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CORPS, STATE OPEN KAHULUI SMALL BOAT HARBOR TO PUBLIC

By Joseph Bonfiglio, Honolulu District Public Affairs

(FT. SHAFTER, HI - NR-18-06) Honolulu Engineer District Commander Lt. Col.

David E. Anderson joined Hawaii Gov. Linda Lingle and officials from the Hawaii

Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and Maui County on June 10 for the

Kahului Small Boat Harbor ribbon cutting ceremony.

"After years of planning, design and permitting, construction is over - mission complete," Anderson said. "We're proud to be part of the Ohana here in Hawaii and we're especially proud of our teamwork with the state and county, our construction contractor and local fishermen and boaters."

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The project was a cost share between the Corps and DLNR. The construction contract was awarded to Healy Tibbitts Builders, Inc. on Sept. 24, 2004 for \$2,302,000 with the State option awarded in January 2005 in the amount of \$960,000.

The \$3.262 million project widened the entrance channel width to 50 feet and deepened it to 9.5 feet, dredging a 100-foot by 120-foot and 8.5-foot deep turning basin. In addition the project demolished the old 14-foot wide boat ramp and loading dock, constructed three, 15-foot wide launch ramps and a loading dock located at the man-made peninsula at the northwest corner of Kahului Harbor. The new loading dock includes a handicapped-accessible walkway.

"This long-awaited project to make a larger, and safer, Kahului Boat Ramp facility would not have been possible without the partnership between the Army Corps of Engineers, DLNR, and with the support of the Maui Trailer Boat Club, Maui's recreational fishermen and the community," said DLNR Chairman Peter Young.

"We congratulate the Army Corps of Engineers for their dedication to getting this project completed and to Healy Tibbitts Builders. We also thank Mayor Arakawa and the county for their help," Young said.

Gov. Lingle presided over the event and praised the Corps' work on the harbor and its general support to the State of Hawaii. She especially complemented the Corp's recent visual inspections of dams throughout the state following devastating rains earlier this year.

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"The partnership between the Corps and the state for this project demonstrates our mutual commitment for the betterment of the people of Hawaii," Anderson said. "I am confident that we will continue to work together to plan and build many more beneficial projects in Hawaii."

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