

**Delegation of Selected Permitting Approval Authority for
Activities Undertaken in Natural Area Reserves**

The authority of the Natural Area Reserves System Commission (NARSC) to recommend approval of Special Use Permits is hereby delegated to the NARSC Executive Secretary, after discussion and approval by Branch staff, for the following activities conducted in Natural Area Reserves:

1. Hikes or visits by educational groups larger than ten (10);
2. Incidental traditional and customary practices (e.g., collection of maile, mokihana)
3. The following research activities:
 - a. Non-destructive inventory, measurements, censuses, and monitoring of trees, ferns, understory plants, birds, mammals, insects, and aquatic organisms where there is no harm to the organisms (includes both ground-based and remotely sensed measures).
 - b. Non-destructive inventory, measurements, and monitoring of the forest floor, dead and downed wood, and soils.
 - c. Non-destructive inventory, measurements, and monitoring of streams, ponds, and other aquatic ecosystems.
 - d. Non-destructive hydrological and geomorphic studies which do not involve the erection of structures or long term placement of equipment.
 - e. Erection of small protective fences and barriers ≤ 10 acre in area (and the removal of exotic species within such plots).
 - f. Construction of temporary blinds and field observation structures.
 - g. Soil and plant nutrient cycling research.
 - h. Biocontrol research to control invasive plants and animals - manipulate densities of state and federally permitted biocontrol agents through redistribution and experimental methods, including caging plants or parts of plants.
 - i. Sampling air and gasses (plant and soil respiration) within the experimental forest.
 - j. Placement of temporary electronic devices for environmental monitoring or sampling (for periods ≤ 36 months).

- k. Non-destructive collection of plant material (excluding all listed T&E plants), soils, and water samples for laboratory analysis.
- l. Collection of plant and insect samples that are from common, exotic, and abundant taxa for laboratory, greenhouse, or herbarium sampling (excluding all listed T&E species).
- m. Maintenance of a trail system for access.

For purposes of this delegation, “non-destructive” means an activity that does not destroy or harm the object of analysis.

STATE OF HAWAII
Natural Area Reserves Commission

By _____ Date _____
Dale Bonar
Chairperson

Approved by the Natural Area Reserves Commission
at its meeting held on May 21, 2007.