

# Lawai'a 'Ohana Camp Program Activities

**Cultural Practice:** Hawaiian culture and traditional practices are deeply imbedded in natural resource management. It is viewed as one in the same as these practices cannot thrive and be perpetuated if our environment is not productive and healthy. This includes knowing your area and the role humans play in caring for and stewarding the ocean and connecting ahupua'a (watershed).



**Making Fishing Gears:** An important component of being a pono fisher is having the proper equipment and knowledge of how to make and utilize it with the least impact to the environment and fishery. The time invested, pride and cultural value of making one's own fishing gear builds connections to the ocean and responsible practices, as well as making links to terrestrial resources that provide the gear materials.



**Pono Fishing Practices:** Participants learned traditional and sustainable fishing practices that are appropriate to local site conditions and resources from their elders and expert fishers. These activities helped to contribute to the transfer of ecological knowledge and practices between generations and to the development of pono fishers to ensure we have fish for future generations.



**Observation & Monitoring:** Multigenerational participants learned both traditional and modern scientific methods of natural resource and environmental studies from local elders and invited specialists. Through these hands-on activities, participants increased their understanding of resources and how to connect with it. They learned the importance of ecosystem function to help them be sustainable resource gatherers and improve their local decision making capacity for stewardship.



**Ahupua'a Restoration:** Local families participated in community service activities and learned the importance of watershed restoration and their connection to marine resource health. These activities empowered families as they helped to reduce the degradation of coastal landscapes, fish habitat, and contributed to improving nearshore fishing.



**Community Discussions:** Workshops and discussion groups convened in different communities to discuss visions of their ahupua'a, marine resource stewardship and management strategies. Voicing concerns on local fishery issues and discussing solutions to problem issues enabled participants to feel more connected to the ocean and its resources, which served to improve decision making capacity and individual ability to be an ocean steward.



**Huaka'i:** In addition to learning from elders and fishers within their community, some participants had the opportunity to visit other communities and organizations to see how their work supports pono fishing and sustainable marine resource management to improve local seafood security throughout Hawai'i.

