



31 October 2003

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Waimea River Flood Control, Kauai, Hawaii

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

a. The Waimea River Flood Control project last inspected in August 2002 and the project's condition rating is currently listed as "unacceptable." The project was placed in inactive status and is presently ineligible for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Federal assistance under Public Law 84-99 should the project experience damage due to an adverse flood event.

b. The Waimea River is located on the southwest coast of Kauai. The original levee was constructed in the County of Kauai in 1951. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project was authorized in May 1983 under Section 205 of the Flood Control Act of 1948, as amended. The local sponsor is the County of Kauai, Department of Public Works (DPW).

c. The existing project consists of cement-rubble-masonry floodwalls totaling 3,320 linear feet, levee totaling 1,030 linear feet toward the mouth of the river, rock protection along 4,600 feet of the toe of the levee, road raising of a 500-foot section at the upstream end of the project, and new floodgates. Funded in the fiscal year 1983 Jobs Bill, the project was completed in December 1984 at a cost of \$3,272,000 (Federal: \$3,212,400; non-Federal \$60,000). The County of Kauai DPW operates and maintains the project.

d. Since the completion of the Federal project in December 1984, Kauai DPW began monitoring the rate of sediment deposition at the project. Sediment surveys indicate that, during a 10-year period between 1979 and 1989, sediments were being deposited at a rate of 5,000 cubic yards per year. Although major storm events will wash some sediments out of the project, an accretion of sediments has developed into a point bar below the Waimea River and Makaweli River confluence. The Kauai DPW has made several attempts over the years to remove this accumulation of sediments from within the project; however, limited funding has constrained their overall efforts to remove sediments and maintain the project.

3. Congressional Interest. There is minimal Congressional interest in this project, at this time.