

1 **3.6 HAWAII**

2 The island of Hawaii is the largest of the Hawaiian Islands. It covers approximately 4,028
3 square miles and is still growing because of continual eruptions of Kilauea. Resorts and most
4 residential developments are located in coastal areas. Hilo, located on the east side of the
5 island, is the county seat. Current and proposed Hawaii Range Complex (HRC) operations on
6 the island of Hawaii addressed in this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas EIS
7 (OEIS) are located at Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA), Bradshaw Army Airfield, and Kawaihae
8 Pier.

9 **3.6.1 HAWAII OFFSHORE**

10 Hawaii Offshore addresses ocean areas within 12 nautical miles (nm) of the island of Hawaii,
11 including ranges and training areas where activities are performed by the Navy. Discussions
12 include the area offshore of the Kawaihae Pier. This offshore area is within the Hawaiian
13 Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. The Kawaihae Pier itself is not part of the
14 Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary boundaries

15 **3.6.1.1 KAWAIHAE PIER—OFFSHORE**

16 Kawaihae Pier is located within the Kawaihae Harbor on the northwestern corner of the island of
17 Hawaii. Kawaihae Harbor is a deep-water port, one of two on the island of Hawaii.
18 Expeditionary Assault exercises are conducted at Kawaihae Pier. Activities primary consist of
19 offloading and loading vehicles and equipment from a landing ship at an existing boat ramp.

20 This section describes the environmental resources that would be affected by the No-action
21 Alternative, Alternative 1, or Alternative 2 for Kawaihae Pier Offshore. Of the 13 environmental
22 resources considered for analysis, airspace, air quality, cultural resources, geology and soils,
23 hazardous material and waste, health and safety, land use, noise, socioeconomics,
24 transportation, utilities, and water resources are not addressed.

25 **3.6.1.1.1 Biological Resources—Kawaihae Pier—Offshore**

26 **Region of Influence**

27 The region of influence includes the area up to 12 nm offshore of the pier that may be affected
28 by proposed operations.

29 **Affected Environment**

30 *Vegetation*

31 A small beach area containing no vegetation is located immediately adjacent to the pier.

32

33 Threatened and Endangered Plant Species

34 No threatened or endangered plant species have been identified within the harbor area.

1 *Wildlife*

2 Habitat areas of particular concern have not been identified within the harbor. A coral reef of
3 management concern is located at Kawaihae Harbor. It is at risk from extensive development at
4 the commercial harbor and from recent and continued development at the small boat harbor.
5 Another coral reef, Puako Reef, is located approximately 3 to 4 miles (mi) from Kawaihae
6 Harbor. (National Park Service, 2004)

7 The following coral information is summarized from the more extensive data provided in the
8 *Marine Resources Assessment for the Hawaiian Islands Operating Area* (U.S. Department of
9 the Navy, 2005c). Overall, coral communities of Hawaii are considered to be in good condition.
10 The growth of coral reefs around the island of Hawaii is correlated to the intensity and frequency
11 of wave disturbance. Coral reefs are primarily found on the western (leeward) side of the island,
12 which includes the offshore area between Waikui and Mahukona (Figure 3.6.1.1.1-1). During
13 summer, an occasional Kona storm generates storm swells of about 10 to 20 feet (ft) in height
14 that can remove accreted reefs on the leeward side. (U.S. Department of the Navy, 2005c)

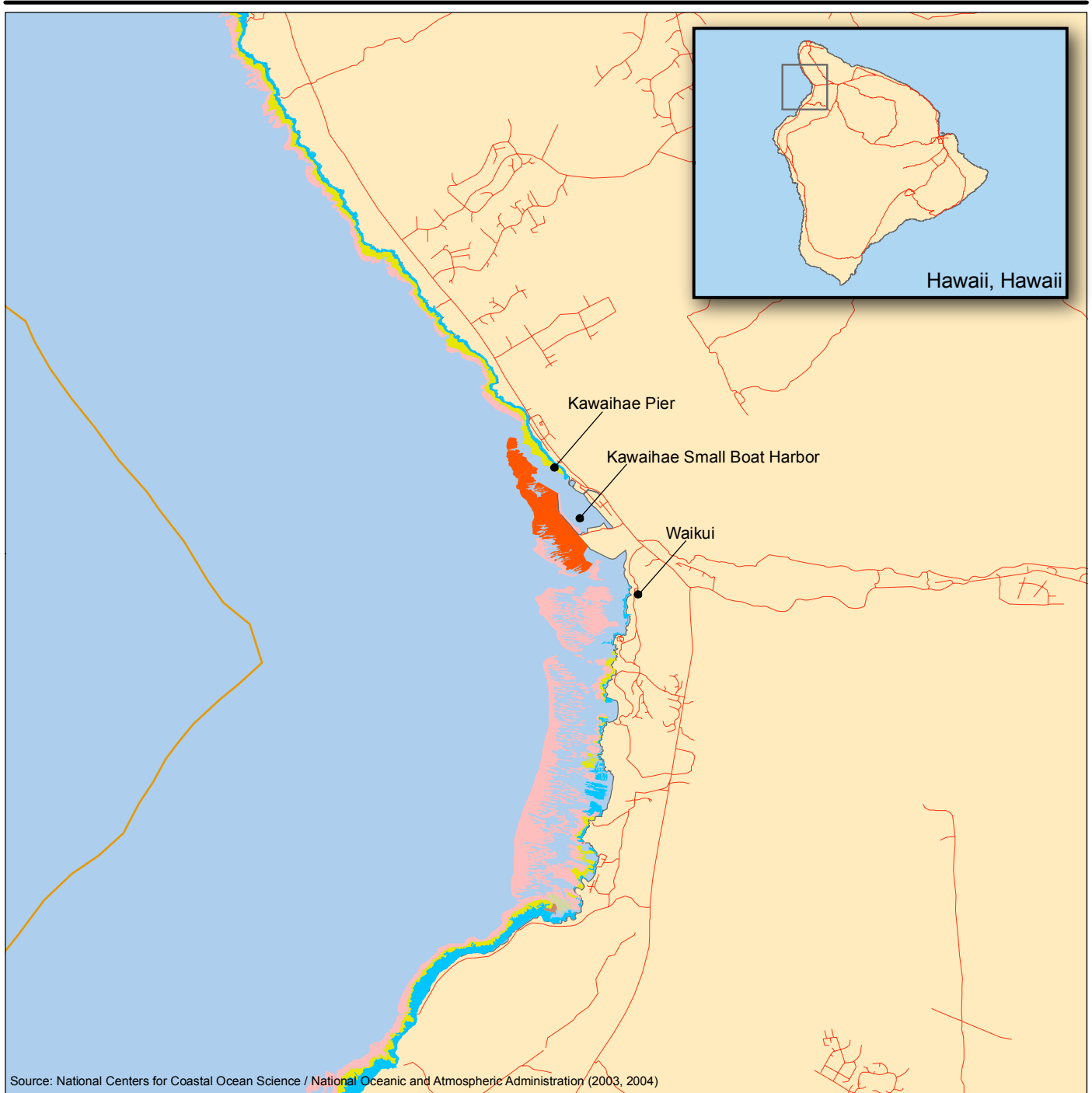
15 North of Waikui, there is a fairly large spur-and-groove reef system (1.3 nm long and 590 to
16 1,772 ft wide) off the Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor (Figure 3.6.1.1.1-1). This is the only spur-
17 and-groove reef that the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science/National Oceanic and
18 Atmospheric Administration (2003) benthic habitat mapping program recorded for the island of
19 Hawaii. From the Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor to Malae Point, the shoreline is flanked by a
20 narrow intertidal area consisting of uncolonized volcanic rock (approximately 131 ft wide); just
21 seaward there is a strip of colonized volcanic rock (131 to 459 ft wide) and aggregated coral
22 heads (131 to 459 ft wide). Another 2.2 nm north of Malae Point, there is similar habitat
23 zonation and sizes. From Malae Point to Makaohule Point the widths of colonized volcanic rock
24 and aggregated coral head habitats range from 328 to 820 ft and 590 to 1,181 ft, respectively.
25 (U.S. Department of the Navy, 2005c)

26 Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species

27 No threatened or endangered species have been identified within the harbor. However, the
28 water on this leeward side of the island provides good habitat for humpback whale (*Megaptera*
29 *noveangliae*) mother and calf pods and for resting dolphin pods (National Park Service, 2004).
30 No critical habitat is present (National Park Service, 2004).










31 *Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary*

32 The Kawaihae Pier area is not part of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine
33 Sanctuary boundaries (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2001).



Source: National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science / National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (2003, 2004)

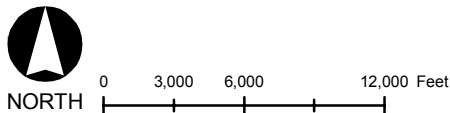
EXPLANATION

-  Road
-  3-Nautical Mile Line
-  Uncolonized Volcanic Rock/Boulder
-  Aggregated Coral
-  Colonized Volcanic Rock/Boulder
-  Spur and Groove Reef
-  Colonized Pavement
-  Scattered Coral/Rock in Unconsolidated Sediment
-  Land

Offshore Hardbottom Habitats Near Kawaihae Pier

Island of Hawaii

Figure 3.6.1.1.1-1



1 **3.6.2 HAWAII ONSHORE**

2 **3.6.2.1 POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA (PTA)**

3 PTA is a sub-installation of Schofield Barracks. It is located near the center of the island of
4 Hawaii between three volcanoes: Mauna Kea, Mauna Loa, and Hualalai. The mission of
5 Pohakuloa Training Area is to provide training of full-scale live firing exercises for the 25th
6 Infantry Division (Light), U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii. PTA also provides training facilities for
7 other branches of the U.S. military and friendly foreign forces.

8 This section describes the environmental resources that would be affected by the No-action
9 Alternative, Alternative 1, or Alternative 2 for Pohakuloa Training Area. Of the 13 environmental
10 resources considered for analysis, air quality, hazardous materials and hazardous waste,
11 geology and soils, land use, socioeconomics, transportation, utilities, and water resources are
12 not addressed.

13 **3.6.2.1.1 Airspace—PTA**

14 Appendix C includes a detailed description of airspace.

15 **Region of Influence**

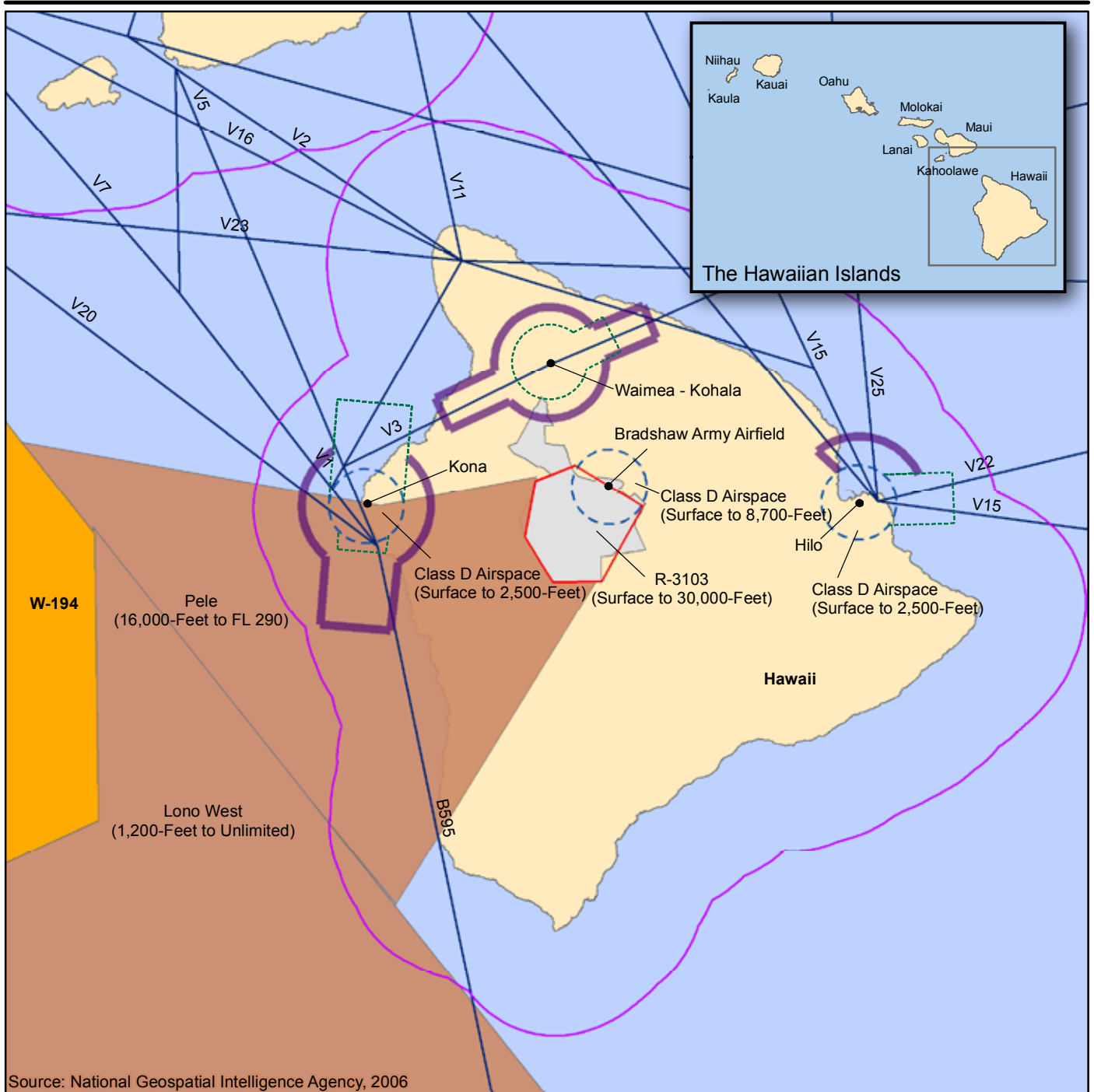
16 The PTA region of influence includes selected airspace within the territorial limits of the island of
17 Hawaii as shown on Figure 3.6.2.1.1-1. The primary operations occur above the PTA and
18 within the Pele transition area between PTA and Warning Area W-194.

19 **Affected Environment**

20 The affected airspace in the PTA region of influence is described below in terms of its principal
21 attributes: controlled and uncontrolled airspace, special use airspace, en route airways and jet
22 routes, airports and airfields, and air traffic control. There are no military training routes in the
23 region of influence.

24 *Controlled and Uncontrolled Airspace*

25 The airspace in the PTA region of influence includes uncontrolled Class G airspace (see
26 Appendix C), which extends from the surface to a ceiling of 1,200 ft, and controlled Class E
27 airspace, which is airspace above 1,200 ft unless the special use airspace, discussed below, is
28 activated. Bradshaw Army Airfield, located within PTA, is surrounded by Class D airspace
29 extending from the surface to a ceiling of 8,700 ft. There is also class D airspace at the Kona
30 and Hilo airports extending from the surface to 2,500 ft. (National Aeronautical Charting Office,



Source: National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, 2006

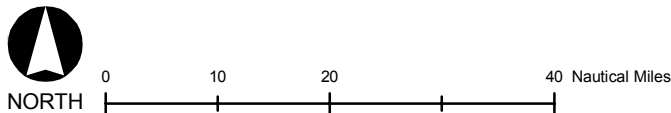
EXPLANATION

- Airway
- Class E Airspace with Floor at the Surface
- Class E Airspace with Floor 700-Feet Above Surface
- 12-Nautical Mile Line
- Class D Airspace
- Oahu Warning Area
- Restricted Airspace
- Air Traffic Control Assigned Airspace (ATCAA)
- Pohakuloa Training Area
- Land

Airspace Use Surrounding Pohakuloa Training Area

Island of Hawaii

Figure 3.6.2.1.1-1



1 2006) However, because the PTA impact area and Bradshaw Army Airfield are located at an
 2 elevation approximately 6,000 ft above Hilo and Kona, those airports are typically not within the
 3 region of influence.

4 *Special Use Airspace*

5 The R-3103 restricted area (Figure 3.6.2.1.1-1) lies above the PTA, extending from the surface
 6 to 30,000 ft (Table 3.6.2.1.1-1). The time of use is intermittent; notification is made by Notice to
 7 Airmen 12 hours in advance. The area is scheduled through the Navy Fleet Area Control and
 8 Surveillance Facility Pearl Harbor, which coordinates with the Honolulu Combined Facility.
 9 When R-3103 is active, Bradshaw Army Airfield Tower maintains control of a corridor of
 10 airspace for aircraft arriving or departing Bradshaw Army Airfield and PTA. Aircraft operating
 11 outside this corridor must coordinate with Range Control to enter or exit the airspace and to
 12 obtain specific routes for flights within Restricted Airspace R-3103 (U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii,
 13 1996). When the airspace is scheduled to be inactive, the agency releases it back to the
 14 Honolulu Combined Facility, and, in effect, the airspace is no longer restricted. (U.S.
 15 Department of the Army, 2004; Federal Aviation Administration, 2006)

**Table 3.6.2.1.1-1. Special Use Airspace in the Island of Hawaii
 Region of Influence**

Warning/ATCAA Number/Name	Location	Altitude (Ft)	Time of Use		Controlling Agency
			Days	Hours	
R-3103	Restricted Airspace	To 30,000	Intermittent	By Notice to Airmen	HCF
Pele	Between W-194 and R-3103	16,000 to FL290		By request	HCF

16 Notes:
 17 W = Warning
 18 ATCAA = Air Traffic Control Assigned Airspace
 19 FL = Flight Level (FL 290 = 29,000 ft)
 20 HCF = Honolulu Combined Facility
 21 Source: Federal Aviation Administration, 2006

22 Although there are no formal, published military training routes on the island of Hawaii, the
 23 R-3103 restricted area is used for helicopter training exercises, with an average of 900 aircraft
 24 movements per month, 99 percent of which involve helicopters. Typical training involves the
 25 use of 10 rotary-winged aircraft at any one time. During deployment training, one or two C-130s
 26 would be involved about twice a year. (U.S. Department of the Army, 2004)

27 Naval aircraft use of the R-3103 restricted area includes Navy and Marine Corps fighter and
 28 attack aircraft crews training during training operations. A Strike Warfare exercise would
 29 typically involve a flight of 2 to 10 aircraft training in air-to-ground missile firing, conventional
 30 ordnance delivery, and precision-guided munitions firing. All Strike Warfare Training at PTA
 31 uses inert munitions.

32 There is also one Air Traffic Control Assigned Airspace (ATCAA) area within the region of
 33 influence (Pele) that provides additional controlled airspace between R-3103 and Warning Area
 34 W-194 (Table 3.6.2.1.1-1).

1 *En Route Airways and Jet Routes*

2 As shown on Figure 3.6.2.1.1-1, there is one oceanic route (B595) located approximately 18 nm
3 west of PTA, running along the eastern side of the island, terminating near Kona. Several low
4 altitude Air Traffic Service (ATS) routes are located near Kona, and several others are located
5 approximately 26 nm west of PTA at Hilo. One ATS route is located approximately 15 nm north
6 of PTA.

7 *Airports and Airfields*

8 Bradshaw Army Airfield, located within PTA, is surrounded by Class D airspace extending from
9 the surface to a ceiling of 8,700 ft. As described earlier, the Hilo and Kona airports and
10 associated airspace are below the airspace typically utilized at PTA. Both Hilo and Kona are
11 surrounded by Class D airspace. Both include surface Class E airspace extensions and
12 additional Class E extensions, with a floor 700 ft above the surface. The Waimea airfield is
13 located approximately 15 nm north of PTA at an altitude of 2,671 ft. It is surrounded by surface
14 Class E airspace with additional Class E airspace extensions with a floor 700 ft above the
15 surface. Air traffic in the region of influence is managed by the Honolulu Air Route Traffic
16 Control Center.

17 **3.6.2.1.2 Biological Resources—PTA**

18 For the purpose of discussion, terrestrial biological resources have been divided into the areas
19 of vegetation and wildlife (including threatened and endangered species) and environmentally
20 sensitive habitat. A list of some of the regulations that govern biological resources is provided
21 in Appendix C.

22 **Region of Influence**

23 The region of influence is the area within or adjacent to PTA that could be affected by proposed
24 operations.

25 **Affected Environment**

26 *Vegetation*

27 Lava with little vegetative development covers approximately 25 percent of the installation.
28 Treelands are dominated primarily by `oh`a lehua (*Metrosideros polymorpha*), which is a
29 member of the myrtle family and is the most abundant tree in Hawaii. Shrublands are the most
30 diverse plant communities on the installation (14 different types). Dominant shrubs include naio
31 (*Myoporum*), mamane (*Sophora*), a`ali`i (*Dodonaea*), `aweoweo (*Chenopodium*), and pukiawe
32 (*Styphelia*). Introduced plants are components of all habitats on PTA. (U.S. Department of
33 Agriculture, 1990; U.S. Department of the Army, 2004; 2006)

34 Threatened and Endangered Plant Species

35 Fourteen Federally endangered plants and one threatened one, listed in Table 3.6.2.1.2-1, are
36 known or expected to occur in the region of influence.

**Table 3.6.2.1.2-1. Listed Species Known or Expected to Occur
 in the Vicinity of the Proposed Action**

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status
Plants		
<i>Asplenium fragile</i> var. <i>insulare</i> *	Fragile fern	E
<i>Haplostachys haplostachya</i>	Honohono (Hawaiian mint)	E
<i>Hedyotis coriacea</i> *	Kio`ele (leather-leaf sweet ear)	E
<i>Isodendron hosakae</i> *	Aupauka	E
<i>Lipochaeta venosa</i>	Nehe	E
<i>Neraudia ovata</i> *	Big Island ma`oloa (spotted nettle brush)	E
<i>Portulaca sclerocarpa</i> *	Po`e (purselane)	E
<i>Silene hawaiiensis</i> *	Hawaii catchfly	T
<i>Silene lanceolata</i> *	Lanceleaf catchfly	E
<i>Solanum incompletum</i> *	Popolo ku mai (Hawaiian prickly leaf)	E
<i>Spermolepis hawaiiensis</i> *	Hawaii scaleseed (Hawaiian parsley)	E
<i>Stenogyne angustifolia</i>	Ma`ohi`ohi (creeping mint)	E
<i>Tetramolopium arenarium</i> spp. <i>arenarium</i> *	Mauna Kea pamakani	E
<i>Vigna owahuensis</i> *	Mohihihi	E
<i>Zanthoxylum hawaiiense</i> *	A`e (Hawaiian yellow wood)	E
Birds		
<i>Branta sandvicensis</i>	Nene (Hawaiian goose)	E
<i>Buteo solitarius</i>	`Io (Hawaiian hawk)	E
<i>Loxioides bailleui</i>	Palila (finch-billed honeycreeper)	E
<i>Pterodroma phaeopygia sandwichensis</i>	`Ua`u (Hawaiian petrel)	E
Mammals		
<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i> spp. <i>semotus</i>	Hawaiian hoary bat	E

Source: Shaw, 1997; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2006b; U.S. Department of the Army, 2004; 2006

Notes:

* Critical habitat originally proposed for this plant, but later determined unnecessary by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service due to the management actions put forth in the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and Ecosystem Management Plan of the installation.

Key to Federal Status:

T Threatened
 E Endangered

1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9

1 *Wildlife*

2 No reptiles have been documented on PTA. Wild pigs (*Sus scrofa*), goats (*Capra hircus*),
3 sheep (*Ovis aries*), cats (*Felis catus*), and dogs (*Canis familiaris*) have been observed on PTA.
4 U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii is proposing to construct and maintain fence units on PTA to protect
5 threatened and endangered species and their habitats from the impact of introduced ungulates
6 (hoofed mammals). The program would involve the removal of all ungulates from within the
7 fence units. Without a physical barrier, sheep, pigs, and goats would continue to damage native
8 natural communities and threatened and endangered species. (U.S. Department of the Army,
9 2006) Mouflon sheep, (*Ovis musimon*), cows, Norway rats (*Rattus norvegicus*), and house mice
10 (*Mus musculus*) are also present.

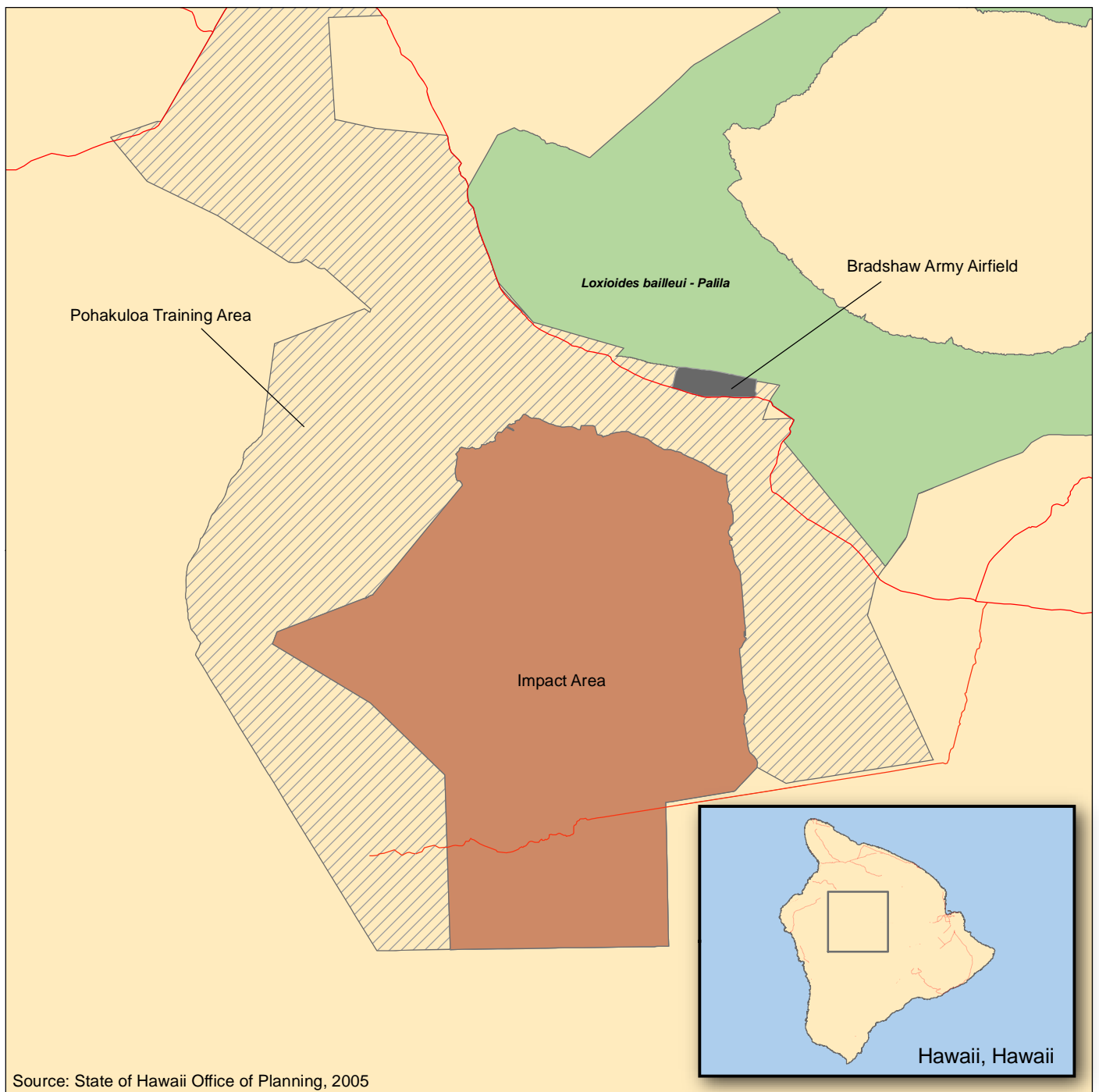
11 Endemic birds common to PTA are the `apapane (a honeycreeper) (*Himatione sanguinea*) and
12 Hawaii `amakihi (a honeycreeper) (*Hemignathus virens*). The `i`iwi (a honeycreeper) (*Vestiaria*
13 *coccinea*), Hawaii `elepaio (flycatcher) (*Chasiempis sandwichensis*), and `ōma`o (Hawaiian
14 thrush) (*Myadestes obscurus*) are present, but less common to PTA. The first `elepaio nest
15 observed on PTA was discovered during a 2006 survey (U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, 2006).
16 The pueo (Hawaiian owl) (*Asio flammeus sandwichensis*) is also present (U.S. Department of
17 the Army, 2006). Nonnative bird species include Erckel's francolin (*Francolinus erckelii*), black
18 francolin (*Francolinus francolinus*), California quail (*Callipepla californica*), and Japanese quail
19 (*Coturnix japonica*). (U.S. Department of the Army, 2004)

20 Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species

21 The only native terrestrial mammal in the Hawaiian Islands, the endangered Hawaiian hoary bat
22 (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*), is known to occur on PTA (Table 3.6.2.1.2-1). Of the four
23 endangered forest birds listed in Table 3.6.2.1.2-1, only the `io (Hawaiian hawk) (*Buteo*
24 *solitarius*) and nene (*Branta sandvicensis*) have been recorded in the past 5 years at PTA. The
25 Federally endangered Hawaiian petrel (*Pterodroma phaeopygia sandwichensis*), a seabird, has
26 also been known to occur on PTA (Colorado State University, 2002). (U.S. Department of the
27 Army, 2004; 2006)







28 *Environmentally Sensitive Habitat*

29 Critical habitat is the term used in the Endangered Species Act to define those areas of habitat
30 that are known to be essential for an endangered or threatened species to recover and that
31 require special management protection. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determined that
32 critical habitat for 12 plants (see Table 3.6.2.1.2-1) was not necessary since the PTA Integrated
33 Natural Resources Management Plan and Ecosystem Management Plan encompass
34 management actions that will benefit the listed species for which critical habitat was originally
35 proposed (Federal Register, 2003b). Critical habitat has been designated on the installation
36 (Figure 3.6.2.1.2-1) for one of the larger Hawaiian honeycreepers, the palila (*Loxioides bailleui*),
37 although this bird has not been observed in recent years. Up to 96 percent of the palila
38 population and nearly all of the successful breeding occur on the southwestern slope of Mauna
39 Kea (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2003). The mamane-naio forest on the central plateau of
40 Hawaii is the prime habitat of the palila, an endangered native bird (University of Hawaii
41 Kapiolani Community College, undated).



Source: State of Hawaii Office of Planning, 2005

EXPLANATION

-  Road
-  Critical Habitat
-  Bradshaw Army Airfield
-  Impact Area
-  Pohakuloa Training Area
-  Land

**Critical Habitat -
 Pohakuloa Training
 Area**

Island of Hawaii

Figure 3.6.2.1.2-1



NORTH 0 1 2 4 Miles

1 **3.6.2.1.3 Cultural Resources—PTA**

2 Appendix C includes a description of cultural resources and the laws and regulations pertaining
3 to them.

4 **Region of Influence**

5 The region of influence for cultural resources at PTA encompasses existing, heavily disturbed
6 impact and training areas, trails, and roads and PTA facilities where Live Fire Exercises (LFX)
7 would take place and Large Area Tracking Range (ground relay stations) would be added.

8 **Affected Environment**

9 *Archaeological Resources (Prehistoric and Historic)*

10 PTA is part of a large cultural landscape that includes Mauna Kea, Mauna Loa, and the Saddle
11 area between them. Researchers of Hawaiian culture (Maly, 1999; McEldowney, 1979; and
12 Langlas et al., 1997) indicate that this landscape is spiritually and historically one of the most
13 important places in Hawaiian tradition and history. Evidence of the area's significance is
14 confirmed by physical and archaeological remains and through the many oral histories that
15 describe historical events and uses of the area (U.S. Department of the Army, 2004.). Site
16 types encompass traditional activities such as bird hunting for feathers and meat, quarrying
17 volcanic glass, and lithic workshop locations for manufacturing the adzes made from Mauna
18 Kea basalt. The Saddle region also displays numerous trails used for movement both cross-
19 island and to the Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa summits. The Umi heiau on the slopes of Hualalai
20 (south of PTA) is believed to have been built by the legendary chief "Umi a Liloa" around 1600
21 and derives some of its importance from its location at the juncture of several of these trails.
22 Cave shelters are abundant due to an extensive natural lava tube system in the area;
23 historically they have been a source of limited water and have provided refuge from the
24 elements.

25 In the late 1800s, cattle and sheep ranching was the primary activity within the PTA area. There
26 were two primary land leases during those years—the John Parker lease (ca. 1876-1891)
27 situated in the western portion of what is now the PTA, and the Waimea Grazing and
28 Agricultural Company lease (ca. 1860-1891) situated in the eastern portion. The latter
29 completed a wagon road from one of its remote sheep stations near the Saddle Road (at
30 Humuula) to Waimea to transport wool to the harbor at Kawaihae, and a portion of that road is
31 still visible. A number of stone walls were also constructed during the 1890s (U.S. Department
32 of the Army, 2004).

33 Approximately 30 percent of the PTA has been surveyed for archaeological resources, and 291
34 prehistoric and historic archaeological sites and traditional resources sites have been recorded
35 (U.S. Department of the Navy, Commander, Third Fleet 2004, and 2006 and U.S. Department
36 of the Navy, 2002a; U.S. Department of the Army, 2004.); additional sites have been recorded
37 within adjacent areas. Typical site types include lava tubes, walls, trails, shelters (including C-
38 shape), lithic scatters, quarries, shrines, cairns (ahu), platforms, and pits of unclear origin.
39 Appendix H contains a list of PTA sites recommended as eligible for inclusion in the National
40 Register of Historic Places (NRHP). One site, the Bobcat Trail Habitation Cave, is already listed
41 in the NRHP. (U.S. Department of the Army, 2004)

1 *Historic Buildings and Structures*

2 PTA's first use as a military installation began in 1938 with the building of the Kaumana Road
3 for military access between Hilo and Waimea (i.e., the Saddle Road). The new road allowed
4 development of the Saddle Training Area, which consisted of the Bradshaw Army Airfield and
5 the PTA. Permanent and consistent use of PTA began in the 1950s (Hays, 2002). In 2002, a
6 historic evaluation of 129 buildings and structures was conducted of the cantonments within the
7 PTA and Bradshaw Army Airfield (Hays, 2002). Of the 129 facilities evaluated, 107 were
8 recommended as historic with 20 recommended for retention; however, the report has not been
9 submitted to the Hawaii State Historic Preservation Office for concurrence (Godby, 2007).
10 Eleven of the 20 were recommended for indefinite maintenance (Buildings T-001, T-39, T-90, T-
11 109, T-184, T-230, T-246, T-285, T-286, T-290, and T-293.) (Hays, 2002) (see Section
12 3.6.2.2.3).

13 *Traditional Resources*

14 An oral history survey of PTA that included both interviews and a field visit with eight of the
15 informants was conducted by Social Research Pacific, Inc. in 2002. The survey focused on
16 place names, trail systems, and known Native Hawaiian structures. The report from this survey
17 includes information gleaned from previous works, including McEldowney (1982), which
18 contains oral accounts and written evidence about the Mauna Kea summit area; other early
19 accounts from western visitors passing through the area (Maly, 1999); and myth and legend
20 material found in Elbert (1959) and Kamakau (1992). Specific types of traditional sites identified
21 in the region include agricultural terraces and enclosures, habitation shelters, and rock art sites.
22 Some of the archaeological sites described above may have traditional components or be
23 considered traditional sites as well.

24 **3.6.2.1.4 Health and Safety—PTA**

25 Appendix C includes a detailed discussion of health and safety resources laws and regulations.

26 **Region of Influence**

27 The region of influence is the area of the PTA where proposed operations are planned.

28 **Affected Environment**

29 The affected environment is in an isolated area in the center of PTA with restricted access and
30 located away from the civilian population. Safety and health precautions are covered in
31 *Pohakuloa Training Area External Standing Operating Procedures* and are briefed by the
32 Pohakuloa Training Area Operations Center.

33 For missile and weapons systems, the Range Safety Office at PTA establishes criteria for the
34 safe execution of the test operation in the form of Range Safety Approval and Range Safety
35 Operational Plan documents. These plans are required for all weapon and target systems using
36 PTA. The plans include the allowable launch and flight conditions and flight control methods
37 necessary to contain the missile flight and impacts within the predetermined impact hazard
38 areas. All hazard areas are checked and determined to be clear of nonessential personnel and
39 aircraft prior to an exercise.

1 Ammunition is brought from Wheeler Army Airfield or Lualualei to PTA via boat or helicopter. If
2 boats are used, the ammunition is driven from Kawaihae Harbor to PTA. Once ammunition is
3 brought to PTA, it is temporarily stored in ammunition holding areas on PTA. At completion of
4 training, unused ammunition is returned to the ammunition supply point on Wheeler Army
5 Airfield. Permanent ammunition storage is not authorized on PTA. Ranges at PTA have
6 designated surface danger zones, whose construction is based on information in Army
7 Regulation 385-63 and the draft update of this regulation. For 2 years prior to 2004, there were
8 no accidents pertaining to the transporting, storage, or firing of ammunition at PTA that risked
9 public safety. (U.S. Department of the Army, 2004)

10 **3.6.2.1.5 Noise—PTA**

11 Appendix C includes a definition of noise and the main regulations and laws that govern it.

12 **Region of Influence**

13 The region of influence for noise analysis is the area within and surrounding PTA in which
14 humans and wildlife may suffer annoyance or disturbance from proposed operations noise
15 sources at PTA.

16 **Affected Environment**

17 Noise levels surrounding PTA are typically low due to the area having a low population and low
18 volume of traffic on nearby roads. The noise levels within PTA can be high due to military
19 training, such as artillery firing and low-flying aircraft, including helicopters and jet fighters. With
20 the exception of the cantonment area, no noise-sensitive land uses are affected by existing
21 noise levels. Because troops are not permanently based at PTA, all troop housing is used for
22 troops who are visiting PTA to participate in training exercises.

23 The Army is developing an environmental noise management plan for PTA. This plan is
24 intended to improve land use compatibility and notification to surrounding communities about
25 the scheduling and nature of military training operations (U.S. Department of the Army, 2004).

26 Wildlife receptors at PTA are described in Section 3.6.2.1.2, Biological Resources.

27

1 **3.6.2.2 BRADSHAW ARMY AIRFIELD**

2 Bradshaw Army Airfield is located on the northern boundary of PTA and supports maneuver
3 training. It has a 3,700-ft airstrip and a small cantonment area.

4 This section describes the environmental resources that would be affected by the No-action
5 Alternative, Alternative 1, or Alternative 2 for Bradshaw Army Airfield. Of the 13 environmental
6 resources considered for analysis, air quality, geology and soils, hazardous materials and
7 hazardous waste, health and safety, land use, noise, socioeconomics, transportation, utilities,
8 and water resources are not addressed.

9 **3.6.2.2.1 Airspace—Bradshaw Army Airfield**

10 Appendix C includes a detailed description of airspace.

11 **Region of Influence**

12 The region of influence for Bradshaw Army Airfield is similar to that described for airspace at
13 PTA (Section 3.6.2.1.1).

14 **Affected Environment**

15 The affected airspace for Bradshaw Army Airfield is the same as that described in Section
16 3.6.2.1.1 for PTA.

17 **3.6.2.2.2 Biological Resources—Bradshaw Army Airfield**

18 Appendix C includes a detailed description of biological resources.

19 **Region of Influence**

20 The region of influence is the area within or adjacent to Bradshaw Army Airfield that could be
21 affected by proposed operations.

22 **Affected Environment**

23 Since Bradshaw Army Airfield is located on the northern boundary of PTA, its affected
24 environment is similar to that described in Section 3.6.2.1.2.

25 *Vegetation*

26 The majority of the open area is vegetated with native plants and is identified as Subalpine
27 dryland.

28 Threatened and Endangered Plant Species

29 Plant species listed in Table 3.6.2.1.2-1 could also potentially be located on Bradshaw Army
30 Airfield.

1 *Wildlife*

2 Since the area has been cleared for the runway, only small mammals and birds are likely to be
3 in the region of influence. However, other wildlife species listed above at PTA could also
4 potentially occur at Bradshaw Army Airfield.

5 Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species

6 The endangered Hawaiian hoary bat could pass through the area, as well as the `io and nene.

7 *Environmentally Sensitive Habitat*

8 Critical habitat for the endangered palila has been established both north and southeast of
9 Bradshaw Army Airfield (see Figure 3.6.2.1.2-1), but none is located in the immediate vicinity of
10 the airfield.

11 **3.6.2.2.3 Cultural Resources—Bradshaw Army Airfield**

12 Appendix C includes a description of cultural resources and the laws and regulations pertaining
13 to them.

14 **Region of Influence**

15 The region of influence for cultural resources at Bradshaw Army Airfield encompasses the
16 building where a new ground relay station will be added.

17 **Affected Environment**

18 *Archaeological Resources (Prehistoric and Historic)*

19 Bradshaw Army Airfield is located within PTA (see Figure 2.1-5); therefore, the prehistoric and
20 historic context for the facility is the same as described for PTA. There are no known significant
21 archaeological resources within Bradshaw Army Airfield; however, there are numerous
22 archaeological sites identified within the adjacent PTA (see Section 3.6.2.1.3). (U.S.
23 Department of the Navy, 2002a)

24 *Historic Buildings and Structures*

25 Identification of historic buildings and structures at Bradshaw Army Airfield is the same as
26 described for PTA (see Section 3.6.2.1.3.)

27 *Traditional Resources*

28 Bradshaw Army Airfield is within the PTA; therefore, the traditional resources context for the
29 facility is the same as described for PTA. There are no known traditional resources sites within
30 the Bradshaw Army Airfield (see Section 3.6.2.1.3). (U.S. Department of the Army, 2004)

1 **3.6.2.3 KAWAIHAE PIER**

2 Kawaihae Pier is located within the Kawaihae Harbor on the northwestern corner of the island of
3 Hawaii. Kawaihae Harbor is a deep-water port, one of two on the island of Hawaii.
4 Expeditionary Assault exercises are conducted at Kawaihae Pier. Activities primarily consist of
5 offloading and loading vehicles and equipment from a landing ship at an existing boat ramp.

6 This section describes the environmental resources that would be affected by the No-action
7 Alternative, Alternative 1, or Alternative 2 for Kawaihae Pier. Of the 13 environmental resources
8 considered for analysis, airspace, air quality, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazardous
9 material and waste, health and safety, land use, noise, socioeconomics, transportation, utilities,
10 and water resources are not addressed.

11 **3.6.2.3.1 Biological Resources—Kawaihae Pier**

12 Appendix C includes a detailed description of biological resources.

13 **Region of Influence**

14 The region of influence includes the beach and other areas adjacent to the pier that may be
15 affected by proposed operations.

16 **Affected Environment**

17 *Vegetation*

18 A small beach area containing no vegetation is located immediately adjacent to the pier.

19 Threatened and Endangered Plant Species

20 No threatened or endangered plant species have been identified within the harbor area.

21 *Wildlife*

22 Terrestrial wildlife at Kawaihae Pier is limited to transitory birds and small mammals.

23 Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species

24 No threatened or endangered species have been identified within the harbor.

25 *Environmentally Sensitive Habitat*

26 No critical habitat is present (National Park Service, 2004).

27