

# **HAWAII (REGION 9)**

## *A Snapshot of Hawaii's TMDL Program (August 2008)*

### ***The Basics***

Key Agency/Department & website

Hawaii Department of Health  
Environmental Health Administration  
Environmental Planning Office  
<http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/env-planning/wqm/wqm.html>

TMDL Program Structure/Placement

Housed in Environmental Planning Office, Water Quality Management Program

### ***By the Numbers***

Number of Impaired Waters 308

Number of Causes of Impairment 596

Top Five Causes of Impairment

1. Turbidity
2. Nutrients
3. Algal Growth
4. Pathogens
5. Trash

Approximate Number of TMDLs Developed Annually 3

Total Number of TMDLs Approved (1995 to present, incl. any est'd by EPA) 20

Total Number of TMDLs Approved in 2005/2006/2007 3/0/5

2008 303d/Integrated Report Submission Status (Date) 2009

Approximate Number of FTEs Working on TMDL Issues 4

### ***TMDLs***

EPA Under Consent Decree to Develop TMDLs? N

Broad-Scale? (e.g., watershed, multi-jurisdictional, etc.) Y

### ***Non-TMDL Options***

Use of Non-TMDL Options to Address Impaired Waters? Y

### ***Funding***

Approximate Annual Budget for TMDL Program \$550,000

Primary Source(s) of TMDL Program Funding federal 106, 604(b), 104(b)(3) funds; state general funds

### ***TMDL Implementation***

TMDL Implementation Required? N

## ***Innovations***

Example(s) of Any Innovative Approach(es) Employed/  
TMDLs that Represent a Particular Achievement

--Kawa Stream, Oahu, and Kapaa Stream, Oahu, are small watersheds dominated by waste load allocations to MS4s

--Hanalei Watershed, Kauai, is a larger area dominated by NPS load allocations to subtropical forest, endangered waterbird habitat, and traditional irrigated agriculture

Links to HI TMDLs:

[hawaii.gov/health/environmental/env-planning/wqm/wqm.html](http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/env-planning/wqm/wqm.html)

## ***Barriers***

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Development

1. shifting, poorly-defined foundation of WQSs and monitoring/assessment decisions, including lack of explicit biological and hydraulic endpoints
2. lack of state funding, departmental resources, business practices, and administrative policies for TMDL program support
3. inefficiencies and lack of coordination in data collection and information sharing (cross-program, intra-departmental, interagency, global)

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Implementation

1. public perception of problems, costs, and benefits (lack of implementation champions and examples of large-scale implementation success)
2. overwhelming scale and scope of hydraulic modification and habitat degradation, combined with ongoing cross-sector lack of engineering, regulatory, and financial sophistication
3. EPA requirements for effectiveness monitoring and state incapacity to provide guidance and technical assistance for addressing these requirements