



THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I

DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

MICHAEL A. DAHILIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

News Release

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KAUA'I FIRE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT WESTERMAN, OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF
Tel (808) 241-4980
Fax (808) 241-6508

Firefighters rescue 13 hikers from Hanakāpī'ai

HANAKĀPĪ'AI – Hanalei firefighters rescued 13 hikers who were stranded in Hanakāpī'ai Sunday afternoon.

Kaua'i Fire Department personnel were notified on Sunday of 13 hikers who were reportedly stranded in Hanakāpī'ai for approximately two to three days, due to ongoing flooding conditions of the Hanakāpī'ai Stream. No injuries or medical needs were reported.

KFD personnel were unable to conduct air or sea evacuations on Sunday due to hazardous weather conditions. However, at approximately 1:45 p.m., Hanalei firefighters began to hike to Hanakāpī'ai Stream where they would deliver basic supplies such as food, water, and thermal blankets to the stranded individuals by way of a rope system.

When firefighters arrived on scene, they assessed the situation and found a safe path for the hikers to cross the stream. With their guidance, all 13 hikers were safely extricated from Hanakāpī'ai and were assisted to Kē'ē Beach by approximately 7 p.m.

No injuries were reported and all individuals were released at Kē'ē.

"I commend our firefighters for their tremendous effort to care for and keep these individuals safe from harm," said Chief Robert Westerman. "We would like to remind all hikers and beachgoers to remain vigilant during these unstable weather conditions and to always seek advice from officials before attempting any outdoor activity."



The Kalalau Trail has been closed since Thursday, Jan. 9, and remains closed at this time due to high stream levels, according to State Department of Land and Natural Resources officials.

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