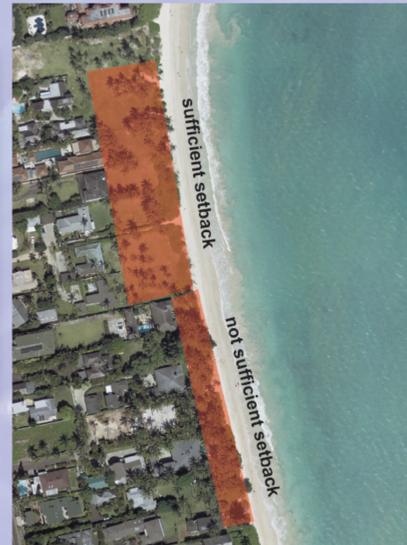


# e malama kahakai

## 5 Simple Rules for Living with a Beach:

### 1. Build Responsibly

Learn the rate of coastal erosion before building on the coast. Don't build anything near an eroding beach. Build houses and roads back at least 200 feet from the vegetation line. Design lots and streets so that their long axis extends landward from the beach. This gives room to move a house if necessary. Design houses so that they can be moved in the future. Massive houses on cement foundations are not appropriate on a moving shoreline. If a house is threatened by erosion move it or demolish it - prepare for this eventuality with your insurance company. Beaches are more important than buildings.



### 5. Coastal Hazards Happen

Sea level is rising today at one inch per decade and expected to accelerate. Tsunamis, hurricanes, and high waves are natural events on beaches. Houses near beaches should be built on pilings so that tsunamis and storm waves won't cause damage and so that they can be easily moved if necessary. Learn the history of coastal hazards before building on the coast. Coastal sites experience high winds. Minimize external features to your house and use hurricane clips during construction. Sea level is rising now and will continue to rise for several centuries. Include higher sea levels in your plans.



### 2. Seawalls

Never build a seawall on an eroding beach, it will cause the beach to disappear. Instead, restore the beach and dune with sand and be prepared to maintain the beach and dune with more sand at regular intervals in the future. Move your house if necessary.



### 3. Protect Sand Dunes

Malama the dune behind the beach. Do not lower the dune or put dirt on it. Beaches need dunes to store sand. This helps them counteract storms and the effects of sea-level rise. Plant only vegetation native to your area on the dune. Interfering with natural beach processes can lead to erosion. Building on dunes, blocking sand movement, or removing sand from the beach can lead to beach loss. Do not promote vegetation growth onto the beach.



### 4. Malama Hawaiian Beaches

Beaches belong to everyone. Beaches are vital to the Hawaiian economy, environment, and island lifestyle. Encourage your elected representatives to support beach-friendly legislation.



Your Turn!

What's more important to you? Beaches or Buildings?