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LAND
STATE PARKS

Date: January 3, 2020

DAR # 6059

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian J. Neilson
DAR Administrator

FROM: Skippy Hau, Aquatic Biologist

SUBJECT: East Maui Irrigation Application for a Stream Diversion Works Permit for
Abandonment, Category I Diversions, Honopou, Hanehoi (Puolua). Pi'ina'au

Request Submitted by: M. Kaleo Manuel, Deputy Director

Selected East Maui Stream Diversions

Location of Project: _____

Brief Description of Project:

Application to allow the permanent abandonment of 15 stream diversion works. Only the portion of each structure which causes water to be diverted from the corresponding stream into the ditch is being abandoned; the larger structures including the irrigation ditches themselves, will continue to function to carry water diverted from other East Maui stream to off-stream users and are not being abandoned. Maintenance work on the existing structures to allow them to continue to operate as part of the EMI ditch system without diverting water from their respective streams has been or is being conducted under a determination made by the Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM), dated October 16, 2018.

Comments:

No Comments Comments Attached

Thank you for providing DAR the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed project. Should there be any changes to the project plan, DAR requests the opportunity to review and comment on those changes.

Comments Approved: _____

Brian J. Neilson
for Brian J. Neilson
DAR Administrator

Date: 1/3/2020

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Comments

1. We fully support restoring natural stream flow to all streams. We support filling grate openings with concrete/grout and/or stream rocks; or by bolting a steel plate over the grate opening; removal of sluice gates; removal of diversion dam (K-30b); and removal of pipes (K-31a, K-19a, K-20a, etc.).
2. More information and description with dimensions are needed for the proposed concrete stream overpasses. There is no assessment on the amount of flow above the ditch under various storm conditions. During flooding conditions, it appears most of the water be allowed to flow into the ditch.
3. For example, K-30a proposes to remove the pipe. Will the concrete catchment basin be removed similar to K-30b or broken to allow water to flow naturally?
4. The simple removal of sluice gates is a "great first step" in restoring flow, however, the walls and dams that have been constructed to direct water to intakes and diversions must also be removed or "modified." These areas that constrict flow prevents animals from migrating upstream. The presence of some animals which we've identified helps to validate that few animals can migrate upstream. The multiple diversions prevents healthy populations to successfully migrate to upper elevations.
5. Stream "tributaries" also have diversions and could contribute to the overall flow in a particular stream. As much as possible, these diversion should also be modified and/or removed.
6. Will future maintenance for the EMI System require review of sealed diversions? How long will concrete/grout last and will these locations be surveyed for leaks? Who will be responsible for sealing any leaking into the ditches in the future? Will all of the structures be identified, mapped with GPS coordinates and monitored for compliance?

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