# Development of a Source Identification Toolbox in Hawaii

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# Approved Bacteria Criteria in Hawaii's Water Quality Standards

#### **Enterococcus:**

#### **Marine Water**

Geometric mean: 35 cfu/100 mL

Single sample maximum: 104 cfu/100 mL

#### **Inland Water**

Geometric mean: 33 cfu/100 mL

Single sample maximum: 89 cfu/100 mL

# Additional Tracer Applied by Hawaii Department of Health

Clostridium perfringens:

**Action Level:** 

50 cfu/100 mL

Developed from existing data and in alignment with Fung/Fujioka Scale, where *C. perfringens* indicates:

Sewage when > 100 cfu/100 mL

Non-point source pollution between 10 and 100 cfu/100 mL

Uncontaminated water when < 10 cfu/100 mL

# Hawaii Department of Health Beach Monitoring Decision Rule

 Resample if Enterococcus GM > 35 cfu/ 100 mL or single sample > 104 cfu/100 mL

 Conduct sanitary survey if Enterococcus GM > 35 cfu/ 100 mL and Clostridium perfringens > 50 cfu/100 mL

 Implement Kualoa Protocol if sanitary survey indicates human source or source cannot be identified

## Response to High Bacteria Counts at Kualoa Beach Park

- Beach monitoring data showed spikes in bacteria counts at fixed sites
- Coastline surveyed at several sites up and down current of station with high counts
- Coastline mapping included a survey of DO, salinity, and temperature
- Followed by samples for pharmaceutical and wastewater indicator compounds
- Taken together, the results indicated wastewater input

# Pharmaceuticals and Wastewater Indicator Compounds Detected at Kualoa

Tested for more than 85 wastewater indicator compounds

#### Pharmaceuticals:

Cotinine (nicotine metabolite)

Carbamazepine (anticonvulsant)

Sulfamethoxazole (antibiotic)

Caffeine (stimulant)

#### Wastewater Indicator Compounds:

Cholesterol (sterol)

Phenol (disinfectant )

(3,4-dichlorophenyl isocyanate (plastic additive)

p-Cresol (wood preservative)

5-Methyl-1 H-benzotriazole (anti-corrosive )

Bisphenol and Triethyl citrate (plasticizers)

Triclosan (antimicrobial)

Tribromomethane (wastewater ozination byproduct)

## Hawaii Department of Health Kualoa Protocol

- A wastewater source tracking methodology
- Protocol and tools still under development
- Protocol will apply a tool kit for assessing sources of high bacteria counts
- Tools for determining bacteria sources will include:
  - Transect mapping of dissolved oxygen, salinity, and temperature readings to identify areas of change
  - Laboratory analysis of pharmaceutical and waste water compounds
  - Molecular fecal source tracking markers (under development with Ali Boehm)

#### Wading survey, initializing instrument & GPS



Photo: Joshua Marvit, Hawaii Dept. of Health



### Molecular Source Tracking

DOH working with Ali Boehm to detect new molecular fecal source tracking markers

- To eliminate humans as source of fecal contamination
- To determine the source of contamination by analyzing beach samples for markers of:
  - Humans
  - Pigs
  - Cows
  - Gulls

USGS study showing pharmaceuticals and wastewater compounds in water samples collected at two other sites in Hawaii:

http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2009/5253/