
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STREAMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the commission on
2 water resource management, in cooperation with the United States
3 Geological Survey, has been conducting intensive low-flow stream
4 characterization studies over the past twenty years. These
5 studies have covered portions of windward Oahu and most of Maui.
6 Other studies in cooperation with the United States Geological
7 Survey include a low-flow stream study in southeast Kauai to
8 assess the streamflow characteristics from Wailua in the north
9 to Hanapepe in the south, and low-flow stream characterization
10 studies for all streams on the islands of Kauai, Oahu, Molokai,
11 Maui, and Hawaii. Despite previous and current efforts to
12 assess streamflow statewide, there are various other stream
13 studies that can be conducted to increase the understanding of
14 Hawaii's streams and contribute to the data needed to develop
15 measurable instream flow standards.

16 The purpose of this Act is to:



1 (1) Require the commission on water resource management to
2 contract with the United States Geological Survey to
3 conduct a five-year study on streamflow in the State
4 and submit preliminary reports to the legislature
5 prior to the convening of each regular session from
6 2019 to 2022, and a final report to the legislature
7 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2023;
8 and

9 (2) Appropriate funds for the commission on water resource
10 management to contract with the United States
11 Geological Survey to conduct a streamflow study.

12 SECTION 2. (a) Subject to the approval of the United
13 States Geological Survey, the commission on water resource
14 management shall contract with the United States Geological
15 Survey to conduct a five-year study on streamflow in the State;
16 provided that the study shall include the following:

17 (1) An intensive, site-specific low-flow stream study of
18 streams in the east Maui area that are diverted by the
19 east Maui irrigation system, which have not been
20 previously studied; and



1 (2) For United States Geological Survey stream gaging
2 purposes:

3 (A) Establishing instream flow monitoring stations;

4 (B) Converting a number of existing crest stage
5 gaging stations into continuous streamflow
6 stations for instream flow standard monitoring;
7 and

8 (C) Installing index stations proposed by the United
9 States Geological Survey to aid in better long-
10 term study.

11 (b) The commission on water resource management shall
12 submit to the legislature:

13 (1) Preliminary reports on the study's progress no later
14 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
15 sessions of 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022; and

16 (2) A final report on the study no later than twenty days
17 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2023.

18 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
21 commission on water resource management to contract with the



1 United States Geological Survey to conduct a study on streamflow
2 in the State; provided that the sum appropriated shall be
3 expended as follows:

4 (1) \$ for an intensive, site-specific low-flow
5 stream study of streams in the east Maui area that are
6 diverted by the east Maui irrigation system, which
7 have not been previously studied; and

8 (2) \$ for establishing three United States
9 Geological Survey continuous record stream gaging
10 stations, which will serve as index stations for a
11 period of five years to aid in better long-term trend
12 assessments.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the commission on
14 water resource management for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Commission on Water Resource Management; Streamflow Study;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires the commission on water resource management to contract with the United States Geological Survey to conduct a five-year study on streamflow in the State and submit progress reports to the legislature prior to the convening of each regular session from 2019 to 2023. Appropriates funds for the commission on water resource management to contract with the United States Geological Survey to conduct the streamflow study. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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