

Media Release

Public Affairs Office U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii (808)656-3152 "Malama na Koa"

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PTA Wildfire Update

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA (PTA), Hawaii- The wildfire remains at 60% contained and has burned a revised approximate 1386 acres.

Ground crews continue working areas of the fire along the south slopes of Mauna Kea. At the flat area along Saddle Road, fire engines are conducting mop up and patrol operations.

Daytime winds of five to fifteen miles per hour, and light winds tonight are expected to continue. Light slope driven wind patterns are expected to dominate the fire area Tuesday through Thursday. Dry weather will continue through Thursday.

A total of two helicopters remain on the scene today conducting water bucket operations. A third Hawaii County helicopter is available on call. No structures have been burned and no injuries to firefighters have occurred.

Saddle Road remains open with detours in place at mile marker 29 and 34.5. Monitoring of the direction of the wildfire will determine if and when the detours will be lifted and normal traffic patterns resumed on the new Saddle Road.

The fire began sometime approximately 9:30 a.m. last Sunday about a 1/4 mile east of PTA's main gate in the vicinity of Mauna Kea State Park. No Army training activity was taking place on the eastside of Saddle Road at that time. Hawaii Police Department arrested and charged a suspected arsonist.

For more information, call Mike Egami, at 808-656-3152 or Cell 387-8511