



Welcome to the Draft EIS Public Meeting

What are Draft EIS Public Meetings?

The Army has prepared a Draft EIS to analyze the impacts of retaining State-leased land on O'ahu. Draft EIS public meetings are conducted in compliance with NEPA and HEPA to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft EIS to aid Army development of the Final EIS.

Public meetings allow the public to:

- Learn about the Proposed Action and alternatives that were analyzed.
- Learn about potential impacts.
- Inform the Army of potential concerns.
- Recommend potential impacts that should be studied further.

The Draft EIS and additional materials are available on the EIS website at <https://home.army.mil/hawaii/OahuEIS> as well as at four public libraries: Hawai'i Documents Center at the Hawai'i State Library, Kahuku Public Library, Wahiawā Public Library, and Wai'anae Public Library.

What to Expect after Public Comment Period?

After the 60-day public comment period has ended, the Army will consider all public comments and incorporate substantive public input into the development of the Final EIS. The Army's decision will then be documented in a Record of Decision made available to the public no sooner than 30 days following publication of the Final EIS.

Your input is valuable!

Options to Submit Comments

Comment period is June 7 – August 7, 2024

- In-person: attend a public meeting
- EIS website: <https://home.army.mil/hawaii/OahuEIS>
- Email: ATLR-Oahu-EIS@g70.design
- Phone: (808) 515-5518
- Mail: ATLR O'ahu EIS Comments
P.O. Box 3444
Honolulu, HI 96801-3444



Scan with smartphone
to be directed to the
O'ahu EIS website.

Draft EIS Public Meetings

Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Native Hawaiian organizations; and the public are invited to participate in the Draft EIS public meetings and provide comments, which will be held at the following locations on the following dates and times:

1. July 9, 6-8 PM – Wai'anae District Park Multi-Purpose Room
2. July 10, 6-8 PM – Kahuku High and Intermediate School
3. July 11, 6-8 PM – Leilehua High School

The public may review the meeting materials for the Draft EIS on the EIS website at: <https://home.army.mil/hawaii/OahuEIS>

Note: All comments will be reviewed, regardless of how they are submitted. Personal contact information will not be published in the Final EIS. Personal contact information will be maintained for the project record and will not be released unless required by law.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Hawai'i Environmental Policy Act (HEPA)

NEPA

- NEPA is a U.S. law implemented via Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 1500–1508, as amended.
- NEPA procedures ensure environmental information is available to public officials and citizens before decisions are made and before actions are taken.
- The Proposed Action is a federally funded real estate action.



Natural resource management on O'ahu
Photo Credit: U.S. Army

HEPA

- HEPA refers to the State EIS process: Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 343, and Hawai'i Administrative Rules Chapter 11-200.1.
- HEPA establishes a system of environmental reviews to guide decision making.
- The Proposed Action includes State-owned land and will comply with HEPA processes.

NEPA/HEPA

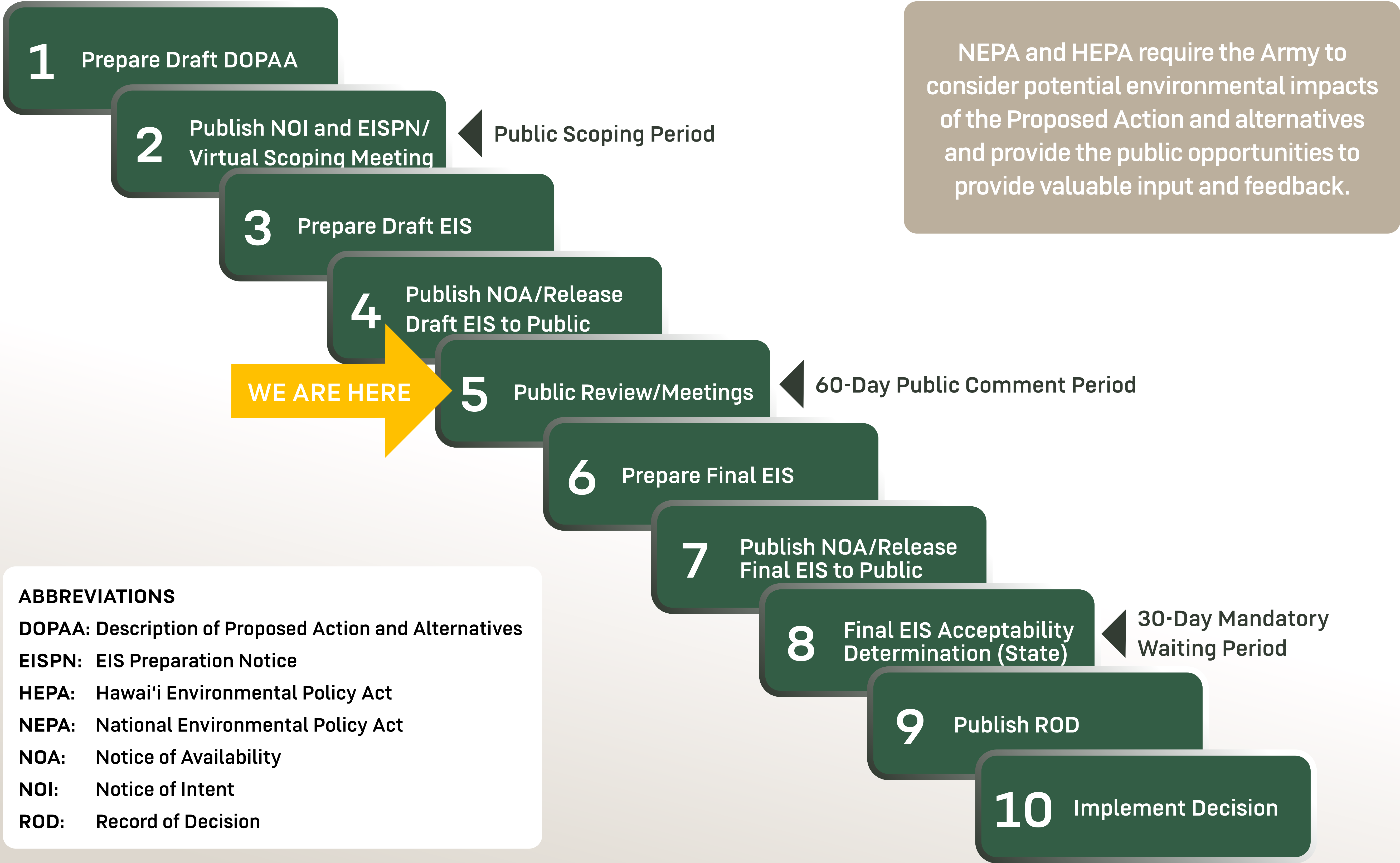
Public involvement is a key component of the NEPA and HEPA processes. Opportunities include:

- A 40-day public scoping period that ran from July 23 to September 1, 2021.
- EIS online scoping meeting with oral comment options via webinar platform or recorded phone line.
- HEPA Cultural Impact Assessment (completed).
- Draft EIS (NOA on June 7, 2024) with a 60-day comment period (from June 7 – August 7, 2024) and public meetings.



U.S. ARMY

EIS Process



Military in Hawai'i and KTA, Poamoho, and MMR

Hawai'i is Important to the Military

- Hawai'i is strategically important to national defense. Its location between the continental U.S. and the Indo-Pacific region serves as a logistics link and allows for rapid troop deployment.
- Hawai'i is home to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, which has an area of responsibility that covers half the globe and more than 50% of the world's population.
- Hawai'i hosts the headquarters for U.S. Army Pacific, U.S. Pacific Fleet, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, Pacific Air Forces, and U.S. Special Operations Command Pacific.
- Hawai'i provides a range of training environments that cannot be replicated in other states, preparing troops to fight as they train.

Military Economic Benefits to Hawai'i

- In 2022, there were 68,500 active duty, reserve, and civilian personnel in the State.
- In 2022, the U.S. military paid \$5.3B in wages to defense personnel in the State.
- In 2022, overall defense spending in Hawaii was \$8.8B.

State-owned Lands at the O'ahu Training Areas are Important to the Military

- Retention of maneuver area on State-owned lands at the O'ahu training areas is important for maneuver and non-live-fire training, and to accommodate company-sized and larger units.
- The O'ahu training areas are used for joint and multinational training exercises.
- Several of the training features and capabilities within the State-owned lands are not available elsewhere within O'ahu.
- Critical U.S. Government-owned facilities and infrastructure are located on the State-owned lands.



Demonstration of a helicopter air-to-ground training military exercise; Soldiers serving Thanksgiving meals to the community. Photo Credit: U.S. Army

Why Retain State-owned Lands on O'ahu?

ARMY LEASES EXPIRING

The U.S. Government uses approximately 18,000 acres for military training purposes at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area (Poamoho), and Makua Military Reservation where the Army has been for the past six decades. Of these lands, approximately 6,322 acres are leased from the State through 65-year leases which expire on August 16, 2029. The Proposed Action is to retain these State-owned lands for continued use as Army training lands.

STATE-OWNED LANDS ESSENTIAL TO TRAINING

The State-owned lands contain some key training facilities on O'ahu, supporting numerous training activities, maneuver areas, and capabilities that are essential to the Army, other military services, and local agencies.

IMPACTS TO MISSION

Loss of these lands would reduce the ability of the Army, other military services, and local agencies to meet their training requirements and mission readiness.





Overview: Kahuku Training Area

State-Owned Land at Kahuku Training Area (KTA)

- Located in the northern end of the Ko'olau Mountains in northeast O'ahu.
- Consists of approximately 9,480 acres, with 1,150 acres leased from the State.
- Includes Tract A-1 (450 acres) and Tract A-3 (700 acres).
- Used for ground maneuver and helicopter flight training.
- Contains training areas as well as landing zones, access gates, and range roads.
- Portions are used by the public on weekends for recreation such as motocross, hunting, and hiking.



Photo Credit: U.S. Army

Overview: Kawaiiloa-Poamoho Training Area

State-Owned Land at Kawaiiloa-Poamoho Training Area (Poamoho):

- Located in central O'ahu on the western slope of the Ko'olau Mountains.
- Comprises approximately 4,390 acres and is entirely owned by the State.
- Includes the Poamoho Tract (3,170 acres) and the Proposed State Natural Area Reserve (NAR) Tract (1,220 acres).
- Used for low-altitude helicopter flight training.

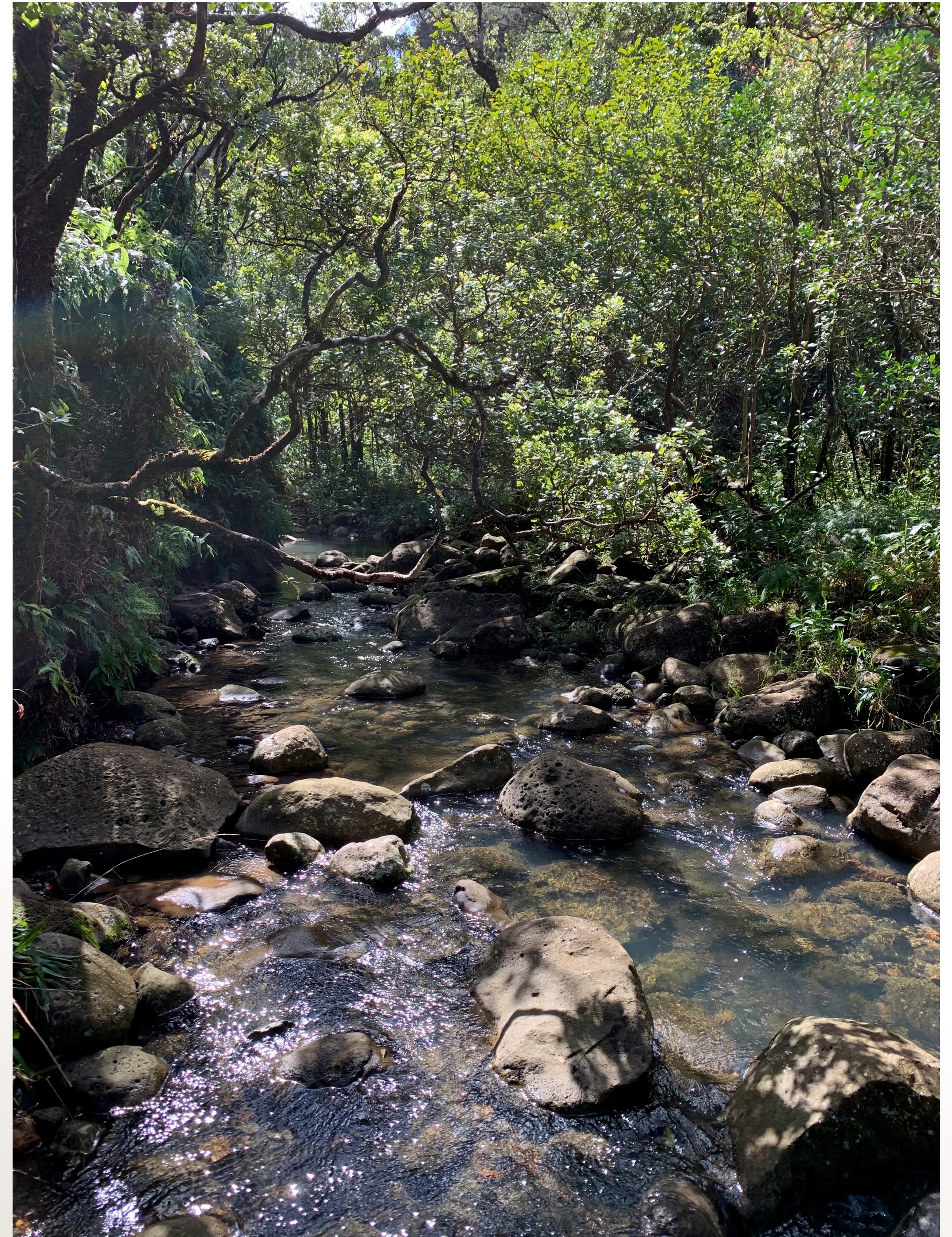


Photo Credit: U.S. Army



Overview: Makua Military Reservation

State-Owned Land at Makua Military Reservation (MMR):

- Located in northwest O'ahu, overlapping Makua Valley and Kahanahaiki Valley on the western flank of the Wai'anae Mountain Range.
- Comprises approximately 4,190 acres with approximately 782 acres leased from the State.
- Includes areas designated in the EIS as Makai, North Ridge, Center and South Ridge Tracts.
- Used for maneuver, aviation, and assembly area operations training.
- The U.S. Government maintains infrastructure such as training ranges and objectives, and range roads/ firebreaks.



Photo Credit: U.S. Army



Proposed Action: Purpose and Need

Proposed Action

- The Army would retain up to approximately 6,322 acres of State-owned lands on O'ahu in support of continued military training. Multiple land retention methods could be used and will be determined after a final ROD.
- The Army would negotiate with the State to retain the State-owned lands prior to the end of the current lease to limit disruption to training.
- After retention of the State-owned lands, the Army would continue to conduct the current levels and types of military training; facility, utility and infrastructure maintenance and repair activities; natural and cultural resources stewardship and mitigation; and management of land for other users.
- The Proposed Action does not involve new training, construction, or resource management activities. The Army has determined that it will not pursue live-fire training at MMR. It is therefore not reasonably foreseeable and is not analyzed in this EIS.

No Action Alternative

The Army would not retain any of the State-owned lands on O'ahu after lease expiration.

Purpose of the Proposed Action

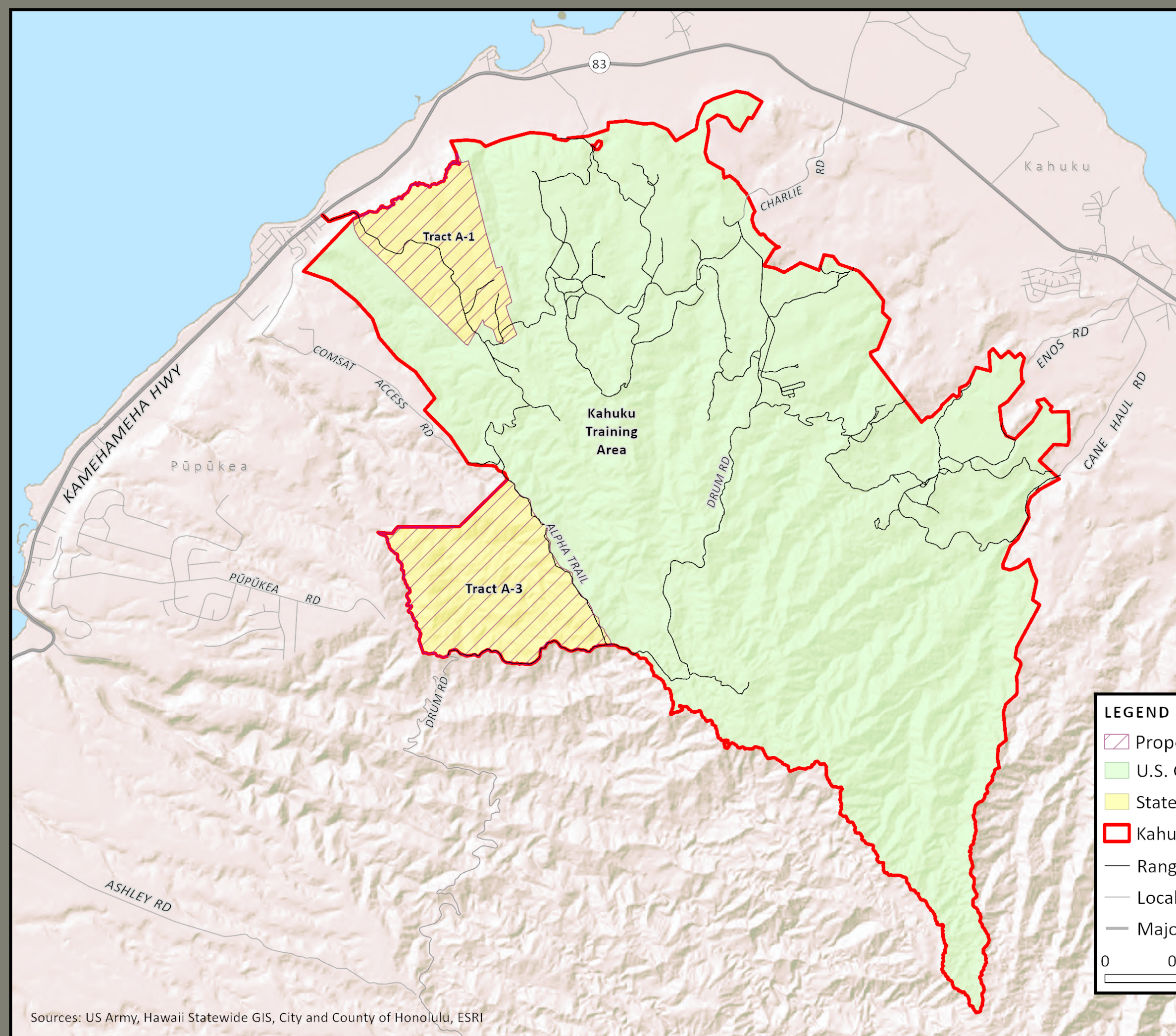
To secure long-term military use of the State-owned lands, for which current leases expire in 2029.

Need for the Proposed Action

To allow the military to continue to meet current and future training and combat readiness requirements on State-owned lands on Hawai'i.

Kahuku Training Area (KTA) Alternatives 1 and 2

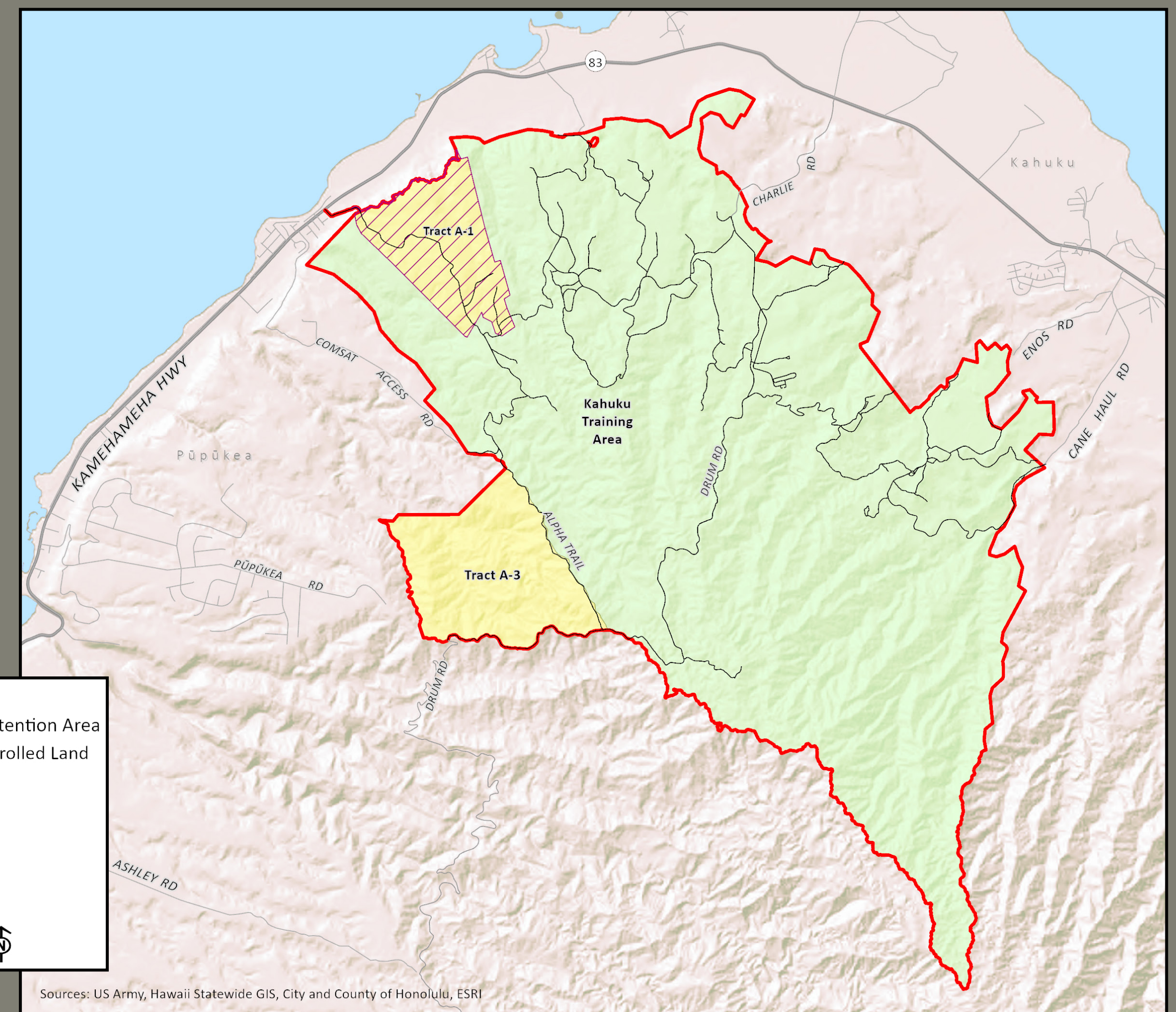
KTA Alternative 1: Full Retention



Map Credit: G70

Under Alternative 1, the Army would retain all State-owned land including both Tract A-1 and Tract A-3.

KTA Alternative 2: Modified Retention



Map Credit: G70

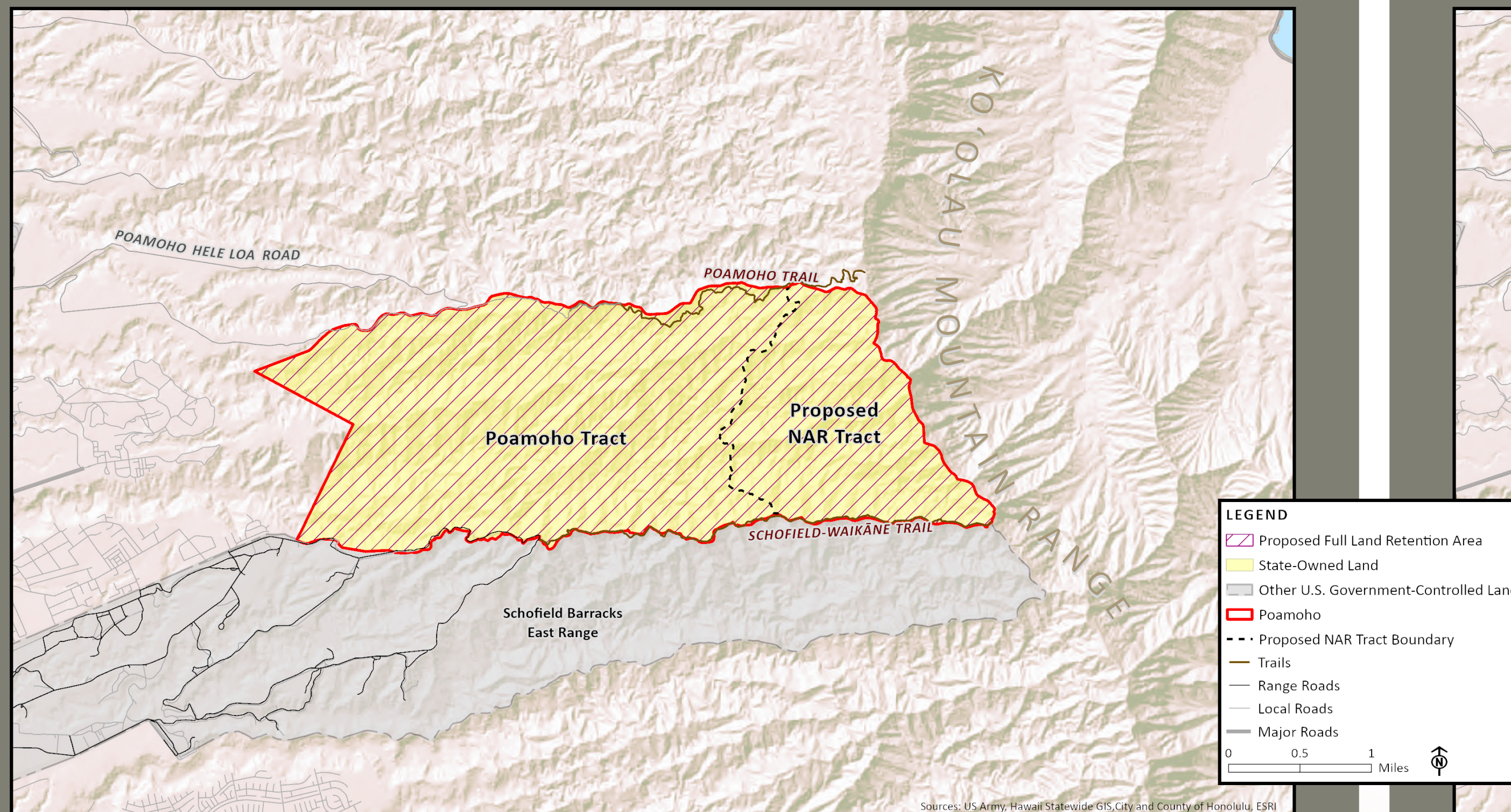
Under Alternative 2, the Army would retain Tract A-1 but would not retain Tract A-3. The Army's Preferred Alternative is Alternative 2.



Kawailoa-Poamoho Training Area (Poamoho)

Alternatives 1 and 2

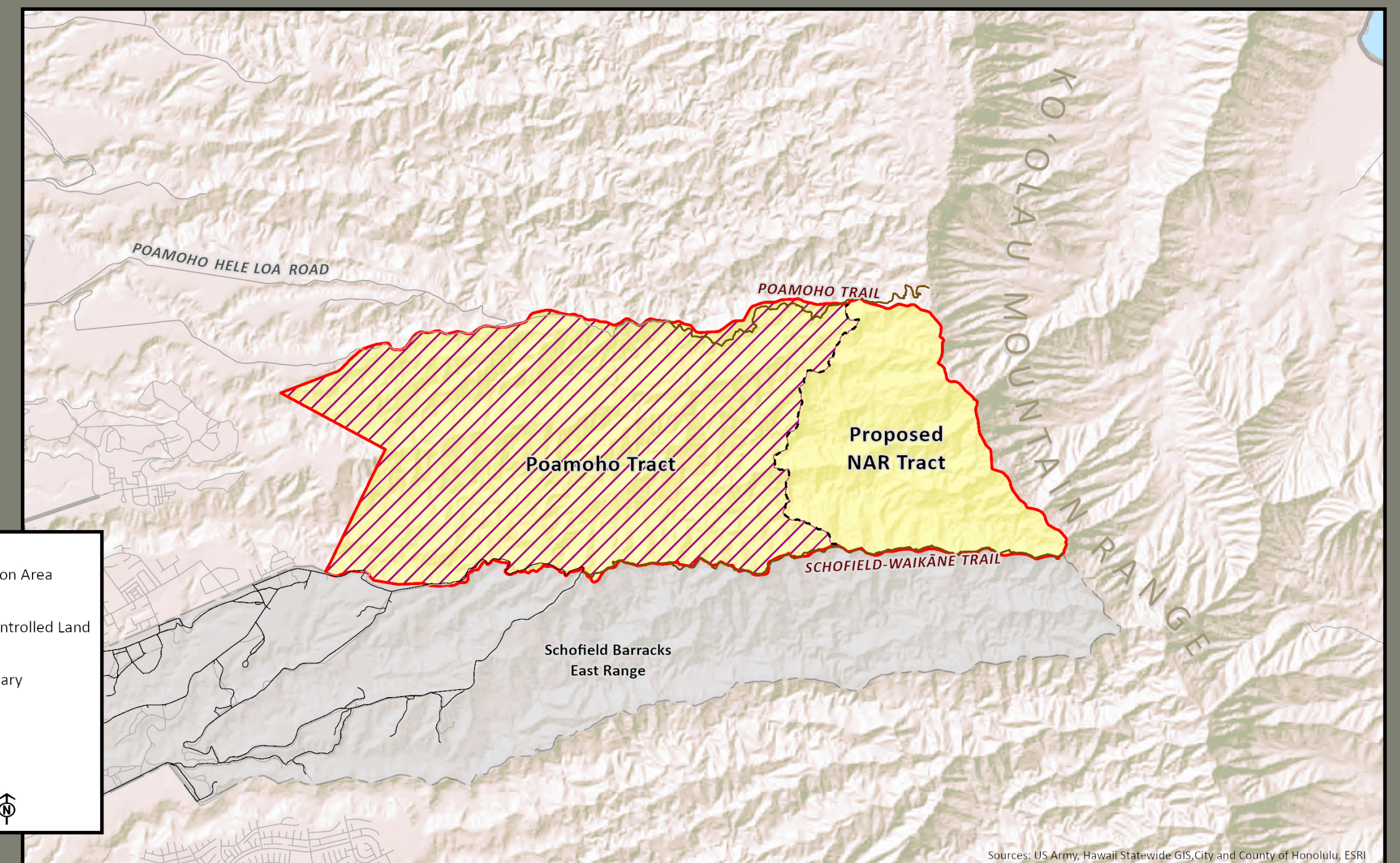
Poamoho Alternative 1 Full Retention



Map Credit: G70

Under Alternative 1, the Army would retain all State-owned land including the Poamoho Tract and the Proposed NAR Tract.

Poamoho Alternative 2 Modified Retention



Map Credit: G70

Under Alternative 2, the Army would retain the Poamoho Tract but would not retain the Proposed NAR Tract. The Army's Preferred Alternative is Alternative 2.



Makua Military Reservation (MMR) Alternatives 1, 2, and 3

MMR Alternative 1 Full Retention



Map Credit: G70

Under Alternative 1, the Army would retain all State-owned land at MMR.

MMR Alternative 2 Modified Retention



Map Credit: G70

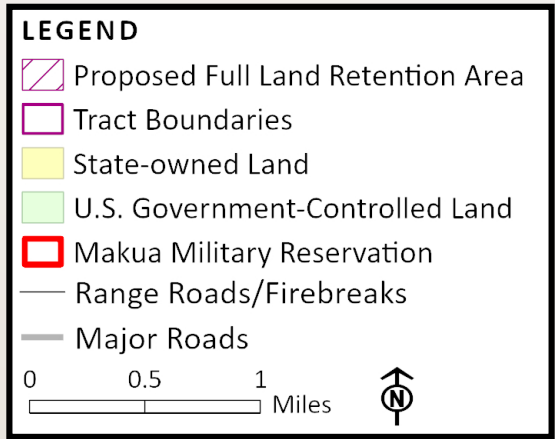
Under Alternative 2, the Army would retain the North Ridge Tract, Center Tract, and South Ridge Tract. The Army's Preferred Alternative is Alternative 2.

MMR Alternative 3 Minimum Retention



Map Credit: G70

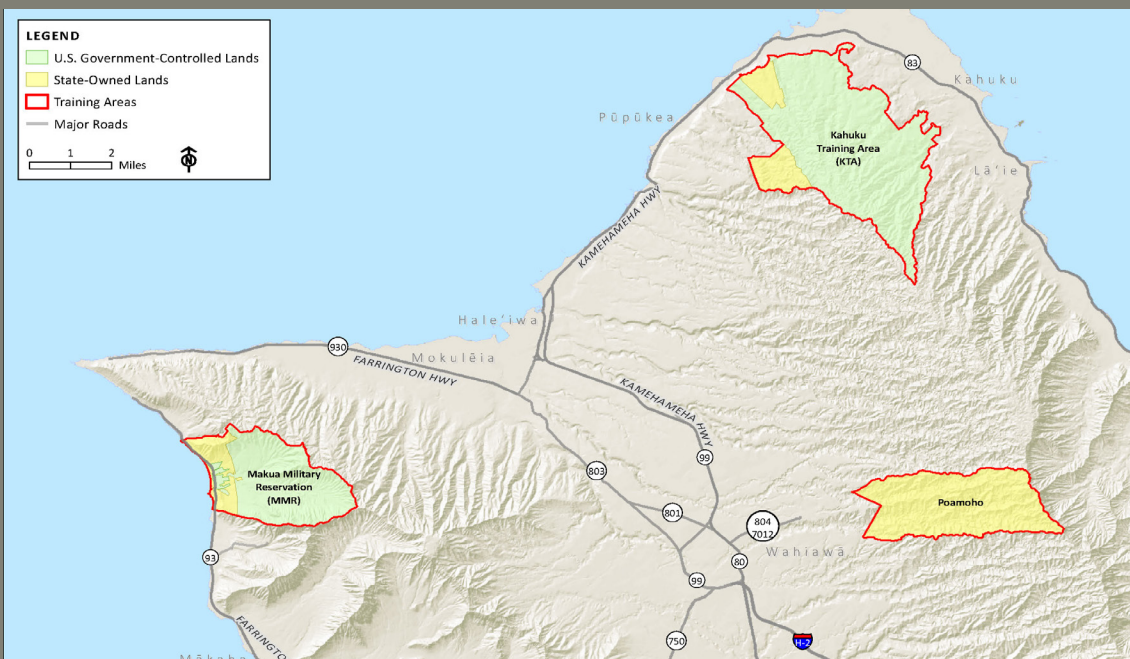
Under Alternative 3, the Army would retain only the Center Tract.





Analyzed Environmental Topics

Land Use



Land use compatibility, easements, and real property management

Biological Resources



Vegetation and wildlife, threatened and endangered species, invasive species, and wildland fires

Historic and Cultural Resources and Cultural Practices



Archaeological and cultural resources, cultural practices, hunting, gathering, and cultural beliefs, uses, and access

Hazardous Substances and Hazardous Wastes



Hazardous substances and wastes, petroleum products, storage tanks, and unexploded ordnance

Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases



National Ambient Air Quality Standards, Prevention of Significant Deterioration, and dust

Noise



Zones and community and wildlife impacts

Geological & Soil Resources



Bedrock, soil properties, and erosion

Water Resources



Surface water and groundwater

Socioeconomics



Demographics, housing, economic development, and recreation

Environmental Justice



Impacts on communities with environmental justice concerns and protection of children

Transportation & Traffic



Roadways, traffic volume, and level of congestion

Human Health & Safety



Army personnel and community health and safety



Potential Environmental Impacts

Resource	Alternative	KTA	Poamoho	MMR
Land Use	Alternative 1	⊗⊗/⊗	⊗⊗/⊗	⊗⊗/⊗
	Alternative 2	⊗⊗/⊗/+	⊗⊗/⊗/+	⊗⊗/⊗/+
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊗⊗/⊗/+
	No Action Alternative	+	+	+
Biological Resources	Alternative 1	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 2	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊙
	No Action Alternative	⊙	⊙	⊙
Cultural and Historic Resources	Alternative 1	⊙	○	⊙
	Alternative 2	⊙	○	⊙
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊙
	No Action Alternative	⊙	○	⊙
Cultural Practices	Alternative 1	⊙	⊙	⊗
	Alternative 2	⊙	⊙	⊗/⊗/⊙
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊗/⊗/⊙
	No Action Alternative	⊙	⊙	+
Hazardous Substances and Hazardous Wastes	Alternative 1	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 2	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊙
	No Action Alternative	⊙	○	⊙

⊗ significant adverse impact

⊙ less than significant impact

⊗ significant adverse impact but
reduced to less than significant

+ significant beneficial impact

○ no impact

Note: Only one impact symbol is shown where there is no difference between lease, fee simple title and/or land not retained significance impact levels. Where the overall significance impact is different between lease, fee simple title and/or land not retained, all impacts are presented in the table by the following order — i.e., lease impacts/fee simple title impacts/land not retained impacts--and separated by slash marks. Alternative 1 does not have land not retained so only shows lease and fee simple title significance impact levels.



Potential Environmental Impacts

Resource	Alternative	KTA	Poamoho	MMR
Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases	Alternative 1	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 2	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊙
	No Action Alternative	⊙	⊙	⊙
Noise	Alternative 1	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 2	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊙
	No Action Alternative	⊙	⊙	⊙
Geology, Topography and Soils	Alternative 1	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 2	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊙
	No Action Alternative	⊙	⊙	⊙
Water Resources	Alternative 1	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 2	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊙
	No Action Alternative	⊙	⊙	⊙
Socioeconomics	Alternative 1	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 2	⊙/⊙/○	⊙/⊙/○	⊙/⊙/○
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊙/⊙/○
	No Action Alternative	⊙	⊙	⊙

⊗ significant adverse impact

⊙ less than significant impact

⊖ significant adverse impact but
reduced to less than significant

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○ no impact

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Potential Environmental Impacts

Resource	Alternative	KTA	Poamoho	MMR
Environmental Justice	Alternative 1	⊗	⊗	⊗
	Alternative 2	⊗	⊗	⊗
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊗
	No Action Alternative	+	+	+
Transportation and Traffic	Alternative 1	⊙	○	⊙
	Alternative 2	⊙	○	⊙
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊙
	No Action Alternative	⊙	○	⊙
Human Health and Safety	Alternative 1	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 2	⊙	⊙	⊙
	Alternative 3	N/A	N/A	⊙
	No Action Alternative	⊙	⊙	⊙

- ⊗ significant adverse impact
- ⊙ less than significant impact
- ⊘ significant adverse impact but reduced to less than significant
- + significant beneficial impact
- no impact

Note: Only one impact symbol is shown where there is no difference between lease, fee simple title and/or land not retained significance impact levels. Where the overall significance impact is different between lease, fee simple title and/or land not retained, all impacts are presented in the table by the following order — i.e., lease impacts/fee simple title impacts/land not retained impacts--and separated by slash marks. Alternative 1 does not have land not retained so only shows lease and fee simple title significance impact levels.

ARMY TRAINING LAND RETENTION AT KAHUKU TRAINING AREA,
KAWAIILOA-POAMOHO TRAINING AREA, AND MAKUA MILITARY RESERVATION, ISLAND OF O'AHU



U.S. ARMY

Thank You