

DEREK J. CHOW

AREAS SERVED: US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Honolulu District, Honolulu, Hawaii; US Forces-Afghanistan, Kabul, Afghanistan; USACE, Gulf Region North, Danger Resident Office, Tikrit, Iraq; US Army Garrison, Hawaii, Wheeler AAF, Hawaii; Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission, Kahoolawe, Hawaii; USACE, Seattle District, Seattle, Washington; Seattle Water Department, Seattle, Washington; USACE, Japan District, Yokota Air Base, Japan.

DUTIES PERFORMED:

06/01/2018 to present. Senior Project Manager, Project Management Group, SSFM International, Inc., Honolulu, HI.

Provides management and oversight of planning and design projects throughout the State of Hawaii, Pacific Territories, and Federated States of Micronesia.

10/01/2007 to 5/30/2018. Chief, Civil & Public Works Branch, GS-14, US Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu, HI.

Works closely with the District Commander, deputy, and other principal staff in administering the District's missions towards achieving strategic plans, goals, and objectives. As Chief of Civil Works (CW), administers the Honolulu District's water resources development/civil works program of critical water infrastructure projects throughout Hawaii and Pacific Territories. Administers the work for others/reimbursable program for customers in Hawaii, Pacific Territories, and Freely Associated States. Provides command and control of staff performance and project activities, interfaces with external regional colleagues, conducts quality assurance on all products and services, supervises program management and development over the District's investigations, construction, operations and maintenance, and regulatory functions in accordance with the USACE Business Process. Serves as the District's primary point of contact on all civil works issues. Supervises and manages program and project managers, as well as facilitates horizontal integration with technical elements, in their execution, formulation and management of investigations, planning, design, and construction phases of deep water commercial ports, small boat harbors, construction, operations, and maintenance of flood control structures, shoreline erosion prevention, ecosystem restoration projects, watershed planning, protection and restoration of wetlands, and supports natural disaster and emergency readiness response programs. Responsible for management decisions on major civil works and Interagency and International Services (IIS) program issues. Established the integrated water resources strategy for the USACE CW program in the Pacific that includes developing collaborative partnerships with sponsors, federal, state, county, territorial government agencies, communities, stakeholders, and elected officials resulting not only in an improved process but also improved relationships.

Set goals and objectives to maximize and protect federal investments and in particular for the CW Operations and Maintenance (O&M) program to maintain projects to function as designed. Informs State, Territorial, and County governors and mayors in understanding the vulnerabilities of unmaintained projects and ineligibility of these projects for Federal assistance if not maintained. Raised Federal navigation projects conditions to "good".

Aligned assignments of civil works project managers and planning staff with their strengths, skills, and experiences that resulted in improved performance and management. Restructured the civil works staff training plan to focus not only on the Planning Core

Curriculum Courses, but also to take advantage of the information, experiences, and network by attending annual Planning Communities of Practice (CoP) conference and Project Management CoP conference. Brought carryover to within acceptable limits. Instituted end of year technical summaries of multiyear civil works projects and studies that helps create a historic record for multi-year studies. Integrated consultant resources seamlessly into in-house resources to accomplish project activities.

Works closely with the Division and Headquarters (HQ) staff to vertically integrate project development and decisions. Formulates the District's civil works budget priorities by considering sponsor requests and needs, congressional priorities, and Administration priorities. Realigned programs to focus on modifications and rehabilitation of existing navigation projects and the conduct of technical studies that aide sponsors with their decisions on critical water infrastructure development.

Serves as the District's congressional liaison. Maintains direct contact with Hawaii and Pacific Territory Delegation Members and staff. Assists, advises, and able to influence legislation of particular benefit to the region. Maintains situational awareness of Federal and State legislation affecting the District's civil works program and budget. Monitors programs of interest to the congressional members including Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS), and regulatory functions and facilitate actions or responses when needed. Provides support to sponsors and congressional members in development of legislation. Generates District responses to congressional inquiries. Provides site tours to Hawaii Congressional Members and staff.

Created CW and IIS business opportunities by establishing relationships with presidents and ministers/secretaries in the Freely Associated States, governors and mayors in the Pacific Territories and throughout Hawaii government by helping these customers understand how they can augment their resources and prioritize their responsibilities utilizing the services of USACE. Gives presentations to agencies, groups, and organizations interested in USACE programs and suggests strategy in obtaining USACE assistance. Gained the Office of Hawaiian Affairs trust and willingness to partner with USACE on projects of mutual interest.

Created opportunity for USACE, Honolulu District to secure the \$300M Federated States of Micronesia's (FSM) Infrastructure Development Program that includes capacity building. Throughout the years, maintained engagements with changing FSM Administrations on USACE capabilities. FSM failed to meet expectations and execution objectives of the U.S.-funded program. USACE has taken over the program to infuse organization, policies, procedures, competencies, and strategies in executing the program in 5 years. This includes working through the difficult and challenging FSM communication problems both internal and external to the government, advising on needed legislative fixes in the appropriation process, establishing roles and responsibilities of each of the 4 States and National government, addressing concerns and scrutiny by the FSM President, as well as keeping the US State Department and Office of Insular Affairs appraised of the progress and issues. Improvements in the FSM economy and stability, as is much of the Freely Associated States, has US national security implications.

Facilitates resolution of the key project issues. Reduced the District's liability on the Palau Road Repair claim through insisting an analysis of technical merit be conducted. Gained the City and County of Honolulu's commitment to the Ala Wai Canal Project. Forced the sponsor to terminate the Maalaea Harbor Improvements Project after no State progress in resolving

issues. Addressed and resolved the State of Hawaii Department of Health's demand for compliance with the Section 401 of the Clean Water Act in a way that avoided delays to the \$13M maintenance dredging of Hawaii commercial harbors in 2016.

Actively participates in the ongoing USACE CW transformation and modernization. Provided direct assistance to Institute of Water Resources (IWR) in the development of national planning tools that are now incorporated into the USACE Planning Community Toolbox website.

Tasked by the District Commander and Deputy for Project Management to resolve issues and delays in the processing of Regulatory permits. Coordinated beyond the normal organizational structure to identify the problem and work with Regulatory elements to resolve.

Serves as a policy member on various Federal and State agency and academia committees to ensure USACE is integrated into forums that discuss local and regional needs including Hawaii Fresh Water Initiative, Ocean Resource Management Plan, University of Hawaii's Water Resources Research Council, and others. Creates and maintains collaborative partnership amongst local and Federal agencies resulting in an improvement in the working relationship and establishment of trust.

Serves as Director of the District's Leadership Development (LDP) Level 2 program. Administers the LDP program from selection of LDP cohorts through completion of assignments and graduation. Establishes schedules and deadlines, secures professional instructors and facilitators, execute instructor contracts, reviews and revises curriculum based on need and contemporary leadership topics and principles, mentors and coaches cohorts, involved in resolving conflicts between LDP program and cohort work assignments, and provides progress updates to the District's Corporate Board.

Possesses Top Secret clearance.

4/8/2012 to 10/20/2012. Chief, Water & Infrastructure Division, GS-15, US Forces-Afghanistan, Kabul, Afghanistan.

Served as Chief of the Water & Infrastructure Division, Joint Programs Integration Office, Joint Engineering Directorate, US Forces-Afghanistan. Oversaw the \$1.2B Afghanistan Infrastructure Fund (AIF) program, which was intended to provide critical electrical, water, transportation, and other services to the Afghan people with a major objective of providing stability. Formulated and initiated execution of the FY11-13 \$1.2B AIF program. Obtained Commander of International Security Assistance Force (COMISAF) and US Ambassador to Afghanistan (AMB) validation of the AIF FY11, 12, and 13 program priorities, and formulated the notional AIF FY14 program. Ensured the maximum use of the available AIF program funds and funded priority projects in accordance with COMISAF and AMB priorities. Fostered a partnership relationship with the US Embassy, Kabul and US Agency for International Development (USAID) staff in the joint management of the Afghanistan Infrastructure Program (AIP) as required by the AIF legislation; overcame barriers and transformed the relationship to that of trust, transparency, and collaboration. Received a certificate of appreciation from USAID for leading the partnership. Provided input to Congressional inquiries in support of the confirmation of Ambassador Cunningham in August 2012. Worked closely with US Central Command (CENTCOM) and Office of the Secretary of Defense in addressing AIF progress, issues, and approvals. Participated in key leader

engagements with Afghan officials, including Ishmail Khan (formerly commander of the Northern Alliance) Minister of Energy and Water, and Najibullah Auodjan, Minister of Public Works. Briefed senior military and civilian officials including COMISAF and AMB. Formulated procedures with J8 (Army Finance) that resulted in a streamlined funding process. Collected information on security transition to the Afghan Public Protection Force (APPF) and related it to impacts on AIF projects. Participated in and addressed Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) and Government Accountability Office (GAO) audits. Composed formal rebuttals to audit findings and recommendations for senior manager transmittal. Supervised and mentored six Program Managers in the execution of the AIF program. Briefed US Senator Lindsey Graham on the progress of the AIF program and program funding.

11/01/2000 to 09/30/2007. Senior Project Manager, GS-13, Civil & Public Works Branch, US Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu, HI.

As Senior Project Manager (PM), managed selected critical water resources development/civil works projects in the investigations and implementation phases throughout Hawaii and Pacific Territories with little supervision. Directly managed the performance of project delivery teams in their conduct of technical studies, analyses, plan formulation, alternatives analysis, report preparation, and review. Interfaced directly with the sponsor's representatives, including meetings with agency directors and government officials, and elected officials. Conducted quality assurance on all products and services prepared by the project delivery team. Instituted, convened, prepared and hosted Executive Committee meetings in accordance with agreements.

During August 2005 through October 2006, served as a Fellow in the Honolulu Office of US Senator Daniel K. Inouye. Duties included preparation of Senator's energy and water budget priorities for inclusion in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Energy & Water Appropriation, preparation of special funding for the FY06 Emergency Supplemental Appropriation Act, advising on USACE of Engineers work items, programs, and processes, facilitating coordination between Federal and local agencies on water resources items of interest to the Senator, assisted constituents with research and inquiries into Federal agencies programs, and assisted with other duties related to the US Senate. Served as liaison on some issues common to all Hawaii congressional offices, especially water resources issues of interest to USACE, US Geological Survey, and US Dept of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Services.

Managed the emergency dam safety inspections throughout all Hawaiian Islands after the March 2006 Kaloko Dam failure and the October 2006 Hawaii M6.7 earthquake. Honolulu District received numerous public accolades by the Governor and State Adjutant General (TAG) for the value of the dam safety inspections and responsiveness to their needs. Led a project delivery team made up of in-house and USACE Hydrologic Engineering Center (HEC) technical staff, four hydraulic engineering consultants, and sponsor in the conduct of the \$2M Dam Break Analyses that helped the State of Hawaii in better understanding the vulnerabilities of communities that resided below critical high risk dams. Briefed State TAG on the results of the dam safety inspections and dam break analyses.

Established a planning direction by promoting a systems approach to water resources problem solving and integrated comprehensive watershed plans as exemplified by the Ala Wai Canal Project, West Honolulu Watershed Study, and the Central Oahu Watershed Study. Gave presentations on watershed planning and the concept of integrated watershed plans to

USACE's Planning CoP (2006), PM CoP (2007), and Watershed Planning Conference (2003), on ecosystem restoration to the Japan Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport agency (2006), and on POH's dam safety support to the State of Hawaii to the Society of Military Engineers, Association of Building Contractors (Hawaii Chapter), American Planning Association, and ASCE World Environmental & Water Resources Congress (2008).

Asst Team Leader on the District's Infrastructure Assessment Team (2003-2004) in preparation for and support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). Asst Team Leader and Master Planner on the District's Based Development Team (2001-2003) in preparation for and support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

03/06/2005 to 07/20/2005. Resident Engineer, GS-13, Danger Resident Office, US Army Corps of Engineers, Gulf Region North, Tikrit, Iraq.

Served as Resident Engineer of USACE's Danger Resident Office. Oversaw over \$50M of Infrastructure Reconstruction in the Salah Al Din Province, Iraq during OIF. Projects included the construction of water treatment facilities, electrical substations, roads, health clinics, renovation of schools and train stations. Supervised and mentored USACE employees and Iraqi nationals in the performance of quality assurance inspections and construction management. Provided USACE Project Management Business Process (PMBP) and Construction Quality Management (CQM) training to Iraqi engineers to aide in their conduct of construction management duties; this came at a time when Iraqi engineers served merely as "eyes" for the USACE. Resolved non-responsiveness by construction contractors in an attempt to avoid contractor default. Provided updates in weekly Project Quality Review Boards (PQRB) meetings between the Army Command and Salah Al Din Governate. Addressed living conditions and quality of life issues for USACE staff. Possessed Contracting Officers Representative warrant. Served as payment officer for the Accelerated Iraq Reconstruction Program. Supported the 3rd Infantry Division with engineering assessments of select infrastructure to determine suitability for occupancy.

07/01/2000 to 10/30/2000. Master Planner, GS-11, Real Property Planning Branch, US Army Garrison, Hawaii, DPW, Schofield Barracks, HI.

Managed Army installation consultant Master Planning contracts. Managed review and approval of User site requests (FEWR). Prepared current and future facility plan briefings for the Garrison Commander.

03/01/1998 to 06/30/2000. Maui Operations Manager, Maui Field Office, State of Hawaii, Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission, Wailuku, HI.

Managed, coordinated, organized, and directed State of Hawaii Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) Remediation Operations on the remote island of Kahoolawe (former naval gun-fire range). Supervised four Field Technicians in duties including land use planning, field observations/inspections, and support to Restoration, Ocean, and Cultural Programs. Conducted regular performance reviews with staff and assessed performance for performance appraisals. Served as direct interface with Navy representatives and Contractor technical personnel conducting unexploded ordnance (UXO) detection and removal operations. Served as KIRC's member to the Government Review Board in which all UXO clean-up work progress was reviewed and accepted before the Contractor was allowed to move to the next phase and to validate payment requests. Served as the KIRC Safety Coordinator. My experiences and knowledge of the military project development and management process allowed me to effectively engage the Navy and address project delivery issues.

07/01/1991 to 04/30/1997. Project Manager, GS-12, Planning Branch, US Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle, WA.

Managed the development of the Howard Hanson Dam (HHD) Additional Water Storage (Supply) Project; required resolving long standing disputes with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe over salmon fishery and assuring the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works ASA(CW) that Federal interest in the project was warranted. Resolved dispute by opening dialogue with Tribe, incorporating habitat restoration (beyond mitigation) into Project features, and utilizing multivariable decision analysis methodology as a means of reaching decisions in a fair manner. Briefed the Deputy ASA(CW) to gain approval to expand the HHD project to include ecosystem restoration and to overcome HQ USACE's objection to the sponsor's efforts to seek Congressional relief of the water supply repayment rules.

Managed the Lake Washington Ship Canal Water Conservation Study to find a means of reducing water usage during boat lock operations; water savings were intended to allow the City of Seattle to increase water supply diversions without the need for the USACE to assert Navigation Servitude. Briefed and hosted site tours for US Representatives Norm Dicks and Jennifer Dunn and US Senator Slade Gordon.

02/01/1991 to 06/30/1991. Project Manager, Seattle Water Department, Seattle, WA.

Managed the planning of the Cedar River Sockeye Salmon Hatchery that the City of Seattle was mandated to construct under consent decree for diverting water from the Cedar River. Directly interfaced with the US Army Corps of Engineers, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, State of Washington resource agencies, and Federal resource agencies. Oversaw planning and design efforts of the City's design consultant.

02/01/1989 to 11/30/1990. Office Engineer, GS-11, Yokota Project Office, US Army Corps of Engineers, Japan.

As the Chief of Office Engineering Branch, negotiated construction modifications with contractors; prepared government estimates. Possessed Contracting Officer's Representative warrant.

10/01/1985 to 02/30/1989. Project Engineer, GS-11, Fairchild Resident Office, US Army Corps of Engineers, Spokane, WA.

Managed multi-million dollar military construction projects under rigid completion schedules under severe winter conditions including requirements-contracts at Fairchild Air Force Base (Spokane, Washington), Yakima Firing Center (Yakima, Washington), and Army Reserve Centers throughout eastern Washington. Managed project schedules, coordinated activities with military customers, performed quality assurance inspections, prepared documentation for and conducted research for changes and potential claims, resolved project issues with construction contractor, monitored and evaluated contractor performance, prepared daily government reports as an attachment to contractor daily reports, prepared upward reports, reviewed contractor progress and recommended payment, performed constructability reviews, conducted pre-construction conferences, prepared quality assurance plans, reviewed contractor quality control plans, performed turnover inspections, prepared punch lists, and served as monthly Resident Office Safety Officer. Major military projects included Hydrant Fuel System, Personnel Housing (UEPH), T-9 Noise Suppressor Support Facility, Energy Conservation Improvement Program (ECIP) Weatherization Nose Docks, Miscellaneous O&M Projects, Rehabilitate Sewage Treatment Plant, POL facilities, Airfield Extension, MLRS Storage, and Tank Target Ranges.

EDUCATION:

- Master's of Public Administration, University of Hawaii, 2007.
- Bachelor's of Science in Civil Engineering, Seattle University, 1984.

LEADERSHIP

- US Coast Guard Senior Leadership program, 2016.
- Management Intern Program (leadership development program), Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, 1993-1994.

RECOGNITION:

- 2013 (2012) – Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff's Joint Meritorious Civilian Service Award, Headquarters, United States Forces - Afghanistan, OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM for service as the Chief of the Water and Infrastructure Division, Joint Programs Integration Office for the development and execution of the infrastructure strategies throughout the Afghanistan Theater of Operation.
- Recipient of the "Leader of the Year" award from the USACE of Engineers, Honolulu District, 2013.
- 2006 – Achievement Medal for Civilian Service for Project Management of the Statewide Dam Visual Conditions Survey, and member of the PDT for the POH PDT of the Year Award.
- 2005 – Commander's Award for Civilian Service for meritorious service as Resident Engineer and for providing PMBP/CQM training to Iraqi engineers.

