

From: Kathleen M. Elliott-Pahinui <kelliott-pahinui@hbws.org>
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2019 2:58 PM
Subject: URGENT: Nuuanu Stream
Importance: High

Aloha -

The ongoing construction of dam improvements at the Nuuanu Reservoir No. 4 ensure the safe and reliable operation of the dam. The work requires a significant lowering of the water level behind the dam in order for our contractor to access the outlet structures. Beginning Wednesday, February 6, the Board of Water Supply (BWS) successfully cracked open the gate that impounds the water behind the dam, by approximately 2-1/2-inches. While water has always flowed out of the discharge pipe, the operation of the gate increased the flow from that pipe. This water eventually combines with Nuuanu Stream.

Prior to opening the gate, we reached out to area residents with flyers and door-to-door canvassing to residents along Nuuanu Stream. We wanted to alert residents to changes in the flow of Nuuanu Stream, either rising or falling.

Our concern at the time of the initial opening was the ability to even operate the gate, which has been underwater for years. With the successful operation on February 6, the BWS returned on Tuesday, February 12, to open the gate slightly more, to approximately 6-inches. The gate remained in that position until Tuesday, February 26.

Following days of heavy rain in Nuuanu, Nuuanu Stream flow increased and silt from the banks of the reservoir washed into the water there, negatively impacted the water quality of the discharge. On the 26th, BWS crews closed the gate to approximately 3-inches, very close to the original opening. Although intermittent rain continued, we were hopeful the water quality of the discharge would improve.

On February 28, we attempted to close the gate all the way. Unfortunately, the winch failed and we can no longer open or close the gate. We are currently having our crews repair the winch.

Any resident with damage concerns may file a claim with the BWS Risk Manager, Neal Poepoe, by emailing Neal at NPoepoe@hbws.org or calling 748-5182.

Please let me know, via email, if you have any questions.

Mahalo,
Kathleen