



Marine Corps Base Hawaii

*Green turtles on the move for food:
Newly found foraging grounds in the Nu'upia Ponds*

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Marine Corps Base Hawaii



Kaneohe Bay

Kailua Bay

Area of Green turtle activity

MOKAPU

MCBH

Nu'upia Pond

H-3

Google



TIMELINE

- Gorilla ogo (*Gracilaria salicornia*) spreading throughout Nu'upia Ponds
- April 2017 - First Reports of turtles in the Ponds
 - ❖ Over 70 turtles/day inhabiting the ponds and Mokapu Central drainage Channel
 - ❖ Foraged in Heleloa and Halekou ponds
- May 2017 – Green turtles depart the ponds
- Greens returned in May 2018, but in lesser numbers
 - ❖ Greens departed in Jun; however 10 remained behind in Nu'upia 'Ekahi pond
- Didn't return in 2019, but have counted up to 30 turtles in Nu'upia Ponds.





Access point to/from KBay to ponds

Area of the ponds where Green turtles were active in 2017 & 2018

Culverts

Halekōu Pond

Heleloa

H-3

Nu'upia 'Ekahi

Nu'upia 'Ekolu

Nu'upia 'Elua

Google



MOKAPU CENTRAL DRAINAGE CHANNEL (MCDC)





MOKAPU CENTRAL DRAINAGE CHANNEL (MCDC)



06/28/2017



HELELOA

Access to/fr
Kaneohe Bay

H-3

06/28/2017



Water flows to/from Kaneohe Bay

Bridge before Front Gate

H-3





2017







Food Source?

- Very little Gorilla ogo in Nu'upia Ponds; do Greens eat pickleweed (*Batis*)?
- Nu'upia 'Ekahi has a native red algae – *Spyridia filamentosa*
- In early 2019, large outbreak of Lynbya algae (swimmers itch)
- Is there a macro alage growing on bottom of pond?



?

Nature's Vacuum Cleaners



Before



After

Green turtles arrived in the ponds





Gorilla ogo



Gorilla ogo



Completely free of Gorilla ogo





2017
Turtles foraging in ponds





H-3

Culverts drain to KBay





Access/exit location of Green turtles entering Nu'upia 'Ekahi



Nu'upia 'Ekahi



2019 - Lynbya



Lynbya June 2019



Lynbya June 2019



HMAR Turtle Rescue





HMAR Turtle Rescue





Any Questions?

