



Proclamation

In Recognition of

National Estuaries Week

WHEREAS, estuaries such as the Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Reserve, Mu'olea Point, Pupukea-Paumalu, the Honu'apo Estuary, and Kilauea Bay are a special part of our island landscape; and

WHEREAS, estuaries are unique coastal environments that support more life per square inch than any other ecosystem on Earth, providing habitat for countless species of fish, shellfish, birds, and marine mammals; and

WHEREAS, estuaries act as a first line of defense against storms, floods, and rising sea levels; provide our invaluable ecosystem with water filtration and habitat protection; and serve as a protective buffer between the land and ocean; and

WHEREAS, local Hawaiian fish habitats and populations that depend on estuaries are valuable to our commercial and recreational industries, generating over \$500 million every year; and

WHEREAS, projects to restore our estuaries create more than twice as many jobs as the oil, gas, and road construction industries combined per million invested nationwide; and

WHEREAS, protecting and restoring our estuaries is vital to our local and national economy by sustaining fisheries, ensuring outdoor recreational opportunities, reducing the costly impacts of natural hazards, and supporting local jobs that cannot be exported;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim the week of September 17 - 24, 2016 as

"NATIONAL ESTUARIES WEEK"

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to help protect and restore our estuaries.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this twelfth day of August 2016.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i