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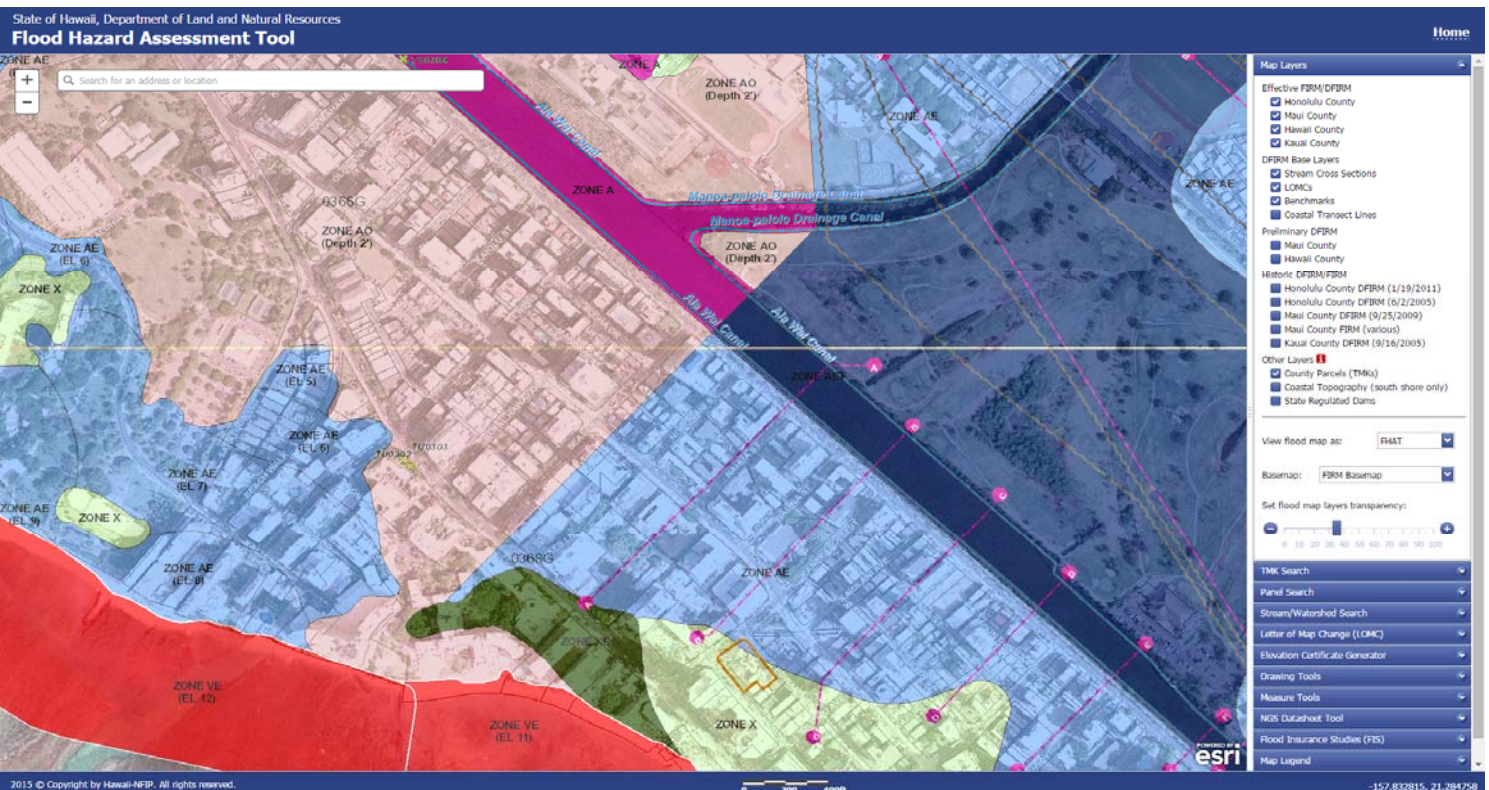
Hawaii Flood News

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENGINEERING DIVISION



New and Improved Hawaii Flood Hazard Assessment Tool

After 7 years since its debut in January 2008, the "FHAT" (/faat) as its been branded has undergone a total makeover. The popular Hawaii GIS based flood hazard assessment tool is an online application developed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), who's agency is the State coordinating office for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Property owners, realtors, lenders, insurance agents, design professionals, surveyors, local communities are some of the many stakeholders who use this valuable online tool daily. Over the years, DLNR's loyal FHAT users have requested various features be added or improved. With the vast improvements in GIS technology over the past 7 years, DLNR wanted to keep up with advancing capabilities by upgrading the application and implementing user requests. The new site has a more clean and polished look.



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The current and selected past issues are also available at:

www.hawaiiinfip.org

If you wish to receive the Wai Halana via email or wish to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Amel Chun at (808) 587-0254.

Upcoming Events

PRiMO 2016 Conference The Voyage to Resilience: Creating Value through Partnerships



The Pacific Risk Management 'Ohana (PRiMO) is the premiere conference for people interested in protecting communities from natural hazards. The focus is on disaster management, climate change, and sustainability challenges.

Join the 'ohana March 14 to 17, 2016 for a "Voyage to Resilience: Creating Value through Partnerships." The event will be held at the Hawai'i Convention Center in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

SAVE THE DATE

March 14 - 17, 2016

Hawaii Convention Center

Honolulu, Hawaii

More info:

<https://csc.noaa.gov/mailman/listinfo/>



11th Annual Hawaii Floodplain Manager's Conference

The 11th Annual Hawaii Floodplain Manager's Conference was held on August 19th and 20th, 2015 at the Manoa Grand Ballroom in Honolulu. It's hard to believe that in 2005 at our very 1st conference on Maui, we had only 22 attendees and barely filled a small meeting room at the Maui Coast Hotel in Kihei. Each year our conference attendance continues to grow and this year's conference was no different with a record registration of 100 participants.

The two day conference kicked off with a fun ice breaker "Are you smarter than a Floodplain Manager?" which segued into an informative and educational agenda. Discussions included talks on Floodproofing of Non-Residential Structures, Hawaii Erosion Control Management, FEMA Letter of Map Change Process and Procedures, Sea Level Rise Adaptation in Hawaii, Incorporating I-Code Flood Requirement into County Flood Regulations, Case Studies of the Coco Palm Resort and the Iroquois Point Beach Nourishment and Stabilization Project, and much more.



Elevation Certificates: How to Correctly Fill Out Item A8c and A9c (Net Area of Flood Openings in Shallow Flooding Areas)



If you've ever filled out an Elevation Certificate and provided information on flood openings, you may or may not have even realized that net area of the flood openings should only be the portion of the opening **BELOW** the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) for those openings that are within a foot of the grade (internal or external whichever is higher). That meant, any portion of a full vent that was above the BFE line should not be included on the Elevation Certificates.

However, on April 20, 2015, FEMA issued an Interim Guidance regarding openings in shallow flooded areas to announce a change in how the required net area of flood openings are calculated and reported on the Elevation Certificate (EC).

Currently, as explained in FEMA Technical Bulletin 1 - Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures (dated August 2008):

"Openings that extend above the BFE"

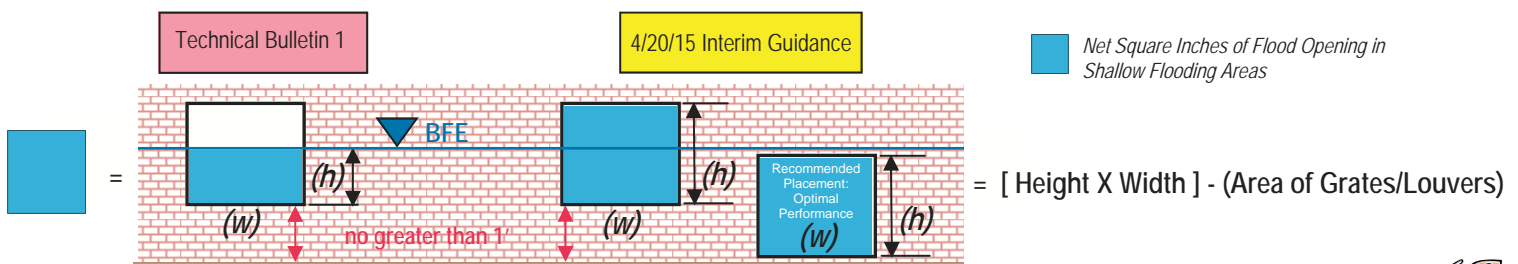
Only those portions of openings that are below the BFE can be counted towards the required net open area. Stacked vent devices may be installed or large-dimension openings may be provided (Figure 13). In both cases, if the BFE does not reach the top of the opening, only the portion that is below the BFE will count as contributing to the required net open area. Similarly, if the floor of a mechanical room is below the BFE (with elevated equipment inside) and a louvered door provides ventilation, only the open portion of the louvered door that is below the BFE will count towards the required net area of flood openings. "

In reading this passage, which is a discussion on the compliance of the regulations [44CFR60.3(c)(5)], it's not immediately clear if the EC certifier or the community official is verifying compliance. FEMA recognized the challenges an EC certifier faced when calculating the net area opening using the methodology prescribed in Technical Bulletin 1 should a portion of the opening extend above the BFE. Thus, part of the purpose for the April 20, 2015 Interim Guidance was to simplify the calculation for the net area of flood openings when they extend above the BFE in areas of shallow flooding and communicate the acceptable performance of the openings in these situations.

Excerpt from FEMA's April 20, 2015 Interim Guidance:

In the case of shallow flooding, the Elevation Certificate does not require the certifier to determine if the area of the openings is below the BFE, only if the bottom of the openings is no higher than 1 foot above the grade. Flood openings are normally installed within the height of BFE allowing FEMA to exclude the unfinished enclosure used for parking, building access, or storage for insurance rating. In areas of shallow flooding where only a portion of the opening can be located below the BFE, but meets the requirement of no higher than one foot above grade, the entire area of the opening less louvers, screens and obstructions may be counted towards the required net open area on the Elevation Certificate. The height of openings and other aspects of the openings should be checked by the local floodplain official during inspections to ensure they comply the requirements under 44 CFR 60.3(c)(5).

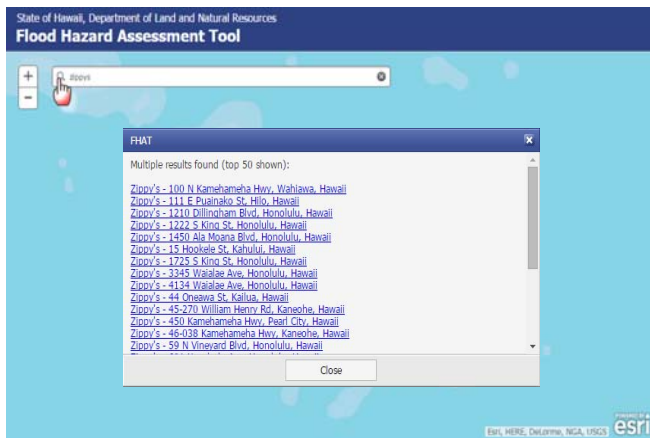
Technical Bulletin 1 is currently being reviewed by FEMA Building Science for clarification and revisions. In the meantime, the "Interim Guidance" (download [copy](#)) should be used as a guide to provide information on how to address openings in shallow flooding areas in accordance with the NFIP Regulations and Technical Bulletin 1. This should assist community officials comply with the NFIP openings requirement and also assist EC certifiers in completing the Elevation Certificate. The following illustration (below) shows the change in the calculation methodology for the flood openings in shallow flooding areas:



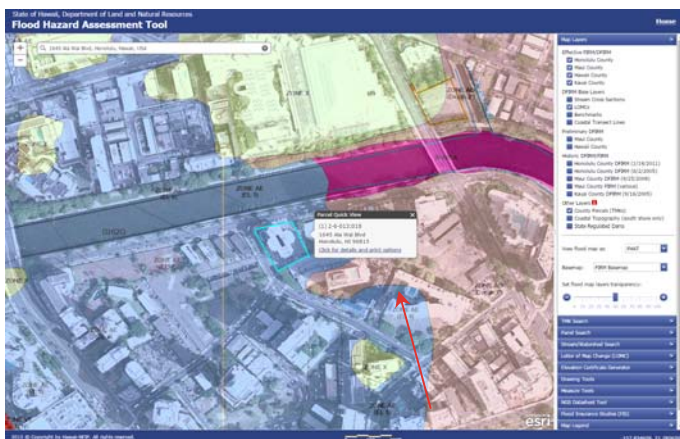
Continued from Page 1 "New and Improved Hawaii Flood Hazard Assessment Tool"

Many of the existing tools have been enhanced for overall improvement to the functionality of the application. But what makes the new and improved tool a more "one-stop shop" site is the additional features that has been added that allow users to gather additional information about a parcel without having to search various websites. The improved FHAT will conveniently redirect users to related websites.

The following is a quick guide on how to use some of the standard features of the FHAT:



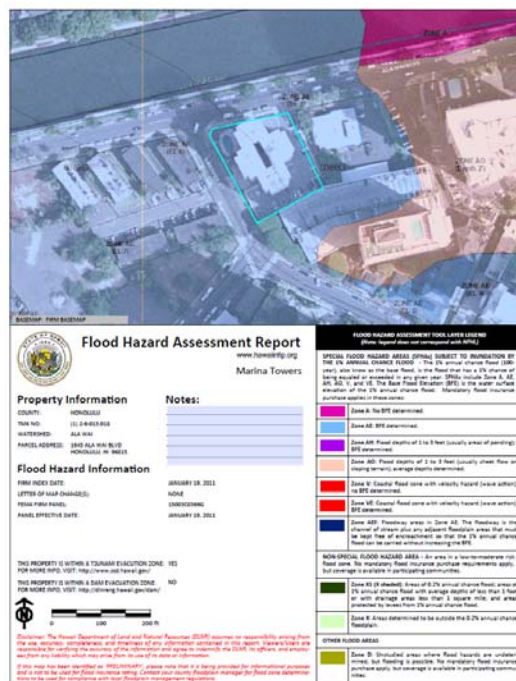
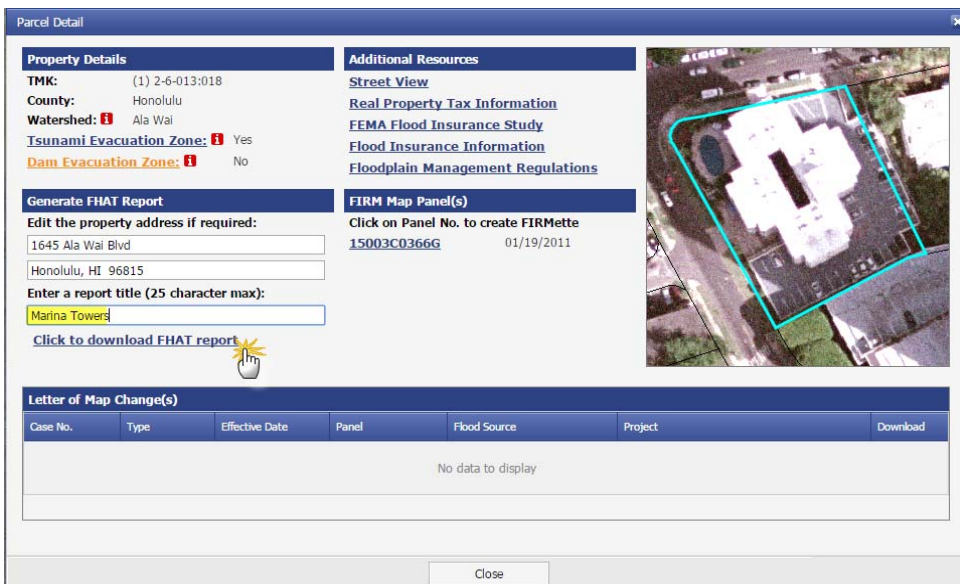
SEARCH by Address. The new site utilizes an online address locator service similar to Google Maps. Users can now enter a complete address or even a place of interest (i.e. Zippy's) in the search bar. A red square will display in the vicinity of the address. User will have to click on the structure or parcel of interest to interact with the applications related to the parcel and/or structure. Or user can still search by a TMK number.



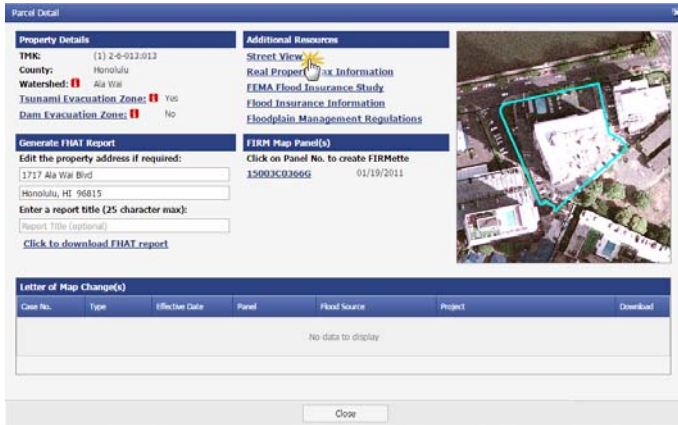
PRINTING a PDF report. This feature has now been incorporated into the parcel details window. After users click on the structure or parcel of interest, a cyan colored area will highlight the parcel and a small pop-up window will appear labeled "PARCEL QUICK VIEW". Verify that the address or TMK is the correct property you desire. If not, select another parcel. Once satisfied that you've located the desired parcel, click on the hyperlink labeled "Click for details and print options".

A Parcel Detail window will open (see below, left photo). Under the header "Generate FHAT Report", the user now has the ability to edit the address and even add an optional report title if desired. When ready to print, simply click on the link, "Click

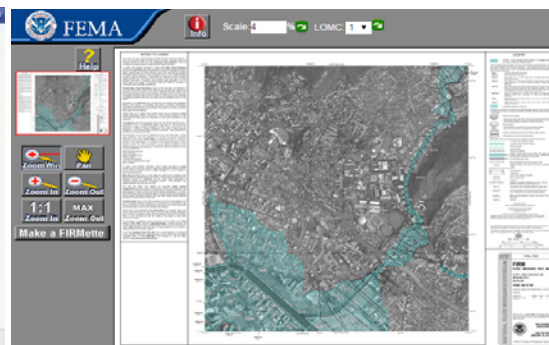
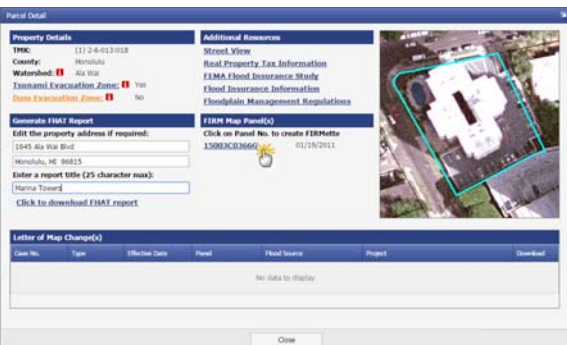
to download FHAT report" and a newly formatted PDF copy of the report can be printed or saved (see below, right photo).



Street View. A new feature of the FHAT is a link to Google Street View. Depending upon where you clicked on the map to select your structure or parcel, that point will determine the street view image that will be displayed.



Real Property Tax Information. Another new feature of the FHAT is a direct link to County Real Property Tax Information for the parcel being searched upon.



Creating a FIRMette.

A convenient feature that has been added is a direct link to FEMA's Map Service Center for users needing to create an official excerpt of the FIRM, also known as a FIRMette.

Drawing and Measuring Tools. The drawing tool is a new tool that has been often requested over the years. Users can customize their map with personalized annotations. The measure tool is an existing functionality that has been improved. Tip: users should annotate the map prior to selecting the parcel for printing a report.



There are many more features of the new and improved FHAT. Give it a test drive at: www.hawaiiinfip.org



FLOOD MAPS Updates



REMINDER

Maui County DFIRM updates will become effective on **November 4, 2015.**

Affected property owners should discuss flood insurance options with your insurance agents.

Are you currently doing work in the Counties listed here? If so, please take note that FEMA has approved the following Letter of Map Changes (LOMCs) to the flood hazard information shown on the effective Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

City and County of Honolulu

Type: LOMA
FIRM Panel 0238G
Revision Date: July 2, 2015
FEMA Case Number: 15-09-2203A
Flooding Source: Waialeale Stream
On-line readers can view LOMC [here](#)

Type: LOMA
FIRM Panel 0290H
Revision Date: July 15, 2015
FEMA Case Number: 15-09-2193A
Flooding Source: Ponding
On-line readers can view LOMC [here](#)

Type: LOMA
FIRM Panel 0366H
Revision Date: July 15, 2015
FEMA Case Number: 15-09-2194A
Flooding Source: Palolo Stream
On-line readers can view LOMC [here](#)

Type: LOMA
FIRM Panel 0290G
Revision Date: August 14, 2015
FEMA Case Number: 15-09-2406A
Flooding Source: Ponding
On-line readers can view LOMC [here](#)

Type: LOMA
FIRM Panel 0386G
Revision Date: September 11, 2015
FEMA Case Number: 15-09-2241A
Flooding Source: Wailupe Stream
On-line readers can view LOMC [here](#)

Hawaii County

Type: LOMR-F
FIRM Panel 0880C
Revision Date: July 30, 2015
FEMA Case Number: 15-09-2362A
Flooding Source: Four Mile Creek
On-line readers can view LOMC [here](#)

It's been a Wet Summer

National Weather Service (NWS) monthly precipitation summaries (<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/hnl/pages/hydrology.php>) indicated above average rainfall totals on every island for the month of August and September. With already 13 named tropical cyclones in the Central Pacific this El Nino season, a new record has been set, breaking the former record of 10 cyclones recorded in 1992 and 1994. In a KHON TV interview, Matthew Foster with NWS explained that because of the warmer ocean temperatures this year and given that we've had a fairly active season thus far, it would not be unheard of to see a cyclone develop after Hurricane season officially ends on November 30th and develop in December or even January.



It's no surprise, weary Kamaainas have declared this summer to be the wettest summer they've experienced in years. The power of social media and TV news coverage captured some of these historic weather events across the State during August and September.



Maui Flooding Videos:

August 20, 2015 - Flash flood Kula Hwy (Source: KHON2) <http://bit.ly/1PpoU41>

September 3, 2015 - Drone captures hikers caught in flash flood in East Maui <http://youtu.be/1Csgc6adNaE>

Big Island Flooding Videos:

August 17, 2015 - Kawaihae/Waimea flash flooding (Source: Big Island Video News.com) <https://shar.es/1785B3>

September 15, 2015 - Flooding in Kailua-Kona (Source: Big Island Video News.com) <https://shar.es/178G2l>

September 24, 2015 - Highway 11 (Mamalahoa Highway) in Kealahou flooding (Source: KHON2) <http://bit.ly/1YEGsQ5>

Oahu Flooding Videos:

August 3, 2015 - Waikiki beaches closes due to 500,000 gallon sewage spill (Source: KHON2) <http://bit.ly/1haBrNk>

September 3, 2015 - Flooding in Piikoi and Ala Moana (Source: KITV) <http://bit.ly/1hte3uh>

Torrential rains in downtown Honolulu (Source: KHON2) <http://bit.ly/1hdg8L0>



The National Weather Service Honolulu Office produced an informative video about Flooding and Flash Flooding in Hawaii. The video also provides valuable preparedness tips on how to stay safe during Hawaii's wet season which runs from October through April. To view the video, visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKHhP8t0JWo>





Meet the Newest Members to our Engineering Division's Flood Control / Dam Safety Ohana

For the past nine months, the corner cubicle in Room 221 of the Kalanimoku Building remained vacant until Jesse Colandrea joined our Engineering Division Ohana in mid August. Jesse, a Civil Engineer, will be taking on the responsibility of administering the State General Flood Control Plan and assisting with the Floodplain Management Program. This new job description is a departure from his previous work experience with a private consulting firm in California and more recently the Board of Water Supply. But he is eager to take on this new role.

Jesse is an alumni of Kamehameha School (IMUA !!!) and went on to earn his Bachelors of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Cal Poly Pomona in Southern California. After graduating, he and his wife (whom he met in college, but ironically is from Hawaii too) made California their home for a couple of years before returning to Hawaii to raise their two young daughters.

Surfing, hiking, golfing, running, coaching his daughter's soccer team, serving on his church's ministry, and snowboarding (when he can) keeps this husband and father a busy guy. His athleticism started at an early age during his days at Kamehameha where he played baseball and soccer for the "Warriors". When asked what his favorite sport is, he'll confidently say "Baseball". He is a loyal New York Yankees and Derek Jeter fan. His love for the "Pinstripes" can be traced backed over 19 years ago, when he witnessed his team clinch Game 6 of the 1996 World Series at Yankee Stadium.

When not occupying his time staying fit, he and his daughters are appreciating the many benefits of having a wife/mom in the travel industry business. He says they've become spoiled with all the perks and even his 3 year old enjoys the "amenities" and "upgrades" ;) Their next adventure is a family RV trip in Australia along the Gold Coast. Cooking "on the go" won't be an issue for Jesse, since he says that he and his wife are not "foodies". He admits that they don't have inquisitive palates and can't recall if they've ever tried any exotic foods. He claims he could probably eat the same thing everyday for the rest of his life. So RV cooking should be a breeze so long as they pack his staple junk foods.

Jesse is very excited to be a member of the Flood Control / Dam Safety Ohana !! And he's going to fit right in with the gang since he's a fellow Starbucks junkie !



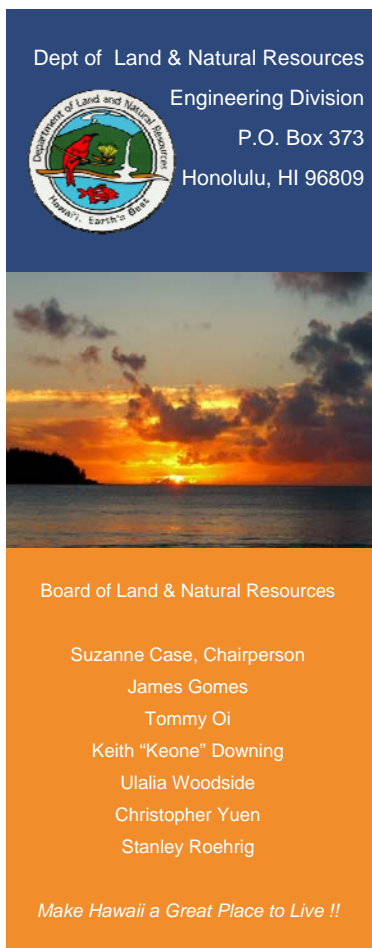
In her opinion Amel Chun will say, "I'm not a very interesting person nor physically active (like Jesse)", but our new Flood Control / Dam Safety Section Office Assistant is very much the contrary.

As a graduate of Aiea High School (go Na Ali'is!), Amel worked as a legal secretary in downtown Honolulu for 10 years. But a higher calling led her and her husband to start their family. As a stay-at-home mom for 10 years, she homeschooled their two daughters for 5 years. She loved being at home with them, and hanging out with her husband 24-7, assisting him with their home video production business. But it was time for a change.

Amel has been happily married for the past 19 years. She confesses that married life has given her so much freedom that she never experienced as a single lady. She and her husband love traveling to the mainland with their two daughters. Since their "go-to" travel destination is typically California, they've decided that they will begin a new tradition of visiting new places. They hope to add Seattle next on their travel plans. She says "One of our family goals is to do a cross country road trip from the east coast all the way to the west coast".

Aside from traveling, another passion of Amel's is food. She is a "self-proclaimed cook and food expert". She loves trying new foods and new restaurants. Amel and her husband love hosting gatherings at their home because they simply enjoy cooking! She promises that anyone who comes to one of their shindigs, will never leave the Chun Hale hungry!

After a hiatus in workforce employment, Amel was ready for the opportunity to venture into a new chapter in her life as a working wife and mother. She is ecstatic to be a part of the DLNR Engineering Division Ohana where all the smart and cool peeps are!



NFIP Training Courses for Insurance Agents, Claims Adjusters, Surveyors, and Community Officials

NFIP Training courses for insurance agents, claims adjusters, surveyors, and community officials, traditionally delivered as classroom seminars and webinars, have moved online to the FEMA Emergency Management Institute (EMI) Independent Study Program. This move allows insurance agents, claims adjusters, lenders and other professionals 24/7/365 access to FEMA NFIP training right from their personal or business computer. The online classes also provide FEMA training to those unable to attend a classroom-based training. NFIP courses currently available include:

AGENT COURSES

The Basic Agent Tutorial (**IS-1101**)
Theory of Elevation Rating (**IS-1102**)
Insuring Condominiums (**IS-1108**)
Writing Commercial Exposures (**IS-1110**)
Coastal Barrier Resources Act (**IS-1113**)

ADJUSTER COURSES

Claims Review for Adjusters (**IS-1104**)
Adjuster Customer Service (**IS-1107**)
Introduction to Flood Claims (**IS-1112**)

ADJUSTER COURSES (Continued):

Understanding Basement Coverage (**IS-1109**)
Introduction to Commercial Claims (**IS-1111**)

SURVEYOR COURSE

Elevation Certificate for Surveyors (**IS-1103**)

ALL AUDIENCES

Increased Cost of Compliance (**IS-1100**)
EC Made Easy: Elevation Certificate Overview (**IS-1105**)
FEMA Mapping Changes (**IS-1106**)

EMI Independent Study courses are free and available to anyone. To read the course overview, objectives, prerequisites, take to course and register to accompanying exam for CEU credits, visit FEMA's EMI's Independent Study Program website (<http://training.fema.gov/is/>) and enter the corresponding **course number**.

