



Pōhakuloa Training Area FAQs

Q: What is the Pōhakuloa Training Area (PTA) and what is it used for?

A: PTA is on the island of Hawai'i and encompasses approximately 132,000 acres of land for the specific purpose of preparing military personnel for the rigors of combat, with a majority of the land being federally owned. It is the largest contiguous live-fire range and maneuver training area in Hawai'i and is considered the Pacific region's premier military training center. The Army says access to these training lands are critical the U.S.'s national security interest and serves as a vital logistics hub for rapid troop deployment in the Indo-Pacific region

Users of PTA include the U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army Reserve, Hawai'i Army National Guard, Hawai'i Air National Guard as well as state and county agencies such as the Hawai'i Civil Defense Agency, Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency, State Office of Homeland Security, Hawai'i Police Department, and others.

Q: What is being proposed?

A: The U.S. Army Hawai'i seeks to retain up to approximately 19,700 acres of the 23,000 acres of state-owned land at PTA to support continued military training. The Army would retain the state-owned land prior to the 2029 expiration of the lease to limit impacts on training. The Army's 65-year lease of the state-owned land is set to expire in August 2029.

Q: Who is involved in the Army's public and community involvement process?

A: Native Hawaiian Organizations, federal, state, and local agencies and officials, and other interested organizations and individuals were invited to participate in the public comment periods throughout the EIS process.

Q: What mitigation measures will the Army implement?

A: To reduce adverse impacts, the Army has promised to:

1. Develop a formalized access plan for quarterly access for Native Hawaiian Organizations, individuals, and consulting parties, 'ohana, lineal descendants, and cultural practitioners; and
2. Install interpretive panels at the Gilbert Kahele Recreational Area;
3. Negotiate an agreement with the State to allow the Army to monitor for wildfires on the State-owned land that the Army does not retain;
4. Employ thermal technology equipment that will enable firefighting personnel to locate and eliminate hotspots where a fire persists;
5. The Army will renegotiate its Memorandum of Agreement with the Hawai'i County Fire Department to support emergency and fire suppression outside PTA.
6. Conduct a multi-year research project to identify possible biological controls to address invasive plants.