



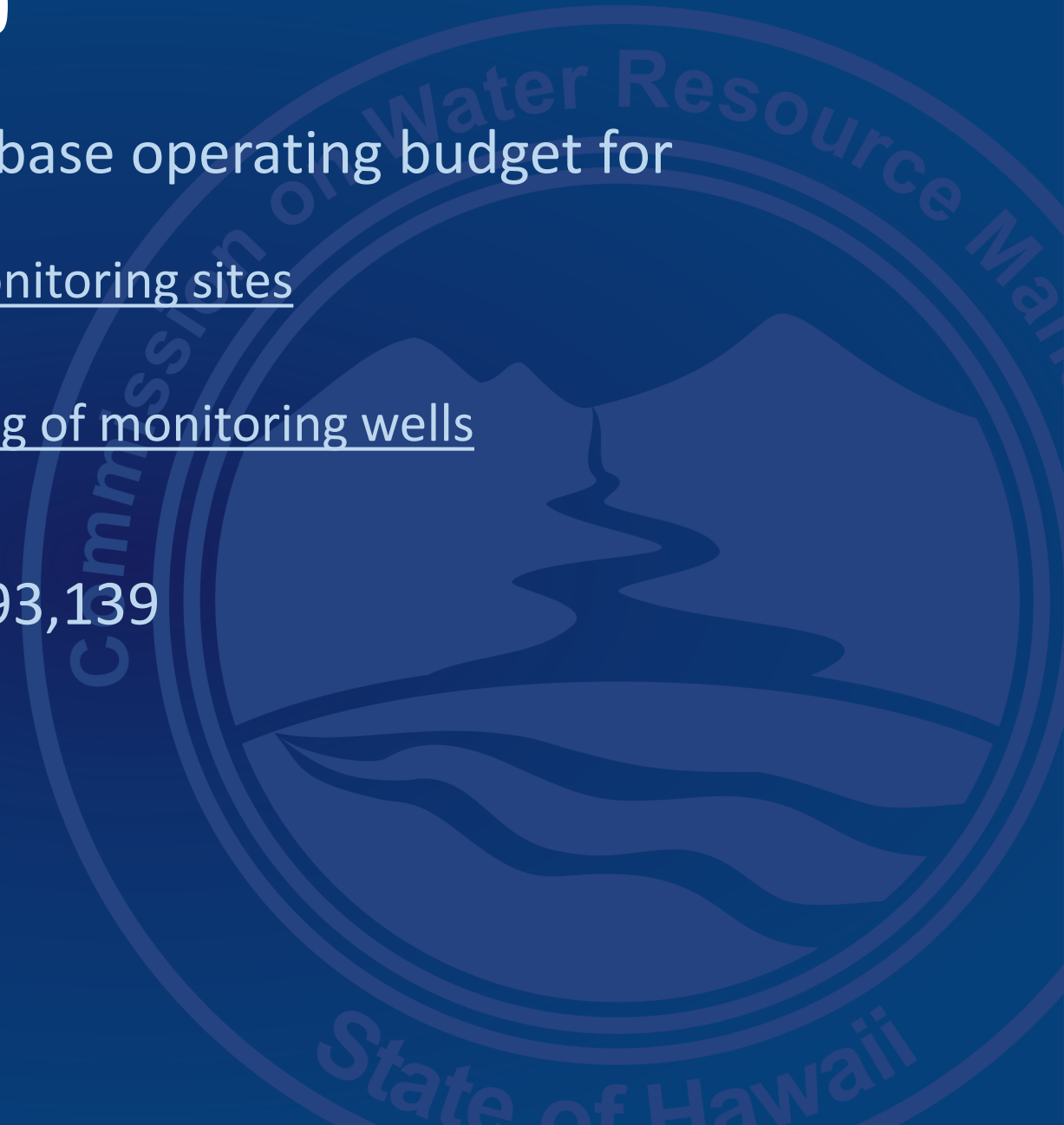
**Briefing on the
Outcomes of the
2023-2024
Legislative Biennium
Related to the
Commission on Water
Resource Management**

Commission on Water Resource
Management Meeting
May 21, 2024

State of Hawaii

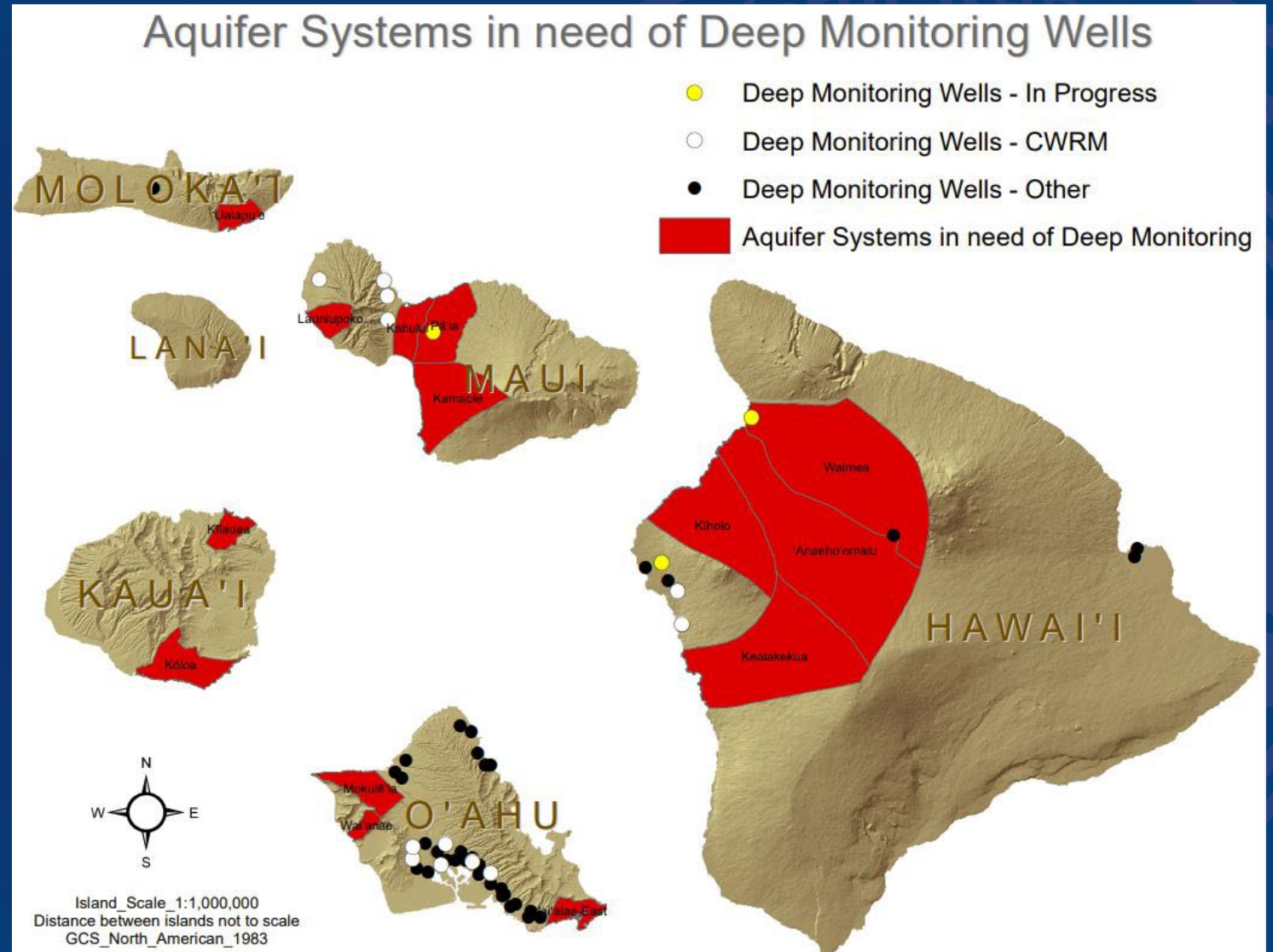
HB1800: Budget Bill (LNR 404)

- \$475k additional funding to CWRM base operating budget for
 - New stream gages for high priority monitoring sites
 - Hawai'i Mesonet Network
 - Maintenance, operation and expanding of monitoring wells
- Operating budget for CWRM = \$4,093,139



HB1800: Budget Bill (LNR 404)

- \$2m Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding for “Deep Monitor Wells, Statewide”
- Next priority DMW location TBD



HB1800: Budget Bill (LNR 404)

- \$1m Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding for “Planning for Water Reuse in State and County Facilities, Statewide”
- Step #1 to implement Act 170 (SLH 2016) which requires all State and County facilities to use reclaimed water by 2045

Approved by the Governor
on JUN 30, 2016 ORIGINAL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, 2016
STATE OF HAWAII

ACT 170
H.B. NO. 1749
H.D. 1
S.D. 2
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER MANAGEMENT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 174C-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (g) to read as follows:
3 "(g) The Hawaii water plan shall be directed toward the
4 achievement of the following objectives:
5 (1) The attainment of maximum reasonable-beneficial use of
6 water for such purposes as those referred to in
7 subsection (a);
8 (2) The proper conservation and development of the waters
9 of the State;
10 (3) The control of the waters of the State for such public
11 purposes as navigation, drainage, sanitation, and
12 flood control;
13 (4) The attainment of adequate water quality as expressed
14 in the water resource protection and water quality
15 plans; [and]
16 (5) The implementation of the water resources policies
17 expressed in section 174C-2[-]; and

HB1900: Relating to Hydrologic Data Collection

- Proposed \$475k funding for

- Stream gages
- Hawai'i Mesonet Network
- Monitoring wells

- Bill DIED

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024
STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 1900
H.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HYDROLOGIC DATA COLLECTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that while climate change
2 and its impacts on water resources underscore the need for
3 increased hydrologic monitoring and research investigations, the
4 commission on water resource management, whose primary function
5 is to carry out surveys, research, and investigations into all
6 aspects of water use and water quality, has faced considerable
7 challenges due to a decline of hydrologic data collection
8 monitoring stations and programs. Hydrologic data, particularly
9 for low-flow conditions, is fundamental to developing reasonable
10 and scientifically-defensible instream flow standards, along
11 with addressing stream-related disputes and complaints. There
12 are an estimated three hundred seventy-six perennial streams
13 statewide, most of which have little to no comprehensive
14 hydrologic data readily available.

15 The legislature further finds that the Hawai'i mesonet is a
16 statewide advanced weather and climate monitoring network of
17 approximately one hundred telemetered stations, now under

SB3327, SD1:

Relating to the Commission on Water Resource Management

- Establishes a public trust purpose for the Commission on Water Resource Management.
- Allows the Commission on Water Resource Management to retain independent counsel.
- Repeals the First Deputy to the Chairperson of the Commission on Water Resource Management. Establishes the Executive Director of the Commission on Water Resource Management.
- Administratively attaches the Commission on Water Resource Management to the Department of Land and Natural Resources.
- Authorizes members of the Commission on Water Resource Management to be eligible to serve as chairperson.
- Requires the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and Director of Health to serve as ex officio voting members ineligible to serve as chairperson.
- Authorizes entities to whom an emergency order is directed to challenge the order under certain conditions. Clarifies the notification requirements and contents of declarations of water shortages.
- Establishes fines. Makes conforming amendments. Takes effect 7/1/2050.
- Department supports, opposes, and comments on this measure, respectively.

HB2690: Relating to Water

- Original bill language expanded significantly
 - Proposed a WAI policy coordinator and other positions within the Department of Land and Natural Resources for coordination of Red Hill WAI initiatives. **3 positions in Chair's office were approved as part of budget bill**
 - Replacing the position of Deputy to the Chairperson of the Commission with the position of Executive Officer
 - Allowing CWRM to retain independent counsel, etc.
- DIED in Conference Committee

What's Next? 2025 Legislative Session

- Investigate where there may be opportunities to improve certain sections of the Water Code HRS 174C
- More CIP funding for Deep Monitor Wells (DMWs) statewide
- More funding for water resource monitoring statewide

