



11 August 2003

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Hurricane Evacuation Study - Islands Mass Management Tool, Island of Hawaii

1. Purpose: To provide information on the subject project.
2. Points of Major Interest and Facts.

a. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is authorized to conduct hurricane preparedness studies under the Flood Plain Management Services Program, established by Section 206 of the Flood Control Act of 1960, as amended. These studies, collectively referred to Hurricane Evacuation Studies (HES), through fiscal year 2001 were comprised of a series of technical data reports intended to provide local emergency managers state-of-the-art information to assist in hurricane preparedness and decision making.

b. New technical guidelines for conducting hurricane evacuation studies for island communities were developed as a result of recommendations made by an HES Islands Task Force Report (January 2002). In fiscal year 2002, the new study process used existing data from multiple sources (behavioral surveys, evacuation statistics, sheltering information, etc.) to produce an interactive computer spreadsheet program which allows island emergency managers to manipulate various data sets to produce scenarios for Mass Management Tool (MMT) of their island populations. Currently the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers intends to meet with Mr. Troy Kindred, County of Hawaii, Civil Defense, to go over the MMT and how it can be customized to meet Hawaii County's needs in October 2003.

c. Future plans call for refinement of the MMT as mapping, hazards, cultural/behavioral and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) databases become available.

3. Congressional Interest. The Congressional delegation is interested in the results of the study, since the recommendations could be significant for disaster preparedness and response actions.