US Army Corps of Engineers ®

Proposed Plan

Areas A and G Munitions Response Site
Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area

FUDS PROJECT NO. H09HI035901
ISLAND OF HAWAIʻI, HAWAIʻI

January 2025

1 Introduction

This **Proposed Plan** summarizes the findings and conclusions behind the proposed decision of **No Further Action** at the Project 01 (known as Areas A and G) **Munitions Response Site (MRS)** located within the former **Waikoloa Maneuver Area (WMA)** **Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS)**. The **US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)** proposes that No Further Action is necessary to protect human health and the environment in Areas A and G because there is **no evidence of use** of **munitions and explosives of concern (MEC)** or **munitions constituents** by the military in Areas A and G. There are numerous active **Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP)** FUDS projects at WMA, as defined in the Simplified **Inventory Project Report** (**INPR**) dated March 5, 2024, and presented in ***Figure 1*** (USACE 2024a). This plan provides USACE's rationale for Areas A and G, which is based on investigative actions that demonstrate there is no source of MEC or munitions constituents that requires **remedial action**.

USACE is issuing this Proposed Plan as part of its public participation responsibilities under the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)** and Section 300.430 (f)(3) of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) (40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 300). This Proposed Plan summarizes information that can be found in greater detail in the MMRP Final **Remedial Investigation (RI)** Report (located at https://eha-cloud.doh.hawaii.gov/iHEER/#!/site/439/documents) and other documents contained in the **Administrative Record** file for this Site. This Proposed Plan summarizes the following:

- Site Background (Section 2)
- Site Characteristics (Section 3)
- Previous Investigations and RI Findings and Conclusions (Section 4)
- Scope and Role of Response (Section 5)
- Summary of Site Risks (Section 6)
- Preferred Alternative (Section 7)
- Community Participation (Section 8)

Public Comments Are Requested

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

9 January 2025 to 10 February 2025

Written comments on this Proposed Plan may be submitted to USACE during the comment period. Comment letters must be postmarked no later than **10 February 2025,** and may be sent to USACE–Honolulu District, WMA FUDS Project Manager:

HonoluluDistrictFUDSinfo@usace.army.mil
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District
ATTN: CEPOH-PPE
230 Otake St.
Fort Shafter, Hawaiʻi 96858-5440

PUBLIC MEETING
23 January 2025 at 5:00pm

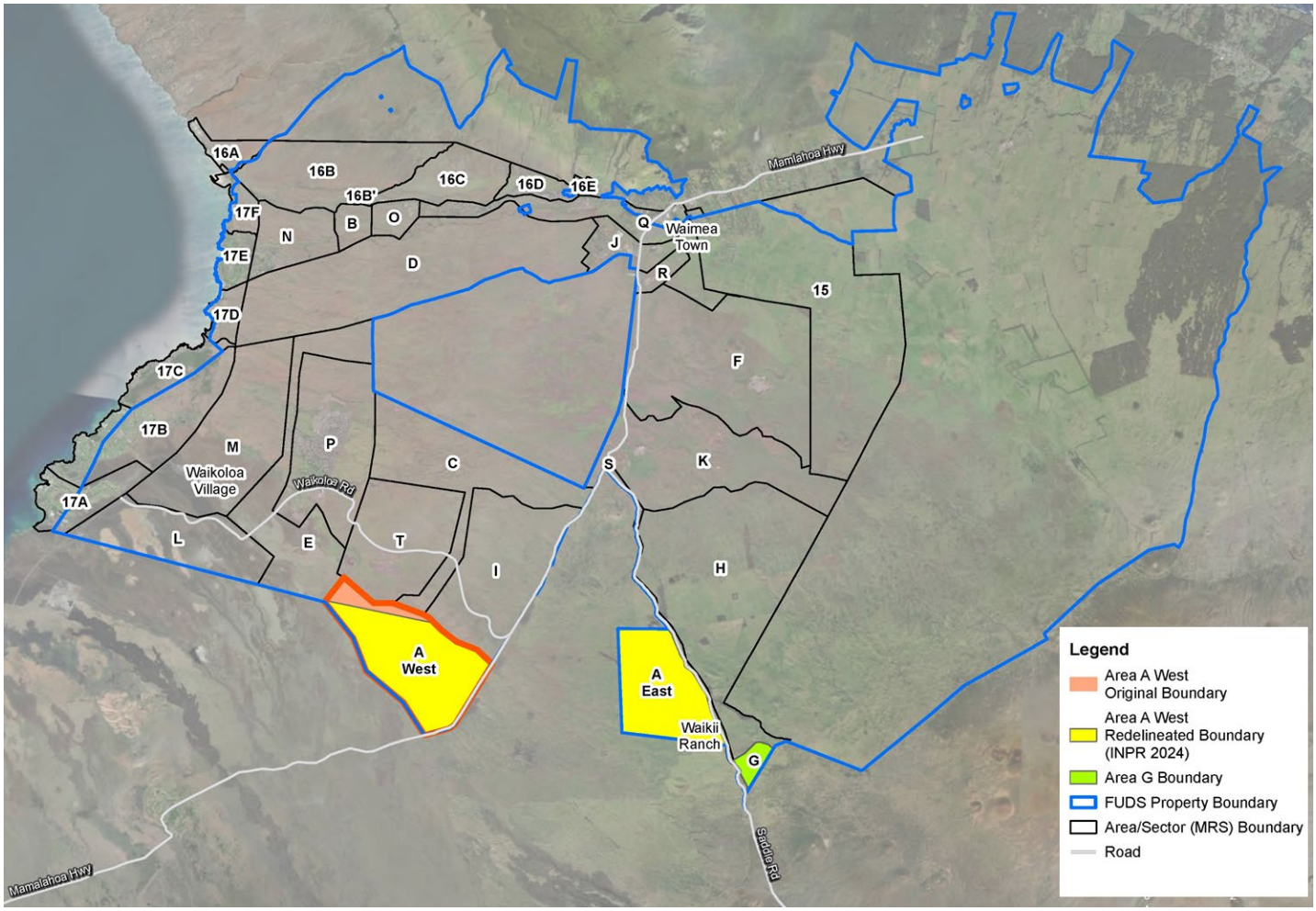
USACE will host a public information session at 5:00 pm at Waikiʻi Ranch Club House, 67-Palekaiko Road, Waimea, HI (next to the Polo Field) to provide information and answer questions in an informal setting. This meeting will include a brief introduction and summary by USACE.

A glossary defining terms (identified by bold and underlined text) used in this document, as well as an acronym list and a document reference page, is included at the end of this Proposed Plan.

USACE is the lead agency for investigating, reporting, and implementing remedial actions on FUDS projects. Representatives from the State of Hawai'i Department of Health (HDOH), the regulatory agency for Areas A and G, reviewed the RI Report and agreed with its conclusions and recommendations.

USACE will coordinate with HDOH and take into consideration their comments and the public comments received on the Proposed Plan. Information on how to participate in this decision-making process is presented in Section 8.

Figure 1. Area A West (Re-aligned), Area A East and Area G Location and Overview



The Administrative Record file that supports this Proposed Plan is available for review at the USACE–Honolulu District Office and the Information Repository located at:

- USACE–Honolulu District
  Building 230
  Fort Shafter, Hawai'i 96858-5440
  Telephone: 808-835-4089
- Information Repository
  Thelma Parker Memorial Library
  67-1209 Mamalahoa Highway
  Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743-8429
  Telephone: 808-887-6067

2 Site Background

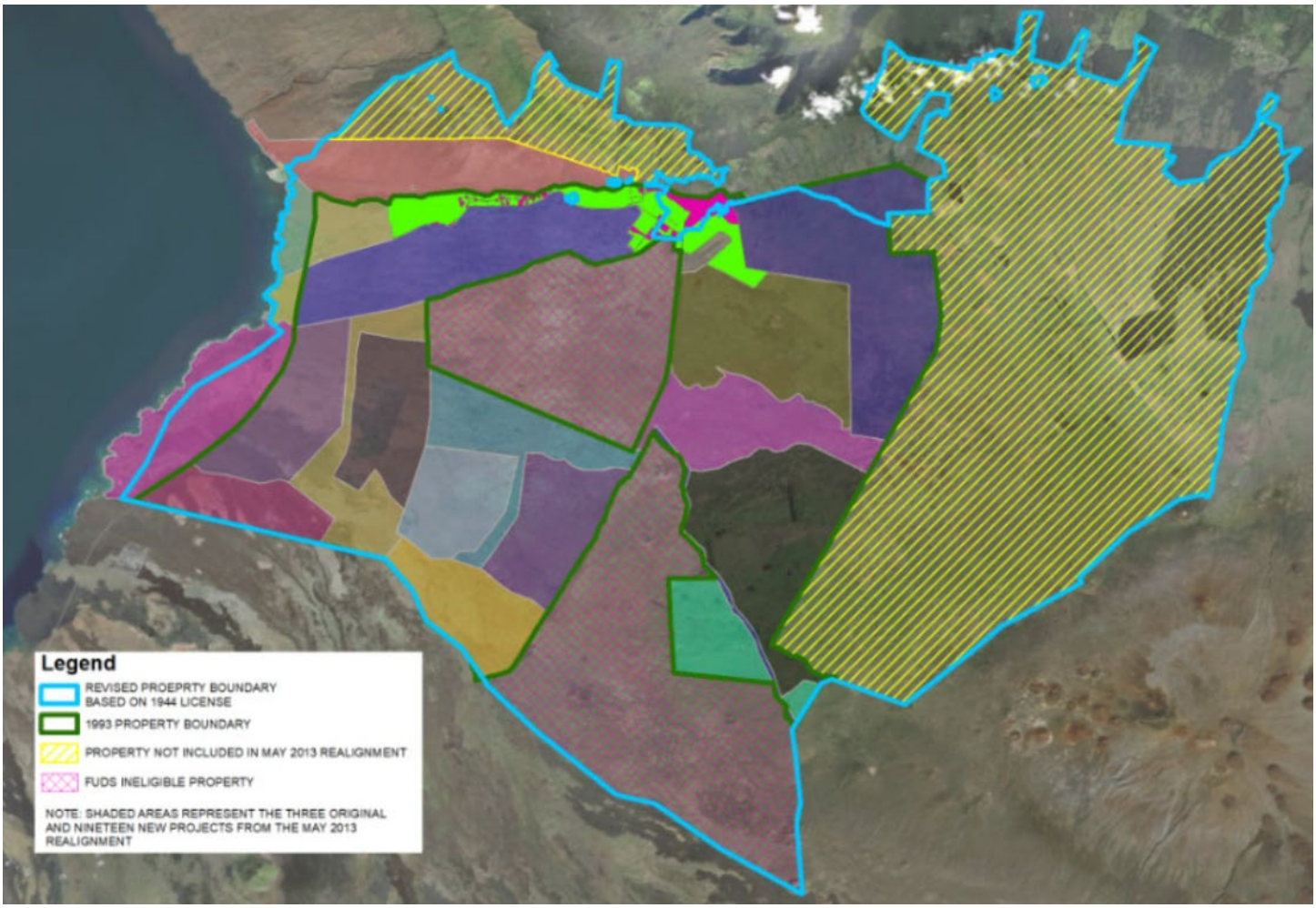
Site Location

The WMA FUDS property consists of multiple MRSs, is approximately 185,309.012 acres, and is located in South Kohala and Hamakua on the Island of Hawai'i. Areas A and G are within the WMA FUDS property and are made up of three separate noncontiguous areas designated as Area A West, Area A East, and Area G. Area A West is located south of Waikoloa Road and is bordered on the east by Mamalahoa Highway. Area A East is located west of Saddle Road with Saddle Road defining the eastern boundary. Area G is located just to the south of Area A East with Saddle Road defining the western boundary (***Figure 1***).

Site History

During World War II (December 1943), the US Marine Corps acquired the original 91,000 acres of the WMA land by Temporary Right-of-Entry and License from Mr. Richard Smart, the owner of Parker Ranch, and developed a training area for the 2nd and 5th Marine Divisions. Approximately 467 of the original acreage was used for Camp Tarawa located near Waimea. This area was used for tents and Quonset huts, and most of the remaining acreage was used for maneuvers and military training exercises. In 1945, additional acreage was acquired, and the former WMA was expanded to 123,000 acres. On 25 September 2018, the USACE Pacific Ocean Division Commander approved a revised findings and determination of eligibility for WMA which increased its size to 185,309.012 acres (USACE 2022). The change was based on archival research maps for 12 May 1944 Temporary Right of Entry to the U.S. Navy for portions of the Parker Ranch and 10 April 1945 License for a smaller area that also included the tent camp (***Figure 2***) (USACE 2022).

Figure 2. Waikoloa Maneuver Area With Revised Property Boundary (2018)



Historical information regarding the 2nd Marine Division's land use of WMA is sparse. The hand drawn 1944 Land Use Permit map was geo-referenced using modern geographical information system mapping and overlayed as accurately as possible on to Areas A and G shown in ***Figure 3.*** The types of activities conducted by the 2nd Marine Division that are specific to "maneuver area" are unknown; however, a 1943 Proposed Training Area Map by the 2nd Marine Division states where there is Maneuver Area, there is "No Firing to be Allowed in this Area." This No Fire designation has been found to generally hold true, however, investigations performed across WMA away from Areas A and G have found evidence of limited "ad hoc" training within maneuver areas. According to the 5th Marine Division Land Use Map, Area A East was in the "Maneuver Area 2 'Non-Firing'" section of WMA. Area G was between Maneuver Area 2 and the Army Artillery Range. Area A West was within "Maneuver Area 3 'Non-Firing"

On 1 October 1945, the United States and Parker Ranch cancelled the license for the 37,905-acres encompassing the "Maneuvering Area" portion of WMA. The Marines transferred jurisdiction over the 466-acre Camp Tarawa to the US Army on 1 February 1946. The Marines retained responsibility for the cleaning and restoration of the Firing Range and the beach areas.

The 1522nd Middle Pacific Engineers Operation Search Dud Team conducted the first ordnance cleanup in 1946. The sweep took place over 2.5 months and focused on impact areas used for artillery and bombing practice. At completion, the officer in charge declared that "*the area had been thoroughly policed for dud shells, within the limitations of the visual clearance.*"

In 1954, explosive ordnance disposal units based at Fort Shafter and Hickam Air Force Base, searched 1,100 acres, and identified and disposed of thousands of munitions (USACE 2018). The results of this clearance with respect to Areas A and G are shown in ***Figure 4***. Although Areas A East and G were not included in the clearance, Area A West was "spot checked" shown as green triangles on figure and no munitions were observed. There has been no documentation of specific munitions training use within Area A West, Area A East, or Area G. Several MEC investigations have been conducted since the former WMA was determined to be Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP)-FUDS eligible. The investigations relevant to Areas A and G are discussed in Section 4.

Figure 3. Areas A and G, 5th Marine Division Land Use (Circa 1945)

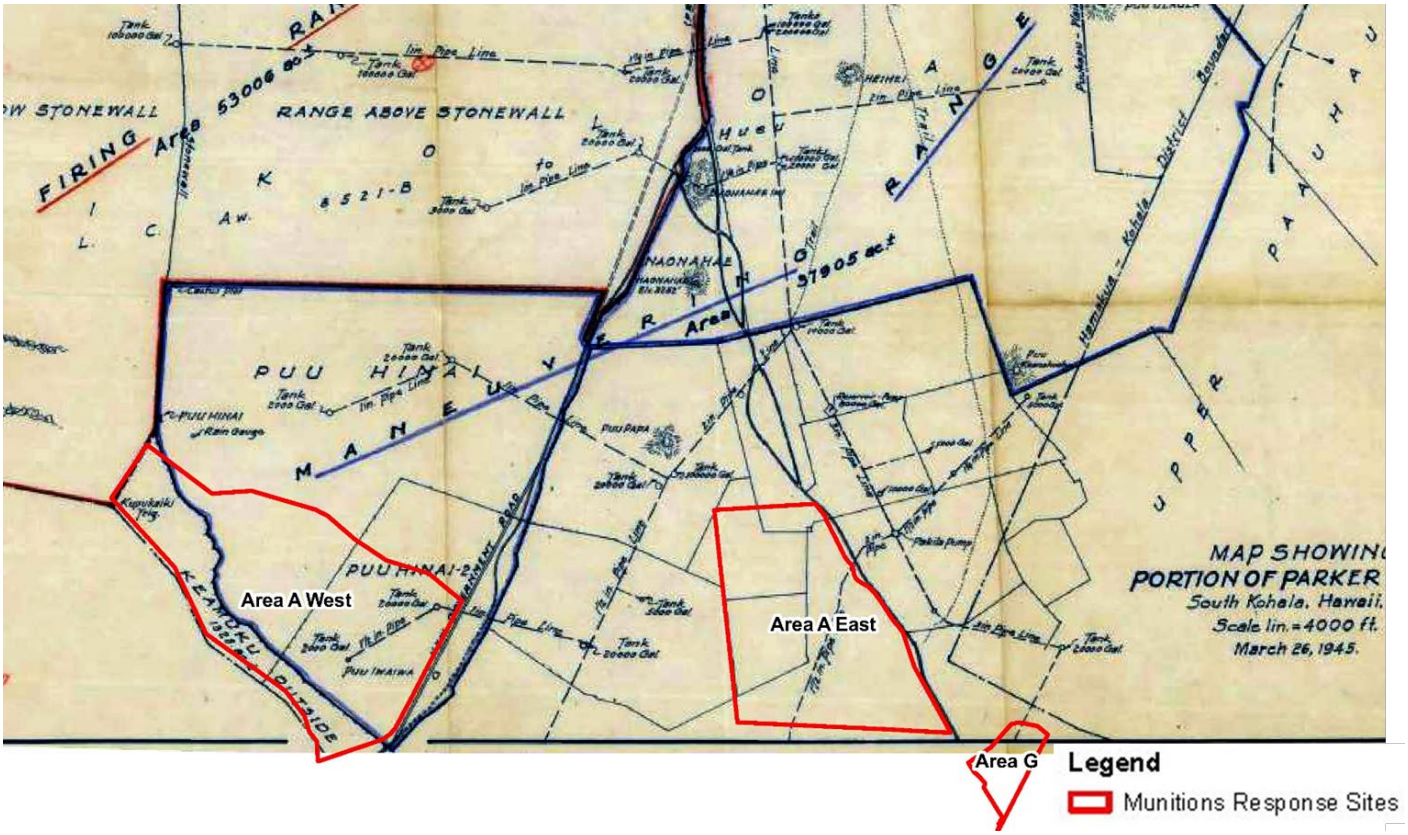
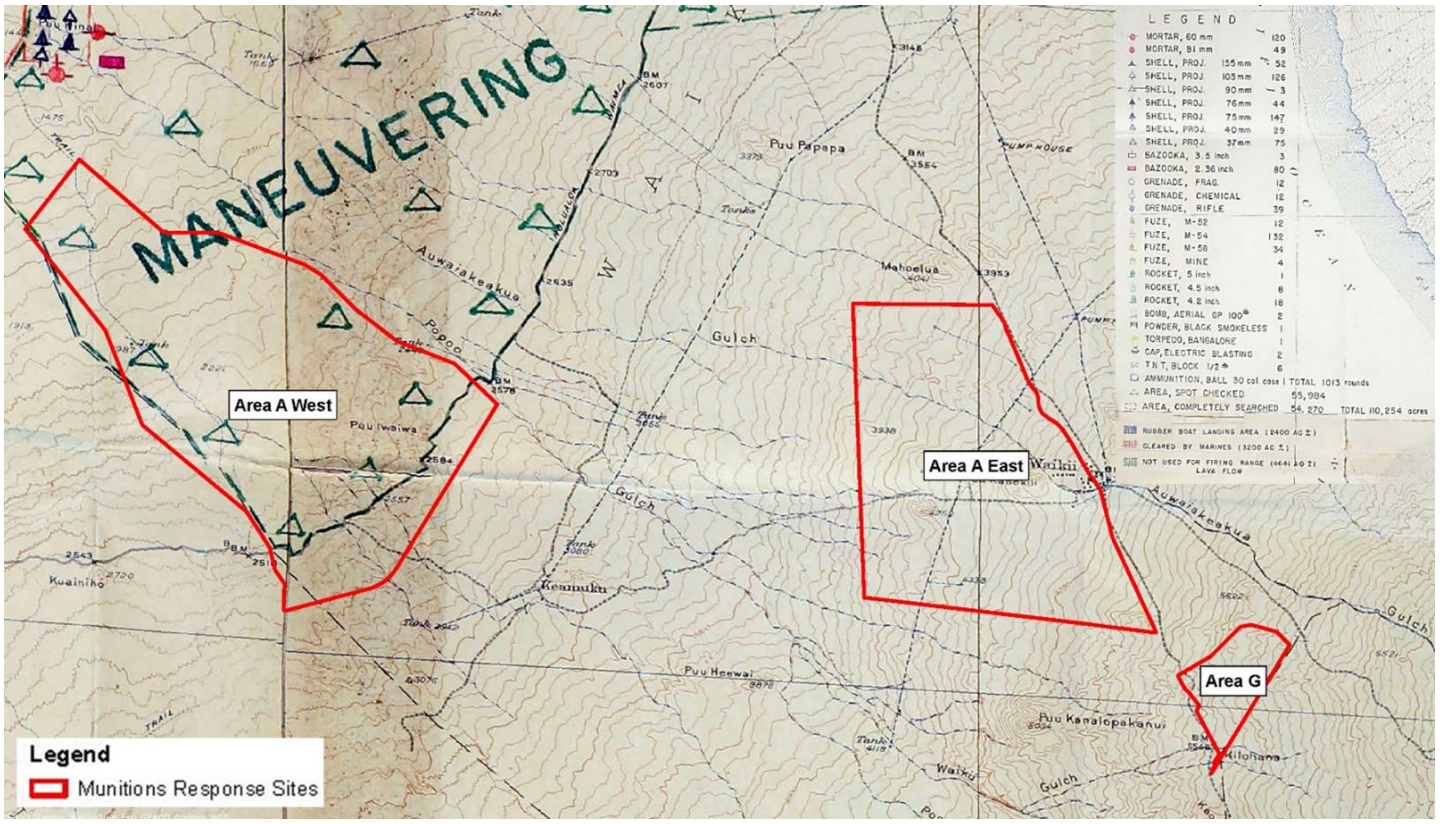


Figure 4. 1954 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit Clearance Results for Areas A and G



3 Site Characteristics

Topography and Vegetation

The elevation across Areas A and G ranges from approximately 1,300 to 5,800 feet (ft) above sea level. The MRS includes rolling terrain with slightly dissected uplands and lava plains. Vegetation consists of dry grasslands, dry shrublands, and dry forests as well as rolling upland slopes of ancient basaltic lava flows that are now covered with grassland vegetation and cut by widely spaced erosional gullies. Portions of the MRS also consist of agricultural lands (USACE 2018).

Soils

The plains were formed by Mauna Kea lava flows that ponded against the older Kohala Mountains and are now covered with volcanic ash-type soils. The interior plains at Pohakuloa are covered with more recent lava flows from Mauna Loa that banked against Mauna Kea.

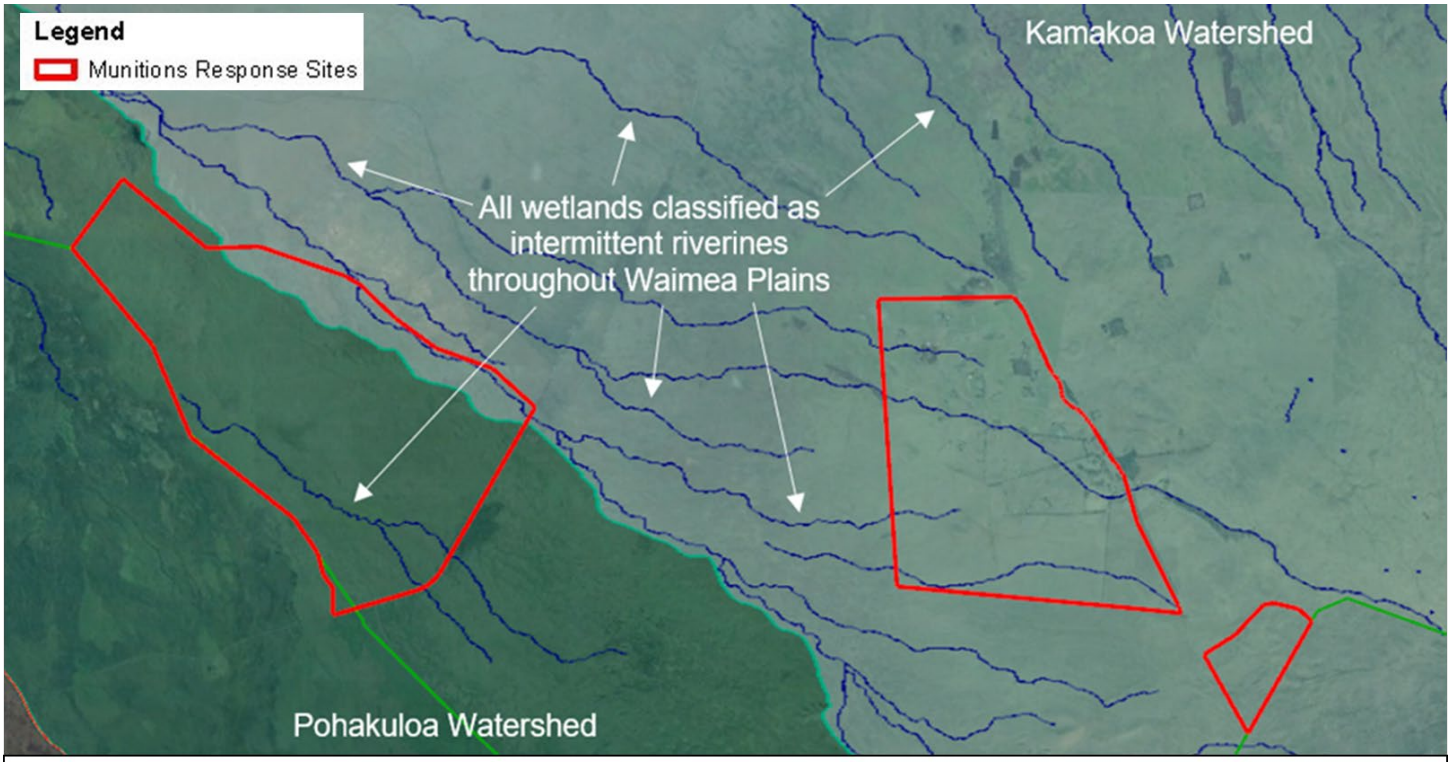
The lava is predominantly basalt flows and scoria of the Hamakua Volcanics. The 1973 soil survey of the Island of Hawai`i indicates that the depth to bedrock within the various soil classifications across the island varies from ground surface to depths of 8 ft below ground surface (bgs) (US Department of Agriculture 1973).

Surface Water and Wetlands

There are no permanent watercourses in the vicinity of Areas A and G due to the low level of annual precipitation. The National Wetlands Inventory designates the small, non-perennial (does not flow year-round) streams across Areas A and G as wetlands and has classified them as "intermittent riverines" (***Figure 5***). Within Area A West, the Pauoa Stream runs along the southern border of the parcel. The Auwaiakekua Stream is situated along the northeastern border. These are both non-perennial streams.

For Area A East, four small non-perennial tributaries of the Auwaiakekua stream system are situated in an east-west fashion across this area.

Figure 5. Wetlands and Watersheds for Areas A and G



(Data extracted from F&WS's National Wetlands Inventory and overlaid in Google Earth.) Blue lines here represent "Riverine" habitat classified as R4SBC, which mean (R) Riverine, (4) Intermittent, (SB) Streambed, (C) Seasonally Flooded.

No surface water is identified or expected within Area G, which belongs to the Kamakoa Watershed.

Groundwater

Area A West is in the West Mauna Kea and Northwest Mauna Loa aquifer sectors of the Island of Hawaii, within the Waimea and Anaehoomalu systems. These systems are comprised of three separately defined aquifers that are all considered irreplaceable, fresh, water sources with high vulnerability to contamination (Mink and Lau 1993).

Area A East is in the West Mauna Kea aquifer sector of the Island of Hawai`i, within the Waimea system. This aquifer is a high level (freshwater not in contact with seawater), unconfined, dike aquifer that is considered an irreplaceable, fresh, potential drinking-water source with high vulnerability to contamination (Mink and Lau 1993).

Area G is in the West Mauna Kea aquifer sector of the Island of Hawai`i, within the Waimea system. It is comprised of both upper and lower aquifers. The upper aquifer is identified as a perched, currently used drinking

water source that is highly vulnerable to contamination. The lower aquifer is identified as a potential drinking water source in dike compartments and only moderately vulnerable. Both aquifers are considered to be irreplaceable fresh water sources (Mink and Lau 1993)

Natural and Cultural Resources

Threatened and Endangered species that may potentially be located within the project site were determined by conducting a biological survey prior to and during field activities. According to the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Island of Hawai`i supports 95 federally listed threatened and endangered species consisting of 3 mammals, 14 birds, 5 reptiles, 4 arthropods, and 69 plants. In addition, 2 arthropods are listed as proposed endangered. Of the 95 threatened and endangered species, there are only 5 turtles, 1 whale, and 1 seal that would not be within Areas A and G.

Cultural resource sites potentially located within the project site were determined by archaeological surveys prior to and during field activities. Archaeological sites identified during the archaeological reconnaissance and monitoring work in Areas A and G were documented in a separate report submitted to the USACE Senior Archaeologist. The sites identified include possible burial markers, shelters, habitation platforms, cave sites, rock mounds, and boundary markers (USACE 2024b)

Current and Future Land Use

Area A West is currently an unused open area classified as extensive and important agricultural land. Land ownership is a combination of multiple large properties leased by Parker Ranch and owned by nine different entities. Area A West has possible future development for agricultural-related residential areas and the potential for development of alternative energy such as solar or wind farms.

Area A East is owned by multiple residents that belong to the Waiki'i Ranch subdivision which is subdivided into residential parcels, containing more than 100 homes, and continued development is likely.

Area G is owned by Parker Ranch and is similar to Area A West in that it is expected to remain unchanged with a potential for low density agricultural-related residential property (USACE 2018).

4 Previous Investigations and RI Findings and Conclusions

Several MEC investigations have been conducted by USACE in the 22 MRSs within WMA FUDS project boundary since the former WMA was determined to be eligible as a DERP-FUDS. Summaries of the investigations relevant to Areas A and G are discussed and additional information can be found in the RI Report and the Administrative Record file.

2002 Phase II Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis

During the 2002 Phase II EE/CA investigation, visual reconnaissance was conducted in portions of Area A West (part of Phase II EE/CA Sector 1) and Area G (part of Phase II EE/CA Sector 3); no MEC or munitions debris (MD) was encountered. Based on the findings of the Phase II EE/CA, all three areas of Areas A and G were considered to have a low probability of encountering MEC and were determined to require no further investigation.

2013 – MMRP Realignment

In May 2013, through MMRP Realignment, the three original MMRP Projects on WMA (Project 01 [Parker Ranch], Project 02 [Waikoloa Village], and Project 04 [Phase III]) underwent an administrative change that revised them into munitions response area/MRS definitions mandated by Department of Defense. The three original projects were revised and renamed, and 19 MMRP projects were added to create subdivisions of the previously approved projects for the purpose of managing multiple response actions.

2014 – Remedial Investigation for Area S

Using information from a 2011 removal action and the Phase III EE/CA, the RI investigated the nature and extent of MEC contamination at the Area S, Saddle Road MRS (USACE 2014). This is important for this conceptual site model because Saddle Road MRS is adjacent to Area A East and Area G. The removal action consisted of surface and subsurface investigation along 11 miles of Saddle Road from the center line of the road extending 40 ft in either direction. During the investigation, no MEC and only limited MD resulting from the use of **small arms ammunition (SAA)** were found, and historically only expended SAA munitions debris have been discovered on the Saddle Road MRS. Although SAA debris was found, the amount of items do not indicate the presence of a small arms range in the area. Because the investigation was 40 ft from the center of the road, it is unlikely that investigation occurred all the way to the Area A East and Area G boundaries (USACE 2024b).

2015 – Final Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study Report for Area C

An RI/Feasibility Study (FS) was conducted to define the nature and extent of MEC at Area C (USACE 2015). This is important for this conceptual site model because the most southern portion of Area C is adjacent to Area A West. Fieldwork from this investigation returned no MEC or MD at or near Area A West. One anomaly was detected along the border between Area A West and Area C. This item was intrusively investigated and was determined to be non-munitions related debris.

2016–Final Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study Report for Area T

An RI/FS was conducted to define the nature and extent of MEC at Area T (USACE 2016a). This is important for this conceptual site model because Area T's southern border is adjacent to Area A West and it encompassed most of the Pu'u Hinai Live-Fire Area. Two MEC items were recovered during the visual surveys on the ground surface consisting of one 155-mm high explosive projectile and one 60-mm high explosive mortar. A combination of geophysical survey and analog-based surveys were conducted along parallel transects with spacing of approximately 250 ft between centerlines. Where the two MEC items were recovered, grids were identified for additional geophysical survey. The rest of Area T was identified as a low use area.

2016 – Final Remedial Investigation Report for Area E

An RI was conducted to define the nature and extent of MEC in Area E (USACE 2016c). This is important for this conceptual site model because Area E was within the historical impact area. Also, Area E is adjacent to the northwest corner of the original boundary of Area A West. The number of MD items recovered totaled 618, mostly on the surface and mostly in the northwestern and southcentral portions of Area E; no MEC were recovered. Furthermore, the RI also confirmed:

- A high-density anomaly area is not present within Area E, therefore there is no high use or target area.
- Scattered low density areas of MEC and MD are present in the MRS, which is consistent with the low-density area associated with an impact area.

The RI identified that MEC in the form of a 75-mm high explosive APC-T M61 was found on the surface in Area E during the 2011 removal, approximately 1 mile from the original Area A West's northwestern border (USACE 2016b).

2021 – Historical Photographic Analysis

This report analyzed aerial photography taken between 1940 and 1954 to identify previous military and other historically significant activities across the WMA. The Historical Photographic Analysis notes two trails, one in each of the Area A parcels, but does not make any specific conclusions about munitions use. With regards to Area G, the report notes:

"*In 1954, numerous tracks and trails are observed crisscrossing through this section. A water tank is located north just outside of the sector boundary. Most of the tracks are leading to an area west of this tank. Areas of disturbed ground are evident, but do not appear to lean toward munitions activity.*"

2016–2018 Remedial Investigation Field Effort

The 2016–2018 RI field effort involved geophysical data collection and intrusive investigations to establish the presence or absence of munitions and, if determined to be present, the type and distribution of the items. By design, munitions break into many smaller fragments when expended, which results in a high density of metallic items (i.e., munitions debris) where they were used. Areas with high densities of MD are also likely places to find munitions. As such, the field team looked for high-density areas of MD, which may be indicated by a high number of detections called anomalies.

The geophysical surveys conducted identified potential high-density areas and low-density areas within Areas A West (USACE 2024b), Area A East and Area G. All anomaly locations within the high-density areas were investigated and neither MEC nor MD were found.

In addition, a selected number of anomaly sources along transects in low anomaly density areas were investigated to visually confirm that the anomalies were not MEC or MD.

In total, 12,785 anomalies were investigated: 7,024 digs in Area A West, 2,836 digs in Area A East, and 2,925 digs in Area G. Of these 12,785 anomalies, no MEC were found in the MRS and MD ([1] fragment from a 155-mm projectile) resulting from the use of MEC was found within the northwest corner of Area A West which is on the edge of the Pu'u Hinai Live-Fire Area. No MEC or MD were found within Area A East and Area G and only SAA munitions debris found within the remaining area of Area A West. Although SAA debris was found, the amount of items do not indicate the presence of a small arms range in the area.

All remaining anomaly sources investigated were confirmed to be iron-rich rock or iron rich soil, and non-MEC debris like horseshoes, nails, and pieces of scrap metal. The RI investigation results for Area A West, Area A East and Area G are presented in ***Figures 6, 7, and 8, respectively***.

2022 Preliminary Assessment

The 2022 Preliminary Assessment (PA) involved compiling information obtained through historical research, as well as investigating areas that may or may not warrant further action by the DoD. The assessment concluded that the current MRA at the time, which consisted of 22 MMRP Projects, had evidence of a release in some areas, and the assessment of the potential contamination would continue through the CERCLA process. This PA effort did not result in any recommendations to revise the current MRS boundaries; however, additional revisions and delineation of MMRP project boundaries that consider prior removal actions, land use, and MEC potential on the WMA FUDS may support more efficient project management and achievement of FUDS goals (USACE 2022).

Figure 6. Area A West Remedial Investigation Results

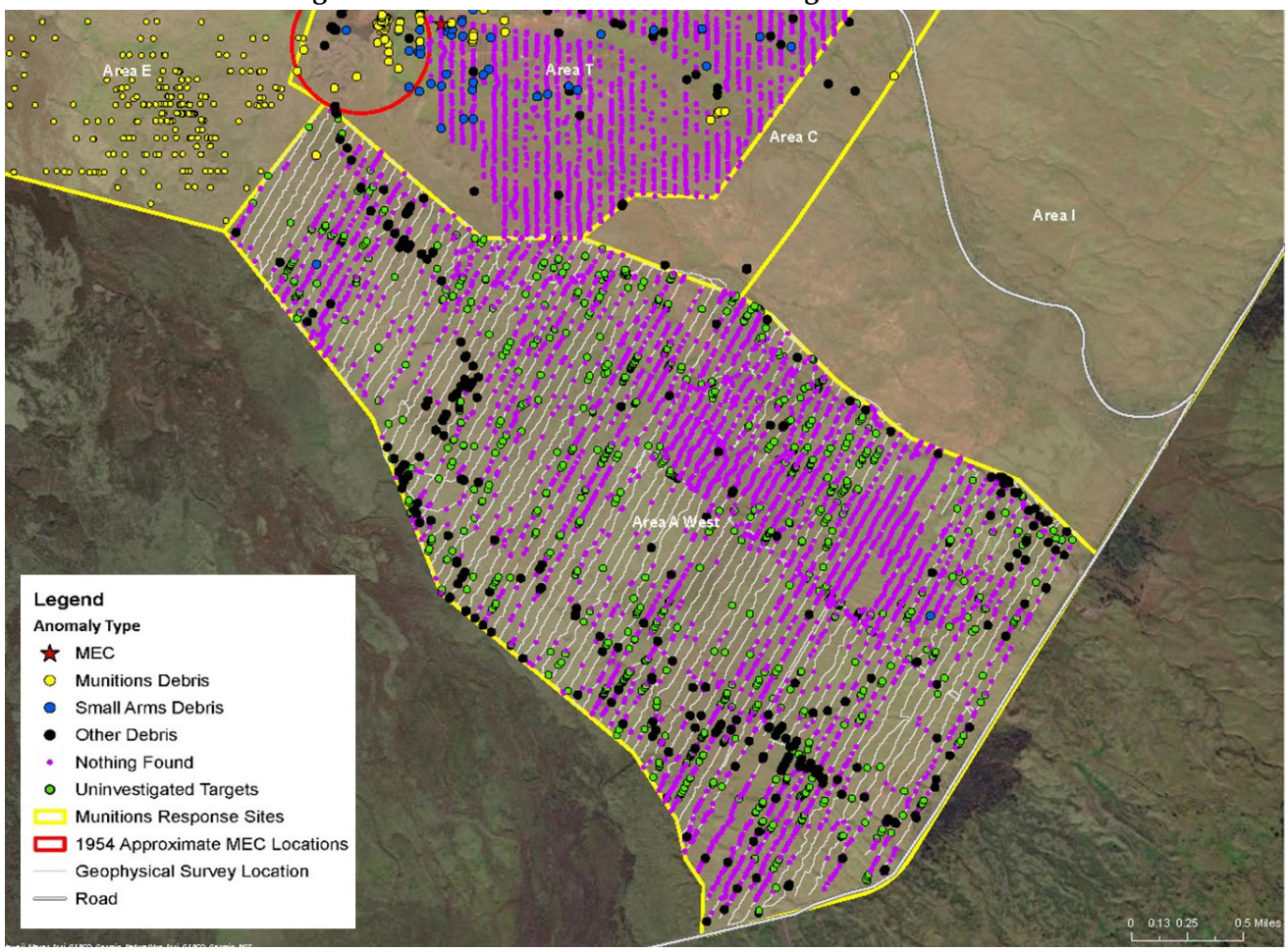


Figure 7. Area A East Remedial Investigation Results

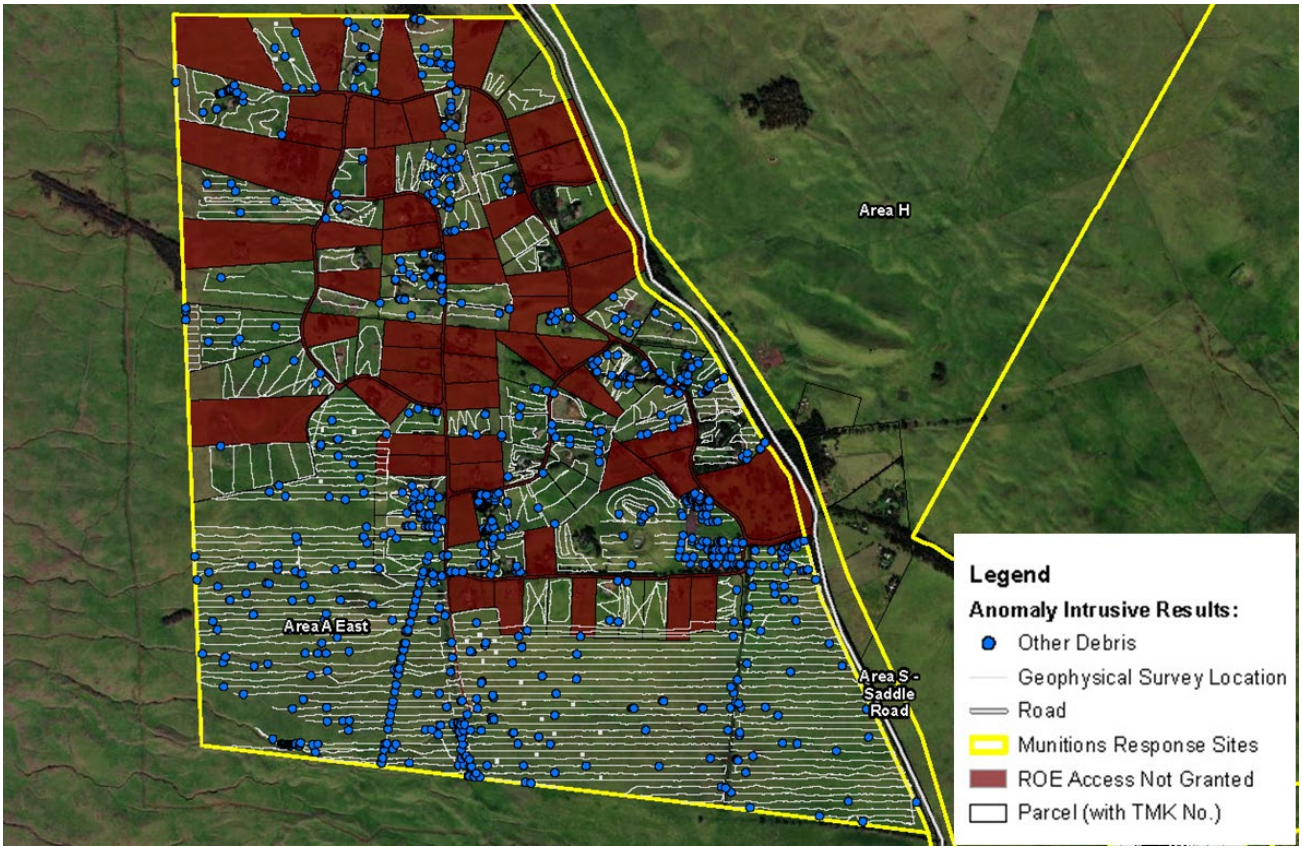
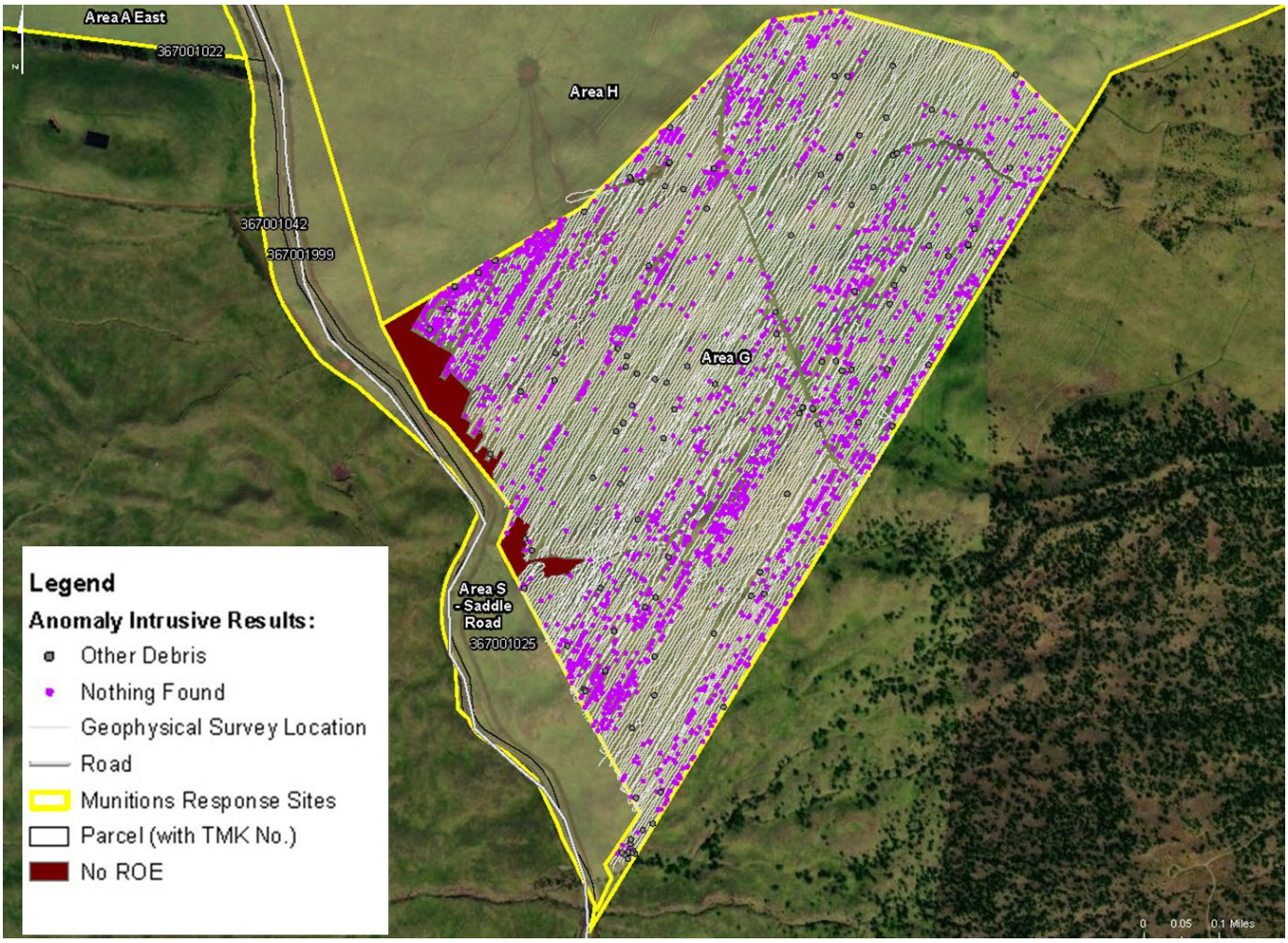


Figure 8. Area G Remedial Investigation Results



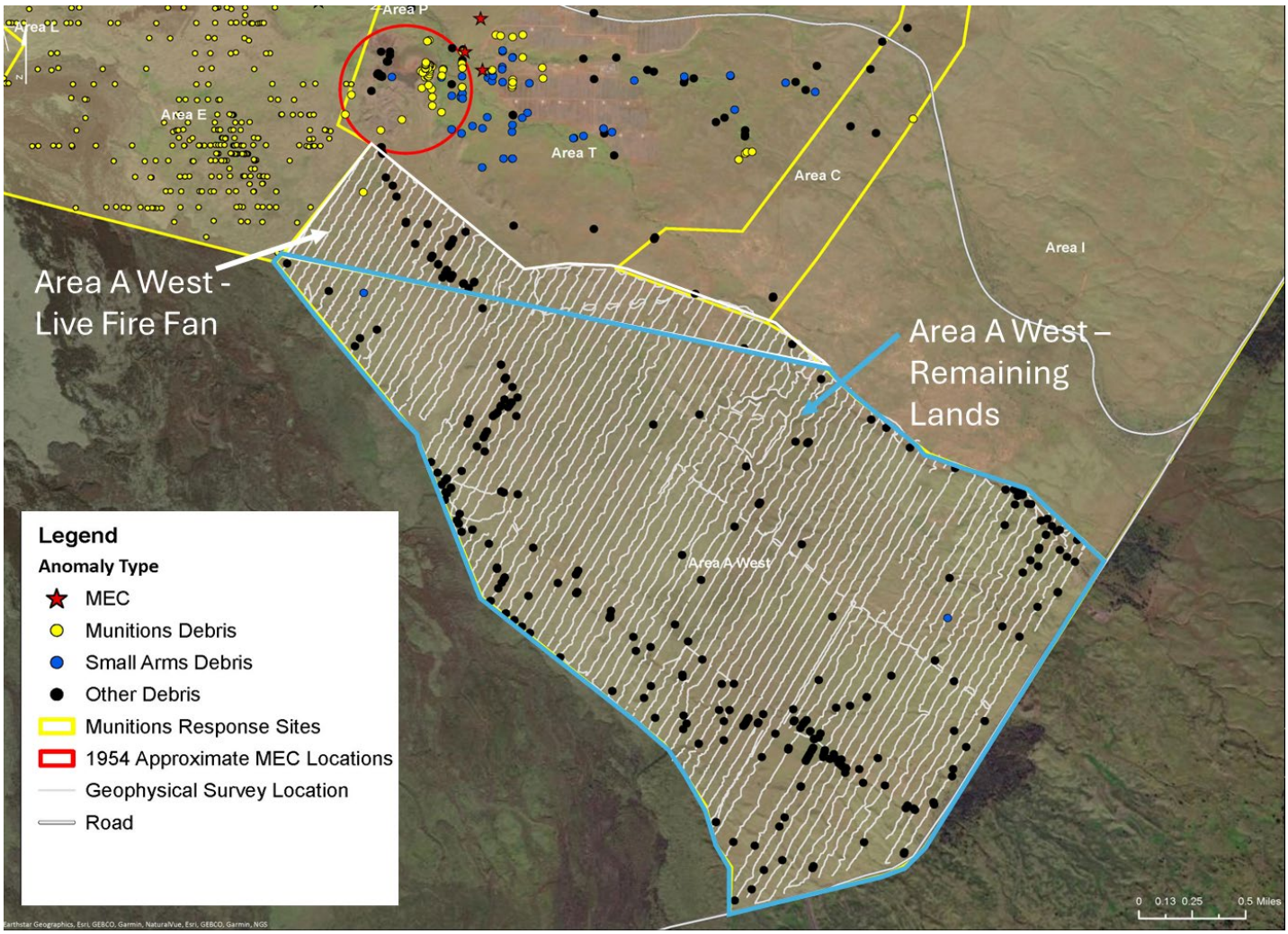
The PA effort resulted in the identification of the historical maps discussed in Section 2 of this proposed plan. The PA also determined that although the historical maps confirmed that all three of the parcels were in the Maneuver Area "Non-Firing" section of WMA, the western-most portion of Area A West is adjacent to the Impact Area and was part of the live-fire area near Puu' Hinai (***Figure 8***). During the 1954 Explosive Ordnance Disposal units clearance at Waikoloa, the Explosives Ordnance Disposal team found 75mm projectiles, 2.36-inch and 3.5-inch rockets, and 81mm mortars in the vicinity of the western-most portion of Area A, in what is now called Area T. Additional MEC was found in Area T during a 2012 removal action and a 2016 RI (USACE 2022).

2024 Remedial Investigation Findings and Conclusions

Based on the results of the anomaly investigation and other lines of evidence, the RI recommended that Area A West be divided into two separate parcels: Area A West-Remaining Lands and Area A West-Live Fire Area. The 2015 investigation for Area C (USACE 2015), 2016 investigations for Area E (USACE 2016a), and 2016 investigations for Area T (USACE 2016b) were reviewed to support the determination of MEC nature and extent for Area A West. Area C and Area T are located immediately north of Area A West and Area E is immediately west of Area A West. The results shown in ***Figure 9*** are consistent with the military use of these areas and supported the recommendation that Area A West be divided into the two subareas. Area A West – Live Fire Fan was designated as a Low Use Area and determined to have a potential source for MEC with an unacceptable risk for explosive hazards. A Feasibility Study will be conducted for this area followed by a Proposed Plan and Record of Decision.

Area A West–Remaining Lands, Area A East, and Area G were determined to be no evidence of use areas. All lines of evidence support the conclusion that operations with military munitions containing an explosive hazard were not conducted in these areas of the MRS. The SAA munitions debris found within Area A West–Remaining Lands does not pose an explosive hazard or indicate the presence of a small arms range in the area. Additionally, in accordance with USACE interim guidance, the absence of MEC or MD associated with an explosive hazard does not indicate designation as a munitions use area when considering risk associated with explosive hazards. (USACE 2024c).

Figure 9. MEC and MD Found in MRSs Adjacent Area A West



2024 Simplified Inventory Project Report (INPR)

The 2024 INPR documents the approved delineation of the WMA FUDS projects, Areas A and G and Area T. The delineation transfers 466.6 acres from Area A West to Area T based on the results of the Area A and G RI Report. The intrusive investigations of the anomalies found one MD fragment from a 155mm projectile in the northwest portion of Area A-West, but no MEC or MD was found in the remainder of Areas A or G. At the conclusion of the RI, Area A West was divided into two separate parcels: Area A West-Remaining Lands and Area A West-Live Fire Area. The INPR reassigned 466.6 acres of Area A West-Live Fire Area to Area T due to their proximity to the Pu'u Hinai Live-Fire Area where two MEC items (a 155mm HE projectile and a 60mm HE mortar) were found during the Area T RI. This re-assignment results in the reduction in Areas A and G combined acreage from 7,354.5 to 6887.9 as shown on ***Figure 10***.

5 Scope and Role of Response

This Proposed Plan describes the scope and role of the response at Areas A and G of the WMA, which consists of three separate parcels as shown in ***Figure 11***.

Based on the results of the RI and the review of multiple lines-of-evidence, Area A West (re-aligned boundary), Area A East and Area G have been determined to be no evidence of use areas and No Further Action related to MEC, or munitions constituents is required.

6 Summary of Site Risks

Risk assessments are MRS-specific evaluations, which consider current and future land use and activities, and may vary in both the detail and extent to which qualitative and quantitative inputs are used. In order for a risk to be present, there must be a source, exposure pathway, and receptor. If one of these factors is not present, then there is no potential for a complete exposure pathway, and there is no unacceptable risk.

MEC Risk Assessment

The RI concluded that the area was not used for training with MEC, and no source area was identified or suspected. Because no source of MEC was found within Areas A and G, a risk evaluation was not required.

Figure 10. Showing location of Pu'u Hanai Live-Fire Area with respect to Area A West

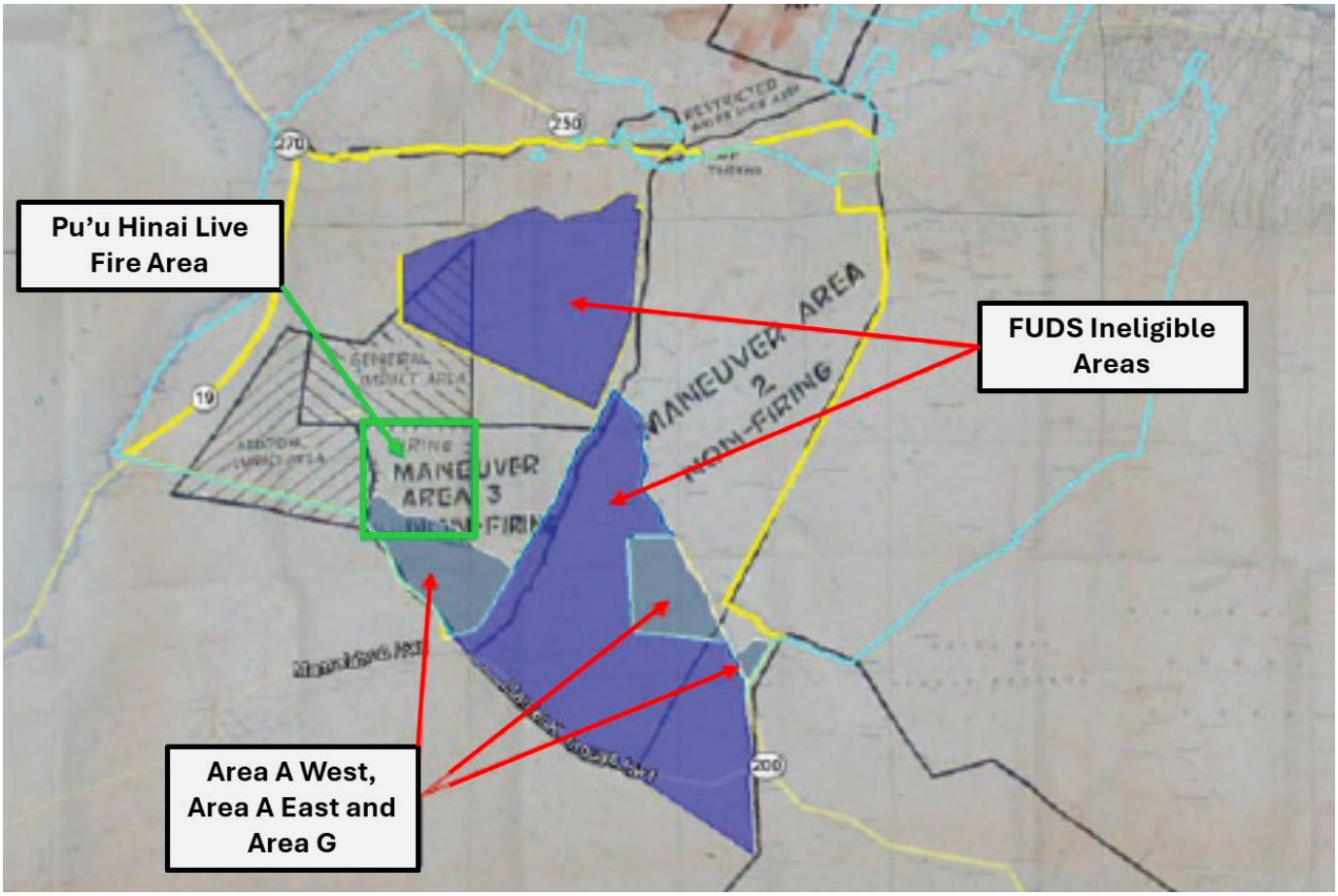
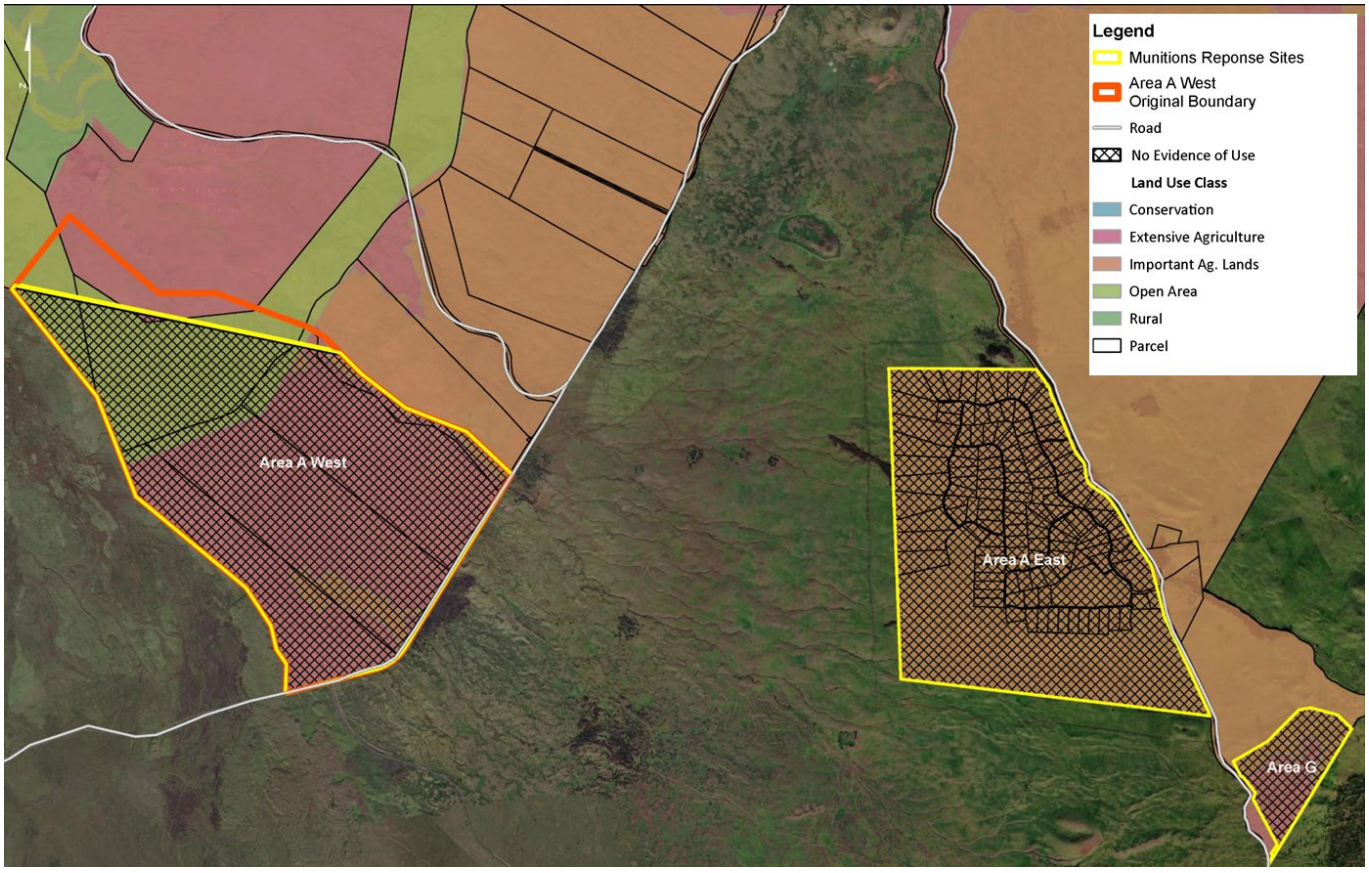


Figure 11. No Evidence of Munitions Use Areas A and G



Munitions Constituents Human Health Risk Assessment and Ecological Risk Assessment

The RI concluded the area was not used for training with MEC and only limited evidence of SAA munitions debris (two belt links) with no source area identified or suspected. Because no source of munitions constituents was found within Areas A and G, a risk evaluation was not required.

7 Preferred Alternative

Based on the data collected and multiple lines of evidence reviewed, Areas A and G do not have a MEC or munitions constituents hazard. The entirety of the MRS areas are confirmed to be no evidence of use areas. Therefore, the recommended Proposed Plan for the MRS is No Further Action for MEC and munitions constituents.

8 Community Participation

One of the purposes of this Proposed Plan is to ask for comments from members of the public. USACE encourages the public to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the site and the activities that have been conducted there. USACE maintains the information repository (current information, technical reports, etc.) and administrative record file (information directly related to remedial action decisions) for Areas A and G. Detailed information about the earlier studies and restoration activities can be found in the reports and documents at USACE–Honolulu District Office and the Information Repository located at:

- USACE–Honolulu District
  Building 230
  Fort Shafter, Hawai'i 96858-5440
  Telephone: 808-835-4089
- Information Repository
  Thelma Parker Memorial Library
  67-1209 Mamalahoa Highway
  Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743-8429
  Telephone: 808-887-6067

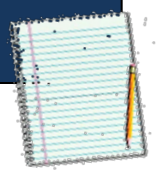
This Proposed Plan fulfills the public participation requirements of CERCLA Section 117(a), which specifies that the lead agency (i.e., USACE) must publish a plan outlining any remedial alternatives evaluated for the site and identifying the proposed decision.

The public comment period for this Proposed Plan is an opportunity to provide input regarding the proposed No Further Action recommendation for Areas A and G. Details on the public comment period and the public meeting are provided below. All interested parties are encouraged to attend the meeting to learn more about the site from the project team members. The public meeting will also provide an additional opportunity to submit comments to USACE on the Proposed Plan.

The comment form on the following page may be used to provide comments to USACE, although the use of this form is not required. On the basis of comments or new information, USACE may modify the proposed selected alternative, if appropriate. USACE will summarize and respond to comments in a responsiveness summary, which will become part of the official Record of Decision.

After the public comment period, USACE will determine whether the Proposed Plan should be modified on the basis of comments received. If modifications based on comments do not change the current Proposed Plan for No Further Action, then a Record of Decision will be written, signed by USACE, and placed in the Administrative Record to document the decision that no remedial action is necessary.

Mark Your Calendar for the Public Comment Period



Public Comment Period

9 January 2025 through 10 February 2025

Submit Written Comments

USACE will accept written comments on the Proposed Plan during the public comment period. To submit comments or obtain further information, please refer to the insert page.

Attend the Public Meeting

USACE will hold a public meeting to explain the Proposed Plan. Written comments will be accepted during the public comment period, including at the meeting.

23 January 2025 at 5:00pm

Location:
Waikii Ranch Club House
67 Palekaiko Rd
Waimea, Hawai'i 96743

Next to the Polo Field, Waikii clubhouse is accessed through the upper neighborhood gate at intersection of Saddle Road and Waikii Road. Folow the meeting signs from the gate.

For further information on this Proposed Plan for Areas A and G, please contact:

HonoluluDistrictFUDSinfo@usace.army.mil

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Honolulu District
ATTN: CEPOH-PPE
230 Otake St.
Fort Shafter, Hawai'i 96858-5440

Please Provide Your Comments Below

Your input on the Proposed Plan for the WMA Areas A and G is important to USACE. Comments provided by the public are valuable in helping USACE select a final remedy for the site.

You may use the space below to write your comments, then fold and mail to the **US Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District ATTN: CEPOH-PPE 230 Otake Street, Fort Shafter, Hawai'i 96858-5440**.

Comments must be postmarked by **10 February 2025**.

Comments may also be emailed to HonoluluDistrictFUDSinfo@usace.army.mil
Email must be sent by **10 February 2025**.

Glossary

Administrative Record: The body of documents that "forms the basis" for the selection of a particular response at a site that is compiled and maintained by the lead agency. Documents that are included are relevant documents that were relied upon in selecting the response action as well as relevant documents that were considered but were ultimately rejected. Until the Administrative Record is certified, it will be referred to as the "Administrative Record file."

Anomaly: Measured response associated with one or more sources that can be distinguished from background.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA): A Federal law enacted in 1980 and amended in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, which concerns investigation and response actions regarding hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants.

Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP): Under the DERP, DoD conducts cleanup at active installations, FUDS, and Base Realignment and Closure locations. The Army, Navy, Air Force, and Defense Logistics Agency manage the cleanup programs at their active installations and Base Realignment and Closure BRAC locations. The Army oversees the USACE' execution of the FUDS cleanup program. The Office of the Secretary of Defense, through the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment, Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health Directorate, manages and oversees the DERP and provides program guidance.

Digital Geophysical Survey: The use of specialized digital instruments on the ground surface to detect metallic items such as munitions or munitions debris below the ground. The instruments used are known as sensors.

Ecological Risk Assessment: An evaluation of the risk posed to the environment should remedial activities not be implemented.

Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA): An The EE/CA is prepared for all non-time-critical actions as required by Section 300.415(b)(4)(i) of the National Contingency Plan. The goals of the EE/CA Analysis are to identify the extent of a hazard, to identify the objectives of the removal action, and to analyze the various alternatives that may be used to satisfy these objectives for cost, effectiveness, and implementability.

Explosive Ordnance Disposal: The detection, identification, on-site evaluation, rendering safe, recovery, and final disposal of unexploded ordnance and of other munitions that have become an imposing danger, for example, by damage or deterioration.

Findings and Determination of Eligibility: Research results regarding the military history of a site that recommends whether property is eligible under the FUDS Program and authorizes expenditure of DERP funds for FUDS eligible properties.

Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS): A FUDS is defined as a facility or site (property) that was under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense and owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the United States at the time of actions leading to contamination by hazardous substances or pollutants and contaminants for which the Secretary of Defense shall carry out all response actions with respect to releases of hazardous substance from that facility or site. By the DERP policy, the FUDS program is limited to those real properties that were transferred from Department of Defense control prior to 17 October 1986. FUDS properties can be located within the 50 States, District of Columbia, Territories, Commonwealths, and possessions of the United States.

Groundwater: Subsurface water that occurs in soils and geologic formations that are fully saturated.

Human Health Risk Assessment: An evaluation of the risk posed to human health should remedial activities not be implemented.

Inventory Project Report (INPR): INPR documents the results of the Findings and Determination of Eligibility and Preliminary Assessment. It identifies and recommends potential FUDS projects.

Military Munitions: All ammunition products and components produced for or used by the armed forces for national defense and security, including ammunition products or components under the control of the DoD, US Coast Guard, US Department of Energy, and National Guard. The term includes confined gaseous, liquid, and solid propellants, explosives, pyrotechnics, chemical and riot control agents, smokes, and incendiaries, including bulk explosives, and chemical warfare agents, chemical munitions, rockets, guided and ballistic missiles, bombs, warheads, mortar rounds, artillery ammunition, small arms ammunition, grenades, mines, torpedoes, depth charges, cluster munitions and dispensers, demolition charges, and devices and components thereof.

The term does not include wholly inert items, improvised explosive devices, and nuclear weapons, devices, and nuclear components, other than nonnuclear components of nuclear devices that are managed under the nuclear weapons program of the Department of Energy after all required sanitization operations under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) have been completed.

Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP): The Department of Defense developed the MMRP in 2001 to addresses munitions-related concerns, including explosive safety, environmental, and health hazards from releases of unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, and

munitions constituents found at locations other than operational ranges on active and Base Realignment and Closure installations and FUDS properties. The MMRP addresses non-operational range lands with suspected or known hazards from munitions and explosives of concern which occurred prior to September 2002 but are not already included with an Installation Response Program site cleanup activity.

Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC): This term refers to military munitions that may pose unique explosives safety risks. MEC divide into three categories:

(A) UXO, as defined in 10 U.S.C. 101(e)(5);
(B) Discarded military munitions, as defined in 10 U.S.C. 2710(e)(2); or
(C) Munitions constituents (e.g., TNT, RDX), as defined in 10 US Code 2710(e)(3), present in high enough concentrations to pose an explosive hazard.

Munitions Constituents: Any materials originating from UXO, discarded military munitions, or other military munitions, including explosive and non-explosive materials, and emission, degradation, or breakdown elements of such ordnance or munitions.

Munitions Debris (MD): Remnants of munitions (e.g., fragments, penetrators, projectiles, shell casings, links, fins) remaining after munitions use, demilitarization or disposal.

Munitions Response Site (MRS): A specific area on a defense site that is known or suspected to contain unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions, or munitions constituents, and is known to require a munitions response. Examples include former ranges and munitions burial areas.

No Evidence of Use: An area within a MRS where the weight of evidence indicates that no munitions were used or disposed of. All available and relevant lines of evidence supporting this delineation (e.g., historical records review, historical photo interpretation, visual observations, interviews, and field investigations) must be documented in the conceptual site model and considered.

No Further Action: The lead agency has determined that No Further Action is necessary to protect public health or welfare or the environment because the site poses no unacceptable risks to human health or the environment.

Non-Time-Critical Removal Action (NTCRA): NTCRAs are conducted at Superfund sites when the lead Agency determines, based on the site evaluation, that a removal action is appropriate, and a planning period of at least 6 months is available before on-site activities must begin.

Proposed Plan: In the first step in the remedy selection process, the lead agency identifies the alternative that best meets the requirements in CERCLA 300.430(f)(1) and presents that alternative to the public in a proposed plan. The purpose of the Proposed Plan is to supplement the remedial investigation (RI) and provide the public with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed remedial action, and to participate in the selection of remedial action at a site.

Public Comment Period: The time allowed for the members of an affected community to express views and concerns regarding an action proposed to be taken by USACE.

Remedial Action: Action of the lead remedial agent that addresses a contaminant, hazard, receptor, or the connection between the receptor and the hazard, which is taken to produce site conditions that present no significant risk to human health and the environment.

Remedial Investigation (RI): A process undertaken by the lead agency to determine the nature and extent of the problem presented by the release. The RI emphasizes data collection and site characterization and is generally performed concurrently and in an interactive fashion with the feasibility study. The RI includes sampling and monitoring, as necessary, and includes the gathering of sufficient information to determine the necessity for remedial action and to support the evaluation of remedial alternatives.

Record of Decision: The Record of Decision documents the remedial action decisions at non-National Priorities List FUDS Properties. The Record of Decision shall address the following: Purpose, Site Risk, Remedial Alternatives, Public/Community Involvement, Declaration, and Approval and Signature. A Record of Decision for sites not covered by an interagency agreement or Federal facility agreement is still required to follow a CERCLA response. All Record of Decisions will be maintained in the FUDS Property/Project Administrative Record file.

Risk Assessment: Risk Assessment establishes whether a risk is present and, if so, the range or magnitude of that risk. In order for a risk to occur a pathway must be completed. There must be a source (or hazard), a population (receptor), and an exposure activity by which the receptor comes into contact with the source (or hazard). If one of these components is missing the exposure pathway is incomplete and there is no risks.

Small Arms Ammunition (SAA): Small arms ammunition includes ammunition, without projectiles that contain explosives (other than tracers), that is .50-caliber or smaller, or for shotguns.

US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE): A branch of the Department of Defense with special expertise in conducting CERCLA/NCP investigations and response actions at former Department of Defense sites.

US Department of Defense: An executive branch department of the federal government of the United States charged with coordinating and supervising all agencies and functions of the government concerned directly with national security and the United States Armed Forces.

Waikoloa Maneuver Area (WMA): Waikoloa Maneuver Area is a Formerly Used Defense Site located on the big Island of Hawai'i that was used for training troops during the World War II era.

Acronyms

CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	MRS	Munitions Response Site
DERP	Defense Environmental Restoration Program	NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan
EE/CA	Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis	NTCRA	Non Time Critical Removal Actions
EOD	Explosives Ordnance Disposal	RDX	Royal Demolition Explosive, hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine
ft	Feet/foot	RI	Remedial Investigation
FUDS	Formerly Used Defense Site	ROD	Record of Decision
HDOH	Hawaii Department of Health	RRD	Range-related debris
INPR	Inventory Project Report	SAA	Small Arms Ammunitions
MC	Munitions constituents	TNT	Trinitrotoluene
MD	Munitions debris	USACE	US Army Corps of Engineers
MEC	Munitions and explosives of concern	UXO	Unexploded ordnance
mm	Millimeter	WMA	Waikoloa Maneuver Area
MMRP	Military Munitions Response Program		

References

Army Geospatial Center. 2021. *Historical Photographic Analysis (HPA) for the Waikoloa Maneuver Area.* April 5.

Mink, J.F. and L.S. Lau. 1993. *Aquifer Identification and Classification for the Island of Hawai`i: Groundwater Protection Strategy for Hawai`i.* Water Resources Research Center, University of Hawai`i at Manoa. Technical Report No. 1. May.

United States (US) Army 2013. The US Army's Position Paper "Small Arms Ammunition (SAA) - Explosive Safety or Human Health Risk". 28 March 2013.

US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). 2002. *Phase II Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis, Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area and Nansay Sites, Island of Hawai`i, Hawai`i.* Prepared by Earth Tech for the US Army Corps of Engineers. January.

USACE. 2014. *Final Remedial Investigation Report Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area (WMA) Area S-Saddle Road MRS Island of Hawai'i, Hawai'i.* Prepared by Native Hawaiian Veterans (NHV) for the Army Corps of Engineers. September.

USACE. 2015. *Final Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report, Area C, Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area (WMA) Military Munitions Response Program Island of Hawai'i, Hawai'i.* Prepared by GSI, Pacific (GSIP) for the US Army Corps of Engineers. September.

USACE. 2016a. *Final Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report, Area T, Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area (WMA) Military Munitions Response Program Island of Hawai'i, Hawai'i,* Prepared by GSIP for the US Army Corps of Engineers. December.

USACE. 2016b. *Final Remedial Investigation Report Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area (WMA) Area E MRS Island of Hawai'i, Hawai'i.* Prepared by Native Hawaiian Veterans (NHV) for the Army Corps of Engineers. October.

USACE. 2016c. Final Remedial Investigation Report Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area (WMA) Area E MRS Island of Hawai'i, Hawai'i. Prepared by Native Hawaiian Veterans (NHV) for the Army Corps of Engineers. October.

USACE. 2018. *Draft Final Remedial Investigation Report For Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area, Projects 1 and 23 Waikoloa, Island of Hawai`i, Hawai`i.* Prepared by Parsons for the US Army Corps of Engineers. October.

USACE. 2022. Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites Preliminary Assessment Waikoloa Maneuver Area, Waikoloa, HI . Final August 2022.

USACE. 2024a. Memorandum For Commander, Honolulu District (CEPOH-PP-E/L. Wong), Fort Shafter, Hawaii 96858-5440 Subject: *Defense Environmental Restoration Program – Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS) Inventory Project Report (INPR) Amendment to Delineate FUDS Project Numbers H09HI035901 and H09HI035916 on Waikoloa Maneuver Area, Hawaii County, Hawaii.* Final May 2024.

USACE. 2024b. *Final Remedial Investigation Report For Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area, Project 01- Areas A and G, Island of Hawai`i, Hawai`i.* Prepared by EA-Wood JV for the US Army Corps of Engineers. February.

USACE. 2024c. Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Interim Guidance Document (IGD) –Engineer Manual 200-1-15 Technical Guidance for Military Munitions Response Actions. 27 February.

US Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, In Cooperation with University of Hawai`i Agricultural Experiment Station. 1973. Soil Survey of the Island of Hawai`i, State of Hawai`i, December 1973.