

Honu

Sea turtles are important to the culture and environment of Hawaii.

Honu are 'aumakua, one of the ancestral spiritual guardians of Hawaiian families.

Hawaiians maintain personal intimate relationships with the 'aumakua and feel their ancestral guardians lead them on the right path (pono).

The green sea turtles (honu) are native to Hawaii. They are the most common sea turtle in Hawaiian waters and feed on marine plants (limu) growing underwater.



Now threatened, green sea turtles are protected by U.S. and Hawaii State law.

Respect the turtles – Please do not crowd, chase, surround, swim with, handle, feed or tease them.

Enjoy sea turtles from a distance in our clear Hawaiian waters.

The responsibility rests on us to ensure their survival for all generations. It is 'pono' to do so.

Report any concerns about turtles to NOAA Fisheries @ (808) 983-5730.

A Living Reef Gives Our Islands Life



www.hawaiireef.org

Facts

- Hawaiians recognized that coral (ko'a) was one of the building blocks of our islands.
- Corals are living animals that eat, grow and reproduce.
- The reef ecosystem feeds, shelters, and provides habitats for marine life.
- Our world famous surf breaks and white sandy beaches are formed by the reef.
- 25% of our marine life is found **only** in Hawaii.

Actions

- Walking on or touching the reef harms it so practice floating.
- Don't touch or chase any marine life.
- Take only the fish you will eat today. Leave tomorrow's catch in the water.
- Leave the beach cleaner than when you arrived.
- Remember, anything we use on land ends up in our nearshore waters and affects our reefs, take care of our land and reefs.

