



# Army Training Land Retention of State Lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Makua Military Reservation, Island of O'ahu

## FACT SHEET

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Army has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Army Training Land Retention of State Lands at Kahuku Training Area (KTA), Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area (Poamoho), and Makua Military Reservation (MMR) on the island of O'ahu. The Army proposes to retain up to approximately 6,322 acres of State-owned lands at KTA, Poamoho, and MMR to support continued military training.

The Army prepared the Draft EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), guided by the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA implementing regulations in Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500-1508 as amended, and Army NEPA implementing regulations in 32 CFR Part 651. The Draft EIS also complies with Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 343 and Hawai'i Administrative Rules Chapter 11-200.1, collectively referred to as the Hawai'i Environmental Policy Act (HEPA). Both NEPA and HEPA require government agencies to fully consider the environmental impacts of a proposed major action and to take appropriate steps, where necessary, to mitigate potential adverse effects.

### BACKGROUND

KTA, Poamoho, and MMR are comprised of approximately 18,000 acres of U.S. Government-controlled and State-owned lands on the island of O'ahu. The Army's authority to use the State-owned lands is through leases which were initiated in 1964 to support mission-critical training capabilities, training facilities, operations, access, and other essential military training and logistics services. Much of the leased lands supplement U.S. Government-controlled training land by providing maneuver area and key training features that complement larger activities that take place on U.S. Government-controlled lands. Other portions of the leased lands allow for access within and between U.S. Government-controlled training lands, access to public rights-of-way, or buffer zones between Army and non-Army land uses.

The U.S. Government leases approximately 6,322 acres of these lands from the State consisting of portions of KTA and MMR, and all of Poamoho. The 65-year leases of the State-owned lands expire in 2029.

Loss of these lands would impact the Army's and other military services' ability to train in Hawai'i and prepare for mission readiness, and these areas include important facilities and infrastructure for ground maneuver and aviation training.

### PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

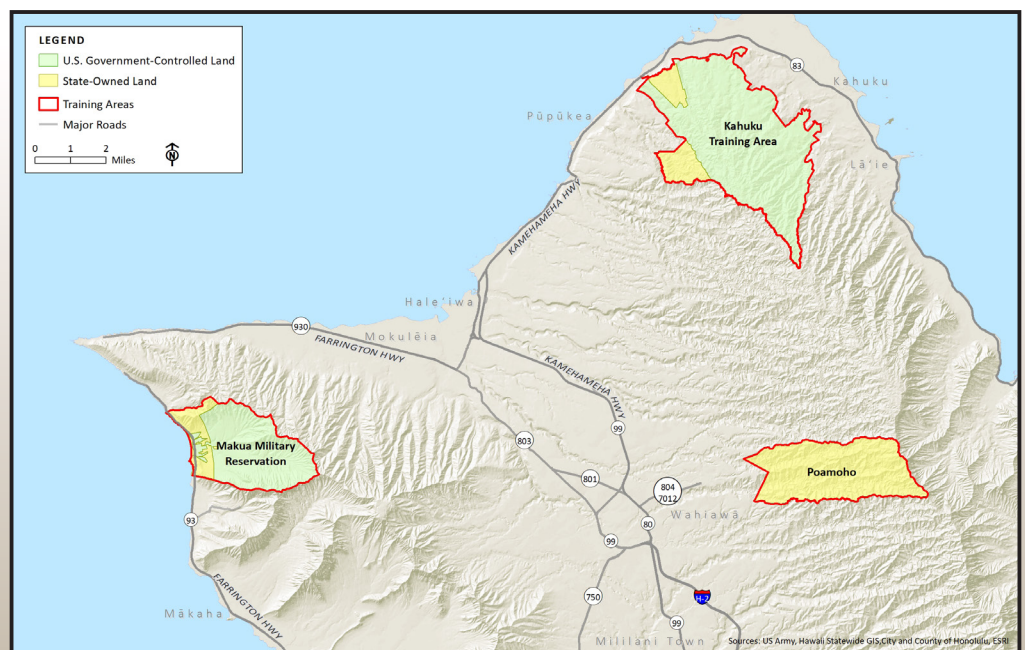
The Draft EIS evaluated the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of three reasonable alternatives that meet the purpose and need of the Proposed Action, in support of continued military training to meet ongoing training requirements. Alternatives analyzed in the EIS include:

- (1) Alternative 1: Full Retention (6,322 acres): KTA - 1,150 acres, Poamoho - 4,390 acres, MMR - 782 acres;
- (2) Alternative 2: Modified Retention (4,192 acres): KTA - 450 acres, Poamoho - 3,170 acres, MMR - 572 acres; and
- (3) Alternative 3: Minimum Retention: applies to MMR only, 162 acres and 2.4 miles of range and firebreak roads.

The No Action Alternative (no retention of State-owned land after 2029) was also analyzed.

The Army's Preferred Alternative is Alternative 2: Modified Retention. Comments received on the Draft EIS will inform updates for the Final EIS.

The EIS does not consider future live-fire activities as part of its training program because the Army is no longer pursuing the continuation of live-fire training activities at MMR.





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### NEPA/HEPA PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The NEPA/HEPA process provides opportunities for public input during project scoping and following publication of the Draft EIS. The Army published the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register and EIS Preparation Notice (EISPN) in the State Environmental Review Program's *The Environmental Notice*, which initiated the public scoping period July 23-September 1, 2021. The current stage of the NEPA/HEPA process is the Draft EIS public review period.

The intent of the public review period is to provide the public with project information and the opportunity to review and provide comments on the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS describes alternatives for the Proposed Action and assesses impacts, which are subject to public review over a 60-day period. Public and agency comments received will be fully considered and may be incorporated into the Final EIS.

The Army provided notification of the availability of the Draft EIS to Native Hawaiian organizations; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; and other stakeholders. The Draft EIS and informational materials are available on the EIS website at: <https://home.army.mil/hawaii/OahuEIS>. Furthermore, the public may also review the Draft EIS at the following local libraries: 1. Hawai'i State Library, Hawai'i Documents Center; 2. Kahuku Public and School Library; 3. Wahiawā Public Library; 4. Wai'anae Public Library.

The publications of the Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register on June 7, 2024 and Draft EIS in The Environmental Notice on June 8, 2024 began the public review process. Federal, State, and local agencies; Native Hawaiian organizations; and the public are invited to participate in the Draft EIS public review process. The 60-day public comment period ends on August 7, 2024. The Army welcomes public participation during the public comment period.

### DRAFT EIS PUBLIC MEETINGS

Public meetings will take place as follows:

1. July 9, 6-8 PM at Wai'anae District Park Multi-Purpose Room  
85-601 Farrington Hwy, Wai'anae, HI 96792
2. July 10, 6-8 PM at Kahuku High and Intermediate School  
56-490 Kamehameha Hwy, Kahuku, HI 96731
3. July 11, 6-8 PM at Leilehua High School  
1515 California Avenue, Wahiawā, HI 96786

The public will have the option to watch the Draft EIS Public Meetings in real time via a live stream that can be accessed on the EIS website.

#### EIS WEBSITE

- View project documents or watch Draft EIS public meetings via live stream at: <https://home.army.mil/hawaii/OahuEIS>



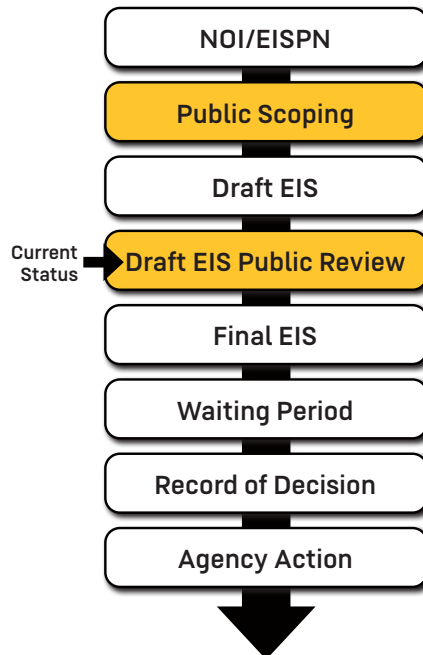
Scan with  
smartphone  
to be directed  
to the O'ahu  
EIS website.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ACCESSIBILITY REQUESTS

USAG-HI PAO, NEPA Email: [usarmy.hawaii.nepa@army.mil](mailto:usarmy.hawaii.nepa@army.mil) Phone: (808) 787-2140

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.

### NEPA/HEPA STEPS



### HOW TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS

Comment Period is  
June 7 – August 7, 2024

- In person: Attend a public meeting. Detailed information available at: <https://home.army.mil/hawaii/OahuEIS>
- Online via EIS website (above) or QR code (to the left)
- Via email: [ATLR-Oahu-EIS@g70.design](mailto:ATLR-Oahu-EIS@g70.design)
- Via U.S. mail: O'ahu ATLR EIS Comments  
P.O. Box 3444  
Honolulu, HI  
96801-3444

### HOW TO SUBMIT ORAL COMMENTS

(only available on July 9, 10, and 11)

- In person: Attend a public meeting
- Via phone: (808) 515-5518