

PMRF Kaua'i

E Pane Mai Ka Nonoi O Nohili
Answering the Requests of Nohili



Did You Know?

Pacific Missile Range Facility is a major economic driver on Kaua'i. We are the largest high-tech employer, bringing skilled, high-paying jobs to Kaua'i. We are members of the Kaua'i community and actively participate in community events and volunteer programs.

- We are the third largest employer overall on Kaua'i.
- Most of our civilian and contract workforce are longtime Kaua'i residents.
- We contribute \$150 million each year to the Kaua'i economy in salaries, contract goods, and services.
- Large testing events at PMRF each bring an additional \$3 million annually in visitor and industry impact.

Aloha and Welcome!

Aloha and welcome to the first quarterly newsletter for Pacific Missile Range Facility Barking Sands! This newsletter is intended to be a resource to Kaua'i communities for information about PMRF and its role in national defense, the Navy's stewardship efforts to protect natural and cultural resources within its care, its role in the community, and its role as a large landholder in the community. Here you can find information related to ongoing and upcoming environmental impact reviews, community events, and updates related to military testing and training activities.



Capt. Brett Stevenson, commanding officer, shares information with community leaders about PMRF's natural and cultural stewardship programs.

PMRF has a New Website!

The Navy is excited to announce **our new website!** This website is designed for you to easily find information about PMRF and our efforts in the community. We want to keep you informed of upcoming military projects, community events, and our successful marine, terrestrial, and cultural stewardship programs. The website is intended to provide and establish regular communication channels to strengthen relationships with the community and other interested stakeholders.

PMRF has a strong relationship with stakeholders and the community and is viewed as a good neighbor and community partner. The Navy values the support of its host community. It is critical that these relationships are maintained and enhanced, stakeholders and the community are kept informed of the actions being proposed at PMRF, and the Navy continues to be viewed as a good neighbor and strong community partner.

This quarterly newsletter and the website are meant to provide a proactive method for two-way communication, promote greater dialogue, work collaboratively toward common goals, and develop solutions.

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www.PMRFKauai.com



Website (continued from page 1)

On this website, you can find:

- Announcements
- Schedule of community events and volunteering in the community
- Information about ongoing and upcoming environmental reviews and projects on or around Kaua'i, including public involvement opportunities
- The Navy's historical, cultural, and natural resource protection programs at PMRF; the **Department of Defense's Readiness and Environmental Protection and Integration (REPI)** program; and other resiliency protection efforts
- Information about public access to PMRF beaches and water areas
- Notices to mariners and airmen
- Fact sheets and other informational materials
- Ability to subscribe for future notices
- Contact form if you have questions, would like more information, or have a request.

Visit us today at **www.PMRFKauai.com**! Check back often as the website is updated quarterly (every 3 months).

Upcoming Public Involvement Opportunities

The public release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the U.S. Navy Pacific Missile Range Facility and NASA Kōke'e Park Geophysical Observatory Real Estate is coming soon!

Please check the **PMRF Kaua'i website** for more information on the availability of the Draft EIS and public meetings to be held this summer on Kaua'i.

What is PMRF?

Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) is a premier Navy testing and training area used by the U.S. military services, Department of Defense agencies, and other federal agencies. Here, we test new technologies and train service members to defend the United States and its territories, interests, and allies.

PMRF is the world's largest instrumented range capable of supporting surface, subsurface, air, and space operations simultaneously. The installation includes more than 1,100 square miles of instrumented underwater range and over 42,000 square miles of controlled airspace.



Pacific Missile Range Facility Barking Sands, Kaua'i

The PMRF mission is to oversee and coordinate training events from unit-level to multi-national exercises, while at the same time conducting or supporting the research, development, test, and evaluation missions of the Navy, Department of Defense, and other federal agencies.

Most of the staff at PMRF are longtime residents of Kaua'i and are actively engaged in community events and volunteer opportunities. We consult and communicate with kūpuna and other local leaders on environmental stewardship programs, continued access, and community education.

PMRF in the Community

Lā Honua: PMRF Hosts Annual Field Trip for West-Side Students

Under canopies casting cool shade from the blazing Mānā sun, nearly 250 students and chaperones on a field trip to PMRF gathered on a grassy field on April 25, 2025, to learn from PMRF Natural Resources personnel and partner organizations from across Kaua'i, about the environment, the various ways that environmental professionals are working to preserve the earth and how they themselves can play a part in a greener future.

After a welcoming oli given by the students of Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha, members of the PMRF team that worked to put the event together introduced themselves and taught the students about the many different roles PMRF has in protecting the precious ecosystem on the far west side of Kaua'i.

"One of the things we take very seriously here is while we are protecting our country we also want to protect the aina where we live," said Commanding Officer Capt. Brett Stevenson to the students and chaperones. "While you visit the different displays and learn about the areas that we live in, I want you to think about all the different plants and animals that make this place beautiful and how important it is to ensure that they thrive."

The students visiting PMRF this year were fourth graders from Kekaha, St. Theresa's, Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha, 'Ele'ele and Kalaheo elementary schools.



Students learn about protecting the environment and environmental professions from PMRF Natural Resources personnel.



PMRF staff play an important role in the urgent medical transportation of a Kaua'i patient.

American Medical Response, Hawaii Life Flight Expedite Air Medical Transport via PMRF Airfield

PMRF played an important role in the urgent medical transportation of a Kaua'i patient, helping save valuable time. At approximately 10:25 a.m. April 10, 2025, Juvann Bautista, an Emergency Medical Technician with American Medical Response, arrived at the PMRF airfield transporting a patient for a Hawaii Life Flight Air Medical Transfer. Barking Sands Fire and Emergency Services Department personnel, Chris Gutierrez and Michelle Hickerson, escorted the ambulance on to the airfield tarmac to facilitate transfer of the patient from the ambulance on to the plane. Within 30 minutes, the plane was in the air with the patient onboard.

"When a patient needs air medical transfer on the west-side we are able to reduce transport time by an hour or more when going to PMRF instead of driving all the way to the other side of the island," said Bautista. "An hour can make a serious difference in any situation, but it's huge when you're talking about life saving care. The team at PMRF is always super professional and they help me with whatever I need when I get there."

PMRF Hosts Native Hawaiian Preservation Tour with Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Executive personnel from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs visited PMRF for a tour of the historical and Native Hawaiian preservation sites and practices being conducted and upheld by the installation. These connections reinforce PMRF's commitment to the community, promote mutual understanding and respect, and strengthen relationships between military and local officials and organizations.

Read more about the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' and PMRF's efforts to preserve **Mana at Mānā amid climate threats**.

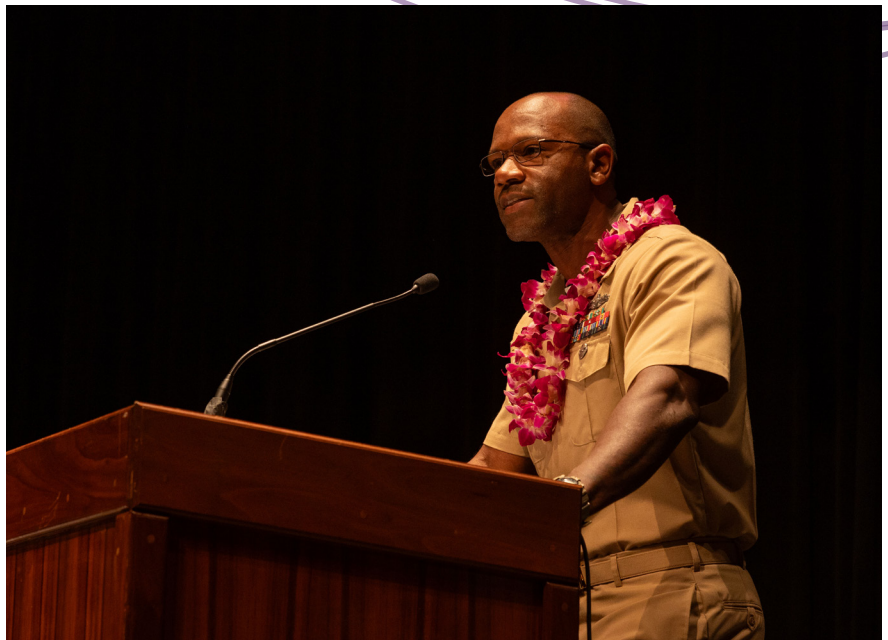


PMRF staff, consultants, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs executives visit the Nohili Dunes during a recent tour of the installation's historic preservation sites.

PMRF Presents Naval Science Awards at the Kaua'i Regional Science and Engineering Fair

Command Senior Chief Norman Mingo, senior enlisted leader of PMRF, presented awards to recipients of the Naval Science Award at the Kaua'i Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

The Naval Science Award Program is a U.S. Navy and Marine Corps program that encourages students to develop and retain an interest in science and engineering. The program recognizes the accomplishments of eligible students at regional and state science and engineering fairs and the International Science and Engineering Fair in producing and presenting quality science and engineering projects.



Command Senior Chief Norman Mingo, senior enlisted leader of Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, speaks to the audience at the Kauai Regional Science and Engineering Fair prior to presenting recipients with the Naval Science Award.

Shenanigans Grand Re-Opening Hosts Sold-Out 'Business After Hours' Event

Capt. Brett Stevenson, commanding officer of PMRF, spoke at Shenanigans restaurant and bar's grand re-opening and sold-out Kaua'i Chamber of Commerce "Business After Hours" event on Thursday, March 27, 2025. The sold-out event underscored the strong and valuable relationships between the U.S. Navy, the Kaua'i Chamber of Commerce, business owners, and the local community.



PMRF Capt. Brett Stevenson speaks at the Kaua'i Chamber of Commerce "Business After Hours" event.

PMRF Hosts Multi-Agency Incident Command System Training

PMRF hosted a three-day, multi-agency Incident Command System course to prepare and unite first responders and emergency resources within our local community. Staff from various state and federal agencies on Kaua'i attended the training and a total of 17 successfully graduated the course.



PMRF's Emergency Management Officer, Kelly Balmores (left), shares real-life experiences during group discussions.