

**DHHL WATER POLICY PLAN STATEWIDE COMMUNITY MEETINGS
KUHIO HALE, WAIMEA, HAWAI'I
NOVEMBER 12, 2013
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.**

Attendance: 42 people signed in; about 60 people present.

DHHL: PLO – Darrell Yagodich, Kaleo Manuel (Project Manager), Ulu Lota, Andrew Choy, WHDO – Jim Du Pont, Denise Murphy, MDO – Halealoha Ayau
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:

- Does the Governor approve Water Commissioners?
DHHL: Yes, the Governor appoints and the State Senate approves the Governor's nominations.
- Seems like there is conflict of interest in some of them.
DHHL: CWRM Commissioners are supposed to have expertise in water.
- What water system does DHHL own in Kawaihae?
DHHL: We only own the tanks in Kawaihae. It is a distribution system. Water comes from Kohala Ranch.
- To exercise water reservation rights, does that require a GWMA?
DHHL: Unlike other state or private entities, DHHL can reserve water. The only tool CWRM has to enforce DHHL water reservations is in the GWMA designation.
- Of all the lands DHHL has, what areas does DHHL own in upper watershed areas? DHHL: In Hawaii Island, Waimanu Valley, Kawaihae Mauka areas,

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portions of Kalae in South Point. By and large, the water rich lands in the trust are limited. Many of our lands are not water rich. Per the HHCA, lands were excluded from: sugar plantations and forest reserves. Thus the remaining trust lands are not water rich.

- How many wells does DHHL own? DHHL: Great question. Will need to do more research, but it's one of the reasons having an inventory of water assets will be useful.
- Why has DHHL dedicated water sources such as wells to the County?
DHHL: In the past, dedication of water sources has occurred on a case by case basis based upon cost and management considerations.
- DHHL: Two wells were dug in Kawaihae. Those wells were deemed not adequate to service the trust.
- Why are rates so high in Kawaihae?
DHHL: Cost of oil is one reason, the cost to pump and deliver water is mostly from oil costs.
- I saw no area in there that has a provision for beneficiary organizations for taking control of water resources. Whether or not beneficiary organizations have capacity shouldn't be driving the policy. If there is capacity for a beneficiary organization to take over the water system, then there should be a policy in the plan for that organization to get control of the system. Maybe the organization can run the system in the black.
- Change the CWRM. Get less sugar plantation people and more homesteaders on CWRM.
- When you use the word "commission" are you referring to CWRM or HHC?
DHHL: This plan and policy rests with the HHC. I am talking about the HHC. But we also want CWRM to know what our communities are saying about water policy as well.
- See if HHC would dedicate staff people to get this done.
- Need key for water spigot – Puukapu rancher!!
- When are we getting a new project manager?

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

dttl.hawaii.gov