

Navy Region Hawaii

1. **Navy Region Hawaii Mo'olelo.** Navy Region has a weekly two-page newsletter that highlights Navy stories and items of interest in Hawaii. You can find the most current and other issues here, and we appreciate your feedback. [The Weekly Mo'olelo - News from around the Region \(afpims.mil\)](https://www.afpims.mil/NewsfromaroundtheRegion). Highlights:

- The Navy, in coordination with the Pearl Harbor National Memorial, began operations on Sept. 3 to remove two World War II-era mooring platforms from the hull of the USS Arizona. This effort will help preserve and protect the USS Arizona and the memorial structure above, while also preventing harm to the environment.
- Eight decades after they stood witness to history, eight living crewmembers of the USS Missouri (BB-63) reunited aboard the Mighty Mo on Sept. 3 for the 80<sup>th</sup> Commemoration of the End of World War II.
- The NROTC program at the University of Hawaii increased the number of enrolled cadets by more than 400% this past year and the program's first graduate, an ensign assigned to the USS Shiloh, is training to become a surface warfare officer.
- Amphibious assault ship USS America (LHA 6) arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Monday.
- And as always, the newsletter has a "This Week in History" item.

2. **Monthly Ship Tours.** Our Saturday morning tours have resumed. September and October dates are as follows:

3.

Sept. 20: USS Shiloh (CG 67)

Sept. 27: USS Carl M. Levin (DDG 120)

Oct. 4: USS Daniel Inouye (DDG 118)

Oct. 18: USS Daniel Inouye (DDG 118)

Oct. 25: USS Daniel Inouye (DDG 118)

All tours run from 9 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Civic or school organizations interested in learning more about these Oahu-based ships, please contact the Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Outreach Office at (808) 473-2890.

4. **Community White Boats.** We host regular tours of Pearl Harbor and the Arizona Memorial for community members. Please let us know if you have a group that would be interested in joining a tour. The afternoon tours depart from the Pacific Fleet boat house, just past the Arizona Memorial Visitor Center. Our next tour is scheduled for Oct. 10.
5. **Laulima Navy.** In 2024, the Navy in Hawaii launched Laulima Navy to celebrate the Navy's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday in October 2025 and reinforce the Navy's longstanding commitment to the community. Over the course of 12 months, our goal is to highlight 250 acts of voluntary community service performed by Sailors and civilians in Hawaii. We are pleased to report that we exceeded our goal! As of Sept. 3, Navy personnel have worked alongside community members on Oahu and Kauai to support more than **276** projects and programs that benefit the community, residents and the environment. Recent

volunteer events include a Habitat for Humanity build, kupuna drumming at Akaka State Veterans Home, Day of Service at Pearl Harbor National Memorial, Girl Scouts STEM Camp and Adopt-a-Highway cleanups.

6. **Navy Draft EIS for Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai.** The U.S. Navy and NASA are jointly preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of proposed real estate agreements with the State of Hawaii for the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) and the Kokee Park Geophysical Observatory (KPGO). Agencies, organizations and the public were invited to participate in the environmental review process. The deadline for comments was Aug 7. New real estate agreements are needed because the existing real estate agreements are expiring between 2027 and 2030. Public meetings were held July 15-17 in Lihue, Kekaha, and Kapaa. Visit <https://www.pmr-f-kpgo-eis.com/> for more information.
  - For portions of PMRF, the Navy has leases or holds easements with the State of Hawai'i for 8,172 acres, comprised of 684 acres of leaseholds and 7,488 acres of easements.
  - The Navy operates on approximately 410 acres of the total 684 acres leased from the state. The remaining leasehold and easements acres are used as buffer zones, conservation areas, infrastructure, and access corridors. No ground-based training occurs on these parcels.
7. **Navy EIS for the Hawaii-California Training and Testing.** The Hawaii-California Training and Testing (HCTT) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas EIS (OEIS) analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with conducting at-sea training and testing activities, as well as the modernization and sustainment of ranges offshore of Hawaii and California. The Navy is currently developing the Final EIS/OEIS and completing associated regulatory processes. The Final EIS will be released in Fall 2025 and will provide responses to comments received during the public review period for the Draft EIS, which ended in February 2025. To learn more, visit <https://www.nepa.navy.mil/hctteis/>.
8. **Enhanced Use Leasing (EUL):** The Department of the Navy submitted a public notice of availability for a draft environmental assessment (EA) that will cover two land leases for clean/renewable energy projects on JBPHH. The proposed action is to lease Navy land to a commercial developer to construct and operate renewable energy infrastructure on two separate sites on JBPHH. One proposed site near PHNSY would house a biofuel-powered Firm Renewable Generation plant, and the other proposed site in Salt Lake on Navy land would house a photovoltaic solar generating system. The sites would also be connected to the existing Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) electric infrastructure. The public may view a copy of the Draft EA for this action at the following website: <https://pacific.navfac.navy.mil/About-Us/National-Environmental-Policy-Act-NEPA-Information/>.
9. **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS):** The Navy continues to work towards eradication of the invasive octocoral issues and will continue the effort into the next fiscal year. The Navy

has partnered with Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources to conduct monitoring surveys. The Navy continues to thank the community for supporting the fishing restrictions as we work towards eradication. The Navy has cleared approximately a third of the infestation to date but we need to make sure to maintain and monitor the sites to keep it from re-establishing.

### **Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH) Updates**

- NCTF-RH will host its quarterly informational webinar on worker and contractor safety on Sept. 24 from 5-6 p.m. Check out this week's [Red Hill Highlights](#), the mobile app or [website](#) for more information.
- Teams are cleaning the pipes to prepare them for cutting and removal in the coming year.
- The latest edition of Red Hill Highlights is available by going to the NCTF-RH app, website, or by clicking [here](#).
- Stay up to date with upcoming NCTF-RH events! Download the mobile app by searching NCTF-RH in the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) and enable notifications to receive updates.

### **Tank Cleaning**

- Tanks 5, 7 & 8: Pressure washing complete; tank cleaning verification in progress
- Tanks 6: Pressure washing ongoing
- Tanks 2, 3 & 4: Degassing operations complete; preparations underway for pressure washing

### **Navy Aiea-Halawa Shaft Reactivation**

- Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH) is preparing for the reactivation of the Navy Aiea-Halawa Shaft (NAHS) following the shaft's completion of a Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) approved pilot study and following its compliance with regulator reactivation conditions.
- NCTF-RH will post test results from these pilot study samples on the Well Recovery and Water Resiliency page of the [www.jbphh-safewaters.org](http://www.jbphh-safewaters.org) website.

### **Drinking Water Resiliency**

- The Navy remains committed to strengthening the resiliency and security of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam drinking water distribution system.

### **Enhanced Drinking Water Monitoring**

In 2022, the Interagency Drinking Water System Team (IDWST) developed a long-term plan to monitor drinking water quality. The Navy completed Long-Term Monitoring (LTM) in March 2024, with more than 8,000 tests taken. The Navy remains focused on the safety and protection of the environment and community, ensuring the water meets federal and State safe drinking water standards. The Navy voluntarily continued an extensive sampling of the JBPHH water distribution system for an additional year following the end of LTM.

- Through the Drinking Water Long-Term Monitoring and the Extended Drinking Water Monitoring plans, there have been more than 10,000 drinking water quality tests that use EPA-certified laboratories with results available at the JBPHH Safe Waters website (<https://jbphh-safewaters.org/>). All results are reviewed by State and Federal Regulators. NCTF-RH continues to encourage anyone on the JBPHH drinking water system who has concerns to contact the Navy Water Quality Action Team on the 24-hour helpline at 808-210-6968. Residents with medical concerns should immediately contact their Primary Care Manager.

**Drinking Water Information Booth:** An important information tool in our outreach to those impacted by the Red Hill spill, the booth provides information regarding several drinking water quality testing programs the Navy offers and allows affected residents to view testing results from their homes and neighborhoods, request sampling for their residence, and ask questions. A community outreach schedule is available on the JBPHH Safe Waters website at [www.jbphh-safewaters.org](http://www.jbphh-safewaters.org)

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| • JBPHH Newcomers Fair  | Tues., Sept. 9 from 1 – 1:30 p.m.      |
| • Navy Exchange Mall    | Thurs., Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. |
| • Kapilina Night Market | Wed., Sept. 24 from 4 - 8 p.m.         |