



# REPI

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM

PROJECT PROFILES  
U.S. NAVY | HAWAII



## PACIFIC MISSILE RANGE FACILITY BARKING SANDS

The U.S. Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), located along the west coast of Kaua'i Island, is the world's largest instrumented multi-environment range.



PMRF provides premier training and test capabilities within an 1,100-square nautical mile instrumented underwater range; 42,000 square nautical miles of airspace, and when needed, up to 2.1 million square nautical miles of operating space. PMRF is capable of simultaneously supporting surface, subsurface, air, and space operations. Portions of the 7-mile terrestrial footprint also provide premier

training and test opportunities. Infrastructure critical to ensuring test and training activities carried out at the installation are safe and effective (i.e. outdoor night lighting, communication towers, utility lines) can result in impacts to seabirds protected under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), such as the 'a'o, or Newell's shearwater.

In an effort to improve the ecological baseline for these protected seabirds, PMRF is working proactively with federal, state, nonprofit, and private conservation organizations to implement landscape-level predator control at an important breeding colony site within Kaua'i's remote Honopū Valley. The project will include placement of artificial burrows, monitoring of colony productivity, predator and invasive species removal, and a native plant restoration component to sustain a healthy ecosystem. By creating a habitat for indigenous species to be protected and monitored off base, PMRF is also able to carry out its mission safely and effectively. This unique project is part of a larger, multi-partner effort that leverages existing species recovery plans and an island-wide predator control program, and will contribute significantly to efforts to reverse currently declining population trends.

### BENEFIT SUMMARY

#### COMMUNITY

- Protects threatened and endangered species
- Brings together new partners

#### MILITARY

- Improves operational safety
- Prevents additional training restrictions and unrealistic workarounds



Aerial view of Pacific Missile Range Facility Barking Sands (top). Pacific Missile Range Facility is working with partners to establish predator-exclusion fencing around one of the last remaining breeding colonies for the 'a'o/Newell's shearwater, 'ua'u/Hawaiian Petrel, and 'akē'akē/band-rumped storm-petrel (bottom).

### KEY PARTNERS

- American Bird Conservancy
- City and County of Kaua'i
- Kaua'i Island Utilities Commission
- Kekaha Agriculture Association
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- State of Hawai'i Agribusiness Development Corporation
- State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Kaua'i National Wildlife Refuge Complex

### FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2022

- ACRES PRESERVED:  
0
- TRANSACTIONS CONDUCTED:  
0
- TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED:  
\$0\*
- PROJECT STATUS:  
Initiated

\* An additional \$1.9 million in REPI funding has been obligated for PMRF projects under the Sikes Act authority.

### CONTACT

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