Alexander Dam, the second highest embankment in Hawaii, is located on the south side of the Hawaiian Island of Kauai. The dam failed during construction in 1930, causing the fatalities of six construction workers on the embankment. The dam was designed as a hydraulic filled embankment used to irrigate local sugarcane fields. The embankment was at a height of 95 feet and 78% complete when it failed. The embankment was rebuilt, completed in 1932, and it remains in service today. This presentation will discuss: The history of Kauai as it relates to dam building during the early 1900s, a background on hydraulic fill embankment construction, how hydraulic fill embankments are used today and how many are still in use, and other lessons learned from this event.