

Maui County Department of Water Supply
 Maui Island Water Use & Development Plan
Community Workshop – East Maui
 November 17, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Meeting Summary

This was the 1st workshop in the 3rd round of workshops scheduled in 2016 on the Maui Island Water Use and Development Plan (WUDP) by Department of Water Supply (DWS) staff. Approximately 10 people attended in addition to DWS staff. This set of workshops is focused on WUDP strategies to address the key issue, while two earlier set of public meetings in 2016 were focused on issues and preliminary strategies.

Written materials provided by DWS staff included the Agenda, East Maui Region description, Strategies Matrix, and Summary of WUDP Public Meetings. All prior materials are online at www.mauewater.org – click on Water Use and Development Plan. DWS staff reviewed the East Maui Region handout, and then reviewed the preliminary strategies in a roundtable forum. The following questions and comments were noted by DWS staff at the meeting. DWS comments are provided as indicated.

East Maui Region Handout Review

Subject	Comment	Response
WUDP Process	What does the Maui Island WUDP cover?	All water uses and water users on Maui Island. The WUDP will address water availability for development consistent with the Maui Island Plan adopted by the County Council.
WUDP Process	What is your affiliation?	We are staff to the Maui County Department of Water Supply in the Water Resources & Planning Division. For the purposes of preparing the WUDP, our charge is to assume a neutral viewpoint and assess all water needs and uses.
Upcountry Meter list	Are meter list requests at elevations higher than the water system?	Some are. Locations at higher elevations are generally more expensive to serve by wells due to pumping costs. On the other hand, it's cheaper to pump wells near the point of demand than to convey water pumped from wells at lower elevations. Acceptability of alternatives based on cost is a question for the community.
Availability for taro farmers	Are we setting goals to be sure there is adequate water for taro farmers during drought?	The WUDP will attempt to inventory taro needs and assess drought conditions.

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Availability for Taro farmers	There should be adequate water during drought to support taro farmers and farmers such as Kula supplying local markets.	
DHHL	Will the needs of DHHL (Keokea, Kahikinui) be considered?	Yes. The 2016 State Water Projects Plan addresses these needs.
EMI	If EMI took care of the leaks in its system there would be plenty of water and you would not need any of this.	CWRM addressed this in the East Maui Streams contested case.
State Lands	What is happening on state lands above Kualapa	
MDWS Kaupo system	At the Kaupo Community Association Meeting an issue was raised- have ranchers done anything more to coordinate with County on filtration?	MDWS services major infrastructure.
A&B	A&B is still making it look like they need a lot of water even without sugarcane or a plan. Any plan will use less water than sugarcane.	

Discussion of Strategies

9. Watershed protection: Invasive alien plant control, ungulate control, reforestation via watershed partnership programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The East Maui Watershed Partnership is fencing off areas to reduce ungulates in Kaupo/Kahikinui areas; this has not occurred before. • This affects animal migration and local hunting, and dead animals are ending up in streams and polluting water. • Locals are not aware when aerial hunting undertaken by the State is taking place, which affects safety of people in the area. Need communication with Kipahulu community. • Ungulates eat invasives which reduces them, and killing ungulates contaminates stream water sources. There are conflicts. • Outreach approach is recommended to reduce conflicts: inform the community about the reason, when it's happening. Consider win/win to gain support, such as a meat-share program. • The area is infested with goats. Private interests and the state should work together to gain control and reduce liabilities. NPS should get hunting clubs involved. Engage with community- exchange something for protection; work days in exchange for gathering.
10. Expand watershed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage watersheds mauka to makai - ahupua'a system. Freshwater runoff to ocean; brackish water for estuaries; protection of coastline. Rely on brackish water for opae.

protection to lower elevations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection versus live off the land. Protect farmers, loi's, streams. On Nahiku side, prawns are killing opae. • Streams were dry; some are being restored. Educate on rejuvenating opae-community effort.
12. Quantify the impact of watershed management and distribute funding proportionally	Agree with increased funding.
13. Consultation with Native Hawaiian moku / community and local experts on resource management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aha moku works with other partners: in the Kahikinui area, the Helekunihi Cultural Foundation. Reforestation at 1800 feet; capture moisture and drain to ground increases moisture in soil to support plants. • Article 106 provides a good process model; the county should adopt something like this. Engage all the mokus and the community associations.
14. Restrict land uses with high risk of well contamination near drinking water wells	Aerial pesticide use occurred in the past. No pesticides should be used over 3,000' elevation. Poisons in area above Hamoa.
15. Protect and recharge ground water during non-drought periods to stabilize supply	Increasing surface water use in wet season supports aquifer recharge – this is acceptable.
23. Support water transport for municipal needs after IFS is adopted protecting kuleana and instream uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFS and adequacy for taro is first priority. More people/generations are coming back to establish taro lo'i. Need water available for uses along the stream at all elevations; people lower on the stream also need water. • Need to fix EMI ditches to reduce water loss. • State/county should take over EMI system. EMI transports water over state lands for low cost and then makes a profit off public trust resource. <i>(It is noted by staff that technically EMI is being paid for use of the ditch, not for the water itself).</i> • Support sustainable ag- use of surface water from east Maui streams for local farmers is acceptable. • East Maui is providing the water and still has to pay to subsidize the water for MDWS Upcountry customers. <i>(It is noted by staff that MDWS customers pay more to subsidize Hana customers than vice versa).</i> • Kula Ag Park- maximize efficiency of EMI system before increasing storage.
28. Develop wells for increased reliable source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, if this reduces reliance on East Maui aquifer. • Concern over health of the aquifer (chlorides) - be sure recharge is being met.

Upcountry (reduce transport)	
41. Increase water conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kihei is landscaped to look like Hana. Water is on 24/7. • New development should be required to use climate adapted landscaping. Give a tax incentive. • Maximize use of alternatives sources. Use gray water and reclaimed water; should be required for new development. <i>(It was noted by staff that golf courses are required to use reclaimed water.)</i> • Increased rates do not deter the rich from using more water. What works? Private gated communities, major new development need to be targeted. • Need to be super aggressive on water conservation given all the planned development.
51. Use water rates as means to encourage conservation	In response to the question: would you be willing to pay more for specific measures such as watershed protection: Yes, willing to voluntarily pay more for a specific purpose along with report on the effectiveness of the measure – what are the quantified results?

Summary prepared by DWS staff, November 18, 2016