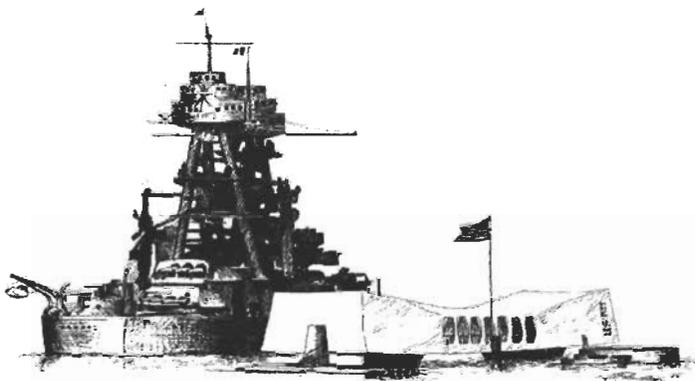


PRESS RELEASE

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Navy Region Hawaii wins environmental award

PEARL HARBOR – The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) announced on Jan. 6 that Navy Region Hawaii, which oversees Hawaii-based Navy installations, was selected winner of the CNO Environmental Quality Non-Industrial Installation Award. The award is one of 10 categories that recognize ships, installations, and individuals or teams for their exceptional environmental stewardship.

Navy Region Hawaii manages a comprehensive environmental program, which balances the Navy's operational mission with the protection and preservation of Hawaii's unique environment. The command provides direct fleet support to more than 25 ships and submarines, four aircraft squadrons, oversees and maintains all Navy facilities, buildings and more than 4,500 military family housing units in a region that extends over 23,000 acres of land and water.

Navy Region Hawaii leverages technologies and proactively seeks process improvements to protect the environment. Some award highlights include:

- establishing a computer-based Environmental Management System to ensure continuous improvement;
- converting to the use of energy-efficient B-20 biodiesel fuel in government transportation vehicles;
- cleaning up 86 sites that contained polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and saving \$24 million in the process by using a consolidated treatment site on island;
- initiating a project that provides recycled water for irrigation of the Navy's Barbers Point Golf Course, resulting in saving 1.2 million gallons of potable water per day;
- establishing credible working partnerships with local government agencies and regulators;
- conducting an aggressive community involvement program, which includes hosting an annual Earth Day Fair to raise environmental awareness throughout the community; and
- partnering with various community organizations and local government agencies on cleanup projects. Navy volunteers regularly work together with the Hawaii Nature Center to preserve and restore the 70-acre Pouhala marsh, one of the largest of the remaining wetlands in Pearl Harbor.

CNO Adm. Michael Mullen congratulated the winners whose programs stood the test of tough requirements. "I am proud that you are working hard to achieve superior environmental stewardship while executing our primary mission of national defense," said Mullen. "Your work has added to the Navy's ever-growing record of accomplishments, proving yet again that the Navy's environmental programs are among the finest in the world."

Navy Region Hawaii will now advance to the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Environmental Awards competition. The CNO and SECNAV awards ceremonies will be held on May 3 in Washington, D.C.

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