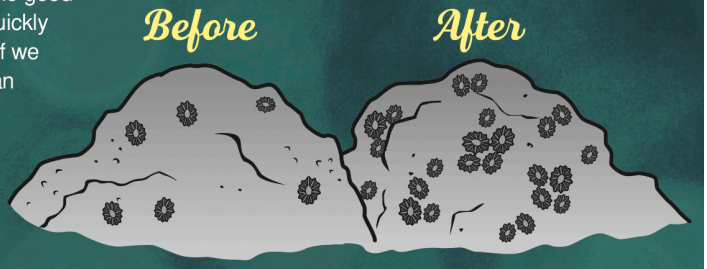
Together We Are Helping Kīpahulu

MAKE ‘OPIHI MOMONA AGAIN

Our Kīpahulu community is reviving the traditional practice of resting an area from ‘opihi harvest so that it will be momona (abundant) again. The concept is simple – allowing one area to rest means those ‘opihi have the chance to grow larger and produce more keiki that can spill over into neighboring areas, providing more ‘opihi for all of us!

Our study, which began in 2014, is already showing more ‘opihi in some areas. But more ‘opihi doesn’t mean enough ‘opihi. In order for the population to recover to a sustainable level, it needs a few generations to re-establish. Even now, occasional harvest in the rest area has noticeably decreased the population. The good news is ‘opihi reproduce quickly – every six months – so if we all work together, we can bring the ‘opihi back to sustainable and harvestable levels.



When there are a lot of ‘opihi close together, they produce many more keiki than if they are far apart. As prime spawners, very large ‘opihi also produce more keiki. Our community hopes to see more and larger ‘opihi side by side in the near future.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

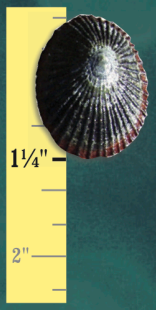
- Respect the voluntary ‘opihi rest area – which means no ‘opihi harvest while this area replenishes
- Follow best practices when harvesting outside of the rest area
- Share this information with family and friends
- Join Kīpahulu ‘Ohana to help monitor ‘opihi to inform management decisions

Located inside Haleakalā National Park, between ‘Ohe‘o Gulch and Kukui Bay. Look for the “‘Opihi Rest Area” signs.

BEST PRACTICES

Please pick ‘opihi only outside of the rest area and follow best practices wherever you harvest.

- **‘** ‘Ōlelo: Communicate with other families so you don’t pick the same area at the same time
- **O** Pick just a few for today: ‘opihi don’t make more ‘opihi in the freezer
- **P** Inch & a quarter is too small: pick bigger than 1¼ in, but leave the really big ones*
- **I** Huli Hele (search everywhere): keep moving, pick from different areas
- **H** ‘Ihi Kō‘ele (respect Kō‘ele): leave the Kō‘ele alone, they live under the water line
- **I**



**The current Hawai‘i State Regulation for the take of ‘opihi is a minimum shell size of 1 1/4 inches.*

LEARN MORE

Visit **kipahulu.org/opihi** or contact **opihi@kipahulu.org** for more information on monitoring efforts both inside and outside of the rest area that will help us better understand ‘opihi and our efforts to perpetuate them.

KĪPAHULU.
OUR MOKU. OUR KULEANA.

Kīpahulu ‘Ohana · National Park Service · The Nature Conservancy · Texas A&M University Corpus Christi