

# *Within Range*

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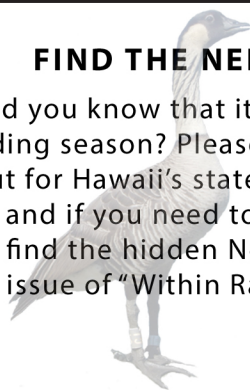
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## FIND THE NENE!

Did you know that it is Nene breeding season? Please keep your eye out for Hawaii's state bird on the road and if you need to train your eye, find the hidden Nene in this issue of "Within Range."



*Pacific Missile Range Facility Barking Sands (PMRF) is the world's largest instrumented multi-domain range capable of supporting surface, subsurface, air, and space operations simultaneously. There are more than 1,100 square miles of instrumented underwater range, 42,000 square miles of controlled airspace and 2.1 million square miles of extended range when needed.*

## PMRF TRIAD



**Capt. Brett Stevenson**  
Commanding Officer



**Cmdr. Kacee Jossis**  
Executive Officer



**CMDCS Norman Mingo Jr.**  
Senior Enlisted Leader





PMRF recently hosted a three-day, multi-agency training course for the Incident Command System (ICS) - 300 course. Conducted by Commander Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and PMRF personnel, the training was held to prepare and unite first responders and emergency resources within our local community. Staff from various state and federal agencies on Kauaʻi attended the training and a total of 17 successfully graduated the course. ICS training programs address the needs of state and local officials assigned to duties related to the command and control elements of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and offers a series of courses. The ICS 300 course focuses on the coordination of emergency response and management of expanding incidents, which is critical, especially during Hawaii's hurricane season when a storm event can expand quickly. Hoʻomaikaʻi (Congratulations) to the successful ICS 300 graduates of 2025! Special thanks to CNRH's Will Luna, HBPHH's Mike Riedy and PMRF's Kelly Balmores and Devon Vidinha who served as instructors for the course.

## SAFETY CORNER

with Floreen Johnson  
PMRF Safety and Occupational Health Specialist

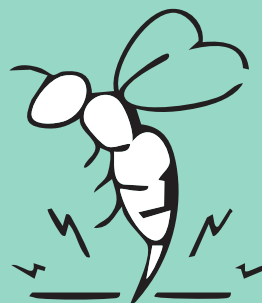
# Report All Injuries

You are stung by a wasp on a Friday afternoon at work, but decide not to report it. You leave work and are home for a few hours when the bite area begins to swell, you develop hives and are having trouble breathing. You realize it is a serious allergic reaction and needs medical attention. You tell the doctor you were stung at work, and the treatment you receive ends up being considered "medical attention."

Because it happened at work and you needed medical attention beyond first aid, it is now an OSHA recordable injury. However, there is no record or witness to it happening at work, which could raise concern as to whether or not the injury occurred at work

There are many reasons why you should report any type of injury, no matter how small. The most important reason is to make sure the situation or hazard is made safe for not only yourself, but for others at the worksite.

You never know when something that seems minor will develop into something more serious. Mahalo for being Safe!





# Training Together

Cumbersome protective gear, limited visibility, stinging heat from all sides, a dwindling oxygen supply and an extreme time crunch to save lives — these are the conditions firefighters are expected to perform under.

The Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Emergency Services Department works alongside the Kauai Fire Department to ensure new recruits are effectively trained for the dangers of fire and rescue.

Two recruits for Kauai Fire Department and Two for Barking Sands recently completed fire academy together. During their training at PMRF recruits felt the heat of the installations live fire simulator and experienced the pressure of working quickly to enter a space, navigate to the fire and extinguish flames.

“We want to make it challenging for them,” said Assistant Fire Chief Matthew Grant. “That’s the only way the recruits are going to see what it’s like to really be in these scenarios. This is a dangerous job, and other people’s lives are depending on them.”

After each repetition of the drill the recruits neatly fake out the hoses, put them in their boxes and load them into the truck only to repeat it again. With each set of drills the motions are continuously engrained into muscle memory. The recruits learn to power through their exhaustion and perform as they need to while their eyes are stinging from sweat and their masks begin to fog from the steam coming off their heads.

“They have to figure out what works for them, how to communicate and how to work together,” said Grant. “There’s a lot of things going on at once and it’s their job to stay calm and work through the process.”

The four fire fighters that graduated the fire academy on Jan. 23, 2025, were Barak Aviguetero and Brendan Young, from Barking Sands Fire and Emergency Services and Jason Luke and Kaiea Pa from Kauai Fire Department.

Mahalo for your service to the community Kauai Fire Department and Barking Sands Fire and Emergency Services!









# Egg Hunt!

Every year Pacific Missile Range Facility personnel grab their hiking boots, double up on bug spray and scout the less travelled portions of the installation grounds in search of eggs, nests and Laysan albatross. This isn't some strange take on Easter celebrations, but a small part of a very important initiative to protect and preserve Laysan albatross populations across the Hawaiian Islands.

The egg-sweep is part of the Laysan Albatross Translocation Program, in support of the Bird Aircraft Strike Hazard initiative, transferring albatross and their eggs from the installation to more hospitable areas on other parts of the Hawaiian island chain. The goal is to keep the birds away from aircraft, and reduce the strike threat to the animals, personnel and equipment.

"In addition to translocating eggs, we use tracking bands so we can track their return rates and collect data on albatross across years and even decades," said Tessa Broholm a USDA wildlife biologist at PMRF. "The bands allow us to be contacted by other bird programs across the archipelago if birds banded here end up somewhere else."

This nesting season, PMRF has transferred 44 viable eggs to six locations on two islands.

Laysan albatross have been recorded to live as long as 70 years and their natural tendency is to always return to the place that they hatched. Moving even one egg has a compounding effect on an area as the albatross that hatches from it will continue to nest there and produce many more generations of albatross.

"We are able to swap out unviable eggs from the north shore with viable eggs from PMRF," said Broholm. "So we're preserving the population of Laysan Albatross by moving them to safer areas on the north shore."

For more information about PMRF's environmental program, please call the Natural Resources Hotline at (808) 208-4416, or visit <https://cnrh.cnrc.navy.mil/Installations/PMRF-Barking-Sands/>











The US Navy holds a Public Scoping Meeting for the Hawaii-California Testing and Training Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

PMRF personnel pose for a group photo after Lt. Stennes' final flight at PMRF.

Members of the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, joined Mālama Hule'ia at the Alakoko fish pond for the monthly community work day.

EM2 Collin Specht received the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his hard work and dedication to duty while serving aboard PMRF.

