ehukai

Middle row: Anya, Hanna, Kona

Front row: Kalena, Olivia, Sofia, Brianna, Ihilani, Josie

New students for Fall 2022

Elizabeth (Sibley) Barnette

Anya Benavides

Christian Colo

Konapilihi Dancil

Anna Ezzy

Sofia Ferreira Colman

Grant (Ka'ehukai) Goin

Ioanna Gotshall

Olivia Jarvis

Ihilani Kamau

Leslie Lockhart

Alexandra (Ally) Mahadeo

Hanna Michaud

Brianna Ninomoto

Nai'a Odachi

Hannah Rozendo

Brian Rule

Kalena Shiroma

Benjamin Smith

Josephine Tupu

What have our alumni been up to?

Kamala Anthony & Cherie Kauahi

Voice of the Sea is a Hawai'i Sea Grant produced series about ocean and climate science. Season 9, *Hilo Loko I'a*, features Kamala and Cherie and is funded by the PI-CASC Manager Climate Corps program.

View the full episode [here](#)

Megan Lamson Leatherman & Nic Vanderzyl (marine science) were involved in producing a new [bill](#) banning microplastics!

STUDENT & FACULTY

Highlights

Award winners of Hawai'i Conservation Conference

Honorable mention for graduate student oral presentation (2021):

Amanda Navine "Investigating the role of the gut microbiome in susceptibility to avian malaria in Hawaiian honey creepers"

Honorable mention for graduate student speed talk (2022):

Stephanie Mladinich "Detecting trace development and application of environmental DNA for invasive mosquito monitoring"

100,000 pounds of marine debris removed from Papahānaumokuākea

Featuring: Ka'ehukai Grant Goin

"Nearly 100,000 pounds of marine debris that was smothering coral reefs and beaches in the Northwestern Hawaiian islands has been removed, thanks to a group that included University of Hawai'i at Mānoa alumni and students." - University of Hawai'i News

Access the full story [here](#)



"97,295 pounds of marine debris (primarily derelict fishing gear) removed from the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. (Photo credit: James Morioka/PMDP)"

Hilo public health fellow

Tearina Asiata is a new Hilo Hawai'i public health fellow with the Hawai'i State Department of Health. Her training started in August in Washington D.C.

New associate director of the TCBES MS program

Dr. Jonathan Price (JP) has taken over Dr. Becky Ostertag's position as associate director for the TCBES program, starting August 2022. Becky was director and associate director for the past six years. Mahalo Becky for your service!



JP, the new associate director for TCBES

UH whale experts featured in new PBS series

"Two episodes highlighting humpback whales and featuring researchers from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and UH Hilo are in new episodes of the public television series Changing Seas, produced by South Florida PBS. The series premieres on June 22." Read more [here](#).

New Dean of College of Natural and Health Sciences

Following the recent retirement of Dean James Mike, Dr. Brian Wissman has been appointed as the interim Dean for the CNHS. Read more [here](#)."

TCBES sends a big welcome to our new associate director and Dean!