Honolulu Board of Water Supply News Release

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SWING AND POLES REMOVED FROM HAIKU STAIRS

Irresponsible and dangerous added attraction is gone

HONOLULU – Today a Board of Water Supply (BWS) contractor, The Nakoa Companies, removed the poles that supported the swing that was installed at the top of Haiku Stairs. The poles were removed, even though the swing and chains had been taken down and removed prior to today.

"The swing was an extremely dangerous attraction at Haiku Stairs that should never have been installed in the first place," said BWS Manager and Chief Engineer Ernest Lau. "In addition to drawing thrill seekers to illegally climb the stairs and put their own lives at risk for the chance to ride it, the swing encouraged people to step onto and damage the watershed land it was placed over. The poles needed to be removed to eliminate the chance that another device could be installed in the same area."

Operations began shortly after 7:45 a.m. at the former Coast Guard Omega station, which was used as the loading zone, and ended about 12:30 p.m. A helicopter was used to transport BWS security staff and The Nakoa Companies workers and their equipment to the site and to cut down as well as remove the remains of the poles so it would not be left on watershed lands. The BWS estimates that the badly rusting poles were about 30 feet tall and about 12 inches in diameter at the base.

Photos as well as a brief video taken of the return of the last of the workers is available, courtesy of the Board of Water Supply, here.

About the Board of Water Supply

The Board of Water Supply (BWS), a semi-autonomous agency of the City and County of Honolulu, manages Oahu's municipal water resources and distribution system. As the largest water utility in the State, the BWS serves approximately one million customers on Oahu. The BWS embraces its mission of "Water for Life – *Ka Wai Ola*"—to provide a safe, dependable, and affordable water supply, now and into the future. *Uwē ka lani, ola ka honua* – "When the heavens weep, the earth lives." For more information about the BWS, visit www.boardofwatersupply.com, follow @BWSHonolulu or like the BWS's Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/BWSHonolulu.

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