



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**REGION IX**

**75 Hawthorne Street**

**San Francisco, CA 94105-3901**

Mail Code: WTR-6

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESMENT FOR THE KAPULENA WELL DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECT**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to examine the impacts arising from the development of a new well in the Hamakua District of the Island of Hawaii. The County of Hawaii Department of Water Supply (DWS) will construct the project in two phases. The initial phase of the project consists of drilling and testing a new exploratory well. If pump tests confirm that the well's yield is adequate and suitable for use as drinking water, DWS will convert the well into a production well, construct a 300,000-gallon water storage tank, and connect the tank to an existing 50,000-gallon tank already in service at the site during the second phase of the project. Additionally, a control building will be constructed on the site to house a chlorination system and control center.

The purpose of the project is to provide a new drinking water source for the Kukuihaele Water System. The primary drinking water source for the system has been abandoned due to damage caused by the October 2006 Kiholo Bay Earthquake. Furthermore, the Hawaii Department of Health Safe Drinking Water Branch has made a determination that the spring source is under the direct influence of surface water and subject to filtration and disinfection requirements. DWS currently provides hauled water to the community. The new well would replace the spring source and the new water tank would provide for adequate water storage for domestic and fire flow requirements.

EPA anticipates directing Federal Year 2010 Appropriation State and Tribal Assistance Grant funds to DWS for the second phase of the project only. DWS may receive additional federal funding for both phases of the project under the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program administered by the Safe Drinking Water Branch of the Hawaii State Department of Health.

In 2009, DWS completed an environmental review to meet Hawaii DWSRF program requirements. As part of this review, DWS published an EA for both phases of the project. The EPA has used the 2009 EA as the basis for this EA, which was written in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

DWS has begun construction on the first phase of the project, having met DWSRF program requirements. This phase is scheduled to complete construction December 6, 2010. Construction of the second phase is scheduled to start October 1, 2012, and to complete by January 1, 2014.

# **KAPULENA WELL DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

CFDA # 66.202  
R-9 TRACKING #10-025

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## **Environmental Information Document**

### **For The**

### **Kapulena Well Development – Phase 1 (Exploratory Well) & Phase 2 (Production Well and Supporting Facilities)**

#### **A. Proposed Project and Funding Status**

1. **Project Purpose and Need:** The County of Hawaiʻi, Department of Water Supply (DWS) is responsible for the development, operation, and maintenance of the various water systems throughout the Island of Hawaiʻi. Historically, the DWS supplied the needs of its customers in the Kukuihaele area using water from the Kukuihaele (Waiʻulili) Spring. (For a map of the existing Kukuihaele Water System, see Figure 1.3.) In the aftermath of the October 2006 Kiholo Bay Earthquake, DWS found the spring's outflow was drastically reduced from 70,000 gallons per day (GPD) to 6,000 GPD. As a result, the spring has become insufficient to supply the Kukuihaele area. The spring was also determined to be a groundwater source under the direct influence of surface water by the State Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB). Because of this determination by SDWB and its reduced outflow, DWS has ceased using the Kukuihaele (Waiʻulili) spring. As an alternative, DWS has contracted to truck in water to supply this area.

In order to eliminate the high cost of hauling water, DWS proposes to replace the spring and trucked-in sources with a new well. The proposed well would provide a cost-effective means of meeting current and anticipated Federal safe drinking water regulations. In addition, this well development project is ranked number one on Hawaiʻi's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Priority List of Projects for State Fiscal Year 2009.

In addition to the proposed well, a 0.30 million gallons (MG) water tank will be provided to maintain adequate water storage for domestic and fire flow requirements. (For the General Site Plan of the proposed well and water tank, see Figure 2.2.)

With the realization of this project and the availability of a new water source, the current water supply method of trucking in water from another well to meet the water consumption of the Kukuihaele Water System will be eliminated. Consequently, the water hauling trucks will no longer be needed and the concomitant engine exhaust emissions, noise, traffic-related hazards, and dust nuisance will be eliminated. In addition, the new well will provide a water source that is not as sensitive to drought conditions as the Kukuihaele (Waiʻulili) Spring. Furthermore, as previously mentioned, the new 0.30 MG reservoir will enhance the water system's domestic water storage. This increase in water storage will ensure water availability in the event of an emergency (broken water main, power outage, etc.). The new reservoir will also help to improve public health and safety by meeting the necessary fire flow requirements.

#### **2. Project Goals and Objectives**

The goals and objectives for this project include the following:



- Eliminate the costly water hauling due to the abandoned Kukuihaele (Wai,ulili) Spring.
- Provide a dependable high quality water source for the Kukuihaele Water System.
- Enhance the water storage capacity for the Kukuihaele Water System.
- Meet the fire flow requirements for the Kukuihaele area.
- Meet the future water demand requirements for the Kukuihaele Water System in accordance with the DWS 20-Year Water Master Plan. (Note: According to the Hawaii County General Plan (2005), with a 2020 planning horizon, the projected population growth in the District of Hamakua is about 11 percent between the years 2010 and 2020.)

### 3. Project Description

a. Project Summary: DWS proposes to construct a new exploratory well on private property in the Hāmākua District of the Island of Hawai'i (See Figure 1.0 for a map of the Hāmākua District). Photographs of the property are presented in Figure 2.1. Construction work for the exploratory well (Phase 1) has begun. The date for the Notice to Proceed was March 12, 2010. The construction duration is 270 calendar days, which sets the completion date for this exploratory well project as December 6, 2010. This Phase 1 portion of the project will involve the drilling, casing, and testing of the exploratory well. If pump tests confirm that the well's yield is adequate and suitable for use as drinking water, DWS will convert the well into a production facility, install a new 0.30 MG reservoir, and connect the reservoir to an existing DWS 0.05 MG tank that is already in service at the site (see Figure 2.2). Included in the project are the following deliverables:

#### 1.) Preconstruction Deliverables:

- Approved plans and specifications.
- Construction cost estimate.
- Necessary permits for construction.
- Acquisition of bids from prospective contractors.
- Bid evaluation, award, and contract by DWS.

#### 2.) Construction Deliverables:

A brief description of major project elements provided during the construction period is as follows:

- The Kapulena Well will be outfitted with a 100-horsepower, 200 GPM submersible well pump (see Section B in Figure 2.4 and Figure 2.5). A new water-level transmitter will be installed with the new 0.30 MG

reservoir and connected to the proposed new SCADA system that will control both it and a transmitter connected to the existing 0.05 MG reservoir. In concert, these transmitters will enable automatic start/stop operation of either the well pump or the existing pump at the 0.05 MG reservoir, and remote control from the Waimea base yard, as needed.

- From the well pump, 6-inch diameter Class 53 ductile iron piping (often referred to as the pump discharge piping) with control valves and other control elements will run for a short distance aboveground, then go underground to the existing 0.05 MG reservoir and the proposed 0.30 MG reservoir. The aboveground section of pipe will be about 22 feet long and will contain some of the pump control elements, mainly for ease of access and maintenance. The underground section of pipe will be 8-inch diameter Class 52 ductile iron piping and will be about 300 feet long to the 0.05 MG reservoir and about 190 feet long to the 0.30 MG reservoir. Another section of underground piping is the effluent or discharge line from the 0.30 MG reservoir. This pipe will be 12-inch diameter Class 52 ductile iron pipe and will be about 65 feet long.

- The currently undeveloped eastern portion of the well site will be graded to accommodate the production well facilities and access road extension. As shown on Figure 2.2, access to the site will be from an extension of the existing private road that serves the adjacent properties. DWS will obtain an easement over this road to permit access for maintaining the facility. Construction will require grading of 0.63 acres. The grading will also require excavation of approximately 885 cubic yards of material and an embankment of approximately 720 cubic yards.

- The proposed design calls for a standard DWS reinforced concrete tank with a capacity of 0.3 MG. The tank will have an approximately 46-foot diameter and 25-foot operating height. Tank piping will be a minimum of 8- and 12-inch diameter. It will be designed to Seismic Zone 4 design load standards (see Paragraph B.9 and Paragraph D.1.i for discussion).

- The single-story concrete-block control building will house the chlorination equipment, motor control center, electrical control panel, SCADA system, and alarm system (see Figure 2.6). The outside dimensions of the structure will be approximately 26 feet by 45.25 feet, for a total footprint of approximately 1,176 square feet.

- DWS plans to install a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to monitor and control system operation. The SCADA facilities will be housed in the control building. The SCADA telemetry communication will be via phone service provided by Hawaiian Telcom. This will require telephone service to be extended to the site from the

existing service line along Honokaʻa-Waipio Road. Once constructed, the line will be dedicated to Hawaiian Telcom. This phone line will provide the telecommunication link with DWS's master SCADA unit located at their Waimea Baseyard.

- A seepage pit will be constructed to the north of the proposed reservoir (see Figure 2.3). It is approximately 8 feet in internal diameter and 7 feet 11 inches deep (see Figure 2.8). During the exploration phase for the Kapulena Well Development project, the seepage pit will receive water from the pump testing; once the well is operational, it will accommodate water from the pump startup. It will also collect water from the proposed reservoir in the unlikely event that it needs to be emptied for repair. Finally, the seepage pit will collect storm water runoff from most impermeable areas of the site.
- The proposed facility additions will require electrical power for lighting, pump control equipment in the control building, and for the well pump. The existing Hawaiian Electric Light Company (HELCO) three-phase power line along Honokaʻa-Waipio Road has sufficient capacity to accommodate the additional electrical load. However, the existing single-phase electrical service connection from that power line to the property will need to be upgraded to three-phase power and extended overhead across the road and into the well and tank lot as part of this project. Underground service ducts will be installed from the new onsite service pole to a pad-mounted HELCO transformer for the proposed well pump station. The existing chlorination system at the 0.05 MG tank site will continue to utilize its existing HELCO connection. The service request for this pump station has been submitted to HELCO for processing. Utility metering will conform to HELCO's requirements.

Figure 2.3 contains a detailed site plan. Details concerning the well drilling, pump installation, testing, outfitting, and operation are provided below, along with a description of the proposed reservoir and associated site improvements.

b. Planning Area Description: The Kukuihaele Water System is a small water system that serves the Kukuihaele and Kapulena communities (see Figure 1.3). It is a relatively simple system consisting of a single water source, the Kukuihaele (Waiʻulili) Spring, with water pumped to the Kukuihaele and Kapulena communities, each served by a single tank. Kukuihaele (Waiʻulili) Spring had an average production rate of 70,000 gpd, which exceeded the daily consumption rate. At present, there are currently 163 water meters or service accounts in the Kukuihaele Water System with an average day water consumption of about 40,000 gallons per day. This consumption varies to a maximum day water consumption of about 60,000 gallons per day. The water system is also sized to accommodate a peak hour consumption of about 8,300 gallons per hour. The water from the spring source is pumped to the 0.10 MG Kukuihaele reservoir. The water is gravity fed to a booster pump station that pumps the water to the 0.05 MG

Kapulena reservoir. There is approximately six miles of water distribution pipelines in this system.

The proposed well and 0.30 MG reservoir would be constructed adjacent to the DWS's existing 0.05 MG, 0.104 acre Kapulena Homestead Reservoir site (TMK: 4-702:29). The two tanks would be interconnected to provide redundancy for the Kukuiahae Water System. The new well and reservoir would be located on a portion of TMK 4-7-02:35, a 41.303-acre parcel, a privately owned parcel that surrounds the existing tank site. Currently, this area is a producing macadamia nut orchard. The large parcel from which the well site would be subdivided is located adjacent to the Honoka'a-Waipio Road to the north and the Kawaikalia Stream to the west (see Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2). The County of Hawaii has an agreement in place with the landowner for the site's fee-simple purchase should the present project be approved.

An existing overhead electrical line on the property provides power for the existing DWS facility and is connected to the HELCO electrical distribution line across Honoka'a-Waipio Road. The DWS will upgrade this existing single-phase electrical line to a three-phase circuit for the new facilities.

c. Planning Period: Construction of the project will occur in phases. The initial phase consists of well drilling, casing, and pump testing. The second phase consists of the pump outfitting, and construction of the 0.30 MG reservoir and related support facilities.

Phase 1: Exploratory Well

1. Notice To Proceed	March 12, 2010
2. Construction Completion	December 6, 2010

Phase 2: Production Well and Supporting Facilities

1. Design and Land Acquisition (12 months)	Start on January 1, 2011 Complete by January 1, 2012
2. Design Review and Approvals (4 months)	Start on January 1, 2012 Complete by May 1, 2012
3. Permit Acquisition (3 months)	Start on February 1, 2012 Complete by May 1, 2012
4. Bid Solicitation (2 months)	Start on May 1, 2012 Complete by July 1, 2012
5. Bid Evaluation, Award, NTP (3 months)	Start on July 1, 2012 Complete by October 1, 2012
6. Construction Period (15 months)	Start on October 1, 2012 Complete by January 1, 2014

#### d. Description of Project Construction Phases and Major Unit Processes

1.) Phase 1 – Exploratory Well: Preliminary plans call for the well to extend from the planned finished grade of the well pad at 1,033 feet above mean sea level (MSL) to a depth of about -87' MSL. The borehole will have a diameter of 25 inches. As shown in Section A of Figure 2.4, solid steel casing (18" inner diameter) will be installed in the upper 1,020 feet of the hole. Below that will lie 90 feet of perforated casing. The upper 833 feet of the annulus space between the outside of the boring and the solid casing will be filled with cement grout. The exploratory well will be drilled and tested using diesel-powered equipment. Hence, the site will not require electrical power during the exploratory phase of development.

Pump-testing will be at rates up to 700 GPM and may extend up to 5 consecutive days. Present plans call for the water from these tests to be disposed of in a seepage pit constructed on site. The contractor may seek approval for the disposal of pumped water off site if necessary, subject to NPDES requirements of the State Department of Health (Hawaii Administrative Rules 11-55, Appendix I).

2.) Phase 2 – Production Well and Supporting Facilities: If the results of the pump-test confirm that the well is suitable for production, the Kapulena Well will be outfitted with a 100-horsepower, 200 GPM submersible well pump (see Section B in Figure 2.4 and Figure 2.5). A new water-level transmitter will be installed with the new 0.30 MG reservoir and connected to the proposed new SCADA system that will control both it and a transmitter connected to the existing 0.05 MG reservoir. In concert, these transmitters will enable automatic start/stop operation of either the well pump or the existing pump at the 0.05 MG reservoir, and remote control from the Waimea base yard, as needed.

The currently undeveloped eastern portion of the well site will be graded to accommodate the production well facilities and access road extension. As shown on Figure 2.2, access to the site will be from an extension of the existing private road that serves the adjacent properties. DWS will obtain an easement over this road to permit access for maintaining the facility. Construction will require grading of 0.63 acres. The grading will also require excavation of approximately 885 cubic yards of material and an embankment of approximately 720 cubic yards.

The proposed design calls for a standard DWS reinforced concrete tank with a capacity of 0.3 MG. The tank will have an approximately 46-foot diameter and 25-foot operating height. Tank piping will be a minimum of 8- and 12-inch diameter. It will be designed to Seismic Zone 4 design load standards (see Paragraph B.9 and Paragraph D.1.i for discussion).

The single-story concrete-block control building will house the chlorination equipment, motor control center, electrical control panel, SCADA system, and alarm system (see Figure 2.6). The outside dimensions of the structure will be approximately 26 feet by 45.25 feet, for a total footprint of approximately 1,176 square feet.

DWS plans to install a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to monitor and control system operation. The SCADA facilities will be housed in the control building. The SCADA telemetry communication will be via phone service provided by Hawaiian Telcom. This will require telephone service to be extended to the site from the existing service line along Honoka,,a-Waipii,,o Road. Once constructed, the line will be dedicated to Hawaiian Telcom. This phone line will provide the telecommunication link with DWS's master SCADA unit located at their Waimea Baseyard.

A seepage pit will be constructed to the north of the proposed reservoir (see Figure 2.3). It is approximately 8 feet in internal diameter and 7 feet 11 inches deep (see Figure 2.8). During the exploration phase for the Kapulena Well Development project, the seepage pit will receive water from the pump testing; once the well is operational, it will accommodate water from the pump startup. It will also collect water from the proposed reservoir in the unlikely event that it needs to be emptied for repair. Finally, the seepage pit will collect storm water runoff from most impermeable areas of the site.

The proposed facility additions will require electrical power for lighting, pump control equipment in the control building, and for the well pump. The existing Hawaii,,i Electric Light Company (HELCO) three-phase power line along Honoka,,a-Waipii,,o Road has sufficient capacity to accommodate the additional electrical load. However, the existing single-phase electrical service connection from that power line to the property will need to be upgraded to three-phase power and extended overhead across the road and into the well and tank lot as part of this project. Underground service ducts will be installed from the new onsite service pole to a pad-mounted HELCO transformer for the proposed well pump station. The existing chlorination system at the 0.05 MG tank site will continue to utilize its existing HELCO connection. The service request for this pump station has been submitted to HELCO for processing. Utility metering will conform to HELCO's requirements.

e. Owner and Operator of the Facilities: DWS will be the Owner and Operator of the completed facilities.

f. Capacity: As mentioned, the Kapulena Well will be outfitted with a 200 GPM pump. It will supply the two tanks with a combined storage capacity of 0.35 MG.

g. Proposed Total Project Cost

1.) Phase 1: Exploratory Well: The cost for this portion of the overall project is \$1,048,000. This cost includes design services for Phase 1, preparation of the Environmental Assessment for Phase 1 & Phase 2, and construction of the exploratory well. The construction work will begin in March 2010.

2.) Phase 2: Production Well and Supporting Facilities: Phase 2 is anticipated to begin in January 2011 with the design work and land acquisition.

A. Design and Permit Acquisition	\$ 560,000
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B. Land Acquisition \$ 80,000

C. Construction

1. Pump Outfitting, Control Building,  
and HELCO Charges \$1,320,000

2. 0.30 MG Water Tank and  
Site Work \$2,008,000

3. Offsite SCADA Improvements \$ 30,000

TOTAL \$3,998,000

Say **\$4,000,000**

h. Portion of Total Project Funded by EPA: EPA funds will be used for Phase 2 – Production Well and Supporting Facilities only.

i. List of Amounts, Sources, and Status of All Funding Sources

1.) Phase 1 - Exploratory Well:

Description	Amount	Source	Status
Professional Engineering Services	\$103,748	DWS CIP* Funds	\$86,451 expended
Construction	\$944,000	DWSRF* Loan	Interim Loan Agreement (Dated: Nov. 15, 2009)
TOTAL	\$1,047,748		

\*CIP – Capital Improvement Projects

\*DWSRF – Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

2.) Phase 2 – Production Well and Supporting Facilities:

Description	Amount	Source	Status
Land Acquisition	\$80,000	DWS CIP Funds*	Not Currently Budgeted

Description	Amount	Source	Status
Design and Permit Acquisition	\$521,047	DWS CIP Funds*	Not Currently Budgeted
	\$38,953 (Design Allowance)	DWSRF* Loan	Not Currently Applied For
Construction	\$930,000	EPA STAG* Funds	FY2010 EPA Appropriations
	\$760,909 (Match)	DWSRF* Loan	Not Currently Applied For
	\$1,667,091 (Balance)	DWSRF* Loan	Not Currently Applied For
<b>TOTAL SAY</b>	<b>\$3,998,000 \$4,000,000</b>		

\*DWS CIP Funds are from facility charge collections and/or General Obligation Bond loans.

\*STAG – State and Tribal Assistance Grants

\*DWSRF – Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

#### B. Existing Environment As Pertains to Project

1. Topography, Geology, and Soils: The Kukuiahaele area is on the lower slope of the northeastern flank of Mauna Kea. Most of the surface area is composed of Pāhala ash, which is a commonly occurring geological formation in many parts of the island. The Pāhala ash consists of finely divided vitric (glassy) lava believed to have been formed as a byproduct of wind blowing on aerial lava fountains from volcanic eruptions of Mauna Kea. Along the Hāmākua coast, the ash is much altered to a mixture of clay minerals and aluminum and iron oxides. It is also characterized by young stream valleys that have cut narrow V-shaped notches into the land surface (Macdonald, Abbott, and Peterson 1983).

The soil at the site is the erosional byproduct of the original Pāhala ash. The U.S. Soil Conservation Service classifies it as Kūka,,iau silty clay loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes. The surface layer is of very dark grayish-brown silty clay loam and in most areas approximately 10 inches thick. The subsoil is dark-brown silty clay loam generally about 40 inches thick. It is underlain by basalt. The surface layer is extremely acidic and the subsoil is medium to slightly acidic. This soil dehydrates irreversibly into aggregates the size of fine sand (USDA-NRCS 2008). Kūka,,iau silty clay loam is well-suited to agricultural use, and the Agricultural Lands of Importance to the State of Hawai,,i has classified the general area as prime agricultural soil (State of Hawai,,i 2002b). However, the steep slopes and high concentrations of rocks at the project site make it less than ideal for many crops. No commercially useful minerals are present.

The Kapulena site contains a macadamia nut orchard and a single-family residence. The parcel slopes consistently down to the north from an elevation of about 1,240 feet to about 900 feet at



the intersection of the access driveway and Honokaʻa-Waipio Road. The average slope across the entire parcel is 15 percent. The average slope across the project site, located in the bottom half of the parcel, is between 18 to 20 percent.

## 2. Hydrology

a. Surface Water: In absolute distance, the closest surface water to the project site is the Kawaikalia Stream, which is about 370 feet to the east of the closest point on the project site. However, because of the topography, storm water runoff from the project site will flow away from this stream. A portion of the site runoff will discharge via sheet flow into the Lower Hāmākua Ditch, which flows under the existing access driveway and is about 500 feet from the area to be graded (see Figure 3.1)<sup>1</sup>. The remainder will intersect the Honokaʻa-Waipio Road and flow to the north along the adjacent swale.

b. Groundwater: The proposed Kapulena well would draw water from the Honokaʻa Aquifer System as defined by the State Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM 1995), which extends from Kukuihaele on the northwest to Pāhau on the southeast, a distance of about 9 miles (see Figure 3.2). CWRM estimates that the sustainable yield of the Honokaʻa Aquifer System is 31 million gallons per day (MGD). Table 3.1 provides information on the two wells in the System. As shown in the table, the total pump capacity of the wells for which there are available data is about 1.3 MGD.

**Table 3.1 Drilled Wells in the Honokaʻa Aquifer System.**

<i>State Well No.</i>	<i>Year Developed</i>	<i>Approx. Distance From Site (miles)<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Current Use</i>	<i>Pump Capacity (MGD)<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Ground Elevation (ft MSL)<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Well Depth (ft)</i>
6235-01	1991	6.0	Irrigation	0.72	2,814	1,415
6528-01	1979	3.7	Municipal	0.612	855	909
Notes: <sup>1</sup> Data from State GIS (State of Hawaii 2002) <sup>2</sup> Elevations in feet above mean sea level						
Source: CWRM Groundwater Index, compiled by Planning Solutions						

3. Potential for Well Contamination: For reasons outlined below, there is a low probability that the groundwater the proposed well would tap into would become contaminated:

- No chemical contaminants have been detected in active wells of the Honokaʻa Aquifer System within the last four years. Prior to that time, several contaminants (mostly

<sup>1</sup>

The Lower Hāmākua Ditch is an important source of irrigation water in the Hāmākua District, currently providing, at its source above Waipio Valley, a flow of 8.9 million gallons per day (Yoshimori 2009).

associated with sugarcane production) had been detected (see Table 3.2). However, the concentrations present were a fraction of the State and federally defined allowable levels for potable water sources (DOH 2005).

- According to the County of Hawaiʻi Department of Environmental Management, Solid Waste Division, the nearest landfill to the project site is on the opposite side of the island in Puʻuanahulu, about 27 miles away. The nearest transfer station is in Honokaʻa, about 4 miles away and far down-gradient from the proposed well site.
- The area surrounding the well site is entirely surrounded by agricultural land. The nearest wastewater source is a cesspool at a single-family home about 400 feet down-gradient from the well site at an elevation of about 820 feet mean sea level (msl).
- As described above in Paragraph A.2.d.1, in the upper 833 feet of the well, the space outside of the solid casing will be filled with grout, further isolating it from surface water inputs. This, together with the absence of up-gradient sources of pollution and the distance to the nearest down-gradient source (a single cesspool) make it very unlikely that the well could be contaminated by existing sources.
- Based on State Department of Health Office of Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response records (DOH 2008), no identified site of concern to the State Department of Health is located within the proposed well site area. The nearest listed site is the State of Hawaiʻi Department of Health facility in Honokaʻa, approximately 4 miles from the site. This site, a small medical facility, has been archived by the EPA (Reference No. HID066259938). It does not present any health risks to the surrounding environment. Thus, given its distance from the well site and its designation by the EPA, it poses no potential for contamination of the well.
- The proposed well site does not contain any hazardous materials, and none, except for the petroleum products used by the construction equipment, will be used or generated during construction.

### 3.2 Measured Contamination in Active Wells of the Honokaʻa Aquifer System

<i>State Well No.</i>	<i>Contaminant</i>	<i>Detected Level (ppb)</i>	<i>Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) (ppb)</i> <sup>4</sup>	<i>Detected Level as % of MCL</i>	<i>Date Sampled</i>
6528-01	Atrazine <sup>1,2</sup>	0.21	3	7%	11/15/05
6528-01	Desethyl Atrazine	0.60	3	20%	12/8/03
6528-01	Hexazinone <sup>3</sup>	0.15	2,000	.0075%	12/8/03
Notes: <sup>1</sup> Atrazine is an herbicide used on row crops. <sup>2</sup> The value given here is the sum of separate determinations for the herbicide atrazine and for desethyl atrazine (a metabolite of atrazine) which have similar toxic effects (EPA 2002). <sup>3</sup> Hexazinone is a pesticide. <sup>4</sup> There are no State of Hawaiʻi Standards in place; the levels shown are from the U.S. EPA Drinking Water Standards (EPA 2008).					
Source: State Department of Health (DOH 2005)					

4. Climate and Air Quality: The rain gauging station at Kukuihaele located at an elevation of 980 feet above sea level about 3.9 miles west-northwest of the project site, provides the best indication of conditions at the Kapulena Well Development site. The median annual precipitation between 1971 and 2000 was 88.6 inches (NOAA 2002). January was the wettest month of the year during this period, with an average rainfall of 10.5 inches; September was the driest month, averaging 3.8 inches. Rainfall varies significantly according to time of day as well as time of year, with the mid-day being generally much drier than the nighttime.

Temperatures at the project site are moderate. Between 1971 and 2000, the median annual temperature, measured at O,,ōkala (which is located at an elevation of 430 ft. and is about 17.5 miles from the site) the most comparable location from which temperature data are available) was 72.9° F. February had the lowest monthly average low temperature at that location (64.0°), while September had the highest monthly average high temperature (81.6°).

No site-specific wind data are available. However, information from other investigations strongly suggests that the wind pattern at the site reflects the influence that the island's large land mass has on the prevailing trade winds. Long-term wind records from Hilo International Airport (the closest regular wind monitoring station) and spot measurements made at selected locations along the Hāmākua Coast indicate a strong diurnal pattern to the winds at Kapulena. During the daytime, the winds normally blow out of the east with speeds averaging between 10 to 12 miles per hour. During the nighttime, the downslope movement of cool air opposes the trade winds and the wind direction is from the southwest.

There are no substantial sources of anthropogenic air emissions and very little chance for the development of air inversions on the mountain slope. Emissions from the currently active volcanic eruptions from Kilauea Volcano are usually carried to the southwest around the island and are not likely to affect the project site. Consequently, air quality is generally excellent.

5. Terrestrial Flora and Fauna: The project site has been a macadamia nut (*Macadamia integrifolia*, *M. tetraphylla*, and other *Macadamia sp.*) orchard for several decades (see photos in Figure 2.1). The understory vegetation includes California grass (*Brachiaria mutica*), albizia (*Albizia chinensis*), *Mimosa pudica*, and other weeds. On July 27, 2009, Rana Biological Consulting, Inc. conducted a biological survey of the site (see Appendix C). The survey report concludes that the project is not expected to result in significant impacts to botanical, avian or mammalian threatened or endangered species or proposed for listing under either the Federal, or State of Hawaii,,i endangered species programs. It also finds that development of the site is not expected to have a significant deleterious impact on native faunal resources found within the Hāmākua District.

The survey report notes that the trees that are located in the project site are potentially suitable roosting habitat for the Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*), which is listed as an endangered species under both federal and state of Hawaii endangered species statutes. It concluded that while no bats were observed during the course of the survey, the possibility exists that bats may occasionally be present in the general project area. If bats roost in the dense vegetation in the project site, the removal of the trees could affect individual bats by eliminating

potential roosting sites. At the same time, the report noted that as bats use multiple roosts within their home territories, the significance of such displacement is likely to be minimal because in most instances the bats will simply relocate to one of the other trees in the neighborhood.

The one situation when some potential for adverse impacts exists is during the pupping season. There are two reasons for this. First, Hawaiian hoary bats are thought to be less able to vacate a roost tree rapidly during the pupping season when adult females are caring for their pups; in such instances it is conceivable that the bat would not leave the tree quickly enough to avoid harm if tree removal began while the parent was present. Second, if tree removal were to begin during the brief periods when parents may leave their pups alone, it is possible that the young could be inadvertently harmed. All chance of harming bats can be avoided by clearing the vegetation after August 15 and before April 15 as this time frame falls outside of the period when very young bats are likely to occur.

6. Noise: Passing trucks, motorcycles, and cars on the Honokaʻa-Waipio Road are the most significant existing noise sources at the project site. Considering the distance from this road (~ 1,000 feet), the peak noise levels in the area, which are caused by wind in trees, by bird calls, and by distant vehicular traffic, are likely to be near 55 dBA. Average noise levels during periods of calm winds and no traffic are probably less than 45 dBA.

7. Aquatic Resources: As shown on Figure 1.1, the site is between two perennial streams. Kawaikalia Stream, to the west, is the closer of the two and is 370 feet away while, to the east, Malanahae Stream is 1,724 feet away. The Hamakua Ditch to the north is about 470 feet from the site. Neither stream is listed by the U.S. National Park Service (NPS 2009) in the Nationwide Rivers Inventory as a candidate for designation as Scenic Rivers. No wetlands are located near the project site.

8. Archeological, Historic, and Cultural Features: Historically, the first sugar mill was established in the Hāmākua District in 1878. Because of its rich soil and plentiful water supply, the district soon became the premiere location for growing sugar on the Island of Hawaiʻi (Hazlett, et al. 2007). The current project area was part of the Hāmākua Sugar Plantation. According to the current landowner, the project area was never planted with sugarcane due to the ground being too rocky. Instead, the area was used as an experimental plot for growing macadamia nuts, which are still present today.

Information on the historic and archaeological features in the project area were obtained from a report of a field inspection of the project area that was carried out on January 16, 2009, by Rechtman Consulting, LLC (see Appendix A). The report confirmed that the entire surface of the project site has been previously grubbed and graded and that no archaeological resources are visible. The report also noted that the extensive ground disturbance and the nature of the substrate make it very unlikely that subsurface remains are present. As a result, there were no archaeological resources identified within the project area and it was concluded that no historic properties would be affected by the development of the Kapulena Well; DLNR-SHPD concurred with that conclusion.

In August 2009, Rechtman Consulting, LLC determined there were no traditionally valued botanical, natural, or cultural resources identified during the field studies or during its consultation (see Appendix B). Consultation did reveal that a few community members have the landowner's permission to access the macadamia nut orchards on TMK: 3-4-7-02:035 for pig hunting activities. As Burrows et al. (2007) points out, the modern (Asiatic) pig is not a direct descendant of the Polynesian *pua*,<sup>a</sup> and while *pua*,<sup>a</sup> were an important economic resource and cultural symbol in Hawaiian history, they were not traditionally hunted. However, as a result of their more recent role in recreational and subsistence hunting, pigs have become a part of local contemporary culture. The proposed development of the Kapulea Well will not affect the prior arrangements that the landowner has with the few community members that have been granted permission to hunt pigs on the privately-owned land. It is therefore concluded that the proposed project will not adversely affect any valued natural or cultural resources or any traditional and customary practices.

9. Natural Hazard Designation: The proposed well site is in the region of the Big Island that the U.S. Geological Survey (1997b) has designated as Volcanic Lava Flow Hazard level 8 (as measured on a scale of 1 to 9, with 9 being the least hazardous). This rating means that none of the area has been covered by lava within the last 750 years and that only a few percent of the area has been covered by lava within the last 10,000 years.

Defining hazard zones for the effects of earthquakes is more difficult than for eruptions and has not been attempted in any great detail for the Island of Hawai<sup>i</sup>. For the most part, earthquakes on Hawai<sup>i</sup> are concentrated beneath Kīlauea and Mauna Loa, and particularly beneath the south flanks of both volcanoes and in the Ka<sup>o</sup>iki region between them. The likelihood of a damaging earthquake on Kīlauea or Mauna Loa probably increases with long-lived activity of the rift zones, but its precise time and magnitude are impossible to predict.

Large earthquakes unrelated to volcanic activity also occur at irregular intervals on the Island. In 1973, a magnitude 6.2 earthquake located 25 miles beneath Honomū Village injured 11 people and caused \$5.6 million worth of damage. Such earthquakes have no known recurrence interval and are difficult to predict (USGS 1997a).

For the purposes of structural design, the entire Island of Hawai<sup>i</sup> is classified as Zone 4 by the Uniform Building Code adopted by the County of Hawai<sup>i</sup> in 1999 (USGS 1994, 1997a). The proposed well site is not located within a designated Flood Hazard Safety Area nor within a Tsunami Evacuation area (State of Hawai<sup>i</sup> 2002a).

10. Scenic and Aesthetic Resources: Honoka<sup>a</sup>-Waipi<sup>o</sup> Road, which fronts the proposed well development site, is occasionally used by tourists to access Waipi<sup>o</sup> Valley, a popular tourist destination. The site is not visible from the road. The new reservoir may be partially visible to the land owner whose residence is about 400 feet northeast of the proposed site.

11. Traffic: Access to the proposed well site will be via the Honoka<sup>a</sup>-Waipi<sup>o</sup> Road. The road is approximately 8 miles long, extending from Lehua Street in Honoka<sup>a</sup> on the east to Kukuihaele Road at the west. The bulk of the traffic along the road consists of passenger

vehicles driven by residents and cars driven by occasional tourists visiting Waipiʻo Valley.

12. Land Use, Socioeconomic, and Cultural Environment: The parcel on which the proposed well and reservoir would be constructed is owned by Mr. Alan Suzuki (47-4633 Honokaʻa Waipiʻo Road, Honokaʻa, HI 96727). Presently, the site is used as a macadamia nut orchard and contains a single-family residence. The County of Hawaiʻi owns the parcel in which the existing 0.05 MG Kapulena Homestead Reservoir is located. Prior to that, it was an agricultural field that had formerly been under macadamia nut cultivation. The site is in the State Agriculture District. The County zoning is also Agriculture (Ag-40a). The proposed facilities are permitted uses in both these land use districts.

There are no existing commercial, industrial, or economic activities, other than agricultural and residential, in the vicinity. The proposed site is less than a mile *mauka* of the community of Kukuihaele. The nearest home is located on the property, about 400 feet northeast from the proposed well site.

The project site is located within year 2000 Census Tract 219, which includes the communities of Honokaʻa and Kukuihaele. The year 2000 population of this large census tract was less than 4,000 people, or about 2.6 percent of the island's population. Median household income was slightly higher than the county average, at \$40,086 compared to \$39,805. Unemployment within the civilian labor force was 6.6 percent, somewhat higher than the countywide average of 4.9 percent. According to the County of Hawaii General Plan (2005), it is estimated that the resident population in the Hāmākua Judicial District has been growing at an average rate of 1.1 percent since 2005 and is projected to do so every five years up through 2020 (see Table 3.4).

**Table 3.4 Projected Resident Population of the Hāmākua District**

2000 Census	2005	2010	2015	2020	% Annual Change				
					2000-2005	2005-2010	2010-2015	2015-2020	2005-2020
6,108	6,196	6,561	6,933	7,328	0.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%

Source: General Plan (County of Hawaii 2005)

### C. Analysis of Alternatives

1. Description of the Proposed Action: DWS proposes to construct a new exploratory well on private property in the Hāmākua District of the Island of Hawaiʻi. Photographs of property are presented in Figure 2.1. If pump tests confirm that the well's yield is adequate and suitable for use as drinking water, DWS will convert the well into a production facility, install a new 0.30 MG reservoir, and connect the reservoir to an existing DWS 0.05 MG tank that is already in service at the site (see Figure 2.2). Included in the project are the following installations:

- A 200 gallon per minute (GPM), 100 horsepower submersible well pump and motor;
- A 26' X 45'4" control building;
- A 8 foot diameter and 7 feet 11 inches deep seepage pit (installed with the exploratory well);
- Chlorination equipment (to be housed in the control building);
- A 0.30 MG reinforced concrete water storage tank;
- A Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system; and
- Upgrading of an existing access way to the new facilities from Honoka'a-Waipio Road.

Figure 2.3 contains a detailed site plan. Details concerning the well drilling, pump installation, testing, outfitting, and operation are provided below, along with a description of the proposed reservoir and associated site improvements.

2. Design of the Proposed Facilities: Phase 1 – Exploratory Well: Preliminary plans call for the well to extend from the planned finished grade of the well pad at 1,033 feet above mean sea level (MSL) to a depth of about -87' MSL. The borehole will have a diameter of 25 inches. As shown in Section A of Figure 2.4, solid steel casing (18" inner diameter) will be installed in the upper 1,020 feet of the hole. Below that will lie 90 feet of perforated casing. The upper 833 feet of the annulus space between the outside of the boring and the solid casing will be filled with cement grout. The exploratory well will be drilled and tested using diesel-powered equipment. Hence, the site will not require electrical power during the exploratory phase of development.

Pump-testing will be at rates up to 700 gallons per minute and may extend up to 5 consecutive days. Present plans call for the water from these tests to be disposed of in a seepage pit constructed on site. The contractor may seek approval for the disposal of pumped water off site if necessary, subject to NPDES requirements of the State Department of Health (Hawaii Administrative Rules 11-55, Appendix I).

### 3. Design of the Proposed Facilities: Phase 2 – Production Well and Supporting Facilities

a. Well Pump and Equipment: If the results of the pump-test confirm that the well is suitable for production, the Kapulena Well will be outfitted with a 100-horsepower, 200 GPM submersible well pump (see Section B in Figure 2.4 and Figure 2.5). A new water-level transmitter will be installed with the new 0.30 MG reservoir and connected to the proposed new SCADA system that will control both it and a transmitter connected to the existing 0.05 MG reservoir. In concert, these transmitters will enable automatic start/stop operation of either the well pump or the existing pump at the 0.05 MG reservoir, and remote control from the Waimea Baseyard, as needed.

b. Site Preparation and Access Road: The currently undeveloped eastern portion of the well site will be graded to accommodate the production well facilities and access road extension. As shown on Figure 2.2, access to the site will be from an extension of the existing private road that serves the adjacent properties. DWS will obtain an easement over this road to

permit access for maintaining the facility. Construction will require grading of 0.63 acres. The grading will also require excavation of approximately 885 cubic yards of material and an embankment of approximately 720 cubic yards.

c. 0.30 – MG Reservoir: The proposed design calls for a standard DWS reinforced concrete tank with a capacity of 0.3 MG. The tank will have an approximately 46-foot diameter and 25-foot operating height. Tank piping will be a minimum of 8- and 12-inch diameter. It will be designed to Seismic Zone 4 design load standards (see Paragraph B.9 and Paragraph D.1.i for discussion).

d. Control Building: The single-story concrete-block control building will house the chlorination equipment, motor control center, electrical control panel, SCADA system, and alarm system (see Figure 2.6). The outside dimensions of the structure will be approximately 26 feet by 45.25 feet, for a total footprint of approximately 1,176 square feet.

e. SCADA System: DWS plans to install a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to monitor and control system operation. The SCADA facilities will be housed in the control building. The SCADA telemetry communication will be via phone service provided by Hawaiian Telcom. This will require telephone service to be extended to the site from the existing service line along Honoka, a-Waipii, o Road. Once constructed, the line will be dedicated to Hawaiian Telcom. This phone line will provide the telecommunication link with DWS's master SCADA unit located at their Waimea Baseyard.

f. Seepage Pit: A seepage pit will be constructed to the north of the proposed reservoir (see Figure 2.3). It is approximately 8 feet in internal diameter and 7 feet 11 inches deep (see Figure 2.8). During the exploration phase for the Kapulena Well Development project, the seepage pit will receive water from the pump testing; once the well is operational, it will accommodate water from the pump startup. It will also collect water from the proposed reservoir in the unlikely event that it needs to be emptied for repair. Finally, the seepage pit will collect storm water runoff from most impermeable areas of the site.

g. Electricity and Communications: The proposed facility additions will require electrical power for lighting, pump control equipment in the control building, and for the well pump. The existing Hawai, i Electric Light Company (HELCO) three-phase power line along Honoka, a-Waipii, o Road has sufficient capacity to accommodate the additional electrical load. However, the existing single-phase electrical service connection from that power line to the property will need to be upgraded to three-phase power and extended overhead across the road and into the well and tank lot as part of this project. Underground service ducts will be installed from the new onsite service pole to a pad-mounted HELCO transformer for the proposed well pump station. The existing chlorination system at the 0.05 MG tank site will continue to utilize its existing HELCO connection. The service request for this pump station has been submitted to HELCO for processing. Utility metering will conform to HELCO's requirements.

4. Framework for Consideration of Alternatives: Title 11, Chapter 200 of the Hawai, i Administrative Rules (HAR §11-200) contains the Department of Health's Environmental



Impact Statement Rules. HAR §11-200-5 deals with “agency actions” such as the one that DWS is proposing. It requires that, for all agency actions that are not exempt as defined in HAR §11-200-8, the agency must consider environmental factors and available alternatives and disclose these in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement. HAR §11-200-9 requires the proposing agency to analyze alternatives, in addition to the proposed action in the environmental assessment. HAR §11-200-10 establishes the required contents of environmental assessments. Among the requirements listed, HAR §11-200-10 (6) calls for an identification and summary of impacts and alternatives considered (emphasis added).

In accordance with these requirements, DWS considered a number of alternatives before determining that the proposed project is the best course of action. These included “No Action”, enhanced water conservation, reduced scale action, alternate locations, and delayed action. DWS concluded that only two of these alternatives, merit consideration in the impact analysis portion of this EA. They are “No Action” (as required by Chapter 343), and the proposed action of constructing the Kapulena Well Development project as currently designed. The following two subsections describe the alternatives considered in preparation of this EID and the criteria DWS used to decide whether to include them in the impact analysis presented in Paragraph D.

## 5. The Alternatives Considered

a. Alternative 1: Proposed Action – Phase 1 (Exploratory Well) and Phase 2 (Production Well and Supporting Facilities). This alternative consists of the proposed action as described in detail in Paragraph B above. DWS believes constructing the facility at the proposed site would best enable it to continue to provide adequate, reliable, and affordable drinking water to its Kukuihaele Water System, and thus it represents their preferred course of action.

b. Alternative 2: No Action. The “No Action” Alternative consists of not constructing an additional, 0.3 MG reservoir and well at the Kapulena site. This would be inconsistent with the approved DWS’ *Water Master Plan*. Further, it would leave the Kukuihaele Water System without a primary source of high-quality groundwater, forcing the system to continue to depend on water that is hauled in by trucks from another well. Hence, “No Action” is not a viable alternative. It is evaluated in the EA solely to fulfill the requirements of HRS Chapter 343, HAR 11-200, and NEPA.

### c. Alternatives Eliminated From Detailed Analysis

#### 1.) Reduced Scale Alternatives

a.) Omit 0.30-MG Reservoir: This alternative would involve construction and operation of the proposed new well and related facilities without adding the new proposed 0.30 MG reservoir. As discussed above, this would not alleviate the projected water storage shortfall in the Kukuihaele Water System, leaving the system without adequate water supply. This alternative would not meet the objectives of the proposed action and thus was not considered in detail.

b.) Omit Well: This alternative involves constructing the 0.3 MG reservoir as proposed while foregoing the installation of a well. This would leave the system dependent on water that is trucked in from another well. Unless the water that the proposed well

is replaced with water from a new well or other source constructed elsewhere, it would also leave the system with a supply capacity shortfall unless treatment facilities were installed that permitted use of the spring.

Since the Kukuihaele (Wai,,ulili) Spring is considered groundwater under the influence of surface water, using this source would require enhanced treatment to qualify as a potable water supply. The capital and operating costs of such enhanced treatment would be prohibitively high for a small system such as that serving Kukuihaele.

c.) Enhanced Water Conservation Alternative: Enhanced water conservation within the system would not meet all of the project's objectives. It would not, for example, eliminate the need to truck water to the existing reservoir site to replace water that can no longer be supplied to the existing tank from pipelines from the abandoned Kukuihaele (Wai,,ulili) Spring. Secondly, unless water use in the system was reduced by more than is typically accomplished through enhanced water conservation needs, it would not eliminate the need for additional water storage capacity within the system. Consequently, conservation alone would not allow the DWS to provide its customers in the Kukuihaele area with an adequate supply of affordable and high-quality potable water.

d.) Alternate Locations: Because of the high groundwater flux through the area, it is likely that wells drilled in other locations would also be productive. While DWS could probably develop a production well elsewhere in the service area, the proposed site has several characteristics that make it unlikely that a different location would be superior from an economic, environmental, or operational viewpoint. These include:

- Constructing the well and reservoir adjacent to the existing 0.05 MG reservoir avoids costly and unnecessary duplication of facilities. The connection between the reservoirs will allow for redundancy and reliability especially in the event one reservoir becomes temporarily disabled.
- The proposed well site's proximity to the existing water transmission and distribution system avoids the need for substantial new water line construction. A detailed analysis of potential environmental impacts from development of alternative water sources was beyond the scope of this assessment. However, in view of the absence of adverse effects documented above and in Chapter 3, it seems unlikely that other well locations might be better from an environmental standpoint.

e.) Delayed Action: For reasons documented above and in the Department's *20-Year Water Master Plan*, it is undesirable to delay development of the proposed project. There are no existing activities or conditions at the site or in the project area that would make delaying the project desirable or that would reduce the impacts associated with it appreciably if delayed. DWS wants to act quickly to ensure that it maintains adequate storage and a safe drinking water supply for its customers in Kukuihaele. Therefore, it does not consider delayed action a viable alternative.

## D. Environmental Consequences and Mitigation Measures

### 1. Probable Impacts

- a. Topography, Geology, and Soils: The grading for the 0.3 MG reservoir, well,

control building, and access road extension will disturb 0.63 acres. The grading will also require excavation of approximately 885 cubic yards of material and an embankment of approximately 720 cubic yards. In addition, the contractor will place gravel over the portion of the parcel not used for structures or pavement. These localized modifications will affect the ground contours on the site itself but will not substantially change the overall topography of the surrounding area. As noted above, Kūka,iau silty clay loam is classified as prime agricultural soil even though the land is steep and rocky. The project will remove a few macadamia nut trees to accommodate the construction of the well and reservoir. It will not substantially affect continued agricultural use of the remainder of the parcel.

## b. Hydrology

1.) During the Construction Phase: As noted above, the Kawaikalia Stream is about 370 feet away from the site, but does not receive any runoff from the site. Some runoff from the site into the Lower Hāmākua Ditch is possible, though it is more than 300 feet from the area that will be graded. The contractor will use best management practices (BMPs) necessary during construction to prevent contaminants such as sediment, petroleum products, and debris from leaving the site via storm water runoff. It will attempt to schedule work for periods of minimal rainfall, and will place permanent erosion control measures on lands denuded of vegetation as quickly as possible. Since the disturbed area is expected to be less than an acre,<sup>2</sup> NPDES Construction Storm Water General Permit coverage is not required.

During the testing phase and well construction of the project, a temporary diesel engine-powered pump will be used to develop the proposed well (i.e., to remove sediment and well cuttings that are a by-product of the drilling) and to determine its hydraulic capacity. The contractor will direct the discharges from pump testing into the new seepage pit. The distance of the disturbed site from the Lower Hāmākua Ditch and the BMPs employed will ensure that the ditch is not substantially affected by the construction.

## 2.) During the Operational Phase

a.) Surface Water: The proposed well, reservoir, and associated structures would add approximately 6,000 square feet of impermeable surface to the site. A concrete swale and drainage system would be installed to collect runoff from paved areas and divert it through underground drain lines into the seepage pit. Similarly, the 5-minute pump start-up flows of well water (approximately 500 to 1,000 gallons of water into the seepage pit each time it is started) would be directed to the seepage pit. The design engineers for the project have opened discussions with the State Department of Agriculture to determine whether or not these start-up flows could be discharged into the Lower Hāmākua Ditch, since the only contaminants in this water will be a small amount of suspended sediments and these flows could make a small augmentation of the ditch flow. Should the Department of Agriculture decide that this would be a benefit to the ditch, then the start-up flows may be piped directly to the ditch.

Because of the permeable nature of the area that will remain and the fact that the on-site drainage system is designed to accommodate runoff from a 10-year storm, this will only increase the

volume of surface runoff leaving the site under extremely heavy rainfall conditions. As mentioned above, no runoff would directly enter the Kawaikalia or Malanahae Stream. Much of the runoff that is not immediately absorbed into the ground would be from paved or graveled surfaces that would contribute little or no suspended sediment. There will be very low levels of traffic or other activity that could add oil, grease, or other common roadway pollutants to the site. Hence, while the quantity of runoff from the proposed additions will be slightly greater than at present, the quality will not significantly change.

b.) Groundwater: As noted above, CWRM estimates that the sustainable yield of the Honokaʻa Aquifer System is 31 million gallons per day (MGD), while the total pump capacity of the wells for which there are available data is only 1.3 MGD. This project will result in maximum addition of 0.3 MGD, which will leave total withdrawals over 29 MGD below the Aquifer System's sustainable yield.

**Table 3.1 Drilled Wells in the Honokaʻa Aquifer System.**

<i>State Well No.</i>	<i>Year Developed</i>	<i>Approx. Distance From Site (miles)<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Current Use</i>	<i>Pump Capacity (MGD)<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Ground Elevation (ft MSL)<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>Well Depth (ft)</i>
6235-01	1991	6.0	Irrigation	0.72	2,814	1,415
6528-01	1979	3.7	Municipal	0.612	855	909
Notes: <sup>1</sup> Data from State GIS (State of Hawaii 2002) <sup>2</sup> Elevations in feet above mean sea level						
Source: CWRM Groundwater Index, compiled by Planning Solutions						

c. Potential for Well Contamination: For reasons outlined below, there is a low probability that the groundwater that the proposed well would tap is, or would become, contaminated:

- No chemical contaminants have been detected in active wells of the Honokaʻa Aquifer System within the last four years. Prior to that time, several contaminants (mostly associated with sugarcane production) had been detected (see Table 3.2). However, the concentrations present were a fraction of the State and federally defined allowable levels for potable water sources (DOH 2005).
- According to the County of Hawaiʻi, Department of Environmental Management, Solid Waste Division, the nearest landfill to the project site is on the opposite side of the island in Puʻuanahulu, about 27 miles away. The nearest transfer station is in Honokaʻa, about 4 miles away and far down-gradient from the proposed well site.
- The area surrounding the well site is entirely surrounded by agricultural land. The nearest wastewater source is a cesspool at a single-family home about

<sup>2</sup> National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System administered through the Clean Water Branch of the State Department of Health (Hawaiʻi Administrative Rules, 11-55, Appendix C)

400 feet down-gradient from the well site at an elevation of about 820 feet msl.

- As described above in Paragraph A.2.d.1, in the upper 833 feet of the well, the space outside of the solid casing will be filled with grout, further isolating it from surface water inputs. This, together with the absence of up-gradient sources of pollution and the distance to the nearest down-gradient source (a single cesspool) make it very unlikely that the well could be contaminated by existing sources.
- Based on State Department of Health Office of Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response records (DOH 2008), no identified site of concern to the State Department of Health is located within the proposed well site area. The nearest listed site is the State of Hawai,i Department of Health facility in Honoka,,a, approximately 4 miles from the site. This site, a small medical facility, has been archived by the EPA (Reference No. HID066259938). It does not present any health risks to the surrounding environment. Thus, given its distance from the well site and its designation by the EPA, it poses no potential for contamination of the well.
- The proposed well site does not contain any hazardous materials, and none, except for the petroleum products used by the construction equipment, will be used or generated during construction.

**Table 3.2 Measured Contamination in Active Wells of the Honoka‘a Aquifer System**

<i>State Well No.</i>	<i>Contaminant</i>	<i>Detected Level (ppb)</i>	<i>Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) (ppb)<sup>4</sup></i>	<i>Detected Level as % of MCL</i>	<i>Date Sampled</i>
6528-01	Atrazine <sup>1,2</sup>	0.21	3	7%	11/15/05
6528-01	Desethyl Atrazine	0.60	3	20%	12/8/03
6528-01	Hexazinone <sup>3</sup>	0.15	2,000	.0075%	12/8/03
Notes: <sup>1</sup> Atrazine is an herbicide used on row crops. <sup>2</sup> The value given here is the sum of separate determinations for the herbicide atrazine and for desethyl atrazine (a metabolite of atrazine) which have similar toxic effects (EPA 2002). <sup>3</sup> Hexazinone is a pesticide. <sup>4</sup> There are no State of Hawai,i Standards in place; the levels shown are from the U.S. EPA Drinking Water Standards (EPA 2008).					
Source: State Department of Health (DOH 2005)					

#### d. Climate and Air Quality

1.) During the Construction Phase: As mentioned, grading and excavation of the proposed well site will disturb less than one acre of land. No more than a few pieces of construction equipment would operate on the site at any one time. Moreover, work would be limited to period of a several months. The site’s relatively high rainfall, generally moderate wind speeds, and distance from sensitive receptors means that fugitive dust is unlikely to be a problem during construction. The contractor will ensure that the work conforms with the State Department of Health’s guidelines for controlling fugitive dust as outlined in Hawai,i Administrative Rules §11-60.1. Consequently, pollutant emissions from construction equipment do not have the potential to affect the local or regional air quality substantially.

2.) During the Operational Phase: Normal operation of the proposed facilities will not produce on-site air emissions, will not alter airflow in the vicinity, and will have no other measurable effect on the area's microclimate. In any event, forecast electrical power use by the proposed facilities represents such a small portion of total electrical power use on the island that its operation would have no discernible effect on power plant emissions.

e. Terrestrial Flora and Fauna: Construction of the proposed facilities will affect less than an acre of land. The land is a cultivated orchard that is managed for commercial production and currently supports introduced and invasive species. DWS will take appropriate preventative measures as recommended in the report to avoid affecting the Hawaiian hoary bat by prohibiting tree clearing between April 15 and August 15. As a result, the proposed action is not expected to have any substantial direct impacts on flora or fauna.

f. Noise

1.) During the Construction Phase: Noise from construction activities is likely to be audible above the 35-to-50 dB background levels at the homes closest to the project site. Construction of the well and reservoir on the site will involve the operation of diesel-powered drilling equipment for a period of up to 9 months (see Table 2.1 Construction Schedule).

Construction of the project will occur in phases. The initial phase consists of well drilling, casing, and pump testing. The second phase consists of the pump outfitting, and construction of the 0.30 MG reservoir and related support facilities. Phase 2 will be undertaken based on availability of funds.

Noise source levels from unmuffled equipment of this sort are as high as 80 to 85 dBA measured at a distance of 50 feet. This could result in sound levels of about 53 - 58 dBA at the property line of the nearest residence (which is about 400 feet northeast of the proposed well and reservoir). Noise levels on other, more distant properties would be even lower. With the exception of the well testing, construction activities will be limited to daytime hours. Well testing utilizes diesel-powered pumps and requires continuous (i.e., 24-hour-per-day) pumping for a period of at least five days. Consequently, noise from this activity necessarily extends through the night.

Hawaii Administrative Rules §11-46 (Community Noise Control) establishes noise limits for construction, agricultural, and industrial activities. The noise limit for "Class C Districts" [which §11-46-3(3) defines as "...all areas equivalent to lands zoned agriculture, country, industrial, or similar type."] is 70 dBA at any time. The noise limit for "Class A Districts" [which §11-46-3(3) defines as "...all areas equivalent to lands zoned residential, conservation, preservation, public space, open space, or similar type."] is 55 dBA during the day and 45 dBA at night (see Table 3.3). The limits are applicable at the property line. Based on the 400-foot distance to the dwelling closest to the well site, any of these activities that are conducted at night (which would occur during pump testing) are likely to exceed the 45 dBA limit. Because of this, a construction

noise permit will likely be needed from the State Department of Health.

2.) During the Operational Phase: The permanent submersible pump and motor will operate quietly, limiting aboveground noise to the hum of the transformer. The project would not result in a cumulative increase in noise levels at the site. Regardless, the operation of the well pump would only produce noise levels of about 35 to 42 dBA at the property line and noise would not be detectable from the nearest dwelling. The proposed reservoir likewise will not constitute a noise source.

g. Aquatic Resources: Groundwater tapped by the well will stand at approximately 10 feet above sea level. The two stream channels in question, Kawaikalia to the west and Malanahae to the east, are at far higher elevations than this all the way to their discharges as waterfalls at the shoreline. Therefore, it is physically impossible for water from the aquifer tapped by the well to discharge into the far higher elevation streams. Consequently, the proposed action will not have substantial direct or indirect effects on the aquatic communities in streams or near shore waters.

h. Archeological, Historic, and Cultural Features: The DWS construction contract for work on the parcel will stipulate that, should any new artifact or burial site be encountered during construction, all activities would halt and SHPD would be notified. It will provide that work may be resumed only after consultation with the SHPD is completed and a monitoring program is in place.

Based on the results of the CIA and the lack of any evidence that the proposed project sites are used for traditional cultural purposes, along with the absence of unique archaeological resources at the sites, the project is not anticipated to have adverse effects on historic resources or cultural uses. Neither will it impair or limit the ability of native Hawaiian practitioners to access cultural resources in adjacent areas.

**Table 3.3 Maximum Permissible Sounds Levels in dBA (HAR §11-46).**

<i>Zoning Districts</i>	<i>Daytime (7 a.m. to 10 p.m.)</i>	<i>Nighttime (10 p.m. to 7a.m.)</i>
Class A	55	45
Class B	60	50
Class C	70	70

Notes: (a) The maximum permissible sound levels apply to any excessive noise source emanating within the specified zoning district, and at any point at or beyond (past) the property line. (b) Noise levels may not exceed the maximum permissible sound levels for more than ten per cent of the time within any twenty minute period, except by permit or variance issued under sections 11-46-7 and 11-46-8. (c) For mixed zoning districts, the primary land use designation shall be used to determine the applicable zoning district class and the maximum permissible sound level. (d) Measurements values are for "A" weighting network and "slow" meter response unless otherwise stated. Sound level meters and calibrators must conform to American National Standard, ANSI S1.41983, specifications. The maximum permissible sound level for impulsive noise is ten dBA above the maximum permissible sound levels shown and is measured using the "Fast" meter response. (e) The limits do not apply to the operation of emergency generators, provided the best available control technology is implemented. (f) For the purpose of the regulations, the following definitions apply: "*Construction activities*" means any or all activities, including but not limited to those activities necessary or incidental to the erection, demolition, assembling, renovating, installing, or equipping of buildings, public or private highways, roadways, premises, and parks. "*Construction equipment*" means any device designed and intended for use in construction, including but not limited to any air compressor, pile driver, bulldozer, pneumatic hammer, steam shovel, derrick, crane, tractor, grader, loader, power saw, pump, pneumatic drill, compactor, on-site vehicle, and power hand tool. "*Construction site*" means any or all areas, necessary or incidental for the purpose of conducting construction activities. (g) Class A zoning districts include all areas equivalent to lands zoned residential, conservation, preservation, public space, open space, or similar type. Class B zoning districts include all areas equivalent to lands zoned for multi-family dwellings, apartment, business, commercial, hotel, resort, or similar type. Class C zoning districts include all areas equivalent to lands zoned agriculture, country, industrial, or similar type.

Source: Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 46, Community Noise Control

i. Natural Hazard Designations: As discussed above, the proposed facilities are not subject to significant hazards from volcanic flows, flooding, or tsunami. To accommodate the relatively high susceptibility to earthquake hazards present on the Island of Hawaii,<sup>i</sup> all structures will be built to comply with the Uniform Building Codes for Earthquake Zone 4.

j. Scenic and Aesthetic Resources: As noted above, the project site is alongside the Honoka,<sup>a</sup>-Waipi,<sup>o</sup> Road, which is occasionally used by visitors to Waipi,<sup>o</sup> Valley. On the road between Honoka,<sup>a</sup> and Waipi,<sup>o</sup> Valley, the existing scenic views consist generally of roadside views of dense tropical forests with occasional distant views of the ocean.

The addition of the proposed well, 0.3 MG reservoir, and control building would not substantially change the visual character of the area or interfere with significant views across the site. As shown in the photos in Figure 2.1, the proposed well and reservoir site will not be seen from the main road or by residences possibly with the exception of the landowner.

k. Traffic: Adequate space exists on the existing access driveway to allow construction vehicles to park without interfering with the active traffic lanes. The only possible exceptions to this are brief intervals when large construction equipment and material for the reservoir and other structures are moved onto and off the site and during paving of the access driveway entrance. The latter would require temporary closure of a single road lane over a period of one week or less. The contractor will provide appropriate signage and flaggers to direct traffic around the work area. Due to the low volume of traffic along the road, no major traffic delays or disruptions are expected to result from the project. The facility will not require



manned operation, but only occasional monitoring and maintenance. Service vehicles will park in designated on-site areas and will not interfere with traffic. For these reasons, the construction and operation of the proposed site additions will not lead to substantial impacts on area roadways.

1. Land Use, Socioeconomic and Cultural Environment: The proposed well site additions are compatible with the existing use of this parcel and will complement the use of the existing reservoir. The addition of the well, reservoir, and control facilities to the site will not interfere with the use or affect the value of adjacent properties.

The proposed well and reservoir will increase DWS' total source and storage capacity in the Kukuihaele Water System. This will allow the Department to alleviate a projected storage deficit and will provide a high-quality source for the customers in the service area. Aside from the temporary construction employment and expenditures that it would create, the project will not in and of itself stimulate or otherwise promote population growth or economic activity.

## 2. Cross-Cutter Environmental Laws and Coordination and Consultation Process

The following sub-sections address the proposed project's relationship to other Federal "cross-cutting" environmental, economic, social, and miscellaneous federal authorities as required by the State of Hawai'i's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program.

### a. Environmental Policy Authorities

1.) Archeological and Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 469a-1) and National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470): As discussed in Paragraph B.8, the project site is located in an area that has been used extensively for agriculture for many years and no known archaeological or historic features exist at the site. The State of Hawai'i Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources has determined that the project will have no effect on historic properties, and the impact assessment conducted for the project detected no evidence that the site is used or valued for cultural purposes. Consequently, the proposed action is in compliance with these regulations.

2.) Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7401): As discussed in Paragraph B.4, air quality at the site of the proposed project is good. The site is in an air quality attainment area as defined by the State of Hawai'i Department of Health in its EPA-approved Air Quality program. Only minor amounts of grading and excavation will be required for the project. This, along with the wet climate, means that fugitive dust will not be a problem during construction.

It is anticipated that diesel-powered construction equipment will be used to construct the proposed well and reservoir. Emissions from the diesel will slightly degrade air quality for the short period of time they are in operation. However, all applicable emission and ambient air quality standards will continue to be met. Normal operation of the proposed facilities will not produce on-site air emissions, will not alter air flow in the vicinity, and will have no other measurable effect on the area's micro-climate. Consequently, the proposed project complies with

the provision of the Clean Air Act.

3.) Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. § 3501): Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA), Public Law 97-348 (96 Stat. 1653; 16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), enacted October 18, 1982, designated various undeveloped coastal barrier islands, depicted by specific maps, for inclusion in the Coastal Barrier Resources System (System). Areas so designated were made ineligible for direct or indirect Federal financial assistance that might support development, including flood insurance, except for emergency life-saving activities. This Act does not apply to the State of Hawaii,<sup>i</sup> at this time, therefore the proposed project will not affect any areas protected by this Act.

4.) Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. § 1451): Enacted as Chapter 205A, HRS, the Hawaii Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program was promulgated in 1977 in response to the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. The CZM area encompasses the entire state, including all marine waters seaward to the extent of the state's police power and management authority, including the 12-mile U.S. territorial sea and all archipelagic waters. The Hawaii,<sup>i</sup> Coastal Zone Management Program focus on ten policy objectives:

- Recreational Resources. To provide coastal recreational opportunities accessible to the public and protect coastal resources uniquely suited for recreational activities that cannot be provided elsewhere.
- Historic Resources. To protect, preserve, and where desirable, restore those natural and manmade historic and prehistoric resources in the coastal zone management area that are significant in Hawaiian and American history and culture.
- Scenic and Open Space Resources. To protect, preserve, and where desirable, restore or improve the quality of coastal scenic and open space resources.
- Coastal Ecosystems. To protect valuable coastal ecosystems, including reefs, from disruption and to minimize adverse impacts on all coastal ecosystems.
- Economic Uses. To provide public or private facilities and improvements important to the state's economy in suitable locations; and ensure that coastal dependent development such as harbors and ports, energy facilities, and visitor facilities, are located, designed, and constructed to minimize adverse impacts in the coastal zone area.
- Coastal Hazards. To reduce hazard to life and property from tsunami, storm waves, stream flooding, erosion, subsidence, and pollution.
- Managing Development. To improve the development review process, communication, and public participation in the management of coastal resources and hazards.
- Public Participation. To stimulate public awareness, education, and participation in coastal management; and maintain a public advisory body to identify coastal management problems and provide policy advice and assistance to the CZM program.
- Beach Protection. To protect beaches for public use and recreation; locate new structures inland from the shoreline setback to conserve open space and to minimize loss of improvements due to erosion.
- Marine Resources. To implement the state's ocean resources management plan.

Other key areas of the CZM program include: a permit system to control development within a

Special Management Area (SMA) managed by the Counties and the Office of Planning; a Shoreline Setback Area which serves as a buffer against coastal hazards and erosion, and protects view-planes; and the Marine and Coastal Affairs. Finally, a Federal Consistency provision requires that federal activities, permits and financial assistance be consistent with the Hawaii CZM program.

The proposed Kapulena Well Development project is located about a mile from the coastline. It does not involve the placement, erection, or removal of materials near the coastline. The type and scale of the activities that it involves typically do not have the potential to affect coastal resources. Finally, it is consistent with the CZM objectives that are relevant to a project of this sort.

5.) Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531): The Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531-1544, December 28, 1973, as amended 1976-1982, 1984 and 1988) provides broad protection for species of fish, wildlife, and plants that are listed as threatened or endangered in the U.S. or elsewhere. The Act mandates that federal agencies seek to conserve endangered and threatened species and use their authorities in furtherance of the Act's purposes. Provisions are made for listing species, as well as for recovery plans and the designation of critical habitat for listed species. The Act outlines procedures for federal agencies to follow when taking actions that may jeopardize listed species, and contains exceptions and exemptions. Existing biota on and near the project site are discussed in Paragraph B.5 and Paragraph B.8 of this EID. The discussion documents the fact that there are no known rare or endangered species on or immediately around the site of the Kapulena Well Development project. Similarly, the site does not contain unique or valuable wildlife habitat. Copies of the Draft EA were provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources for review and comment.

6.) Environmental Justice (Executive Order 12898): The Environmental Justice Executive Order was issued in 1994 for the purpose of protecting low-income and minority residents of the United States from disproportionate exposure to environmental and health hazards. Section 1-101 of the Executive Order States:

*To the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law, and consistent with the principles set forth in the report on the National Performance Review, each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States and its territories and possessions, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands.*

As discussed in Paragraph B.12, the Census Tract in which the proposed well is located exhibits a median household income that is slightly higher than the countywide average. The unemployment rate is somewhat higher than the countywide average. The project area is not considered a low-income area. The purpose of the proposed well is to provide residents of

Kukuihaele with a groundwater source and additional water storage that conforms to State and Federal standards. The project will not have adverse secondary environmental, economic, or social impacts, as discussed in detail in Chapter 3. Moreover, the State and Federal regulations regarding safe drinking water are applicable to all water systems in Hawaii, irrespective of the economic or demographic characteristics of their residents. Thus, the proposed project complies with this Executive Order.

7.) Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. § 4201): The U.S. Congress adopted the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) (Public Law 97-98) on December 22, 1981). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has national leadership for administering the FPPA. The effective date of the FPPA rule (part 658 of Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations) is August 6, 1984. The stated purposes of the FPPA are to:

- Minimize the extent to which Federal programs contribute to the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses.
- Assure that Federal programs are administered in a manner that, to the extent practicable, will be compatible with State, unit of local government, and private programs and policies to protect farmland.

“Farmland”, as used in the FPPA, includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. “Farmland” subject to FPPA requirements does not have to be currently used for cropland. Because the Kapulena Well Development project will result in the use of 0.63 acres of prime agricultural land for the proposed well and related support facilities and might use funding assistance from a Federal agency, the proposed action is subject to the FPPA.

The area that would be affected is a small fraction of the agricultural land in the area. The project will remove about 22 macadamia nut trees to accommodate the construction of the well and reservoir. Although the tree removal will be irreversible, it is not considered unnecessary. This is because the proposed project is intended to serve residents of the Kukuihaele and Kapulena communities by replacing the abandoned Kukuihaele (Wai, ulili) Spring with a reliable groundwater source and terminating the costly water that is currently being trucked in. Although it is necessary for the trees to be removed, it is a small fraction of the total number of trees on the site and their removal will not impact the continued agricultural use of the remaining site. Consequently, for the following reasons this project will be in compliance with the FPPA:

- the landowner will continue to farm his land;
- as stated in the FPPA, the site will continue to be “a unique natural resource [to] provide food...necessary for the continued welfare of the people of the United States”; and
- it will not “undermine the economic base of [this] rural area”.

8.) Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. § 661): The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended, authorizes the Secretaries of Agriculture and Commerce to require consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service and the fish and wildlife agencies of States where the “waters of any stream or other body of water are proposed or authorized,

*permitted or licensed to be impounded, diverted . . . or otherwise controlled or modified” by any agency under a Federal permit or license. Consultation is to be undertaken for the purpose of “preventing loss of and damage to wildlife resources.”*

As documented in this report, the proposed Kapulena Well Development project will not result in the diversion of any water body and will not result in impacts on fish or wildlife resources. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State Department of Land and Natural Resources were asked to comment on the Draft EA and to confirm that the project is in compliance with this statute.

9.) Floodplain Management (Executive Order 11988 (1977), as Amended by Executive Order 12148 (1979)): Based on the latest available (December, 2001) Flood Insurance Rate Map for the area, the project site lies outside a defined floodplain. The project does not involve property acquisition, management, or construction within a 100-year flood plain (Zones A or V), and it does not involve a “critical action” within a 500-year flood plain. Consequently, it is consistent with applicable regulations and guidance relating to floodplain management.

10.) Protection of Wetlands (Executive Order 11990 (1977), as Amended by Executive Order 12608 (1997)): There are no wetlands on or near the site. Neither are there food resources on the site that are important to wildlife that use wetlands elsewhere on the island. Copies of the *Draft EA* were sent to the administrator of the Pacific Island Eco-Region, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources Department of Aquatic Resources to ensure adequate consideration of this topic in the environmental review for this project.

11.) Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. § 300(f)): The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) is the principal federal law that ensures the quality of Americans’ drinking water. Under SDWA, EPA sets standards for drinking water quality and oversees the states, localities, and water suppliers who implement those standards. The Safe Drinking Water Act requires that all public water systems meet stringent water quality standards. These standards cover a long list of potential chemical, radiological and biological contaminants. The standards distinguish between surface water and groundwater sources, with the testing and monitoring requirements for surface water and GWUDI sources being far greater than those for groundwater sources.

As discussed in this report, the proposed Kapulena Well Development project will permit continued compliance of the Kukuihaele Water System with the standards mandated pursuant to the SDWA. Extensive testing of the water withdrawn from the well will be carried out by the County of Hawai*i*, before it is developed into a production well to ensure that the water is consistent with all State and Federal standards for potable water.

The Safe Drinking Water Act also provides the impetus behind the development of regulatory protection of principal or sole source aquifers. Part C of this Law pertains specifically to the protection of underground sources of drinking water, including the establishment of regulations on the injection of materials into subsurface aquifers in those areas of the United States where

only one aquifer (principal or sole source aquifer) exists. Section 1424(e) of PL 93-523 states:

*(e) If the Administrator determines, on his own initiative or upon petition, that an area has an aquifer which is the sole or principal drinking water source for the area and which, if contaminated, would create a significant hazard to public health, he shall publish notice of the determination in the Federal Register. After the publication of any such notice, no commitment for Federal financial assistance (through a grant, contract, loan guarantee, or otherwise) may be entered into for any project which the Administrator determines may contaminate such aquifer through a recharge zone so as to create a significant hazard to public health, but a commitment for Federal financial assistance may, if authorized under another Provision of law, be entered into, to plan or design the project to assure that it will not so contaminate the aquifer.*

As identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX groundwater Office (<http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/swp/ssa/reg9.html>), there are only two Sole Source Aquifers in Hawai<sup>i</sup>. They are the Southern O<sup>ahu</sup> Basal Aquifer on the Island of O<sup>ahu</sup> and the Moloka<sup>i</sup> Aquifer on the island of Moloka<sup>i</sup>. There are no sole source aquifers on the Island of Hawai<sup>i</sup>, where the proposed project is located.

12.) Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. §1271): The purpose of this act, as stated in Section (b) of its preamble is as follows:

*It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States that certain selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Congress declares that the established national policy of dam and other construction at appropriate sections of the rivers of the United States needs to be complemented by a policy that would preserve other selected rivers or sections thereof in their free-flowing condition to protect the water quality of such rivers and to fulfill other vital national conservation purposes.*

There are no designated Wild and Scenic Rivers in the State of Hawai<sup>i</sup> at this time. Consequently, the proposed project is consistent with the provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

13.) Essential Fish Habitat Consultation Process Under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 USC §1801): The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA), which was reauthorized and amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act (1996), requires the eight regional fishery management councils to describe and identify essential fish habitat (EFH) in their respective regions, to specify actions to conserve and enhance that EFH, and to minimize the adverse effects of fishing on EFH. Congress defined EFH as “those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity” (16 U.S.C. 1802(10)). The EFH guidelines under 50 CFR 600.10

further interpret the EFH definition as follows:

*Waters include aquatic areas and their associated physical, chemical, and biological properties that are used by fish and may include aquatic areas historically used by fish where appropriate; substrate includes sediment, hard bottom, structures underlying the waters, and associated biological communities; necessary means the habitat required to support a sustainable fishery and the managed species' contribution to a healthy ecosystem; and "spawning, breeding, feeding, or growth to maturity" covers a species' full life cycle.*

The Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act support one of the Nation's overall marine resource management goals -maintaining sustainable fisheries. Federal action agencies which fund, permit, or carry out activities that may adversely impact EFH are required to consult with NMFS regarding the potential effects of their actions on EFH. The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council Website lists EFH areas in Hawai,,i and the Pacific Islands (<http://www.wpcouncil.org/maps.htm>). All of the identified areas are offshore marine environments. The proposed Kapulena Well Development project site is over a mile from the ocean and has no potential to impact any of the identified EFH areas (see Paragraph D.1.g).

b. Economic Policy Authorities

1.) Administration of the Clean Air Act and the Water Pollution Control Act with respect to Federal Contracts or Loans (Executive Order 11738): This Executive Order prohibits the provision of Federal assistance to facilities that are not in compliance with either the Clean Water Act or the Clean Air Act unless the purpose of the assistance is to remedy the cause of the violation. As discussed in Paragraph D.2.a.2 and Paragraph D.1.b, the proposed well and reservoir will comply with applicable provisions of the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act. Consequently, it is consistent with the intent of this Executive Order.

2.) Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966, Pub.L. 89-754, as Amended (42 USC § 3331): To demonstrate compliance with this Act, the Hawai,,i State Department of Health requires DWSRF assistance recipients to describe the proposed project's effect on local development plans. Paragraph E.1 addresses this requirement by discussing the proposed well and reservoir's consistency with the County of Hawai,,j General Plan.

3.) Procurement Prohibitions (Executive Order 11738, Section 306 of the Clean Air Act): This Executive Order requires recipients of Federal assistance to certify that they will not procure goods, services or materials from suppliers who are on the EPA's list of Clean Air Act violators. DWS will comply with this requirement in selecting contractors, construction materials, and other services for the Kapulena Well Development project.

4.) Procurement Prohibitions (Section 508 of the Clean Water Act): This Executive Order requires recipients of Federal assistance to certify that they will not procure

goods, services or materials from suppliers who are on the EPA's list of Clean Water Act violators. DWS will comply with this requirement in selecting contractors, construction materials, and other services for the Kapulena Well Development project.

c. Social Policy Authorities

1.) Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 USC § 6102): This Act stipulates that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. DWS will comply with this requirement in hiring contractors and other staff for its Kapulena Well Development project.

2.) Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI (42 USC §2000(d)): This Act stipulates that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. DWS will comply with this requirement in hiring contractors and other staff for its Kapulena Well Development project.

3.) Equal Employment Opportunity (Executive Order 11246, as amended): This Executive Order requires all recipients of Federal contracts to include certain non-discrimination and "affirmative action" provisions in all contracts. The provisions commit the contractor or subcontractor to maintain a policy of non-discrimination in the treatment of employees, to make this policy known to employees, and to recruit, hire and train employees without regard to race, color, sex, religion and national origin. DWS will include these provisions in all contracts for the Kapulena Well Development project.

4.) Minority Business Enterprise Development (Executive Order 12432): This Executive Order sets forth in more detail the responsibilities of Federal agencies for the monitoring, maintaining of data and reporting of the use of minority enterprises. DWS will comply with all applicable requirements pertaining to this Executive Order.

5.) National Program for Minority Business Enterprise (Executive Order 11625): This Executive Order directs Federal agencies to promote and encourage the use of minority business enterprises in projects utilizing federal funds. DWS will comply with this Executive Order in selecting contractors, goods, and services for its Kapulena Well Development project.

6.) National Women's Business Enterprise Policy and National Program for Women's Business Enterprise (Executive Order 12138): This Executive Order directs each department or agency empowered to extend Federal financial assistance to any program or activity to issue regulations requiring the recipient of such assistance to take appropriate affirmative action in support of women's business enterprises and to prohibit actions or policies which discriminate against women's business enterprises on the grounds of sex. DWS will comply with this Executive Order in selecting contractors, goods, and services for its Kapulena



Well Development project.

7.) Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC § 794): This Act stipulates that no otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. DWS will comply with this requirement for its Kapulena Well Development project.

8.) Small Business Administration Reauthorization and Amendment Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 100-590, Section 129): This Amendment directs Federal agencies to promote and encourage the use of small business enterprises in projects utilizing federal funds. DWS will comply with this Act in selecting contractors, goods, and services for its Kapulena Well Development project.

9.) Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Agencies Appropriations Act (1993, Pub. L. 102-389): This Act requires the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that at least 8 per centum of Federal funding for prime and subcontracts awarded in support of authorized programs, including grants, loans and contracts for wastewater treatment and for leaking underground storage tanks, be made available to businesses or other organizations owned or controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (within the meaning of Section 8(a)(5) and (6) of the Small Business Act (15 USC 637(a)(5) and (6)), including historically black colleges and universities. DWS will comply with applicable provisions of this Act in selecting contractors, goods, and services for its Kapulena Well Development project and will include this provision in the specifications of all contracts funded for this project.

10.) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Rule (2008, 40 CFR Part 33): This Rule sets forth the responsibilities of entities receiving an identified loan under a financial assistance agreement capitalizing a revolving loan fund, for the monitoring, maintaining of data and reporting of the use of disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs). It requires the Applicant to fully comply with 40 CFR Part 33, entitled “Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Procurement Under Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Financial Assistance Agreements” and ensure that all contracts funded by a DWSRF loan include a term or condition requiring compliance with 40 CFR Part 33. The Rule further stipulates that the applicant shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of its contract and that the applicant carry out applicable requirements of 40 CFR Part 33 in the award and administration of contracts awarded under EPA financial assistance agreements. DWS will comply with all applicable provisions of this rule for its Kapulena Well Development project, including timely completion and submission of the DBE Subcontractor Performance and Utilization Forms (respectively, EPA Forms 6100-3 and 61004), as appropriate.

#### d. Miscellaneous Authorities

1.) Debarment and Suspension (Executive Order 12549): Prior to the award of a consultant or construction contract, the Applicant (County) shall fully comply with

Subpart C of 40 CFR Part 32, entitled “Responsibilities of Participants Regarding Transactions” and ensure that any lower tier covered transaction and subsequent lower tier transaction, includes a term or condition requiring compliance with Subpart C. The Applicant shall certify that the General Contractor, Consultant, sub-consultants, subcontractors and suppliers are not on the Excluded Parties List. The Applicant acknowledges that failing to disclose the information required under 40 CFR 32.335 may result in the delay or negation of payment, or pursuance of legal remedies, including suspension and debarment. The Applicant may access the Excluded Parties List System at <http://epls.arnet.gov>. DWS will include a condition in all contracts funded for this project that will terminate the contract should the contractor be determined to be an Excluded Party under this Executive Order.

2.) Uniform Relocation and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act (Pub. L. 91-646 (1971), as Amended, 42 USC 4601-4655): The Act establishes a policy for fair and equitable treatment of persons who are displaced from their homes, farms or businesses to make way for a federally assisted project. No such displacements are anticipated for the Kapulena Well Development project. However, should any such displacements occur as a result of the project, DWS will ensure that the affected parties will receive fair and equitable treatment consistent with this law.

3.) Preservation of Open Competition and Government Neutrality towards Contractor’s Labor Relations on Federal and Federally Funded Construction Projects (Executive Order 13202 (2001), as amended by Executive Order 13208 (2001)): DWSRF assistance recipients must ensure that bid specifications, project agreements, and other controlling documents for construction contracts awarded after February 17, 2001 do not require or prohibit agreements with labor organizations. Further, DWSRF assistance recipients and any construction manager acting upon their behalf must not otherwise discriminate against bidders, offerors, contractors, or subcontractors for entering into, or refusing to enter into, agreements with labor organizations. DWS will comply with applicable provisions of this Act in selecting contractors, goods, and services for its Kapulena Well Development project and will include this provision in the specifications of all contracts funded for this project.

#### e. Coordination and Consultation Process

1.) Consultation: In the development of the *Draft EA*, DWS consulted with the State Safe Drinking Water Branch, the State Historic Preservation Division, and parties listed in Table 7.1.

2.) Draft Environmental Assessment Distribution: The DEA was distributed to the individuals and organizations listed in Table 7.1. The written comments received and DWS’s responses to them are reproduced at the end of this Section.

**Table 7.1 Preliminary Draft EA Distribution List**

<b>Federal Agencies</b>	
Environmental Protection Agency, Pacific Islands Contact Office	District Engineer, U.S. Army Engineer District, Honolulu
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Pacific Island Eco-Region
District Chief, Geological Survey, Department of the Interior	
<b>State Agencies</b>	
Office of Environmental Quality Control (4 copies)	Department of Business and Economic Development & Tourism, Planning Office
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands	Department of Health, Clean Water Branch
Office of Hawaiian Affairs	Department of Health, Environmental Planning Office (3 copies)
Department of Accounting and General Services	Department of Health, Safe Drinking Water Branch
Department of Agriculture	Department of Land and Natural Resources (5 copies)
Commission on Water Resource Management	DLNR Historic Preservation Division
DOT Highways Division	Environmental Center, University of Hawai'i
	Water Resources Center, University of Hawai'i
<b>County of Hawai'i</b>	
Planning Department	Fire Department
Department of Public Works	Police Department
Department of Parks and Recreation	Department of Environmental Management, Solid Waste Division
<b>Utilities</b>	
Hawaiian Electric Light Company	Hawaiian Telcom
<b>Libraries and Depositories</b>	
Hawai'i State Library Hawai'i Documents Center	Hilo Public Library
University of Hawai'i, Hilo Campus Library	Honoka'a Public Library
DBEDT Library	

Copies of the DEA were sent to the landowners that abut the project sites and the existing access road nearest to the proposed electrical extension. Table 7.2 lists the owners and Tax Map Key numbers of these neighbors.

**Table 7.2 Neighboring Landowners Sent Copies of the Draft Environmental Assessment**

<i>Landowner Name</i>	<i>Property Tax Map Key(s)</i>
Marcel & Connie Hernandez	4-7-001:013
Noel & Yoshiharu Hamasaki	4-7-001:014
Mikie Taguchi	4-7-001:015
B P Bishop Estate	4-7-001:016
Jon M. & Faye T. Higashi	4-7-002:019
Iris K.H. Dochin	4-7-002:020

<i>Landowner Name</i>	<i>Property Tax Map Key(s)</i>
Oran Murakane	4-7-002:026
Edith Margaret Bickle	4-7-002:027
Kawaikalia Akua Farms LLC	4-7-002:031
Angela Lorraine Ho	4-7-002:033
Kapulena Orchards Ranch LLC	4-7-002:034
Alan Suzuki	4-7-002:035
Rick T. Martin	4-7-008:015
Hawaii Land Partners	4-7-008:019
Apolinario & Corazon Collado	4-7-008:021
Source: Hawai,,i County Real Property Tax Office	

3.) Comments and Responses to the Draft Environmental Assessment: The comment period for the Draft EA ended on May 23, 2009. Table 7.3 below lists the parties that submitted written comments on the project. DWS is providing a copy of the Final EA to each of the organizations listed, to the Office of Coastal Zone Management and to other parties listed as mandatory by the Office of Environmental Quality Control. Comment and response letters may be found in Appendix D.

**Table 7.3 Written Comments Received on the Draft EA**

<i>No .</i>	<i>Name &amp; Title of Commenter</i>	<i>Organization</i>
1	George P. Young, P.E., Chief	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District
2	Darryl Oliveira, Chief	Fire Department, County of Hawai,,i
3	Ernest Y.W. Lau, Administrator	Dept. of Accounting and General Services
4	Alec Wong, P.E., Chief	Clean Water Branch, State Department of Health
5	Derek D. Pacheco, Assistant Chief	Police Department, County of Hawai,,i
6	BJ Leithead Todd, Director	Planning Department, County of Hawai,,i
7	Nancy McMahon, Deputy	State Historic Preservation Division
8	Morris M. Atta, Administrator	Department of Land and Natural Resources, Land Division
9	Stuart Yamada, P.E., Chief	Department of Health, State of Hawai,,i
10	Clyde W. Nāmu,,o, Administrator	Office of Hawaiian Affairs, State of Hawai,,i
11	Stuart Yamada, P.E., Chief	Department of Health, State of Hawai,,i
Source: Compiled by Planning Solutions, Inc. (2009).		

### 3. Determination

a. Significance Criteria: Hawaii Administrative Rule §11-200-11.2 establishes procedures for determining if an environmental impact statement (EIS) should be prepared or if a finding of no significant impact is warranted. §11200-11.2 (1) provides that proposing agencies should issue an environmental impact statement preparation notice (EISPN) for actions that it determines may have a significant effect on the environment. Hawaii Administrative Rules §11-200-12 lists the following criteria to be used in making that determination:

*In most instances, an action shall be determined to have a significant effect on the environment if it:*

- *Involves an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resource;*
- *Curtails the range of beneficial uses of the environment;*
- *Conflicts with the State's long-term environmental policies or goals as expressed in Chapter 344, HRS, and any revisions thereof and amendments thereto, court decisions, or executive orders;*
- *Substantially affects the economic or social welfare of the community or State;*
- *Substantially affects public health;*
- *Involves substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities;*
- *Involves a substantial degradation of environmental quality;*
- *Is individually limited but cumulatively has considerable effect on the environment or involves a commitment for larger actions;*
- *Substantially affects a rare, threatened, or endangered species, or its habitat;*
- *Detrimentially affects air or water quality or ambient noise levels;*
- *Affects or is likely to suffer damage by being located in an environmentally sensitive area such as a flood plain, tsunami zone, beach, erosion-prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary, fresh water, or coastal waters;*
- *Substantially affects scenic vistas and view planes identified in county or state plans or studies; or,*
- *Requires substantial energy consumption.*

b. Findings: The potential effects of constructing and operating the proposed Kapulena Well Development project described earlier in this document were evaluated using these significance criteria. The findings with respect to these criteria are summarized below:

1.) Irrevocable Loss or Destruction of Valuable Resource: The proposed project would be constructed on a macadamia nut orchard adjacent to an existing Department of Water Supply facility. It does not involve the loss of any significant cultural or natural resources.

2.) Curtails Beneficial Use: Construction and operation of the proposed well and reservoir will not curtail beneficial uses of the site. The development affects less than an acre of land and will not preclude or disrupt future use of the surrounding agricultural land.

3.) Conflicts With Long-Term Environmental Policies or Goals: The proposed project is consistent with the County of Hawaii's General Plan (see Paragraph E.1) and with the State's long-term environmental policies and goals as expressed in Chapter 344, Hawaii Revised statutes and elsewhere in State law.

4.) Substantially Affects Economic or Social Welfare: The proposed well is intended to provide a surface water source and additional water storage to existing residents of Kukuihaele. It will not have a substantial adverse effect on economic or

social welfare. Rather, it allows the DWS to assure its customers that they have access to an adequate supply of high-quality potable water, consistent with the maintenance of environmental quality.

5.) Public Health Effects: The proposed project will not adversely affect air or water quality. Neither will it generate solid waste or produce other emissions that will have a significant adverse effect on public health. Construction noise has the potential to exceed noise standards at the property line, but the potential adverse effects of this can be mitigated by the noise abatement and attenuation measures that the County will require of the construction contractor.

6.) Produce Substantial Secondary Impacts: The proposed project will not produce significant secondary impacts. It is not designed to foster population growth or to promote economic development.

7.) Substantially Degrade Environmental Quality: The proposed project will not have substantial long-term environmental effects. Noise from construction and pump testing is the only impact of note, and it will be of limited duration. So long as adequate measures are taken to control the intensity of the construction noise and the time of day during which it will occur, its effects on nearby properties can be managed.

8.) Cumulative Effects or Commitment to a Larger Action: Construction and operation of the proposed well and reservoir do not constitute a commitment to a larger action and are not intended to facilitate substantial population growth. Instead, the project is intended to primarily provide a surface water source and additional storage to support the existing water system.

9.) Effects on Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species: The proposed project will be constructed on a privately owned portion of a macadamia nut orchard that has been heavily disturbed for agricultural use, which is adjacent to a DWS-owned site. It will not utilize a resource needed for the protection of rare, threatened, or endangered species.

10.) Effects on Air or Water Quality or Ambient Noise Levels: Construction and operation of the proposed well and reservoir will not have a measurable effect on air or water quality. Neither will they have a long-term effect on noise levels. The project does have the potential to increase noise levels during the construction phase. Adequate mitigation measures will be taken to limit these to reasonable levels.

11.) Environmentally Sensitive Areas: There are no environmentally sensitive areas or resources in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project. While the Island of Hawaiʻi as a whole is subject to certain geologic hazards, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and lava flows, the project site is in an area that has a relatively low frequency of lava flows and is above the tsunami evacuation zone. All structures will be constructed consistent with the Hawaiʻi Uniform Building Code for Earthquake Zone 4.

12.) Affects Scenic Vistas and View Planes: The appearance of the proposed well, reservoir and equipment building will be similar in nature to the facilities already existing at the site. They will not significantly alter the visual character of the site or change views across it.

13.) Requires Substantial Energy Consumption: Energy required for operation of the proposed well will be more than offset by the energy currently used to deliver water to the service area using trucks. This will result in a substantial decrease in energy consumption for the delivery of water to the service area customers.

c. Determination: In view of the foregoing, the DWS concludes that the proposed project will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Consequently, it is issuing a Finding of No Significant Impact for the proposed action.

#### E. Project Relationship to Relevant State and Local Plans, Policies, and Controls

##### 1. County of Hawai'i General Plan

a. Description of Plan: The Department of Water Supply operates and maintains over twenty separate systems in the County of Hawai'i, including the Kukuiahae Water System. The 2005 *Hawai'i County General Plan* contains goals and policies concerning the development and operation of essential water supply facilities. The *General Plan* recognizes that water supply facilities are needed to support the patterns of development which the *General Plan* seeks to achieve. It makes planning for the location of utility facilities such as wells, reservoirs, and pumping stations an integral part of the land planning process.

The 2005 *General Plan* identifies the following County policies with regards to public water systems that are relevant to the proposed project:

- *Water system improvements shall correlate with the County's desired land use development pattern.*
- *All water systems shall be designed and built to Department of Water Supply standards.*
- *Improve and replace inadequate systems.*
- *Water sources shall be adequately protected to prevent depletion and contamination from natural and man-made occurrences or events.*
- *Water system improvements should be first installed in areas that have established needs and characteristics, such as occupied dwellings, agricultural operations and other uses, or in areas adjacent to them if there is need for urban expansion.*
- *A coordinated effort by County, State and private interests shall be developed to identify sources of additional water supply and be implemented to ensure the development of sufficient quantities of water for existing and future needs of high growth areas and agricultural production.*
- *The fire prevention systems shall be coordinated with water distribution systems in order to ensure water supplies for fire protection purposes.*
- *Cooperate with appropriate State and Federal agencies and the private sector to develop, improve and expand agricultural water systems in appropriate areas on the island.*
- *Promote the use of ground water sources to meet State Department of Health water quality standards.*
- *Seek State and Federal funds to assist in financing projects to bring the County into compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.*
- *Develop and adopt a water master plan that will consider water yield, present and future demand, alternative sources of water, guidelines and policies for the issuing of water commitments.*

- *Expand programs to provide for agricultural irrigation water.*

The 2005 *Hawaiʻi County General Plan* identifies a number of actions to implement these policies in the Hāmākua District. Specifically, it directs DWS to:

- *Continue to coordinate programs with State and Federal agencies to develop a well at Kukuihaele and Honokaʻa Hospital to the standards of the Department of Water Supply.*
- *Replace old, sub-standard, or deteriorating lines and storage facilities.*
- *Investigate groundwater sources in the Honokaʻa and Kukuihaele areas.*

b. Conformance with the 2005 County of Hawaiʻi General Plan: The proposed well and reservoir is being constructed by DWS in response to the *General Plan* policy for Hāmākua that encourages groundwater source investigation for this area of the island. By eliminating the system's dependency on the Kukuihaele (Waiʻulili) Spring, the proposed action is also responding to the *General Plan*'s policy of replacing existing surface sources with groundwater sources.

The proposed project meets all applicable design standards. It will allow DWS to continue to meet the needs of the people of Kukuihaele in a cost-effective manner while complying with the State Department of Health requirements for reliability and quality of potable water sources. The proposed well and ancillary facilities are located on a site that is already part of the DWS system. They are compatible with existing uses in the surrounding area and they are allowable under existing State and County zoning and development regulations. Operation of the well and reservoir would not produce substantial air or noise emissions that would disturb existing uses on adjacent properties.

2. County of Hawaiʻi Zoning Ordinance: The County zoning in the project area is Agriculture (Ag-40a). The Hawaiʻi County Code (2000 Edition), Section 25-4-11(b) states:

*Any substation used by a public utility for the purpose of furnishing telephone, gas, electricity, water, radio, or television shall be a permitted use in any district provided that the use is not hazardous or dangerous to the surrounding area and the director has issued plan approval for such use.*

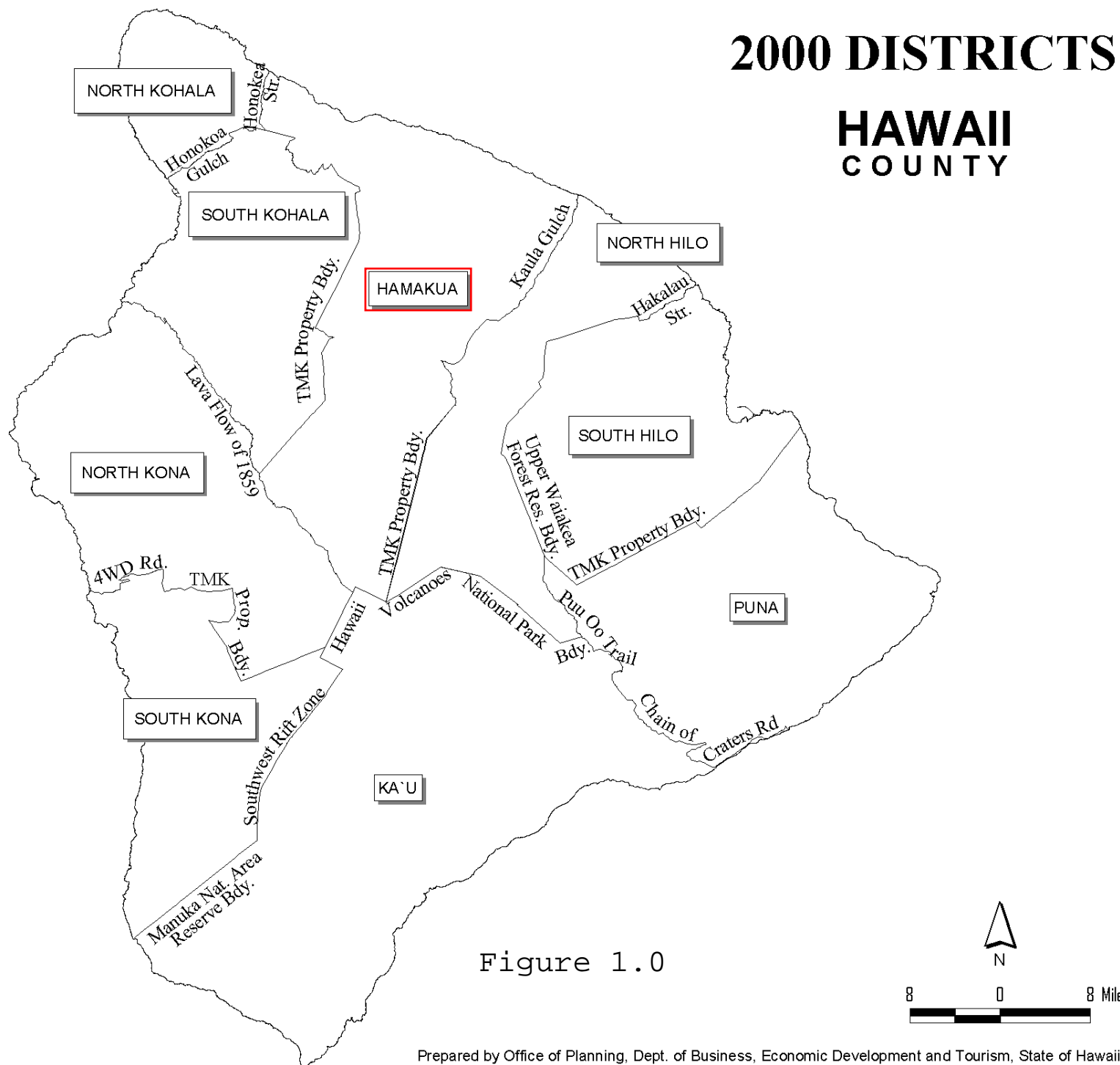
The proposed well and reservoir would be a public utility that would provide additional storage and a groundwater source of potable water to the Kukuihaele community. Consequently, the project qualifies as a permitted use under this regulation. DWS will submit an *Application for Plan Approval* to the Hawaiʻi County Department of Planning to obtain the necessary director's approval for the project once the Chapter 343 process is completed.

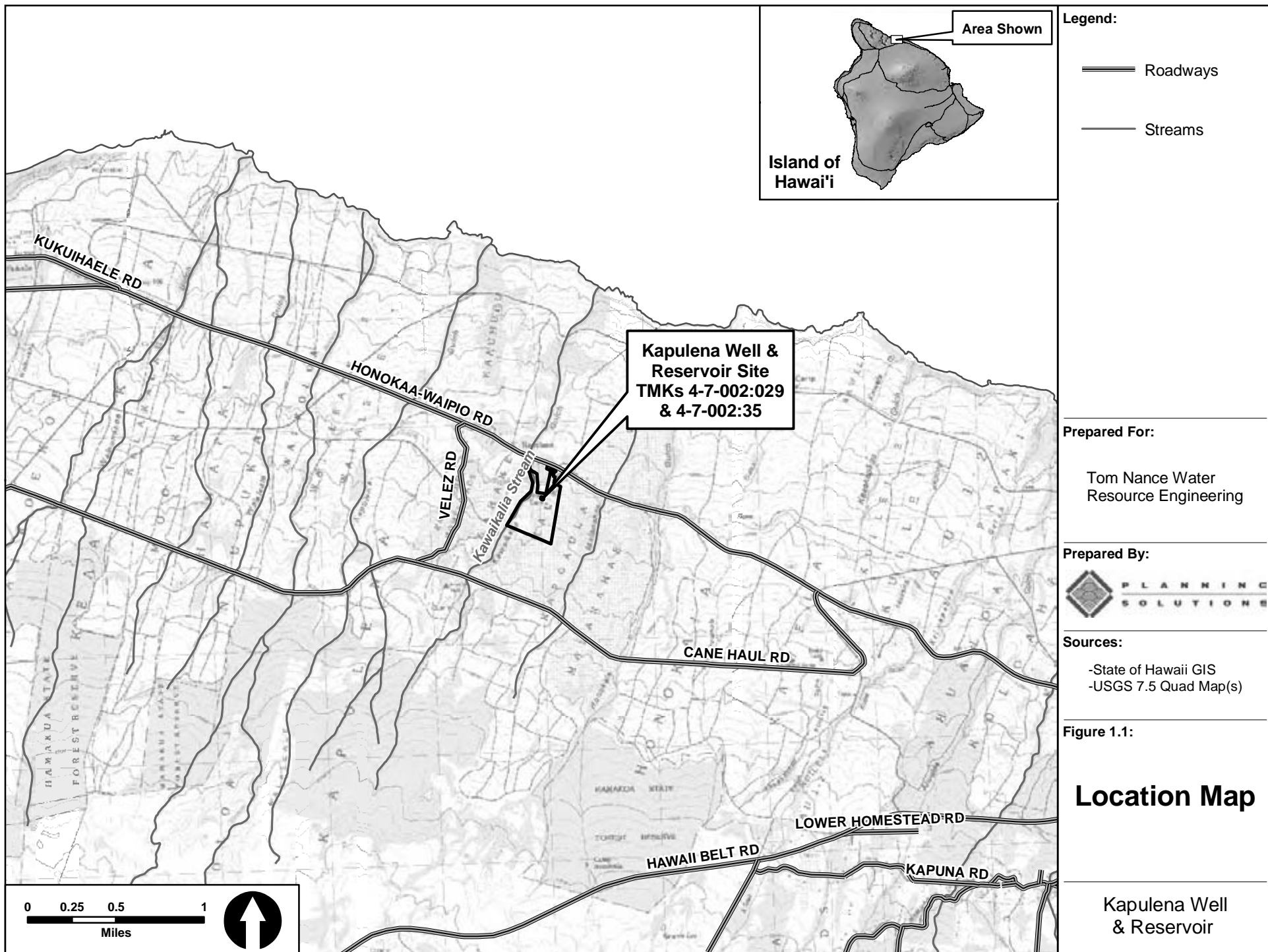
3. State of Hawaiʻi Land Use Law: The site is in the State Agriculture District. HRS Chapter 205 §205-4.5 (7) lists public utility facilities such as those that are proposed as permissible uses within the State Agricultural District.

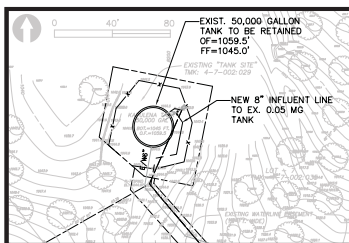
4. Compliance with the State of Hawaiʻi Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program Requirements: The Phase 1 portion of this project (Exploratory Well) will be funded by Federal funds through the State of Hawaiʻi's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund



(DWSRF) program and Phase 2 (Production Well) will be funded, in part, through the DWSRF. The DWSRF program was established to offer below-market interest rate loans to public water systems to finance the cost of constructing or improving their drinking water infrastructure projects to achieve or maintain compliance, with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The U.S. Congress established the DWSRF program as a new section 1452 of the SDWA, 33 U.S.C. 300j-12, by the SDWA Amendments of 1996, Public Law 104-182. The SDWA was established to help prevent contamination through source water protection and enhanced water system management. It also emphasizes the needs of small water systems, such as Kukuihaele. The proposed project is consistent with the overall program intent to prevent potential contamination and the program emphasis on small water systems. The project's Environmental Assessment includes all of the environmental information required for compliance with the DWSRF program.







Existing DWS 0.05 MG Kapulena Homestead Reservoir.



Existing overhead electrical line on the property.

**Prepared For:**

Dept. of Water Supply,  
County of Hawai'i

**Prepared By:**



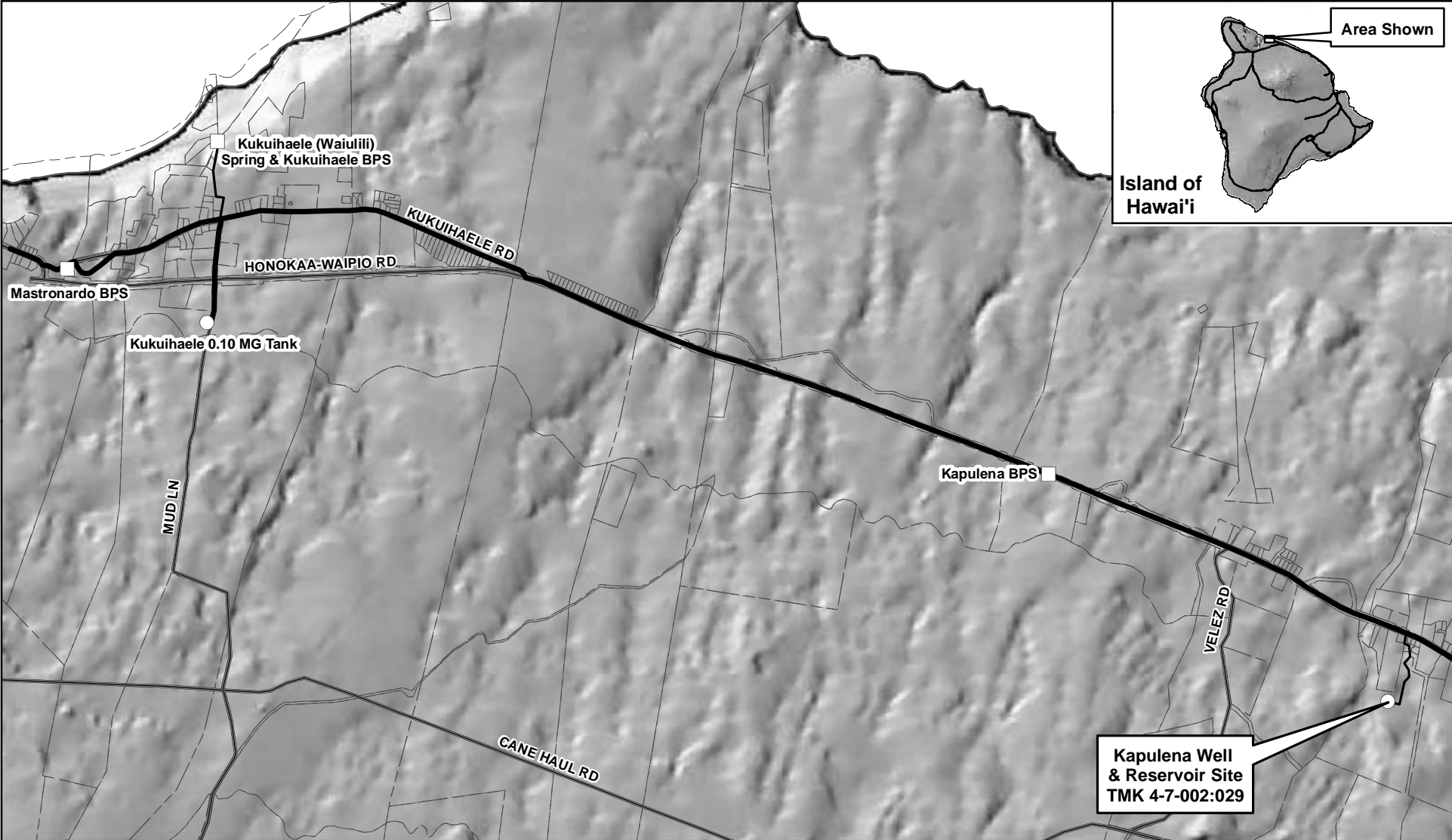
**Source:**

-Planning Solutions, Inc.  
(Photo taken January 19, 2009)  
-TNWRE


**Figure 1.2:**

## Existing Facilities

Kapulena Well & Reservoir








Prepared For:  
TNWRE

Prepared By:  
 PLANNING SOLUTIONS

Source:  
State of Hawaii GIS  
R.W. Beck  
Appendix B-22: Existing System Kukuihaele

**Legend:**

 Pump Station	 Existing 4" Water Line
 Reservoir	 Existing 6" Water Line
 TMK Parcel Boundaries	

0 0.375 0.75 1.5  
Miles




Figure 1.3:

## Existing Kukuihaele Water System

Kapulena Well & Reservoir





**A. Current entry to parcel and neighboring properties to be used as a facility entry.**



**B. Honoka'a-Waipio Road from entry looking north.**



**C. Existing driveway to be upgraded to access to the project site..**



**D. Proposed well and reservoir site.**

**Prepared For:**

Dept. of Water Supply,  
County of Hawai'i

**Prepared By:**



**Sources:**

Planning Solutions, Inc.  
January 16, 2009

**Figure 2.1:**

**Photographs of Well  
& Reservoir Site**

Kapulena Well & Reservoir

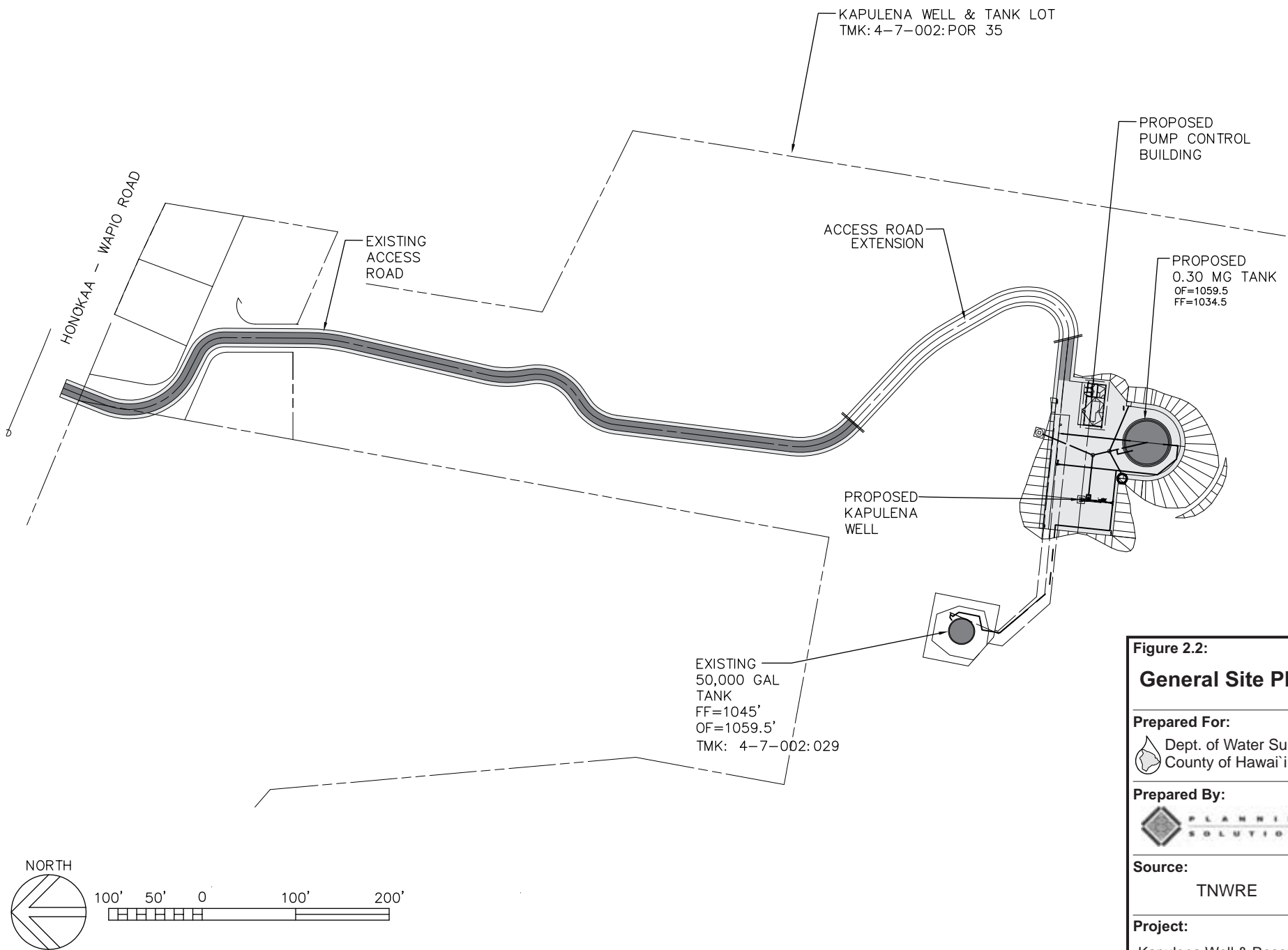



Figure 2.2:

**General Site Plan****Prepared For:**

 Dept. of Water Supply,  
County of Hawai'i

**Prepared By:**

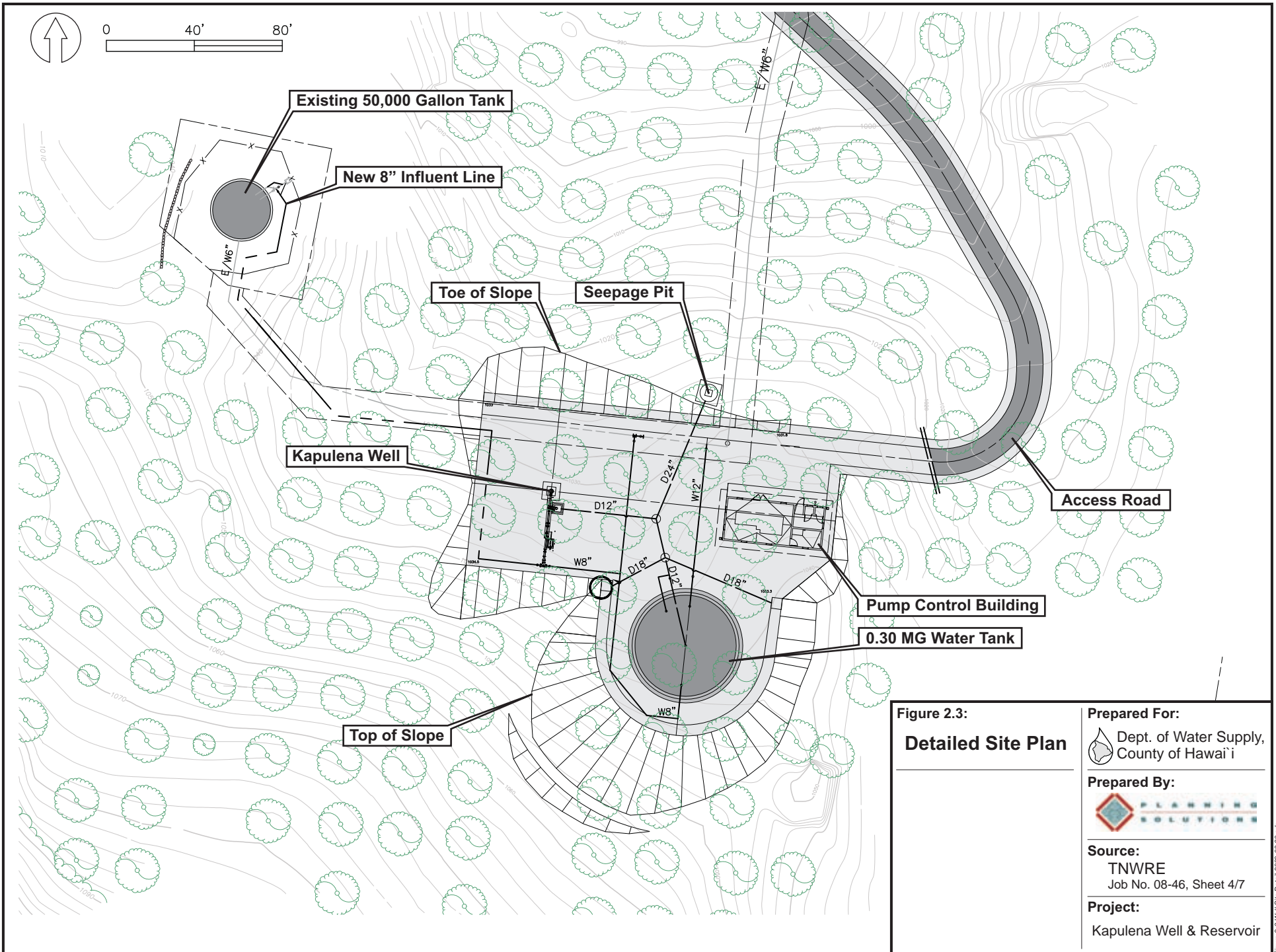
 PLANNING  
SOLUTIONS

**Source:**

TNWRE

**Project:**

Kapulena Well &amp; Reservoir





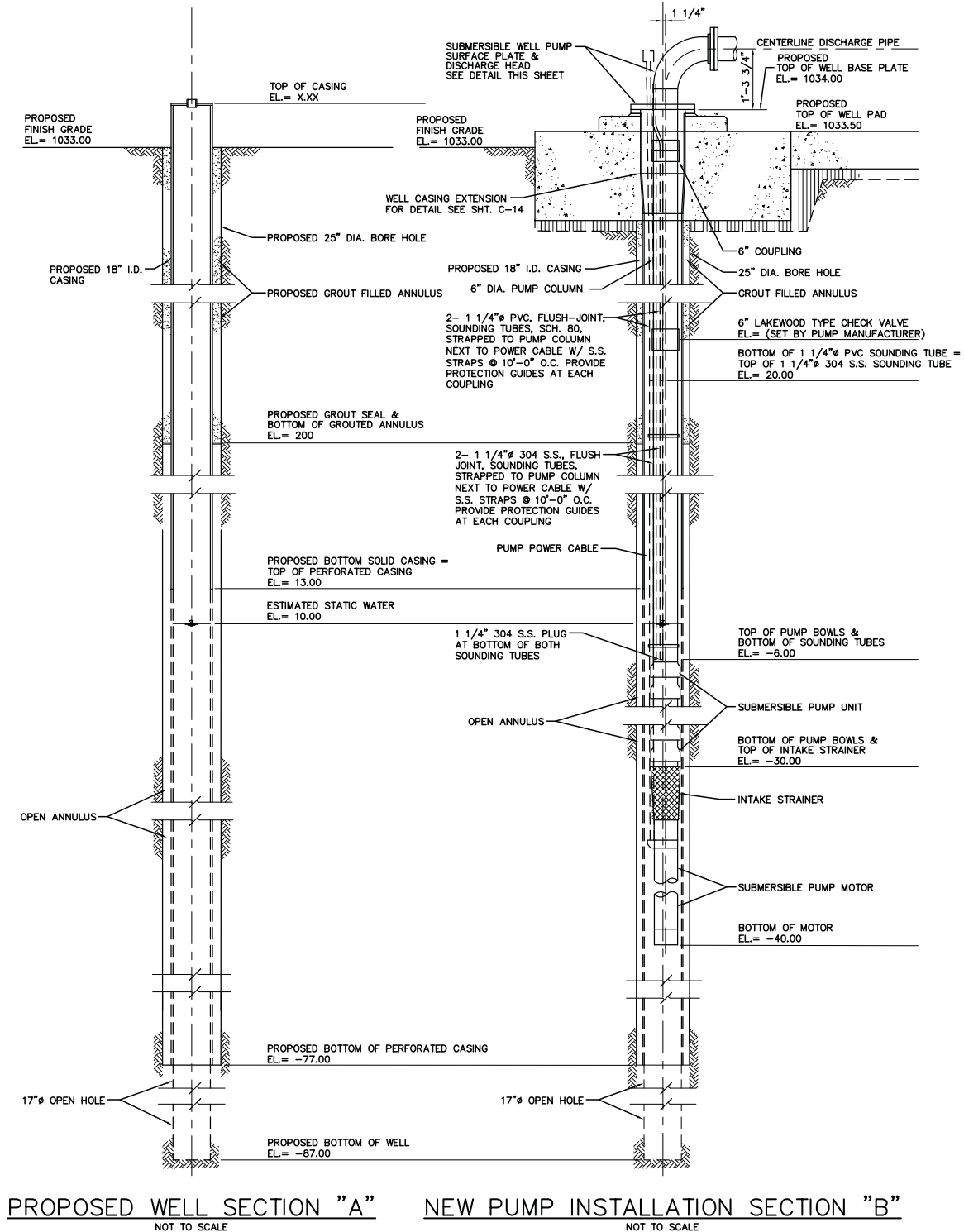


Figure 2.4:

## Exploratory & Production Well Sections

Prepared For:

Dept. of Water Supply,  
County of Hawai'i

Prepared By:

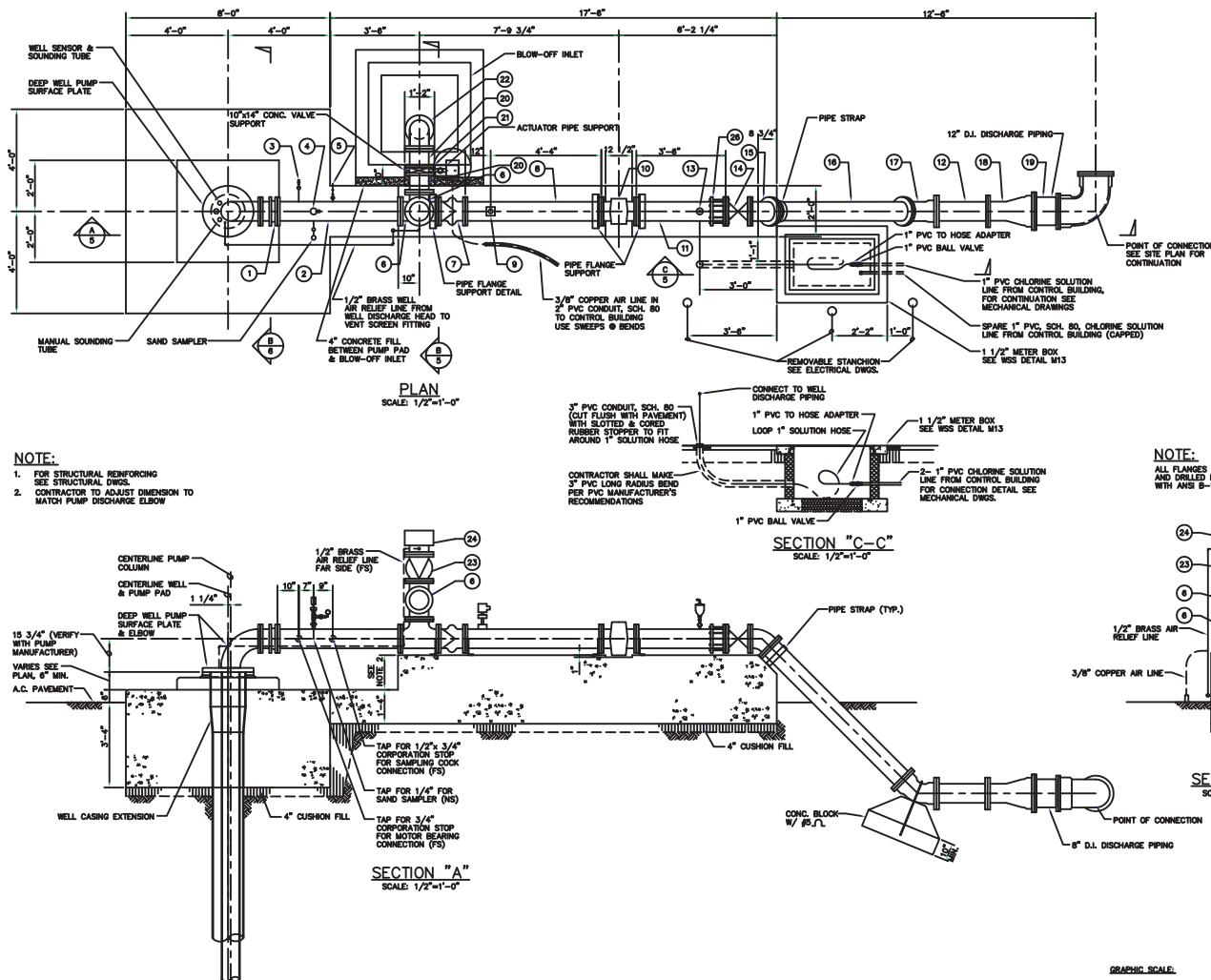


Source:

TNWRE  
Job No. 08-46, Sheet 5/7

Project:

Kapulena Well & Reservoir



ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	6" DISMANTLING JOINT, ROMAC MODEL NO. D400
2	6" D.I. PIPE, FE, 4'-8" LONG
3	TEST GAUGE CONNECTION
4	PRESSURE SWITCH UNIT
5	SAMPLING COCK, SEE DETAIL
6	6" D.I. TEE, FE
7	6" CENTER-GUIDED CHECK VALVE, FE
8	6" D.I. PIPE, FE, 8'-4" LONG, W/ DOUBLE STRAPPED SERVICE SADDLE
9	1 1/2" FLOW SWITCH, SEE SPECS.
10	6" ELECTRO-MAGNETIC METER, FE, WITH FLOW TRANSMITTER (SEE SPECIFICATIONS SECTION 304.10)
11	6" D.I. PIPE, FE, 3'-6" LONG
12	6" D.I. NIPPLE, FE, LENGTH TO FIT
13	1" AIR RELEASE VALVE, PRESSURE GAUGE: 0-50 PSI
14	6" GATE VALVE, FE (OS&Y)
15	6" 1/8 C.I. BEND, FE (CLASS 250)
16	6" D.I. PIPE, FE, PE, LENGTH TO FIT
17	6" 1/8 D.I. BEND, MJ W/ MEGA-LUG RETAINER GLANDS
18	6" X 2" D.I. INCREASER, MJ
19	6" D.I. NIPPLE, FE, LENGTH TO FIT
20	6" D.I. SPOOL, FE, 0'-8" LONG
21	6" RUBBER-SEATED BUTTERFLY VALVE (WAFFER), FE, W/ DIAPHRAGM VALVE ACTUATOR
22	6" 1/4 C.I. BEND, FE (CLASS 250)
23	6" PUMP VACUUM RELEASE VALVE, FE
24	6" VENT SCREEN & FITTING
25	6" TIDEX CHECK VALVE, SERIES 35, FE
26	6" FLANGED COUPLING ADAPTER

Prepared For:

Dept. of Water Supply,  
County of Hawai'i

Prepared By:



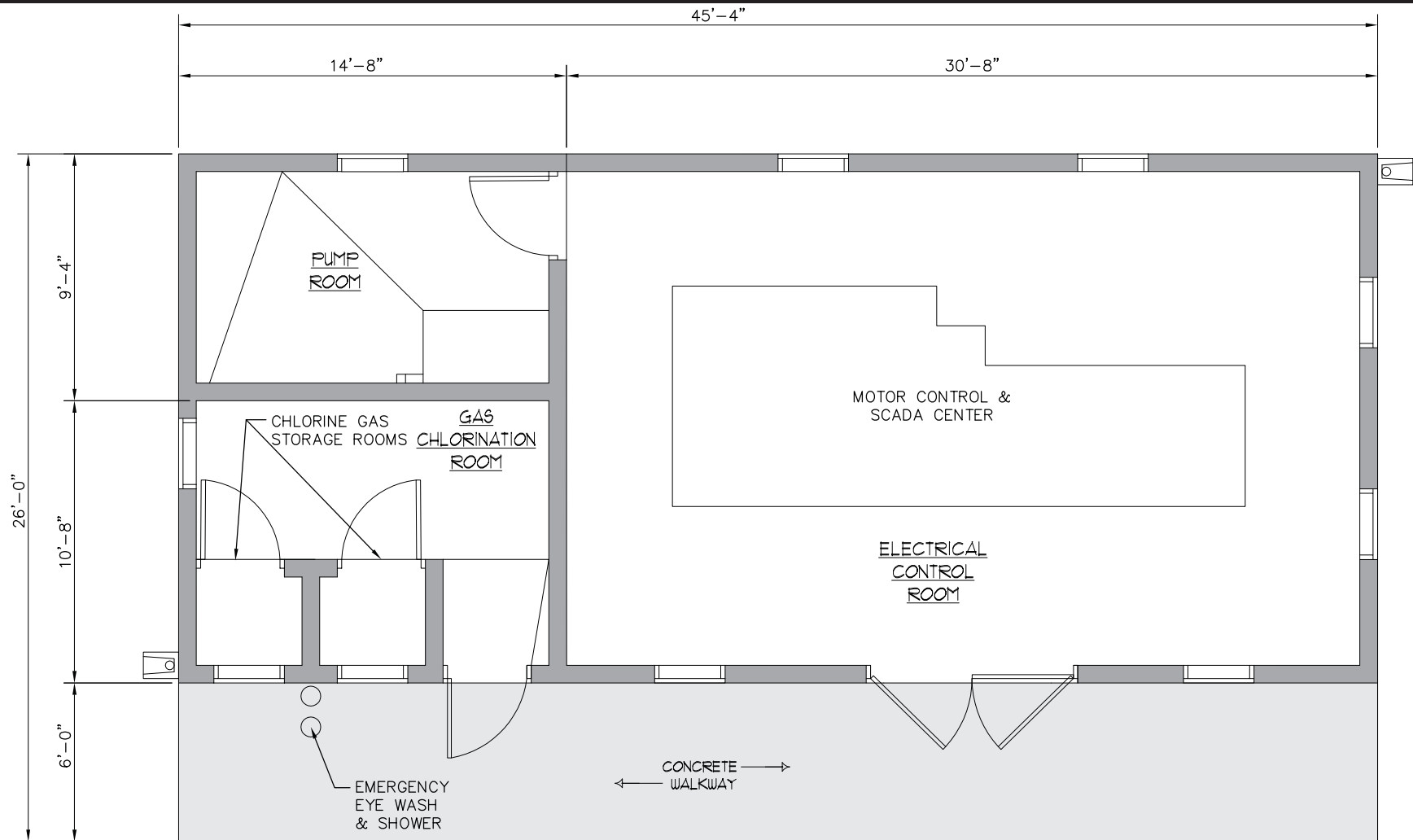
Source:

TNWR  
Job. No. 08-46, Sheet 5/7  
Rev. 03-09-09

Figure 2.5:

## Well Pump Outfitting Plan & Sections

Kapulena Well  
& Reservoir



**Figure 2.6:**  
**Control Building**  
**Plan View**

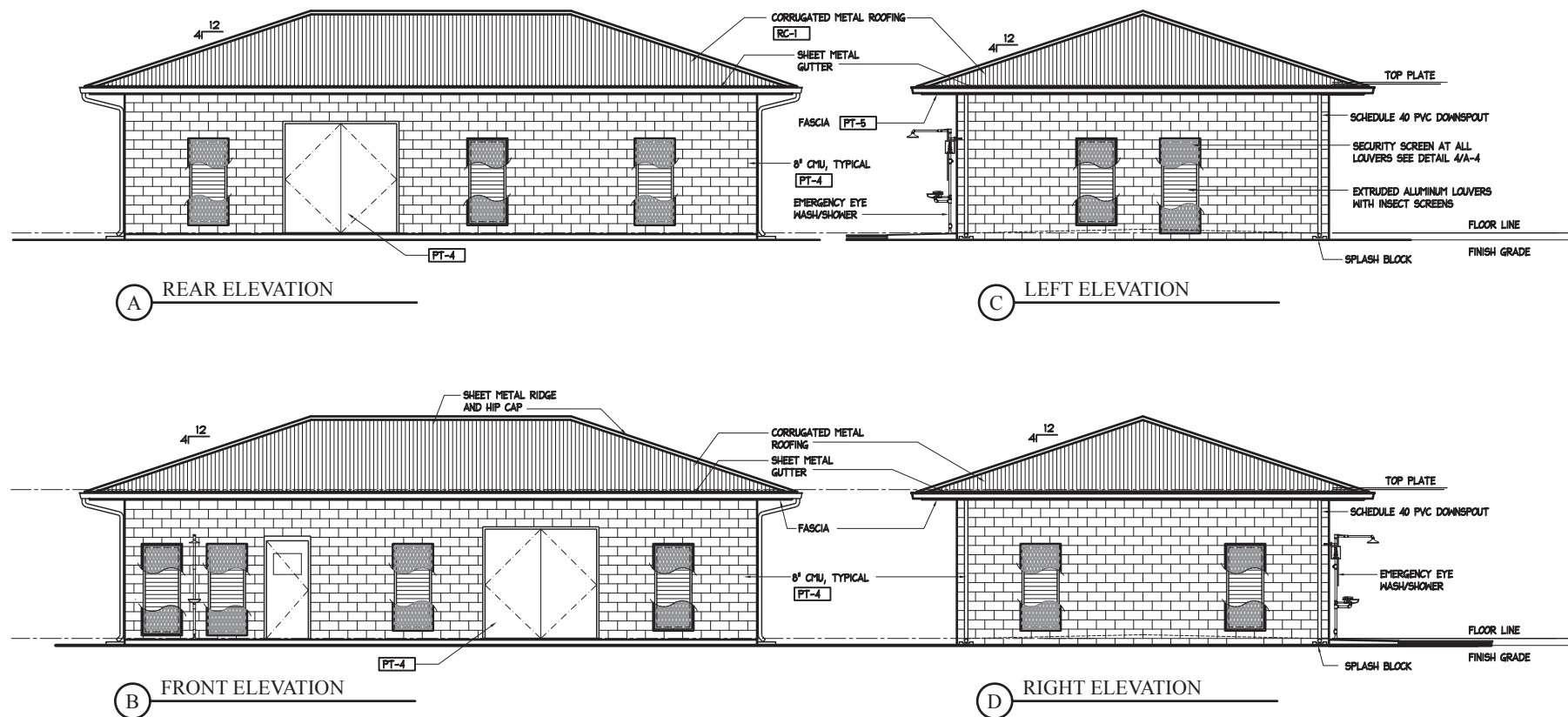
**Prepared For:**  
Dept. of Water Supply,  
County of Hawai'i

**Prepared By:**



**Source:**  
TNWRE  
Job No. 08-46, Sheet 7/7

**Project:**  
Kapulena Well & Reservoir



**Figure 2.7:**  
**Conceptual Control  
 Building Elevation View**

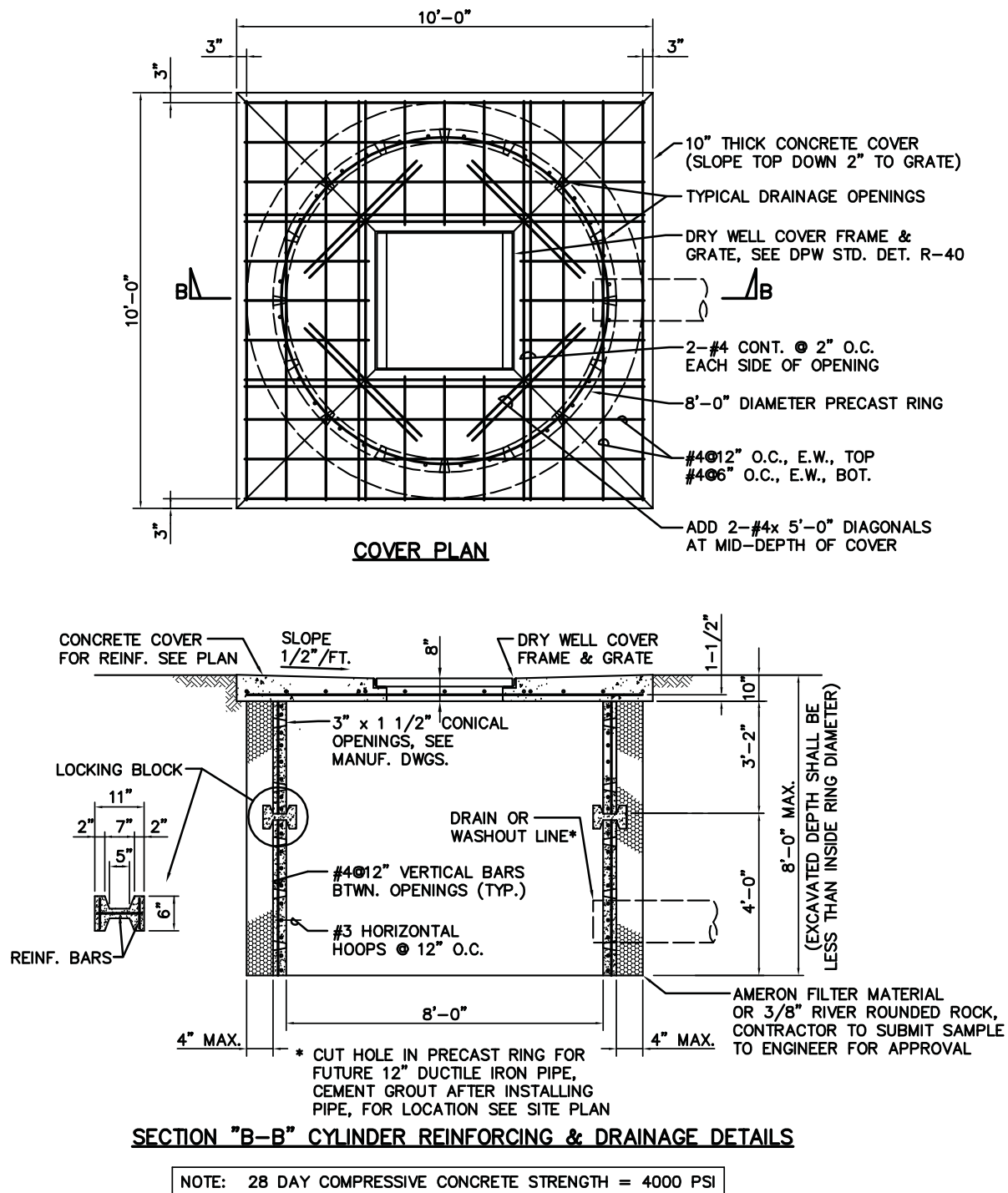
**Note:** This design should be considered conceptual in nature and is subject to change.

**Prepared For:**  
 Dept. of Water Supply,  
 County of Hawai'i

**Prepared By:**  


**Source:**  
 TNWRE  
 Job No. 2006-899, Sheet A-2

**Project:**  
 Kapulena Well  
 & Reservoir



**Prepared For:**

Dept. of Water Supply,  
County of Hawai'i

**Prepared By:**



**Sources:**

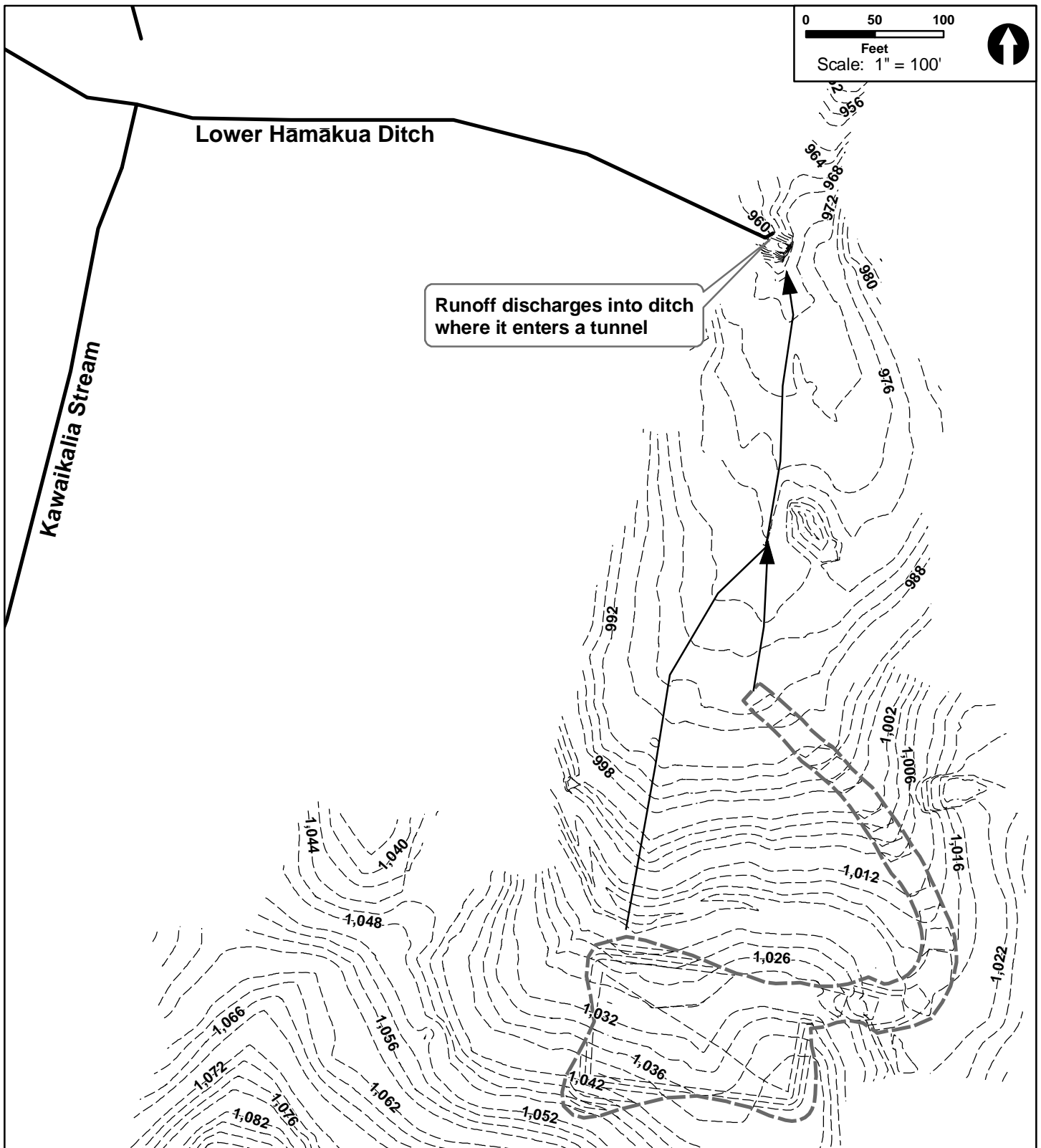
TNWRE  
Job No. 08-46, Sheet 6/7

Note: Drawing is not to scale.

Figure 2.8:

## Seepage Pit Detail

Kapulena Well & Reservoir



Prepared For:  
Tom Nance Water  
Resource Engineering (TNWRE)

Prepared By:



Sources:

- State of Hawaii GIS
- TNWRE

Legend:



Limits of Grading

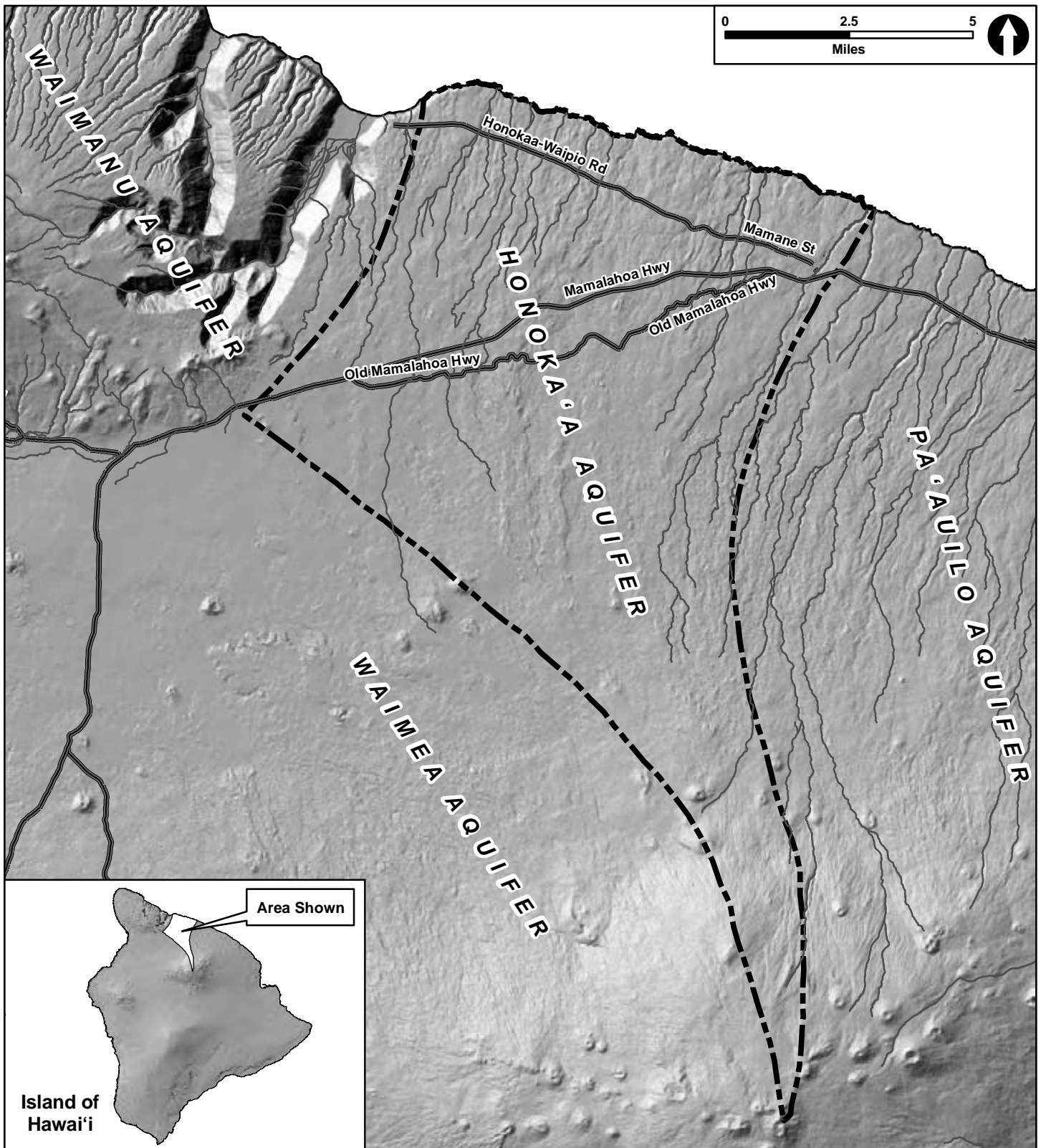


Contour Interval: 2'

Figure 3.1:

## Storm Water Runoff From Project Site

Kapulena Well & Reservoir



Prepared For:

TNWRE

Prepared By:



Source:

-State of Hawaii GIS  
-Dept. of Land & Natural Resources GIS

Legend:

- Perennial Streams
- Highways
- Honokaa Aquifer Boundaries

Figure 3.2:

## Honoka'a Aquifer

Kapulena Well & Reservoir

