### U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii – Environmental Compliance Guide

# NATURAL RESOURCES

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

USAG-HI Natural Resources program promotes the preservation of rare plants and animals found on Oahu and Pohakuloa Army training areas, and the ecosystems upon which they depend. USAG-HI is responsible for conserving over 120 federally-listed endangered species on Oahu and the Big Island. Of the 120 endangered species managed, most are plant species that are found nowhere else in the world.

## THREATS TO HAWAII'S NATURAL RESOURCES

Both invasive species and human activities threaten fragile endangered species and their habitats. Endangered species can be impacted by non-native plants and animals, erosion, pedestrian and animal traffic, and fire.

Human activities such as clearing of vegetation, military training exercises, tactical vehicle maneuvers, and live fire activity impact endangered species in Hawaii. *Fire and invasive species introduction and spread are the major Army related threat sto endangered species.* 

Step 1: You need to know your responsibilities and keep within the boundaries designated for your particular training exercise. Follow proper procedures such as Range SOPs and FRAGOS.

#### CONSERVATION PROCEDURES

If you have questions regarding endangered species located nearby the training areas, **ASK**, because after-the-fact forgiveness provisions do not exist within the endangered species laws. Individuals who impact endangered species can be held personally liable for a \$50K fine for each species impacted.

**Step 2:** Sustaining the quality of the natural environment will enable us to support Army training for years to come. Listed below are actions you are expected to take with regard to conserving our land:

- Properly clean your gear and vehicles before moving between training areas, use the washracks.
- Do not engage in risky behavior that can start fires. *Smoke only in designated areas*.
- Do not cut trees >15 ft without prior approval
- Report all snake sightings
- Avoid areas marked by Seibert Stakes
- Share available published information

