



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Honolulu District



The
Pacific
Connection

BUILDING STRONG®

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Resident Engineer Paul Sadowski and Capt. Jerrauld Ma stand by the newly-planted U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Kwajalein Resident Office (KRO) sign on the island of Kwajalein in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The KRO will be critical in the District's efforts to support the Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) and U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA). Courtesy Photo

Honolulu

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On The Cover

Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary (back right) receives the unit colors from former Pacific Ocean Division Commander Maj. Gen. Richard L. Stevens, becoming the 69th Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary District Commander



"The best place where the best people serve, singularly focused on executing quality projects...relevant, ready, responsive and reliable and having fun!"



Aloha and Mahalo to the Honolulu District Ohana!

It's been just over three months since I took command of the Honolulu District and I would like to start by saying how thrilled my wife Maria and I are with the Aloha we've received from the District Ohana. I'm truly honored to be the 69th Commander of this great command and am ready to lead us into our future years of excellence.

My first impressions of the District Ohana and workforce are that everyone has a sincere dedication to excellence. Since taking command, I've met many team members, visited vital projects and learned how our District supports our partners in the Pacific. Your enthusiasm and personal pride in completing everyday tasks is readily apparent.

To our stakeholders, I say to you that the Honolulu District stands ready to assist you with all the capabilities we have to offer. I look forward to serving with you. Do not hesitate to contact us.

Since taking the guidon, the District's operational tempo has been anything but slow as you will see in the following pages. In July, we hosted the Chief of Engineers, Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, as he visited our Mission Control Facility project site and hosted the Pacific Ocean Division Change of Command ceremony.

In August, the District was confronted with the very real dangers of two back-to-back Hurricanes Iselle and Julio. After Iselle brushed the island of Hawaii we fielded multiple assets to assist the U.S. Coast Guard, Hawaii State Civil Defense, FEMA, and other federal, state, and local agencies. Working with our local and federal partners, we jointly conducted an underwater survey in Hilo Harbor Aug. 8, and ensured there were no channel obstructions. Based on the successful results of this survey, the Coast Guard reopened Hilo Harbor the same day allowing vessel traffic to safely resume and provide essential commodities. In addition, the District, teaming with the 249th Engineer Battalion - Prime Power, worked with state and federal officials to assist their efforts in restoring power in affected areas.

In early September, several senior District personnel and I attended the 32nd U.S. Coral Reef Task Force meetings on Maui where we were able to engage the Honorable Ms. Jo Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works about our West Maui Watershed Partnership Agreement with State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources and the "Ridge to Reef" initiative. This agreement is one of the first efforts in the state to create a comprehensive management strategy to address impacts to coral reefs across multiple watersheds. During the Coral Reef Task Force week our Corps of Engineers team members also were engaged in a number of working groups to discuss regulatory, conservation, and watershed management activities. This venue also provided an excellent opportunity to meet with a number of our key state and regional stakeholders.

Fiscal Year 2014 came to a close Sept. 30 with the District completing 569 contract actions totaling more than \$315 million. More than 54% of these contracts were awarded to Small Business, exceeding the USACE goal of 43.3%. I'm extremely proud of the extraordinary effort, pride, and professionalism each of you has demonstrated over the last several months to attain the aforementioned numbers.

The Ohana also held a successful National Public Lands Day event at the Pacific Regional Visitor Center in late September while the District's Special Emphasis Program Committee hosted a rousing Hispanic Heritage Month event.

None of the events, achievements and goals mentioned above just happen. They happen because a team of caring, professional individuals work together to achieve one goal - success. This success belongs to the District and our partners - you all earned it. I ask you to continue to execute and deliver quality projects and services for all our supported commands and customers so that you continue to make the Honolulu District "the best place where the best people serve."

Once again Mahalo nui loa for the warm welcome to the District Ohana from Maria and me as we look forward to serving with all of you.

Please keep our deployed Civilian Candace Lotomau in your thoughts and prayers.
Be safe in all that you do, especially as we approach the 2014 Holiday Season.

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Soldiers from the 249th Engineer Battalion - Prime Power, Alpha Company, 249th Mission Command Node, monitor emergency response operations from their workstations inside the Honolulu District Emergency Operations Center at Fort Shafter. (Left to right): Master Sgt. Jamie Cosey, Staff Sgt. Shawn Truesdell, and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Springette Ulston. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

District Partners with USCG, FEMA, Hawaii

Story by
Joseph Bonfiglio
 Chief, Public Affairs

In response to Hurricane Iselle, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District fielded multiple assets to assist the U.S. Coast Guard, Hawaii State Civil Defense, FEMA, and other federal, state, and local agencies.

The Honolulu District, working with our local and federal partners, jointly conducted an underwater survey in Hilo Harbor Aug. 8, and ensured there were no channel obstructions.

Based on the successful results of this survey, the Coast Guard reopened Hilo Harbor the same day allowing vessel traffic to safely resume.

In addition, the District, teaming with the 249th Engineer Battalion - Prime Power, also worked with state and federal officials to assist their efforts in restoring power in affected areas.

These actions were taken in response to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 9's request for emergency power subject matter experts to support operational planning efforts to provide emergency power.

A few days before Hurricane Iselle hit, the Honolulu District activated its Emergency Management Teams, including the Emergency Operations Center, the Power Planning and Response Team, the Channel and Harbor Response Team, the Crisis Action Team, the Crisis Management Team, its Liaison Officers, and its Subject Matter Expert for Emergency Power.

The Honolulu District maintains one of the Corps' eight power teams, ready to deploy as part of the Corps' Emergency Support Function (ESF) #3, public works, and engineering-related support.

The all-volunteer teams can provide backup electrical power generation anywhere an emergency makes the service needed. Team members agree to be in an on-call status, ready to deploy on short-notice when disaster strikes. Power team members directly support FEMA emergency management staging areas and operations centers.

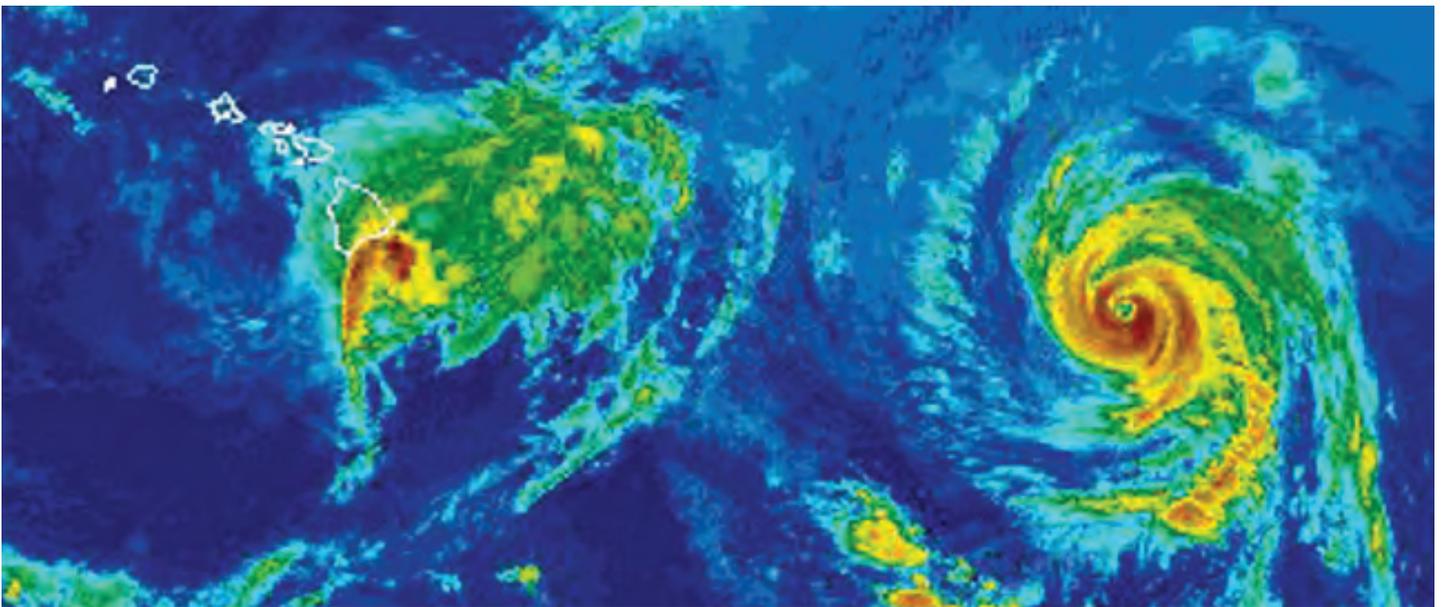
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is prepared and ready to respond to natural and man-made disasters. When disasters occur, it is not just a local Corps district or office that responds. Personnel and other resources are mobilized across the country to carry out response missions.

The Honolulu District is part of the federal government's unified national response to disasters and emergencies, and is the designated lead for ESF #3, public works and engineering-related support in the Pacific Ocean area of responsibility. The Corps conducts its emergency response activities under two basic authorities – the Flood Control and Coastal Emergency Act, and when missions are assigned by FEMA, under the Stafford Disaster and Emergency Assistance Act.

In any disaster, the Corps' top priorities are 1) support immediate emergency response priorities; 2) sustain lives with critical commodities, temporary emergency power and other needs; and 3) initiate recovery efforts by assessing and restoring critical infrastructure. FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.



Honolulu District's subject matter expert for emergency power Donald Schlack talks with emergency response officials at his workstation in the Honolulu District Emergency Operations Center. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio



Civil Defense in Response to Hurricane Iselle



(Top photo) A false-color satellite image produced by NOAA shows Hurricane Iselle making landfall on the east side of the island of Hawaii and Hurricane Julio trailing just to the east. NOAA Image (Above center left) Civil Works Technical Branch Chief Mike Wong checks a computer-generated survey map while conducting the post-Hurricane Iselle Hilo Harbor survey. Courtesy photo (Above center) The Honolulu District, working with local and federal partners, jointly conducted an underwater survey in Hilo Harbor on Aug. 8 using a torpedo-shaped radar device (above right) and ensured there were no channel obstructions. Based on the successful results of this survey, the Coast Guard reopened Hilo Harbor the same day allowing vessel traffic to safely resume. The District, teaming with the 249th Engineer Battalion - Prime Power, also worked with state and federal officials to assist their efforts in restoring power in affected areas. Photos by Mike Wong (Left photo) Honolulu District's Emergency Management Branch Chief Stan Keolanui (right) talks with Levee Safety Program Manager Lincoln Gayagas about potential weather scenarios inside the Honolulu District Emergency Operations Center at Fort Shafter Aug. 8. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

District, Division Officials Attend Coral Reef Task Force Meetings

Story by
Honolulu District Public Affairs

In early September, the Honorable Ms. Jo Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Pacific Ocean Division Commander Col. Jeff Milhorn, Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Crary, and other Corps team members attended the 32nd U.S. Coral Reef Task Force meetings on Maui.

The Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources was the host for the 32nd United States Coral Reef Task Force meetings, where participants also presented the latest progress in an effort to protect, restore and sustainability use coral reef ecosystems.

Throughout the week Corps of Engineers team members engaged in a number of working groups to discuss regulatory, conservation, and watershed management activities. This venue also provided an excellent opportunity to meet with a number of our key state and regional stakeholders.

Several themed workshops, smaller issue-specific meetings, site visits and opportunities for the public to engage with participants and learn more about their efforts.

Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources Chairman William J. Aila Jr., a task force member, said Kaanapali, Maui was chosen as the meeting location for its national and local significance.

The Hawaii Coral Reef Strategy identified the coral reef ecosystem along the West Maui region as a priority management area. The U.S. Coral Reef Task Force designated the West Maui Watershed Plan as the priority partnership in the Pacific in 2011. The goal in the area is to improve the overall health of coral reefs, nearshore waters and watersheds, from the summit of Pu'u Kukui to the outer reef, incorporating holistic resource management at the watershed or ahupua'a level. This goal is being addressed through actions from 10 partnership programs.

Participants at the meetings discussed key national issues, proposed new actions, and presented the latest progress in the effort to protect, restore, and sustainably use coral reef ecosystems.

The week-long event also afforded District officials an opportunity to provide an overview of Honolulu District civil works projects on Maui and in the Hawaiian Islands to Col. Milhorn and engage Darcy on civil works issues during a West Maui Watershed site visit.

Although civil works projects make up approximately 17% of the District workload, they are incredibly important to the civilian population.

In 2009, Hawaii established the Kahekili Herbivore Fisheries Management Area to legally protect herbivores and promote coral reef recovery.

In 2011, the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force designated West Maui as a priority watershed partnership incorporating holistic resource management at the ahupua'a or watershed level.

In 2012, a comprehensive effort known as the West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative that includes participation by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, was formalized and resulted in several on-the-ground efforts. These included planting rain gardens, reducing erosion, limiting landscaping impacts and engaging the community in actions to improve ocean health.



The Honorable Ms. Jo Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (center), joined Honolulu District Civil Works Branch Chief Derek Chow (left), Pacific Ocean Division Commander Col. Jeff Milhorn (fourth from left), Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Crary (third from right), Senior Executive Gene Ban Director, Programs Directorate Pacific Ocean Division (second from left), Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management Tony Paresa (second from right) and Biologist Cindy Barger, Pacific Ocean Division (right) for a site visit to the West Maui Watershed during the week of the 32nd U.S. Coral Reef Task Force meetings on Maui. Courtesy Photo

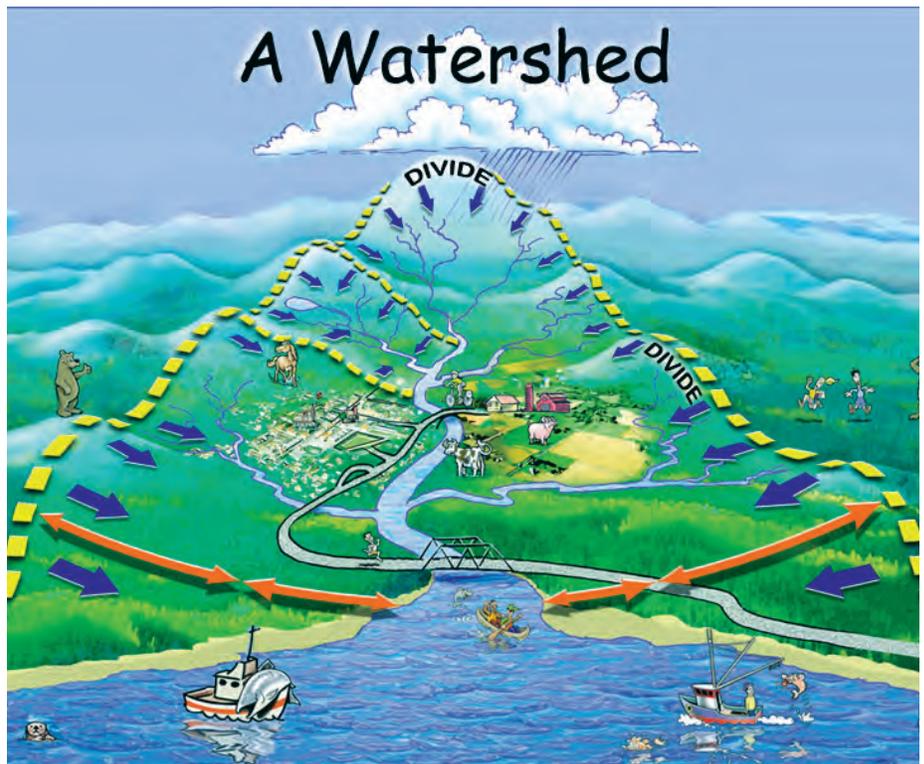
About the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force

The United States is one of many nations around the world working to halt the coral reef crisis and protect, restore, and sustainably use coral reef ecosystems. The United States Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) was established in 1998 by Presidential Executive Order 13089 to lead U.S. efforts to preserve and protect coral reef ecosystems. The USCRTF has been instrumental in building partnerships and strategies for on-the-ground action to conserve coral reefs. The USCRTF works in cooperation with State, territorial, commonwealth, and local government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, the scientific community, and commercial interests to further the understanding and conservation of coral reef ecosystems.

The USCRTF is responsible for overseeing implementation of the Executive Order, and developing and implementing coordinated efforts to map and monitor U.S. coral reefs; research the causes of, and solutions to coral reef decline; reduce and mitigate coral reef degradation from pollution, over fishing and other causes; and implement strategies to promote conservation and sustainable use of coral reefs internationally.

Healthy coral reefs are among the most biologically diverse and economically valuable ecosystems on earth. The USCRTF recognizes the urgent need for action to address the state of coral reef management and science, and to reduce threats to coral reef ecosystem condition to make reefs more resilient in the face of climate change. Science has demonstrated that reef communities can recover when they are protected and stressors removed. Precious time for coral reef ecosystems can be secured through increased protection from land and marine pollution, unsustainable fishing, development, and other stressors, all of which we know can damage coral condition. It is clear that the USCRTF, with partners, must significantly increase our collective effort to address the factors over which we can exercise control.

USCRTF members meet biannually to discuss key issues, propose new actions, present progress reports, and update the coral community on past accomplishments and future plans. In addition, the USCRTF Steering Committee - made up of representatives from each of the participating Federal agencies, states, and territories - meets monthly to discuss progress on current USCRTF initiatives and plan new areas for collaboration.



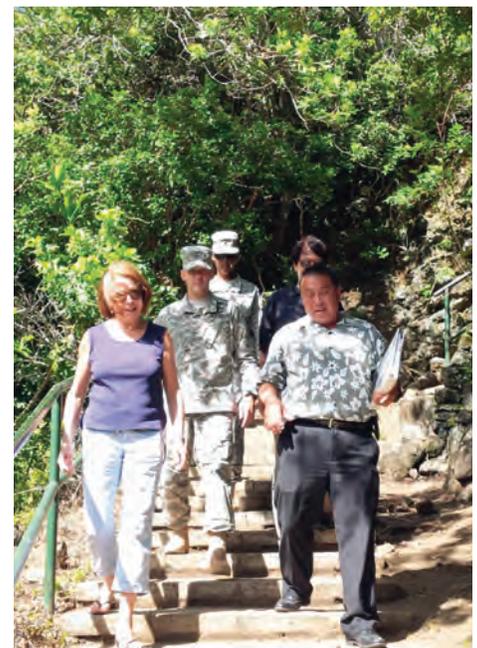
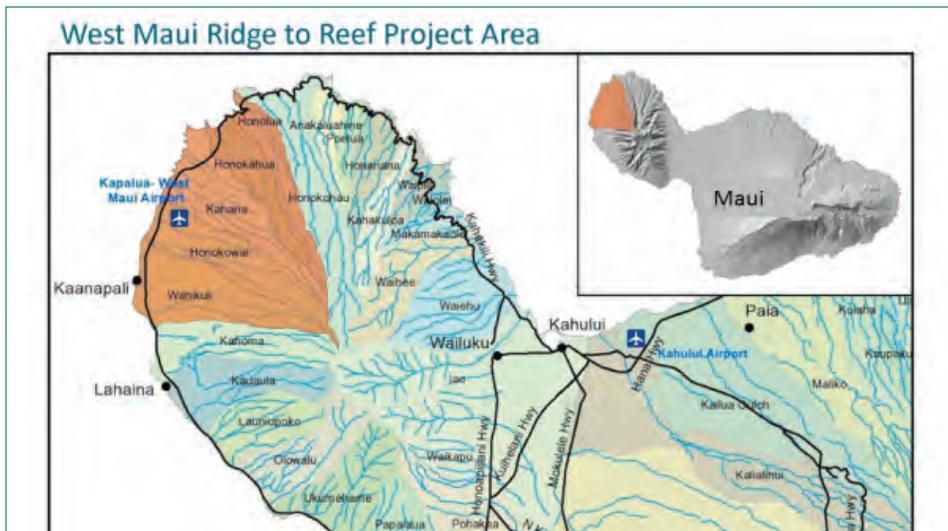
What is the West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative?

The West Maui Ridge to Reef (R2R) Initiative is an all-encompassing approach across multiple agencies and organizations to address adverse impacts to coral reefs in West Maui. The State of Hawaii recognized that an integrated and comprehensive approach to reduce land-based sources of pollution is one of the most important steps to help restore coral reef ecosystems. The R2R Initiative builds on already established efforts underway and leverages resources across a number of agencies and community groups to implement actions to reduce one of the key sources of reef decline – land-based sources of pollution.



The U.S. Coral Reef Task Force designated the West Maui Watershed as a priority partnership in the Pacific in 2011, focusing on Wahikuli and Honokowai watersheds. The full R2R project area includes 24,000 acres from Kaanapali northward to Honolulu and from the summit of Pu'u Kukui to the outer reef.

The R2R Objective is to restore and enhance the health and resiliency of West Maui coral reefs and near-shore waters through the reduction of land-based pollution threats from the summit of Pu'u Kukui to the outer reef. These efforts will be guided by the values and traditions of West Maui.



(Right photo) Honolulu District Civil Works Branch Chief Derek Chow (front right) briefs ASACW Ms. Jo Ellen Darcy (left front), Senior Executive Gene Ban, Director, Programs Directorate Pacific Ocean Division (second row right), and Pacific Ocean Division Commander Col. Jeff Milhorn enroute to a site visit within the West Maui Watershed. Courtesy Photo

Lt. Col. Christopher Crary Becomes

Story by
Honolulu District Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary became the 69th commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District in a military ceremony held July 17 on Fort Shafter, Hawaii's Palm Circle parade field.

Former U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division Commander Maj. Gen. Richard L. Stevens hosted the ceremony during which outgoing commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery and incoming commander Lt. Col. Crary passed the ceremonial flag symbolizing the official change of command. During the ceremony, Crary and his family were presented with fresh flower leis, a Hawaiian symbol of welcome, with the Asbery family also receiving leis as a tribute to their service.

For his outstanding work and contributions to the Honolulu District, Asbery received the Meritorious Service Medal. Asbery leaves to become the Pacific Ocean Division Deputy Commander.

During his tenure, Asbery met the challenge of successfully leading the District in executing all mission requirements: military construction (MILCON), civil works, international and interagency services, real estate, regulatory, environmental services and emergency management support. For fiscal years 2012 and 2013, the District's contracting team awarded more than \$512.4 million in contracts in Hawaii and the Pacific Region.

Honolulu District is responsible for major military design and construction, civil works, international and interagency support, real estate services for the Army and Air Force, regulatory work, environmental services and emergency management. The District's current active program is valued at about \$2 billion. Asbery led a highly motivated staff in support of U.S. Army military construction, transformation and Army initiatives on Hawaii Army posts that included the renovation of several historic quadrangles (Quads) on Schofield Barracks. U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, Corps of Engineers and several contractors also joined forces under Asbery's tenure to start and finish construction of two state-of-the-art LEED-certified energy-efficient barracks at Schofield Barracks. A third barracks at Helemano Military Reservation is slated to be completed in mid-2014.

During his tour, Honolulu District along with the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl and the American Battle Monuments Commission, dedicated two new pavilions at the Honolulu Memorial. The District also celebrated the grand opening of the \$11.4 million state-of-the-art learning center at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies at Fort DeRussy.

Under Asbery's leadership, the District also began construction of a new Warrior in Transition barracks and complex at Schofield Barracks, a Child Development Center at Fort Shafter, phase one of the new Combat Aviation



Lt. Col. Christopher W. Crary (back right) receives the unit colors from former Pacific Ocean Division Commander Maj. Gen. Richard L. Stevens, becoming the 69th Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District. Looking on are outgoing District Commander Lt. Col. Thomas D. Asbery (front left) and Honolulu District Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management Tony Paresa. Stevens presided over the ceremony on the Palm Circle Parade Field at Fort Shafter. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

Brigade complex at Wheeler Army Airfield, and the first phase of six planned phases for the future headquarters of the U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) Mission Control Facility at Fort Shafter. Ground breaking for the USARPAC facility was held in April 2012.

During his tenure, the District also continued military construction support for the Air Force at Hickam Airfield, including construction in support of Hickam's F-22 aircraft program.

Honolulu District provided significant civil works support to the State of Hawaii during Asbery's tour, including the signing of a \$3 million cost-share agreement between the state of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and the Corps to develop a watershed plan to support the West Maui "Ridge to Reef" Initiative. The initiative is one of the first efforts in the state to implement a comprehensive management strategy to address impacts to coral reefs across multiple watersheds.

69th Honolulu District Commander



In addition, Lt. Col. Asbery, in support of USACE Headquarters Emergency Management disaster requirements, initiated the deployment of 15 District personnel for emergency management support recovery efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy in the Northeast U.S. during the winter months of 2012-2013.

Asbery was also the proponent for the establishment of a hands-on engineer officer professional development experience with the Corps for junior officers, development of a working relationship with two Wounded Warrior units: the Warrior Transition Battalion based at Schofield Barracks and the Marine Wounded Warrior Detachment based at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe. The District supports the Wounded Warrior programs by allowing service members to gain valuable work experience as volunteers as they transition back into either the military or civilian life.

Asbery was also the proponent in the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement between Honolulu District and the government of American Samoa to formalize a partnership for the Corps to sponsor science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) activities in American Samoa schools.

Throughout his tour the District was also highly involved in State and local MATH-COUNTS competitions, participation in STEM outreach events such as the University of Ha-

waii-Manoa College of Engineering Career fairs, the annual Engineer Week, the Hawaii Science Olympiad, as well as many District personnel speaking at local schools.

In January 2013, the District welcomed home the 565th Engineer Detachment Forward Engineer Support Team-Advance (FEST-A) from their high visibility and successful deployment in support of Overseas Contingency Operations in Afghanistan.

Crary will command an organization of about 300 engineers, scientists and support staff serving the Pacific Region, including Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Kwajalein.

Crary most recently served as the Deputy Corps Engineer for the 130th Engineer Brigade, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii while the brigade was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He also served as the Deputy Commander of the Corps' San Francisco District. He served two years with the 4th Engineer Battalion, Fort Carson, Colo. as the Battalion Operations Officer and Battalion Executive Officer. Lt. Col. Crary was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 1997 after earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He earned a Master of Science in Engineering Management from the University of Missouri-Rolla in 2002.



Photos by Dino W. Buchanan

Cadet District Engineer Program Offers Hands-On USACE Experience

Story by
Joseph Bonfiglio
Chief, Public Affairs



Cadet Matt S. Borland (right) and Honolulu District Construction Control Representative Joseph Tribbey discuss the features of the Quad B Renovation Project on Schofield Barracks. Borland, an ROTC Cadet with the University of Michigan, came to the Honolulu District for the Cadet District Engineer Program. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

The Honolulu District hosted two U.S. Army cadets as part of the Cadet District Engineer Program (CDEP). This program allows West Point and ROTC Cadets an opportunity to gain first-hand construction and engineering experience with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

CDEP Cadets are generally assigned for several weeks of training at USACE Districts to work on civil, mechanical, electrical, or environmental engineering projects. The program exposes them to USACE missions and helps them explore potential active duty opportunities within the U.S. Army Engineer Branch profession.

“This program has helped me understand the Corps a lot better,” said Cadet Kyle Underwood, who is studying civil engineering at West Point. “I thought the Corps did the construction, but they’re actually the project managers who ensure the quality of work is very high, that appropriate safety measures are taken, and that any issues or changes with the project can be addressed properly in a timely manner.”

According to Underwood, he enjoyed working on the projects assigned to him, starting with the Central Vehicle Wash Facility which is basically an enormous car wash which serves to efficiently recycle and conserve water while preventing runoff from damaging the environment.

“I studied environmental engineering so this is a great practical application of what I learned in the classroom,” said Underwood. “I also enjoyed working on the Warriors in Transition Barracks which is for Soldiers who were injured in Iraq and Afghanistan. It gives them a special unit where they can have an Army job while transitioning back to the civilian world.

It’s good to see that the Army is taking care of our returning Soldiers who have given so much in the service of our country.”

In addition, Underwood worked on the Quad D Renovation Project. The Schofield Barracks Quads were built back in the 1920s and the Corps is painstakingly ensuring that the renovation work is historically correct and reflects the barracks as they were originally built.

“When this project is complete, Soldiers will have an improved quality of life because of the upgraded facilities,” said Underwood.

Underwood spoke highly of the USACE Quality Assurance Representatives (QARs) and the field engineers who mentored him.

“It was great working with the Quality Assurance Reps, and others. They were all very helpful and explained every aspect of the work to me,” said Underwood. “They took the time to teach me and make sure that I understood the process. I would favorably consider a future assignment with the Corps, and I highly recommend the program to my fellow Cadets.”

Cadet Matt S. Borland of the University of Michigan also praised the program.

“I found out about the CDEP from someone in my ROTC program who was in it last year. He told me it was a great experience to see how engineering works in the Army, and he recommended that all engineer Cadets apply,” said Borland.

“Before coming into this program I knew what the Corps was, but I did not know how it actually operated. During our first week, the District Deputy Commander Maj. Brennan Wallace made sure we met with a broad cross section of people representing every department (Project Managers, Contracting, etc.) in order to show us how the Corps works,” said Borland.

“We were then sent out to different project sites to experience firsthand how a several thousand page contract is actually executed by the contractor. I attended meetings with the Corps team and the contractors to see how everything is coordinated.”

While in Hawaii, Borland got to work on the Quad B Renovation Project, which he found very interesting because of the age of the buildings and unforeseen project issues.

“I found it particularly interesting to see how the Corps negotiates with the contractors on tough issues,” said Borland.

According to Borland, “this experience will help the Army, the Corps, and the District because one more cadet has been educated on what USACE does. I am looking forward to a possible future assignment with the Corps. I will tell the people back at my school about this program and the Honolulu District which will lead to more engineers applying to come out here in the future.”

According to Maj. Wallace, “having cadets participate in the CDEP not only benefits the individual cadet, but also benefits USACE and the Engineer Regiment. The program exposes future officers to the Corps and its capabilities and helps them consider future assignment opportunities.”

Editor’s Note: Cadet Kyle Underwood is from Bayport, New York and Cadet Matt S. Borland is from Troy, Michigan.



Cadet Kyle Underwood (center), Honolulu District Construction Control Representative Daniel Wong (left), and Project Engineer Randy Itamoto discuss features of the Central Vehicle Wash Facility Project on Schofield Barracks. Underwood is a West Point Cadet who came to the Honolulu District for the Cadet District Engineer Program. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio



Chief of Engineers Visits USARPAC Mission Command Facility

(Above) Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick (fourth from left), and senior Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) leaders toured and were briefed on the construction status of the USARPAC Mission Command Facility (MCF) at Fort Shafter July 17, the same day Lt. Col. Chris Crary (center) became the new Honolulu District commander. The MCF, which the Corps is building for USARPAC, will consolidate USARPAC headquarters into one facility that will support Mission Command of Army or joint forces across the Asia-Pacific Area of Operations. (Below right) MCF Phase One Project Manager Gerald Young explains the project's layout to Lt. Gen. Bostick. (Below left photos) Lt. Gen. Bostick talks with Pacific Ocean Division and Honolulu District command staff and engineers about the MCF. Photos by Joseph Bonfiglio



District Ohana Celebrates 2014 Hispanic Heritage Month

Each year from Sept. 15 - Oct. 15, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Honolulu District celebrate the tremendous contributions of Hispanic Americans to our military and nation.

In honor of this year's Hispanic Heritage Month, the District's Special Emphasis Program Committee held a Paniolo-themed event in mid-September that featured expert Hawaiian saddle maker and Paniolo Keith Ryder who talked story and shared some of the "tools" of his trade.

In the 1830s, King Kamehameha III invited Mexican vaqueros to Hawaii to teach native Hawaiians how to herd cattle. The Hawaiian word for cowboy, Paniolo, is believed to be the Hawaiian pronunciation of Español.

Employees also listened to Mary Eiger, a Registered Dietitian at Tripler Army Medical Center, who discussed the benefits of eating healthy Hispanic food. Following the presentations employees and guests sampled 10 entries in the annual and highly-popular chili cook-off with winners determined in three categories, People's Choice, Commander's Choice, and Guest Speaker's Choice.



Photos by Joseph Bonfiglio

Ohana Joins 2014 National Public Lands Day Activities

Story by
Joseph Bonfiglio

Chief, Honolulu District Public Affairs

More than 40 volunteers picked up trash at Fort DeRussy in Waikiki Sept. 20, in honor of National Public Lands Day and International Coastal Cleanup Day.

The Corps of Engineers' Pacific Regional Visitor Center (RVC) coordinated the event that was supported by Corps employees, Delta Sigma Theta sorority, and Punahou Junior ROTC cadets.

About 20 cadets led by Punahou JROTC Commander Lt. Col. Robert Takao concentrated their efforts on cleaning the beach berm behind historic Battery Randolph.

"We've been doing this for the last seven or eight years, and we always get willing volunteers," Takao said. "It's never hard to get the cadets to come out because they realize how good it is for our world to do things like this. I'm really proud of them."

Volunteers collected more than 10 large bags of trash from the area.

"We're happy about educating the public on the importance of preserving and improving our precious natural and cultural treasures," said Angela Jones, head park ranger at the RVC.

National Public Lands Day is the largest single-day volunteer effort for public lands in the U.S. In 2013, more than 16,000 volunteers worked to clean 1,651 miles of shoreline, maintain 135 miles of trails, and plant some 835 trees and shrubs at USACE-operated sites. For more information on National Public Lands Day visit <http://www.publiclandsday.org>.



National Public Lands Day



Photos by Joseph Bonfiglio





Pacific Jungle FUDS Kahana Stream Remedial Investigation / Feasibility Study
A contractor diver returns from a practice dive in Kahana Stream on Oahu in support of the Pacific Jungle FUDS Remedial investigation/feasibility study in September. Dive oversight at the stream was provided by Dive Coordination Richard (Rick) Benoit, Portland District and Honolulu District's Ordnance and Explosives Safety Specialist and Dive Administrator Harmon Slappy. Photo by Kevin Pien

District Names New Regulatory Chief

Michelle (Shelly) Lynch was named to lead the District's Regulatory Office in late September. She previously was a Senior Regulatory Project Manager in the Regulatory Office. Lynch's work experience includes working as a Biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service, working for the Oregon Department of Transportation as a Biologist and a Region Environmental Coordinator. She also was a Senior Regulatory Project Manager for four years at Portland District before coming to the Honolulu District.



POD Commander Visits Schofield Barracks Projects Sites



Pacific Ocean Division Commander Col. Jeff Milhorn (left, third from right) listens as Resident Engineer Kimberly Jyo (left, center & bottom photo, right) talks about the Grow the Army project footprint outside and inside a new Tactical Equipment Maintenance Facility. (Center photos) Central Wash Facility project manager Jason Tanaka talks about the various aspects of the nearly completed facility. Joining Col. Milhorn for the visit were District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Crary (above, second from right), and other District engineering and construction branch staff. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan



American Samoa Holds Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for New Leone Bridge

In mid-September the American Samoa government conducted a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new \$5.4 million Leone Bridge on Tutuila Island. The original Leone Bridge was damaged beyond repair during the 2009 tsunami. The Federal Highway Administration / American Samoa Directorate of Public Works requested Honolulu District conduct the planning, design and construction of a new Leone Bridge within the Interagency and International Services (IIS) program. The contract called for removal of the temporary bridge, site cleanup, new construction and a final inspection. (Right) The new bridge as it appeared shortly before completion in September. Courtesy Photo (Below) The damage to the original bridge is visible after the September 2009 tsunami. Photos by Atlas GeoTechnical and Lyon Associates, Inc.



EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

June



DON SCHLACK

While serving as the Power Subject Matter Expert for the 2014 *Makani Pahili* hurricane exercise Don planned, coordinated, and executed an outstanding exercise for the POH Power PRT. Prior to the actual exercise, he spent countless hours of his personal time developing exercise objectives/scenario for the event, that included over 100 scenario injects to keep the play active and realistic.

June



WENDY MOW

Wendy distinguished herself in her outstanding support to her Project and Program managers, PDTs and as a Mission Specialist on the Emergency Power PRT. During June, she actively participated in the Power PRT training to maintain her preparedness and also participated in the *Makani Pahili* exercise sharing her PRT and ENGLink knowledge with new team members.

June



JASON TANAKA

As the POH Power PRT Action Officer for the 2014 *Makani Pahili* hurricane exercise Jason did an outstanding job in planning, coordinating, and supervising the execution of the emergency power mission for Emergency Support Function #3. He demonstrated an extremely high level of technical/tactical expertise for the execution of this critical mission in realistic simulated circumstances.

July



TRISTAN SUETSUGU

Tristan and Graeme rose to the challenge to reposition the District to handle the National Security Agency's (NSA) year-end workload. With the NSA's expectations on the Honolulu District to be prompt, flexible, and to handle their ever-changing workload, both Tristan and Graeme met every challenge by using the Alpha contracting process; including developing the acquisition strategy, arranging site visits, and coordinating the contractors oral presentations required for the NSA to get a realistic handle on their year-end workload.

July



GRAEME SILVA

Honolulu District's Newly-Licensed P.E.s



District Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Cray presented commander's coins and his congratulations to the District's newly-licensed Professional Engineers (P.E.) in the State of Hawaii to (top) James Nakamura and (above) Kevin Khan during recent District staff meetings. Pathways to a P.E. in Hawaii include undergraduate and/or graduate degrees, more than three years of experience in the field and passing a two-hour exam. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan

Contracting's Lotomau Receives Chief's Coin for Excellence

Honolulu District's Candace Lotomau (right) receives a Chief of Engineers' Commander's Coin (shown below right) and congratulations for her outstanding contracting contributions while deployed to the Bagram Area Office from

Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick during his visit to Transatlantic Afghanistan District in September. Courtesy photos



Aloha to our Overseas Contingency Operations volunteer who is deployed to Afghanistan:



Candace Lotomau

Transitions

Welcome: Bryson Clemente, Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Klasse, Lauren Molina, Sarah Watts, Robert Schieffer

Welcome Back: Shivaun White, Tom Snider, Scott Mochizuki, Loren Zulick, Paul Takata

Goodbye: Scott Mochizuki, Zach Okemura, Farley Watanabe, Harmon Slappy, Curt Yamasaki, Fabian Lidao, Pat Tom, Larry DeGroot, Devin Kamita, Geoffrey Ries, Myron Oh

In Memorium

Desmund Lum passed away Sept. 21 following a long battle with lung cancer. Desmond worked with USACE for more than 30 years as a Budget Analyst; 24 years with Honolulu District and four years with Japan District (1988-1992). He was more than a coworker for many; he was a teammate, friend, and part of the Ohana.

Beverly Ledesma died in an auto accident on Oahu Oct. 1. Beverly worked for the federal government for more than 29 years and at Honolulu District for nearly 13 years, most recently as a Management Analyst in the District's Resource Management Office. She was a very personable and beloved member of the Ohana.

POD Commander Presents Coins to Employees

Pacific Ocean Division Commander Col. Jeffrey L. Milhorn presented POD commander's coins to Civil Works Technical Branch Chief Mike Wong and Contracting Specialist Jennifer Ko in early September for their tireless efforts in the face of Hurricane Iselle to support the Hilo Harbor Survey Team. Their efforts, along with many others, allowed the U.S. Coast Guard to quickly reopen Hilo Harbor on the island of Hawaii after the storm. Photo by Duy Ta, ACE-IT Visual Information Specialist



Col. Jeffrey L. Milhorn (right) receives the Army Colors from Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick during the change of command ceremony July 18, on Palm Circle, Fort Shafter. Photo by Duy Ta, ACE-IT Visual Information Specialist

Pacific Ocean Division Welcomes New Commander

Story by
Terri Kojima

Chief, Pacific Ocean Division Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Richard L. Stevens relinquished his position as commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Pacific Ocean Division to Col. Jeffrey L. Milhorn, during a change of command ceremony, July 18 on Palm Circle, Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

With the passing of the ceremonial flag, symbolizing the official change of command, Milhorn became the 31st commander of the Army Corps' division serving the Asia-Pacific region. He now leads an organization that employs 1,600 military, Department of Army, host nation civilian engineers, technicians and other professionals in the annual execution of a \$3.2 billion program.

The mission includes engineering design, construction and real estate management for the Army in Hawaii, Army and Air Force in Alaska, and for all Department of Defense agencies in Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Milhorn is no stranger to Hawaii, having served two previous command tours at Schofield Barracks, with the 25th Infantry Division and 8th Theater Support Command. He most recently served as the chief of staff of the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas.

Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick, chief of engineers and commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, hosted the ceremony.

Stevens remains with the Army Corps team, as the Deputy Commanding General of Military and International Operations at USACE Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

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