



18 May 2004

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Ma'alaea Harbor, Maui, Hawaii

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

a. The Ma'alaea Harbor project is in the Preconstruction, Engineering, and Design (PED) phase. The completion of the design is contingent on the acceptance of the third Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) and requires the preparation of a Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR) scheduled for completion in FY04. Although approximately \$2,300,000 in construction funds that were appropriated in FY03, most of the funding will be revoked or reprogrammed pending completion of the decision document.

b. Ma'alaea Harbor is situated on the southwest coast of Maui, Hawaii. The harbor was first developed by the Territory of Hawaii in 1952 and later modified by the Territory and State of Hawaii in 1955, 1959, and 1979. By Section 101 of the River and Harbor Act of 1968, Congress approved a Federal plan for navigational improvements at the harbor. However, due to the community and environmental groups concerns for the destruction of the "Ma'alaea Pipeline" surf break, impacts to coral resources and humpback whales, construction of the project was delayed. Currently, these concerns are being addressed by the studying of project effects on environmental and recreational resources, and reconfiguration of the project features.

c. Navigational improvements include realignment of the entrance channel and breakwater modifications/extensions to attenuate surge within the harbor thus eliminating damage to vessels. These improvements will also allow the local sponsor, State of Hawaii, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation to safely develop the interior of the harbor basin and increase the berthing capacity from 93 vessels to an estimated 220 vessels.

d. The feasibility study was completed in 1967. The PED phase was initiated in 1979. Initial construction funds were provided by Congressional add in fiscal year 1990. A General Design Memorandum and SEIS were completed in 1982. A second draft SEIS was prepared and circulated in 1998. The final SEIS is expected to be issued in May 2005. Current activities of the PED phase include defining mitigation requirements, refining cost estimates of project features, and preparing documentation. A physical model study was completed and demonstrated that there is no project effect on the "Ma'alaea Pipeline." The project is scheduled for construction award in FY06. The current total project cost is estimated at more than \$16,000,000 (\$14,400,000 Federal; \$1,600,000 non-Federal).

3. Congressional Interest. Senator Daniel Akaka originally secured project funds. Other members of the Hawaii Congressional delegation are also interested in this project.