An important platform for the Pacific theater, U.S. Army Garrison–Hawaii (USAG-HI) can quickly mobilize soldiers in support of combat operations and disaster relief missions. The Army’s ability to station, train, and deploy the 2/25th Stryker Brigade Combat Team in Hawaii is essential to our nation’s defense strategy and transformation. Buffer actions protect both the Schofield Barracks and the Kahuku Training Area (KTA), where the Army plans to expand operations. The KTA is notable for pyrotechnic training and dismounted maneuver training.

To protect USAG-HI, its partners have undertaken various buffer projects over the past several years. In a key success on the lush O‘ahu North Shore, a broad coalition of partners—including community and environmental groups and state and federal agencies—preserved Pupukea Paumalu, a vast swath of beach-front open space slated to become a residential development.

Additionally, the partners worked together to protect the habitat-rich 3,592-acre Honouliuli Preserve, a lowland forest on the eastern slope of the Wai‘anae Mountain Range. The preserve contains 35 threatened and endangered species, including the endangered O‘ahu ‘elepaio, and 16 species found nowhere else in the world. Altogether, the installation’s efforts are protecting not just valuable open space and habitat, but also drinking water resources, cultural sites, youth education opportunities, tourism, and recreational resources, all while ensuring the vitality of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii’s defense mission.

**BENEFIT SUMMARY**

**COMMUNITY**
- Supports existing regional planning efforts
- Maintains local character
- Provides habitat for endangered species
- Helps improve water quality

**MILITARY**
- Preserves live-fire and ground maneuver training capacity
- Preserves training realism by preventing the need for workarounds
- Prevents the loss of training days