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M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

November 29, 2021

Honorable Mayor Michael P. Victorino
County of Maui
200 S. High Street
Kalana O Maui Bldg., 9th Fl.
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793

Aloha e Mayor Victorino,

Subject: Consultation on Chairperson's Recommendation to Designate the Lahaina Aquifer Sector, Maui as Surface Water and Ground Water Management Area

The Chairperson of the Commission on Water Resource Management ("Commission") is recommending initiating the designation process of the entire Lahaina Aquifer Sector on Maui as both a Surface Water and Ground Water Management Area based on threats to water resources by existing and proposed withdrawals and serious disputes respecting the use of water resources. This currently includes the Honokōhau, Honolua, Honokōwai, Launiupoko, Olowalu, and Ukumehame Ground Water Hydrologic Units, as well as Honokōhau, Honolua, Honokahua, Kahana, Honokōwai, Wahikuli, Kahoma, Kaua'ula, Launiupoko, Olowalu, and Ukumehame Surface Water Hydrologic Units. (see attached map).

Commission data indicates that there is harm to ground water quantity and quality by saltwater intrusion, serious historic and ongoing disputes over current and planned water uses, and climate uncertainty which has resulted in a decline in rainfall, low stream flows, and prolonged drought. Designation of the Lahaina Aquifer Sector will provide the Commission with enhanced and integrated management to ensure protection of both surface and ground water resources and uses.

Following the designation process outlined in the State Water Code, we are consulting with the Maui County Council, Maui Mayor, and Maui Board of Water supply (HRS § 174C-41 (b)). **We would appreciate any comments by December 31, 2021.** We anticipate taking a submittal to the Commission in January 2022 with a recommendation to continue the designation process and to hold a public hearing (HRS § 174C-42).

Mayor Victorino
November 29, 2021
Page 2

If there are any questions, please contact me at kaleo.l.manuel@hawaii.gov or via phone at 808-587-0214.

Ola i ka wai,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. KALEO MANUEL".

M. KALEO MANUEL
Deputy Director

Attachment

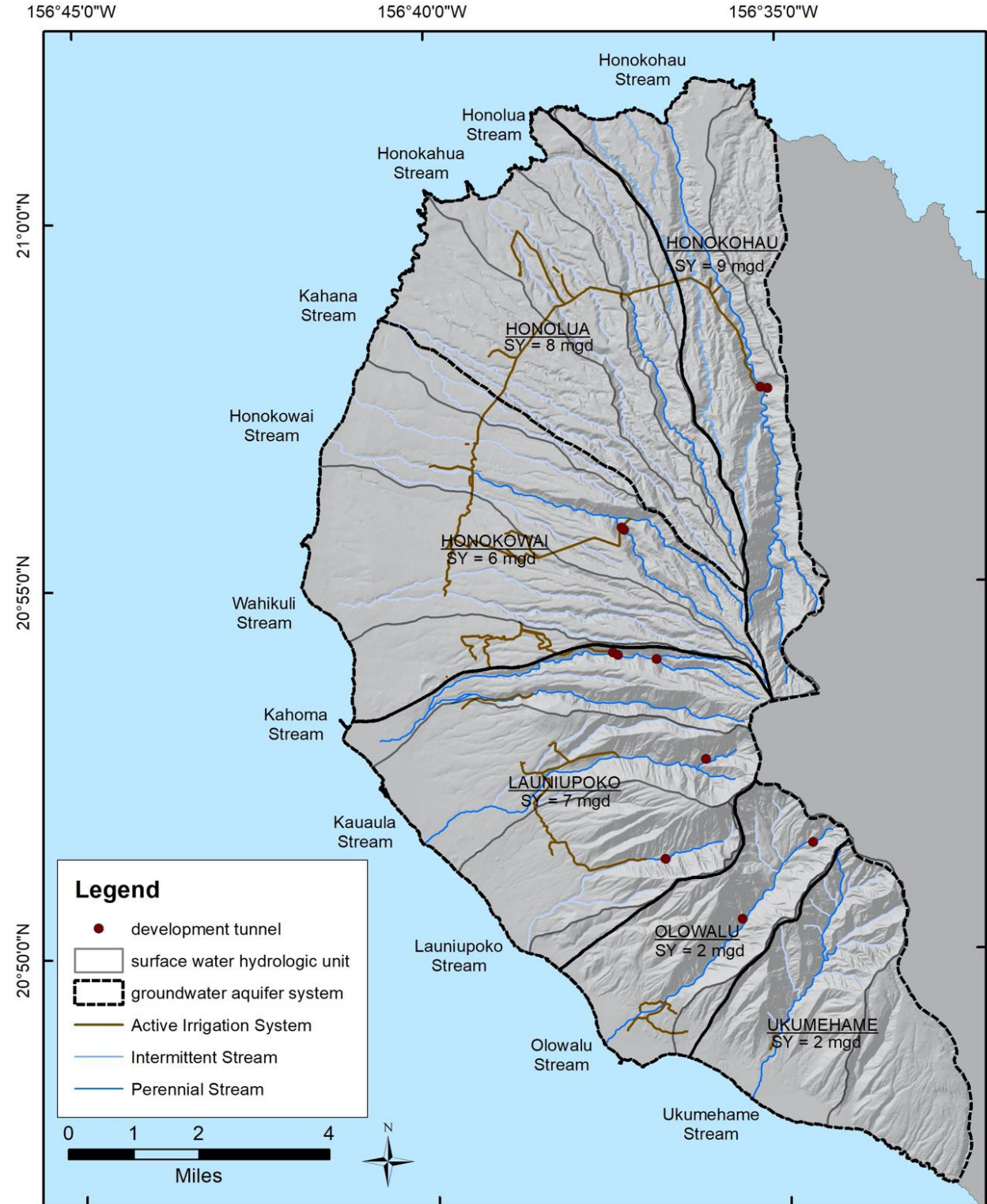


Figure 1: Lahaina Aquifer System Area including both Surface and Ground Water Hydrologic Units