



## JOINT BASE WATER DAILY UPDATE

Joint Information Center

(808) 471-5013

[www.navy.mil/jointbasewater](http://www.navy.mil/jointbasewater)

[1/31/2022]

00:00:09:13 - 00:00:29:13

CAPT. GUENTHER

Hello everyone, and welcome to the daily water update for January the 31st. I'm Capt. Darren Guenther, Chief of Staff for Navy Region, Hawaii. Welcome back from the weekend. A lot's occurred over the last several days, and we posted sampling test results for several neighborhood drinking water systems.

00:00:30:16 - 00:00:51:08

CAPT. GUENTHER

There's lots of steps to restore safe drinking water, and we've spoken about several of those steps to include flushing and testing. Today, we'd like to share information on ongoing efforts to restore one of the drinking water wells and so in a minute we'll have on Cmdr. Rob Kleinman.

00:00:51:08 - 00:01:12:18

CAPT. GUENTHER

He's the future operations officer for Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, Pacific. He's going to talk about restoring that well. Before we start, though, I want to remind you of the CDC and Department of Health survey to assess potential health impacts on our community from the water.

00:01:13:03 - 00:01:34:16

CAPT. GUENTHER

The survey is still open for one more week, until next Monday, and it's open to anyone impacted. You can take that survey online at [go.usa.gov/xtg8v](http://go.usa.gov/xtg8v). So now let's take a look at the map and some of the progress that's being made.

00:01:38:03 - 00:02:07:22

CAPT. GUENTHER

So the latest flushing map is available online at our water resources site, [navy.mil/jointbasewater](http://navy.mil/jointbasewater). It's posted up there, and reflected in the various shades of blue are essentially that we have twelve neighborhoods overall that are complete with both their drinking water system flush, as well as their facilities and home flush.

00:02:08:00 - 00:02:29:12

CAPT. GUENTHER



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So they're either awaiting those test results or they're taking samples for those test results. So we have twelve neighborhoods in that situation, currently. We have six neighborhoods that are in current flushing for facilities and homes. So we'll talk about, first of all, the active home flushers.

00:02:30:02 - 00:02:47:11

CAPT. GUENTHER

Currently, we've got Aliamanu, is still undergoing their home flushing that's occurred throughout the weekend, and we've broken that up into sort of three zones. The most southern zone has 230 homes and we've done 161 of those homes.

00:02:47:20 - 00:03:12:17

CAPT. GUENTHER

The Central Zone, probably the biggest one we've done 641 homes of 918 and that northern sort of zone up against the freeway, we've done 150 homes of 379 total homes there. So that's going to take us to complete Aliamanu, probably through the middle of the week. So you're going to see that ongoing.

00:03:12:17 - 00:03:29:03

CAPT. GUENTHER

We're also doing some facilities flushes and finishing up a few of our neighborhoods or zones on the sub base, there's no homes there, but there's a lot of facilities where people work and we're going through that facilities flush currently.

00:03:29:11 - 00:03:46:10

CAPT. GUENTHER

Also on Makalapa, facilities flush only, and then there's a few just small facilities in the McGrew Point and the Halawa housing area that we're finishing up those facilities flushes there. So we have one zone to go. That's Kapilina Beach Homes we've been talking about it.

00:03:46:10 - 00:04:09:12

CAPT. GUENTHER

Should have more information here shortly on the starts for the home flushing there. I'm anticipating that mid to late this week, for home flushing there. More information to follow, and then, as we said, a lot of zones here, colored in blue awaiting their sample



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test results and some of them are sampling out of their home and facility flushes, as we speak.

00:04:09:12 - 00:04:30:14

CAPT. GUENTHER

Mentioned going in, that we have a lot of neighborhoods that we have recently posted, the drinking water distribution system testing results. So we started after a policy change of the Interagency Working Group a week ago.

00:04:30:14 - 00:04:51:17

CAPT. GUENTHER

We've started posting those results and a lot more came in the last several days. So on Friday, Ford Island results were posted, as well as Hale Moku and Hokulani and on. Let's see, also on Friday, we had the Hickam neighborhoods of Hale Na Koa, Onizuka and Officer Field.

00:04:51:29 - 00:05:17:26

CAPT. GUENTHER

Also on Friday posted were the NEX, Moanalua Terrace Neighborhood System test results, and then on Saturday, Hickam's Earhart Village. Test results were posted, and then on Sunday, Camp Smith. So all those distribution system testing results are posted on our water websites page and you'll see two documents for each neighborhood there.

00:05:17:26 - 00:05:37:11

CAPT. GUENTHER

One document is going to be sort of a summary document. It's about five pages. It's a couple of pages of summarized results and then a couple of pages of descriptions on how those results were identified, and then there's also the raw data release for each of those neighborhoods, or usually over 100 pages for each of those.

00:05:37:28 - 00:05:53:04

CAPT. GUENTHER

Again, go and find that information on our website. It's all posted for you to take a look at for the distribution water system in these neighborhoods, and we'll have more postings to follow coming up this week. Ok, that's your map update for today.



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00:05:57:00 - 00:06:42:22

CAPT GUENTHER

All right, what I'd like to do now is bring in our guest. So Cmdr. Rob Kleinman. Rob, thank you for being here. You're with NAVFAC Pacific and an engineer with them and what we'd like to talk about. We've talked about flushing, we've talked about testing and we'd like to talk about something that I think the engineers call, well remediation, but essentially, it's the work that's being done to ensure that the Red Hill drinking water well is clean and can you talk to us a bit about what mitigation and cleanup efforts have been undertaken so far with respect to that well, and what you're looking at?

00:06:42:22 - 00:06:58:11

CMDR. KLEINMAN

Yeah. Thank you sir, I appreciate it. Do want to stress you know as we've been doing all the efforts, both immediate and looking mid to long term, the same interagency group that's been working the distribution system is part of the collateral process and ultimate approval to develop our plan for the Red Hill recovery.

00:06:58:11 - 00:07:12:20

CMDR. KLEINMAN

So this interagency group, the IDWST, did approve the Red Hill shaft recovery monitoring plan, and I do want to add, if you haven't taken a look or anybody that's listening, you can find it on the joint base's water website and you can take a look at the whole plan in full depth.

00:07:13:12 - 00:07:31:12

CMDR. KLEINMAN

So the immediate activities we've done to mitigate in the cleanup efforts really have been looking at. Initially, we did the skimming operations to remove the containment from the surface layer of the water and also deploy these absorbent pads that are specifically designed to absorb petroleum products only so they don't take the water and they only take in the petroleum.

00:07:31:13 - 00:07:40:28

CMDR. KLEINMAN



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We just turned on this last weekend, there are pumping operations to create a capture zone. So this capture zone is where the pumps are turned on at their red hill well, completely separate from the distribution system.

00:07:40:28 - 00:07:59:18

CMDR. KLEINMAN

So, and that suction draws the contaminants closer to the pump. So it really does counter the movement of the contaminants within the water. So we recently turned those on and that capture zone is now in effect, and so those are kind of our immediate activities to recover the well right now, sir.

00:07:59:18- 00:08:07:12

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, and so I understand those pumps came on over the weekend, on Saturday. How long will this recovery take?

00:08:07:12-00:08:27:06

CMDR. KLEINMAN

Yes sir. So we, as with all our efforts, we've been trying to move as quickly as possible, but in this process, it's hard to put a specific time to it. It is really going to be a function of conditions. So what we want to do is to ensure the water from the well is treated correctly and safely, and this process is both methodical and scientific in nature.

00:08:27:23 - 00:08:59:24

CMDR. KLEINMAN

So this requires a collection of data and analyzation of data, and so that process will give us the information to set the conditions for how long this will last. Creating that capture zone, which we started, like you said sir on Saturday, was the first effort, the first step, and then concurrently, we're looking at other long term strategies that are in development, which includes the big-game design of a Red Hill water treatment plant. We understand and recognize that this effort is critically important to restoring the confidence of the water system, and we only take this highest priority, sir.

00:09:00:02 - 00:09:18:00

CAPT. GUENTHER



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Ok, so these cleanup efforts, you know, use large amounts of water for flushing, so it's like a flushing of the well. Do you see any impacts from adding that amount of water? Is that water, currently is going to go into the Halawa Stream.

00:09:18:20 - 00:09:37:00

CMDR. KLEINMAN

Yes sir, so the introduction of that, up to five millions of gallons of water per day into the Halawa Stream, we don't expect any, expect very minimal impact, but just to validate that with the assistance of the US Geological Survey USGS, they've installed a flow meters just downstream of our discharge point so that we can actually capture the real time flow of our discharge, and as a comparison, similar flow meters into the north Halawa Stream have been installed by USGS. As you look back at last year and you look at rain events that happened here on the island of Oahu, you know, there've been several events that exceeded 200 cubic feet per second, with some exceeding 1000 cubic feet per second. That's how much water was moving down that stream. To give you a comparison to 5 million gallons per day is equivalent to 7.7 cubic feet per second, so it's expected to be a minimal amount of volume of water compared to rain events here on Oahu.

00:10:10:22 - 00:10:28:08

CMDR KLEINMAN

Concurrently, we partnered with through a collaborative agreement with the University of Hawaii with scientists to do ecological monitoring, which they did before we started the operations and they'll continue during operations to look at locations at different elements of the stream to assess the environment to any impact.

00:10:28:23 - 00:10:38:27

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, and so the water that's being discharged. How do you know, it's being discharged into the stream, how do you know that it's clean of contaminants and how is it tested?

00:10:38:27- 00:11:04:23

CMDR. KLEINMAN

Yes, sir. So the Hawaii Department of Health has issued a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit to the navy. So, NPDES, and in that permit, it sets strict discharge requirements for and require specific water testing to be performed to ensure



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the clean and safe water. Also, just to kind of plug that website in again. The NPDESs permit can also be found on the joint base's website.

00:11:04:24 - 00:11:14:23

CMDR. KLEINMAN

So I do encourage anybody, that gives you the list of everything that we're testing for in the period to see required by Hawaii's public health. So this discharge water is being sampled and analyzed multiple times per day.

00:11:15:07 - 00:11:58:23

CMDR. KLEINMAN

And we're actually expecting the next couple of weeks we'll have real time analyzers to continuously monitor both the influent and effluent of the system. Much like the the system flushing, we're using granulated activated carbon systems, GAC systems, and that fact should, also be found on the website, can talk about how this this system can remove the organics from

the water, thus creating a filtered water on the other end, and I do want to add the previous question, I think we talked about the volume and water, sir, and 5 million gallons per day. The navy is also exploring alternative beneficial uses because the navy also doesn't want to be looked like, doesn't want to waste that water down to the Halawa stream. So we're looking at other utilization efforts so that we can find more productive uses.

00:11:58:23-

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, one final question. Is it correct that all the water supplying the navy water system currently and that's going into the flushing, though, is coming from, still from, the Waiawa shaft, which is tested and certified as good water?

00:12:16:08 - 00:12:18:20

CMDR. KLEINMAN

That is absolutely correct, sir.

00:12:18:20-

CAPT. GUENTHER

Ok, Rob, thank you for coming.



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00:12:20:12- 00:12:20:30

CMDR. KLEINMAN

Yes sir. Thank you.

00:12:27:07- 00:12:40:29

CAPT. GUENTHER

That was your daily water update for today. Please join us tomorrow, same time. We're monitoring your questions on Facebook and you can email those questions to [cnrhpa@gmail.com](mailto:cnrhpa@gmail.com)

00:12:40:29 - 00:12:57:15

CAPT. GUENTHER

Don't forget to check our water info website, which we referred to several times today for good information at [navy.mil/jointbasewater](http://navy.mil/jointbasewater), and be sure to check out the good stuff at [greatlifehawaii.com/wegotyou](http://greatlifehawaii.com/wegotyou).

00:12:58:00 - 00:13:07:23

CAPT. GUENTHER

Please remember we're all in this together as one community and ohana. Stay safe. Take care of yourself. Take care of each other and we'll see you next time.