

WORKING DRAFT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

Statewide Framework for Updating the Hawaii Water Plan

The State Water Code, Chapter 174C, HRS, requires that the Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) implement and utilize comprehensive water resources planning in its regulation and management of our State's water resources. As part of this mandate, the water code requires the development and updating of the Hawaii Water Plan (HWP) to assist the CWRM in executing its general powers, duties, and responsibilities.

The State Water Code calls for coordination between the CWRM, the counties, and other state agencies to "formulate an integrated and coordinated program for the protection, conservation, and management of waters in each county ..." To effectively implement these requirements, the CWRM has undertaken the development of a working draft of a *Statewide Framework for Updating the Hawaii Water Plan*. The framework calls for using the techniques of integrated resources planning to address current complexities associated with planning, regulation, and management of our water resources. This planning framework will be utilized to integrate and update all the components of the Hawaii Water Plan, which include the:

- 1) Water Resources Protection Plan (WRPP);
- 2) Water Quality Plan (WQP);
- 3) State Water Projects Plan (SWPP);
- 4) Agricultural Water Use and Development Plan (AWUDP); and
- 5) County Water Use and Development Plans (WUDP).

PUBLIC COMMENT IS WELCOMED AND ENCOURAGED. The CWRM staff will present the proposed framework to the Commissioners at the Commission's public meeting scheduled for November 17, 1999. Public comment on the proposed framework can be made in writing or will be accepted by the Commissioners at this meeting. A copy of the working draft will be available on the Commission's website at "<http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/dworm/dworm.html>" on October 29, 1999. On November 1, 1999, copies of the document will also be available at the Commission office at 1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 227, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. You may also call 587-0214 to request a copy of the document which will be mailed as soon as it is available.