

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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KAIHOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

REF:OCCL:TM

CDUA OA-3780

Acceptance Date: August 31, 2016

180-Day Expiration Date: February 27, 2017

Thomas Giambelluca  
Geography Department  
University of Hawai'i  
445 Saunders Hall  
2424 Maile Way  
Honolulu, HI96822

SEP - 2 2016

Dear Mr. Giambelluca:

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION  
Conservation District Use Application (CDUA) File No. OA-3780  
(DEPARTMENTAL Permit)

This acknowledges the receipt and acceptance for the processing of CDUA OA-3780 for two (2) transpiration data collection installations located within Upper Makaha Valley, O'ahu, TMK: (1) 8-4-002:001. The subject area lies within the Resource subzone of the Conservation District

According to the applicant, the project is being carried out at the request of and in partnership with the landowner, the Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS). The project is a case study on understanding plant water use characteristics of native and non-native trees and forest stands.

The land use would involve the installation of two sets of 16-20 foot tall scaffolds, each with a 35-ft<sup>2</sup> footprint that will be set up and located within a non-native flora setting and a native flora to collect data for three years. Approximately 35-ft<sup>3</sup> of soil will be displaced for each scaffold. The scaffolds will be utilized to access the tree canopy and will also house sensors for measuring micrometeorology and solar panels. In addition, sapflow sensors will be installed in trees to measure water uptake and soil sample cores up to 1 meter deep will be taken.

Materials for research will be dropped by helicopter to the site. Upon completion of the installation, debris will be hiked out of the site. During the 3 year research duration, replacement sensors and other research equipment are proposed to be hiked in and out as necessary via trail and access managed by the BWS.

There are no existing utilities at the project site. The project site encompasses forest stands dominated by strawberry guava and java plum and a restoration area co-dominated by lama, olopua, alahe'e, kukui and ti. No federally listed rare or endangered plants are present in the

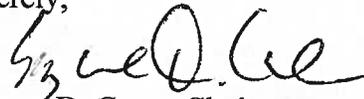
immediate vicinity. There are no known historical or cultural sites within the proposed site areas.

After reviewing the application, the Department finds that:

1. The proposed use is an identified land use in the Resource subzone of the Conservation District, pursuant to §13-5-22, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), P-1 DATA COLLECTION (C-1) Basic data collection, research, education, and resource evaluation that involves a land use causing ground disturbance from installation of equipment(e.g., meteorological towers, radio towers, or test wells). Please be advised, however, that this finding does not constitute approval of the proposal;
2. Pursuant to §13-5-40, HAR, a Public Hearing is not required;
3. In conformance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), as amended, and Chapter 11-200, HAR and pursuant to the DLNR Comprehensive Exemption List dated 6/05/2015, specifically exemption class 4 Basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource, the proposed project is exempt from the preparation of an Environmental Assessment; and
4. The project area does not lie within the Special Management Area.

Please inform us as to what type of fauna may be present at the site. Upon completion of the application review process, your CDUA will be reviewed by the Chairperson for consideration after reviews and evaluations of the proposal have been made. Should you have any questions regarding this application, please contact Tiger Mills of our Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands at (808) 587-0382.

Sincerely,



Suzanne D. Case., Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources

c: O'ahu Board Member  
BWS  
DOFAW/DOCARE  
DOH/OHA/OEQC  
City & County of Honolulu, DPP  
Wai'anae Neighborhood Board  
Wai'anae State Library