

**WAIMANALO GULCH LANDFILL SPILL  
INVESTIGATIVE FOLLOW-UP**

<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>RESORT REPORT#</u>
Waimanalo Gulch "MEDS" Spill	1-13/23-11	110113-01

<u>COMPLAINANT</u>	<u>SCENE</u>	<u>CASE STATUS</u>
Belluomini, Eddie	Lagoon #1-4	OPEN

**CIRCUMSTANCES OF CASE:**

On January 13<sup>th</sup> between 0630-0700 hours, during routine shoreline inspection, KAT (KoOlina Aloha Team) cove patrol observed numerous empty syringes, sharps and blood filled vials, along with other medical waste contaminants along the high water marks of the lagoons and the State shoreline area. As I traveled west, further inspection along lagoon's #1-4 yielded further evidence of medical waste debris along the State shoreline and lagoon #1-4 beach areas. Director Duke Hospodar was notified of the circumstances at which time Hospodar ordered the entire lagoon area closed down for public safety. Later that morning, I was later met by Hawaii State Dept. of Health and EPA personnel, who related that they were conducting an investigation regarding a possible land-fill contaminate run-off.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

On 1-13-11 at about 0715 hours, I was called by KAT Rover Keoni Couch on a report of medical waste debris being located along the state shoreline area at lagoon #4. I arrived at about 0730 hours.

**INITIAL OBSERVATIONS:**

Upon arrival to the lagoon #4, I walked along the state shoreline area and observed & recovered numerous syringes, blood filled vials, sharps, and other medical waste contaminants and placed it into a hazardous waste contamination bucket. I then walked the lagoon #4 beach shoreline and also recovered several of the same items mentioned above.

**NOTIFICATIONS:**

On 1-13-11 at about 0800 hours, I notified Director Duke Hospodar of the circumstances at which time he instructed me to have KAT personnel put on their PPE before checking additional shorelines and to station KAT personnel at each lagoon promenade area to ensure that all shoreline access users stay out of the waters and off the beach areas.

**LAGOONS CLOSED:**

On 1-13-11 at about 0815 hours, I was instructed by Director Duke Hospodar to close down all shoreline access parking lot areas. Hospodar also instructed me to post KAT personnel at each lagoon to keep all pedestrian traffic off the beach and out of the water for their safety. KAT personnel maintained this routine everyday until all four lagoons were reopened on 1-23-11 at about 1430 hours.

**BEACH CLEANING COMENCES:**

On 1-13-11 at about 0830 hours, Director Duke Hospodar instructed Kimo Kendrick to use the sand cleaner and Bobcat to take 6 inches of sand of the top of lagoon #4 from the shoreline up to the high water mark. Kendrick was also assigned to perform the same task on lagoon's 1,2, and 3 on succeeding days. Kendrick was then instructed to dispose of the sand and debris into the container bins located at the Honolulu side of lagoon #4. The sand cleaner was used on each lagoon (#1-4) everyday and the entire process of sifting through debris, collection, and disposal was maintained from 1-13-11 until the lagoons reopened on 1-23-11. Customary inspections continue from then on.

**FURTHER OBSERVATIONS:**

On 1-13-11 between 0845-1045 hours, I made additional checks to the state shoreline and beach areas of lagoons # 1-4. I then found further evidence of medical waste contaminants located along the entire shoreline and beach areas.

**CONTAMINATION SOURCE LOCATED:**

On 1-13-11 at about 1100 hours, KAT George "Boy" Timoteo and I began checking the shoreline area from Paradise Cove over to the Waimanalo Gulch run-off drain. The drain, which empties into the ocean fronting the Kai Lani estates is located about 500 feet west of Aliinui Drive. Upon arriving to the run-off drain area Timoteo and myself located an enormous amount of medical waste contaminants laying atop and embedded upon the rocks located on the west side of the drainage canal.

I then turned on my iphone and began to video record and document the scene along with my findings. The video which I shot and narrated was 3m16s long and will be submitted with this initial investigation. While recording video documenting my findings I walked 25 feet away from the three tunnel openings where dark brown water and medical contaminants appeared to be coming from and emptying into the ocean. Although I did not see any debris coming from the right side or center tunnel openings I did observe a heavy amount of dark brown water coming from the left side (Waianae side) tunnel opening. I further observed medical waste contaminants all along the left side embankment coming out of the left side tunnel opening. After carefully examining this area I came to the conclusion that this was more than likely the area and source from which the medical waste contaminants had come from.

**EPA/ DOH ARRIVAL:**

On 1-13-11 at about 1200 hours, Matt Kurano of the State of Hawaii DOH (clean water branch) and Dr. Wendy Wiltse of the Environmental Protection Agency arrived at the Waimanalo Gulch run-off drain to survey the area for inspection. I then introduced myself to Matt and Wendy and informed them of my findings. I also turned over 2 bags with medical waste contaminants.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

At no time was any KAT staff or I approached by anyone affiliated or identifying themselves as Waste Management staff stating that they were here to help us in cleaning our beaches.

**DISPOSITION:**

OPEN

## RUNNING TIMELINE

- On 1-13-11/0630-0700 hours, KAT Cove Patrol Captain Keoni Couch discovered medical waste supplies and debris scattered throughout the state shoreline area at lagoon #4 (Honolulu side).
- On 1-13-11/0715 hours, this affiant was notified by Keoni Couch of the medical waste at lagoon #4 at which time I responded to the scene (lagoon #4).
- On 1-13-11/0730 hours, this affiant arrived at lagoon #4 and walked the state shoreline and beach area. Affiant initially observed uncapped syringe needles, empty and partially filled syringes (capped and uncapped), blood filled vials, and catheters, along with additional medical waste contaminants. Affiant then apprised Director Duke Hospodar of the circumstances of the medical contaminants being discovered along the lagoon #4 shoreline.
- On 1-13-11/0810 hours, Director Hospodar arrives and assesses the scene at which time he orders all lagoons closed R/T potentially hazardous medical waste washing up along the shoreline. KAT personnel were placed at each respective lagoon to keep bystanders from entering onto the beach or into the lagoon waters.
- On 1-13-11/0820 hours, KAT associates and this affiant donned PPE and began to further assess all four lagoon state and beach shoreline areas for additional medical waste contaminants. KAT associates then raked shoreline debris into piles so they could be easily picked up and disposed of into container bins.
- On 1-13-11 between 0825-0830 hours, Director Hospodar instructed Kimo Kendrick to use the sand cleaner and Bobcat to take 6 inches of sand of the top of lagoon #4 from the shoreline up to the high water mark. Kendrick was also assigned to perform the same task on lagoon's 1,2, and 3 on succeeding days. Kendrick was then instructed to dispose of the sand and debris into the container bins located at the Honolulu side of lagoon #4. Kendrick continued to use the sand cleaner on each lagoon daily until 1-23-11 when the lagoons were finally reopened.
- On 1-13-11 between 0845-1045 hours, this affiant made additional checks to the state shoreline and beach areas from lagoon #4 all the way down to lagoon #1. I then found further evidence of medical waste contaminants located along the each respective shoreline and beach areas.
- The heaviest concentration of medical waste contaminants were located at lagoon # 4, followed by lagoon's #3, #2, and #1.
- On 1-13-11 at about 1100 hours, this affiant along with George Timoteo went to check the Waimanalo run-off drain located on the shoreline area fronting Kai Lani estates. This affiant and Timoteo discovered an enormous amount of medical waste contaminants located atop the rocks on the west side of the drainage canal. This affiant observed needles (capped and uncapped), empty and partially filled syringes, blood filled vials, empty antibiotic bags, catheters, urine collection cups, and other medical waste contaminants.

- Upon locating what appeared to be the source of all the medical waste contaminants this affiant used an iphone to video record and document the scene and the initial findings. The video was 3minutes and 16 seconds long.
- On 1-13-11 at about 1130 hours, this affiant called Director Duke Hospodar and notified him of my findings. I then informed Director Hospodar, after examining the Waimanalo Gulch run-off drain area I came to the conclusion that I found the source where the medical waste had come from.
- On 1-13-11 between 1100-1145 hours, this affiant observed and collected two bags of medical waste contaminants (including syringes, needles, catheters, urine collection cups, blood filled vials, antibiotic bags, ect...) from the rocks and west side of the canal shoreline areas.
- On 1-13-11 at about 1200 hours, this affiant was met by Matt Kurano (State of Hawaii Dept of Health/ Clean Water Branch) and Dr. Wendy Wiltse (EPA) at the Waimanalo run-off drain area. Kurano and Wiltse informed this affiant that they were conducting an ongoing investigation regarding contamination run-off from the Landfill.
- On 1-13-11 at about 1245 hours, this affiant released two bags of medical waste contaminants to Kurano and Wiltse.
- For the remainder of the day (1-13-11), KAT personnel continued to sift through debris washed ashore and clean all four lagoons.
- On 1-14-11 to 1-23-11 at about 0630 hours daily, this affiant performed a check of the entire shoreline at Ko Olina Resort looking for additional medical waste contaminants. Additional debris containing medical waste contaminants was discovered throughout each lagoon shoreline area daily but lessened in total amount each day.
- On 1-14-11 between 1000-1400 hours, day laborers working for Waste Management hired through Altres staffing were observed by this affiant cleaning and bagging medical waste contaminants. This was observed at the Waimanalo run-off drain area located on the shoreline fronting Kai Lani estates.
- From 1-13-11 to 1-23-11 between 0700-1730 hours, KAT personnel continued to clean all four lagoon shoreline areas while sifting through all debris prior to collection and disposal into contained bins. The sand cleaner was also used at each lagoon (#1-4) everyday and the process of collection and disposal was maintained from 1-13-11 until the lagoons reopened on 1-23-11.
- On 1-23-11 at about 1410 hours, this affiant spoke with Curtis Strague from the Dept. of Environmental Services (City & County of Honolulu) arrived at lagoon #1A at Ko Olina Resort and began to take down the no swimming signs at all four lagoons. Per Strague, he got word from his Deputy Director Ross Tanimoto to take down and remove all the signs.

**Eddie BELLUOMINI / KOPS 1-24-11/1824 Hrs.**