

Overview of Makaha Valley Flooding Issues

- With reservations I support HB 2883. I do not believe that DLNR has the skill sets to do or supervise a comprehensive study of the Makaha drainage system; therefore, another agency should be selected who has the core competency to perform the study. If the State does not have another competent agency, I recommend Federal assistance be requested so the study can be done thoroughly and correctly.
- A drainage system was built in the upper elevations of Makaha Valley in the 1970s and early 1980s. The system was approved by the C&C of Honolulu, although "as built" drawings do not match the developer's original "approved" engineer plans.
- The Makaha drainage system was intentionally built to divert water flowing off the surrounding mountains to Makaha stream on the western side and Eku stream on the eastern side of the valley.
- The BWS/C&C purchased the 4,009 acres surrounding Makaha valley in 1987, including the Makaha Valley drainage system that protects the valley.
- The Makaha drainage system failed during heavy rains in 1996/97 and flooded many properties below it, including severe damage to the Makaha Valley Towers. The portion of the system that protects the Towers was eventually repaired by the C&C.
- The same drainage system on the eastern side of the Valley also failed in several areas during the 1996/97 flooding, primarily damaging only undeveloped properties directly below it. Breaches of this system and any inspections that might have been made were not reported but aerial photos clearly show significant damage occurred.
- On Dec 11, 2008, a short but heavy rain storm in Makaha Valley caused severe flooding in Makaha Heights including Mauna Olu Estates, Makaha Valley Plantations, Kili Drive, Makaha Valley Road, Makaha Valley Country Club and Makaha Resort Golf Courses as well as Makaha Marketplace and homes, business and properties throughout Makaha Valley. Virtually all of these flood waters originated from the Makaha valley drainage system located on BWS/C&C property.
- The BWS performed routine maintenance on portions of the drainage system on the eastern side of the Valley up until and after the 2008 flooding, but in June 2009 the BWS claimed it has no responsibility for fixing or maintaining the drainage system.
- Over the years, the condition of the Makaha drainage system has deteriorated. The system will not repair itself and flooding risks are geometrically increased as flood waters reach the lower elevations of the Valley and place the high density homes and businesses in danger. Until these repairs are made, unsafe conditions will place Makaha residents and businesses at great risk for loss of life and property.

Thank you,

AL Frenzel, (808) 343-4916

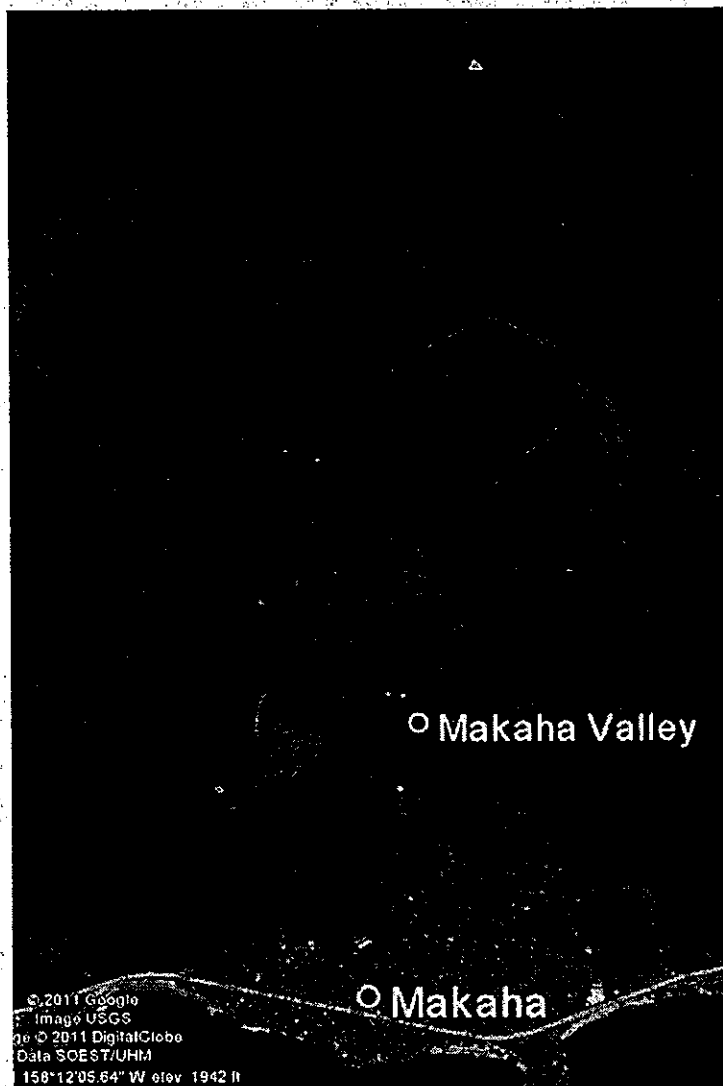
Corner of Farrington Highway and Makaha Valley Road



Dec 2008

Makaha Resort Golf Course

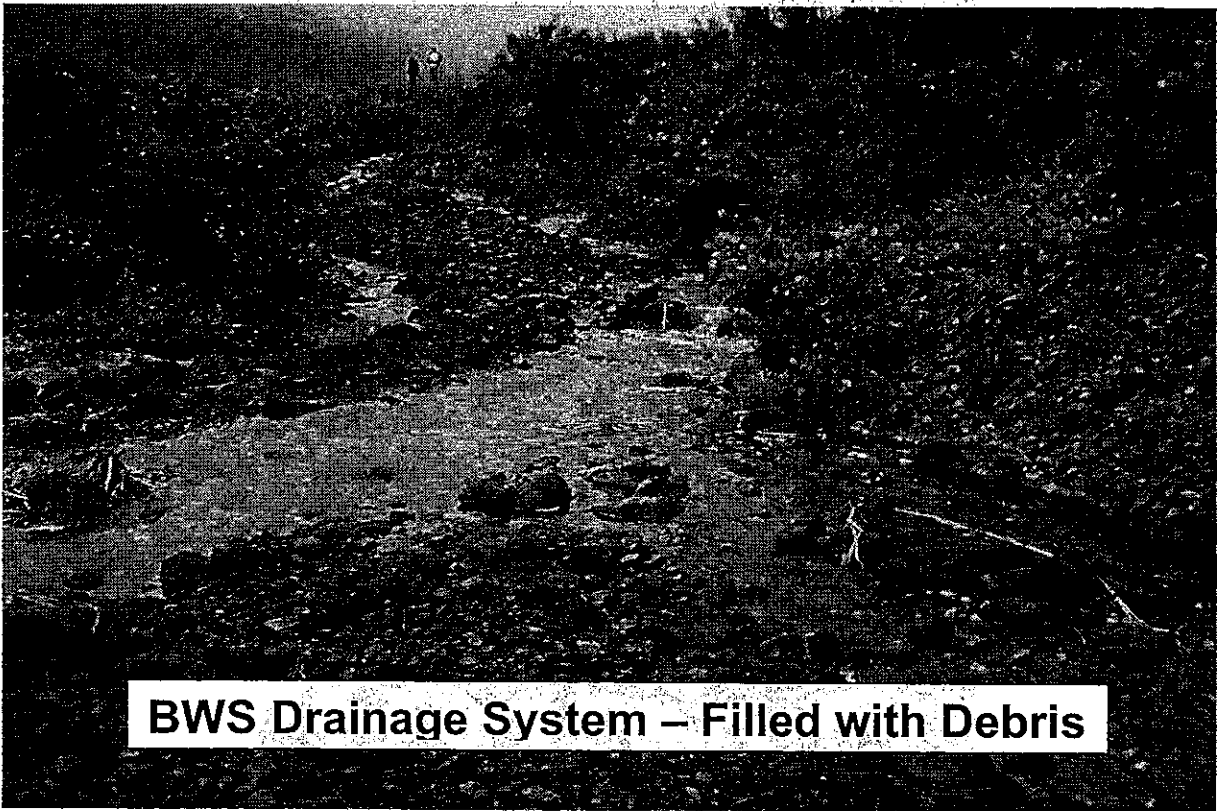




Makaha Marketplace

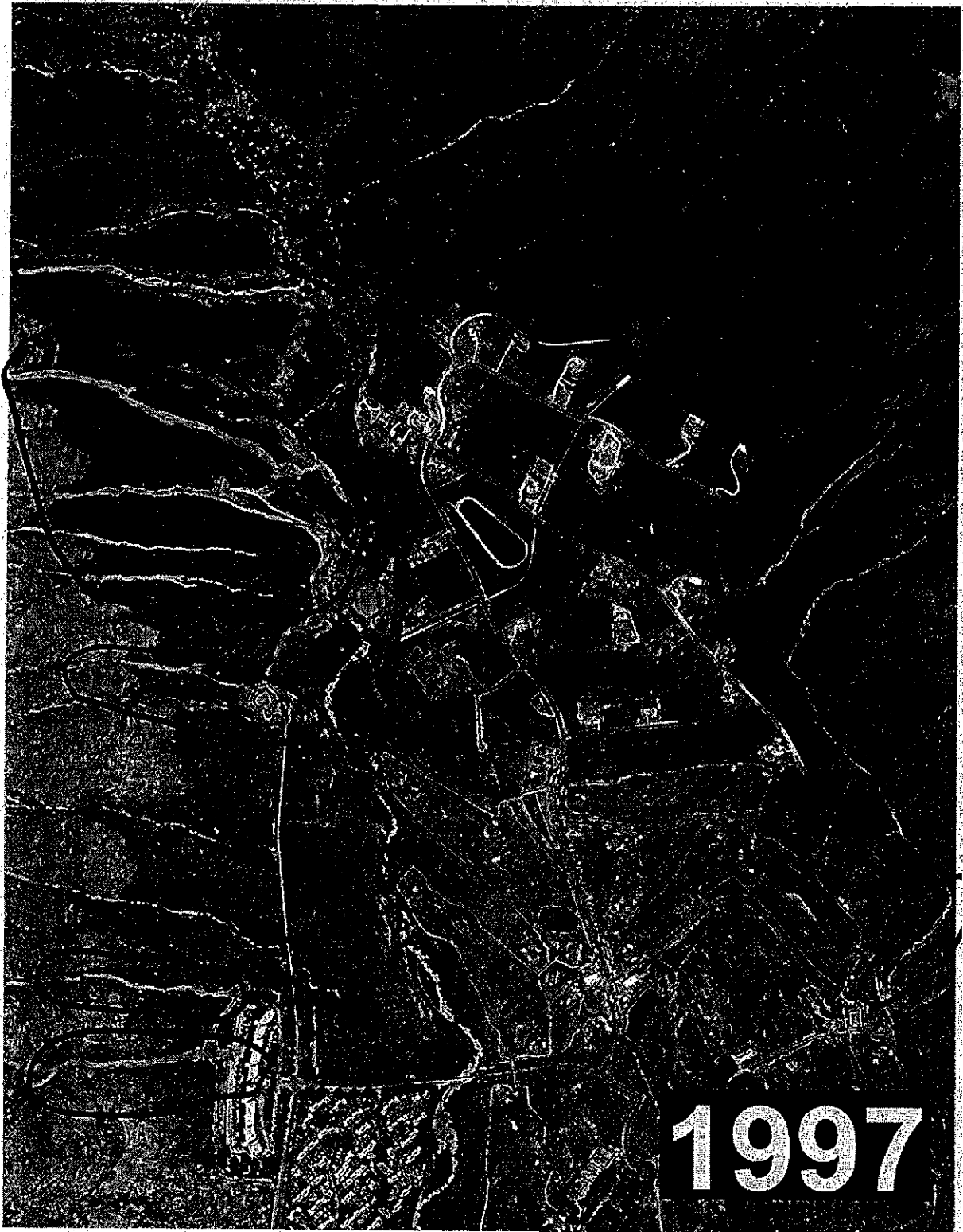
corner of Farrington and Makaha Valley Rd

Dec 11, 2008



BWS Drainage System – Filled with Debris

Aerial Photo February 1997



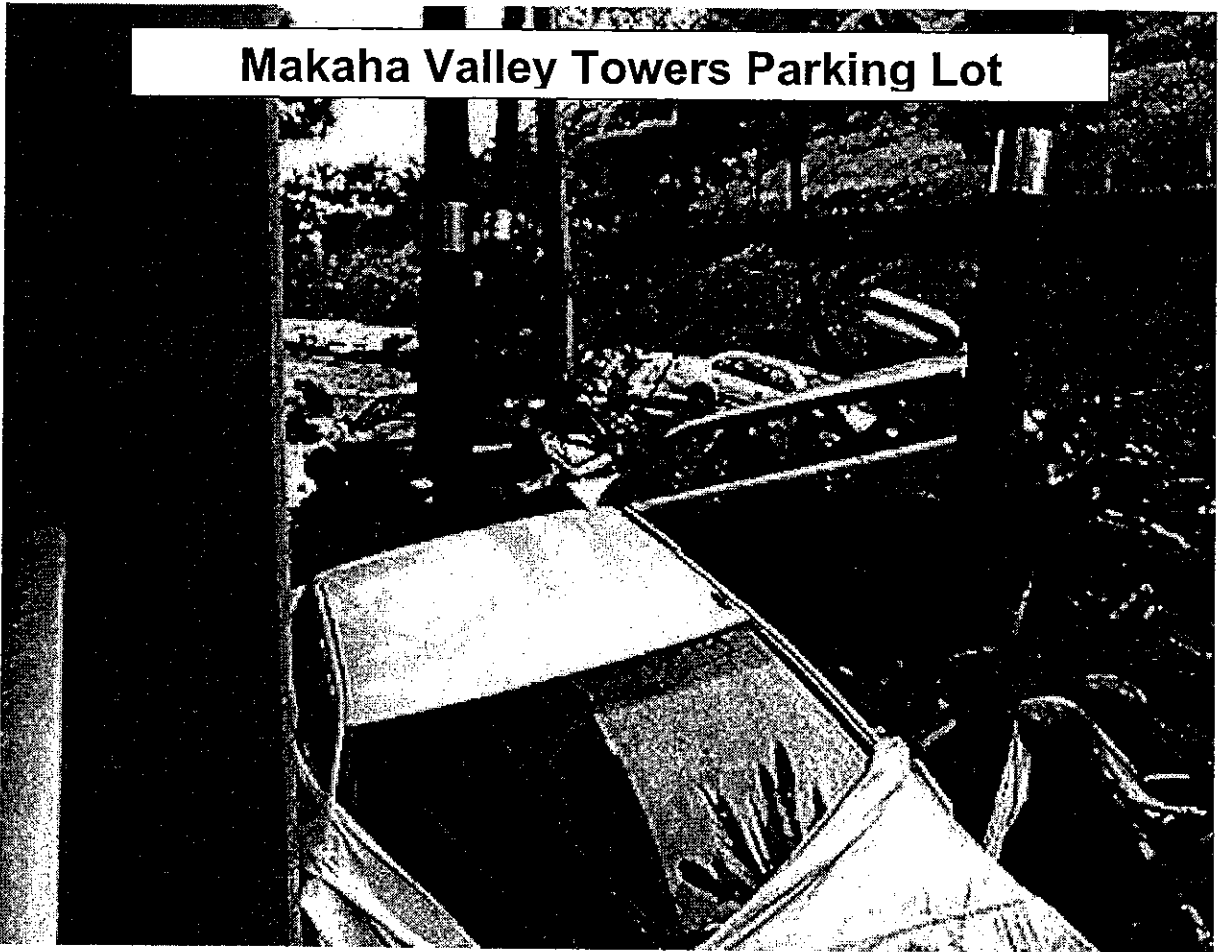
Makaha Valley Towers Lobby



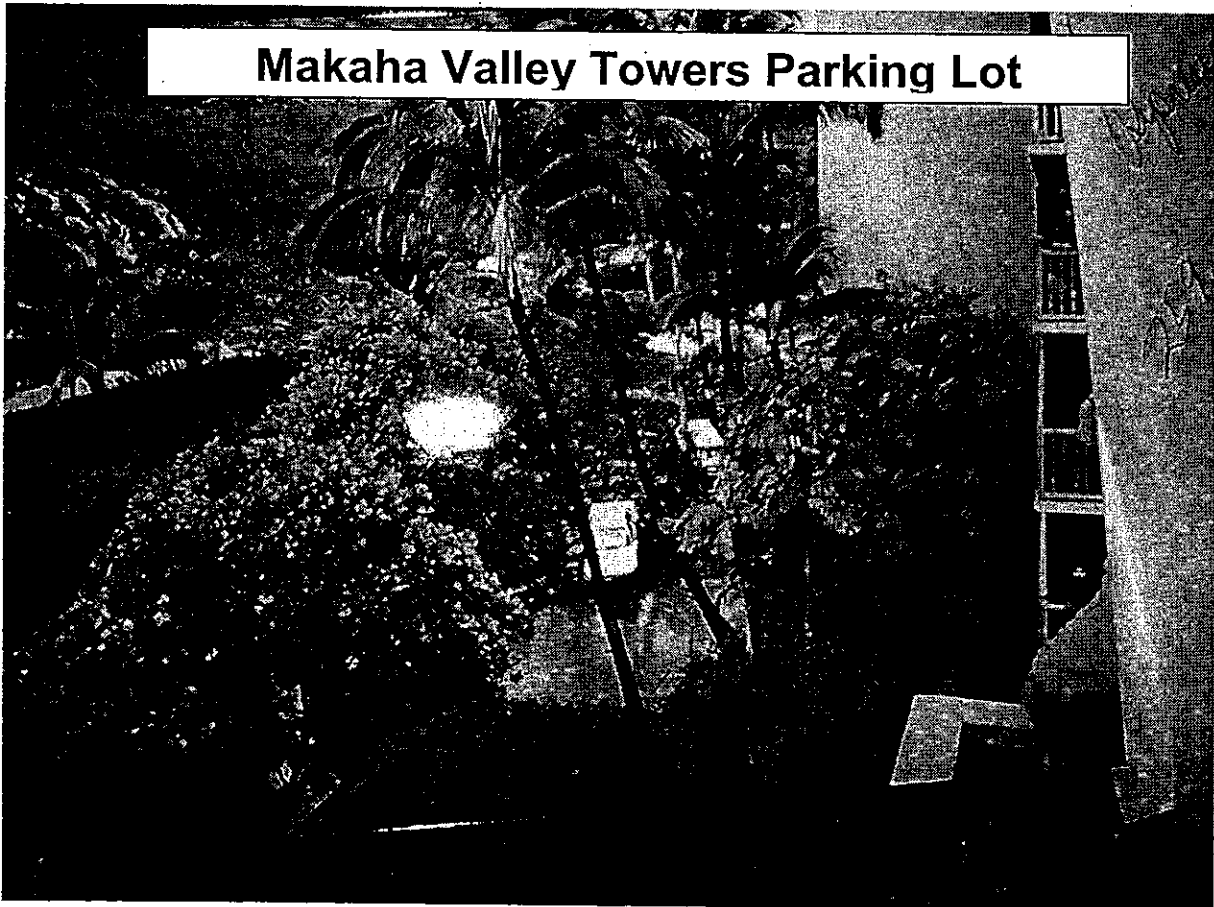
Makaha Valley Towers Parking Lot



Makaha Valley Towers Parking Lot



Makaha Valley Towers Parking Lot



LATE TESTIMONY

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012 COMMITTEE
ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES
Rep. Jerry L. Chang, Chair

**HB 2883 titled "Relating to Makaha
Valley,"**

Date of Hearing: February 10, 2012
Time: 9:45 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 325, State Capitol, 415 SOUTH Beretania Street

I strongly support passage of HB 2883 titled "Relating to Makaha Valley."

Passage of this House Bill will provide a real and lasting solution to identifying and addressing the long-standing flooding problems that plague Makaha Valley.

After 30 + years working DoD Facilities Maintenance and Transportation Departments, it has been my experience that numerous modifications are made to infrastructure, land and utilities and the on file engineering plans and drawings are not properly updated.

I know of numerous locations in Makaha alone where this has taken place and causes flooding in these and other locations as the consequence of this.

By passing this Bill many areas can be identified so proper action can be taken to resolve these problems therefore perpetuating enormous savings to both C&C of Honolulu and the State of Hawaii, due to the fact it is less costly to correct infrastructure than to repair it and the surrounding damage caused by it, plus the potential cost of litigation because of private/personal property and possible loss of life.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely

Bob R. Smith
Makaha Resident

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 9:47 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: L8m2000@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2883 on 2/10/2012 9:45:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 2/10/2012 9:45:00 AM HB2883

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lee and Maureen Young
Organization: Individual
E-mail: L8m2000@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2012

Comments:

We would like to encourage the Hawaii State Legislature to pass HB2883 and to fund the study of the problem of flooding in Makaha Valley. This ongoing problem has been occurring at regular intervals of heavy rain and has already cause a great deal of damage to Makaha Valley residents, businesses the golf course and to City and private streets. The water sheds off of the steep mountains in great quantity and without the proper drainage system will continue to cause damage in the area. We have witnessed water damage and flooding within our Mauna Ou Sub-division resulting from the water flowing into the sub-division from Board of Water Supply land on the mountain side. We have also experienced water flowing onto our lot from adjacent property requiring special channeling of the water through our property. We also witnessed damage to the roadsides and to private lots within our Mauna Olu Estates sub-division. It appears that the damage was the result of water flowing into the subdivision from the mountain on the east side. A solution is needed because the movement of the water, and the quantity of the water, is increasing over time from the mid 90's until the present time. Eventually the condition will be such that more homes and roads and businesses will be damaged, including the possible threat to lives. A permanent solution is needed. We support a study by a non-biased credible and professional team, who can take responsibility for their recommendations.