Mapping marine debris on Hawaiian shorelines using ultra-high resolution aerial ortho-imagery





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Workshop on Mission Concept for Marine Debris Sensing Jan 19 – 21, 2016

Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD)

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- Sept. 2012 First confirmed JTMD item 4' square blue plastic fishing container: JTMD-01





Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD)

There are now 30 confirmed JTMD on HI's list





Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD)

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS)

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- Of ~1.5 million tons of debris from the 2011 Japanese Tsunami, much remained in coastal waters or were already in the water and accumulated marine growth native to Japan. These rafts transport alien communities to Hawaiian waters where they may become establish<u>ed</u>

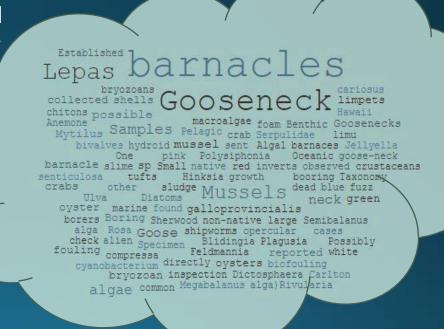


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- Of ~1.5 million tons of debris from the 2011 Japanese Tsunami, much remained in coastal waters or were already in the water and accumulated marine growth native to Japan. These rafts transport alien communities to Hawaiian waters where they may become established
- > 77 Confirmed cases of AIS on debris items
 - 42 Mussels
 - 15 Barnacles
 - 11 Algae
 - 4 Crustaceans
 - +69 Suspected cases







Improving upon previous efforts

2008 MHI – DFG survey

- Hughes 500 helicopter
- In-air observations
- Focus on DFG

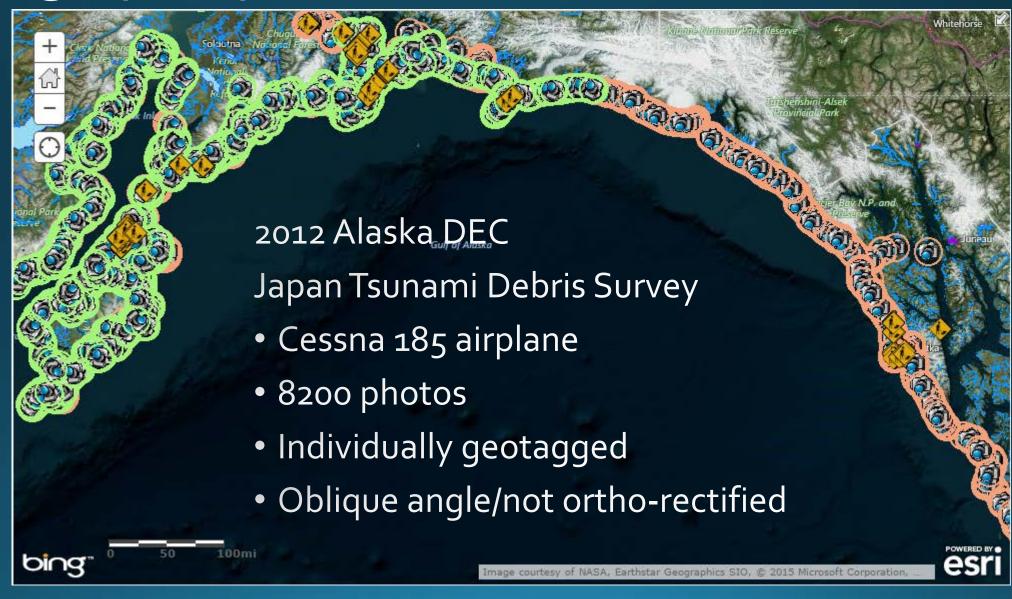


PIFSC. 2010. 2008 Main Hawaiian Islands Derelict Fishing Gear Survey.

NOAA Fisheries Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, PIFSC Special Publication, SP-10-003.

Improving upon previous

efforts



Ortho-imagery

- High resolution GIS data combining the visual detail of aerial photos with the spatial accuracy and reliability of a map
- Cessna 206 with belly port, gyro-stabilized gimbal, 3-camera array & computer for navigation / data collection

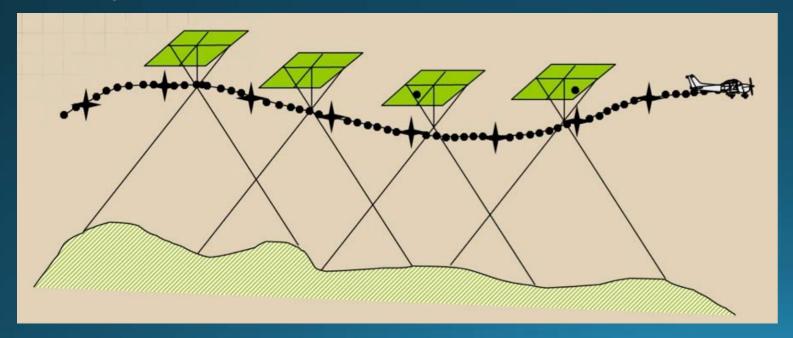




Challenges

- Image overlap
- Weather conditions
- Terrain
- Coastline complexity
- Airspace restrictions





Project overview

1. Aerial surveys

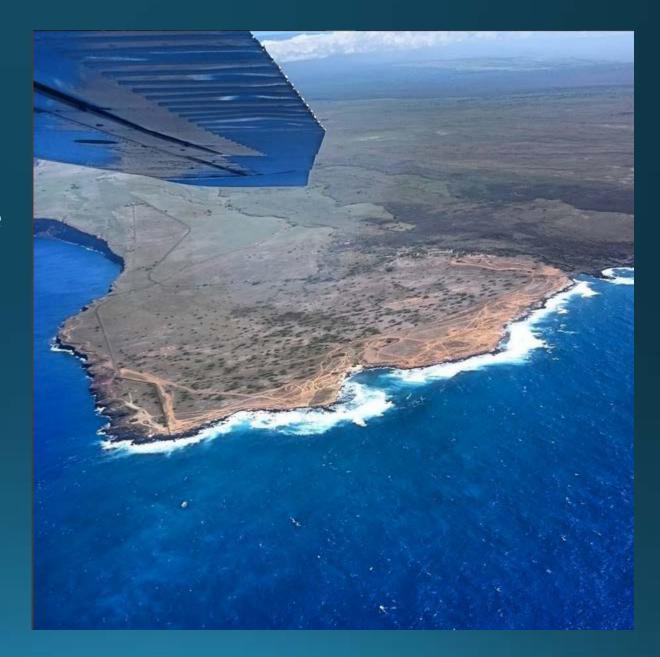
- Coastlines of the main 8 islands of the state of Hawai'i
- August November 2015

2. Image processing

- Spatial resolution: 2cm
- Swath: 200-300 m

3. GIS analysis

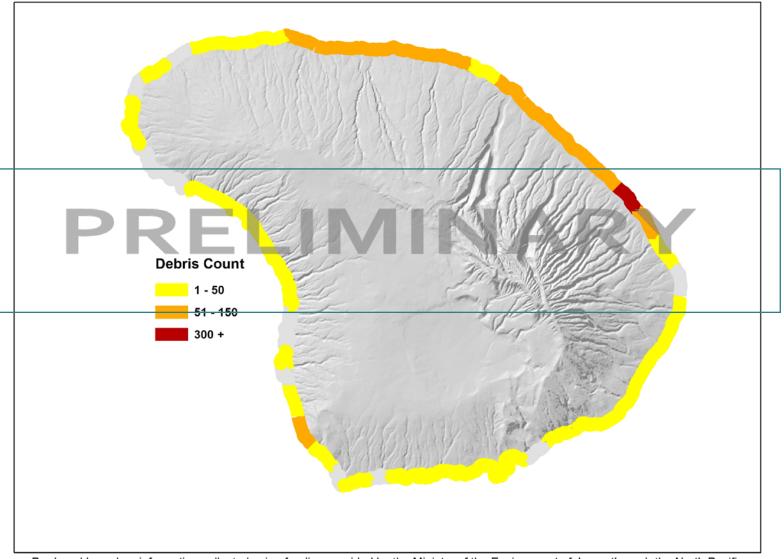
- Debris locations, type, size
- Final results in spring 2016



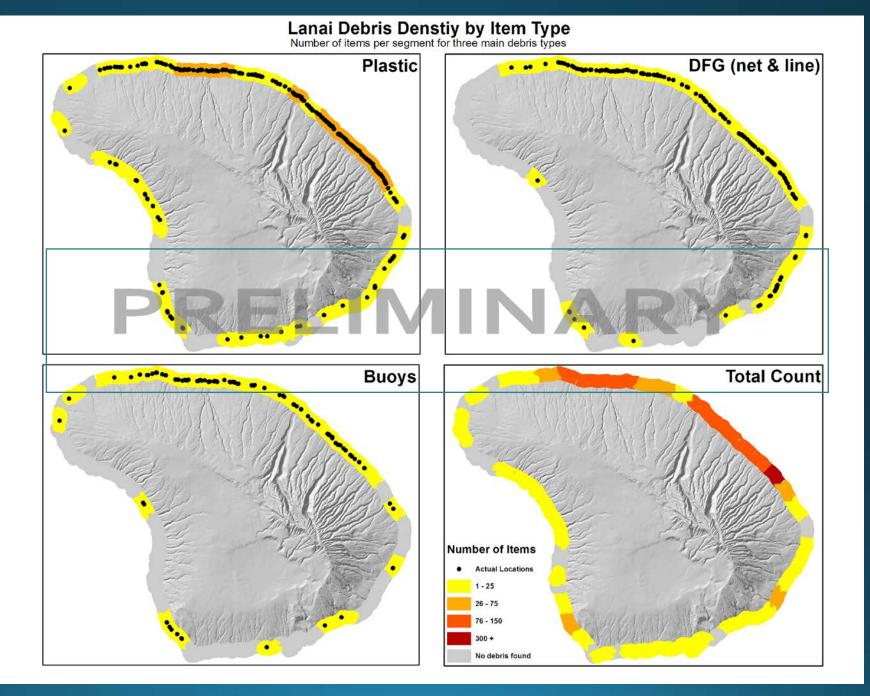


Lanai Marine Debris Density

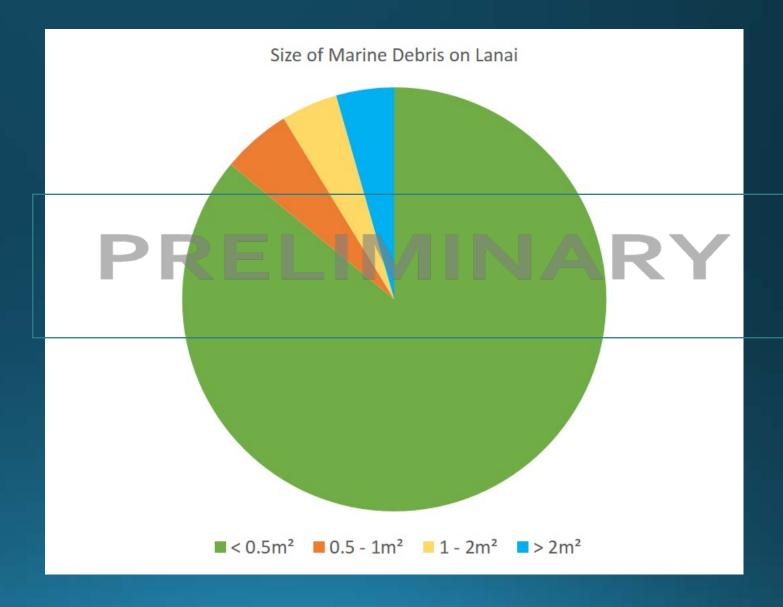
Number of items found per 1-mi segment



Produced based on information collected using funding provided by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan through the North Pacific Marine Science Organization. Aerial surveys conducted by Resource Mapping on September 9, 2015. GIS analysis performed by the University of Hawaii, Social Science Research Institute, Hawaii Coral Reef Initiative, funded by Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources through use of Japanese Gift Funds.

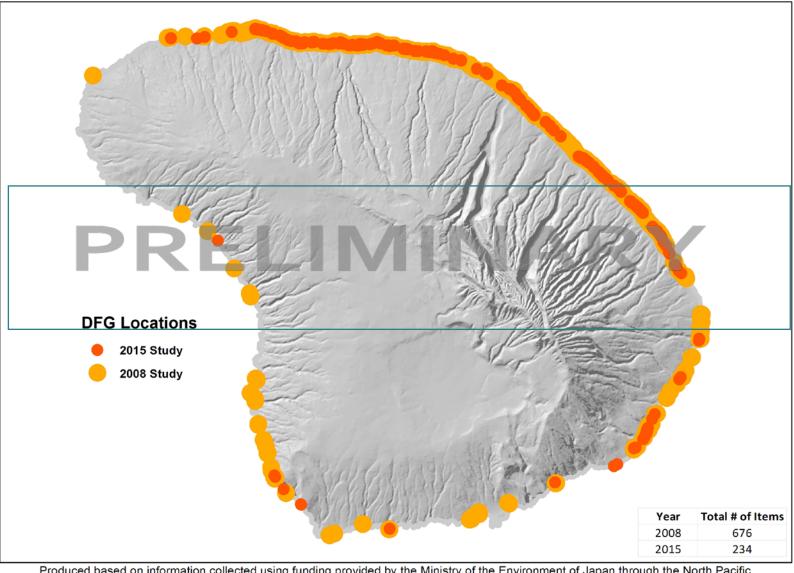






Lanai Derelict Fishing Gear

Comparing the 2008 NOAA study to current findings



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Informing Removal fforts

- "Hotspots" to direct managerial focus and NGO effort
- Large item removal needs and accessibility
- Coordinating with Partners

Future direction

El Niño Southern Oscillation





MARINE www.elsevier.com/locate/ma

Factors affecting marine debris deposition at French Frigate Shoals, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument, 1990-2006

Ab. Mary J. Donohue b, Elizabeth Flint c, Christopher Swens

MARINE MAMMAL SCIENCE, 23(2): 468–473 (April 2007) DOI: 10.1111/j.1748-7692.2007.00114.x

REMOTE SENSING REVEALS LINKS AMONG THE ENDANGERED HAWAIIAN MONK SEAL, MARINE DEBRIS,

MARY J. DONOHUE University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology, Hawaii Institute of Geophysics, Room 238, 2525 Correa Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, U.S.A. E-mail: donohuem@hawaii.edu

Joint Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Research University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hono

b University of Hawaii Sea Grant Conese CUS Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Ala Moana Boulevare. ⁴ Chris Woolaway and Associates, LLC, P.O. Box 25008, Honolulu, HI

Data on the amount and type of small debris items deposited on the beaches of the Hawaiian Islands Natio Island station, French Frigate Shoals were collected over 16 years. We calculated deposition rates and inv among deposition and year, season, El Nino and La Nina events from 1990 to 2006. In total 52,442 debris comprising 71% of all items collected. Annual debris deposition varied significantly (range 1116–519) was significantly greater during El Nino events as compared to La \\
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\text{La Services} the first quantitative evidence of the in-

excepts the only extant tropical seal. The remaining 1,300 • 1 mus species originated about 11 mya dus comprise a metapopulation in a contracted range restricted primarily to six subpopulations in the northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) (Carretta et al. 2005). The monk seal was likely extirpated from the main Hawaiian islands by Polynesians prior to western contact and subsequently constrained to suboptimal habitat in the NWHI (Baker and Johanos 2004). The persistence of the Hawaiian monk seal is uncertain due to numerous threats to the species' recovery, including pollution in the form of entanglement in marine debris in its negative impact on Recovery of endangered species is hampered to

operating on ecosystem or basis

We show that for the past 23 yr, monk seal entanglement has been elevated during periods characterized by the El Niño phenomenon and demonstrate that physical oceanographic processes contribute to changes in entanglement rates.

ding of factors marine debris 2, prompting entanglement tors affecting

we show that for the past 23 yr, monk seal entanglement has been elevated during ceanographic processes that aggregate this debris in the NWHI. ount of debris generated in the North Pacific periods characterized by the El Niño phenomenon and demonstrate that physical oceanographic processes contribute to changes in entanglement rates.

We used satellite remote sensing data as they became available to measure and image the sea surface of the North Pacific Ocean bounded by 160°W–180°W from

Future directions

Project Expansion

- Long-term monitoring
 - Tracking changes over time
- Automated feature extraction techniques
- Crowdsourcing
 - Citizen science
 - Educational/outreach tool

