



Media Release

Public Affairs Office
U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PTA Wildfire Mop Up in Progress

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, Hawaii – The wildfire that started on Aug 22 along Saddle Road in the Pohakuloa Training Area, Mauna Kea forest reserve, and the Mauna Kea State Recreation Area remains at 80% contained. The fire burned approximately 1,387 acres. The fire operation is now in the “mop up” phase of monitoring for hot spots and underground smoldering. Mop up operations is anticipated to continue for the next several days.

The fire began in the vicinity of the Mauna Kea State Recreation Area, east of the main gate of PTA. No Army training activity was taking place on the eastside of Saddle Road at that time.

The location of the fire is approximately 2.5 miles from the PTA impact area where Depleted Uranium (DU) was found in 2006. Subsequent investigations, conducted in coordination with State of Hawaii Department of Health and other expert partners, indicate that DU is not present outside of this impact area at PTA.

Kudos to the Marine helicopter and crews from MAG 24 Marine Corps Base Hawaii, C/ 1-207 AV Hawaii Army Guard Hilo, Evergreen Helicopters, Kiewit Construction (who donated a bulldozer and crew free), Department of Fish and Wildlife (DOFAW) fire crews from Hawaii Island, Kauai and Maui, State Parks Service, and National Park Service from Hawaii Volcano and Yosemite Park's. Other agencies included Hawaii County Civil Defense, Hawaii Police Department, Hawaii Department of Transportation and Hawaii County Department of Public Works. Not to mention the Soldiers from 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (3IBCT) 25th Infantry Division who supplied meals, water hauling and Military Police support.

For additional information, contact Mike Egami at 656-3152, U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii Public Affairs Office.