

**DHHL WATER POLICY PLAN STATEWIDE COMMUNITY MEETINGS
LANA'I ELEMENTARY & HIGH, LANA'I CITY, LANA'I
NOVEMBER 7, 2013
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

Attendance: 18 people signed in; about 25 people present.

DHHL: PLO – Kaleo Manuel (Project Manager), Nancy McPherson, Ulu Lota, Andrew Choy

CONSULTANT: Jonathan Scheuer

Handouts:

- Agenda
- DHHL Water Kuleana Handout
- Conversation Mapping Handout

Presentation:

Kaleo Manuel provided an overview of the Water Policy Plan process, its context and relationship to the planning system, and the work done to date in developing the plan. Jonathan Scheuer synopsized the history of water law in Hawai'i and also presented the specific rights and kuleana DHHL and the trust have related to water.

Conversation Mapping:

In order to gather mana'ō from beneficiaries and the community that would help guide what information should be included in the Water Policy Plan, the Department used a tool called "Conversation Mapping." The following triggers were used to initiate conversation amongst meeting participants:

- Ola I Ka Wai: What are the key water issues in your community?
- E Malama I Ka Wai: How should DHHL balance the development and protection of water?
- He Kuleana Ko Kakou: How should DHHL assert its rights to water?

*Please see the attached conversation maps.

Open Discussion:

Below are the questions, comments, or testimony provided either verbally, on green comment sheets, or by letter, by those present at the meeting:

- Regarding Maunalei gulch, under water rights, does land owner own the water?
DHHL: The land owner owns the stream and land, but not the water.
- They cannot limit access to the water?
DHHL: Private land owners cannot limit access.
- Is desalinization a public trust resource? Is it a lawful use of public trust resource?
DHHL: Taking ocean water for desal has not been challenged to my knowledge. There have been instances of taking water from brackish wells and desalinating the brackish water. Those instances fall into public trust.
- We are looking to get salt water below the aquifer. It is outside the aquifer and outside the jurisdiction of CWRM. It is sea water.

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- Can Hawaiians on homestead lands receive rights to free water?
DHHL: The idea of free water means that DHHL does not have to pay the state to get the water. The water bill is not for the water itself, it is the cost to deliver the water from the source to the home. It covers the cost to maintain the system that delivers the water to homes.
- I have a friend on Big Island. He has a loi, the water comes from the mountain and into his loi. Whose water is that?
DHHL: It's his water to use. He should not have to pay for it.
- The whole desalinization issue is interesting. What kind of water kind of water category would it fall?
DHHL: Desalinization is a very new technology. We need to have further discussions as communities to decide which category to put desalinization water in. Also, the ocean is also a public trust resource. There is a constitutional provision that says that all natural resources are held in trust by the state. Ocean water is a trust resource, but it is not regulated yet.
- Molokai, animals come into yards and farm areas because it is dry, no water.

All handouts, notes, and conversation maps can be found on the DHHL website at:
dhl.hawaii.gov