

JOHN WAIHEE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

September 11, 1990

EDWARD Y. HIRATA
DIRECTOR

DEPUTY DIRECTORS

RONALD N. HIRANO
DAN T. KOCHI
JEANNE K. SCHULTZ
CALVIN M. TSUDA

IN REPLY REFER TO:

HAR-ED 8020.91

Dr. Bruce Anderson, Acting Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control
465 South King Street, Room 104
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Dr. Anderson:

Subject: Negative Declaration for Waikaea Boat
Launching Facility Improvements
Kapaa, Kauai - Job H. C. 8073

In accordance with Chapter 343-4(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes,
we are notifying you that we will not require an Environmental
Impact Statement for the subject project. We have enclosed a
Negative Declaration for the proposed work.

Should you have any questions on the action, please contact
Mr. Wilfredo Organo of my Harbors Division at 548-2505.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edward Y. Hirata".

Edward Y. Hirata
Director of Transportation

Enc.

OFC. OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY CONTROL
90 SEP 17 P 3:07

RECEIVED

nos

1990-09-23-KA-FA

FILE COPY

NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR
WAIIKAEA BOAT LAUNCHING FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS
KAPAA, KAUAI - JOB H. C. 8073

A. APPLICANT

Harbors Division, Department of Transportation

B. APPROVING AGENCY

Department of Transportation

C. AGENCIES CONSULTED

The Waikaea fishing club, boaters and general users of the harbor were consulted regarding the proposed improvements. The public unanimously endorsed the project.

Permits and/or approvals from the Corps of Engineers, Department of Health (Water Quality), Department of Land and Natural Resources (CDUA), and Department of Business and Economic Development and Tourism (CZM) will be requested.

D. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION'S CHARACTERISTICS

1. Technical (See Attachment 1)

The proposed project consists of reconstructing the existing boat launching ramp, demolishing an existing floating dock, constructing a new 80-foot loading dock with shore-connecting ramp, and constructing a new washdown area. The existing overhead electrical wires will be relocated underground and a new light pole and luminaire will be installed at the ramp.

2. Economic - Social

The boat launching facility at Waikaea Canal, Kapaa, is the only launching ramp within a radius of nine miles and is located near prime fishing areas. The ramp is heavily used by commercial and recreational fishermen but due to heavy usage and tidal surge, the ramp is constantly deteriorating. Also, the shallow water depth is causing the bottom of boats to scrape the ramp at the toe resulting in higher cost of vessel maintenance and repair. Nighttime use of the harbor is limited because of inadequate lighting.

The proposed improvements will correct the above deficiencies. The upgraded harbor facility will enhance the recreational boating needs of the community.

3. Environmental

The proposed improvements will be done in the water within the existing Waikaea Canal boat launching facility and on the adjacent land. No marine or other wildlife in the area will be endangered.

Reconstruction of the launching ramp will temporarily disrupt the use of the ramp but only for a short duration.

The project will not change the present use of the area.

E. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The project is located on the Waikaea Canal which was primarily built to drain the swamp area on the west side of Kapaa during heavy rains. The mouth of the canal enters the ocean at the southern end of an inlet separating the north and south Kapaa reef. The area is mostly beach sand but certain ocean areas have relatively abundant coral reef. Activities in the area include fishing, swimming, surfing, and other water-oriented recreation. The harbor is not known to contain any archaeological or historical sites. No endangered species live in the harbor.

F. DISCUSSION OF THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The effect of this project upon the environment has been determined to be insignificant. The construction of this project will not:

1. Generate controversy;
2. Alter the existing topography of the land or character of its use;
3. Cause the displacement of any persons;
4. Affect any rare, threatened, or endangered species of animals, plants, or habitat;

5. Involve an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resources, except for the labor and materials related to the construction of the improvements;
6. Curtail the beneficial uses of the environment;
7. Conflict with the State's long-term environmental policies, goals, or guidelines; and
8. Degrade the environmental quality.

However, the implementation of this project will be beneficial for the State by making the harbor facilities efficient and more enjoyable source of recreation.

G. IMPACTS AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

During the construction of the project, there will be a temporary increase in noise, dust and internal combustion engine emissions. However, these impacts will be minimal and intermittent in nature. Emissions from internal combustion engines will be readily dispersed in the open area.

Work on the launching ramp and loading dock will cause discoloration of the adjacent waters due to the temporary disturbance of silt, organic matters and bedding materials. However, turbidity will be of short duration since the materials will quickly settle down and restore the waters to the original condition.

Estimated construction time is 120 working days.

Alternatives to the proposed project are a reduced scope of work or no action. Both alternatives would decrease the level of use of the harbor and impose economic burden on the boaters. The improvements will help reduce maintenance costs and increase the recreational benefits derived from a highly efficient facility.

H. MITIGATION MEASURES

Provisions will be made in the project specifications to control and minimize the temporary adverse effects of construction.

I. DETERMINATION

Our assessment of the proposed action, based on past experience, confirms that the project will not have a significant impact on the environment.

Since no major adverse impacts are anticipated, costly detailed studies were considered inappropriate. Consequently, a determination has been made that an environmental impact statement is not required.

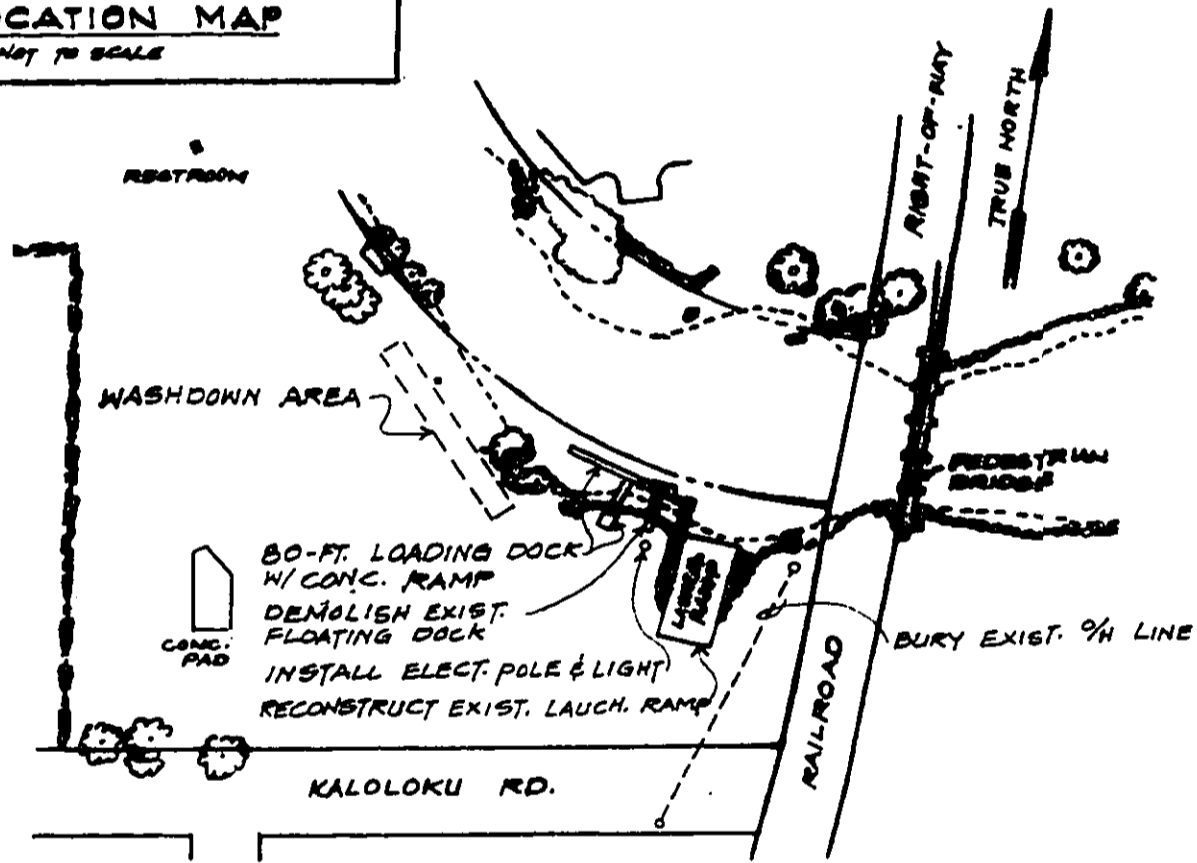
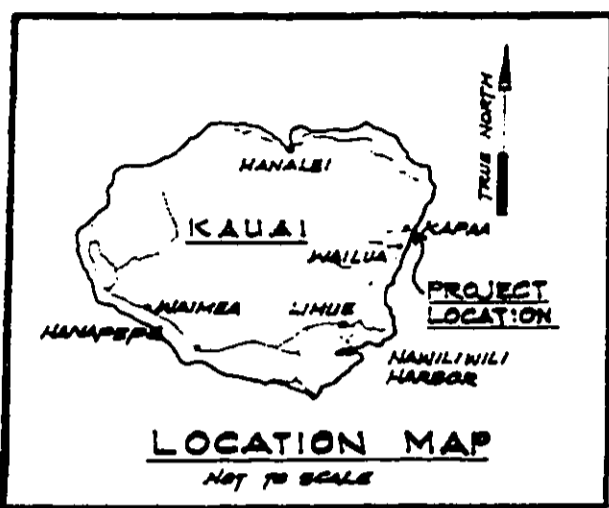
J. REASONS

Reasons supporting the "no EIS" determination are outlined in Sections F and G of this Negative Declaration. Any adverse environmental impact resulting from this project has been determined to be insignificant. Past experience has shown that this type of construction within an established harbor has an insignificant effect on the environment, both short and long term.



EDWARD Y. HIRATA
Director of Transportation

9/12/90
Date



PURPOSE: WAIKAEA BOAT LAUNCHING FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

DATUM: 0.00 MLLW

NAME OF ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:

① COUNTY OF KAUAI

IN: KAPAA

AT: KAPAA

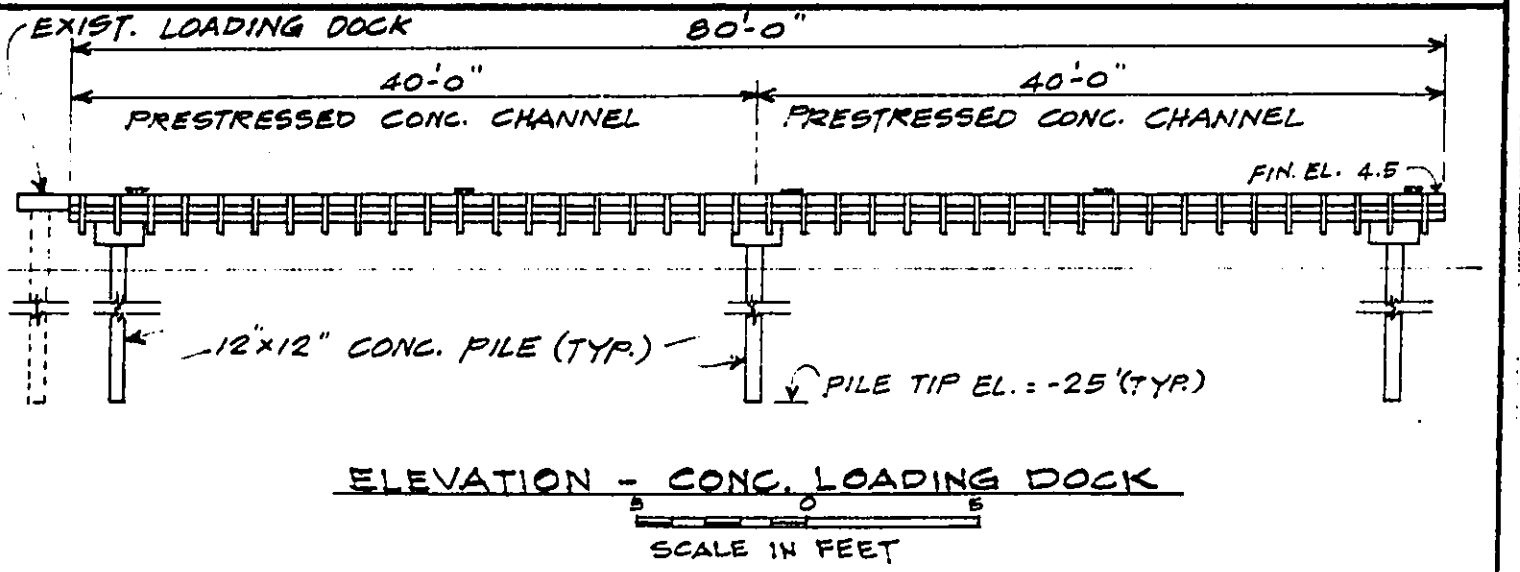
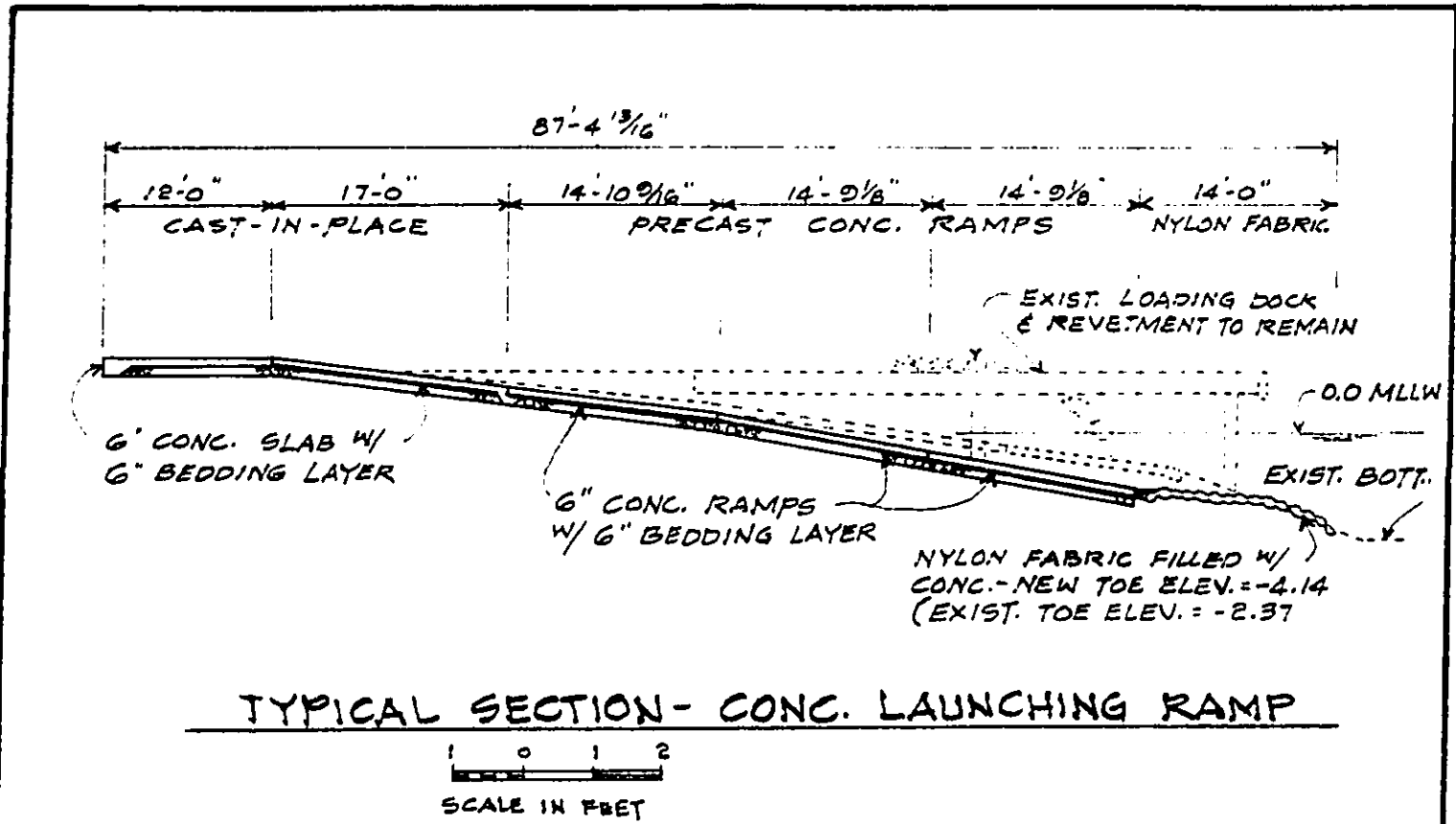
COUNTY OF KAUAI

STATE: HAWAII

APPLICATION BY: DEPT. OF TRANSP. HARBORS DIV.

SHEET 1 OF 3

DATE: AUG. 1990



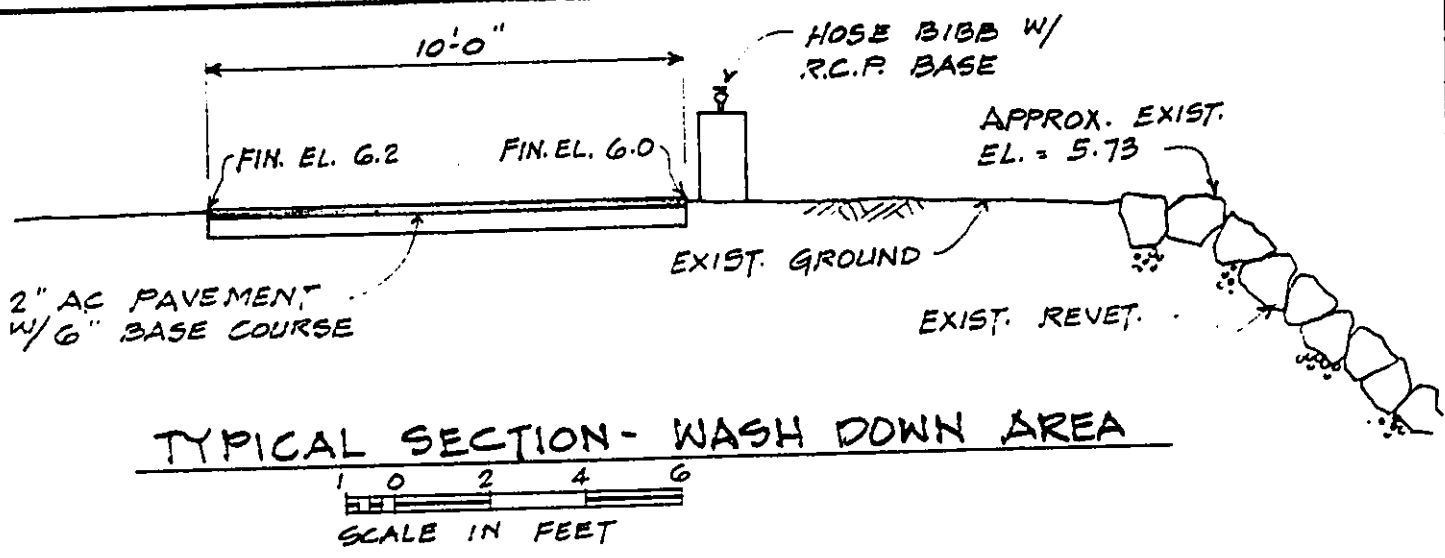
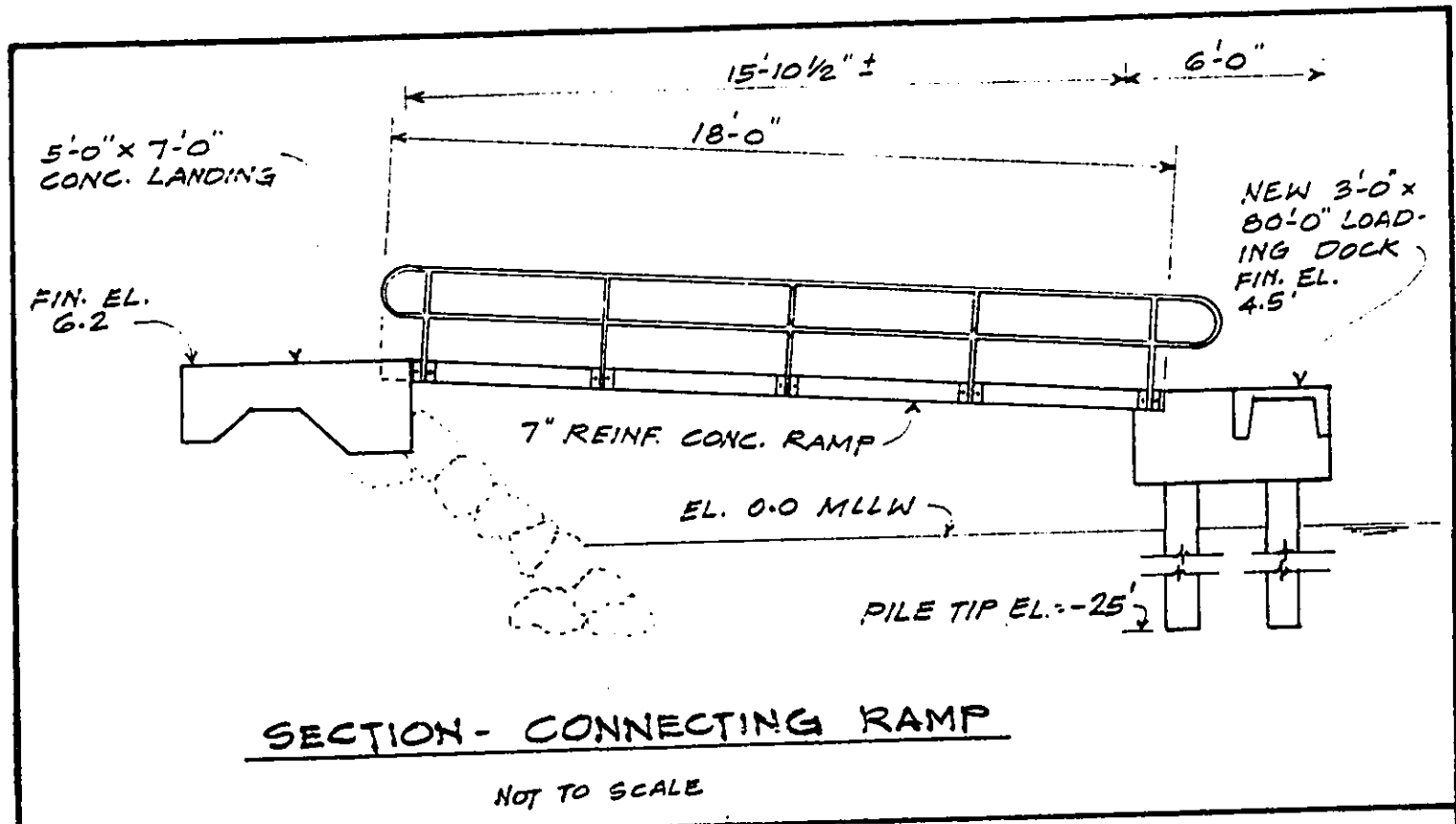
PURPOSE: WAIKAEA BOAT LAUNCHING FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS IN: KAPAA

DATUM: 0.00 MLLW AT: KAPAA

NAME OF ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: COUNTY OF KAUAI STATE: HAWAII

① COUNTY OF KAUAI APPLICATION BY: DEPT. OF TRANSP. HARBORS DIV.

SHEET 2 OF 3 DATE: AUG. 1990



PURPOSE: WAIKAEA BOAT LAUNCHING FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS IN: KAPAA AT: KAPAA
 DATUM: 0.00 MLLW
 NAME OF ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: COUNTY OF KAUAI STATE: HAWAII
 APPLICATION BY: DEPT. OF TRANSP. HARBORS DIV.
 COUNTY OF KAUAI
 SHEET 3 OF 3 DATE: AUG. 1990