

ENVIRONMENTAL BULLETIN

A collection of social media posts from the previous month and announcements for upcoming events

April 2021

Marine Corps Base Hawaii Environmental Compliance & Protection Division (ECPD)



Naupaka plant. PC: Karen Bryan



Earth Day Every Day



Spring 2021

Natural Selections

Department of Defense Natural Resources Program

REGIONAL INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT THE MISSION: AVIAN CONSERVATION AT MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII

By Norma Creps and Dr. Frans Juola, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Pacific

Considered one of the most remote land masses in the world, the Hawaiian Islands host a diverse array of endemic and migratory avian species. Currently, DoD manages over 228,000 acres of land in Hawaii, making it one of the state's largest land managers. Military lands on the island of Oahu include over 20 separate installations and ranges, many with a high concentration of imperiled and listed species. Hawaii's native biodiversity thus greatly relies on sound management and conservation of these lands.

One of the installations on Oahu is Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), which encompasses over 4,500 acres of land across 8 properties. Strategically, MCBH is positioned to promote military readiness in the Indo-Asia Pacific region. The base provides support functions and facilities for military personnel and families, as well as several tenant commands. Moreover, the facility's acreage contains a variety of unique natural habitats including forests, coastal dunes, and more than 133 acres of valuable coastal wetlands. These habitats support a diverse avifaunal community and are home to over 50 native and migratory bird species, including at least four that are federally endangered.

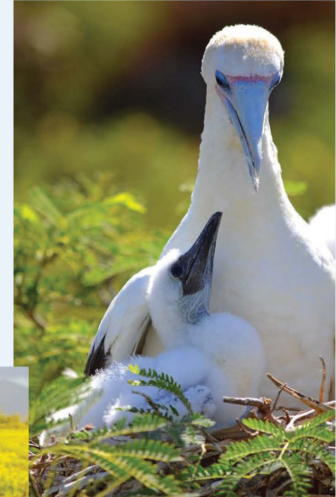
In partnership with state and federal agencies, academic researchers, NGOs, and DoD PIF, the natural resources staff at MCBH has recently undertaken a variety of initiatives to better understand the biology and ecology of the protected bird species found on their

land. These efforts include studying the nesting and reproductive success of the federally endangered Ae'ō (Hawaiian stilt), the federally endangered 'Alae 'ula (Hawaiian gallinule), and the federally endangered 'Alae ke'oke'ō



A staff biologist reaching into a wedge-tailed shearwater burrow on MCBH. Source: Norma Creps

(Hawaiian coot); tracking movement patterns to better understand habitat use and home range sizes of the Ae'ō and the 'A (red-footed booby); and conducting baseline studies on presence, habitat use, and basic biology of the elusive, endemic pueo (Hawaiian short-eared owl), which is MBTA-protected and state-endangered.



Adult red-footed booby ('A) and chick on MCBH. Source: MCBH Environmental Natural Resources Branch



A juvenile pueo at Nuupia Pond Wildlife Management Area. Source: MCBH Environmental Natural Resources Branch



A wedge-tailed shearwater ('Ua'u kani) chick found in a burrow on MCBH. Source: Norma Creps

Natural resources staff at MCBH also conduct long-term monitoring, which includes biannual waterbird surveys, annual breeding surveys of burrowing seabirds including the 'Ua'u kani, or wedge-tailed shearwaters, monitoring of the facility's MBTA-protected red-footed booby colony, and annual Audubon Christmas Bird Counts. These efforts help MCBH natural resources managers better understand the birds' biology and ecology, which in turn promotes more informed management decisions that increase MCBH's ability to protect these species while allowing the base to carry out its primary training missions.



A wedge-tailed shearwater ('Ua'u kani) on MCBH. Source: MCBH Environmental Natural Resources Branch

Marine Wildlife Viewing

Posted: March 14, 2021

Marine Wildlife Viewing

Enjoy **ONLY** from a safe Distance!

It is illegal to harass, feed, hunt, capture, kill, pursue, approach, surround, swim with or attempt to touch protected marine wildlife. Never entice protected marine wildlife to approach you.



- Keep a Safe Distance (Base Order states keep 100 feet away from Turtles and Monk Seals- and 100 yards away from Whales)
- Avoid Surprising Marine Wildlife
- Never Feed Marine Wildlife
 - Dispose of Trash Properly



Marine animals such as monk seals, sea turtles, whales and dolphins are part of the identity of the islands and hold a special place in the minds and hearts of the people of Hawaii. Mahalo for your Kokua!

Marine Wildlife Viewing

Federal Laws Protecting Wildlife:

Marine Mammal Protection Act
Endangered Species Act



These guidelines are intended to help you enjoy watching marine wildlife without causing them harm or placing you at risk. Please ensure your actions do not disturb the animals you are observing. Enjoy watching marine wildlife from a distance and please leave the vicinity if you see possible signs of stress or disturbance.

Report Any Violations to MCBH Conservation Law Enforcement: (808) 257- 7135

or

Military Police at (808) 257-2123

MCBH April Earth Month Bike Competition

Posted: March 18, 2021

MCBH April Bike Competition

DO YOU ENJOY BIKE RIDING?

WANT A CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE WHILE HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT?

WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN FUN, FAMILY FRIENDLY COMPETITION?

THERE WILL BE WEEKLY WINNERS AND AN EARTH MONTH WINNER!

YOU CAN TEAM UP WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND/OR FAMILY! UP TO 10 PEOPLE PER TEAM; RIDING MILEAGE SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO MCBH ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND PROTECTION DIVISION (ECPD) BY EACH TEAM'S REPRESENTATIVE

LET'S BIKE MORE AND DRIVE LESS!



MCBH Earth Month Bike Riding Competition

Who- Anyone who enjoys bike riding! You can team up with your friends and/or family! Up to 10 people per team: riding mileage should be submitted to MCBH Environmental Compliance and Protection Division (ECPD) by each team's representative.

What- MCBH Earth Month Bike Competition

When- April 1st – April 30th

Where- Anywhere safe that you could bring your bike and have a fun ride!

Why- April is Earth Month, let's bike more, drive less; it's good for the environment, and good for our health.

How- 1) Weekly Winner- submit your mileage at the end of three weeks; April 5th, April 12th, and April 19th to ECPD. A weekly winner will be recognized and a prize can be picked up from the ECPD office the following week.

2) Earth Month Winner- submit your total mileage from April to ECPD by May 4th. An Earth Month winner will be recognized. Win and prize and a trophy.

MCBH
ENVIRONMENTAL



ECPD contact: Ms. He Xu-Sadri
Email: he.xusadri@usmc.mil
Phone: 808-257-3245

No Wipes In The Pipes

Posted: March 26, 2021

MCBH, Just a friendly reminder that flushing ANY wipes down the toilet causes harm to our pipes! 🇺🇸

No WIPES In The PIPES

DO NOT flush
ANY type of wipes
(including “flushables”)
down the toilet.



This will cause
MAJOR water pipe
breaks!



Actual wipes removed from MCBH sewer system

A Lesson of History

Posted: March 30, 2021



A lesson of history 🌿
Members of the Ko'olaupoko Native Hawaiian Civic Club recently met with the Marine Corps Base Hawaii Environmental Compliance and Protection Division to discuss cultural sites and the history of land use on the Mokapu Peninsula.

(U.S. Marine Corps photos by Lance Cpl. Brandon Aultman; LtCol T. B. Pochop (foreground), Environmental Division Director points out sites to Civic Club member)



Announcements & Upcoming ECPD Events

MCBH Celebrates Earth Day/Month April 2021 “What You Can Do” Social Media Posts: 01-30 April 2021

MCBH April Earth Month Bike Competition: 01-30 April 2021

MCBH Natural Resources Wildlife Management Area Walking Tour: 08 April 2021

MCBH Weed Warrior and Natural Resources Beach Cleanup Projects: 10 April and 15 April 2021

MCBH Cultural Historic Sites Bike Tour: 10 April and 23 April 2021

MCBH Nu`upia Ponds “Native or Invasive” Self-Guided Scavenger Hunt: 11-30 April 2021

MCBH Semi-Annual Base-wide Cleanup: 12-16 April 2021

MCBH Local Environmental Compliance Course: 14-15 April 2021

For more ECPD information visit: <https://www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil/Offices-Staff/S-4-Installations-Environment-Logistics/Environmental/>