



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**



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Hawaii Governor Praises Corps' Dam Inspection Efforts

By Sarah H. Cox, Honolulu District Public Affairs

(HONOLULU – NR-14-06) Before a group of more than 1,500 Federal employees at the recent 50th Annual Federal Executive Board (FEB) Awards ceremony, Hawaii Gov. Linda Lingle praised the recent state dam inspections efforts by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Lingle stressed the importance of government agencies working together to make a difference and stated how proud she was of the partnership between the State of Hawaii and Corps.

The Corps accomplished in two weeks, what would have taken the State years to accomplish alone, according to Lingle. She added that she was pleased the Corps drew upon local assets and when needed brought in expertise from around the nation.

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2-2-2 CORPS FEB

Lingle's comments referred to the state-wide dam inspections conducted in April after Kauai's Kaloko reservoir dam breached March 14. The breach caused an estimated 400 million gallons of water to speed down-slope resulting in devastating flood damage to homes, a major road and the confirmed deaths of four people.

Immediately following the Kaloko disaster, Honolulu Engineer District provided geological reconnaissance and technical assistance to Kauai County, State of Hawaii Department of Natural Resources (DLNR) and State of Hawaii Civil Defense.

As the barrage of soaking rainstorms continued on the Hawaiian Islands, Lingle ordered the inspections of all reservoirs and dams in Hawaii.

Lingle singled-out the Corps partnership with the State while recognizing the contributions of all federal workers and active-duty military.

"It's your contributions to our Soldiers, the State and our Nation, your commitment to excellence that we are here to honor today," said Gov. Lingle.

In response, six geotechnical USACE engineers from the Mainland arrived to assist DLNR with "visual condition survey" inspections of 54 state dams on the islands of Hawaii, Maui, Molokai and Oahu. All 54 inspections were accomplished by April 30.

At the FEB ceremony Gov. Lingle, along with City and County of Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann and State of Hawaii Lt. Gov. Duke Aiona, Jr., recognized outstanding Federal employees and organizations.

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3-3-3 CORPS FEB

Honolulu District employees honored by the FEB were:

- Louis Muzzarini, Jr., Chief, Construction Branch, Federal Supervisor of the Year
- Justin Pummell, Geographer, Technical Integration Group, Federal Technical Professional of the Year
- Misty Payne, Administrative Assistant, Design Branch, Federal Administrative Professional of the Year
- Steven Pahala, Maintenance Worker, Logistics Management Office, Federal Trades and Crafts Professional of the Year
- Clayton Sorayama, Electrical Engineer, Technical Support Branch, exceptional Community Service
- The C-17 North Sector Project Delivery Team, Federal Organizational Excellence

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