

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG  
CHAIRPERSON  
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LAND  
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of  
DAWN N. S. CHANG  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
WATER & LAND**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2024  
1:00 PM**

**State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference**

**In consideration of  
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 203 / SENATE RESOLUTION 179  
REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO  
INVENTORY AND MAP EXISTING R-1 WATER DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND  
RESERVOIRS IN MAUI COUNTY**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 203 / Senate Resolution 179 requests the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to inventory and map existing R-1 water delivery systems and reservoirs in Maui County. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) acknowledges the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.**

The Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) supports this measure. The Commission proposes to expand the scope of the inventory and map to include the potential expansion of infrastructure and appropriate use of recycled wastewater in South and West Maui, which reduces the use of potable water for nonpotable demands, is resilient to drought, and prevents potential pollution of nearshore waters by reducing wastewater injection and ocean outfalls. Use of existing infrastructure, such as old pipelines, ditches, and reservoirs, may reduce construction costs and will serve to expand the distribution and storage of R-1 water. Pumping water up to higher elevations would allow for the implementation of a gravity-fed distribution system, which is ideal to support agriculture and provide water for fire suppression. Use of R-1 water also eliminates the need to amend established interim instream flow standards by reducing demands on stream (surface water) sources. Furthermore, R-1 water sourced from the County of Maui's Lahaina Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WWRF) would provide opportunities for the County to recoup costs and support system maintenance through usage fees. The Department's Hawai'i Dam Safety Program should be consulted for all state-regulated dams and reservoirs.

While the Commission takes no position regarding the plans, designs, land acquisition, and upgrading, the Commission offers the following comments on reservoirs in West Maui:

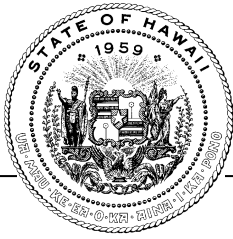
Reservoirs most ideally located to support an R-1 distribution system across Lahaina:

- Field 140 Reservoir, at an elevation of 700 ft, is State-regulated with a high hazard classification and is owned by Maui Land and Pineapple Co. The condition is currently poor with enforcement pending/ongoing.
- Crater Reservoir (420 ft elevation) and Wahikuli Reservoir (560 ft elevation) are sited near each other in Kahoma above Lahaina town. The reservoirs are State-owned, but have been decommissioned. These reservoirs could be repurposed to meet dam safety standards.
- Makila Reservoir is privately-owned, at an elevation of 400 ft, and is located along the Makila Reservoir Ditch, which could serve as a right-of-way for a pipeline from Wahikuli Reservoir.
- Kaua'ula Reservoir is privately-owned, at an elevation of 780 ft, with an existing pump station that can move water up from Makila Reservoir.

Reservoirs that would be inappropriate to support an R-1 distribution system across Lahaina:

- Mahinahina Reservoir is owned by the County of Maui, is part of the Honokōhau Ditch system, and is used for potable water supply by the County. This reservoir is State-regulated with a high hazard classification. The condition is currently poor with enforcement pending/ongoing.
- Kahoma Reservoir is privately-owned, at an elevation of 1860 ft, and is State-regulated with a high hazard classification. The condition is currently poor with enforcement pending/ongoing. R-1 water would have to be pumped up a considerable elevation to utilize this reservoir.
- E-2 Reservoir is on the border between private and State-owned land, at an elevation of 1340 ft, and is currently abandoned. R-1 water would have to be pumped up a considerable elevation to utilize this reservoir.
- Ukumehame Reservoir is privately owned, at an elevation of 160 ft, and is State-regulated with a high hazard classification. The condition is currently unsatisfactory and is slated for decommissioning.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF PLANNING  
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LT. GOVERNOR

**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
INTERIM DIRECTOR

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Statement of  
**MARY ALICE EVANS, Interim Director**

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

1:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of  
**SCR 203 / SR 179**

**REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
TO INVENTORY AND MAP EXISTING R-1 WATER DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND  
RESERVOIRS IN MAUI COUNTY**

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **appreciates the intent of SCR 203 and its companion SR 179**, requesting OPSD to inventory and map existing R-1 water delivery systems and reservoirs in Maui County. OPSD offers the following comments.

The Statewide GIS Program in OPSD regularly gathers data from federal, State, and county agencies and makes more than 400 data layers available to the public through its geospatial open data portal.

However, some agency data is intentionally not shared with OPSD due to the sensitivity of the data or because of security concerns. The R-1 water delivery systems data from Maui County and the regulated and non-regulated dams data from DLNR fall into this category. To the extent that sensitivity and security concerns can be addressed, OPSD can complete the subject inventory and mapping as requested.

An alternative is to request that R-1 water delivery systems and reservoirs in Maui County are included in the non-public Critical Infrastructure system currently being planned by the Office of Homeland Security in the Department of Law Enforcement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair  
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Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
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Shane M. Sinenci  
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

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## COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
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[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

March 25, 2024

TO: The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair, and  
Members of the Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alice L. Lee".

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 27, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR203 AND SR179, RELATING TO REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO INVENTORY AND MAP EXISTING R-1 WATER DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND RESERVOIRS IN MAUI COUNTY**

I **support** these resolutions to request that the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development inventory and map existing R-1 water-delivery systems and reservoirs in Maui County.

I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support these resolutions for the following reasons:

1. Recurring droughts have caused Maui County to struggle with water shortages, especially in Upcountry Maui and in West Maui.
2. If R-1 water-delivery systems can be identified, progress can be made toward water conservation.
3. Using former plantation reservoirs to store R-1 water will allow West Maui to have easier access to fresh water for agricultural and firefighting.

Thank you for your consideration.

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**SCR-203**

Submitted on: 3/23/2024 1:46:56 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/27/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jacqueline S. Ambrose	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Yes to:- REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO INVENTORY AND MAP  
EXISTING R-1 WATER DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND  
RESERVOIRS IN MAUI COUNTY.