



**Civil Air Patrol**  
U.S. Air Force Auxiliary



# HAWAII WING

## Wing's Tsunami Warnings Save Lives

The Hawaii Wing's signature mission dates back to 1957, when Hawaii Gov. Samuel Wilder King took steps to secure federal aid for north coast areas of Oahu and Kauai devastated by a tidal wave that left more than 250 people homeless and over 1,000 isolated by infrastructure damage. While the disastrous wave inflicted enormous damage along a 15-mile strip at Hanalei, miraculously no injuries or deaths occurred — a direct result of the wing's performance in sounding alarms warning residents, who evacuated to high ground.

At least 85 tsunamis have been recorded in Hawaii, generated by earthquakes in the Pacific. At each notification, Hawaii Wing pilots head to the airport to prepare aircraft and equipment while they remain on standby to fly warnings above remote coastal communities, sounding the alarm and broadcasting instructions via fuselage-mounted loudspeakers.

Pilots keep go-bags in their vehicles and respond to requests even in the middle of the night, following a detailed

operations plan to familiarize them with favorite camp and fishing sites throughout the islands.

During 2020 COVID-19 affected the Island State's most precious resources. In turn, Hawaii Wing leaders developed a new pilot on-boarding program and youth aviation initiative. The wing's operations tempo remained high and included a personal protective equipment (PPE) mission. Aircrew training also remains a priority so pilots can always answer the call when needed.



This photo of Haena, on the island of Kauai, is one of many coastal communities where Hawaii Wing aircrews warn about approaching tsunamis.

# Hawaii Wing 2020 Statistics

## Volunteer Members

305 adult members  
334 cadets  
78 aircrew personnel  
404 emergency responders

## Squadrons

10 locations statewide

## Aircraft

10 single engine  
1 glider

## Vehicles

15 vehicles

## Interoperable Communications

7 VHF/FM repeaters  
85 VHF/FM stations  
21 HF stations

## Missions

8 search and rescue missions  
    7 finds\*  
\* Includes finds credited with national team support  
3 disaster relief missions  
11 air defense intercept training and evaluation missions  
1 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC cadet orientation flight mission  
2 other Air Force support missions  
5 training missions  
3 other state support missions  
1 other mission in support of partner agencies and organizations or local municipalities

## Significant Events Supported in Fiscal Year 2020

Sentry Shield; Koa Shield; Hurricane Douglas; Pacific Missile Range Facility support

## COVID-19 Mission Support

Distributing test kits and PPE; air transport missions

## Cadet Flying

145 CAP cadet orientation flights

## Total Hours Flown

881

## Financial

\$94,000 in state funding  
\$2,188,819 value of wing's volunteer hours

## National Commander

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## Region Commander

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## Wing Info

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## Website

www.hiwing.cap.gov

## DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ The Hawaii Wing has provided tsunami warnings for remote communities in the Island State for more than 50 years.
- ✓ The wing's aerospace education team organized statewide CyberPatriot cybersecurity competition teams for both middle and high school.
- ✓ The wing was awarded the 2020 CAP Homeland Defense/Homeland Security Award for Excellence in the Pacific Region.

