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DUPLICATE

FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

KAUNAKAKAI HARBOR MAINTENANCE DREDGING
MOLOKAI, HAWAII

Prepared by

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
PACIFIC OCEAN DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
BUILDING 96, FORT ARMSTRONG
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

17 August 1971

#15

FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT
for
KAUNAKAKAI HARBOR MAINTENANCE DREDGING
MOLOKAI, HAWAII

1. Project Description. Kaunakakai Barge Harbor is on the south-central coast of the island of Molokai. Molokai, the fifth largest island in the Hawaiian Island group, is 26 miles east southeast of Oahu, and 9 miles northwest of Maui. The existing Federal project for Kaunakakai Harbor which was completed in 1934, provides for an entrance channel 530 feet wide, and a basin 1,500 feet long, 600 feet wide, and 23 feet deep at mean lower low water. Since completion of the harbor, periodic maintenance dredging has been performed on several occasions, the last of which was in 1962.

The Kaunakakai Harbor maintenance dredging work is designed to remove shoal material within the existing Federal project limits of the barge channel and basin. This work will restore the harbor to the authorized Federal project depth of 23 feet, thereby reducing the risk of grounding of a barge or tug and affording full use of the harbor area for safe navigation of craft now calling at this port.

Approximately 48,000 cubic yards of material will be dredged by either a hydraulic dredge or clamshell dredge. The dredged material would be either (1) deposited on nearby Molokai Ranch land or (2) spoiled at sea. Final selection of the disposal site would be left to the option of the contractor performing the work, and would be governed by the type of equipment he intends to use. If the material is spoiled on land, it will be spread over about 10 acres. The ground level at the spoil site would be raised from the existing 3.5-foot elevation to about 7.5 feet. If the material is disposed at sea, it will be taken to the proposed site about 3 miles offshore where depths exceed 130 fathoms. The basis for selection of the two spoil disposal sites are discussed in Section 5, "Alternatives to the Proposed Action."

2. Environmental Setting Without the Project. Kaunakakai Harbor, on the south-central coast of Molokai, is the principal harbor serving this island. Viewed from the sea in the vicinity of Kaunakakai, the terrain rises gently from the narrow alluvial flats to form a slightly sloping plateau between 200 and 600 feet above sea level. A fringing coral reef extends about 3/4 mile offshore in the vicinity of the harbor. The water depths on the reef flat range from tenths of a foot to 4 feet with the greater depths near the seaward edge. The reef flat is covered with clays and silts eroded from the sloping hillside and carried onto the reef by flood flows. During periods of high surf, clays and silts covering the reef are placed in suspension and the turbidity of the water is noticeably increased. The existing harbor was constructed in this shallow coral reef

zone and is intended for use by interisland barges and fishing and recreational vessels. In 1899, private interests constructed a rock mole to a wharf one-half mile from the shore. The mole and wharf were taken over and improved by the State of Hawaii and now serve as the pier and marshalling area for the harbor. Widening of the pier and construction of a State office and comfort station were completed in May 1971.

The normal tidal range is 1.4 feet. Prevailing winds are from the east. The heaviest seas result from southerly storms which usually occur during the late fall and winter season. Currents along the shore are generally in an easterly direction in the vicinity of Kaunakakai and the southeastern coast, and westerly between Kaunakakai and the southwestern coast.

With the exception of Kalaupapa Peninsula, the entire island of Molokai which had a 1970 population of about 5,100, is tributary to the harbor at Kaunakakai, and is heavily dependent on this facility for exportation of its agricultural products and importation of construction materials and other commodities. The island is primarily agriculturally oriented, producing pineapples and livestock. Diversification of agriculture, increase in pineapple production, and improvement of grazing lands can be expected with the increased availability of irrigation water from the Molokai Irrigation Project which was completed by the State of Hawaii in 1969. In addition, the island's potential as a tourist destination center is being recognized, and growth in this sector of the economy can be expected.

3. The Environmental Impact of the Proposed Project. Maintenance dredging of the existing harbor would alter the physical condition of the project site through restoration of about 8 acres of water area to a project depth of 23 feet. The restoration will provide depths in the harbor necessary for navigational safety and utilization of the Kaunakakai Harbor in accordance with its intended purposes. Since the island's economy is heavily dependent on barge transportation through Kaunakakai Harbor, the proposed physical changes would have a significant impact on the socio-economic environment of the island.

There are no known historical or archaeological sites in the project area which would be endangered or destroyed by the proposed work.

No rare or endangered species of botanical or zoological origin are known to exist in the project area. All material to be removed are a result of shoaling and are composed of basaltic, organic and marine origins. No in situ basalt or coralline limestone material will be removed. The dredging operation will create some additional turbidity in the area, but the effects are expected to be of short duration, and the water would return to its pre-dredging condition within a short period.

There would be no long-term adverse impact resulting from the disposal of the dredged material on the land disposal area. One short-term effect would

be the destruction of existing brush and weeds; however, the natural vegetation of the area would re-propagate within a short period. Another short-term effect would be turbidity of the waters in the shallows adjacent to the land site, caused by the overflow water. However, the effect should be minor compared to the natural occurrence of turbidity and siltation following each rain run-off condition.

Samples of the material to be dredged were analyzed by the Environmental Protection Agency and found to be acceptable for disposal at sea. In 1962, 24,000 cubic yards of dredged material were disposed at sea approximately 2 miles south of the project site in depths of 70-75 fathoms. There are no known permanent effects resulting from that sea disposal. The proposed sea disposal area is 3 miles from the project site in depths in excess of 130 fathoms; therefore, it is anticipated that sufficient dilution and dispersion will preclude any significant long-term effects. This area is presently covered with silt and sand, similar in nature to the proposed dredged material. Therefore, although temporary disturbance of marine life in the disposal area would occur, no unique habitats would be destroyed.

4. Adverse Environmental Effects Which Cannot be Avoided Should the Project be Implemented. Restoring the existing harbor to its project depth will affect marine life in the harbor area for a short duration. Some bottom organisms would be killed. Fish are expected to move away from the project area due to the temporary increase in the turbidity of the waters because of dredging. However, marine life is expected to return to the area once dredging operations are terminated.

If disposal of the dredged material is at sea, settlement to the ocean bottom and dispersion of the material would cause only a temporary turbid condition in the disposal area. Because the prevailing current in the vicinity of the proposed disposal site is in an easterly direction in the Kolohi Channel, the dispersion would be toward the open ocean rather than toward the neighbor islands of Maui and Lanai.

5. Alternatives to the Proposed Action.

a. No action. The alternative of forgoing maintenance dredging would require barges to operate under existing navigationally hazardous conditions. The harbor can be expected to continue to shoal until depths would no longer allow barge traffic into the harbor. Some shallow spots already have shoaled about 13 feet from the authorized 23-foot project depth to a depth of 10 feet.

Shoaling of the harbor to a point where barges and tugs cannot operate would adversely affect the overall economy of the island. Air cargo is too costly for the pineapple industry to utilize in their operations. Lightering operations are also costly and indications are that this mode would not be economically feasible. Therefore, without the required harbor depths, the pineapple industry can be expected to cease cultivation of their iolokai fields. Since pineapple growing is the major industry of the island, its termination would have a severe adverse impact on the island's economy.

b. Alternate Harbor Facility. A second alternative would be to construct another harbor facility. This alternative would not only be economically unjustifiable but would require new dredging work within a fringing coral reef which would cause greater disturbance to the marine environment than the proposed work.

c. Alternate Spoil Disposal Sites. Project economics and environmental impact were the two primary factors in the selection of the sites for the two basic alternatives, disposal on land and disposal at sea.

(1) Disposal on Land. The land disposal area shown on plate 2 is situated in a lowlying area within 3,600 feet of the harbor basin. Owned by the Molokai Ranch, this area is presently nonproductive and mostly overgrown with weeds and brush. The area is not known to be used as a fish or wildlife habitat. It was selected as the land disposal site because it is nearest uninhabited and unproductive plot within the pumping capacity of available hydraulic dredges. Approximately 0.8 mile east of this area, an alternate land disposal site was considered. This site is also situated in a lowlying area overgrown with weeds and brush and partially flooded by storm runoff. However, the added distance to this site would require additional pipe and booster pumps increasing the project cost by approximately \$50,000 with no other economic or environmental advantages over the selected site.

(2) Disposal at Sea. A disposal site approximately 2.5 miles offshore with depths of about 100 fathoms was initially proposed and discussed in the draft environmental impact statement. Selection of this site was based on economics and on past experience with disposal of dredged material at sea. However, discussion of the initial site with a member of the University of Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology resulted in selection of the proposed site which is approximately 3 miles offshore with depths greater than 130 fathoms. Although the initial site is closer to shore and therefore more desirable from the economic standpoint, it was abandoned because of possible adverse effects on the surrounding environment. The information obtained from the Institute of Marine Biology indicated that the initial site is near the area where the reef drops off and where good live coral, including an area of precious coral, exist.

(3) Land Versus Sea Disposal. Final selection of the spoil disposal site would be made by the contractor, based on the economics related to

the type of equipment to be used. From the environmental standpoint, the two spoil proposals compare as follows:

<u>Impact</u>	<u>Land Disposal</u>	<u>Sea Disposal</u>
Turbidity of surrounding waters	Short term turbidity of shallow waters adjacent to the site; clearly visible from shore.	Short term turbidity of surrounding water - not visible from shore.
Fish and Wildlife	Negligible, if any - wildlife not known to inhabit this area.	Minor, temporary disturbance of marine life; however, no unique habitats would be destroyed.
Plant life	Negligible - site presently unproductive, overgrown with weeds and brush which would be destroyed but are expected to repropagate. No important plant species known to exist.	Negligible - site covered with silt and sand - no significant aquatic plant life known to exist.
Long-term productivity of site	Possible site enhancement through filling of existing low-lying area, enabling higher usage.	None - the approximately 48,000 cubic yards of spoil would be irretrievably lost.

6. The Relationship Between Local Short-Term Uses of Man's Environment and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-Term Productivity. There would be no adverse impact on current or short-term uses of the project site since the usage of the area as a harbor will not change. In the long term, the removal of the shoaled materials would provide a safe port for in-shipment of goods and out-shipment of pineapple to maintain Molokai's economic well-being.

7. Any Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources Which Would be Involved in the Proposed Action Should it be Implemented. Irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources which would be involved in the implementation of the proposed project includes about 48,000 cubic yards of dredged silt and sands if disposal is at sea, and the labor and fuel resources associated with construction of the project. Should the dredged material be spoiled on land, the work would require the temporary commitment of land for use as a spoil site. Local interests are responsible for

providing suitable disposal area. The tentative selected site at the root of the causeway to the harbor is, at present, little used. The land would be filled approximately 4 feet above the existing ground within containment dikes. Excess waters from the dredged materials would be drained off using overflow wier structures and diverted back into the bay area immediately shoreward of the harbor basin.

8. Coordination with others:

a. Public participation. A public notice was issued on 8 March 1971 outlining the scope of work for the proposed project. Interested parties were invited to submit objections that they may have to the proposed work. Comments received are summarized below and copies of the replies attached to the environmental statement.

(1) DILLINGHAM CORPORATION - MARITIME SERVICES

Comment: As owner-operators of 2 inter-island barge carriers, they are much in favor of the subject project but require that the period of dredging be confined to the months of September through March to avoid the heavy barge activity during the months of April through August.

Response: This matter will be coordinated with the barge owner-operators prior to finalization of the construction schedule.

(2) DOLE COMPANY

Comment: As a major pineapple producer on the island of Molokai, they fully approve, support and endorse the proposed improvements.

Comment: They will object to any interference with tug and barge operations which may seriously delay or hinder the timely shipment of raw fruit to Honolulu Harbor.

Response: This matter will be coordinated with the Dole Company prior to finalization of the construction schedule.

(3) U.S. COAST GUARD

Comment: If disposal is proposed on Coast Guard property, they requested that the depth of fill be kept to approximately 2 feet and the fill be graded and compacted to allow vehicles access to their range lights.

Response: Spoil disposal will not be on Coast Guard property.

b. Government agencies. The draft environmental statement was sent to the following governmental agencies, requesting their views and comments. Their comments are summarized below and copies of the replies

are attached to the environmental statement.

(1) FOURTEENTH NAVAL DISTRICT

Comment: No comment to offer in connection with the project.

(2) U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, USDI

Comment: Wildlife use is minor in the proposed land disposal area.

Comment: Project would not have significant adverse effects on fish.

Comment: Statement describes projects environmental impact adequately.

(3) U.S. COAST GUARD

Comment: No comment to offer in connection with the project.

(4) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, HAWAII STATE

Comment: Concurred with the draft statement.

(5) DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, HAWAII STATE

Comment: Temporary disturbance to the bottom area and water quality is expected.

Comment: Also expected are short-term disruption of sport fishing and some killing of bottom organisms, but no interference with commercial fishing.

Comment: During construction, it would be desirable to contain dredged materials so as to minimize degradation of water quality.

Response: Suggestion will be incorporated during preparation of plans and specifications.

Comment: Recommend that all spoil be disposed of onshore. Material dumped at sea would be dispersed by strong currents. Widespread siltation may smother benthic organisms and addition of enriched material may cause a bloom of undesirable organisms.

Response: During the maintenance dredging of Kaunakakai Harbor in 1962, 24,000 cubic yards of dredged material were disposed at sea approximately 2 miles south of the project site in depths of 70-75 fathoms with no known permanent effects. Inasmuch as the proposed sea disposal area is 3 miles from the project site in depths in excess of 130 fathoms, it is

anticipated that sufficient dilution and dispersion will preclude any significant long-term effects. In addition, the ocean bottom is already covered with sand and silt similar to the material to be dredged.

(6) MAUI COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT, HAWAII STATE

Comment: Filling of the land disposal area would increase its suitability for future use.

Comment: The sea disposal area will not encroach significantly on the natural fish feeding grounds and the resultant turbidity will dissipate within a short period of time.

(7) UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Comment: The statement appears to be an adequate statement of the environment impacts if, as stated, the dredging is restricted to that necessary for maintenance of the harbor.

(8) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, HAWAII STATE

Comment: No objections to the draft statement.

(9) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Comment: Statement should discuss the basis used for selecting the designated disposal sites, the merits and feasibility of use of alternate sites, and the relative desirability of sites based on environmental, as well as economic considerations.

Response: The comment was considered valid. The statement was expanded accordingly.

Comment: The sites of previous spoil disposal should be indicated and the long-term effects of repeated dredging and spoiling activities should be considered.

Response: See response to 4th comment by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawaii State. Statement was expanded to include this comment.

Comment: Discussion is needed on the short-term environmental impact of spoil disposal on the ocean floor and biota of the marine site and of the shallows adjacent to the land site.

Response: The comment was considered valid and the statement was expanded accordingly.

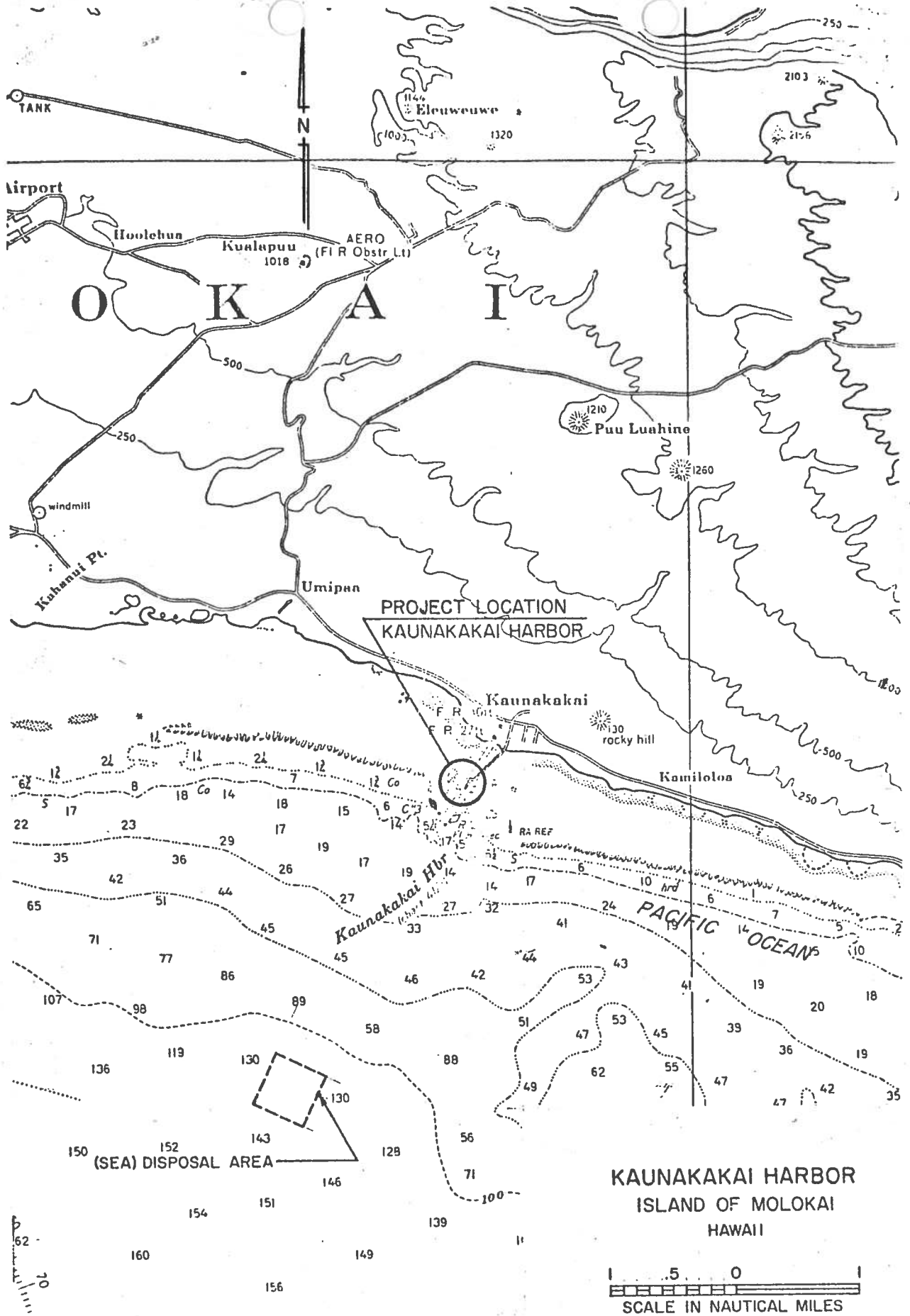
c. Citizens groups. The draft environmental statement was sent to the Conservation Council of Hawaii, the clearinghouse for local conservation groups. No comments have been received.

d. Other. Dr. Richard Grigg of the Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawaii.

Comment: Suggested that we site our sea disposal area where depths exceed 130 fathoms. In that area, the ocean floor is primarily covered with silt and sand similar in nature to the proposed dredged material. Consequently, no unique habitat would be destroyed.

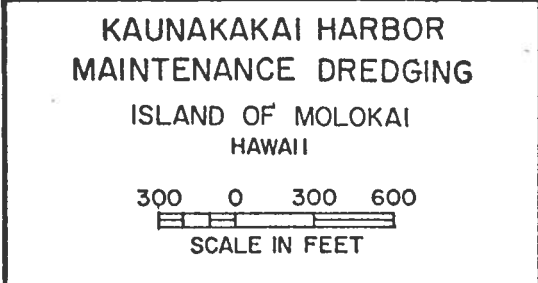
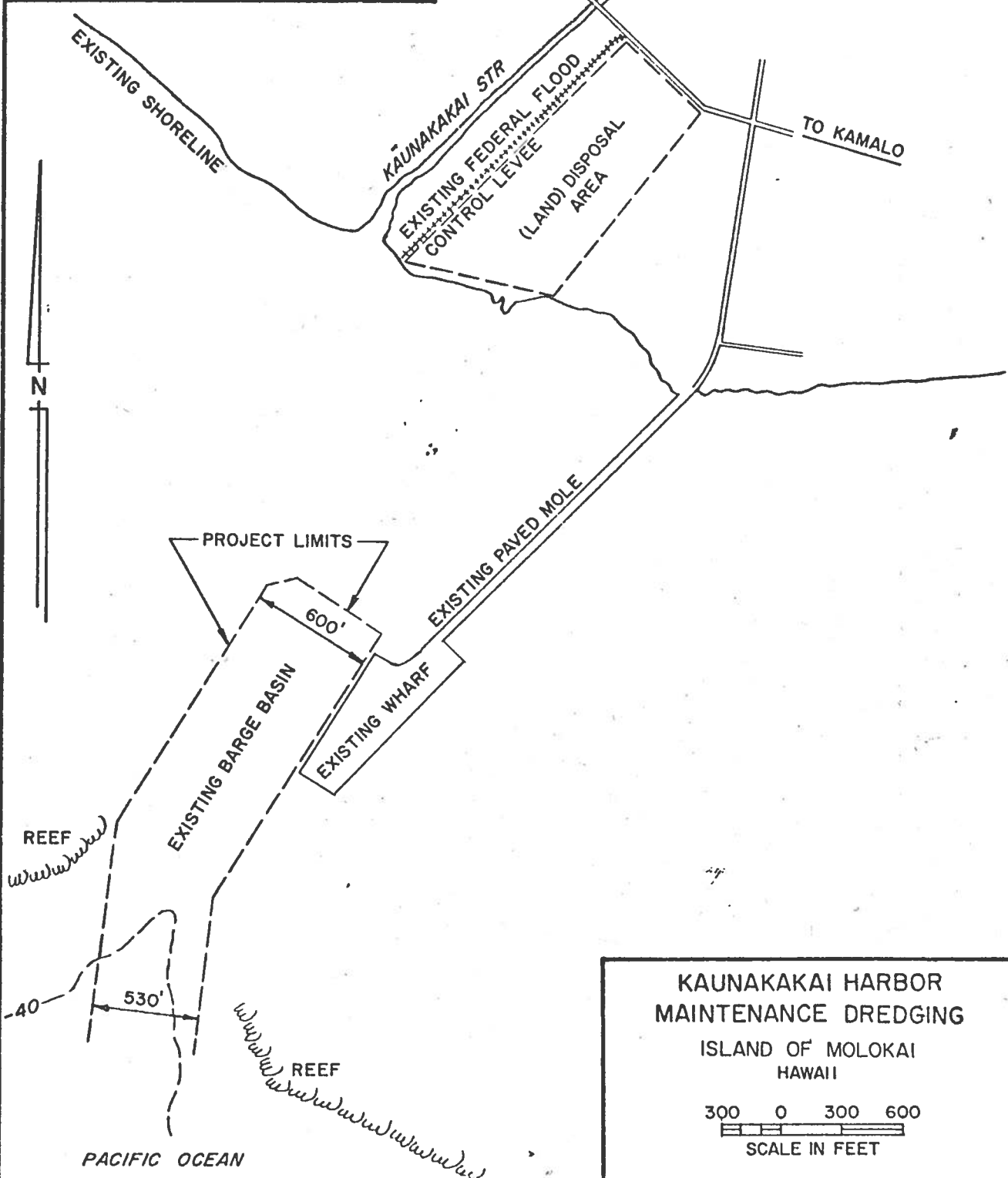
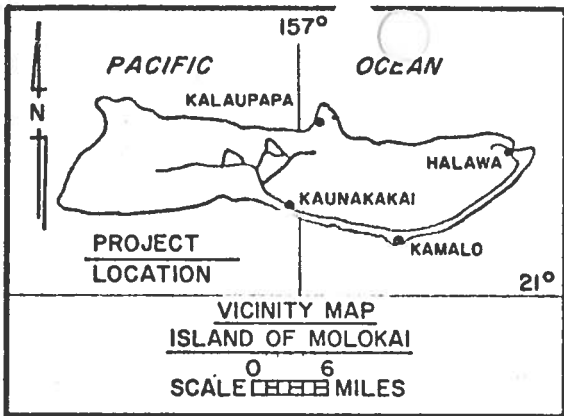
Response: The disposal area was relocated accordingly.

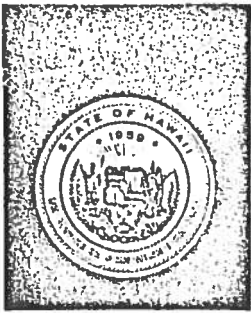
Comment: If the land disposal site is utilized, the overflow waters should have no adverse effects to the shallows adjacent to the site, inasmuch as turbidity and siltation is a natural occurrence in that area following each rain run-off condition.



**KAUNAKAKAI HARBOR
ISLAND OF MOLOKAI
HAWAII**

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SCALE IN NAUTICAL MILES





STATE OF
HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

P. O. BOX 2359 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

JOHN A. BURN
Governor

SHELLEY M. MARK
Direct

EDWARD J. GREANEY, J
Deputy Direct

June 28, 1971

Colonel Roy A. Sanders
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific
Building 96, Fort Armstrong
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Colonel Sanders:

Subject: Draft Environmental Statement for
Kaunakakai Harbor Maintenance Dredging,
Molokai, Hawaii

In our letter of May 28 on the above subject, we indicated that we would transmit any further comments that may come in after the due date. Attached are copies of letters from the State Department of Transportation and the Environmental Center at the University. Both are in general agreement with your draft statement.

Sincerely,

Shelley M. Mark
Shelley M. Mark

Attachments 2

DPED
JUN 17 1971

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Environmental Center

Office of the Director

June 15, 1971

Dr. Shelley M. Mark
Director
Department of Planning and
Economic Development
P. O. Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Dear Dr. Mark:

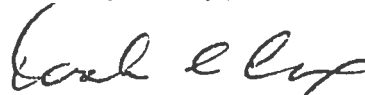
Environmental Impact Statement
Maintenance Dredging
Kaunakakai Harbor, Molokai

This response is submitted to the Corps of Engineers environmental impact statement on proposed maintenance dredging at Kaunakakai Harbor, Molokai.

The statement appears to be an adequate statement of the environment impacts if, as stated, the dredging is restricted to that necessary for maintenance of the harbor.

This response is based in part on comments from J. T. O'Brien of the Look Laboratory of Ocean Engineering.

Yours very truly,



Doak C. Cox
Ad interim Director

DCC/wto

cc: J. T. O'Brien
Stuart M. Brown, Jr.
Morton M. Rosenberg

JOHN A. BURNS
GOVERNOR



DPED

JUN 18 1971

FUJIO MATSUDA
DIRECTOR

E. ALVEY WRIGHT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
LAWRENCE F. O. CHU
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

IN REPLY REFER TO:
HAR-EP
4149

June 3, 1971

Honorable Shelley M. Mark
Director
Department of Planning and
Economic Development
P. O. Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Dear Dr. Mark:

Subject: Comments on the Environmental Impact Statement for Kaunakakai Harbor Maintenance Dredging, Molokai, Hawaii

We have reviewed and see no objections to the Environmental Statement for the Kaunakakai Harbor Maintenance Dredging project.

Continued mutual cooperation and coordination as the project progresses into the implementation stage should resolve any problems should they arise.

Very truly yours,

E. Alvey Wright
for FUJIO MATSUDA
Director

cc: Office of Environmental
Quality Control

Hong/
rm/59

Kell

Fuji

Nichbl

LTC Hoggso

Col Falck

M&R

PODED-P

4 August 1971

Dr. Shelley M. Mark, Director
Dept. of Planning and Economic Development
P. O. Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Dear Dr. Mark:

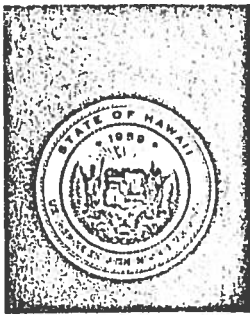
Thank you for your letter of 28 May 1971 which summarized State and county agencies' comments on our environmental statement for the proposed Kaunakakai Harbor maintenance dredging.

Reference is made to the fourth paragraph of your letter. Upon recommendation by Dr. Richard Grigg of the Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawaii, the proposed disposal site was relocated to an area three miles from the project site where depths exceed 130 fathoms. This site is primarily covered with sand and silt similar to the material to be dredged. Therefore, no unique habitat would be altered. For your information, during the maintenance dredging of Kaunakakai Harbor in 1962, 24,000 cubic yards of dredged material were disposed at sea approximately two miles south of the project site in depths of 70-75 fathoms. Should you have any information on effects of the 1962 disposal of material, request you provide it for incorporation into the draft statement.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. FALCK
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

PODED-P, fil



STATE OF
HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

P. O. BOX 2359 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

May 28, 1971

JOHN A. BURNS
Governor

SHELLEY M. MARK
Director

EDWARD J. GREANEY, JR.
Deputy Director

Colonel Roy A. Sanders
U.S. Army Engineer Division, Pacific
Corps of Engineers
Building 96, Fort Armstrong
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Colonel Sanders:

Subject: Draft of Environmental Impact Statement
for Kaunakakai Harbor Maintenance
Dredging, Molokai, Hawaii

Your draft statement, was sent to the following agencies' for review: Maui County Planning Department, State Department of Transportation, State Planning Division, Land & Natural Resources, Health, and the Environmental Center at the University. This coordinated response has been reviewed by the Governor's Office of Environmental Quality Control.

The Health Department indicates general concurrence with the statement but reserves the right to impose conditions on the project if environmental problems should occur which are not addressed in the statement.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources stated that it expects temporary disturbance to the bottom area and water quality. It also expects short-term disruption of sport fishing and some killing of bottom organisms, but no interference with commercial fishing. During the course of the work, it would be desirable to contain dredged materials so as to minimize degradation of water quality.

The Department also recommends that all spoil be disposed of onshore. Material dumped at sea would be dispersed by strong currents. Widespread siltation may smother benthic organisms and addition of enriched material may cause a bloom of undesirable organisms. In the area of Molokai, we are particularly sensitive to inadvertent alteration of marine communities.

Col. Roy A. ... rs
page 2
May 28, 1971.

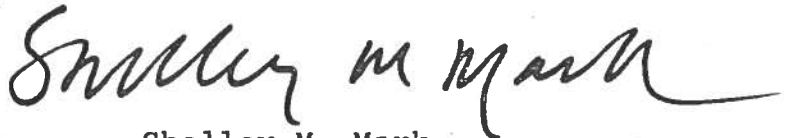
The Maui County Planning Department directed its comments at the two proposed disposal areas as follows:

"The land disposal area is a low, natural flood plain located adjacent to the Kaunakakai Stream which is master planned for heavy industrial use. The addition of fill material to this area would increase its suitability for future use. However, all fill should be confined to an area 40 feet mauka of the natural shoreline and graded at a natural slope back to the existing grade.

"The sea disposal area, according to local information, will not encroach significantly on the natural fish feeding grounds, and the resultant turbidity will dissipate within a short period of time."

We have not had a response from the State Transportation Department, Harbors Division, but understand that Division has been working with your staff on this matter. As soon as that response is received it will be forwarded to you. The other comments cited above are being submitted to you now to stay within your time schedule as much as possible.

Sincerely,



Shelley M. Mark

cc: OEQC

Hong/
rm/5945

Keller

Fujii

Ball

Nichols

PODED-P

4 August 1971

Mr. Curtiss M. Evert
Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
760 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

LTC Hodgson

Dear Mr. Evert:

Col Falck

Thank you for your letter of 15 June 1971 commenting on our preliminary draft environmental statement on the Kaunakakai Harbor maintenance dredging project. Where information is available, your suggested expansion of statements will be incorporated into the final statement.

M&R

Upon recommendation by Dr. Richard Grigg of the Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawaii, the proposed sea disposal area was relocated to an area three miles from the project site where depths exceed 130 fathoms. This site is primarily covered with sand and silt similar to the material to be dredged. Therefore, no unique habitat would be altered. For your information, during the maintenance dredging of Kaunakakai Harbor in 1962, 24,000 cubic yards of dredged material were disposed at sea approximately two miles south of the project site in depths of 70-75 fathoms. Dr. Grigg feels that if the land disposal site is utilized, the overflow waters should have no adverse effects to the shallows adjacent to the site inasmuch as turbidity and siltation are natural occurrences in that area following each rain runoff condition.

PODED-P, file

Should you have any comment on the change in sea disposal area, request you provide them for incorporation in the final statement.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. FALCK
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX
760 MARKET STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

JUN 15 1971

District Engineer, Honolulu District
Dept. of the Army, Corps of Engineers
Fort Armstrong, Building 96
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to your letter of 21 April 1971 requesting our review and comment on the draft environmental statement on the Kaunakakai Harbor Maintenance Dredging Project.

The impact of this project on the environment is an important concern; however, appropriate considerations have not been fully covered in the statement. Specific comments are enclosed.

We believe that consideration of these comments in revising the text of the statement will result in a more complete and meaningful evaluation of the environmental impact of the project.

Sincerely,



Acting Interim Regional Coordinator

Enclosure

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION IX

Review and comment on the draft Environmental Statement, prepared by the Honolulu District, Corps of Engineers on the Kaunakakai Harbor Maintenance Dredging Project.

The statement should discuss the basis used for selecting the designated sites and the merits and feasibility of use of alternative sites. A decision should be made on the relative desirability of sites based on environmental, as well as economic considerations. The sites of previous spoil disposal should be indicated and the long term effects of repeated dredging and spoiling activities should be considered. In addition to comments on turbidity, discussion is needed on the short term environmental impact of spoil disposal on the ocean floor and biota of the marine site and of the shallows adjacent to the land site.

File -
JCC)

DILLINGHAM CORPORATION
P. O. BOX 3288 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96808 • PHONE 536-2211
Cable address: "ORAL" • Telex RCA 72230 • TTT 71000

March 15, 1971

Colonel Roy A. Sanders
Corps of Engineers
District Engineer Honolulu
Building 96, Fort Armstrong
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Colonel Sanders:

Re: Dredging - Kaunakakai Harbor; Island of Molokai

Please be advised that as owner-operators of Young Brothers Limited and Hawaiian Tug & Barge Company, two inter-island barge carriers, we are much in favor of the subject project as we feel that it would be a benefit for all. We do, however, require that the period of dredging be confined to the months of September through March as I am sure you are aware of the heavy barge activity during the months of April through August.

We advise that coordination for the Young Brothers' schedule is eminent and request that a meeting be held to express our views.

Yours very truly,



HERMAN P. CLARK
Manager
Marketing & New Ventures

HPC:rhs



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

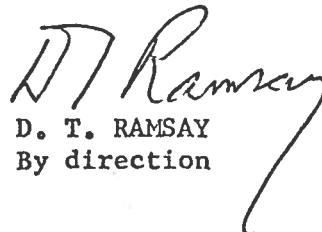
Address reply to:
COMMANDER (c)
Fourteenth Coast Guard District
677 Ala Moana
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

3175
6 April 1971
Serial cv-18267

From: Commander, Fourteenth Coast Guard District
To: District Engineer, HONOLULU District, Corps of Engineers

Subj: KAUNAKAKAI Harbor, maintenance dredging at; Public Notice of

1. The USCG maintains aids to navigation light structures at KAUNAKAKAI Harbor for the existing barge basin. At the present time, access to the lights for maintenance and inspection is by vehicle along the road which runs NE of our property and across open terrain.
2. In the Public Notice dated 8 March 1971, it states that approximately 48,000 cu yds of dredged material will be disposed of on land in an area designated by the State of HAWAII Harbors Division or at sea.
3. If dumping is proposed on CG property, it is requested that the depth of fill be kept to approximately two (2) feet. The fill should be graded and compacted to allow vehicle access to the light structures.
4. Enclosure (1) is forwarded for your use and information and shows the CG property and light structures.


D. T. RAMSAY
By direction

Encl: (1) Dwg #L-8-298

March 22, 1971

JESS H. WALTERS
Vice President & Secretary

Colonel Roy A. Sanders
Department of the Army
Honolulu District, Corps of Engineers
Building 96, Fort Armstrong
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Colonel Sanders:

In response to your public notice of March 8, 1971 concerning the proposed action to conduct maintenance dredging in the navigable waters of the United States, Kaunakakai Harbor, Island of Molokai, State of Hawaii, we wish to submit herewith our views and comments.

Dole Company, a Division of Castle & Cooke, Inc., operates a major pineapple plantation on the Island of Molokai and ships by barge the raw fruit produced at its Molokai Plantation to the Dole cannery located in Honolulu.

As a major user of the harbor facilities at Kaunakakai Harbor, Dole Company fully approves, supports, and endorses the proposed improvements at Kaunakakai Harbor set forth in your public notice of March 8, 1971.

However, taking into consideration our need to deliver raw fruit to our Honolulu cannery as rapidly as possible after it is harvested on our Molokai Plantation, Dole Company will object to any interference with tug and barge operations within Kaunakakai Harbor which may seriously delay or hinder the timely shipment of raw fruit to Honolulu Harbor. During the period between April 1, 1971 and September 18, 1971, Dole Company plans to ship by barge an estimated 120,300 short tons of fresh pineapple from Kaunakakai to Honolulu on the basis of five to six shipping days a week. In calendar year 1972, similar shipments will be made from mid-January to mid-September.

In light of these scheduled tug and barge operations, therefore, it is requested and urged that the contract specifications for this proposed project include appropriate requirements for the dredging operations to be coordinated with tug and barge movements within Kaunakakai Harbor so as not to interfere with the timely movement of such operations.

Very truly yours,


Jess H. Walters

A DIVISION OF CASTLE & COOKE, INC.



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Address reply to:
COMMANDER (e)
Fourteenth Coast Guard District
677 Ala Moana
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

3900
Serial c-18341
28 MAY 1971

Colonel Roy A. SANDERS
Deputy Division Engineer, Mid-Pacific
Pacific Ocean Division, Corps of Engineers
Fort Armstrong, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Colonel SANDERS:

The draft Environmental Statement for Kaunakakai Harbor Maintenance Dredging dated 21 April 1971, enclosed with your letter of 6 May 1971, has been reviewed. This command can offer no suggestions which would improve the statement and has no information available that would contribute to the evaluation of environmental impact.

We have no objection to carrying out the project.

Sincerely,

R. C. GOULD
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Chief of Staff
Fourteenth Coast Guard District



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

Reference: RBS

730 N. E. PACIFIC STREET
P. O. BOX 3737
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208

Your reference:
PODED-PC
April 21, 1971

May 25, 1971

District Engineer
Honolulu District, Corps of Engineers
Building 96, Fort Armstrong
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Sir:

We have reviewed your draft environmental statement on the Kuanakakai Harbor Maintenance Dredging project, Molokai, Hawaii. The following comments are for consideration during your review of the environmental statement and do not constitute this Bureau's formal analysis under provisions of Public Law 91-190.

Wildlife use is minor in the land area where dredging spoil would be placed. We do not anticipate that dredging would have significant adverse effects on fish. Your statement appears to describe the project's environmental impact adequately.

Sincerely yours,

Travis S. Roberts
Acting Regional Director