Projects and ActivitiesThu Mar 28 14:42:44 HST 2024

Name	Low-Flow Regionalization of Streams in Hawaii - Phase 1
Capability Area: Impacts/Adaptations	- Understanding Climate Impacts and Informing Adaptation - Climate Adaptation - Best Practices/Guidance - Assessment and Evaluation
Sectors	- Fresh Water Resources - Community Planning and Development - Social and Cultural Resources - Agriculture and Fisheries - Recreation and Tourism - Ecosystems
Status	- Ongoing
Focus Area	- Fresh Water Resources and Drought - Marine and Terrestrial Ecosystems
Regions	- Central North Pacific - State Of Hawaii
Description	In Hawaii, management of the surface-water resources for many streams is problematic because of a lack of information on the availability of water during low-flow conditions. Knowledge of low-flow characteristics is fundamental to establishing reasonable and defensible instream-flow standards. Furthermore, the use of stream water for agriculture and municipal purposes, protection of traditional and customary Hawaiian rights, maintenance of ecologic balance, aesthetic differences between dry and flowing streams, and recreational use of the streams are factors that play a role in planning and management decisions by many agencies.
Objectives/Outcomes	This study is the first phase of a larger two-phased 7-year study with the overall objective of applying regionalization techniques to estimate low-flow duration discharges for streams at sites where streamflow data are limited or unavailable on the islands of Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Maui, and Hawaii. The results from this study are necessary for the proper management of the surface waters in the State and, thus, the study is consistent with the mission of the USGS Science Strategy to provide citizens, communities, natural-resource managers, and policymakers with a clearer knowledge of the status of their water. This study will also assist the Hawaii State Commission on Water Resource Management in determining equitable, reasonable, and beneficial instream and off-stream uses of the surface-water resources in Hawaii.

Lead Agencies	USGS/Pacific Islands Water Science Center
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Partnering Agencies	Hawaii State Commission on Water Resource Management, Hawaii Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Projected Timelines	Phase 1: June 2013 through September 2015
Url	http://hi.water.usgs.gov/studies/lowflow1/