

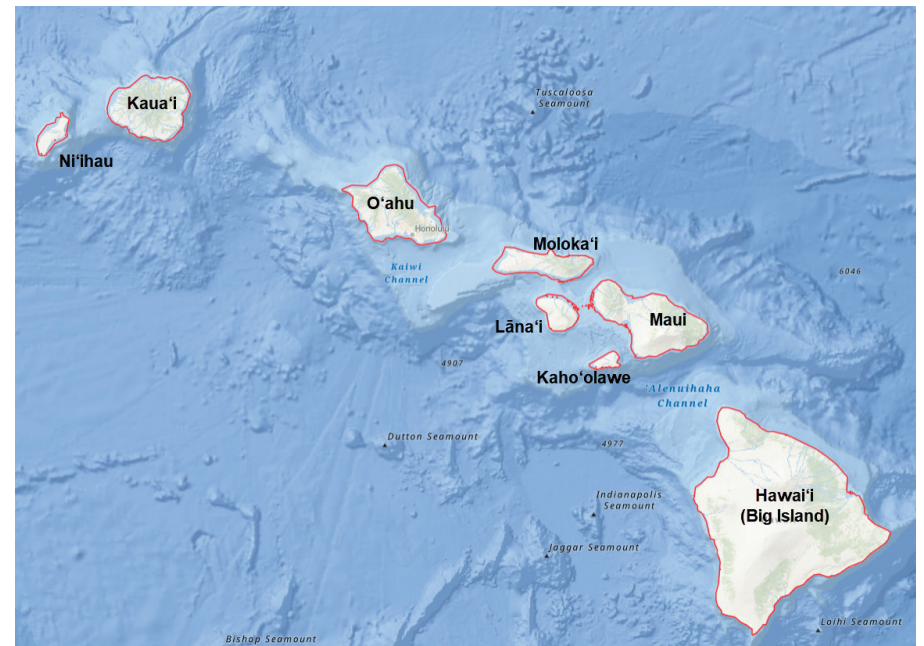
Agency Priorities for Mapping Shallow Coral Reef Ecosystems in the Main Hawaiian Islands

Overview

NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) has identified a need for priority locations based on emerging management requirements in shallow coral reef areas surrounding the Main Hawaiian Islands. The priorities provided by participating agencies will inform research and monitoring activities, address current and future management needs, and maximize opportunities to leverage and complement existing regional efforts. To meet this need, NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) developed a systematic, quantitative approach and online GIS application to gather seafloor mapping priorities from researchers and coral reef managers.

What We Are Doing

In FY22, NCCOS will build a web-based digital inventory of relevant shallow water (up to 40 m) mapping datasets and conduct a data needs assessment for shallow water areas surrounding the islands of Hawai'i, Maui, Kaho'olawe, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, O'ahu, Kaua'i, and Ni'ihau. During the summer of 2022, NCCOS will work with local agencies to gather their inputs and priorities. The analysis will be conducted once all inputs are received, and results will be shared with participants. The final results of this project will be summarized and shared online and in a final report.



Mapping prioritization area for the Main Hawaiian Islands. This project focuses on mapping needs in shallow coral reefs (0–40 meters depth, denoted by the red line).



