

proposed in a region that has been master-planned for urban expansion by the State and county for over 30 years and for which \$50 million of infrastructure (e.g., Kealahoe Parkway and Kealahoe High School) is already in place. This area also includes a currently undeveloped portion of the State's Villages at Laiopua (VOLA) project that is intended for affordable housing, although that project is currently stalled in litigation. The commenter noted that this West Hawaii area is one of the fastest growing regions in the State and there is no other viable area for expansion.

Our Response: The direct and indirect impacts to the Kailua to Keahole area of Kona within Hawaii Units 12 and 13 are discussed in detail in the DEA and in the Addendum, including impacts to State VOLA project, the Keahuolu Project, the Kaloko Industrial Park expansion, the Kaloko Town Center, the Kaloko Properties development, three road projects, and the K2020 county landfill project. However, Hawaii Units 12 and 13 cover a relatively small portion of the area planned for urban expansion in the County of Hawaii General Plan. While the DEA and the Addendum estimate the economic costs to landowners in areas designated as critical habitat, it is estimated that any development displaced by critical habitat will occur elsewhere on the island of Hawaii, due to the availability of comparable land. Thus, the net economic impacts to the economic development of the island of Hawaii will be small.

(101) **Comment:** Several commenters commented regarding the potential adverse effect that designation of critical habitat could have on the military. Specifically, hindering the Army and Navy's (Marines') ability to perform their missions because of the limitations imposed by critical habitat would not only have an adverse effect on the nation's military readiness but would also be a costly waste of fiscal resources or an additional financial burden.

Our Response: The impacts on the readiness and budget of the military are discussed in the Military Activities section in the Direct Costs section of the Addendum and in the Military Readiness section in the Indirect Costs section of the Addendum. Specifically, the direct costs to military operations over the next 10 years range from \$31 million to \$40 million. The indirect costs include an undetermined probability of a loss of \$693 million in transformation projects and a possible reduction in readiness.

(102) **Comment:** One commenter commented that designation of critical

habitat will cause private landowners to spend their own resources to determine the possible consequences of such designation on their lands (e.g., legal fees).

Our Response: The costs associated with determining the possible consequences of critical habitat are included in the Investigating the Implications of Critical Habitat section of the Addendum. Specifically, approximately 19 private landowners may investigate the implications of critical habitat on their lands at a cost of \$50,000 to \$181,000.

Summary of Changes From the Proposed Rule

Based on a review of public comments received on the proposed determinations of critical habitat, we have reevaluated our proposed designations and included several changes to the final designations of critical habitat. These changes include the following:

(1) We have designated 99 single species critical habitat units for 41 plant species on the island of Hawaii instead of multi-species units to clarify the exact location of critical habitat for each species.

(2) The scientific names were changed for the following associated species found in the "Supplementary Information: Discussion of the Plant Taxa" section: *Cocculus trilobus* changed to *Cocculus orbiculatus* in the discussions of *Nerudia ovata* and *Pleomele hawaiiensis*. *Jacquemontia sandwicensis* changed to *Jacquemontia ovalifolia* ssp. *sandwicensis* in the discussion of *Sesbania tomentosa*. *Scaevola sericea* changed to *Scaevola taccada* in the discussions of *Ischaemum byrhone* and *Sesbania tomentosa*. *Styphelia tameiameia* changed to *Leptecophylla tameiameia* in the discussions of *Argyroxiphium kauense*, *Asplenium fragile* var. *insulare*, *Clermontia drepanomorpha*, *Clermontia lindseyana*, *Colubrina oppositifolia*, *Hedyotis coriacea*, *Isodendron hosakae*, *Plantago hawaiiensis*, *Sesbania tomentosa*, *Silene hawaiiensis*, *Silene lanceolata*, and *Tetramolopium arenarium*. *Wollastonia venosa* changed to *Melanthera venosa* in the discussions of *Isodendron hosakae*, *Portulaca sclerocarpa*, and *Sesbania tomentosa*. We replaced *Passiflora mollissima* with *Passiflora tarminiana* in the discussions of *Clermontia lindseyana*, *Clermontia pyrularia*, *Cyanea hamatiflora* ssp. *carlsonii*, *Delissea undulata*, *Phyllostegia racemosa*, and *Sicyos alba* (Palmer 2003; Wagner and Herbst 2002).

(3) In "Supplementary Information: Discussion of the Plant Taxa": We removed *Carex montis-eeka* from the list of associated species for *Argyroxiphium kauense*. We replaced *Psychotria mariniana* and *Psychotria greenwelliae* with *Psychotria* spp. (because those two specific species are not found on the island of Hawaii) in the discussion of *Delissea undulata*. We replaced: *Blechnum occidentale* with *Blechnum appendiculatum* in the discussion of *Diellia erecta*; *Nototrichium breviflorum* with *Nothocestrum breviflorum* in the discussion of *Hibiscus hualalaiensis*; *Cyathea cooperi* with *Sphaeropteris cooperi* in the discussion of *Phlegmariurus mannii*; and *Athyrium sandwicensis* with *Diplazium sandwichianum* in the discussions of *Phyllostegia warshaueri*.

(4) In order to avoid confusion regarding the number of location occurrences for each species (that do not necessarily represent viable populations) and the number of viable populations needed for recovery (e.g., 8 to 10 with 100, 300, or 500 reproducing individuals), we changed the word "population" to "occurrence" and updated the number of occurrences for the following species found in the "Supplementary Information: Discussion of the Plant Taxa" section and "Table 1.—Summary of existing occurrences on the island of Hawaii, and landownership for 58 species reported from the island of Hawaii": *Adenophorus periens* changed from 13 populations to 4 occurrences; *Argyroxiphium kauense* changed from 3 populations to 4 occurrences; *Asplenium fragile* var. *insulare* changed from 17 populations to 36 occurrences; *Bonamia menziesii* and *Clermontia drepanomorpha* changed from 1 population to 2 occurrences; *Clermontia lindseyana* changed from 17 populations to 15 occurrences; *Clermontia pyrularia* changed from 1 population to 2 occurrences; *Colubrina oppositifolia* changed from 8 populations to 5 occurrences; *Cyanea platyphylla* changed from 9 populations to 6 occurrences; *Cyanea shipmanii* changed from 5 populations to 3 occurrences; *Cyanea stictophylla* changed from 5 populations to 6 occurrences; *Cyrtandra giffardii* changed from 7 populations to 8 occurrences; *Cyrtandra tintinnabula* changed from 6 populations to 4 occurrences; *Isodendron hosakae* changed from 2 populations to 3 occurrences; *Diellia erecta* changed from 3 populations to occurrences; *Flueggea neowawraea* changed from 4