



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 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 Honopu Valley. The project includes placement of artificial burrows, monitoring of colony productivity, predator and invasive species removal, and a native plant restoration component to sustain a healthy ecosystem. The conservation benefits provided by the project will improve regulatory predictability and avoid future constraints to mission activities to help PMRF carry out its national defense mission. 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). With REPI funding, partners of the Pacific Missile Range Facility have established predator exclusion fencing around one of the last remaining 3 acre seabird colonies, and are working to construct a 14,500 foot ungulate fence enclosing 239 acres of additional breeding habitat for the 'A'o/Newell's Shearwater (bottom), 'Ua'u/Hawaiian Petrel, and 'Ake'ake/Band-rumped Storm-Petrel.

KEY PARTNERS

- Archipelago Research and Conservation
- Hallux Ecosystem Restoration
- Pacific Rim Conservation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Kauai National Wildlife Refuge Complex
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife
- State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of State Parks

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2021

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

CONTACT

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