



Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Army seeks community input for marine study

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii – The U.S. Army is seeking public comments through March 22 on a draft sampling and analysis plan to study marine resources at Makua Beach and surrounding areas.

This draft plan is part of an overarching supplemental marine resources study to determine whether military activities at Makua Military Reservation have contributed or will contribute to contamination of the marine resources near Makua, and whether the proposed Army training activities at MMR pose a health risk to area residents who rely on these marine resources for food or other purposes.

The community can view or download the plan online at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/makua. Click “2013 Draft MR Study” on the left side of the page. The plan is also available at the Waianae, Kapolei and Waialua public libraries, under the title *“Draft Supplemental Marine Resources Sampling and Analysis Plan, Makua Military Reservation, Oahu, Hawaii.”*

Comments may be submitted by email at usaghi.pao.comrel@us.army.mil or by mail to: U.S. Army Garrison – Hawaii, Environmental Division, Attn: Marine Study – Public Comments, 948 Santos Dumont Ave., Schofield Barracks, HI 96857.

The community will also have an opportunity to provide comments in person during a public meeting, Feb. 20, at Nanakuli High and Intermediate School (89-980 Nanakuli Ave., Waianae). The meeting will consist of an informal information session from 6:30-7 p.m., with Army subject matter experts available to answer questions about the study, followed by a facilitated public comment session from 7-9:30 p.m.

Comments must be emailed or postmarked no later than March 22. Individuals who have questions about submitting comments can call (808) 656-3089. The Army will take all public comments into consideration before finalizing the plan.

Once the draft plan is finalized, the next step in the study will be to conduct species sampling in the ocean and analysis of the samples. The Army will continue to engage the community throughout the study.

The supplemental marine resources study was ordered by the Federal District Court June 20, 2012. The Army appreciates the community's interest and involvement in this study.