



18 May 2004

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Hawaii Water Management, Various Hawaii, Hawaii

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

a. The Congressional delegation has long recognized the importance of agriculture in the State of Hawaii and the need to maintain its agricultural water systems prior to and since the demise of the sugar industry. Appropriations were secured in each of fiscal years 2001 to 2004 for both investigations and construction of irrigation improvements. The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works has not approved the Honolulu District to start construction work as of this date, pending an evaluation of the proposed work.

b. The Hawaii Water Management project provides the scope and ultimately engineering and construction for irrigation improvements. Approximately \$100,000 of the FY01 General Investigation (GI) funds was used to prepare a reconnaissance-level report that defines the scope of the entire repair and rehabilitation program. The report completed in April 2002, described the Federal interest, costs, benefits and environmental issues. Any remaining funds will be used to prepare and execute a design agreement. The design agreement will be completed in FY04. In FY04, \$750,000 was appropriated to continue construction.

c. The FY01 Construction General (CG) funds (\$2,000,000) will be used to design and construct improvements to irrigation systems in the State of Hawaii, contingent upon the execution of the Design Agreement. The local sponsor, State of Hawaii, Department of Agriculture, has expressed interest in sponsoring improvements to the water storage facilities at Waiahole and Kekaha (west Kauai). The District is assessing the appropriate construction cost and design requirements. The design and construction will be cost shared, 65% Federal and 35% non-Federal.

d. The Hawaii Water Management project was identified by the Office of Management and Budget in February 2004 for project cancellation and rescission of funds, based on the project not meeting Administration policies. Irrigation improvements are not considered high priorities. The current funds from Fiscal Year 2001 remains substantially unobligated. The District has scheduled execution of the Design Agreement by July 2004, enabling acceptance of State funds and the award of a proposed A-E design contract, September 2004.

3. Congressional Interest. The local sponsor in the State of Hawaii, Department of Agriculture, and Senator Daniel Inouye strongly supports this project through activities in obtaining Congressional funding. Senator Daniel Akaka also supports this effort to sustain the agricultural industry.