

Media Release

Public Affairs Office U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii (808)656-3157/542-9489 "Malama na Koa"

Release number: 2008-07-07

July 29, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASTEWATER SPILL AT SAND ISLAND

SAND ISLAND, Hawaii—The Army's Directorate of Public Works (DPW) reported a wastewater spill from a force main under the Sand Island bridge, adjacent to the Marine Education & Training Center, at 4:20 p.m. Monday.

DPW personnel responded immediately to the incident, shutting down the force main and diverting the pipe's main flow of wastewater. The staff also put together an emergency contract for repair work.

Officials estimate the current discharge at more than 35,000 gallons. The discharge was stopped at 4:20 p.m. today.

DPW is coordinating its efforts with the Hawaii State Department of Health's Clean Water Branch (CWB) and will conduct monitoring (i.e. taking samples) under the CWB's oversight. Staff has also posted warning signs in the area and is alerting local businesses and organizations.

The public is advised to stay out of the waters fronting the Marine Education & Training Center, the University of Hawaii Marine Center, Snug Harbor, Kapalama Basin, Mokauea Island, and the Kalihi Channel of Ke'ehi Lagoon.

The cause of the spill is under investigation.