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Support to Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC)

Island of Kaho'olawe, Hawaii

ZAPATA has provided a wide variety of Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC) safety support to the KIRC on the island of Kaho'olawe since 2004.

The island of Kaho'olawe was used by the U.S. military for over 60 years as a maneuver, bombing and naval gunnery target. Despite a 4 year cleanup effort prior to its return to the State of Hawaii, considerable MEC hazards remain.

The safety support we provided, often at short notice, included inspection of possible MEC, use of magnetometers and metal detectors to detect possible sub-surface MEC, monitoring for MEC during subsurface intrusive activities, and MEC safety escort in areas of known



or suspected UXO contamination. We also provided labor assistance and safety oversight during construction activities including installation of drain culvert and establishment of a new access trail to one of the island's historic sites. Our trained and qualified MEC diver was also instrumental in the safe installation of several turbidity monitors in the waters surrounding the island.



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