

**Beneficiary Informational Meeting  
Anahola Surface Water Resources  
January 26, 2011  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Anahola Clubhouse**

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Attendance: Kae Ah Loo, Audrey Loo, Ihiihi Kaneali'i, Charlotte Kaneholani, Agapito Navor, Melissa Navor, Bruce Kaiwi, Keoki Puaoi, Own Kauahi, Shirley Ann L. Kauahi, Lizann Toguchi, Amanda Kaleiohi, Edward Kaleiohi, Yvonne Pa, Clement Kaneholani, Kanie Kaimina'auao, Makan Bacon, Anna Carvalho, Patrick Kelekoma, Manulele Clarke, Ku'ulei Mahinai-Ornellas, Frank Rivera Sr., Amber Rivera, P. Llatto-Poepoe, Ku'ulei Richardson, Reg D. Manaku, Frank Cummings, John Pia, John Kaohelauli'i, Kula Thanton, Lorna Contrades, Richard Ornellas, Eleanor Rivera, Lorraine Rapozo, Kawehi Mahi, Faisha Solomon, Sheldon Costa, LeRoy Kaona, May Orlando, Janete K., Keone Ah Loo, Rusty Ah Loo, Time Kallai, Hope Kallai (Approximately 44)

DHHL: Julie-Ann Cachola, Planner; Kaleo Manuel, Planner; Mona Kapaku, District Offices Supervisor, Stewart Hanchett, Kaua'i Commissioner

USGS: Chui Ling Cheng, Hydrologist; Delwyn Oki, Hydrologist; Ben Shimizu, Hydrologic Technician

Lyon Associates: Mark Yonamine, Vice President; Haku Milles, Project Manager

**Purpose:**

To present and discuss two surface water projects being conducted in Anahola

- 1) Surface Water Availability Study – United States Geological Survey
- 2) Kaua'i Dam Assessment – Lyon Associates

Introduction

- The meeting was opened with a pule by Yvonne Pa at 6:15 p.m.
- Kaleo Manuel introduced DHHL, USGS, and Lyon Associates Staff and welcomed beneficiaries to the informational community meeting. The Department is excited to share two (2) projects that they have commenced to address surface water in Anahola. Mr. Manuel explained that this meeting was an opportunity to connect the consultants on these projects with the community.
- To get everyone familiar with the topic at hand, Mr. Manuel and Ms. Julie-Ann Cachola provided an overall context of water in Anahola.
  - In the regional planning process in 2007 and 2010, one of the priority projects focused on the management and use of surface water resources in Anahola, the study and assertion of water rights, cultural resources study, and a potential master plan for surface water use (management & maintenance, agriculture, hydropower, revenue generation, etc.)
  - The focus of the two (2) projects is on surface water, not ground water
  - There is an integrated irrigation system made up of streams, ditches, and reservoirs/dams that run throughout the Anahola and Kealia ahupua'a that serviced the pineapple and sugar plantations.
  - Data from these projects will better help guide DHHL and the community on making decisions about future use, development, and agricultural initiatives to pursue in Anahola

### Surface Water Availability Study - USGS

- Mr. Delwyn Oki began the presentation by providing a brief background on USGS and their vision statement.
- Ms. Chui Ling Cheng then spoke about previous projects that USGS has worked on Kaua'i and throughout the state.
- Ms. Cheng's presentation was two-fold:
  - Introduction on hydrologic concepts
    - Aquifer system
    - Water budget
    - Streamflow
  - A general project overview
    - Background
    - Study objectives
    - Study area
    - Available data
    - Products
    - Timeline

### Kaua'i Dam Assessment – Lyon Associates

- Mr. Mark Yonamine opened up the presentation by introducing his company and explained the scope of their project
  - After the Kaloko disaster, the State of Hawai'i is now regulating reservoirs/dams statewide via legislative mandates.
  - Study and assessment of 5 dams on Kaua'i (4 in Anahola and 1 in Kekaha) are required in order to determine whether to keep or close dams
- Mr. Haku Milles followed up with more details of their project
  - Currently cleaning and clearing the crest of the dams
  - Future topographic surveying and dam integrity assessments will commence shortly
  - The two outputs from this assessment will be:
    1. Dam Feasibility Study
    2. Operational and Maintenance Manual

### Open Discussion

Throughout the presentations by DHHL, USGS, and Lyon Associates, the community had various questions and comments. Those comments are captured below, with discussion and feedback from the presenters.

#### Surface Water Availability Study

- Water gage questions/comment:
  - Are there any active gages in Anahola?
    - *No. That's why this study is important to get baseline data.*
    - *However, there are inactive gages in Anahola that provide useful historic flow data in the streams and the ditch system.*
  - How does a gage become "inactive"?
    - *Primary reason is lack of funding. It costs approximately \$20,000/year to monitor and keep gage active.*
  - Can't the community manage and get reading from the gage?
  - DHHL should spend the money and get our Anahola gages working again. That is a community desire.

- DHHL should have information already on water in Anahola. There is old plantation information available as well.
  - *We are currently conducting background research on the area and Lihue Plantation. We are looking to local experts and former plantation workers for information and data (e.g., photos, maps, water use data, etc.) as well. This study is important to get current data.*
- Can the community be involved in data collection and site visits?
  - *The data collection portion of the study is very technical, but we will try to see how to include the community as part of this study and to provide educational and learning opportunities. We are seeking community participation through research and background information.*
- Is this project looking at surface water only on DHHL lands? The community here is also interested in the larger system as it crosses land boundaries.
  - *The scope of this project is to determine the amount of water available in Anahola. This project also looks at the native biota in the stream. We will try to get as much information as possible. The focus will be on those resources on DHHL lands or public lands. There are tributaries that come from state land and flow into private lands.*
- Kealia Water Company has the permits for water use and diversion because of the liability. DHHL needs to get involved in those meetings.
  - How long is the permit for?
- The time line for these projects are long (both around 2 years). Am I going to be alive to see water come back to Anahola? I think we seriously need to look at both long term and short term solutions to address surface water issues.
- Short term solution: Open up the Anahola intake, use the existing system and see how it can be fixed.

#### Dam Assessment

- What are the criteria for the dam assessment? Is it based on state law?
  - *Lyons is working directly with DLNR to be sure that they are doing everything by the book and that they are follow to proper procedures during the assessment. A bulk of their assessment is based on engineering studies.*
- Why are the trees being cut from the bank/crest? From what I understand, if you cut the trees, the roots die and then there will be a hole.
  - *In order to assess the integrity of the crest, we needed to clear the trees. The trees, can still grow back.*
- Will the operational and maintenance manual be for DHHL or the community? How can we be involved?
  - *The manual will give us both an idea of how to operate and maintain the dams. We are still in the early planning stages, so we can work on incorporating a community component into the manual.*
- Are they giving recommendations to the county and other agencies on how to use the water for irrigation purposes?
  - *This assessment/study only recommends whether to keep or close the dams. We do not recommend how to use the water. That is a future step that will need to be discussed with DHHL.*
- What is the timeline for the dam assessment?
  - *Right now it's a 2 year timeline, but based on the progress we made thus far, we may be done faster.*

- Non-active reservoirs/dams seem like a big budget item. If reservoirs are not there, how will that affect the larger system for agricultural and irrigation uses?
  - *That will need to be investigated in another study. This study will only assess the dams' integrity and determine whether or not to keep or close.*
- Who will decide on the use of the water? DHHL? Community?
  - *Both. DHHL ultimately will have to make a decision, but the community's input is important.*
  - *Various scenarios will have to be discussed.*
- Based on the presentations, shouldn't the dam assessment go first before the Surface water availability study?
  - *We are working on coordinating the work of the contracts to make sure that our timing makes sense.*
- What type of trees are you folks clearing? We have cultural affiliation to certain trees.
  - *The trees being cleared are highly invasive; mostly albesia and plum*
- How are you going to get water to Upper and Lower Anahola Dams? The ditches are broken?
  - *Your expertise about the system is needed and much appreciated to help guide us in making proper decisions.*
- How can the community get involved in your project?
  - *This is a very technical project. Most of it is based on engineering studies. We will look at ways to include the community. The manual may be a way to get the community to participate.*

#### General

- The information being shared in this meeting needs to be recorded. There should be a tape recorder here to capture this discussion and the community's mana'o
- DHHL should spend the money to open up the intake to the Anahola ditch. That would bring water down
- The community of Anahola has already been holding meetings on water and bringing in experts from agencies to present and provide information.
- Knowledge is power...the more we know the better
- DHHL and these consultants are not the enemy. They are doing good work and trying to provide us with information. Mahalo
- Has hydropower been investigated as a potential financial offset for the maintenance and management of dams and ditches?
- There are probably groups, organizations, or individuals already here that would want to participate in the management.
- We have experts in this community
- Hazardous areas should be a priority for both projects and before we decide to bring back any water.
- The legislature is starting. Are we putting anything in?
  - *We have a new chairman so we are trying to get him confirmed as fast as possible. Until then, we will most likely not be going in for anything big. This leg session is basically a wash.*

#### Closing

- Ms. Cachola and Mr. Manuel thanked everyone for attending. They expressed the importance of connecting community with the consultants and that this is a project that we,

the Department and beneficiaries, will be a part of. Community experts in water were also encouraged to get involved and share information to help guide the project.

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.