

5.2 LAND USE/RECREATION

5.2.1 Affected Environment

The land uses and recreational resources for SBMR/WAAF were identified by reviewing the installation master plans (Belt Collins 1993 and 1994), the state land use district designations (State of Hawai'i 2002a), the state designations for Agricultural Lands of Importance to the State of Hawai'i (State of Hawai'i 2002a), the City and County of Honolulu Land Use Ordinance zoning (City and County of Honolulu 2001), the Central O'ahu Sustainable Communities Plan (City and County of Honolulu 2002a), and the City and County of Honolulu Real Property Assessment Division data for Tax Map Key identifications and property boundaries (City and County of Honolulu 2003).

Land Use

Schofield Barracks Military Reservation

SBMR is the home station for the 25th ID(L) and USARHAW and is in the north-central area of O'ahu. It is on the plateau between the Ko'olau Mountain Range and the Wai'anae Mountain Range (Figure 5-1). SBMR consists of the Main Post and SBER.

Main Post

The Main Post is in central O'ahu and covers over 11,448 acres (4,633 hectares) of land. It shares boundaries with Kamehameha Highway and Wahiawa to the east, private agriculture land to the north and south, and WAAF to the southeast. The Main Post includes the cantonment area, maneuver training areas and ranges, impact areas, and areas unsuitable for maneuver. The cantonment area consists of 1,605 acres (650 hectares) and contains housing, operational facilities, warehouses, training areas, and community services and facilities (including a golf course) (Belt Collins 1993). The land designated to support maneuver training consists of 1,235 acres (500 hectares), and 1,506 acres (609 hectares) are designated to support ranges and indirect fire activities (Nakata Planning Group, LLC 2002a). The 2,780-acre (1,125-hectare) ordnance impact area is in the western portion of the Main Post.

The installation master plan identified land uses within the Main Post project areas, as shown on Figure 5-2 and listed in Table 5-3 (Belt Collins 1993). Current land uses at the Main Post are generally consistent with planned land uses, which include training, supply/storage, outdoor recreation, operations, and housing (Belt Collins 1993). The Main Post includes lands within the state-designated Urban, Agricultural, and Conservation Districts (Figure 5-3; State of Hawai'i 2002a). The mountainous areas of the Main Post are within the Conservation District Resource and Protective Subzones. The objectives of these subzones are defined in Table 5-4. Although the state ALISH map (Figure 5-4) shows Prime and Other agricultural lands at the Main Post, these lands are actually used for training, including ranges and the ordnance impact area. The City and County of Honolulu zoning for the urban and lower training areas of Main Post is F-1 Military and the mountainous areas are P-1 Restricted (City and County of Honolulu 2001).

Figure 5-1
Land Use at Schofield Barracks Military Reservation

Figure 5-2

Existing Land Use at Schofield Barracks Main Post

Figure 5-3

State Land Use District Map Schofield Barracks Military Reservation

Figure 5-4

Agricultural Lands of Importance to the State of Hawai'i Schofield Barracks Military Reservation

**Table 5-3
Main Post Project Areas and Land Uses**

Project Title	Existing Land Use
UACTF	Training: current MOU assault course and impact area
VFTF	Cantonment: supply/storage
Range control facility	Training: includes existing structures
BAX	Training: range complex and impact area
FTI	
Kolekole	Conservation District - Limited Subzone
Mount Ka'ala East	Conservation District - Protective Subzone
Mount Ka'ala West	Conservation District - Protective Subzone
MSTF/ISF, Schofield 1	Cantonment
Schofield 2	Conservation buffer
West Range MF201	Training: McCarthy Flats range
West Range MF501	Training: McCarthy Flats range
QTR1	Training: ranges and impact area
<u>Motor pool maintenance shops (new water tank)</u>	<u>Training</u>

Source: Belt Collins 1993

**Table 5-4
Conservation District Subzones at Main Post**

Conservation District Subzone	Subzone Objective
Protective	Protect valuable resources in designated areas such as restricted watersheds, marine, plant, and wildlife sanctuaries, significant historic, archaeological, geological, and volcanological features and sites, and other designated unique areas.
Limited	Limit uses where natural conditions suggest constraints on human activities.
Resource	Develop, with proper management, areas to ensure sustained use of the area's natural resources.

Source: State of Hawai'i 2002a

Recreation opportunities at the Main Post include the 18-hole Kalākaua golf course, archery, skeet shooting, and hiking (R. M. Towill Corp. 1997a). Recreational archery tournaments are occasionally held by the Army Archery Club behind Computer Range 2 Alpha on Pistol Range 3 (between the project areas for the Range Control Facility and the BAX). The Army Rod and Gun Club has permission for skeet shooting in the South Range Area 5.

Hiking trails on the Main Post include the 2-mile (3-kilometer) Pu‘u Hāpapa (Kolekole) Trail, and the 2.5-mile (4-kilometer) Pu‘u Kalena Trail, all of which the Army manages (R. M. Towill Corp. 1997a). Public access to these trails is restricted, and a biologist or botanist must accompany hikers on these trails, due to the environmental sensitivity of the areas. Permits are required from both Army Department of Public Works (DPW) Real Property and DPW Environmental. Hikers wanting to access the portion of the Pu‘u Hāpapa Trail beyond the summit are required to obtain permission from TNC and the Estate of James Campbell.

There are no hunting areas at the Main Post (Char 2002).

Schofield Barracks East Range

SBER is east of the Main Post and extends up into the Ko‘olau Mountain Range. The 5,154-acre (2,086-hectare) SBER includes 2,223 acres (900 hectares) of maneuver training land (Nakata Planning Group LLC 2002a). SBER is primarily used for infantry training and maneuvers. Training activities at SBER include rappelling, jungle survival, patrolling operations, air assault and airborne operations, and limited battalion and company-level ARTEP missions. No live-fire exercises are conducted at SBER. Other facilities at SBER include education facilities, the light infantry training command, a golf course, the US Army Non-Commissioned Officers Academy, warehouses, and a maintenance facility (USARHAW and 25th ID [L] 2001a). Other units of the Army and the Marines use SBER for similar training.

The installation master plan identified land uses within SBER project areas, as shown on Figure 5-5 and as listed in Table 5-5 (Belt Collins 1993). The master plan shows training land at SBER to considerably decrease in the long-term land use plan (Figure 5-5; Belt Collins 1993). SBER includes land within the state-designated Agricultural and Conservation Districts (Figure 5-6; State of Hawai‘i 2002a). The training areas at SBER are within the Conservation District Resource and Protective Subzones (as described in Table 5-4).

Recreation opportunities at SBER include the 18-hole Leilehua golf course and hiking (R. M. Towill Corp. 1997a). The Schofield-Waikāne Trail is owned and managed by the state and the Army. This 3.5-mile_ (6-kilometer) long trail extends along most of the northern boundary of SBER and ends on the Ko‘olau Mountain Ridge. Written permission is required from Range Control to access Schofield-Waikāne Trail, as well as a permit from Army Support Command (Nā Ala Hele 2003).

Table 5-5
SBER Project Areas and Land Uses

SBCT Project Title	Existing Land Use
Tactical Vehicle Wash FTI	Supply/storage and conservation/buffer
East Range 1	Training
East Range 2	Training

Source: Belt Collins 1993

Figure 5-5

Existing Land Use at Schofield Barracks East Range

Figure 5-6

Master Plan Long Term Land Use at Schofield Barracks East Range

There are no hunting or fishing areas at SBER (Char 2002).

Wheeler Army Airfield

WAAF, a subinstallation of SBMR, is southeast of SBMR across Kunia Road. WAAF provides administration, housing, maintenance, training, and flight facilities for peacetime mission requirements, including security and law enforcement support. The 1,369 acres (554 hectares) of WAAF consist of mostly developed areas. The undeveloped land designated for maneuver training consists of 494 acres (200 hectares) of gulches that support the smallest maneuver elements (Nakata Planning Group, LLC 2002a).

The installation master plan identified land uses in the WAAF project areas as shown on Figure 5-7 and listed in Table 5-6 (Belt Collins 1994). Current land uses are consistent with planned land uses in the project areas, which include operations/airfield, supply/storage, and training. The future land use plan indicates increased development with the addition of maintenance facilities located directly south of the western end of the airfield near one of the MDF sites (Figure 5-8; Belt Collins 1994). The other MDF site, an ammunition storage point, is in an existing ammunition supply storage area. WAAF includes lands within the state-designated Urban and Agricultural Districts (Figure 5-3; State of Hawai'i 2002a).

Table 5-6
WAAF Project Areas and Land Uses

Project Title	Existing Land Use
Multiple Deployment Facility – both sites	Operations/airfield (abandoned airstrip), supply/storage, and training.
Upgrade Wheeler Airfield	Operations/airfield

Sources: Belt Collins 1994

WAAF is not included in the Outdoor Recreation Plan Report for US Army Training Areas in Hawai'i, and no state hunting or hiking areas were identified in the State Department of Land and Natural Resources literature. The existing land use plan indicates outdoor recreation areas at WAAF that are outside the project areas (Figure 5-7).

South Range Acquisition Area

The SRAA is immediately south of the Main Post, and land uses in the project areas are listed in Table 5-7. Under the Proposed Action, the acquisition area would consist of approximately 1,402 acres (561 hectares); under the RLA Alternative, the acquisition area would consist of approximately 100 acres (40.5 hectares). The SRAA is currently used for pineapple agriculture. The Proposed Action configuration also encompasses approximately 100 acres (40.5 hectares) of Forest Reserve land, which is included in the Honouliuli Preserve, a 3,962-acre (1,603-hectare) forest area managed by TNC since 1990.

Figure 5-7
Existing Land Use at Wheeler Army Airfield

Figure 5-8

Master Plan Long Term Land Use at Wheeler Army Airfield

Table 5-7
SRAA Projects and Land Uses

Project Title	Existing Land Use
SRAA ¹	Pineapple agriculture and forest reserve
QTR2 ²	Pineapple agriculture

¹The Proposed Action SRAA consists of 1,402 acres (561 hectares), while the RLA SRAA consists of 100 acres (40.5 hectares).

²Construction and use of QTR2 on the SRAA is included in the Proposed Action only, and is not included in the RLA.

Source: City and County of Honolulu 2003

The SRAA includes land within the state-designated Agricultural District, and the Proposed Action configuration includes land within the Conservation District Resource Subzone (State of Hawai'i 2002a). The ALISH map (Figure 5-4) shows the SRAA as containing state-designated Unique and Other agricultural lands.

The Proposed Action configuration of the SRAA includes approximately 100 acres (40.5 hectares) of Forest Reserve land currently available for intensive natural resource management and hiking (Figure 5-1). Two segments of the Contour Trail are included in the Proposed Action configuration of the SRAA. This trail is open for monthly interpretive organized hikes and access to TNC work areas (LaPierre 2002).

Helemanō Trail

Helemanō Trail would connect the Main Post with an HMR access road (Pa'ala'a Uka Pūpūkea Road). The trail alignment uses existing agricultural roads (USGS 1999a). The trail alignment is in an Agricultural District and the ALISH map shows the land as state-designated Prime and Other agricultural land (Figure 5-4 State of Hawai'i 2002a). The Central O'ahu Sustainable Communities Plan also shows the trail alignment in agricultural land (City and County of Honolulu 2002a). Once constructed, the trail would be joint use. The Army would coordinate with land owners to minimize impacts on agricultural operations.

Ownership

Main Post

The federal government owns most of the Main Post, which includes a few state-owned parcels. Figure 5-9 shows the land parcels, and Table 5-8 lists Tax Map Keys of the affected land parcels and the associated landowners and lessees.

Schofield Barracks East Range

The SBER land, shown on Figure 5-9 (Tax Map Key 76001001), is owned by the federal government (City and County of Honolulu 2003).

Figure 5-9

Affected Parcels Map Schofield Barracks Military Reservation

**Table 5-8
Main Post Landowners and Lessees**

Tax Map Key	Landowner (Lessee)
Main Post	
73010002	United States of America
73011002	United States of America
77001001	United States of America
77001002	State of Hawai'i
77001003	State of Hawai'i
77001004	United States of America
77001005	United States of America (First Hawaiian Bank); parcel location not provided
77001007	United States of America (State of Hawai'i)
77001008	United States of America (GTE Hawaiian Telephone Co.); parcel location not provided
77001009	United States of America (Central O'ahu Community Federal Credit Union); parcel location not provided
Antenna Locations outside of Main Post¹	
Kolekole	
88001001	United States of America (Naval Ammunition Depot Lualualei)
Mount Ka'ala West	
84002065	State of Hawai'i

Source: City and County of Honolulu 2003

¹Locations of these FTI sites outside of Main Post are shown on Figure 2-7.

Wheeler Army Airfield

The federal government owns most of WAAF. Figure 5-9 shows the land parcels, and Table 5-9 lists Tax Map Keys (as defined in Chapter 3) of the affected land parcels and the associated landowners and lessees.

**Table 5-9
WAAF Landowners and Lessees**

Tax Map Key	Landowner (Lessee)
77001001	United States of America
77001002	State of Hawai'i
94012008	United States of America

Source: City and County of Honolulu 2003

South Range Acquisition Area

There are two configurations of the SRAA, one for the Proposed Action and one for the RLA Alternative. Land parcels for both configurations are shown on Figure 5-9, and Table 5-10 lists Tax Map Keys (defined in Chapter 3) of the affected land parcels and the associated landowners and lessees.

Table 5-10
SRAA Landowners and Lessees

Tax Map Key	Landowner (Lessee)
<u>Proposed Action</u>	
92005002	James Campbell Trust Estate (Del Monte Corp.) (portion of parcel)
92005004	James Campbell Trust Estate (Del Monte Corp.)
92005013	James Campbell Trust Estate (portion of parcel)
<u>Reduced Land Acquisition</u>	
92005002	James Campbell Trust Estate (Del Monte Corp.) (portions of parcel)

Source: City and County of Honolulu 2003

Helemanō Trail

The federal government, Dole Food Co., Inc., and the George Galbraith Trust Estate own the land for the proposed Helemanō Trail. Affected parcels are shown on Figure 5-9, and associated landowners and lessees are listed in Table 5-11.

Table 5-11
Helemanō Trail Landowners and Lessees

Tax Map Key	Landowner (Lessee)
64003001	Dole Food Co., Inc.
65002001	Dole Food Co., Inc. (Wahiawā Water Co., Inc.)
65002010	George Galbraith Trust Est.; Hawaiian Trust Co., Ltd-Trustee (Del Monte Fresh Produce)
65002025	George Galbraith Trust Est.; Hawaiian Trust Co., Ltd-Trustee (Del Monte Fresh Produce)
71001002	George Galbraith Trust Est.; Hawaiian Trust Co., Ltd-Trustee (Del Monte Fresh Produce)
71001003	George Galbraith Trust Est.; Hawaiian Trust Co., Ltd-Trustee (Del Monte Fresh Produce)
71001022	George Galbraith Trust Est.; Hawaiian Trust Co., Ltd-Trustee (Wahiawa Water Co., Inc.)

Source: City and County of Honolulu 2003

Surrounding Land UseMain Post

Land uses surrounding the Main Post include agriculture, forest, urban, and military. Land north of the Main Post is used for agriculture and the Ka'ala Natural Area Reserve (Figure 5-1). The Ka'ala Natural Area Reserve is located on the highest point on O'ahu. The reserve

can be accessed from the Wai‘anae area on the western side of the island; however, the area is not open to the public and volunteers must be accompanied by the reserve_manager (DLNR 2003a). The town of Wahiawā is located east of the Main Post, with WAAF to the southeast. Land to the south of the Main Post includes the military’s Field Station Kunia, Del Monte pineapple fields, and the Honouliuli Preserve, which TNC manages as a refuge for rare and endangered plants and animals. TNC leads monthly interpretive hikes in the preserve. Land uses to the west of the Main Post include Naval Magazine Pearl Harbor Lualualei Branch and the Wai‘anae Kai Forest Reserve, which includes a remnant native forest (DLNR 2003b).

Table 5-12 presents conditions associated with the hunting area northwest of the Main Post in the Wai‘anae Mountains (Figure 5-10).

Schofield Barracks East Range

Land uses surrounding SBER include urban, military, forest, and agriculture. The town of Wahiawā is situated along the northwestern border of SBER and includes Wahiawā Intermediate School, Leilehua High School, and Wahiawā State Freshwater Park (Figure 5-1). The Wahiawā State Freshwater Park includes Lake Wilson, the largest freshwater sport fishery in the state (DLNR 2003c). KLOA is located along the northeastern border and includes the ‘Ewa Forest Reserve. The eastern slope of the Ko‘olau Mountain Range and the Ahupua‘a O Kahana State Park are to the east of SBER. The Ahupua‘a O Kahana State Park (formerly Kahana Valley State Park) was established as a living park with the primary purpose to nurture and foster Native Hawaiian culture and spread knowledge of its values and ways (DLNR 2003d). Land south of SBER includes forest, agricultural lands, and Mililani Town.

Table 5-12 presents conditions associated with the hunting area north of SBER, in the ‘Ewa Forest Reserve (Figure 5-10).

Wheeler Army Airfield

Land uses surrounding the project areas on WAAF include open space/conservation, utilities, storage/supply, and agriculture. Land uses surrounding WAAF include urban, military and agriculture. Urban areas include the town of Wahiawā to the north and Mililani town to the east-southeast of WAAF. Military facilities include the Main Post and Field Station Kunia to the west of WAAF and SBER to the east of WAAF. Land to the south of WAAF is used for agriculture.

South Range Acquisition Area

Land uses surrounding the SRAA include military, agriculture, and forest. Surrounding military land uses include the Main Post to the north and Field Station Kunia and WAAF to the east (Figure 5-1). Land to the south is used for pineapple agriculture. The forest reserve land to the west of the acquisition area is part of the Honouliuli Preserve. Farther west, beyond the forest reserve is Naval Magazine Pearl Harbor Lualualei Branch.

Figure 5-10
Hawai'i State Hunting Areas

**Table 5-12
Hunting Near the Main Post and SBER**

Conditions	Near the Main Post	Near SBER
Game to be taken	Wild pigs and wild goats	
Permitted hunting methods	Rifles, shotguns, handguns, knives, spears, bows and arrows; dogs permitted but must be kept under physical restraint and control, except when actually hunting.	
Open hunting periods	February through April, archery only; May through July, firearms; August through October, use of dogs permitted.	Year-round
Open hunting days	Daily	Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays
Special conditions and restrictions	Access through military land subject to military activities.	
Hunters	Persons who have the appropriate hunting licenses, tags, permits, or permit tags on their persons and who have signed in at the state hunter checking station.	

Source: DLNR 1999a

Helemanō Trail

Land surrounding the Helemanō Trail alignment is military (the Main Post) and agricultural.

Surrounding Land Ownership

Main Post

Owners of land surrounding the Main Post include Dole Food Co. Inc., Theodore J. P. Lopez Trust, George Galbraith Trust, State of Hawai'i, United States of America, and the Estate of James Campbell.

Schofield Barracks East Range

Owners of land surrounding SBER include the State of Hawai'i, the Department of the Interior O'ahu Forest National Wildlife Refuge, Castle & Cooke, Inc., the United States of America, and various landowners in Wahiawā town.

Wheeler Army Airfield

The United States of America owns most of the land surrounding WAAF. The land to the north is owned by various landowners in Wahiawā, and the land to the south is owned by the State of Hawai'i.

South Range Acquisition Area

Owners of land surrounding the Proposed Action configuration of the SRAA include the United States of America to the north, the State of Hawai'i to the east, and the Estate of James Campbell to the south. Owners of land surrounding the RLA configuration of the

SRAA include the United States of America to the north, the State of Hawai'i to the east, and the Estate of James Campbell.

Helemanō Trail

Owners of land surrounding the proposed Helemanō Trail are the same as those listed in Table 5-11.

5.2.2 Environmental Consequences

Summary of Impacts

Table 5-13 provides a summary of impacts associated with land use and recreation at SBMR. Significant but mitigable to less than significant impacts on land use occur with respect to access to the Honouliuli Preserve. Less than significant impacts on land use would occur under conversion of agricultural land to training land, construction of FTI sites in a Conservation District, during the temporary construction of the projects, and due to SBCT training on lands currently used for training. There would be no impacts under No Action.

Table 5-13
Summary of Potential Land Use/Recreation Impacts at SBMR/WAAF

Impact Issues	Proposed Action	Reduced Land Acquisition	No Action
Conversion of agricultural land to training land	⊕	⊕	○
Impacts on natural resources management and recreational land use	⊗	○	○
Construction of FTI in a Conservation District	⊕	⊕	○
Impacts on land use during construction activities	⊕	⊕	○
SBCT training on lands currently used for current force training	⊕	⊕	○

In cases when there would be both beneficial and adverse impacts, both are shown on this table. Mitigation measures would only apply to adverse impacts.

LEGEND:

⊗ = Significant	+	= Beneficial impact
⊗ = Significant but mitigable to less than significant	N/A	= Not applicable
⊕ = Less than significant		
○ = No impact		

Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative)

Environmental impacts discussed in this section are the result of the construction and operation of new training areas and ranges, the acquisition of additional land, and additional training associated with SBCT.

Significant Impacts Mitigable to Less than Significant

Impact 1: Impacts on natural resources management and recreational land use. Approximately 100 acres (40.5 hectares) within the SRAA are part of the TNC-managed lands, which are available for intensive natural resource management and hiking. As initially designed and portrayed in the Draft EIS, training on and operation of the proposed QTR2 on the SRAA would have affected land use within a portion of the Honouliuli Preserve.

Additional Mitigation 1: The Army reoriented QTR2 so that the SDZ would no longer affect any lands within the Honouliuli Preserve.

The Army will implement the following:

- Grant TNC personnel and TNC-sponsored personnel daily controlled access to the TNC-managed lands, along a route to be determined by the Army, in consultation with TNC for as long as TNC has a legal right to use of the affected property for conservation/stewardship purposes;
- Develop and implement access controls to ensure the safety of all personnel;
- Receive notification from TNC before it enters Army lands;
- Notify TNC of any unusual activities that may present or appear to present a danger to TNC personnel in the area; and
- Post signs on the boundary to prevent unauthorized use/trespass.

Less Than Significant Impacts

Conversion of agricultural land to training land. The additional 1,402-acre (561-hectare) SRAA would be used for constructing roadway easements, new motor pool facilities and QTR2, control of the Clear Zone and APZ Number One for WAAF, and general SBCT training. The proposed acquisition would convert approximately 535 acres (217 hectares) of cultivated pineapple land to training land. Under the Proposed Action, military activities, training and restriction areas would be confined within the SRAA boundaries and would not affect land use outside of the SRAA. The acquisition area would serve as an additional buffer to the existing training lands, including the range impact area.

The proposed training use of agricultural land at SRAA is not consistent with the land use set forth in the Hawai'i State Plan (HDBEDT 1991), the Central O'ahu Sustainable Communities Plan (City and County of Honolulu 2002a), and the City and County of Honolulu Land Use Ordinance zoning (City and County of Honolulu 2001). However, the use of disturbed areas (agricultural fields and roads) would not change from pedestrian and vehicle transportation. The ITAM program would be used to identify and mitigate potential impacts on the land.

The Army coordinated this conversion with NRCS in light of the objectives and guidelines of the Farmland Protection Policy Act. The estimated 535 acres (217 hectares) of cultivated pineapple land is 0.67 percent of the total USDA-designated agricultural land on O'ahu and 2.8 percent of the total area in pineapple production in the state (USDA 2004). In addition, this land is adjacent to existing urban areas and support services, will not result in the

indirect conversion of existing farmland or farm support services off-site (i.e. irrigation systems), and will not jeopardize the farm support services on remaining areas. Therefore the impact of this conversion to overall land use is considered less than significant.

The Army is considering establishing a cooperative relationship with the landowner and lessee to allow continued agricultural use in conjunction with training on the land, subject to constraints posed by training activities.

Construction of FTI in a Conservation District. Construction of three antennas outside of SBMR would affect minimal areas within the Conservation District. Neither of the Mount Ka'ala antenna locations is within the Ka'ala Natural Area Reserve. New antenna facilities would reuse existing sites, where possible, and when these are not available, the new antennas would be constructed on relatively small areas (500 square feet [46.45 square meters]). New facilities will also be located, where possible, close to existing access roads or trails. Both existing and new antenna locations will be sited, painted, and landscaped to minimize their impacts on surrounding areas and users. As required in a Conservation District, endemic or indigenous plants will be used to renaturalize project areas where natural vegetation plant cover has been disturbed. Construction would be scheduled, where possible, to minimize conflicts with recreation activities. In addition, antenna sites are available for emergency efforts for aiding or rescuing stranded or lost hikers and hunters.

Impacts on land use during construction activities. Land uses may be affected due to construction activities. This action would have short-term, less than significant impacts, limited to the localized and temporary nature of construction activities.

SBCT training on lands currently used for current force training. Most of the land area within SBMR that would be used for general SBCT training is currently being used for training. The primary land use difference between current training and SBCT training is the introduction of the Stryker vehicle. This would result in the land being more intensively used under the Proposed Action. On the SRAA, the Stryker would use only the existing agricultural roads for driving between locations. To prevent land degradation and to allow for the continued use of training lands, the Army incorporates all training lands into its ITAM program.

Reduced Land Acquisition Alternative

Less Than Significant Impacts

The less than significant impacts associated with the RLA Alternative are similar to those described for the Proposed Action.

Conversion of agricultural land to training land. The 100-acre (40.5 hectare) SRAA would be used for constructing a new motor pool and related infrastructure. The proposed acquisition would convert approximately 98 acres (39.7 hectares) of actively cultivated pineapple land to training land. Under the RLA Alternative, the entire SRAA would be used for construction and use of a motor pool; none of the area would be available for continued agriculture, and conversion of the land would be a permanent land use change. The ITAM program would be used to identify and mitigate potential impacts on the land. The Army coordinated this conversion with NRCS in light of objectives and guidelines of the Farmland Protection

Policy Act. The estimated 98 acres (39.7 hectares) of cultivated pineapple land is 0.1 percent of the total USDA-designated agricultural land on O'ahu and is 0.5 percent of the total area in pineapple production in the state (USDA 2004). As with the Proposed Action, this land is adjacent to existing urban areas and support services, will not result in the indirect conversion of any existing farmland or farm support services off-site, and will not jeopardize the farm support services on remaining areas. Therefore, the impact of this conversion to overall land use is less than significant.

Construction of FTI in a Conservation District. Impacts from constructing the FTI would be the same as those for the Proposed Action.

Land use during construction. Impacts on land use during construction would be the same as those for the Proposed Action, except QTR2 would be constructed on PTA instead of SRAA.

SBCT training on lands currently used for training. The training impacts associated with the RLA Alternative are identical to those described for the Proposed Action, except for training on the SRAA, where the Stryker would not maneuver in the acquisition area but would only be parked and maintained at the motor pool facilities.

No Impacts

Impacts on natural resources management and recreational land use. Under the RLA Alternative, the access to natural resources management and recreation resources, including TNC access to the Honouliuli Preserve, would not change from the current conditions.

No Action Alternative

No Impacts

Under No Action, transformation would not occur, so no major changes to training areas would take place in Hawai'i. The Army would continue to operate and maintain its range, training areas, and support facilities in order to meet its current force training mission requirement. However, the level of training would change occasionally in response to this requirement, and as a result, the land uses of these areas may change. If future changes could affect the environment, NEPA documentation would be prepared.