

# Waiāhole Valley Water System Improvements Draft Environmental Assessment

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August 3, 2023



# Environmental Review Timeline



# How to View or Get a Copy of the Draft EA

- Download from the Environmental Review Program website: [https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Doc\\_Library/2023-07-23-OA-DEA-Waiahole-Valley-Water-System-Improvements.pdf](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Doc_Library/2023-07-23-OA-DEA-Waiahole-Valley-Water-System-Improvements.pdf)
- For a paper copy, visit the State or Kāneʻohe Public Libraries
- On the HHFDC website: <https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hhfdc/miscellaneous-documents/>

State of Hawaii, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development  
Environmental Review Program

Home Submittal Form Open for Comment Current EA/EIS EA/EIS Old Rules Envir Advisory Council Contact Us

Home > EA and EIS (New Rules)

### EA AND EIS (NEW RULES)

This library contains EAs and EISs published in The Environmental Notice since 2019 under Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR) Chapter 11-200.1 (the new/current rules). Some published EAs and EISs were processed pursuant to NEPA or ROH Chapter 25 (for the SMA on Oahu) and can be found in the Other TEN Publications webpage. Documents will be available for viewing/downloading as of the noted date of publication.

Use the Table Search Box (below) to filter columns by typing one or more relevant parameters from the various columns. Include a space--but no punctuation--between search terms. For example, typing "Maui FEA 2020" into the Search Box will produce a list of the Final EAs for Maui published in 2020.

Show 50 entries Search:

Name	Island	Document	Determination	Date Published	Year Published	Decade
<a href="#">2023-07-23-OA-DEA-Waianae-HS-Track-and-Field-Improvements.pdf</a>	Oahu	DEA	AFNSI	7/23/2023	2023	2020s
<a href="#">2023-07-23-OA-DEA-Waiahole-Valley-Water-System-Improvements.pdf</a>	Oahu	DEA	AFNSI	7/23/2023	2023	2020s

# How to Submit Comments

- **Option 1:** Complete comment form tonight and place in comment box
- **Option 2:** Email comments to:  
[jim@psi-hi.com](mailto:jim@psi-hi.com)
- **Option 3:** Mail comments to:  
Jim Hayes  
Planning Solutions, Inc.  
711 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 950  
Honolulu, HI 96813
- Submit comments on or before Tuesday, **August 22, 2023**

**PUBLIC COMMENT FORM**  
**Waiāhole Valley Water System Improvements Project, Draft EA**

HHFDC encourages all interested individuals and organizations to provide comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA). Substantive comments will be addressed in the Final EA. Substantive comments are those that address specific components of the EA, clearly state why the commentor disagrees with the content of the EA or feels it is incomplete, and provides supporting evidence. Also useful are suggestions for ways the proposed project could avoid, minimize, or mitigate its impacts. Space is provided below to write your comment. Please hand in this form during the meeting, or, if you prefer, submit your input on or before August 22, 2023, via one of the options listed below.

**Input** (please print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Notice: Before including your personal identifying information, you should be aware that your input—including accompanying personal identifying information—might be made publicly available at any time. Your input will be considered with or without the following optional information; however, we cannot respond to you individually if you do not include your contact information:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone or Email:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Submittal options:** 1. Mail: Planning Solutions, Inc., 711 Kapiolani Blvd. #950, Honolulu, HI 96813  
2. Email: jim@psi-hi.com

# What is the Purpose of this Project?

The purpose of the project is to improve the Waiāhole Valley Water System so that it reliably provides sufficient potable water to all customers in a manner that allows for safe and cost-effective operation and maintenance.



# Alternatives Considered

- Uwao Tunnel Water Source Alternative



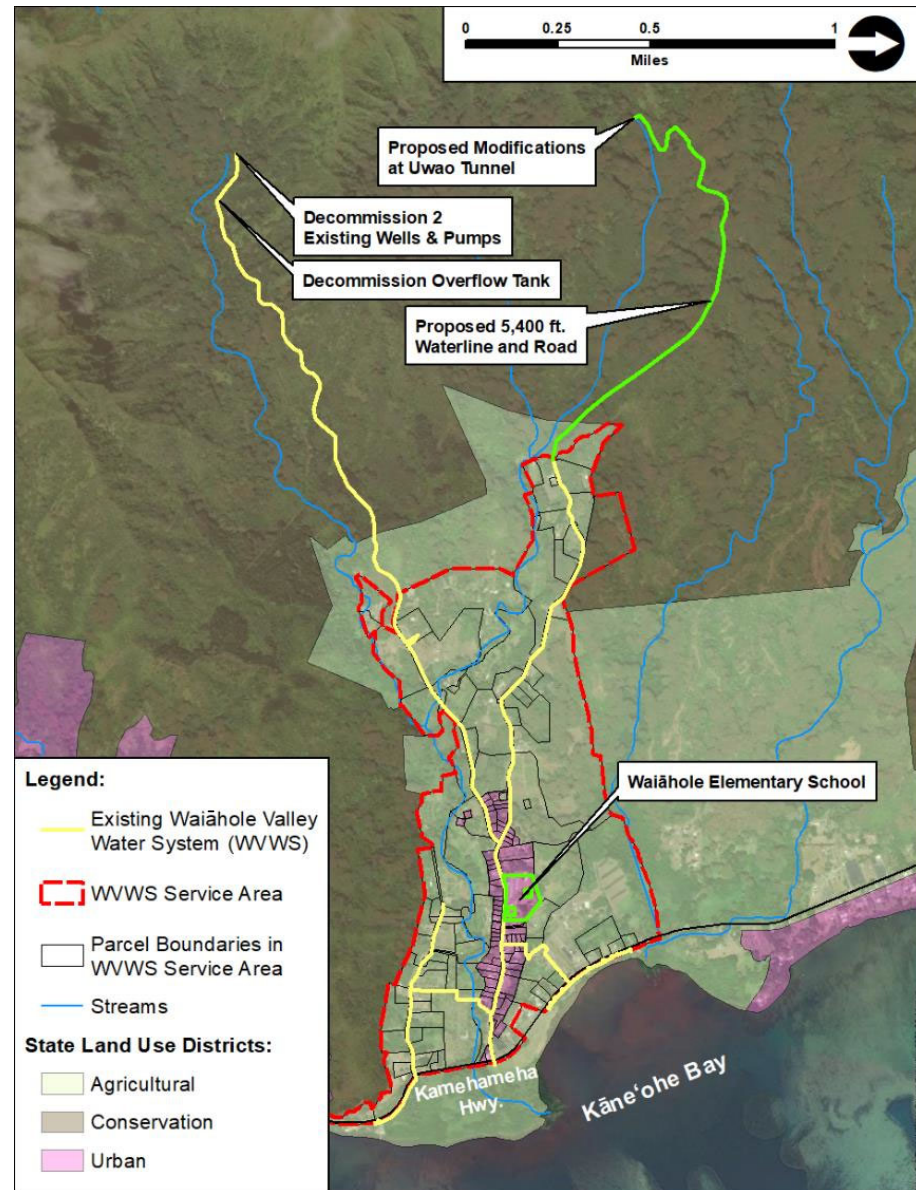
# Uwao Tunnel Water Source Alternative

1.1-mile-long road and pipeline

Modification to tunnel

Filtration system on Lot 50, a HDOH-CWB  
current requirement

Decommission existing wells



# Alternatives Considered

- New Wells Water Source Alternative





# New Wells Water Source Alternative

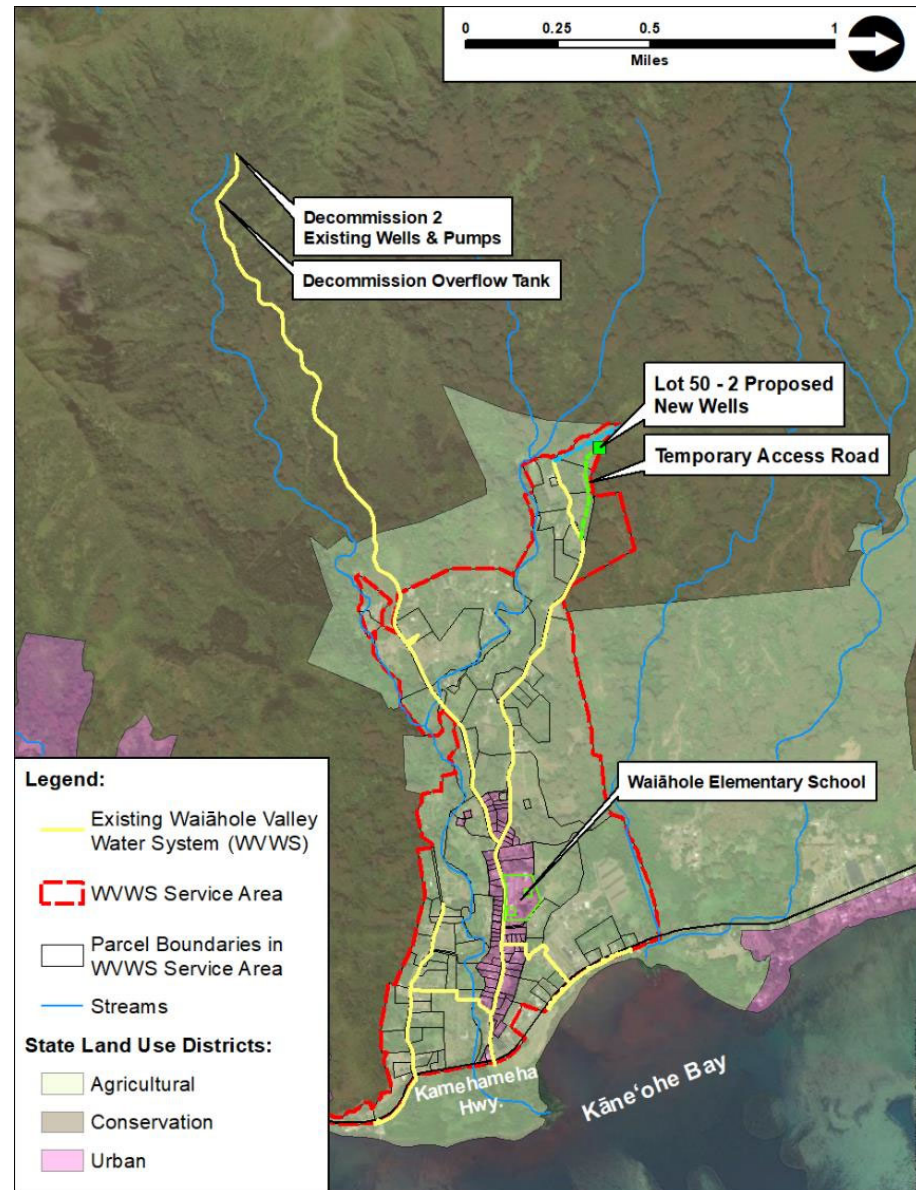
Drill 2 new wells at Lot 50 (vacant lot at the end of WV Road North Branch)

Temporary gravel access road and drilling pad

900-foot-long permanent paved road and pipeline

Extend electrical power service

Decommission existing wells



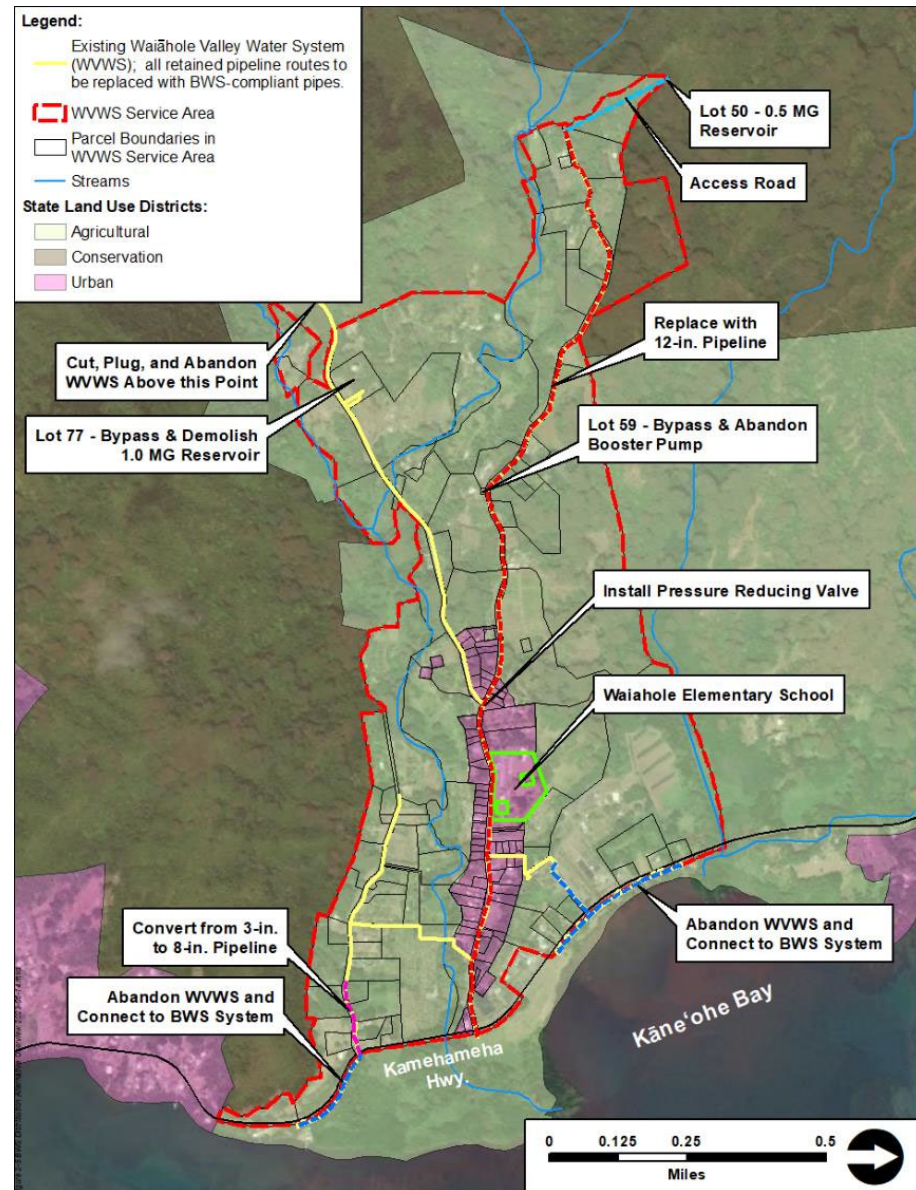
# Distribution System Alternatives Considered

- Board of Water Supply  
Compliant Water Distribution  
Alternative
- Continued Private System Water  
Distribution Alternative



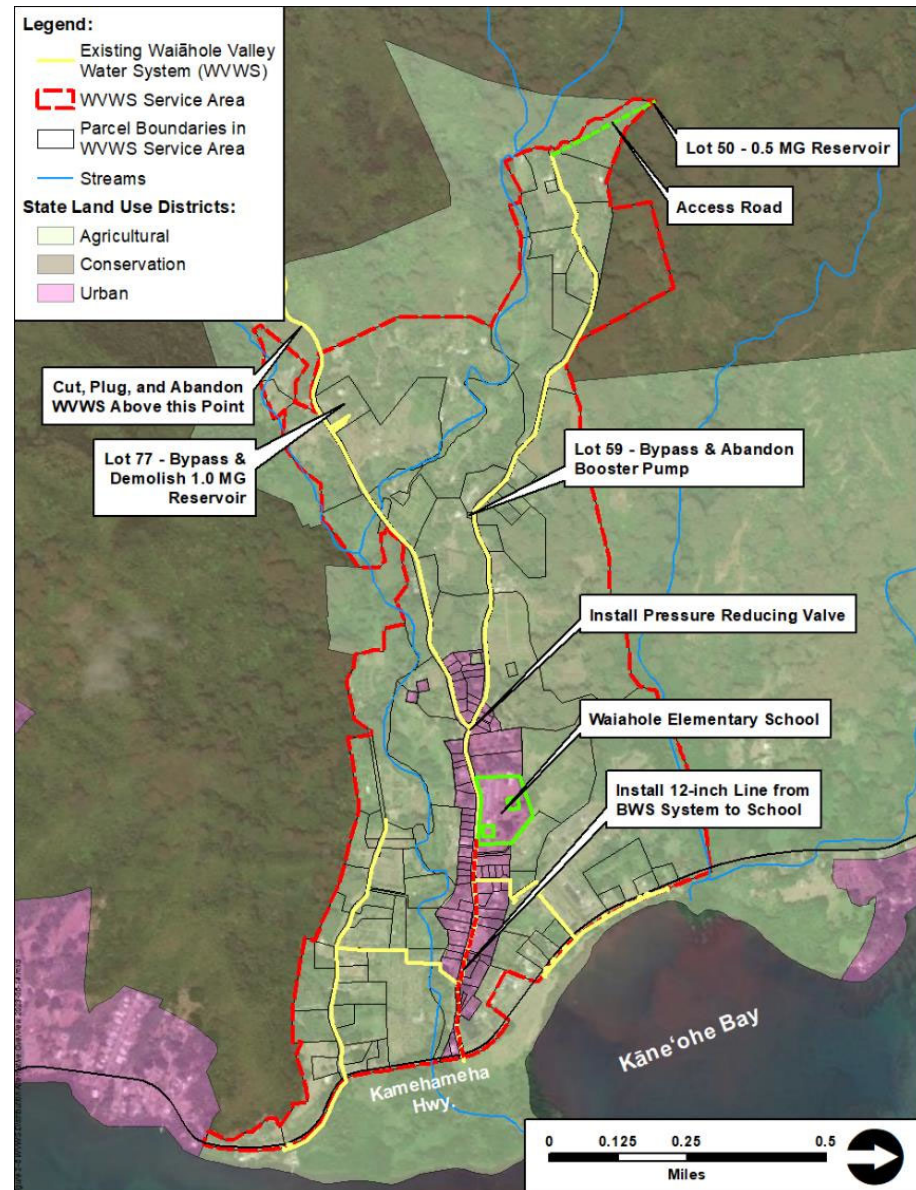
# BWS Distribution System Alternative

- New reservoir on Lot 50
- New water pipelines to serve all current WWWS customers
- New meters, backflow preventors, and shutoff valves for all customers
- Remove booster pump station
- Remove 1MG reservoir
- Abandon existing distribution system
















# Private Distribution System Alternative

- New reservoir on Lot 50
- New BWS line to school for fire flows
- Remove booster pump station
- Remove 1MG reservoir
- Abandon existing distribution system
















# Alternative Screening: Water Sources

Screening Topic	Tunnel Alternative	Wells Alternative
Meeting Water Demand	 No issue	 No issue
Cost Effectiveness	 Higher cost	 Lower cost
Reliability	 Access issues	 Easy access
Potential for Adverse Effects	 Conservation District	 Agricultural District

Key:  Poor  Fair  Good  Very Good  Excellent

# Alternative Screening: Distribution Systems

Screening Topic	BWS Alternative	Private Alternative
Meets Purpose and Need	 Addresses 195	
Cost Effectiveness	 Higher initial cost	 Lower initial cost
Reliability	 New pipelines	 Old pipelines
Potential for Adverse Effects	 In roadways	 In roadways

Key:  Poor  Fair  Good  Very Good  Excellent

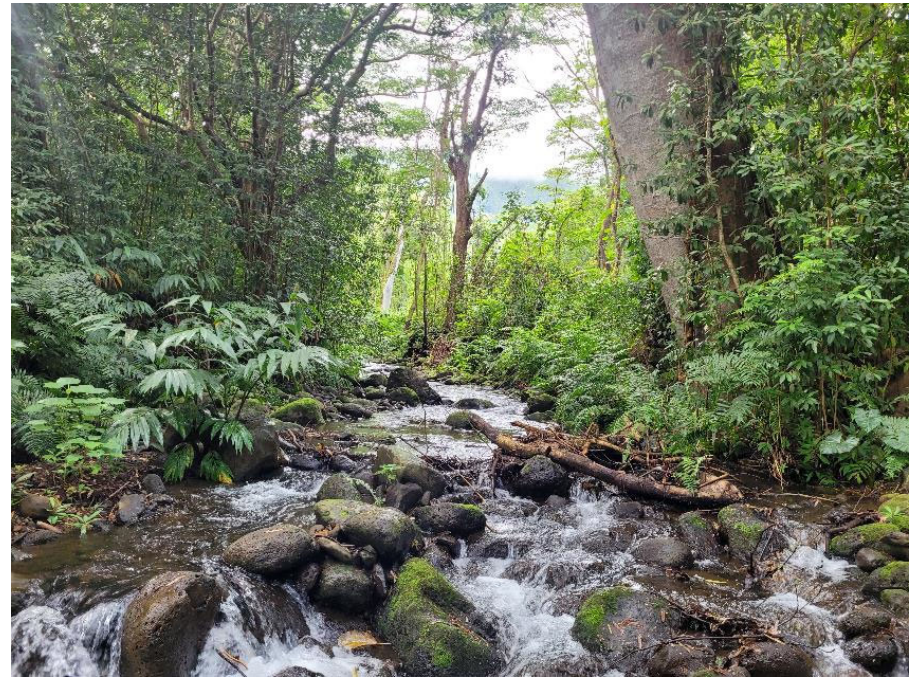
# Alternatives Considered in Detail

- New wells on Lot 50 and BWS Compliant Water Distribution System
- New wells on Lot 50 and Private Water Distribution System
- No action



# Topics and Studies in the Draft EA

- Water Resources, including surface water assessment
- Biological Survey
- Historic Resources
- Cultural Impact Assessment
- Natural Hazards
- Visual Resources
- Roadways and Traffic
- Socio-Economic Conditions
- Consistency with Land Use Plans, Policies, and Controls





# How much will the Project Cost?

Alternative	Estimated Cost (2023 \$)
New Wells / BWS Compliant	\$27.4 million
New Wells / Private System	\$14.8 million

# What is the Project Schedule?

Task	Estimated Duration	Estimated Completion Date
EA Process	12 months	October 2023
Permits and Approvals	24 months	October 2025
Construction	36 months	October 2028

An aerial photograph of a vast school of fish, likely sardines, swimming in the ocean. The fish are densely packed, creating a textured, shimmering pattern of blue and white. The water is a deep, vibrant blue, and the fish appear as a dense, swirling mass. The entire scene is framed by a thin black border.

# Questions and Answers

An aerial photograph of a large group of people, likely a crowd or a community, gathered in the ocean. The water is a deep blue-green color, and the people are scattered across the surface, appearing as small white and blue dots. The image is framed by a white border.

Mahalo nui loa!