

## Stop the Attack on Hawaii's Drinking Water

Stop the attacks on America's drinking water. 1 in 3 Americans' drinking water sources are at risk now. **The Administration has a strong, commonsense plan to make clean water a priority by protecting the sources that feed the drinking water for more than 117 million Americans, including thousands of Hawaiians.** If Congress blocks the proposal to protect clean water, at least 20 million acres of wetlands nationwide will continue to be at risk from pollution and destruction from development, oil and gas production, and other industrial activities. Stopping this proposal imperils drinking water sources, as well as the small businesses and communities that rely on clean water.

### Kapena Falls on Oahu, HI



Credit: Jennifer Boyer on [flickr](#)

- **Many Hawaiians** get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams currently vulnerable to pollution.
- **At least hundreds of miles of streams** that feed into Hawaii's drinking water sources are at risk. The Clean Water Rule would clarify protections for many of the stream miles in Hawaii's Source Water Protection Areas, including intermittent, ephemeral, and headwater streams.
- **Thousands of acres of wetlands** that provide flood protection, recharge groundwater supplies, filter pollution, and provide essential wildlife habitat are at risk.

## Rule Provides More Economic Benefits than Costs

- **This commonsense proposal restores, but does not expand, the historic coverage of the Clean Water Act.** EPA estimates that the proposed rule would provide **\$388 million to \$514 million annually in benefits** to the public, including reducing flooding, filtering pollution, providing wildlife habitat, supporting hunting and fishing, and recharging groundwater.
- **Protecting small streams and wetlands supports fish and wildlife and Hawaii's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, nearly \$1 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in Hawaii, including \$203 million on fishing, and close to half a million people participated in these recreational activities in Hawaii.
- **Hawaii's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** Hawaii breweries contribute almost \$120 million to our economy every year and support more than 1,500 jobs.

## Hawaii Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **Nearly 3,000 Hawaiians, out of more than 800,000 Americans, expressed support for the rule.**
- Hawaii joined 34 other states in 2006 to urge the Supreme Court to uphold strong federal clean water protections and in 2003 the Hawaii Department of Health submitted comments opposing Bush administration efforts to roll back protections for small streams and wetlands.

For more information, please visit [protectcleanwater.org](http://protectcleanwater.org).