Hawaiian Land Divisions

Hawaiians divided their islands into districts called moku. Moku were further divided into ahupua’a, a land division extending from the uplands to the sea.

Below, the map shows the moku of O'ahu. Notice that these names are familiar. They have been in use in Hawai'i since ancient times and are still in use today.

Moku of O'ahu

SCALE: This word is about the difference between a distance on a map and the distance on the ground of the real place the map is showing.

QUESTIONS: Use your ruler to find out the answers!

1. How many inches is it from the North tip of O'ahu (at top near Ko'olauloa) to the South tip (at bottom near the Kona Moku, where Honolulu is)?

2. If the scale of this map is 1 inch = 10 miles, then estimate how many miles long O’ahu really is. To find the answer multiply the inches by 10 miles.

3. Now measure the length of O’ahu from West (left tip at Wai‘anae) to East (right tip below Ko'olaupoko), write the miles, then draw the scale below.