

ARMY COMPATIBLE USE BUFFER

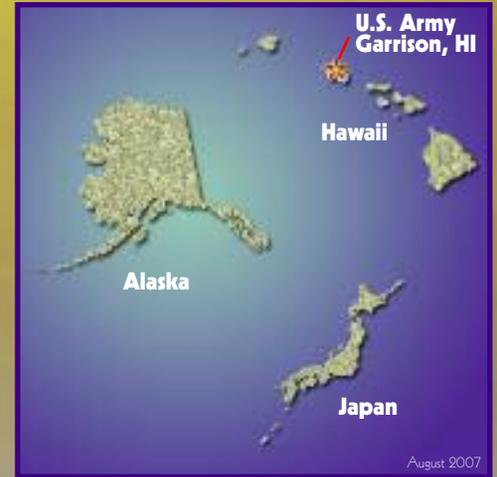
Partnership
FOR
Protection

PACIFIC REGION

Army Compatible Use Buffers

The Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB) program is an integral component of the Army's sustainability triple bottom line: mission, environment and community. In recent years, Army installations are experiencing increasing encroachment from a variety of sources, including population growth, urban land use and environmental requirements. The ACUB program proactively addresses encroachment, which causes costly workarounds or compromises training realism. The program is a powerful tool that allows the military to contribute funds to the partner's purchase of easements or properties from willing landowners. These partnerships preserve high-value habitat and limit incompatible land use in the vicinity of military installations.

Title 10, Section 2684a, of the United States Code authorizes the Department of Defense to partner with nonfederal governments or private organizations to limit encroachment and protect habitat around installations. The Army implements this authority through the ACUB program, which is managed at Army Headquarters level by the office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management according to priorities established by the office of the Director of Training. The Army Environmental Command provides technical assistance, facilitates ACUB proposal development and monitors program execution and advancement.



The Pacific Region consists of the states of Alaska and Hawaii and installations in Japan, with headquarters at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, and one approved ACUB.



U.S. ARMY GARRISON HAWAII ACUB OBJECTIVE

The U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii ACUB program protects training activities at the installation by conserving endangered species habitat off post to prevent Army training lands from becoming the only remaining protected habitat on the island. The ACUB program helps to fulfill U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requirements and allows range lands to continue to be used for military operations and training.

"The Hawaii ACUB program provides the installation and its partners the tremendous opportunity to protect our exceptional forest, scenic coastlines and unique cultural assets while accomplishing the Army's mission. Our ability to encourage partnerships among diverse organizations allows us to dialogue with greater respect, appreciation and understanding with each other enabling us to achieve community victories."

Debra D. Zedalis,
Director, IMCOM-Pacific



LEADING CHANGE FOR INSTALLATION EXCELLENCE

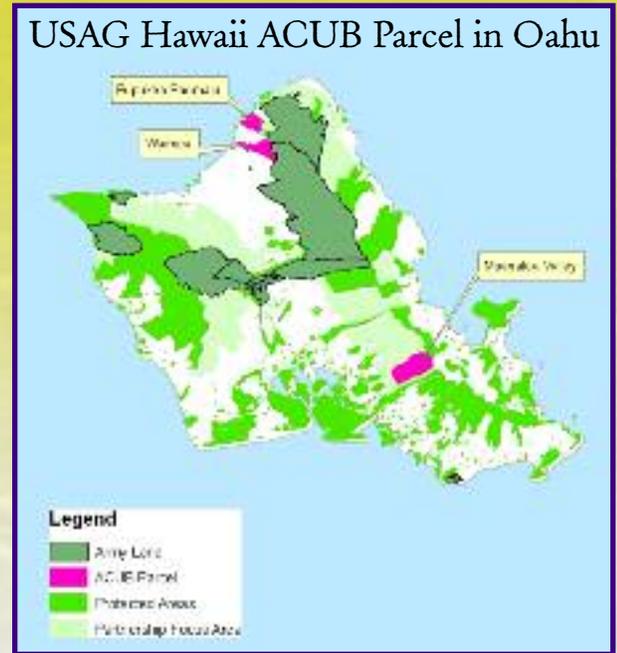
U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii

The U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii (USAG-HI), includes Schofield Barracks and Pohakuloa Training Range. USAG-HI serves as a training center for Soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and supports other Army, Army Reserve, U.S. Marine Corps and Hawaii Army National Guard units stationed in Hawaii, as well as other U.S. forces stationed in the Pacific Region.

Hawaii's growing population and its associated land development pressure the conversion of critical habitat to other land uses. USAG-HI is home to about 100 threatened or endangered species that have specific habitat requirements. As suburban sprawl increases, habitat is fragmented and destroyed. As a result, undeveloped training land at USAG-HI has become a refuge for endangered species. These trends threaten the ability of USAG-HI to fully execute its mission in the foreseeable future.

USAG-HI, supported by the Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base, initiated efforts to develop the ACUB and partner with state agencies and local conservation and land trust organizations in 2004. They formed the Oahu Conservation Partnership, bringing together extremely diverse organizations. USAG-HI and its ACUB partners are working to protect large tracts of land adjacent to the installations that will buffer critical training activities from encroachment and provide protection to valuable endangered species habitat.

The Hawaii ACUB program and partnerships represent the first time that all military services have collaborated to establish buffers. The mission of the partnership is to "Protect the natural areas that nurture Oahu" by purchasing or managing titles or easements to properties of high value to the participants as permanent open space. The Trust for Public Land has led the USAG-HI ACUB partnership to complete protection of parcels at Wiamea, Pupukeya Paumalu and Moanaloa Valley.



U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii Partners

- The Trust for Public Land
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- The Nature Conservancy
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Windward Ahupua'a Alliance
- City and County of Honolulu
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- U.S. Navy
- U.S. Marine Corps
- The North Shore Community Land Trust
- Hawaii's Thousand Friends
- Hawaii Army National Guard
- State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources

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