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Brown water advisories lifted on several beaches as coastal water conditions begin to improve on Kauai

LIHUE, HI – Since torrential rainfall and flooding hit Kauai more than ten days ago, the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) has been testing the safety of beaches along the island's coastlines. A brown water advisory had been in effect island wide since the rain event, with the exception of Keoniloa Bay to Sheraton Beach. As of this afternoon, there is no longer a brown water advisory in effect for the following beaches:

- MacArthur Park
- Hanapepe Salt Pond
- Poipu Beach Pavilion
- Kalapaki Beach
- Kealia Beach Park
- Anahola Bay Pavilion
- Hanalei Bay Pavilion
- Waioli Beach Park

Water is tested for enterococcus, which is an indicator of potentially unsafe bacteria in the water. The beaches above tested well below the single sample maximum (SSM) for enterococcus, which is 130 colony-forming units (cfu) per 100 milliliter (mL).

Beaches around the island will continue to be tested frequently as part of the ongoing response to damage caused by the severe flooding. DOH inspectors test beaches based on a visual examination: if the water is brown, no sample is collected since it will likely test positive for high bacteria counts, indicating it is unsafe for people to swim. If the water is clear, a sample is collected and tested to determine the safety of the water. As water quality continues to improve, it is expected that results will enable the removal of brown water advisories at the sampled beaches.

For the latest updates on brown water advisories, visit DOH's Clean Water Branch website at <https://eha-cloud.doh.hawaii.gov/cwb/#!/landing>. Here, the public can sign up for mobile alerts to get the most up-to-date information on brown water advisories around the state.

The public is advised to stay out of floodwaters and storm water runoff due to possible overflowing cesspools, sewer, manholes, pesticides, animal fecal matter, dead animals, pathogens, chemicals, and associated flood debris. Children should not be allowed to play in floodwater areas. If you must enter brown water along coastlines or in areas where water has

pooled due to flooding, take precautions to cover any open wounds or injuries, and be sure to wash and rinse thoroughly with soap and clean water afterwards.

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