



## HAWAII LIVING REEF ECONOMICS

- Hawaii's nearshore reefs annually generate about \$800 million in gross revenues -- nearly 10% of the total revenues contributed by tourism to the state's economy.
- Each year, reefs along Maui's Kihei coast contribute \$34 million in gross sales, leading to \$28 million in added value to the economy.
- The degradation of reefs along Maui's Kihei coast result in an annual loss of over \$20 million to Hawaii's economy. The impact of algal blooms in Kihei has caused a decrease of hotel and rental income (about \$10.8 million) and depressed property value of \$9.4 million in 2002.
- Maui County condominiums pay \$200,000 a year to clean up their beaches.
- The aquarium fish industry is one of the most economically valuable nearshore fisheries in Hawaii. The industry's gross annual sales are approximately \$3.2 million.
- Cases involving coral reef damage in Florida show restoration costs alone can range from \$550 to \$10,000 per square meter.
- Fish Replenishment Areas (FRAs) along the Kona coast have decreased conflicts between aquarium collectors and other reef users, and results show an increase in aquarium fishes in both the FRAs and unprotected areas, benefiting both the aquarium and snorkeling and diving industries.
- Since 2000, when the FRAs were established, the overall price per fish collected has steadily grown.
- Snorkeling and diving are one of the top five activities for our visitors from the West.
- Millions of visitors are attracted to Hawaii's famous sandy beaches that remain intact due to the reef that disperses wave energy and lessens storm damage to our shores.
- Reefs, along with winds and tides, generate waves that make Hawaii world renowned for great surfing and a destination for many lucrative surf competitions.
- Hanauma Bay's educational video, shown to visitors to the park, is directly responsible for saving 10.4 acres of reef each year from being damaged throughout the state.
- The gain from environmental awareness through the education at Hanauma Bay will generate about \$100 million in added value over the next 50 years.

- To keep Hawaii's economy viable and to maintain our quality of life in Hawaii, adequate funding must continue to be provided for the management and education of Hawaii's reefs.

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