

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Ocean Robot makes Aloha Aina journey from Hawai'i Island to Maunalua Bay; collects data to better understand our oceans***

**MAUNALUA BAY, December 4, 2015** - Liquid Robotics' Wave Glider®, the world's first hybrid wave and solar powered ocean robot, arrived this week in Oahu's Maunalua Bay after its month long journey collecting scientific ocean data through the Maui Nui Channel from Puako Bay in West Hawaii Island. This journey is part of an Aloha Aina Case study, a new outreach program developed by Liquid Robotics and in collaboration with partners, Malama Maunalua, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), non-profit and grassroots community partners. The goal of the program is to promote and educate the public on the importance and economic, environmental and social benefits of a healthy, sustainable ocean.

"Malama Maunalua is proud to support this collaborative effort and welcomes the Wave Glider to Maunalua Bay," said Frazer McGilvray, executive director of Malama Maunalua. "The Wave Glider will provide data we need to understand current conditions of the Bay, which we can use to help improve the quality and future of the Bay."

During its' travels, the Wave Glider named "Malama", Hawaiian for "to take care of", is collecting ocean data on water quality, weather, salinity, and other critical factors that affect ocean health. The Wave Glider will also tweet surface and underwater images, location and weather information as it visits and collects data in Maunalua Bay. Anyone on twitter can also request a tweet from @Holoholo\_WG by using the keywords picture, location, or weather. A live video feed from the deck of the Wave Glider® can be viewed at: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/eVyJEfCMbqq>

The data collected will assist Hawaii's communities and natural resource managers to develop conservation management plans and make informed decisions.

"Liquid Robotics is honored to collaborate with Malama Maunalua, NOAA and our community partners to create awareness about the importance of ocean health, and the human impacts on the ocean," said Roger Hine, Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer, Liquid Robotics. "To navigate change and make the right stewardship decisions, we need scientific data. The scientific data collected by our Wave Glider will contribute towards advancing the health of our ocean and marine resources, with the intention of creating greater sustainability for the State of Hawaii and globally."

The arrival of the Wave Glider coincides with Aloha Aina's Citizen Science Day on Saturday, Dec. 5th to encourage members of the general public to partake in scientific research by gathering data, asking questions, and analyzing information. While the Wave Glider gathers data on water quality in the offshore waters of Maunalua Bay, Malama Maunalua invites the public to a community huki, or invasive algae "pull," to conduct their own water quality monitoring tests and discover how invasive alien algae affect ocean water quality. For more information or to attend the community huki, contact Nicole Williams at [nwilliams@malamamaunalua.org](mailto:nwilliams@malamamaunalua.org).

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About Malama Maunalua: Mālama Maunalua ("Caring for Maunalua") is a community-based non-profit stewardship organization committed to conserving and restoring a healthy and productive Maunalua Bay.

About Aloha Aina: Aloha Aina is a collaborative outreach initiative developed by Liquid Robotics, NOAA, and other community outreach partners, including Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail, Ala Kahakai Trail Association, Coral Reef Alliance, Conservation International–Hawaii, Mokupapapa Discovery Center, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System, Puako Community Association, Malama Maunalua, The Nature Conservancy, University of Hawaii Hilo and the University of Hawaii Sea Grant.

About Liquid Robotics: Liquid Robotics designs and manufactures Wave Gliders, the first wave and solar powered autonomous ocean robots. With our partners we address many of the planet's greatest challenges, by transforming how to assess, monitor, and protect the ocean. We solve critical problems for defense, commercial, and science customers. Liquid Robotics is a venture-backed company. Visit us at [www.liquidr.com](http://www.liquidr.com) to learn more.

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\*Media note: photos of the Liquid Robotics Wave Glider are attached. Please provide attribution to Liquid Robotics.