

APPENDIX G | RECOMMENDED POLICIES AND CONSIDERATIONS

CONNECTING TO THE ONE WATER PLAN

This appendix provides additional detailed information that correlates to the following sections.

CORRELATING SECTIONS AND INFORMATION

Section 4 Regional Planning District Profiles

Section 8 Implementation Plan

8.1 Moving the OWH Program Forward

App. G describes the approach and process of developing the list of recommended policies and proposes future policies and actions for consideration based on plans reviewed and cited in Appendix C, Plan Section 4, known areas of concern workshops, and meetings and discussions with the One Water Panel and Leadership Group.

Recommended policies are a component of the Section 8 Implementation Plan to provide guiding principles for future City projects.

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SECTION G.1: RECOMMENDED POLICIES AND CONSIDERATIONS

The recommended policies list is informed by previous planning efforts, discussions with the One Water Panel, Leadership Group, and focused working groups, and City agency experience and expertise. In August 2026, recommended policies were developed to translate regional priorities and O‘ahu's climate challenges into islandwide guiding principles for future City projects. As a final step, a policy for each climate hazard and a policy for collaboration between the Panel, private development community, and stakeholders were developed.

During this process, a list of proposed future policies and actions for consideration (considerations) was compiled. Future policy and action considerations are ideas that could be incorporated into existing projects and initiatives or considered for current or future implementation. Considerations were developed based on the plans reviewed and cited in Appendix C, Plan Section 4, known areas of concern workshops, and meetings and discussions with the One Water Panel and Leadership Group through June 2026.

G.1.1 KEY DEFINITIONS

The following list defines several terms used throughout this appendix as they relate to the One Water Honolulu Plan:

- **Policies** – Rules, guidelines, and overarching principles adopted by governing, regulating, or implementing entities to promote climate resilience. They influence decision making, resource allocation, and operational practices and can also support governance strategies.
- **Recommended Actions** – Standardized practices, general actions, or initial steps for future plans, studies, physical infrastructure, or programs. Carrying out actions often takes the form of projects.
- **Governance Strategies** – Recommendations for overarching actions and processes to support or further define governing, roles, responsibilities, resource allocation, and both formal and informal structures through which authority is exercised.
- **Projects** – Specific plans, studies, physical projects, or programs to adapt to climate hazards.

Recommended policies are intended to drive future City projects and One Water Panel collaboration. Considerations are policy and action ideas that could be incorporated into existing projects and initiatives or considered for current or future implementation.

G.1.2 PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING AND CHARACTERIZING RECOMMENDED POLICIES AND CONSIDERATIONS

This section provides an overview of the process which resulted in recommended policies (Table G-1), policy considerations (Table G-2), and action considerations (Table G-3).

G.1.2.1 RECOMMENDED POLICIES AND CONSIDERATIONS TABLES

Recommended policies and considerations have been predominantly informed by the priorities, concerns, and objectives of previous planning and engagement efforts across O‘ahu’s eight planning districts, which are summarized in Plan Section 4 and Appendix C Regional Summaries.

Considerations were compiled from previous planning efforts, Collaboration Framework discussions, and through One Water Panel, Leadership Group, and focused working group discussions and meetings. About 167 considerations resulted from previous planning efforts and discussions.

Since the reviewed plans span over multiple decades, some policy and action considerations were identified as already initiated or captured existing agency functions. Other considerations were identified as governance strategies, which are discussed in Plan Section 2. The future policy and action considerations that moved forward were further categorized and consolidated where redundancies existed. Most of the policy considerations are considered applicable islandwide, while most of the action considerations are focused on the regional scale. Policies for consideration focus on applying principles that address shared priorities identified throughout multiple regional profiles, align with the One Water vision, and have the potential to provide benefits across O‘ahu. Many action considerations are region-specific to address climate impacts and other threats through future plans, physical projects, studies, and programs. Due to the broad scope of some actions, or similar objectives for actions identified across multiple regions, several are also considered applicable islandwide. Recommended policies and considerations were assigned categories and institutional barriers, as described below.

The categories are closely aligned with adaptation strategy categories discussed in Plan Section 5. Categories are defined as follows:

RECOMMENDED POLICIES AND CONSIDERATION CATEGORIES:

Climate-resilient Native Practices	Incorporate watershed management practices that integrate Native Hawaiian knowledge and rights, support ecological and cultural uses, and collaborative water resource planning
Development	Promote sustainable land use, water conservation programs, best management practices, and climate adaptation guidance and strategies in development
Ecosystem Protection/ Restoration	Protect and conserve watershed areas and their habitats through strategies and projects that support water quality and ecosystems

Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Develop plans and establish processes to protect communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems from climate hazards
Green/Grey/Blue Infrastructure	Facilitate strategies and approaches that support low-impact development (LID) and sustainable design components
Pollutants/Runoff	Encourage best management practices related to land use and management, water treatment systems, and stormwater management that protect water quality and ecosystems
Community Engagement	Engage community members in water management and climate adaptation efforts through educational and conservation programs, forums, and collaboration with other stakeholders
Alternative Water Supplies	Maximize reuse, recycled water, and water conservation opportunities to diversify water supply and preserve water resources

The institutional barriers assigned to recommended policies and considerations are mainly identified in the Collaboration Framework. A description of each of the barrier categories is listed below:

BARRIER CATEGORIES:

CIP Process	Coordination of individual City department CIP processes
Funding and Resources	Availability and coordination of funding and resource-sharing to advance One Water projects and practices including staff, information, and other non-financial resources
Development Community	Overall coordination with the development community and coordination specific to climate resilience
Equity and Engagement	Consideration and advancement of equity in City projects and practices and overall coordination of stakeholder engagement
Policy and Alignment	Policy or practice gaps related to improving coordination and alignment of department practices to support and advance the One Water Honolulu vision

In addition to the institutional barriers from the Collaboration Framework, a **Champion** barrier was identified throughout the development of considerations. A champion is generally an agency or department responsible for advancing the implementation of a policy or action. Policies or actions with an assigned “Champion” barrier may not have clear ownership and would benefit from a coordinator to help advance the policy or action.

Policy and action considerations were evaluated to determine their relationship to One Water Honolulu projects included in Plan Section 7 and Appendix H. Policies were assessed based on whether they are already reflected in an existing OWH project or would advance a future OWH project, and actions were assessed based on whether they would advance an existing OWH project or a future OWH project. Information about the One Water Honolulu project numbers referenced in Tables G-2 and G-3 are included in Appendix H.

Recommended policies are intended to broadly capture guiding principles for climate hazards and collaboration, which are reflected across all One Water projects. Therefore, recommended policies are not evaluated to determine their relationship to One Water Honolulu projects in Table G-1, but include recommended policy objectives, and a summary of existing One Water Panel agency programs related to the policy.

A simplified prioritization process, similar to the process used in the One Water Honolulu Plan project prioritization described in Plan Section 7, was developed for the list of policy and action considerations. Although not included in the current Plan, this prioritization process could be used in the future.

A summary of the main elements found on the tables for recommended policies and considerations are noted below.

UNDERSTANDING ELEMENTS OF RECOMMENDED POLICIES TABLE G-1

Recommendation Category – The main theme or focus of a policy.

Recommendation – A short description of the recommended policy.

Region – The geographic area related to the policy or action.

Primary Hazard(s) – Since policies are broad, and climate hazards can be interconnected, they may address multiple hazards. This category focuses on the main hazard(s) that a policy is intended to address.

Objectives – A brief overview of what the policy aims to achieve.

Barriers – Identifies institutional barriers (or potential obstacles) to the recommendation.

One Water Panel Agency Programs – A summary of what existing programs through One Water Panel agencies support a policy recommendation.

UNDERSTANDING ELEMENTS OF POLICY AND ACTION CONSIDERATIONS TABLES G-2 and G-3

Recommendation Category – The main theme or focus of a policy or action.

Recommendation – A short description of the recommended policy or action.

Region – The geographic area related to the policy or action.

Primary Hazard(s) – Policies and actions can address many hazards. This category focuses on the main hazard(s) that a policy or action is intended to address.

Barriers – Identifies institutional barriers (or potential obstacles) to the recommendation.

Relationship to One Water projects – An evaluation of a policy or action consideration’s relationship to One Water Honolulu projects. Policies were assessed based on whether they are already reflected in an existing One Water Honolulu project or would advance a future One Water Honolulu project. Actions were assessed based on whether they would advance an existing One Water project or a future One Water Honolulu project. Information about the One Water Honolulu project numbers referenced on Tables G-2 and G-3 are included in Appendix H.

Table G-1. Recommended Policies

RECOMMENDATION CATEGORY	PRIMARY HAZARD(S)	RECOMMENDATION	REGION	OBJECTIVE	BARRIERS	ONE WATER PANEL AGENCY PROGRAMS
Emergency Preparedness & Prevention		Develop, formalize and regularly update an action plan for proactive wildfire management, community planning, risk mitigation, emergency response, resilient infrastructure hardening, and community partnerships.	Islandwide	Formulate a coordinated approach to wildfire preparedness, risk reduction, response, and resilience.	Policy and Alignment/ Equity and Engagement	The Climate Ready O’ahu Map is a resource that displays fire risk areas, in addition to heat, rainfall and flooding, sea level rise, hurricane, drought, and administrative-related layers.
Emergency Preparedness & Prevention		Establish an institutional framework for sea level rise adaptation, incorporating forecasting, trigger-based actions, infrastructure hardening, flood control, and strategic retreat managed through innovative financing mechanisms under a unified One Water management model.	Islandwide	Formalize a framework for multi-agency collaboration related to SLR and a trigger-based capital improvement program.	Policy and Alignment/ Funding and Resources	Coastal Area Permits are required for most development in the coastal zone and shoreline area.
Green/Grey/Blue Infrastructure		Require major public facilities, transit areas, schools, parks, and affordable housing projects to analyze heat impacts to human health and infrastructure functionality, and to provide options for heat reduction by incorporating measures such as increasing shading of parking lots and streets, considering cooling solutions for roadway surfaces, and increasing tree planting and ground cover.	Islandwide	Reduce heat exposure and urban heat island effects by requiring heat assessments and mitigation measures in heavily utilized and public-facing areas.	Policy and Alignment/ Equity and Engagement	Keep Cool O’ahu is a website hosted by the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency (CCSR) about heat with helpful definitions, projections, outreach materials, an interactive StoryMap to view O’ahu’s heat patterns and cooling solutions. The Better Buildings Benchmarking Program aims to reduce energy and water consumption through tracking building performance and efficiency. The Community Forestry Program launched in 2019 to expand O’ahu’s urban tree canopy, mitigate climate change effects and partner with schools and volunteers on public education
Emergency Preparedness & Prevention		Refine drought emergency response and preparedness plans, improve forecasting, monitoring systems, climate resilient diversified water infrastructure and expand robust water conservation, reuse and watershed management programs.	Islandwide	Strengthen drought resilience through enhanced preparedness, forecasting, diversified water supplies, conservation, water reuse, and watershed management.	Policy and Alignment/ Funding and Resources	WaterSensible is a conservation rebate program co-funded by the Board of Water Supply (BWS) and the Department of Environmental Services (ENV). WaterSmart breaks down household water use and compares water use with neighbors.

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RECOMMENDATION CATEGORY	PRIMARY HAZARD(S)	RECOMMENDATION	REGION	OBJECTIVE	BARRIERS	ONE WATER PANEL AGENCY PROGRAMS
Green/Grey/Blue Infrastructure		Develop and implement the Stormwater Master Plan to help improve and maintain the City’s drainage infrastructure to protect life, public health, property and repetitive loss areas from flood hazards, and adopt the Stormwater Fee to finance drainage and stormwater green infrastructure projects.	Islandwide	Mitigate flood impacts through formalized plans and incentives.	Policy and Alignment/ Equity and Engagement	The ENV Integrated Plan, co-led with the Department of Facility Maintenance (DFM), unifies wastewater and stormwater programs into a coordinated investment strategy that prioritizes projects with the highest human health and water quality benefits. Clean Streams Program supports regular cleaning of city-owned, channelized stream segments for flood prevention and water quality The DFM Storm Water Quality Division (SWQ) conducts a range of education and outreach programs to promote watershed stewardship from mauka to makai. Key initiatives include Project WET Workshops, which provide teachers with water conservation curricula and training; professional BMP workshops for engineers, contractors, and agency personnel (such as the Stormwater Quality Best Management Practices (BMPs) Workshop); business and industrial compliance education and field training to support pollution prevention and regulatory compliance; and Adopt-A-Stream/Adopt-A-Block programs, which engage civic groups, schools, and businesses in hands-on trail and water stewardship activities. Complete Streets supports the planning of safe, convenient and accessible City streets. Complete Streets include stormwater management elements, such as bioretention curb extensions, permeable pavers, and vegetated medians, which increase stormwater infiltration while providing other community benefits.
Emergency Preparedness & Prevention		Periodically review, update, and implement emergency response and preparedness plans, resilient building standards, and post-disaster recovery plans to address climate-related increases in hurricane frequency and intensity, tsunami hazards, and other risks identified in the Honolulu Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. https://www.honolulu.gov/dem/lhmp/	Islandwide	Keep emergency response systems, procedures, and codes relevant based on changing climate conditions.	Policy and Alignment/ Funding and Resources	The Climate Ready O’ahu Map is a resource that displays the age of housing, and Categories 1 through 4 storm surge areas (in addition to heat, rainfall and flooding, sea level rise, drought and wildfire, and administrative-related layers).

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Table G-2. Policy Considerations*

ID #	PRIMARY HAZARD(S)	CATEGORY	CONSIDERATION	REGION	BARRIERS	RELATIONSHIP TO ONE WATER PROJECTS
19		Green/Grey/Blue Infrastructure	Promote localized rainfall absorption through Low-Impact Development (LID) practices in development to manage stormwater and runoff, recharge groundwater, and protect water quality.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/ Development Community	Reflected in One Water project numbers 30, 39, 59, 90, 102, 105, 109, 123, 130, 165, 170, and 172
35		Pollutants/Runoff	Encourage best management practices (BMPs) in land use, especially related to agricultural and industrial runoff, to safeguard ecosystems and water resources and minimize impacts on water quality and quantity.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/ Development Community	Reflected in One Water project numbers 30 and 39
61		Climate-Resilient Native Practices	Respect and integrate Native Hawaiian rights, cultural values, and traditional practices that are reliant on healthy land and water resources.	Islandwide	Equity and Engagement/Champion	Reflected in One Water project numbers 90, 92, 115, 123, and 129
93		Ecosystem Protection/Restoration	Promote the utilization of nature-based solutions, preservation of natural systems, or practice sustainable land use management to mitigate the consequences of soil and coastline erosion towards threatened infrastructure and to support water filtration and flood mitigation.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/ Development Community	Reflected in One Water project numbers 8, 9, 53, 59, 64, 70, 90, 92, 101, 102, 104, 105, 109, 115, 122, 123, 130, 141, 145, 165, 170, and 172
127		Ecosystem Protection/Restoration	Maintain the Sustainable Communities Plan Community Growth Boundary to contain urban development to protect agricultural and conservation lands in the upper watershed through protective regulatory measures and public acquisition.	Ko'olau Poko	Development Community/ Policy and Alignment	Advances a future One Water project
139		Ecosystem Protection/Restoration	Prioritize conservation of open spaces through policies that support ecology, water quality, and enhance local water sources.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/ Champion	Reflected in One Water project numbers 102 and 104
17		Community Engagement	Seek opportunities for equitable infrastructure upgrades and mitigation projects.	Islandwide	Funding and Resources/Equity and Engagement	Reflected in One Water project 109
54		Green/Grey/Blue Infrastructure	Emphasize preservation of ecosystems through nature-based solutions or green infrastructure.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/Funding and Resources	Reflected in One Water project numbers 8, 9, 53, 59, 64, 70, 90, 104, 105, 109, 123, 130, 170, and 172
4		Ecosystem Protection/Restoration	Prioritize conservation and protection of watershed areas, such as wetlands and coastal ecosystems, and native habitat to support biodiversity and enhance resilience. Promote stabilization and conservation of stream banks through policies that support ecology and water quality.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/ Champion	Reflected in One Water project numbers 8, 9, 33, 53, 64, 70, 104, and 123
40		Climate-Resilient Native Practices	Support and promote natural and cultural preservation through education about the importance of cultural heritage and environmental stewardship, water access and availability for ecological and cultural practices, such as loko i'a (fishponds) and lo'i kalo (taro fields), and through emphasis on traditional water and watershed management practices that protect water quality and water resources.	Islandwide	Equity and Engagement/ Funding and Resources	Reflected in One Water project numbers 9, 61, 67, 70, 75, 90, and 168
14		Community Engagement	Form a community-based redevelopment district to adapt or relocate residential and commercial structures, public facilities, and natural and cultural resources vulnerable to sea level rise impacts.	East Honolulu (May also be applied islandwide)	Champion/Funding and Resources	Reflected in One Water project numbers 33, 35, and 41
80		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Develop coastal management plans to address erosion and flooding, including beach nourishment and relocation of vulnerable infrastructure.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/ Champion	Reflected in One Water project numbers 8, 19, 53, and 64
82		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Formalize project-specific processes related to sea level rise guidance.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/ Champion	Reflected in One Water project 35
16		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Routinely review shoreline setbacks.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/Capital Improvement Program Process	Reflected in One Water project numbers 19, 26, 33, 35, 41, 53, 64, 92, 101, 115, and 122

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ID #	PRIMARY HAZARD(S)	CATEGORY	CONSIDERATION	REGION	BARRIERS	RELATIONSHIP TO ONE WATER PROJECTS
136		Ecosystem Protection/Restoration	Enforce stream setbacks.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/Funding and Resources	Advances a future One Water project
59		Alternative Water Supplies	Maximize opportunities to utilize recycled water for irrigation and other feasible uses, following state guidelines. Consider residential and agricultural uses.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/Equity and Engagement	Reflected in One Water project numbers 4, 61, 67, 75, 106, 155, 162, 163, 164, 167, 168, and 169
60		Alternative Water Supplies	Support sustainable farming practices to preserve water resources.	Islandwide	Equity and Engagement/Development Community	Reflected in One Water project 168
89		Alternative Water Supplies	Increase water supplies for Waimānalo farmers through water diversion and ditch upgrades, ground water wells, and recycled water.	Koʻolau Poko	Policy and Alignment/Champion	Reflected in One Water project numbers 61, 67, and 75
90		Alternative Water Supplies	Ensure potable and non-potable water supplies are sufficient for new developments.	Islandwide	Development Community/Policy and Alignment	Reflected in One Water project numbers 106 and 162
124		Alternative Water Supplies	Protect drinking water and agricultural irrigation water sources.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/Champion	Reflected in One Water project numbers 61 and 75
137		Alternative Water Supplies	Ensure high-quality water is available for potable, recreational, and habitat needs while protecting ground, surface, and nearshore waters through diversified water sources that pair water quality with uses.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/Funding and Resources	Reflected in One Water project numbers 4, 61, 67, 75, 162, 164, 167, 168, and 169

* Policy considerations are ideas that could be incorporated into existing projects and initiatives or considered for current or future implementation. The listed future policy considerations were developed based on recommendations from the plans reviewed and cited for Appendix C, Plan Section 4, and from One Water Honolulu Panel, Leadership Group, and focused working group discussions and meetings through June 2026.

Table G-3. Action Considerations*

ID #	PRIMARY HAZARD(S)	CATEGORY	CONSIDERATION	REGION	BARRIERS	RELATIONSHIP TO ONE WATER PROJECTS
STUDIES						
18		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Conduct hydrologic modeling for flow and drainage management where frequent flooding occurs.	‘Ewa	Funding and Resources/Capital Improvement Program Process	Advances current One Water project number 165
27		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Assess infrastructure improvements to address flash flooding.	Wai‘anae	Funding and Resources/Policy and Alignment	Advances current One Water project numbers 109, 130, 132, 141, 145, 165, and 172
55		Alternative Water Supplies	Evaluate opportunities for projects that improve the water quality entering the irrigation system and encourage agricultural BMPs; consider supporting projects that will upgrade treatment of wastewater to R-1 quality for non-potable irrigation.	North Shore	Policy and Alignment/Development Community	Advances current One Water project number 90.
122		Alternative Water Supplies	Determine ways to restore and maintain sustainable quantities of groundwater in the Wai‘anae District.	Wai‘anae	Funding and Resources/Policy and Alignment	Advances a future One Water project
165		Pollutants/Runoff	Assess opportunities to reduce sediment pollutant loading.	Wai‘anae	Funding and Resources/Equity and Engagement	Advances current One Water project numbers 30, 39, 109, 130, 141, 145, 165, and 172
143		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Map areas of repetitive losses and develop strategies to mitigate future damages.	East Honolulu	Funding and Resources/Equity and Engagement	Advances a future One Water project
6		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Assess wildfire risks.	‘Ewa	Funding and Resources/Equity and Engagement	Advances a future One Water project
PROGRAMS						
102		Community Engagement	Continue to collaborate with Kahuku High and Intermediate School to address localized challenges like flooding.	Ko‘olau Loa	Funding and Resources/Champion	Advances a future One Water project
115		Pollutants/Runoff	Transition cesspools to provide a higher level of treatment and reduce groundwater contamination.	Islandwide	Funding and Resources/Champion	Advances a future One Water project
132		Community Engagement	Encourage programs like "Adopt A Stream" for resident involvement in waterway care.	Primary Urban Center	Equity and Engagement/Funding and Resources	Advances current One Water project 123
156		Pollutants/Runoff	Prevent pollution near parks and shorelines.	Central O‘ahu	Policy and Alignment/Funding and Resources	Advances current One Water project 41
157		Pollutants/Runoff	Manage runoff to improve water quality.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/Funding and Resources	Advances current One Water project numbers 9, 30, 39, 41, 53, 59, 68, 90, 92, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 109, 110, 115, 122, 123, 130, 141, 145, 155, 163, 165, 170, and 172
161		Pollutants/Runoff	Implement cleaning and restoration of polluted waterways, removing debris and contaminants, and conduct public education on pollution impacts and the importance of clean waterways.	Primary Urban Center	Funding and Resources/Equity and Engagement	Advances current One Water project 123
169		Ecosystem Protection/ Restoration	Stream restoration in Waimānalo in partnership with Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources.	Ko‘olau Poko	Policy and Alignment/Champion	Advances current One Water project 70
13		Development	Increase access to water resources for recreation through improving pathways and connections to waterbodies.	Islandwide	Champion/Capital Improvement Program Process	Advances current One Water project number 4

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ID #	PRIMARY HAZARD(S)	CATEGORY	CONSIDERATION	REGION	BARRIERS	RELATIONSHIP TO ONE WATER PROJECTS
7		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Implement measures to prevent wildfires and reduce their impacts. Consider fire-safe practices, land management, wildland-urban interface, and community planning.	Islandwide	Funding and Resources/Policy and Alignment	Advances current One Water project numbers 129 and 168
72		Ecosystem Protection/Restoration	Control and remove invasive species to protect ecosystems.	Islandwide	Funding and Resources/ Policy and Alignment	Advances a future One Water project
84		Alternative Water Supplies	Improve agricultural water delivery to reduce losses.	North Shore	Funding and Resources/Policy and Alignment	Advances a future One Water project
86		Alternative Water Supplies	Support and incentivize water conservation in areas that receive water from Ko'olau Loa to increase local water availability for ecological and agricultural needs.	Ko'olau Loa	Funding and Resources/Equity and Engagement	Advances a future One Water project
170		Climate-Resilient Native Practices	Establish program for partnerships with cultural practitioners for adaptation planning.	Wai'anae	Policy and Alignment/Champion	Advances current One Water project 129
PLANS						
77		Ecosystem Protection/Restoration	Develop strategies to support ecosystem services that address rainfall changes, such as water filtration and flood mitigation, that also protect water quality and habitats.	Primary Urban Center	Funding and Resources/Equity and Engagement	Advances current One Water project numbers 101, 102, 104, 105, 109, 115, 122, 123, 165, 170, and 172
95		Ecosystem Protection/Restoration	Protect and stabilize areas in upper watersheds to reduce soil erosion.	East Honolulu	Funding and Resources/Champion	Advances current One Water project 9
148		Green/Grey/Blue Infrastructure	Upgrade and replace sewer systems at the end of their useful life and other water-related infrastructure to improve quality and meet environmental standards.	Primary Urban Center	Funding and Resources/Capital Improvement Program Process	Advances current One Water project numbers 103, 110, 115, 165, 170, and 172
75		Ecosystem Protection/Restoration	Continuously assess water quality, ecosystem health, and the success of management strategies.	Islandwide	Funding and Resources/Champion	Advances current One Water project numbers 68, 102, and 150
140		Ecosystem Protection/Restoration	Protect and enhance natural resources, including land, streams, and nearshore ecosystems, to achieve regional self-sufficiency in water resources where feasible.	Wai'anae	Funding and Resources/Policy and Alignment	Advances a future One Water project
26		Development	Create infrastructure like trails and viewing areas for sustainable engagement with water resources.	Primary Urban Center	Funding and Resources/Equity and Engagement	Advances current One Water project numbers 102 and 104
15		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Develop an islandwide plan to address sea level rise.	Islandwide	Policy and Alignment/Equity and Engagement	Reflected in One Water project 33
79		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Incorporate best available science and information from the City Climate Change Commission when evaluating updates to land use policies and regulations relating to climate change and sea level rise.	Ko'olau Loa (May also be applied islandwide)	Policy and Alignment/Funding and Resources	Advances current One Water project numbers 26, 33, 53, 92, 101, 115, and 122
38		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Develop comprehensive resilience plans that include emergency response strategies, public education campaigns, and community drills to prepare for natural disasters that are tailored to each region.	Islandwide	Champion/Equity and Engagement	Advances a future One Water project

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ID #	PRIMARY HAZARD(S)	CATEGORY	CONSIDERATION	REGION	BARRIERS	RELATIONSHIP TO ONE WATER PROJECTS
112		Green/Grey/Blue Infrastructure	Retrofit coastal infrastructure or invest in new infrastructure such as roads for flood and tsunami resilience.	Islandwide	Funding and Resources/Policy and Alignment	Advances current One Water project numbers 8, 19, 26, 35, 53, 60, 92, 101, 103, 105, 110, 115, 122, and 132
120		Alternative Water Supplies	Explore options like recycled wastewater and stormwater to diversify supply.	Primary Urban Center	Funding and Resources/Policy and Alignment	Advances current One Water project numbers 106, 155, 162, 163, and 169
128		Development	Work with Hawai'i Reserves Inc. on One Water planning for the Lā'ie area.	Ko'olau Loa	Development Community/Policy and Alignment	Advances a future One Water project
PHYSICAL PROJECTS						
100		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Upgrade and maintain flood control infrastructure.	Primary Urban Center	Funding and Resources/Equity and Engagement	Advances current One Water project numbers 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 109, 110, 115, 122, 123, 165, 170, and 172
106		Green/Grey/Blue Infrastructure	Complete proactive maintenance and upgrades of infrastructure that align with growth areas.	Primary Urban Center	Funding and Resources/Capital Improvement Program Process	Advances current One Water project numbers 102, 103, 110, 115, 165, and 172
69		Development	Expand the existing Kahuku public golf course to support the mitigation of drainage issues, if feasible.	Ko'olau Loa	Development Community/Equity and Engagement	Advances a future One Water project
141		Emergency Preparedness & Prevention	Harden emergency shelters to mitigate increasing risk from high wind during extreme storms.	East Honolulu	Funding and Resources/Champion	Advances a future One Water project
87		Alternative Water Supplies	Increase recycled water use from Lā'ie WWTP.	Ko'olau Loa	Funding and Resources/Equity and Engagement	Advances a future One Water project
111		Alternative Water Supplies	Upgrade Kahuku wastewater treatment facilities to allow for water reuse for irrigation purposes (pending a feasibility analysis as part of the KPKW Wastewater Facilities Plan).	Ko'olau Loa	Funding and Resources/Capital Improvement Program Process	Advances a future One Water project

* Action considerations are ideas that could be incorporated into existing projects and initiatives or considered for current or future implementation. The listed future action considerations were developed based on recommendations from the plans reviewed and cited for Appendix C, Plan Section 4, and from One Water Honolulu Panel, Leadership Group, and focused working group discussions and meetings through June 2026.

G.1.2.2 SUMMARY OF CONSIDERATIONS

Future policies for consideration focus on incorporating regional values and priorities into regulatory frameworks. Many policies for consideration center around protecting natural and cultural resources through preservation, land use restrictions, and best management practices. Other policies support the institutionalization of climate adaptation through formalized processes and guidance related to planning, preparedness, and development. Water conservation and water supply concerns are addressed through policy considerations related to the promotion of recycled water, water resource protection, best management practices, and water conveyance upgrades. Policy considerations also support traditional land and water management and equitable access to water resources.

Future actions for consideration include studies, plans, programs, and physical projects. Examples of studies include wildfire risk assessments, development of models for flow and drainage management, and the evaluation of water quality and quantity improvement opportunities. Suggested programs focus on community planning and collaboration to address climate challenges, improved conservation efforts, and systematic approaches to address point source and nonpoint source pollutants. Action considerations for plans to develop range across scales. Region-specific plans to consider are related to water infrastructure upgrades, water supply and watershed management, collaborative planning, erosion and land use management, and recreation. Islandwide plans to consider focus on sea level rise, monitoring of strategy effectiveness and watershed health, climate-informed planning, and natural disaster emergency response and preparedness. Physical projects focus on infrastructure resilience, recycled water use, and flood control.

Most of the future actions for consideration are focused on the regional level. Since different areas are impacted at varying degrees by climate hazards and other threats, it makes sense that actions, including plans, physical projects, studies, or programs, would be executed in specific regions. Several actions are also considered applicable islandwide due to their broad scope or similar objectives for actions identified across multiple regions. In contrast, almost all the policies for future consideration are considered applicable islandwide. In addition to the fact that policies are often implemented by the City and County of Honolulu, recommended policies focus on applying principles that have the potential to support all planning regions. Several policies are still considered region-specific. For example, if a policy targets a specific area, such as increasing water supplies for Waimānalo farmers, it would be considered region-specific.

Most future policies and actions for consideration are reflected in or advance existing One Water Honolulu projects. Policies and actions that support future One Water Honolulu projects highlight areas for the City, communities, and other stakeholder groups to work together to develop ideas for future projects and policies based on community priorities, goals, and guiding principles.

SECTION G.2: RECOMMENDED POLICIES AND CONSIDERATIONS AS A RESOURCE

Recommended policies and considerations capture values across O‘ahu’s eight regions and can help shape future One Water Honolulu projects, advance current projects, and elevate community voices throughout future policy and project development.

Throughout the One Water Honolulu Program advancement, the recommended policies will serve as guiding principles. Future policies and actions for consideration may be used as a resource to augment current initiatives, inform future projects, and elevate community voices through future policy development. Although synthesis of priorities and concerns is helpful to focus efforts, the Regional Planning District Profiles in Plan Section 4, Regional Summaries included as Appendix C, and actions for consideration aim to provide a holistic view of key regional themes. Recommended policies and considerations, together, document key regional and islandwide threats, concerns, and forward-looking approaches.