

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 24, 2023 Contact: Amy L. Bugala O:808-835-4003 / M:808-490-8280 Amy.l.bugala@usace.army.mil Public Affairs, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District

## **USACE** announces proposed plan for Sector 15 Munitions Response Site, hosts public meeting

**FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii** - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, responsible for managing restoration efforts at the Former Waikoloa Maneuver Area, South Kohala, Island of Hawaii, announces the availability of the Final Proposed Plan for Sector 15 Munitions Response Site and seeks public review and input on the plan.

Sector 15, a Formerly Used Defense Site, is 11,200 acres located east of Waimea and primarily comprised of Pu'ukapu Hawaiian Home Lands, including Kūhiō Village and Kanu o ka 'Āina school. This MRS was historically used as a non-live fire maneuver training area during World War II era, and as such, no evidence has been found that indicates military munitions were used for training within the site.

"This is one big step in the CERCLA process and the larger DoD remediation plan for the former Waikoloa Maneuver Area FUDS on Hawaii Island," said Lt. Col. Ryan Pevey, USACE Honolulu District commander. "There's additional work in collaboration with our partner agencies to reach response complete at Sector 15, but we're on a positive trajectory with the larger FUDS effort in Waikoloa. I'm proud of the work this team is doing and will continue to prioritize the FUDS mission to support the restoration of these lands."

The public is invited to attend an in-person public meeting Sat., Aug. 12 at 2 p.m. at the Waimea Elementary School (67-1225 Mamalahoa Highway Kamuela, HI 96743) to learn more about the Proposed Plan for MRS Sector 15 to include the proposed decision of No Further Action for this site. The meeting will be recorded and posted to the project website.

The Proposed Plan is available at the Thelma Parker Memorial Library (67-1209 Mamalahoa Highway, Kamuela, HI 96743-8429) for public review and comment from July 24 through August 25, 2023. A digital copy can be downloaded at:

www.poh.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/FUDS/Waikoloa.aspx

Oral and written comments received during the 30-day comment period will be recorded and answered in the Responsiveness Summary of the Record of Decision. Comments can be submitted by postal mail or email:

Email: WMAUXOInfo@usace.army.mil

**Postal:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District

ATTN: CEPOH-PPE

230 Otake St., Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440



USACE Honolulu District executes the Formerly Used Defense Site Hawaii program, which is dedicated to protecting human health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up past DoD activities. Safety is the top priority. To learn more about FUDS projects in Hawaii, go to www.poh.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/FUDS/.