## **Media Advisory**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**POC:** LTJG Molly Sanders **Dec. 20, 2021** JIC: (808) 471-5013

## Drinking Water Recovery Plan Begins with Flushing in Pearl City

**JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii** – The U.S. Navy will begin flushing water lines at the Pearl City Peninsula military housing neighborhood today in accordance with the Drinking Water Distribution System Recovery Plan. Media are invited to see the process begin and discuss the way forward with Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) and state Department of Health experts.

"Our number one priority is ensuring all residents are safe. We are committed to providing all necessary support to our families and community, identifying and removing contaminants from our drinking water supply, and restoring safe drinking water as quickly as possible," Rear Adm. T.J. Kott, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, said in a letter sent to Navy housing residents.

Pearl City Peninsula will be flushed first to serve as the safe test case given its proximity to the Waiawa well, which has been the source of the Navy's drinking water since securing the Red Hill and Halawa wells on Nov. 28 and Dec. 3, respectively. Flushing of the distribution system at Pearl City Peninsula is expected to take one day.

Following a successful test, the distribution systems in the Army housing areas of Red Hill and Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) will be the first areas of focus as they are closest to Red Hill well.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP with the Joint Information Center Media Engagement Team. Email LTJG Molly Sanders, <u>molly.t.sanders.mil@us.navy.mil</u>, or call 808-471-5013 by 8:30 a.m. today.

Plan to meet on location at 9:45 a.m. Upon RSVP, the Joint Information Center will provide location details. The event will be open for video, audio and print coverage.