

THE WEEKLY MO'OLELO

Wednesday, August 26, 2026



Keep up with the latest news from across Navy Region Hawaii.
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Upcoming Events

Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill Open House & Town Hall: Sept. 17 at American Veterans Hawaii (AMVETS) West Oahu Veterans Center, 5001 Iroquois Ave., Ewa Beach, from 5-7 p.m. Subject matter experts will be available to answer questions from attendees.



PMRF, DLNR Partnership Awarded \$4.7 Million to Support Watershed Protection

Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) on Kauai has secured \$4.7 million in funding through the Dept. of Defense's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program to expand ecosystem restoration, wildfire resilience, and watershed protection efforts that support military readiness and benefit surrounding areas on West Kauai. The funding is provided through a cooperative agreement between Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Pacific and the Hawaii Dept. of Land and Natural Resources' Division of Forestry and Wildlife.



Navy, NASA Release Final PMRF EIS

The U.S. Navy and NASA have released their Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to continue using 8,172 acres of state lands on Kauai for the Pacific Missile Range Facility and Kōke'e Park Geophysical Observatory. By ensuring continued Navy and NASA operations, the real estate action would also preserve local jobs and income for Kauai residents and maintain continued conservation management of natural and cultural resources on state lands at no cost to the State of Hawaii.



Pearl Harbor Shipyard Wraps Up Dry Dock Phase of North Carolina Maintenance

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility successfully undocked Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS North Carolina (SSN 777) earlier this month. North Carolina, affectionately known as the "Lucky Girl," has been at the shipyard undergoing restoration and modernization. The transition to the waterborne phase prepares North Carolina for its return to operational status, bringing the sub closer to rejoining the fleet as a ready, lethal force.



Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Holds Trades Graduation Ceremony

Hawaii's largest industrial employer welcomed 165 newly certified tradespeople to its ranks earlier this month. The new shipyarders are graduates of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility's Apprentice Program and its Worker Skills Progression Program. The four-year apprentice program, a partnership with the shipyard, U.S. Dept. of Labor and Honolulu Community College, allows apprentices to earn an associate's degree in applied trades, be nationally certified as journeyworkers, and work at the shipyard.



JBPHH, PMRF Strengthen Readiness with Force Protection Exercise

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Pacific Missile Range Facility Barking Sands on Kauai are participating this week in Exercise Citadel Pacific, an annual force protection training to enhance the readiness and capability of Navy security forces to respond to internal or external threats. "By rigorously evaluating our force protection and anti-terrorism protocols, we ensure that the fleet, our service members, civilian workforce, and their families remain secure," said Rear Adm. Brad Collins, Navy Region Hawaii commander.



This Week in History: August 31, 1911

The USS Utah (BB-31) was commissioned in Philadelphia on Aug. 31, 1911, and spent nearly 20 years in active service before being converted into a target vessel in 1931. The Utah was at Pearl Harbor during the Dec. 7, 1941, attack and capsized at her berth on Ford Island. The wreck of the USS Utah, with as many as 49 crewmembers still entombed on the ship, serves as a reminder of the Day of Infamy.



Laulima Navy underscores our responsibility to the community and the ways we work alongside partners to help and support our neighbors. Service to others and a commitment to the greater good are values we hold in high regard. It is a privilege for all of us to call Hawaii home and we seek every opportunity we can to show how much we treasure this place. Scan the QR code to learn more about Laulima Navy.



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