



31 October 2003

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Hanalei River, Kauai, Hawaii

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

a. The Hanalei River was designated as one of 14 Heritage Rivers by former President Clinton on 30 July 1998. The goals of the American Heritage Rivers Initiative (AHRI) are economic revitalization, environmental protection, cultural and historic preservation, and reinventing government to provide more efficient and effective services to the public. A Joint Statement of Recommittment to the American heritage Rivers Initiative was jointly signed by representatives of 10 federal agencies on 9 September 1999, including the Assistant Secretary of the Army for the Civil Works. The lead local federal agency for Hanalei is the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is a member of the team.

b. Hanalei River is located on the northern side of the island of Kauai. Hanalei River, with a total length of about 14.5 miles, rises near Mount Waialeale at elevation 5,050 feet above mean sea level and flows northerly down a central valley to empty into the Pacific Ocean through Hanalei Bay.

c. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) under the AHRI between the community of Hanalei, the University of Hawaii, and several Federal agencies, including USACE was executed on 14 March 2000 and expired on 30 September 2002. The MOU provided the basis for Federal advice and communication to the community regarding any aspect related to the preservation and protection of the river environment. The USACE Honolulu District attended a partner's meeting that was held on 15 May 2003 in Hanalei during the American Heritage Rivers Initiative annual conference. The Hanalei Heritage River Program expressed their desire to renew the MOU with its federal partners and expand the partnership to include other federal, state and private stakeholders. Funds have not been provided to USACE.

3. Congressional Interest. The Congressional delegation is interested in maintaining joint Federal action to assist the community.