



Agribusiness Development Corporation

# Ag Notes

JULY 2021 NEWSLETTER

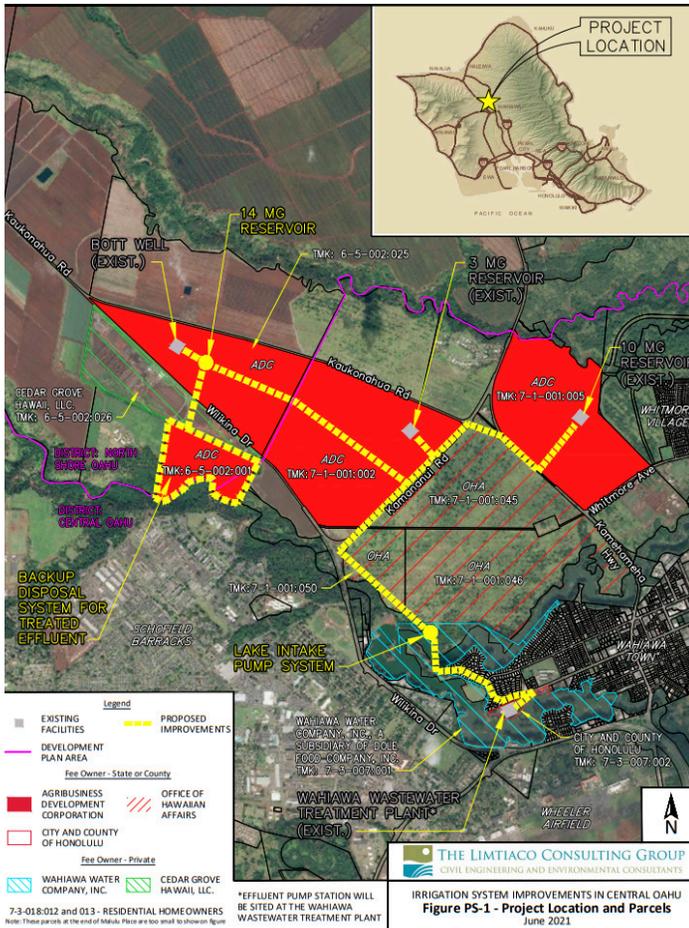
## Government Agencies Look At Wahiawa Recycled Water For Irrigation

The state Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) is seeking public comment for a proposal that would use treated wastewater from Lake Wilson in Wahiawa for irrigational use at nearby ADC properties.

A draft environmental assessment (EA) is now available for public viewing and comment for a long-term proposal that would transfer some of the treated wastewater from Lake Wilson via the Dole Irrigation Ditch to private lands and ADC lands in the Wahiawa and Waialua areas.



**A state proposal would send treated wastewater from Lake Wilson in Wahiawa to nearby ADC properties for irrigation use.**



The proposed project will allow non-potable water to be utilized for irrigation purposes, which would improve the reliability of irrigation system infrastructure in the Central Oahu area. Using treated effluent for irrigational use will reduce dependence on our precious groundwater supply, particularly during drought conditions.

The City's Wahiawa Wastewater Treatment Plant currently discharges about 1.6 million gallons of quality treated effluent (R-1 level) each day into Lake Wilson in Wahiawa. ADC's diversified agriculture plan for the region will require about 5 million gallons of irrigation water per day.

R-1 level water is the highest quality of treated effluent recognized and regulated by the State Department of Health. Some of the potential uses for the R-1 water, includes: Landscape, orchard, and food crop irrigation via spray and drip irrigation.

- Storage in irrigation reservoirs and ponds
- Home irrigation use per guidelines
- Emergency use for fire fighting

The project involves the installation of a 14-million gallon reservoir, a backup disposal system, two pump stations, connecting pipelines, and supporting elements such as access roads.

**Story continued on next page.**



Public comments are being accepted until August 23, 2021. Please click on title link below to view the draft EA, then send comments to the proposing/determining agency and copy the consultant.

[http://oegc2.doh.hawaii.gov/Doc\\_Library/2021-06-23-OA-DEA-Irrigation-System-Improvements-for-Central-Oahu,-Wahiawa,-and,-Waialua-Districts.pdf](http://oegc2.doh.hawaii.gov/Doc_Library/2021-06-23-OA-DEA-Irrigation-System-Improvements-for-Central-Oahu,-Wahiawa,-and,-Waialua-Districts.pdf)



## ADC To Announce New Central Oahu Tenants Shortly

The State Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) is close to announcing its selection of potential tenants to fill its remaining vacant parcels in Central Oahu.

In transitioning to diversified agriculture, ADC accepted applications from over 30 farmers and ranchers this Spring for their remaining 1,200 acres in the Central Oahu/Wahiawa area.



The remaining vacant parcels are set to be filled by the end of the year.

Multi-year licenses will be issued to selectees to farm designated lands, or occupy for pastural use. ADC sought farmers and ranchers with either minimum 5 years farming experience; or are owner-operators of an established farm conducting a substantial farming or cattle ranching operation.



All applicants were rated on a scoring system based on factors such as years of farming experience, whether the proposed grown crops appeal to consumers and will generate a profit, and if the applicant demonstrates adequate financial ability.



## ADC In The News

Kauai mango farmer and longtime ADC tenant Wally Johnson was recently featured in the Kauai newspaper The Garden Island in a story titled "Gearing Up for Mango Season."

Link to read more: <https://www.thegardenisland.com/2021/05/23/lifestyles/gearing-up-for-mango-season/>