

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

# AGRICULTURE AND PUBLIC TRUST COMMITTEE

August 24, 2021

**Committee  
Report No.** \_\_\_\_\_

Honorable Chair and Members  
of the County Council  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Agriculture and Public Trust Committee, having met on August 3, 2021, makes reference to County Communication 21-347, from the Director of Water Supply, transmitting a proposed bill entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, PACIFIC ISLANDS WATER SCIENCE CENTER, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (STUDY TO ASSESS GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY UNDER SCENARIO-BASED RECHARGE CHANGES ON THE ISLAND OF MAUI).”

The purpose of the proposed bill is to authorize the Mayor to enter into a Joint Funding Agreement with U.S. Geological Survey, Pacific Islands Water Science Center, United States Department of the Interior, for a study to assess groundwater availability under scenario-based recharge changes on the island of Maui.

Your Committee notes the intergovernmental agreement is for the period October 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023, at a cost of \$168,000 to the County.

Your Committee further notes Section 2.20.020, Maui County Code, requires an ordinance to authorize the Mayor to enter into any intergovernmental agreement which places a financial obligation upon the County or any department or agency.

The Department of Water Supply said the objective of the study is to characterize optimal withdrawal distributions for local communities and water managers on Maui, subject to appropriate withdrawal-site and

**COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**  
**AGRICULTURE AND PUBLIC TRUST**  
**COMMITTEE**

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**Committee**  
**Report No. \_\_\_\_\_**

saltwater-intrusion constraints, for selected future land-cover and recharge scenarios.

Your Committee noted the study can help the County better understand how future groundwater demand can be met for Maui Island despite an increasing population, a greater demand for groundwater, needs of groundwater-dependent ecosystems, changes in land-cover caused by humans or invasive species, and climate change.

Your Committee voted 7-0 to recommend passage of the proposed bill on first reading and filing of the communication. Committee Chair Sinenci, Vice-Chair Johnson, and members King, Lee, Molina, Paltin, and Rawlins-Fernandez voted “aye.”

Your Agriculture and Public Trust Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

1. That Bill \_\_\_\_\_ (2021), attached hereto, entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, PACIFIC ISLANDS WATER SCIENCE CENTER, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (STUDY TO ASSESS GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY UNDER SCENARIO-BASED RECHARGE CHANGES ON THE ISLAND OF MAUI),” be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT; and
2. That County Communication 21-347 be FILED.

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI  
**AGRICULTURE AND PUBLIC TRUST  
COMMITTEE**

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**Committee  
Report No.** \_\_\_\_\_

This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.



\_\_\_\_\_  
SHANE M. SINENCI, Chair

apt:cr:21030aa:kmat

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ (2021)

**A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR  
OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
AGREEMENT WITH U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, PACIFIC ISLANDS WATER  
SCIENCE CENTER, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
(STUDY TO ASSESS GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY UNDER  
SCENARIO-BASED RECHARGE CHANGES ON THE ISLAND OF MAUI)**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI:**

**SECTION 1. Purpose.** The U.S. Geological Survey, Pacific Islands Water Science Center, United States Department of the Interior ("USGS") desires to enter into a Joint Funding Agreement ("Joint Funding Agreement" or "Agreement") with the County of Maui Department of Water Supply ("MDWS") for a study to assess groundwater availability under scenario-based recharge changes on the island of Maui, during the period of October 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023. The total cost of the Agreement is \$224,000 of which \$168,000 would be contributed by the MDWS and \$56,000 would be contributed by the USGS.

The objective of the study is to characterize optimal withdrawal distributions for local communities and water managers on Maui, subject to appropriate withdrawal-site and saltwater-intrusion constraints, for selected future land-cover and recharge scenarios. The Joint Funding Agreement is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "1".

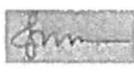
Section 2.20.020, Maui County Code, provides that, unless authorized by ordinance, the Mayor shall not enter into any intergovernmental agreement or any amendment thereto which places a financial obligation upon the County or any department or agency thereof.

**SECTION 2. Authorization.** The Council of the County of Maui hereby authorizes the Mayor or his authorized representative to execute the Agreement,

all other necessary documents relating to the Agreement, and any amendments thereto.

SECTION 3. Effective date. This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGALITY:

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JENNIFER M.P.E. OANA  
Deputy Corporation Counsel  
County of Maui



## United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
Pacific Islands Water Science Center  
1845 Wasp Blvd, Bld 176  
Honolulu, HI 96818

June 2, 2021

Ms. Eva Blumenstein  
Planning Program Manager  
County of Maui - Department of Water Supply  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-2155

Dear Ms. Blumenstein:

Enclosed is a copy of our standard joint-funding agreement for a study to assess groundwater availability under scenario-based recharge changes on the island of Maui, during the period October 1, 2021 through March 31, 2023 in the amount of \$168,000 from your agency. U.S. Geological Survey contributions for this agreement are \$56,000 for a combined total of \$224,000. Please sign and return one fully-executed original to Bles May Daog at the address above.

Federal law requires that we have a signed agreement before we start or continue work. Please return the signed agreement by October 1, 2021. If, for any reason, the agreement cannot be signed and returned by the date shown above, please contact Stephen Zahniser by phone number (808) 690-9595 or email [szahniser@usgs.gov](mailto:szahniser@usgs.gov) to make alternative arrangements.

This is a fixed cost agreement to be billed quarterly via Down Payment Request (automated Form DI-1040). Please allow 30-days from the end of the billing period for issuance of the bill. If you experience any problems with your invoice(s), please contact Bles May Daog at phone number (808) 690-9601 or email at [bdaog@usgs.gov](mailto:bdaog@usgs.gov).

The results of all work performed under this agreement will be available for publication by the U.S. Geological Survey. We look forward to continuing this and future cooperative efforts in these mutually beneficial water resources studies.

Sincerely,

John P. Hoffmann  
Center Director

Enclosure  
21ZHJFA00000085

EXHIBIT "1"

Form 9-1366  
(May 2018)

U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Joint Funding Agreement  
FOR  
Water Resource Investigations

Customer #: 6000001187  
Agreement #: 21ZHJFA00000085  
Project #: ZH00UG5  
TIN #: 99-6000618

Fixed Cost Agreement YES[ X ] NO[ ]

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into as of the October 1, 2021, by the U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, Pacific Islands Water Science Center, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, party of the first part, and the County of Maui - Department of Water Supply party of the second part.

1 The parties hereto agree that subject to the availability of appropriations and in accordance with their respective authorities there shall be maintained in cooperation a study to assess groundwater availability under the scenario-based recharge changes on the island of Maui as described in the attached pre-proposal, herein called the program. The USGS legal authority is 43 USC 36C; 43 USC 50, and 43 USC 50b.

2. The following amounts shall be contributed to cover all of the cost of the necessary field and analytical work directly related to this program. 2(b) include In-Kind-Services in the amount of \$0.00

- (a) \$56,000 by the party of the first part during the period October 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023
- (b) \$168,000 by the party of the second part during the period October 1, 2021 to March 31, 2023
- (c) Contributions are provided by the party of the first part through other USGS regional or national programs, in the amount of \$0  
Description of the USGS regional/national program
- (d) Additional or reduced amounts by each party during the above period or succeeding periods as may be determined by mutual agreement and set forth in an exchange of letters between the parties
- (e) The performance period may be changed by mutual agreement and set forth in an exchange of letters between the parties.

3 The costs of this program may be paid by either party in conformity with the laws and regulations respectively governing each party

4 The field and analytical work pertaining to this program shall be under the direction of or subject to periodic review by an authorized representative of the party of the first part.

5 The areas to be included in the program shall be determined by mutual agreement between the parties hereto or their authorized representatives. The methods employed in the field and office shall be those adopted by the party of the first part to insure the required standards of accuracy subject to modification by mutual agreement.

6 During the course of this program, all field and analytical work of either party pertaining to this program shall be open to the inspection of the other party, and if the work is not being carried on in a mutually satisfactory manner, either party may terminate this agreement upon 60 days written notice to the other party.

7 The original records resulting from this program will be deposited in the office of origin of those records. Upon request, copies of the original records will be provided to the office of the other party.

8 The maps, records or reports resulting from this program shall be made available to the public as promptly as possible. The maps, records or reports normally will be published by the party of the first part. However, the party of the second part reserves the right to publish the results of this program, and if already published by the party of the first part shall, upon request, be furnished by the party of the first part, at cost, impressions suitable for purposes of reproduction similar to that for which the original copy was prepared. The maps, records or reports published by either party shall contain a statement of the cooperative relations between the parties. The Parties acknowledge that scientific information and data developed as a result of the Scope of Work (SOW) are subject to applicable USGS review, approval, and release requirements, which are available on the USGS Fundamental Science Practices website (<https://www.usgs.gov/about/organization/science-support/science-quality-and-integrity/fundamental-science-practices>)

U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Joint Funding Agreement  
FOR

Customer #: 6000001187  
Agreement #: 21ZHJFA00000085  
Project #: ZH00U65  
TIN #: 99-6000618

Water Resource Investigations

9. Billing for this agreement will be rendered quarterly. Invoices not paid within 60 days from the billing date will bear interest, Penalties, and Administrative cost at the annual rate pursuant the Debt Collection Act of 1982, (codified at 31 U.S.C. § 3717) established by the U.S. Treasury.

USGS Technical Point of Contact

Name: Stephen Zahniser  
Deputy Center Director  
Address: 1845 Wasp Blvd Bld 176  
Honolulu, HI 96818  
Telephone: (808) 690-9595  
Fax: (808) 690-9599  
Email: szahniser@usgs.gov

Customer Technical Point of Contact

Name: Eva Blumenstein  
Planning Program Manager  
Address: 200 South High Street  
Waituku, Hawaii 96793-2155  
Telephone: (808) 463-3102  
Fax:  
Email: eva.blumenstein@co.mauai.hi.us

USGS Billing Point of Contact

Name: Bles May Daog  
Budget Analyst  
Address: 1845 Wasp Blvd Bld 176  
Honolulu, HI 96818  
Telephone: (808) 690-9601  
Fax: (808) 690-9599  
Email: bdaog@usgs.gov

Customer Billing Point of Contact

Name: Eva Blumenstein  
Planning Program Manager  
Address: 200 South High Street  
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Telephone: (808) 463-3102  
Fax:  
Email: eva.blumenstein@co.mauai.hi.us

U.S. Geological Survey  
United States  
Department of Interior

County of Maui  
Department of Water Supply

Signature

By John P. Hoffmann Date: 06/02/21  
Name: John P. Hoffmann  
Title: Center Director

Signatures

By \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Title:

By \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Title:

By \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Title:

**Groundwater Availability under Scenario-Based Recharge Changes, Maui, Hawai'i**  
**U.S. Geological Survey, Pacific Islands Water Science Center**  
**Pre-proposal, May 13, 2021**

**Introduction**

Limited groundwater availability to meet future state needs is a leading concern for water managers in Hawai'i and particularly on the island of Maui. Increasing population, greater demand for groundwater, needs of groundwater-dependent ecosystems, changes in land-cover caused by humans, or invasive species, and climate change have heightened this concern. Reduction of groundwater recharge related to loss of irrigation-return flow, changing vegetation characteristics on the landscape, increased areas with built surfaces, or a drying climate can adversely affect groundwater availability (Engott and Vana, 2007; Engott, 2011; Engott and others, 2017; Izuka and others, 2018; Johnson and others, 2018; Mair and others, 2019; Brewington and others, 2019). Given that demand for groundwater on Maui is likely to increase, understanding how plausible changes in recharge can affect groundwater availability is critical for management of the resource.

A numerical groundwater model is the best available tool for evaluating how changes in groundwater recharge affect groundwater availability. Because pump rate is a variable that can be controlled in a groundwater-flow simulation, it can systematically be varied in the groundwater model to converge on an optimal withdrawal distribution under defined constraints (White and others, 2020). Knowledge about an optimal withdrawal distribution for future recharge scenarios will inform water managers on strategies to meet future demands.

**Problem statement**

Uncertainty in groundwater availability in a future climate and for future land-cover conditions on Maui leads to a need to better understand how future groundwater demands can be met.

**Objectives**

The objective of this proposed study is to characterize optimal withdrawal distributions for local communities and water managers on Maui, subject to appropriate withdrawal-site and saltwater-intrusion constraints, for selected future land-cover and recharge scenarios.

**Approach**

This proposed study will use published climate and land-cover conditions to create a set of future recharge estimates that will be used as input to an existing island-wide groundwater-flow model. A mid-century "dry" climate scenario for this study will use statistically downscaled rainfall projections for 2041–70 under representative concentration pathway 8.5 (Elison Timm and others, 2015). Future land-cover scenarios were developed by the Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (Pacific RISA) program (Brewington and others, 2017; Brewington, 2018) using a stakeholder-driven process. This process considered forest conservation, agriculture and ranching, urban development, and freshwater use to identify four future land-cover scenarios, which are generally characterized as (1) business-as-usual, (2) conservation, (3) intensive development, and (4) balanced conservation and development. Recharge will be estimated with a water-budget approach that incorporates projected rainfall, and current (2020) and two Pacific RISA future land-cover scenarios: business-as-usual and

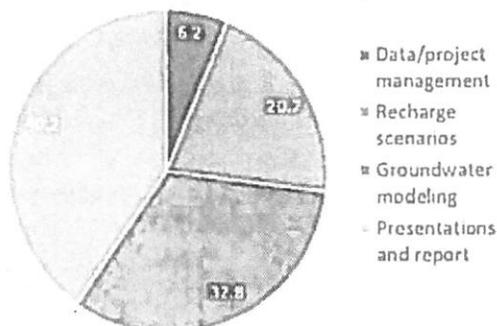


## Budget

### Budget summary in dollars

	Total
Pacific RISA	20,000
USGS	56,000
MDWS	168,000
Total	244,000

Budget distribution by task, in percent



## References

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- Brewington, L., Keener, V., Finucane, M., and Eaton, P., 2017, Participatory scenario planning for climate change adaptation using remote sensing and GIS, in Liang, S. and Walsh, S.J. eds., *Comprehensive Remote Sensing, Applications for Societal Benefits*: Elsevier, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, p. 236–252.
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