

- Q: How much water will be left in streams after diversions?
  - KIUC: Exact amounts will depend on how much water is flowing in the stream above the diversion. Annual rainfall will factor in to the equation. During dry and moderate stream flows, the majority of the water will remain in the stream. When it's wet and stream flows are median to high, as long as median flow remains in the stream more can be diverted.
    - *Additional information:*
      - *Kokee Stream will retain all natural flow except during high rain fall events when volumes above 1.2 million gallons per day (MGD) can be diverted. At the other three streams associated with Kokee Ditch (Kawaikoi, Waiakoali and Kauaikinana), two-thirds of streamflow will be left in stream during dry to median flows and one-third can be diverted. Estimated median flow volumes will remain in streams during high stream events and amounts above that can be diverted. Only when the median flow amount is doubled in the stream would diversion volumes be more than what's left in the stream (i.e., high flow events).*
      - *The Commission on Water Resources Management (CWRM) recently posted this report which may be helpful, especially pages 114-116:*  
<https://files.hawaii.gov/dlnr/cwrn/ifsar/PR201608-2060-WaimeaDraft.pdf>
- Q: When will be the next meeting? Can you change the time to make the meeting more family-friendly?
  - KIUC: The next meeting will be held November 9. We will likely hold the meeting via Zoom. More information will be shared closer to the date. At any time you may view recordings of past meetings, get more information, view updates and contact us with your questions and/or concerns via our website at: <https://www.westkauaienergyproject.com/> or <https://kiuc.coop/WKEP>
- Q: This project could be done as a closed loop system that wouldn't waste any water and still provide DHHL the water it needs. It will take time for DHHL tenants to use 6.9 MGD; that won't happen in two years. Do you have recent numbers for future ag plans on the Mana Plain? What is the DHHL timeline for using 6.9 MG of water?
  - KIUC: We disagree with any assertions that water will be wasted or that a closed loop hydro can still provide irrigation benefits to DHHL. The Mediation Agreement for the Waimea Watershed Area defines hydropower (renewable energy) and agriculture as "beneficial uses of water diverted from these streams." If the project is built as closed-loop, neither of these beneficial uses will be achieved because we would just be recirculating water between the two lower reservoirs with no ability to provide water for DHHL.

- DHHL: The Department asked for 6.9 MGD based on its Kauai Island Plan and West Kauai Regional Plan, which included acreage that was considered cultivatable based on past sugar use. Then DHHL assumed a crop mix and approximate water use per acre based on the projected crop mix. That's what was presented to the Commission on Water Resource Management and they approved the 6.9 MGD in 2018 based on that information. DHHL will be working with beneficiaries to train them up and get them ready for ag production as soon as possible. There is no mandate forcing anyone to cultivate certain crops, so the actual water use is yet to be seen. DHHL is committed and passionate about getting these beneficiaries onto the land and helping them be successful. Unfortunately, a timeline can't be provided at this time. A DHHL presentation with more information can be found at [www.kiuc.coop/wkep](http://www.kiuc.coop/wkep). Like DHHL, ADC will also need to have a plan to put the water into useful ag production.
- A water flow diagram on how the 11MGD that will be diverted for WKEP will be used is available at [www.kiuc.coop/wkep](http://www.kiuc.coop/wkep).
- Q: When will KIUC have responses to public comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment?
  - KIUC: We don't have a firm date. We're still evaluating the comments and are in discussion with the agencies involved. There's no firm timeline yet, but we're working on it and taking all the comments seriously.
- Q: For hunters: what happens when the ditch becomes a buried pipe and there is no more water for wildlife?
  - KIUC: The existing Kokee ditch will only become buried pipe from Puu Moe to Puu Opaе, so above that, from the diversions to Puu Lua, and from Puu Lua to Puu Moe, the ditch will remain open. Access to the area for hunters will be determined by DHHL. The piped area will eliminate some access to water but we plan to work with hunters and come up with solutions if the animals are impacted.
- Q: How much water will DHHL be paid for use of the land?
  - KIUC: There will be tens of millions of dollars invested in the infrastructure by KIUC/AES, so these lands can once again be made available to beneficiaries. There are also lease payments to DHHL.
  - DHHL: Hawaiian Homes Commissioners (HHC) are responsible for use of funds that come to the agency. Sometimes the funds that come in go directly to the area and sometimes they are diverted to areas with no income. HHC must make these tough choices as to how the funds are allocated, for this project and all of its projects.
- Q: It was my understanding that once diversions opened up, KIUC will put in automatic systems to take more water out of the river when the water is higher. So that same system could fill Puu Lua Reservoir as a backup during drought seasons when we don't have water. That could provide the water DHHL needs for irrigation

rather than having flow through hydro. We're getting .5 MGD right now on DHHL lands without the project. Also concerned about discharge of water via Kinikini Ditch.

- KIUC: Technically this could be done (using Puu Lua as a backup), but it's not economically feasible. We'd have to spend a substantial amount of money to upgrade and maintain the ditch system, diversions and reservoirs, then we couldn't use them to deliver water for hydro production to offset those costs. KIUC did consider a closed loop system a number of years ago that included only Puu Opae and Mana Reservoirs, but did not include any infrastructure above Puu Opae such as Puu Lua and the Kokee Ditch System. The current project does include all of the infrastructure between the diversions and Mana Reservoir, and includes flow through energy production at Puu Opae.
  - *Additional information: Right now the water that gets delivered through the Kokee Ditch System to DHHL land is subsidized by ADC and KAA through their maintenance costs. The Project would absorb those costs, improve the delivery system and ensure reliable water delivery for many years to come.*
- DHHL: The Department can assert its Public Trust right to the water regardless of the stream's needs, but the HHC wanted to balance DHHL's needs for homesteading with other Public Trust purposes. It's true that you can deliver water from Puu Lua to Puu Opae without use of pipe, however the system losses are huge, and if DHHL wanted to invest in upgrades to the system (rather than having KIUC/AES do the work and bear the cost), it would cost millions and millions of dollars that would be hard to justify.
- Q: Traditionally we had an open 'auwai that provided life along the way. Hunters have lost land due to erosion. We are concerned about more loss of land. Also, there may be safety issues with pipes. There are already-existing pipes that have been hazardous for dogs.
  - KIUC: The project pipes will be buried with filter screens at the top to prevent anything from going into the pipes. We appreciate your feedback and are sensitive to these concerns.
- Q: Why doesn't DHHL develop in Hanapēpē instead of Puu Opae?
  - DHHL: we are developing new lots in Hanapēpē as well – both residential and agricultural. DHHL is in consultation with beneficiaries in this area and in Hanapepe.
- Q: Since ADC and KAA are also part of the project, can they be invited to these meetings to talk about their plans?
  - Mahalo for the suggestion. We will take that into consideration.
- Q: Did anyone consider that the Waimea River mouth often has to be dredged? Will this problem be exacerbated with this project?
  - KIUC: We don't have any reason to believe the project will negatively impact the river mouth.

