

EXEMPTION NOTICE FORM

County of Kaua'i, Department of Water
4398 Pua Loke Street
Lihu'e HI 96766

TO: 1. Agency-Maintained Public Files for Chapter 343 HRS Exemption Determinations
2. Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, if publication is desired

FROM: Joseph E. Tait, Manager and Chief Engineer

SUBJECT: Exemption Notice for USGS Joint Funding Agreement for Water Resource Investigations

DATE: 12/12/2024

AGENCY OR APPLICANT ACTION

Check applicable box

- This exempted action is an agency action as defined by Section 343-5(b), Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), and Section 11-200.1-8, Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR),
- This exempted action is an applicant action as defined by Section 343-5(e), HRS, and Section 11-200.1-9, HAR

EXEMPTION TYPE:

The Exemption Notice for the action described below is based on the general types enumerated in Section 11-200.1-15(c), Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR), Exemption Type 5.

As applicable, the exemption for the action described below is also supported by the Exemption List for the County of Kaua'i, Department of Water, reviewed and concurred to by the Environmental Council on 9/6/2022.

- Exemption List Class 5.
- Item Number Part 2.2.
- Applicable language from the exemption list: Geologic/Hydrogeologic investigation.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

Proposing Agency or Applicant: County of Kaua'i, Department of Water
Project Name & Address/Location: USGS Joint Funding Agreement for Water Resource Investigations, Kaua'i, Hawai'i
Anticipated Start Date: 12/16/2024
Anticipated End Date: 12/31/2025
Island and District: Kaua'i Lihu'e
Tax Map Key(s) and other geolocation means:

All Necessary Permits and Approvals: DLNR, CWRM permits for water resource investigation and monitoring

NARRATIVE

Describe the action and why it qualifies for the exemption: The County of Kaua'i, Department of Water is continuing with its ongoing water resource monitoring and investigation work with the USGS for Kaua'i's wells, aquifer systems, and river and stream levels. The work is non-invasive and does not create a negative impact to the environment with its monitoring activities through existing monitoring wells and river and stream gage systems.

RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

Describe the site, including any impacts on the receiving environment: The sites are located across Kaua'i, at the various Department of Water monitoring well locations, and rivers and streams, which are in coordination with DLNR, CWRM. The work will consist of reviewing the well, river and stream areas, and their existing level monitoring equipment. The access to and review of these appurtenances are of minimal impact to the environment because the work is of short duration with minimal ground, river or stream disturbance to read the instruments.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

I have considered the potential effects of the proposed project and all related activities against the criteria checked below:

	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Zoning Conformance	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traffic (Vehicles, Bicycles, Pedestrian)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure (Roads, Buildings, Utilities)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality Pollutant Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solid, Hazardous, and Liquid Waste Management	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health and Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Beach Access	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources and Practices	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual/Aesthetic	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Justice	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rare, Threatened, and/or Endangered Species	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surface and Ground Water Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Floodplains	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Riparian/Coastal Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments/summary of impact analysis: The work does not have an impact on traffic since all of the work will be in private property. The work is minimal and will not require many personnel to perform the work. The review of the electronic and river/stream instrumentation does not require use of any equipment that may create a noise issue.

MITIGATION

Describe all mitigation measures and best management practices planned to address impacts during the project activities and after project completion: Site access will follow federal, state, and local laws in regards to the project work, noise emissions and best management practices.

CONSULTATION

The following parties have been consulted about this declaration exemption (Name, affiliation, consultation date): State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Commission of Water Resource Management Division (11/22/2024), County of Kaua'i, Department of Water Civil Engineer VII Jason Kagimoto (11/19/2024), County of Kaua'i, Department of Water, Project Management Officer Scott Suga (11/19/2024), County of Kaua'i, Department of Water Chief of Operations Ryan Smith (11/19/2024).

EXEMPT DECLARATION

The direct, cumulative, and potential impacts of the action described above have been considered pursuant to Chapter 343, Hawai'i Revised Statutes and Chapter 11-200.1, Hawai'i Administrative Rules. I declare that the action described above will have minimal or no significant impact on the environment and is therefore exempt from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment.



Signature of Director or Delegate

Dec 12, 2024

Date

This document is to be kept on file in the agency's records and made available for public review

- Please check here if this document is being submitted to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development for voluntary publication in *The Environmental Notice*






20241212_Exemption Form - USGS Joint Funding Agreement

Final Audit Report

2024-12-12

Created:	2024-12-12
By:	Michael Hinazumi (mhinazumi@kauaiwater.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAJLNM-vUf_IETEsIT6zLZRae2F_t9OcJ7

"20241212_Exemption Form - USGS Joint Funding Agreement" History

-  Document created by Michael Hinazumi (mhinazumi@kauaiwater.org)
2024-12-12 - 9:26:28 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Joseph Tait (jtait@kauaiwater.org) for signature
2024-12-12 - 9:26:33 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Joseph Tait (jtait@kauaiwater.org)
2024-12-12 - 9:54:33 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Joseph Tait (jtait@kauaiwater.org)
Signature Date: 2024-12-12 - 9:57:17 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2024-12-12 - 9:57:17 PM GMT