#### **WR Committee**

From: Eva Blumenstein < Eva.Blumenstein@co.maui.hi.us>

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 3:00 PM

To: WR Committee

Cc: Gladys Baisa; Shelly K. Espeleta

**Subject:** WR-18 Wellhead Protection Overlay District

**Attachments:** WPOZ WRC 012418.pdf

Aloha Chair Atay:

Please find attached the Department of Water Supply's presentation on Wellhead Protection Overlay Zoning for WRC 1/24/18 meeting.

Mahalo,

Eva

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Eva Blumenstein Planning Program Manager

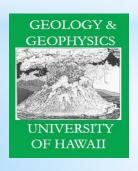
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## Maui County Department of Water Supply

# Wellhead Protection Through Zoning in Maui County

## County Council Water Resources Committee January 24,2018







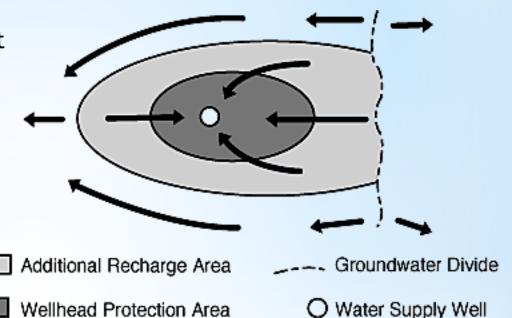


### What is the Wellhead Protection Program?

Developed through collaborative process to protect County's potable wells from contamination and prevent the need for expensive treatment

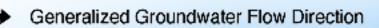
#### **Wellhead Protection Area:**

The surface and subsurface area surrounding a well, through which contaminants are reasonably likely to reach the well



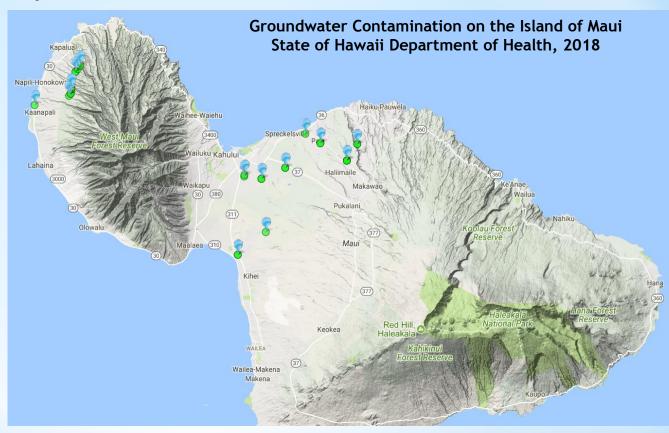


- Leaks & spills from chemical storage
- Industrial processes
- Pesticide and fertilizer applications
- Cesspools



## Why Wellhead Protection?

- 70% of Maui's drinking water supply is groundwater
- Years between contaminating event and detection
- Aquifers ranked as vulnerable to contamination
- Organic compounds detected in 73% of Oahu public supply wells
- Gaps in regulations put our drinking water wells at risk



#### Maui Island Plan:

"Complete and implement DWS wellhead protection program to protect the water quality of public and private wells"

#### **Community Plans:**

"Promote and implement programs for groundwater and wellhead protection"

#### **Prevention or Treatment?**

**Contamination:** 

**Treatment** 

Monitoring

Alternate water supplies

Remediation

Litigation

Treatment Technology	Estimated Unit Cost \$/1,000 gallons treated)
Granular Activated Carbon (VOCs)	\$0.32 - \$1.47*
Reverse Osmosis (Nitrate)	\$1.19 - \$2.1

<sup>\*</sup>Carollo Engineers, 2007 City of Fresno Metropolitan Water Resources Management Plan Update, Technical Memorandum 1.4 Groundwater Contaminants and Treatment Alternatives

Honolulu BWS annual O&M costs for GAC: \$2.5M

#### Cost to clean up groundwater exceeds prevention cost at a 3:1 ratio



#### Prevention:

- Simpler
- Less expensive
- More reliable over long term
- 1. Delineate wellhead protection areas
- 2. Inventory potentially contaminating activities
- 3. Develop wellhead protection strategy with public participation

## How is Wellhead Protection Regulated?

U.S. EPA
Safe Drinking Water Act

State Department of Health Safe Drinking Water Branch

Maui County Water Department

Maui County Planning Department

Advisory Committee

#### Mandate states to:

- Conduct assessments of public drinking water sources
- Develop Wellhead Protection Program
- Adopt drinking water rules

- Source Water Assessment
- •Wellhead Protection Program -guidelines for county/community based measures
- •Financial and technical assistance for wellhead protection implementation
- Drinking water rules

- Review regulatory framework
- Public process
- Protection strategies and ordinance

## Wellhead Protection Capture Zones 10 years - Zone C 2 years - Zone B ft Setback for Zone A Zone B: 2 year time of travel Zone C: 10 year time of travel 6

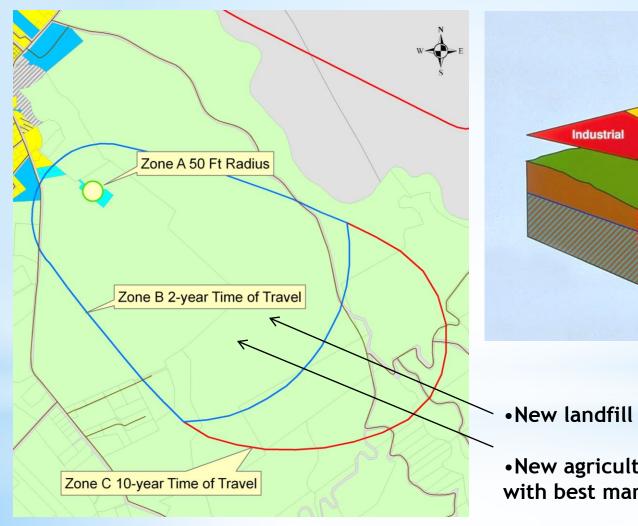
## Wellhead Protection Overlay District

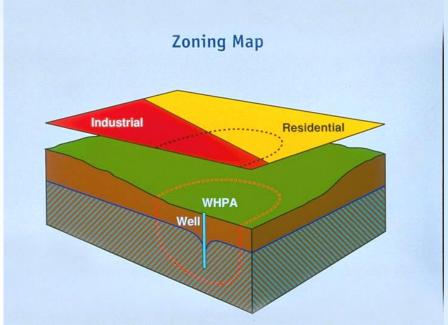
- ✓Zoning restrict NEW high risk uses
- ✓ Administrative permit with best management practices
- √ Existing uses grandfathered in
- ✓ Supplement, not duplicate regulations in place
- ✓ Modeled upon EPA overlay zoning standard, community input, Dept of Planning/Zoning Administration

#### PROHIBITED NEW HIGH RISK USES:

- Cesspools
- Commercial electrical/electronic manufacturing facilities
- Commercial chemical processing/ storage facilities
- Mortuaries/graveyards
- Golf courses
- Commercial metal plating/finishing/fabricating facilities
- Plastics/synthetic production facilities
- Commercial junk/scrap/salvage yards
- Mines
- Landfills
- Injection wells on non residential properties
- Irrigation with R2/R3 reclaimed water
- Sewage sludge land applications
- Commercial slaughterhouses
- Wastewater percolation ponds

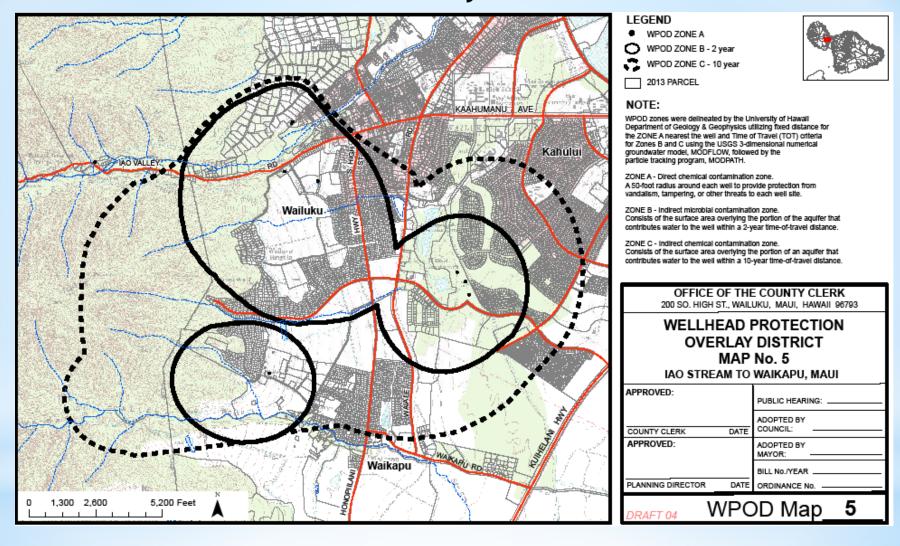
## **Wellhead Protection Overlay District**





- •New landfill NO
- •New agricultural supply storage: YES with best management practices

#### Wellhead Protection Overlay District - Central Maui



- No impact on Residential development in sewered areas (3 lots or more: Design Guidelines)
- <1% land zoned Light Industrial</p>

## Community and Board of Water Supply Concerns

- 1. Delineation/Model acceptable level/peer review?
- 1. USGS modeling codes, among the most widely reviewed codes available to simulate groundwater flow and define well capture zones. EPA contracted peer review
- 2. Impact on property values?
- 2. Programs not shown to deflate property values or interfere with business and economic development in a community

3. Legal challenges/takings?

- 3. Overlay zoning to protect groundwater a well accepted method. Delineation defensible
- 4. Cost to community/customers?
- 4. Grant funded program development. Existing staff absorb permit administration
- 5. Justifiable need? No historical examples showing failures of current regulations
- 5. "More groundwater specific protection is needed to address gaps" State Director of Health
- Kunia, Superfund site (10's of \$M)
- Red Hill
- Sand Island

## **Best Management Practices**

Permit operations with mitigating measures





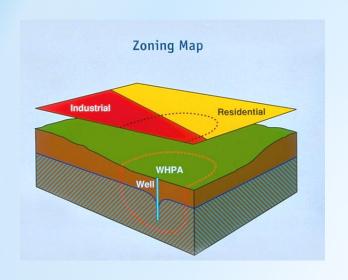
Impervious surface with a secondary containment

#### Incentives for Business Owner:

- Reduce potential spill clean up costs
- Reduce environmental liability
- Increase employee safety



## Comprehensive Wellhead Protection Strategy





Wellhead Protection Overlay Zoning: Best Management Practices Restrict new high risk uses in wellhead protection areas

Public education



Well siting

- Assessment preceding site selection
- Preference to sites of low vulnerability
- 70% of Maui's drinking water supply is groundwater
- Current laws and regulations leave gaps in protecting wells
- Prevention always less expensive than treatment