

West Maui Watershed Project Collaborative Planning In Hawaii

Presentation to:

State of Hawaii Ocean Resource Management Plan Policy
Group

Cindy Barger

Project Manager

Honolulu District

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West Maui Watershed Project – “Connecting Land and Sea”

Study Goal:

- Improve the overall quality of the West Maui Watershed, from the summit of Puukukui to the outer reef, incorporating holistic management aspects of traditional Hawaiian land and natural resource management at the watershed or ahupua'a level.



West Maui Watershed Plan - Objectives

- Protect, Enhance and Restore
 - Coral Reef Ecosystems
 - Stream and Wetland Habitat and Functions
 - Native Forests
 - Physical, Biological and Chemical Integrity of Aquatic Resources
 - Water Quality
 - Water Supply (surface and groundwater)
- Assist in the Recovery of Threatened and Endangered Species Habitat
- Balance the Needs of Public Health and Safety with Environmental Quality.
- Develop a Watershed Plan through a Collaborative Public Process.



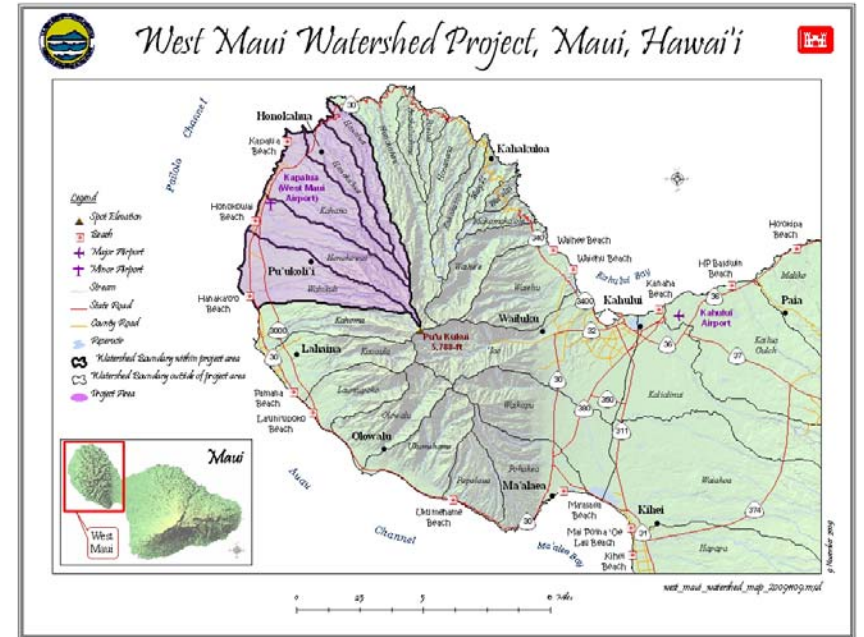
Photo Courtesy of TNC



West Maui Watershed Project

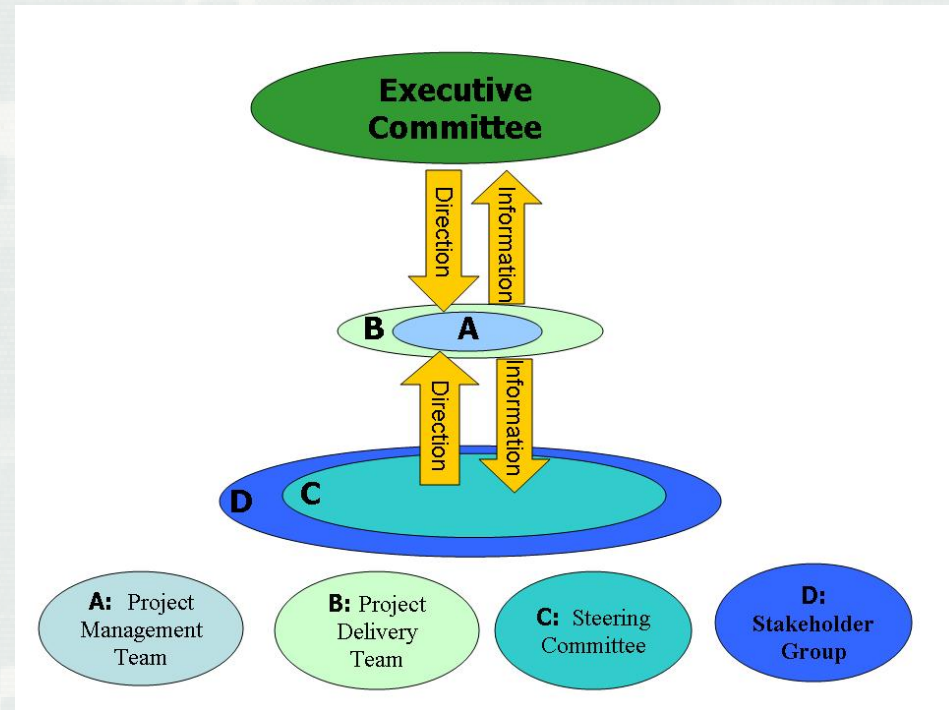
“Promoting Collaboration and Stewardship”

- Sponsors:
 - ◆ USACE
 - ◆ DLNR (DAR, DOFAW, CWRM)
 - ◆ DOH
- Funding
 - ◆ Non-Federal Match Mainly In-Kind
 - ◆ Approval to use in-kind activities funded by EPA and NOAA
- Other Potential Sponsors or Partners
 - ◆ Maui County (in-kind match only)
 - ◆ West Maui Mountains Watershed Partnership
 - ◆ West Maui Soil and Water Conservation District
 - ◆ The Nature Conservancy
 - ◆ Maui Land and Pine
 - ◆ CZM?



West Maui Watershed Plan Proposed Framework

- Joint Project Management:
 - ▶ USACE, DAR, DOFAW, CWRM and DOH
- Executive Committee
 - ▶ Leadership of Sponsoring Agencies
- Steering Committee
 - ▶ Federal, State and Local Agencies
 - ▶ Non-Governmental Partners
- Steering Committee Goal
 - ▶ Work in an “Empowerment” approach with the Steering Committee
 - ▶ Committee to have sense of responsibility and ownership of decisions.



West Maui Watershed Project Study Framework

- Joint Authorship between Sponsors
 - ▶ USACE – Plan Formulation/Consolidation Lead; Hydraulic Technical Modeling
 - ▶ DAR – Lead on Marine and Aquatic Information
 - ▶ DOFAW – Lead on Terrestrial Information
 - ▶ DOH – Lead on Water Quality Information
 - ▶ CWRM – Lead on Water Supply Requirements



West Maui Watershed Project Tiered Implementation Process

Task/Milestone	Completion Date	Spin-Off Activities (non-USACE Funded)
Visioning Session	May 2010	
Defining Goals, Objectives, Problems, Opportunities		Level 1 – “low hanging fruit” or immediate projects.
EIS Public Scoping Meeting Report	Nov 2010	Level 2 – prioritize baseline information needed to support Level 2 actions
Interim Baseline Information	Jan 2010	Level 2 spin off projects
Feasibility Scoping Meeting (FSM) Report (aka Baseline and Future Conditions Report	Mar 2012	Level 3 spin off projects
AFB Report (75% complete Document)	May 2013	Level 4 spin off projects
Preliminary Draft Feasibility Report and EIS	Mar 2014	Level 5 spin off projects
Public Hearing	July – Aug 2014	Level 6 spin off projects
Final Feasibility Study and EIS	July 2015	Level 7 spin off projects (needing State EIS or Separate Federal Tiered EA)
Record of Decision	Nov 2015	
Design Agreement	Nov 2015	USACE “Big Bill” Project Dependent upon Congressional Approval.
Construction Begins	Oct 2017	Dependent upon Congressional Approval



West Maui Watershed Project Challenges

- Syncing All Related Activities and Requirements
 - ▶ Solution: Clear Understanding of Roles, Responsibilities, Requirements and Flexibility
- Managing a Large Study Area
 - ▶ Solution: Coordinated but Delegated Responsibilities
- Paralysis by Analysis
 - ▶ Solution: Tiered Process
- Large Diverse Stakeholder Group on Multi-Purpose Issues
 - ▶ Solution: Well Planned Stakeholder Involvement Plan working in a Variety of Different Areas. Partnering.
- Oahu Based Agencies.
 - ▶ Solution: Utilization of Maui Based Agency Representatives.



West Maui Watershed Project ORMP Policy Group Role

- Embrace Study - an Embodiment of ORMP Implementation
- Ensure Agencies Concerns are Articulated in the Process
- Assist in Communicating with Stakeholders
- Support Maui Agency Staff involvement
- Support with in-kind match of staff labor (potential)

