

## **The Hukilau Song** by Jack Owens (1948)

Hukilau is a fishing technique invented by the ancient Hawaiians. A large number of people worked together in casting the net from shore and then pulling it back. Everyone who helped could share in the catch.

Hukilau is also known to Hawaiians today as a festive beach gathering.

Basic Steps:

### **Kaholo R**

Step R to R, close L to R, step R to R, touch L

### **Kaholo L**

Step L to L, close R to L, step L to L, touch R

Hip swings towards the foot that gets weight

### **Ka'o R**

L hip moves up & over while stepping from L to R

### **Ka'o L**

R hip moves up & over while stepping from R to L

Start with R foot pointing forward

#### *1. Oh we're going to a hukilau*

##### **Kaholo R**

R hand hitchhike over R shoulder, L hand on hip

##### **Kaholo L**

Pull net from R shoulder to lower L twice

#### *2. A huki a huki a hukilau*

##### **Kaholo R**

Pull net from L shoulder to lower R twice

##### **Kaholo L**

Pull net from R shoulder to lower L twice

#### *3. Everybody loves the hukilau*

##### **Kaholo R**

Arms start out to sides, come in to cross in front, palms ending near opposite shoulders

##### **Kaholo L**

Pull net from R shoulder to lower L twice

#### *4. Where the laulau is the kaukau at the big luau*

##### **Ka'o R, L**

Extend Left hand; Ka'o R: pick up food with R fingers, Ka'o L: taste food

##### **Kaholo R**

Pull net from L shoulder to lower R twice

#### *5. We throw our nets out into the sea*

##### **Kaholo L**

Both hands from R shoulder out to L corner,  
palms up and waist high

##### **Kaholo R**

Both hands make horizontal wave motion to R corner

6. *And all the ama'ama come swimming to me*

**Ka'o L, R, 3 quick Ka'o L, R, L**

Hands extended fwd, one on the other, thumbs make circles up and back, 2 slow and 3 quick

7. *Oh, we're going to a hukilau*

Repeat line 1

Third time through, skip to Ending

8. *A huki huki huki hukilau*

Repeat line 2

Chorus:

9. *What a wonderful day for fishing*

**Kaholo R**

Arms up to both corners

**Kaholo L**

Fists above R shoulder out to L corner, palms up

10. *The old Hawai'ian way*

**Ka'o R, L, R, L**

Cross arms in front of heart & open out to corners

11. *All the hukilau nets go swishing*

**Kaholo R**

Palms down, arms swing from L to R twice

**Kaholo L**

Palms down, arms swing from R to L twice

12. *Down in old Laie Bay*

**Kaholo R**

L arm up, R fwd, R moves from L to R corner

**Kaholo L**

R arm up, L fwd, L moves from R to L corner

Repeat dance from line 1

Ending:

13. *A huki huki huki a huki huki huki*

*A huki huki huki hukilau*

**Kaholo R, L, R, L, R, L**

Pull net twice from L, R, L, R, L, R

Step back on R foot in back L corner, fingertips on shoulders, reach out with both arms and L foot to front R corner