

**From:** [Dylan Karl](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Monday, June 23, 2025 8:57:49 PM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Dylan Karl, and I am a resident of Ewa Beach, O'ahu. Specifically, my address is 91-1363 Kaiokia Street. I am submitting testimony in strong opposition to renewing the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation. I respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the lease renewal and support the return of these lands to the people of Hawai'i, nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi.

The Army's own Final Environmental Impact Statement confirms what our communities have long known: military control has severely limited cultural access and harmed our ability as Kānaka 'Ōiwi and Hawai'i residents to care for and connect with these places. Despite policies for cultural access, the reality is that access is highly restricted — requiring advance requests, military escorts, and limiting who, when, and where we can go. This prevents us from practicing our traditions, stewarding the land, and teaching future generations. The continued lease would only extend these harms.

I call on the BLNR to prioritize restoration and cleanup of these lands, not further occupation. Please return them to community stewardship so Native Hawaiians and local residents can care for them as our kūpuna intended. The 'āina deserve healing, and our people deserve meaningful access without military barriers.

Mahalo for considering my testimony,  
Dylan Karl  
Ewa Beach, O'ahu

Dylan P. Karl

**From:** [Sarah Agate](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:29:08 PM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Sarah, and I am a resident of Oakland, CA. I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawai'i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military's continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community's call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai'i's lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Agate  
Oakland, CA, USA

**From:** [Kaitlin Allen](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to FEIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:27:13 PM

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Aloha Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Kaitlin Allen and I strongly urge you to REJECT the Army's legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the retention of lands on O'ahu.

Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.

Accepting this FEIS would signal that our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights can be disregarded with no consequence.

Please uphold your trust responsibilities, the mission of your department, and the laws that protect our 'āina and our future. Reject the FEIS.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kaitlin

June 26, 2025

Aloha Chair Chang and Land Board Members:

I support the contents of the HAPA-composed letter which I have included below.

There is no need for me to provide additional facts in support of “my strong opposition to the U.S. Army’s proposed retention of leased lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation, and to urge the land board to reject the Army’s EIS.”

Instead, allow me to speak from my heart in hopes of reaching yours. All land is sacred. Each culture has its own creation story and I have found they all have a similar base, which to me speaks of the utter miracle of life on this planet – each culture has its own Papa and Wākea. Even the Mainland, through the Indians. For them, like our culture here, the land is sacred. I understand that. I also understand the need for the US to protect its citizens because, unfortunately, humans are innately flawed, and thus the US needs a place to train its army. But where? Not here. In Hawai‘i, land is scarce and resources are limited. Heaven knows how much was taken and then taken again. The continental US has much more land. I found a word that describes the quandry of moving the training grounds to the continental US: Agathokakological: Definition: composed of both good and evil. From the Greek agathos (good) and kakos (bad). Good for us, but bad for the Native Americans, who simply referred to themselves as "the people" or "human beings", as did the kānaka. The only justification I have of moving the training to Mainland US (but not to discount the belief that like the kanaka ‘ōiwi, the Native Americans consider that all land and waterways are sacred) is that there is much more land there. Unfortunately, the military has a reputation here of not being ha‘aha‘a. (I specifically cite the Navy’s failure to admit responsibility for the Red Hill fuel leak. I find that failure to admit and take responsibility to be one of hubris and plain childish behavior: “Not my fault, I didn’t cause it.” (Sorry, I’m all over the place here because of my strong regard for the purpose of this letter.) I can only hope that the powers that be in the Army will understand and really ‘ike the situation. Good luck with that.

I implore you to think Hawaiian, protect our ‘āina, and also propose a solution without sounding prideful.

Below is the form content letter I referred to above:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the US. Army’s proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army’s EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the

birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to ‘āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha ‘āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR’s constitutional duty to mālama ‘āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai‘i by **rejecting the Army’s FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,

Audrey Aiko Allencastre, aallencastre@gmail.com

Ha‘ikū, Maui

**From:** [michelle archuleta](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:31:32 PM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Michelle, and I am a resident of Waialua. I am submitting testimony in **strong opposition** to renewing the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation. I respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the lease renewal and support the return of these lands to the people of Hawai'i, nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi.

The Army's own Final Environmental Impact Statement confirms what our communities have long known: military control has severely limited cultural access and harmed our ability as Kānaka 'Ōiwi and Hawai'i residents to care for and connect with these places. Despite policies for cultural access, the reality is that access is highly restricted — requiring advance requests, military escorts, and limiting who, when, and where we can go. This prevents us from practicing our traditions, stewarding the land, and teaching future generations. The continued lease would only extend these harms.

I call on the BLNR to prioritize restoration and cleanup of these lands, not further occupation. Please return them to community stewardship so Native Hawaiians and local residents can care for them as our kūpuna intended. The 'āina deserve healing, and our people deserve meaningful access without military barriers.

Thank you,  
Michelle Archuleta  
Waialua, Oahu

**From:** [Perle Besserman](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FEIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:09:43 PM

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*Aloha Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,*

*My name is Perle Besserman, and I strongly urge you to REJECT the Army's legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the retention of lands on O'ahu.*

*Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.*

*Accepting this FEIS would signal that our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights can be disregarded with no consequence.*

*Please uphold your trust responsibilities, the mission of your department, and the laws that protect our 'āina and our future. Reject the FEIS.*

*Mahalo nui for your consideration.*

*Sincerely,  
Perle Besserman, PHD*

**From:** [richard.bodien](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reject the Army's FEIS for Kahuku, Kawaioloa-Poamoho, and Mākua  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:26:30 AM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are wahi pana, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and aloha 'āina. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by rejecting the Army's FEIS for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Richard Bodien

Hawi, Hawai'i

[Optional: Your Town or Island]

**From:** [Kaitlynd B](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Leasing for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 4:47:09 AM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Kaitlynd, and I am a resident of Wichita, KS, United States of America. I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawai‘i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army’s lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army’s Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military’s continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community’s call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai‘i’s lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kaitlynd Brasher

Wichita, KS, United States of America

**From:** [AJ](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to US Army's FEIS for Kahuku, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:11:20 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,

AJ cho

Sent via [Wildhero](#) - email that plants trees.

**From:** [Glenn Choy](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:59:42 PM

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I urge you to reject the legally deficient FEIS.  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [LIBRADO COBIAN](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony Save Kahuku Track D. LAND DIVISION 1. Decision Making Regarding Army Training Land Retention of State  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:54:45 PM

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**D. LAND DIVISION**

1. Decision Making Regarding Army Training Land Retention of State  
Lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua  
Military

Reservation, Island of O‘ahu, Tax Map Keys (TMKs) (1) 5-8-002:002; 5-9-006:026;

We support the Military 100000% , we just hope that the Kahuku Track is still preserved  
for Dirtbike recreation. Li Cobian

**From:** [Ahlan.cox](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:09:08 PM

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Aloha,

My name is Ahlan Cox, and I am a resident of Hilo, Hawai'i. I am submitting testimony in **strong opposition** to renewing the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation. I respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the lease renewal and support the return of these lands to the people of Hawai'i, nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi.

The Army's own Final Environmental Impact Statement confirms what our communities have long known: military control has severely limited cultural access and harmed our ability as Kānaka 'Ōiwi and Hawai'i residents to care for and connect with these places. Despite policies for cultural access, the reality is that access is highly restricted — requiring advance requests, military escorts, and limiting who, when, and where we can go. This prevents us from practicing our traditions, stewarding the land, and teaching future generations. The continued lease would only extend these harms.

I call on the BLNR to prioritize restoration and cleanup of these lands, not further occupation. Please return them to community stewardship so Native Hawaiians and local residents can care for them as our kūpuna intended. The 'āina deserve healing, and our people deserve meaningful access without military barriers.

Mahalo for considering my testimony, I hope you have

an amazing day.

Sincerely,

Ahlan Cox

Hilo, Hawai'i

**From:** [Maggie Czarnecki](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Monday, June 23, 2025 10:05:15 PM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Maggie Czarnecki, and I am a resident of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawai'i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military's continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community's call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai'i's lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Maggie Czarnecki

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**From:** [Sam Demers](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony BLNR  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:20:33 AM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Samantha Demers, and I am a resident of Shelby, Ohio. I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawai'i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military's continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community's call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai'i's lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Samantha Demers Shelby, OH

**From:** [Ann Dorsey](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reject the Army's EIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:00:40 PM

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Land Board Members:

I urge you to oppose the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to ʻāina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant places.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation and upholding cultural integrity. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama ʻāina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,

Ann Dorsey

**From:** [John Witeck](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Testimony on Agenda Item D-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 4:06:21 PM

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My spouse Lucy and I urge the BLNR to reject the faulty EIS submitted by the military and, instead support the termination of the leases for three (3) plots of land on Oahu. It's time to restore these lands to Kanaka Maoli and the public, and end the military's pollution and contamination of these parcels.

— John Witeck, Honolulu, Hawaii

**From:** [Jessica dos Santos](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony - Reject the Army's Final EIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 10:26:35 AM

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Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Jessica dos Santos. I am a lifelong resident of Kahuku and an educator committed to truth, aloha ‘āina, and justice. My family has lived on O‘ahu for nearly 100 years, after being brought here through the harmful plantation labor systems that exploited workers from Asia. I recognize that I, as an Asian settler ally, live on lands that were stolen from the Hawaiian Kingdom, and I understand my kuleana to stand in solidarity with Kānaka Maoli in the fight for restoration, justice, and return.

I am writing in strong opposition to the Army’s Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and in full support of the return of all military-leased lands at Mākua, Poamoho, and Kahuku.

These are sacred places that should never have been used for bombing, weapons testing, or destructive military training. As someone who has visited Mākua with students, I’ve seen the contrast between the beauty that remains and the devastation that’s been done. One of my students once asked, “How can the military look at this beautiful place and think it’s okay to bomb it?” We should no longer have to imagine what Mākua was like before the fires, the invasive species, and the desecration. It’s time to restore these lands to their rightful stewards.

For 65 years, the U.S. military has failed to care for these ‘āina responsibly and has been the single largest polluter in the islands. Sacred sites have been desecrated. Endangered plants and animals have been pushed to the edge. Families have endured the trauma of gunfire, helicopters, and explosions in what should be places of peace and healing. Water and soil have been poisoned and destroyed. Nothing the Army has done to or with these lands has ever truly been pono.

These are stolen Hawaiian Kingdom Crown and Government lands. They contain iwi kūpuna, wahi pana, endangered species habitat, and critical water sources. The rightful stewardship of these places belongs with Kānaka Maoli, who have cared for them with deep aloha for thousands of years.

I respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the Army’s Final EIS and deny any new leases. We must begin the process of healing and restoration. No more desecration. No more military use of these sacred places. It is time to return these lands.

Mahalo for your time and your responsibility to protect Hawai‘i’s sacred places.

Respectfully,  
Jessica dos Santos  
Lifelong Resident of Kahuku

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Jessica A. dos Santos  
Phone: (808) 381-4069

**From:** [sadie sarkissian](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-1!!  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:43:29 PM

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Aloha Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Sadie Eckart and I strongly urge you to REJECT the Army's Legally Deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement for the retention of lands on O'ahu\*

Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pohakuloa- FEIS- including the LACK of Cultural and Biological Surveys, the Inadequate Cultural Consultation and Unaddressed Land USE Compliance Issues are found AGAIN in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater Contamination and Necessary Land Remediation plans!

I strongly request you all to reject it. Enough is Enough with the undisclosed truths. The seriousness of this matter is enough to Stop it. Enough damage has been done. This is a grave danger to the residents and people of the island. Stop creating more upset with falsified information and unchecked plans. I am a very concerned resident and vote to REJECT this immediately.

Please follow up with reply.

Sincerely,  
Sadie Eckart

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

**From:** [Sue Felt](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] REJECT the deficient FEIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:36:00 PM

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My name is Sue Felt. I am a Hawaii resident. I strongly reject the Army's FEIS for retention of lands on Oahu.

Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.

Accepting this FEIS would signal that our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights can be disregarded with no consequence.

Please uphold your trust responsibilities, the mission of your department, and the laws that protect our 'āina and our future. Reject the FEIS.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sue C. Felt

**From:** [Chloe Marie](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:02:59 AM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Chloe Fisher, and I am a resident of Albany, New York. I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawai'i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military's continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community's call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai'i's lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Chloe Fisher

Albany, New York

**From:** [Terry Galpin](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Kahuku Training Area -  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 8:50:56 AM

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Aloha, My name is Terry Galpin, and I have represented the Oahu dirtbike community as the OHV Rep for Na Ala Hele and as the Military and DLNR/DOFAW liaison for the past four years. As you are aware, the Kahuku Dirtbike Park, situated within the KTA training area, is the only legal public place for people to ride on Oahu, with limited hours of operation on weekends and national holidays. However, the park is closed during Army training missions, resulting in several months of closures per year and leaving over 5,000 riders without a legal place to ride. I am concerned that if KTA becomes the primary training area, it will lead to more closures or potentially permanent closure of the park. In this scenario, our riders will be forced to use trails not designated for dirtbikes.

On behalf of our dirtbike community, I urge the board to consider this issue and establish safeguards to ensure the Kahuku Dirtbike Park remains open and accessible, with limited Army closures.

With Respect,  
Terry Galpin  
808-372-8131

**From:** [Sydney Marie Gamatero](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:33:07 AM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Sydney Gamatero, and I am a resident of Las Vegas, Nevada. I am submitting this testimony as a Kanaka 'Ōiwi and former resident of Hawai'i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military's continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community's call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai'i's lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Sydney Gamatero  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**From:** [Katie Getchell](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony AGAINST Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Monday, June 23, 2025 8:04:18 PM

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Aloha E Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I am Katharine Getchell, I resident and property owner in Honoka'a, Hawai'i County.

Today I wish to record my stated strong opposition to the renewal of the U.S. Army lease covering lands owned by the State of Hawaii at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, Pohakuloa, and Mākua Military Reservation. I strongly request the BLNR to reject a renewal of these leases and to facilitate a return of these lands to Hawaiian People.

The Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement itself states that the military occupation of these lands has severely hindered cultural access for Kānāka 'Ōiwi. It has also prevented all residents of Hawaii to steward, protect, enjoy and learn about these places. A continued and renewed lease situation would only perpetuate the obvious injustices and exploitation that have already occurred.

Please, in your role as guardians of these lands, do not permit a renewal of its leases for destructive, desecratory and environmentally-unjustifiable military purposes. Please help us to turn towards the true care (mālama) and protection that is needed. Please do everything you can to insure that these lands are given over to to community care, by the descendants of Hawaiian ancestors and by the many kama'aina who deeply care about these islands.

Please do what is the right thing for the heart and soul of the lāhui and its allies, and above all for the 'āina that has been so damaged by the military leases.

Respectfully,  
Katharine Getchell  
PO 1023, Honoka'a HI 96727

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Katie Getchell  
[www.katiegetchell.com](http://www.katiegetchell.com)  
Keahuaiki Farm  
StudioKatieG (Bodywork • Dance • Movement)

**From:** [joann.gray@speakeasy.net](mailto:joann.gray@speakeasy.net)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] REJECT the FLAWED EIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:27:02 PM

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Army has submitted yet another deeply problematic FEIS — this time for its continued use of public lands in Mākua Valley, Poamoho, and Kahuku on O‘ahu.

The Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) has a clear choice:  
reject the flawed Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS  
and uphold their responsibility to protect Hawai‘i’s lands, waters,  
and cultural heritage consistent with the public trust.

**From:** [Kealakai Hammond](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reject Army FEIS for Kahuku, Kawaioloa and Malia  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:11:26 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,

Kealakai Hammond

Honolulu, Hawaii

**From:** [ART HANSON](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:06:08 PM

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Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Art Hanson and I strongly urge you to REJECT the Army's legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the retention of lands on O'ahu.

Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.

Accepting this FEIS would signal that our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights can be disregarded with no consequence.

I strongly urge you to uphold your trust responsibilities, the mission of your department, and the laws that protect our environment and our future. Reject the FEIS.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Art Hanson

1815 Briarwood Dr.

Lansing, MI 48917

ahanson47@comcast.net

**From:** [Kiana Hasegawa](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 4:07:36 AM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Kiana, and I am a resident of Kaneohe, Oahu. I am submitting testimony in **strong opposition** to renewing the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation. I respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the lease renewal and support the return of these lands to the people of Hawai'i, nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi.

The Army's own Final Environmental Impact Statement confirms what our communities have long known: military control has severely limited cultural access and harmed our ability as Kānaka 'Ōiwi and Hawai'i residents to care for and connect with these places. Despite policies for cultural access, the reality is that access is highly restricted — requiring advance requests, military escorts, and limiting who, when, and where we can go. This prevents us from practicing our traditions, stewarding the land, and teaching future generations. The continued lease would only extend these harms.

I call on the BLNR to prioritize restoration and cleanup of these lands, not further occupation. Please return them to community stewardship so Native Hawaiians and local residents can care for them as our kūpuna intended. The 'āina deserve healing, and our people deserve meaningful access without military barriers.

Mahalo for considering my testimony,  
Kiana Hasegawa  
Kaneohe, Oahu

**From:** [Julie Heins](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony to Reject renewal of Army's lease  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:07:34 AM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Julie Heins, and I am a resident of Pawlet, Vermont. I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawai'i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military's continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community's call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai'i's lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Julie Heins  
Pawlet, Vermont, USA

**From:** [Gabrielle Igarta](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony to Reject Final EIS for the Army Training Land Retention of State Lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 9:29:15 AM

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Aloha esteemed Board members,

I am writing to you today regarding the Final EIS for the Army Training Land Retention of State Lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. As a Native Hawaiian, aloha ‘āina, and current resident of Kapolei, I strongly urge you to reject the EIS set before you.

When this Board rejected the final EIS regarding the Pōhakuloa this past May, it took the first step in a marathon of accountable stewardship, cultural perpetuation, and the preservation of land, water, and wildlife for the common good of our people - past, present, and future. Please continue to exercise good judgement in rejecting this EIS.

Mahalo,  
Gabrielle Igarta

**From:** [김동현](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:36:54 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Kindonghyeon

**From:** [Sunnie Kupahu](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Monday, June 23, 2025 9:51:30 PM

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I am submitting testimony in **strong opposition** to renewing the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation. I respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the lease renewal and support the return of these lands to the people of Hawai'i, nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi.

The Army's own Final Environmental Impact Statement confirms what our communities have long known: military control has severely limited cultural access and harmed our ability as Kānaka 'Ōiwi and Hawai'i residents to care for and connect with these places. Despite policies for cultural access, the reality is that access is highly restricted — requiring advance requests, military escorts, and limiting who, when, and where we can go. This prevents us from practicing our traditions, stewarding the land, and teaching future generations. The continued lease would only extend these harms.

I call on the BLNR to prioritize restoration and cleanup of these lands, not further occupation. Please return them to community stewardship so Native Hawaiians and local residents can care for them as our kūpuna intended. The 'āina deserve healing, and our people deserve meaningful access without military barriers.

Mahalo for considering my testimony,

I am Sunnie Kupahu from Waimanalo, Oahu

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Sunnie Kupahu](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Date:** Monday, June 23, 2025 9:49:41 PM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Sunnie ], and I am a resident of Waimanalo, Oahu I am submitting testimony in **strong opposition** to renewing the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation. I respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the lease renewal and support the return of these lands to the people of Hawai'i, nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi.

The Army's own Final Environmental Impact Statement confirms what our communities have long known: military control has severely limited cultural access and harmed our ability as Kānaka 'Ōiwi and Hawai'i residents to care for and connect with these places. Despite policies for cultural access, the reality is that access is highly restricted — requiring advance requests, military escorts, and limiting who, when, and where we can go. This prevents us from practicing our traditions, stewarding the land, and teaching future generations. The continued lease would only extend these harms.

I call on the BLNR to prioritize restoration and cleanup of these lands, not further occupation. Please return them to community stewardship so Native Hawaiians and local residents can care for them as our kūpuna intended. The 'āina deserve healing, and our people deserve meaningful access without military barriers.

Mahalo for considering my testimony,  
[sunnie Kupahu

Waimanalo Hawaii 96795

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Noelle Lindenmann](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony in Opposition to the US Army retention of leased lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:29:48 AM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Noelle Lindenmann  
Kailua-Kona, HI

Noelle Lindenmann (she/her/hers)  
e. [noelle.royer@gmail.com](mailto:noelle.royer@gmail.com) // [tallgirl@uw.edu](mailto:tallgirl@uw.edu)  
p: 310.729.6627



**From:** [Greg Lopez](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 6:45:08 AM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Greg Lopez, and I am a resident of Newark, California (U.S.). I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawai'i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military's continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community's call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai'i's lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Greg Lopez  
Newark, CA, U.S.

**From:** [Kyle Lovett](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please reject the Army's EIS & their proposed retention of leased lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:28:01 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military

hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,

~Kahu Kyle

Rev. Kyle Ann Kealaula Lovett

Honolulu, O'ahu, Hawai'i

**From:** [jen.hella.ratty.lum](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opposition to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Army Training Land Retention of State Lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:40:42 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members,

I do not care what the EIS says—the land must be returned to Hawaiians. These are not just plots for military use; they are sacred wahi pana, holding generations of burial sites, cultural history, and endangered ecosystems. The Army has proven itself an unfit steward through decades of destruction.

The EIS fails in every way—ignoring environmental harm, hiding military activities, worsening Hawai‘i’s housing crisis, and blocking Native access to sacred sites. The Board’s duty is to mālama ‘āina, not enable occupation.

Enough is enough. Reject this sham EIS. End the military’s hold on these lands. Return them to Kānaka Maoli now. Healing begins when the generational caretakers reclaim what is rightfully theirs.

Mahalo,  
Jen Lum, ‘Ewa Beach

**From:** [Leilani Magee](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Aloha and Protection for Kahuku, Kawaioloa-Poamoho, Mākuā♥  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:42:12 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākuā Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākuā Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Leilani Magee  
Born at the former Kahuku Hospital

**From:** [Kinsley McEachern](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] testimony for BLNR meeting 6/27/25  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:37:40 AM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,

Kinsley McEachern

**From:** [Matt Mirshafiee](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Monday, June 23, 2025 6:14:47 PM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Matt Mirshafiee, and I am a resident of Portland , Oregon . I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawai'i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military's continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community's call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai'i's lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Matt Mirshafiee

Portland , Oregon

**From:** [Leila Morrison](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Monday, June 23, 2025 10:32:53 PM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Leila Morrison, and I am a resident of Makawao on the Island of Maui. I am submitting testimony in **strong opposition** to renewing the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation. I respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the lease renewal and support the return of these lands to the people of Hawai'i, nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi.

The Army's own Final Environmental Impact Statement confirms what our communities have long known: military control has severely limited cultural access and harmed our ability as Kānaka 'Ōiwi and Hawai'i residents to care for and connect with these places. Despite policies for cultural access, the reality is that access is highly restricted — requiring advance requests, military escorts, and limiting who, when, and where we can go. This prevents us from practicing our traditions, stewarding the land, and teaching future generations. The continued lease would only extend these harms.

I call on the BLNR to prioritize restoration and cleanup of these lands, not further occupation. Please return them to community stewardship so Native Hawaiians and local residents can care for them as our kūpuna intended. The 'āina deserve healing, and our people deserve meaningful access without military barriers.

Mahalo for considering my testimony,  
Leila Morrison (Makawao, Maui)

**From:** [Hiilani Nalua](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Us Army FEIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:27:41 AM

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Aloha,

My name is Hi'ilani Kana'i'iliakakihikapō Nalua'i. I am speaking on behalf of all Native peoples, not just Native Hawaiians. All that came before, all that are here now, and all that are to come.

To have the United States Army illegally occupy land, and then rent land out for measly dollars per year, is not only against integrity but against humanity. Morals. Lessons taught to us for generations, gathered by ancestors who have toiled just to find the most efficient, effective, and SUSTAINABLE ways to live in harmony with the land. Once you're out of harmony, the fresh waters stop flowing, the trees stop fruiting, the soul becomes rotten.

The Army's effect on Hawai'i has gone on for too long, and they have only brought destruction. So many streams have dried up. So many native flora and fauna gone within years, while it took millennia for them to evolve. So many cultural historical places and practices lost. They claim to have the "military defenses to protect us", but we would not need protecting if it was not for their ILLEGAL OCCUPATION in the first place.

They do not deserve a place here. They do not deserve to bomb innocent land, animals, plants, or anyone for that matter. They do not deserve to continue their mindless and greedy warfare practices on sacred islands. They do not deserve to have access to our wahi pana, our sacred places. Once you destroy the land, you destroy the people.

Kūla'ila'i, the reef at Mākua beach, is where La'ila'i rose after she descended from the heavens. She is the first woman, the mother of every Hawaiian, hence the name Mākua (Parent). Once a beautiful, bountiful valley filled with songs of gratitude and grace, is now lonely and destitute with only foreign militants as its population. The US military had their war ships out in the water on Mākua bay, shooting 250lbs, 500lbs, and 1,000lbs bombs over the beachgoers and indigenous families who lived there still (nearer the shore). They say you could feel the shockwaves all the way in Lualualei Valley. I work in Lualualei Valley, on MA'O Organic Farms. I hear the bombs from Schofield- just over the mountain of Pūhāwai. I feel the quakes and the cries of the land. I feel the intent of the US Army, and we should have to debate over the fact that they are not welcome here.

Mahalo for listening,  
Hi'ilani Nalua'i

**From:** [hi'ilani.nalua](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] United States of America's FEIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:25:26 AM

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Aloha,

My name is Hi'ilani Kana'i'iliakakihikapō Nalua'i. I am speaking on behalf of all Native peoples, not just Native Hawaiians. All that came before, all that are here now, and all that are to come.

To have the United States Army illegally occupy land, and then rent land out for measly dollars per year, is not only against integrity but against humanity. Morals. Lessons taught to us for generations, gathered by ancestors who have toiled just to find the most efficient, effective, and SUSTAINABLE ways to live in harmony with the land. Once you're out of harmony, the fresh waters stop flowing, the trees stop fruiting, the soul becomes rotten.

The Army's effect on Hawai'i has gone on for too long, and they have only brought destruction. So many streams have dried up. So many native flora and fauna gone within years, while it took millennia for them to evolve. So many cultural historical places and practices lost. They claim to have the "military defenses to protect us", but we would not need protecting if it was not for their ILLEGAL OCCUPATION in the first place.

They do not deserve a place here. They do not deserve to bomb innocent land, animals, plants, or anyone for that matter. They do not deserve to continue their mindless and greedy warfare practices on sacred islands. They do not deserve to have access to our wahi pana, our sacred places. Once you destroy the land, you destroy the people.

Kūla'ila'i, the reef at Mākua beach, is where La'ila'i rose after she descended from the heavens. She is the first woman, the mother of every Hawaiian, hence the name Mākua (Parent). Once a beautiful, bountiful valley filled with songs of gratitude and grace, is now lonely and destitute with only foreign militants as its population. The US military had their war ships out in the water on Mākua bay, shooting 250lbs, 500lbs, and 1,000lbs bombs over the beachgoers and indigenous families who lived there still (nearer the shore). They say you could feel the shockwaves all the way in Lualualei Valley. I work in Lualualei Valley, on MA'O Organic Farms. I hear the bombs from Schofield- just over the mountain of Pūhāwai. I feel the quakes and the cries of the land. I feel the intent of the US Army, and we should have to debate over the fact that they are not welcome here.

Mahalo for listening,  
Hi'ilani Nalua'i

**From:** [Alaka'i Nobriga](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 10:25:00 AM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Alaka'i Nobriga, and I am a resident of Kailua, O'ahu. I am submitting testimony in **strong opposition** to renewing the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation. I respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the lease renewal and support the return of these lands to the people of Hawai'i, nā Kānaka 'Ōiwi.

All these lands have ever known is to be taken, used, and depleted without any say from its original inhabitants or people who actually care about its well being. This must stop now or else we won't have anything left in the near future. The lands under contract with the military are simply unnecessary and could be used to further our independence and take one more step into restoring the Hawaiian kingdom. As a politician it's your jobs to do what's best for us, the people, and give us the tools we need to succeed and thrive.

I call on the BLNR to prioritize restoration and cleanup of these lands, not further occupation. Please return them to community stewardship so Native Hawaiians and local residents can care for them as our kūpuna intended. The 'āina deserves healing, and our people deserve meaningful access without military barriers.

Mahalo,  
Alaka'i Nobriga  
Kailua, O'ahu

**From:** [Dennis O'Shea](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] ARMY CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF HAWAIIAN LANDS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:25:36 AM

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Please reject the Army's claim to these 6,322 acres and return them to the Kingdom of Hawai'i.

Mahalo.  
Dennis O'Shea  
Maui

**From:** [Hayley Peter-Contesse](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] testimony in strong opposition to Army retention of leased lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:46:00 AM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Hayley Peter-Contesse

Mākaha

**From:** [Kolealani Razon-Olds](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Kahuku Training Area  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 9:45:37 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Testimony of Skye Kolealani Razon-Olds  
O'ahu Chair and State Chair, Nā Ala Hele Trails Council

Aloha Chair and Members of the Board,

My name is Skye Kolealani Razon-Olds, and I serve as the O'ahu Chair and State Chair of the Nā Ala Hele Trails Council. I submit this testimony to express my strong concern regarding the future accessibility of the Kahuku Dirt Bike Park, which remains the only legal public riding area for dirt bike enthusiasts on O'ahu.

As you may know, the park is located within the Kahuku Training Area (KTA) and is currently open to the public only on weekends and national holidays. Even with this limited schedule, access is further restricted during Army training exercises—often resulting in extended closures that leave over 5,000 registered riders without a legal place to ride.

If KTA is designated as the Army's primary training area, I fear that these closures will become more frequent, longer in duration, or possibly lead to the park's permanent closure. This would likely push riders to seek alternative, unauthorized areas, including trails that are not designated or managed for off-road vehicle use. Such unintended use risks damaging sensitive ecosystems, undermining conservation efforts, and compromising public safety.

I want to emphasize that I fully support recreational use in areas that are managed under proper plans—balancing access with environmental stewardship. Ensuring access to designated, legal riding areas like Kahuku is essential for both the recreational community and the protection of our natural resources.

On behalf of myself and the broader trail community, I respectfully urge the Board to consider these impacts and to establish firm safeguards that preserve ongoing public access to Kahuku Dirt Bike Park with minimal disruption from military activities.

Mahalo for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Mahalo,

**Kolealani (Skye) Razon-Olds**

**Director of Impact**

Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement

E. [kolealani@hawaiiancouncil.org](mailto:kolealani@hawaiiancouncil.org)

[www.helpingmaui.org](http://www.helpingmaui.org)

[www.hawaiiancouncil.org](http://www.hawaiiancouncil.org)



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[Join us October 7th-9th, 2025 for the Native Hawaiian Convention at the Tulaip Resort Casino in Washington.](#)

**From:** [Gabriela Schneider](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Friday's BLNR Hearing  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:47:33 AM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Gabriela Schneider  
North Kohala, Hawai'i Island

**From:** [John Shockley](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Rita Shockley](#); [Wayne \(O'ahu Sierra Club\) Tanaka](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:33:24 PM

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**Aloha!**

**Once again the military is trying to ram-rod a fault-filled Environmental Impact Survey to the BLNR. They knew before what was asked for and just decided to ignore the issues.**

**Their EIS needs to be shelved as quickly as possible.**

**Mahalo for your time,**

**John & Rita Shockley Coordinators Free Access Coalition**  
[www.freeaccesscoalition.weebly.com](http://www.freeaccesscoalition.weebly.com)

**From:** [Dita Škalič](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] testimony  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:49:55 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,

Dita Škalič

**From:** [wg speed](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] KTA, K-PT, MMR Testimony  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:21:57 PM

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24 June 2025

Greetings Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

The FEIS is premature with respect to our State of Hawai`i's OP&SD Phase 2 plan, as well as being insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks and contractors ; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**.

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation as premature.

It is time to release the uneconomic US military hold on these lands, and allow generational caretakers and stewards of our island lands to begin a progressive healing process.

With A.L.O.H.A.,

Sincerely

William Goodwin Speed, Jr.

Kailua, Koolaupoko, O`ahu.

**From:** [Susan Stayton](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Army's FEIS for Kahuku, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:54:07 AM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Respectfully,

Susan Stayton  
PO Box 1113  
Lawai, HI 96765  
808-651-9070

**From:** [Zach Street](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:26:39 PM

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Aloha Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Zach Street and I strongly urge you to REJECT the Army's legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the retention of lands on O'ahu.

For too long the Army has degraded Hawaiian lands without real assessment or proper regard for the health of the land or community. It is urgent and essential that we act now to hold all parties to a higher standard, a safe and reasonable standard; our future and the future of our keiki is at stake.

Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.

Accepting this FEIS would signal that our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights can be disregarded with no consequence.

Please uphold your trust responsibilities, the mission of your department, and the laws that protect our 'āina and our future. Reject the FEIS.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Zach Street

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Theresa Thompson 808-283-4942](mailto:Theresa.Thompson@DLNR.Hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:55:09 PM

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*Aloha Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,*

*My name is Theresa Thompson and I strongly urge you to REJECT the Army's legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the retention of lands on O'ahu.*

*Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.*

*Accepting this FEIS would signal that our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights can be disregarded with no consequence.*

*Please uphold your trust responsibilities, the mission of your department, and the laws that protect our 'āina and our future. Reject the FEIS.*

*Mahalo nui for your consideration.*

*Sincerely,  
Theresa Thompson*

**From:** [Destiny](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:02:16 PM

---

Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Destiny Toukolehto  
**Maui**

**From:** [Ellen Wagner](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reject Army FEIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:00:31 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

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- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Ellen Wagner  
Koloa, Kauai

**From:** [Tanya Wendling](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FEIS for retention of Oahu lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:52:53 PM

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Aloha, Chairperson Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Tanya Wendling and I respectfully implore you to say NO to the Army's disgraceful FEIS for the retention of lands on O'ahu.

This document has many of the same problems the Board pointed out in the Pōhakuloa FEIS — completely deficient surveys, cultural consultation, and compliance with land use issues— including inadequate analysis of the potentially disastrous impact on streams and groundwater & no concrete proposals for land remediation.

Acceptance of this shockingly inadequate FEIS would be a complete betrayal of our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights protection.

Please demonstrate your commitment to protecting our 'āina and our future and reject this FEIS.

Mahalo nui for your time and dedication to protecting our beautiful state.

Sincerely,  
Tanya Wendling

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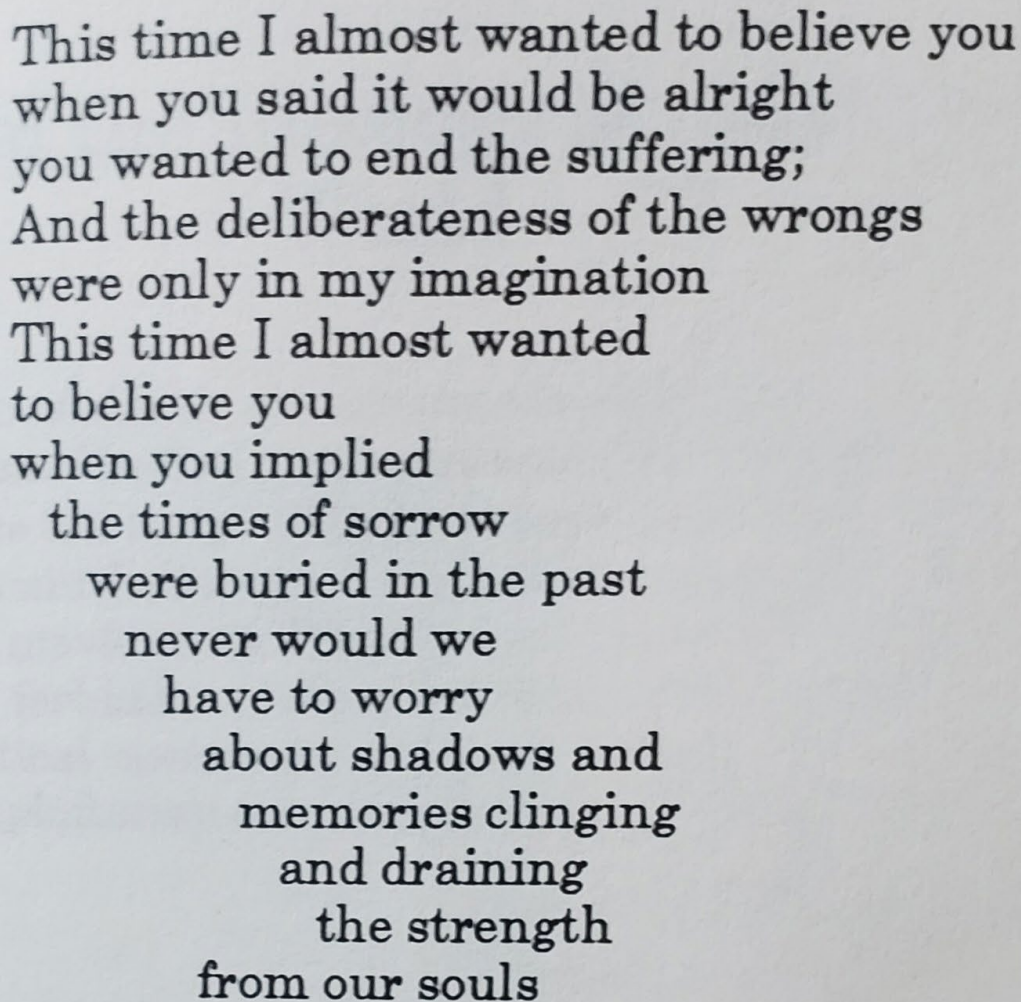
**From:** [Mary Williams](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation in Hawaii  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 10:11:39 AM

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Hello members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Mary Williams, and I am a resident of Cincinnati, OH USA. I am writing today to encourage the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation. I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawaii who cares deeply about the rights of indigenous peoples and believes native Hawaiian populations must be allowed to regain use of and jurisdiction over their lands. A "fair price" is not able to be negotiated - this renewal needs to be rejected.

I want to include the following poem from Santee Dakota activist, performance artist, actor, and poet John Trudell:



This time I almost wanted to believe you  
when you said it would be alright  
you wanted to end the suffering;  
And the deliberateness of the wrongs  
were only in my imagination  
This time I almost wanted  
to believe you  
when you implied  
the times of sorrow  
were buried in the past  
never would we  
have to worry  
about shadows and  
memories clinging  
and draining  
the strength  
from our souls

This time I almost wanted  
to believe you  
when you spoke  
of peace and love  
and caring and duty  
and God and destiny

But somehow the  
death in your eyes  
and your bombs  
and your taxes  
and your greed

told me  
this time  
I cannot afford  
to believe you.

—John Trudell—  
from *Living in Reality*

Please do the right thing. Please reject this lease renewal. "We need the Board of Land and Natural Resources to decide whether to stand with the people of Hawai'i or enable further military desecration of our 'āina" - Maxine Kahalelio

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Williams

**From:** [Pete Wilson](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 1:10:24 PM

---

*My name is Peter Wilson and I strongly urge you to REJECT the Army's legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the retention of lands on O'ahu.*

*Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.*

*Accepting this FEIS would signal that our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights can be disregarded with no consequence.*

*Please uphold your trust responsibilities, the mission of your department, and the laws that protect our 'āina and our future. Reject the FEIS.*

*Mahalo nui for your consideration.*

*Sincerely,  
Peter Wilson*

--

Pete Wilson  
13-927 Kahukai Street  
Pahoa HI 96778  
808-557-8108

**From:** [Kahuku Moto](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Kahuku Motocross Area  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:05:51 PM

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Aloha, I am the event coordinator and Media Manager for Hawaii Motorsports Association. ( @ridehma ). Myself and family have a 50 year connection with the Waialea Morotcycle Park. As a child I was there on opening day with my father to watch my uncle race motocross. Over the past 20 years I have been involved with all things "Kahuku". My boys and I spend almost every Sunday on our dirt bikes enjoying the mountains and the fresh air. Calling this place special is an understatement as it is for thousands of other families who enjoy the park.

As you are aware, the Kahuku Dirtbike Park, situated within the KTA training area, is the only legal public place for people to ride on Oahu, with limited hours of operation on weekends and national holidays. However, the park is closed during Army training missions, resulting in several months of closures per year and leaving over 5,000 riders without a legal place to ride. I am concerned that if KTA becomes the primary training area, it will lead to more closures or potentially permanent closure of the park. In this scenario, our riders will be forced to use trails not designated for dirtbikes.

On behalf of our dirtbike community, I urge the board to consider this issue and establish safeguards to ensure the Kahuku Dirtbike Park remains open and accessible, with limited Army closures.

Aloha  
Make it an amazing day!  
Charlie Wong

**From:** [Su Wong](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reject the Army's FEIS for Kahuku, Kawaioloa-Poamoho, and Mākua  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:24:05 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Susan Wong  
Kāne'ohe, O'ahu

**From:** [Lauren Bartz](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR Testimony  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 12:14:35 PM

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My name is Lauren Bartz, and I am a resident of Minneapolis, MN. I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawai‘i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army’s lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawailoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army’s Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military’s continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community’s call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai‘i’s lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Lauren Bartz  
Minneapolis, MN

Sources:

<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/meetings/blnr-meetings-2025/land-board-submittals-06-27-25/>  
<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/D-1-1.pdf>  
[https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Doc\\_Library/2025-05-23-OA-FEIS-Army-Training-Land-Retention-on-Oahu-Vol-1-of-4.pdf](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Doc_Library/2025-05-23-OA-FEIS-Army-Training-Land-Retention-on-Oahu-Vol-1-of-4.pdf)  
[https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Doc\\_Library/2025-05-23-OA-FEIS-Army-Training-Land-Retention-on-Oahu-Vol-2-of-4.pdf](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Doc_Library/2025-05-23-OA-FEIS-Army-Training-Land-Retention-on-Oahu-Vol-2-of-4.pdf)  
[https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Doc\\_Library/2025-05-23-OA-FEIS-Army-Training-Land-Retention-on-Oahu-Vol-3-of-4.pdf](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Doc_Library/2025-05-23-OA-FEIS-Army-Training-Land-Retention-on-Oahu-Vol-3-of-4.pdf)  
[https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Doc\\_Library/2025-05-23-OA-FEIS-Army-Training-Land-Retention-on-Oahu-Vol-4-of-4.pdf](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Doc_Library/2025-05-23-OA-FEIS-Army-Training-Land-Retention-on-Oahu-Vol-4-of-4.pdf)

**From:** [Patricia Blair](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:21:00 PM

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Please reject the Army's FEIS of the training area. The Army shows disrespect tomHawaiiis environment and land use laws, and its people. No more military training in Hawaii. Patricia Blair, Kailua, 8088886393  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Thomas Kevin Dolan](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [info@hapahi.org](mailto:info@hapahi.org)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reject the Army's FEIS for Kahuku, Kawaioloa-Poamoho, and Mākua  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:42:22 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,

Thomas Kevin Kekoa Dolan-Ma

Kaka'ako, Honolulu



**From:** [Olan Leimomi Fisher](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 6/27 BLNR, Item D1: Opposition to Approval of FEIS for Army Training Retention at Kahuku, Kawaioloa-Poamoho, & Makua  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 4:00:04 PM

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Aloha mai,

As a Native Hawaiian, lifelong resident of O'ahu, and current north shore resident, I **strongly oppose the approval** of the Final EIS for the retention of the army training land lease of state lands at Kahuku, Kawaioloa-Poamoho, and Makua. I greatly appreciate & acknowledge the Land Division's recommendation to **not accept**, and urge the board to follow this recommendation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Olan

*Olan Leimomi Morgan Fisher*

"Kama 'ia ke aloha 'āina ā pa'a i loko."

**From:** [Kaleolani Helekunihi](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 'A'ole FEIS for O'ahualua  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:17:09 PM

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*Aloha Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,*

*My name is Kaleo and I strongly urge you to REJECT the Army's legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the retention of lands on O'ahu.*

*Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.*

*Accepting this FEIS would signal that our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights can be disregarded with no consequence.*

*Please uphold your trust responsibilities, the mission of your department, and the laws that protect our 'āina and our future. Reject the FEIS.*

*Mahalo nui for your consideration.*

*Sincerely,  
Kaleo Helekunihi*

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Tina Holt](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony to urge the BLNR to reject the Army's EIS at the BLNR hearing June 27th at 9am  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:34:08 PM

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**Aloha Land Board Members,**

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's attempt to hang on to leased lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation—and to urge you to reject their Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

These aren't just training sites—they're *wahi pana*. Sacred lands, full of life, history, and deep cultural meaning for Kānaka Maoli. These places include burial sites, habitats for endangered species, and ancestral lands tied to living families. The Army's track record makes it painfully clear: they are not fit stewards of these areas.

Their military activities are not aligned with aloha 'āina, conservation, or cultural integrity. And we've seen enough destruction and displacement. It's time to shift.

The FEIS should be rejected for multiple reasons:

- It fails to properly assess the environmental and cultural impacts of ongoing military use
- It does not fully disclose military activities on adjacent federal lands
- None of these training areas provide housing for service members, which worsens Hawai'i's housing crisis and pushes out local families, including Kānaka Maoli
- Cultural access remains restricted, blocking families from practicing traditions and tending to sacred places
- Most importantly, approving this would go against BLNR's constitutional responsibility to *mālama 'āina*

I ask you to do what is *pono*: reject this EIS and release these lands from military control. Let their true caretakers—those with ancestral ties and kuleana—begin the work of healing and restoration.

Mahalo,  
**Cristina Holt**  
Hilo, Hawai'i Island

**From:** [jeanette\\_imler](mailto:jeanette_imler)  
**To:** [ed.case@mail.house.gov](mailto:ed.case@mail.house.gov); [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reject the Lease Renewal to the Army for Kahuku, Poamoho and Makua  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:39:56 PM

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I Am writing to you today to request that you reject the request by the Army to renew the leases at Kahuku, Poamoho and Makua.

The Army is arguing that they need to continue their control over 1,150 acres in Kahuku, 4,390 acres at Kawailoa-Poamoho, and 782 acres in Mākua valley to practice war games while they ignore their contribution to the climate crisis and how their actions undermine the quality of life for most people who call Hawai'i home. All three Army training areas are home to dozens of endangered species and are located in close proximity to residential communities - exposing residents to hazardous and unsafe combat like conditions including toxic emissions, noise pollution, and fire risks while perpetuating an ongoing legacy of unexploded ordinance, invasive species, and the contamination of water sources and soil on these once-fertile lands which are sacred to the Kānaka Maoli people. Respectfully,

Jeanette Imler

**From:** [Lenley Lewis](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Army Pohakuloa FEIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:03:26 PM

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*Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,*

*I strongly urge you to REJECT the Army's legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the retention of lands on O'ahu.*

*Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.*

*Accepting this FEIS would signal that our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights can be disregarded with no consequence.*

*Please uphold your trust responsibilities, the mission of your department, and the laws that protect our 'āina and our future. Reject the FEIS.*

*Mahalo nui for your consideration.*

*Sincerely,*  
Lenley Lewis  
Laupahoehoe

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Emily Luke](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 4:05:40 PM

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Aloha Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Emily Luke and I strongly urge you to REJECT the Army's legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the retention of lands on O'ahu.

Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.

Accepting this FEIS would signal that our environmental laws, the public trust, and Native Hawaiian rights can be disregarded with no consequence.

Please uphold your trust responsibilities, the mission of your department, and the laws that protect our 'āina and our future. Reject the FEIS.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Emily Luke

**From:** [Lory Ono](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:45:08 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,

Lory Ono

**From:** [Alexis Ornellas](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony: No Lease Renewal for Army Occupation of Hawai'i Lands  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:38:14 PM

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Aloha members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Alexis Ornellas, and I am a resident of Westminster, CO. I am submitting this testimony as a non-resident of Hawai'i who cares deeply about Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and environmental protection. I am writing to respectfully urge the BLNR to reject the renewal of the U.S. Army's lease for State-owned lands at Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākua Military Reservation.

The Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement makes clear that the military's continued presence restricts cultural access and harms the ability of Native Hawaiians to connect with and care for these sacred lands. The access that is offered is burdened by strict conditions: permits, escorts, and limited dates that make it impossible for these communities to fulfill their cultural responsibilities. As someone who believes in justice and is of the Kānaka Maoli diaspora, I stand in solidarity with the Native Hawaiian community's call for land return, cleanup, and restoration.

Please do what is right: reject this lease renewal and support the return of these lands to Native Hawaiian stewardship. The future of Hawai'i's lands and people depends on decisions like this.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Alexis Ornellas  
Westminster, CO, USA

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Respiratory and Environmental Disabilities Assoc of HI](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please reject Army 's EIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:04:02 PM

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I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,

B. A. McClintock-REDAHI

**From:** [Alicia Nani Reyes](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [tm.hawaiipeaceandjustice@gmail.com](mailto:tm.hawaiipeaceandjustice@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Direct Opposition to Acceptance of the Army's O'ahu Leased Lands FEIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:44:04 PM

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Aloha Chair Dawn Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I am writing in direct opposition to the Army's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for continued use of state lands at Kahuku Training Area (KTA), Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Mākuā Military Reservation (MMR).

Your own Land Division staff and the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) found that this FEIS **fails to meet legal standards under HAR § 11-200.1-28(b)(2)** and must be rejected. This is more than a technical issue — it reflects an ongoing pattern of harm and disregard for 'āina, culture, and the State's fiduciary responsibilities.

Why the FEIS Must Be Rejected:

**1. No Baseline Data:**

DLNR staff confirmed that key environmental and cultural data is missing. Without it, neither the Board nor the public can understand the full impacts — putting ecosystems, species, sacred sites, and watersheds at risk.

**2. Incomplete Cultural Review:**

The Army's Cultural Impact Assessment ignored significant mo'olelo like Kelea, Lā'ikanaka, and Pa'ahana. These stories are connected to the affected lands and deserve inclusion. The exclusion reflects a failure to engage Native Hawaiian knowledge and protocols with integrity. **3. Major Areas Unsurveyed:**

Large areas of KTA, MMR, and Poamoho remain unsurveyed — possibly containing iwi kūpuna, wahi pana, and unrecorded cultural sites. Failing to survey these areas puts them in danger.

**4. Ignores Future Harm:**

Though framed as "administrative," the FEIS lays the groundwork for continued warfighting activities. It fails to assess cumulative and long-term impacts, dismissing potential harm rather than addressing it.

Legal Grounds for Rejection:

- **Lacks Required Information:** Baseline data is missing, making the FEIS legally and ethically insufficient.
- **Fails Chapter 343 Standards:** It does not fully assess impacts, consider real alternatives, or adequately respond to public and agency input.
- **Ignores SHPD Concerns:** Key feedback from SHPD — to include more stories, survey more land, and protect sacred sites — was disregarded.
- **Doesn't Consider Alternatives:** The Army only evaluated options that keep them on the land, ignoring community-led or conservation-based stewardship models.

Trust and Kuleana:

The State has a duty to protect Native Hawaiian cultural and natural resources. Accepting this FEIS would continue a legacy of military harm, ignore expert recommendations, and betray public trust. In alignment with your own staff's recommendation, I urge you to **reject the Army's FEIS**.

As you are aware, your fiduciary duty is to the people's of Hawai'i and you are required by law to make decisions that are in the best interest of us, our lands, waters, and natural resources— not to the United States Military and their missions of “national security” or “war readiness.” Stand for the 'āina, for iwi kūpuna, and for the future of Hawai'i.

**In Truth and Kuleana,**

Alicia Nani Reyes  
Pālolo, Kona, O'ahu  
702-372-7872

**From:** [Wailani Robins](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:02:01 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Dale Robins  
Nu'uanu, O'ahu

**From:** [Alex Tam](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reject the EIS  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:45:13 PM

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Aloha Land Board Members:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. Army's proposed retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation**, and to urge the land board to reject the Army's EIS.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to 'āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha 'āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

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- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR's constitutional duty to mālama 'āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Alex Tam

**From:** [Mariko Whitenack](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda Item D-1  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 3:22:38 PM

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Aloha mai kākou!

My name is Mariko Whitenack and I write to you from Kalihi on O‘ahu to strongly urge you to **REJECT** the Army’s legally deficient Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the retention of leased lands at **Kahuku Training Area, Kawaioloa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation.**

Many of the same concerns the Board raised in its rejection of the Pōhakuloa FEIS — including the lack of cultural and biological surveys, inadequate cultural consultation, and unaddressed land use compliance issues— are found again in this document. This FEIS also fails to address stream impacts, potential groundwater contamination, and necessary land remediation plans.

These places are not just a piece of land—they are **wahi pana**, sacred and beloved places that hold the stories and legacy of Kānaka Maoli. They are sacred burial sites, endangered species habitats, and the birth stands of generational families. Decades of misuse to ‘āina occupied by the Army has proven that they are not capable of being the stewards of these significant wahi pana.

Additionally, the military training activities of this scale are simply not compatible with the intention of conservation, upholding cultural integrity, and **aloha ‘āina**. Enough is enough.

The FEIS is insufficient and should be rejected on several grounds:

- Inadequate Environmental and Cultural Impact Analysis
- Lack of a sufficient disclosure of Military activities on leased lands adjacent to federal lands
- None of the 3 training areas provide housing to their service folks; thus decreasing the availability of affordable housing to local residents, and displacing Kānaka Maoli
- Restrictive cultural access policies hindering Kānaka Maoli cultural practices and access to numerous historical and sacred sites
- The approval of the EIS ultimately conflicts with the BLNR’s constitutional duty to mālama ‘āina

I urge the members of the land board to respect the land, the culture, and the people of Hawai'i by **rejecting the Army's FEIS** for Kahuku Training Area, Kawaihoa-Poamoho Training Area, and Mākua Military Reservation. It is time to release military hold on these lands, and allow their generational caretakers to begin the healing process.

Sincerely,  
Mariko Whitenack