

**Kauai Water Use & Development Plan Update
First Series of Public Meetings
October 20, 2015
Kilauea Neighborhood Center
5PM to 6:15 PM**

ATTENDANCE:

KDOW: Kirk Saiki (Manager and Chief Engineer), Edward Doi (Head of Water Resources & Planning Division, WR&P), Regina Flores (WR&P), Kim Tamaoka (Public Relations, PR), Jonell Kaohelaulii (PR)

Fukunaga & Associates, Inc. (Consultant): Lynn Malinger, Amanda Tanaka, Amanda Kimi
Resolutions Hawaii (Facilitator): Dee Dee Letts

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this series of five (5) public meetings is to present the information that will be covered in the update, the sources for this information, how it will be presented, as well as any information that is available regarding the status of the resource on the Island. There will be a second series of public information meetings in about a year that will present all of the data gathered.

The intent of this series of meetings is to create an understanding of the purpose and intent of the Kauai Water Use & Development Plan Update and the context within which it is being developed. This series is to give the community an opportunity to express any concerns or voice any questions they may have about the process to be used to create the update. This will allow the consultant and the Department of Water to factor these into the planning process as the data is being collected and analyzed.

The meeting started with a presentation by Fukunaga & Associates. This presentation is posted on KauaiWater.org. There is a one page handout from the meetings that is also posted on the same website.

DISCUSSION:

These notes reflect the questions and concerns voiced by attendees at the Kilauea meeting. (Q = question; A = answer; C = comment.)

- 1) C: Surface water is abundant on the North Shore, but there is not enough storage available.
- 2) Q: Will information on reservoirs and dams be included?
A: Yes, but the main source of information will come from the Agricultural Water Use and Development Plan (AWUDP).
- 3) C: Hearings on Kauai for other components of the Hawaii Water Plan, including the AWUDP, should be well-publicized.

- 4) C: Agricultural water use projection of 3,400 gpad seems low.
- 5) Q: How does this process propose to integrate Federal water use?
A: Federal water use would be included in County [meter] data if the water comes from the County water system. If the water use is served by surface water, such as is the case for U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge, then that use should be accounted for in the Instream Flow Standards and diversion data, which are the responsibility of CWRM. [If the use is served by a well, that information should be reported to the Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM).]
- 6) Q: Are water catchment systems legal?
A: Yes, but they are not regulated by the Department of Health.
- 7) C: An attendee had thought water was a limiting factor for development. Based on the presentation, it doesn't seem like it.
A: Infrastructure, getting the water from the aquifer to the faucet, is the limiting factor. Maintaining irrigation systems is also difficult/costly.
- 8) C: There needs to be a balance. More water being used for irrigation may mean more recharge. However, more water left in the stream will promote the health of the stream as well as the health of the ocean.
- 9) C: Concern was raised over the Kalihiwai Reservoir. Residents want it to look full and beautiful, while users want to use the water when needed. In addition, maintenance is difficult due to the costs and number of owners/users.
- 10) C: People take water for granted and need to understand the cost of getting the water to them and should be willing to pay more for this service. An attendee encouraged Kauai Department of Water (KDOW) to charge more for water so they have money to maintain and build more infrastructure.

NEXT STEPS:

FAINC will continue to collect and analyze data and will explore the issues that were raised during the meeting. The findings will be presented at the next public information meeting. In the meantime, new and updated information will be posted on the DOW website periodically.