

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
Division of Forestry and Wildlife  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

January 13, 2017

Chairperson and Members  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Land Board Members:

**SUBJECT:** REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRPERSON TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII - MANOA

**SUMMARY**

This Board Submittal requests approval to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish a written agreement to continue to allow personnel of the University of Hawaii (UH), Research Cooperative Studies Unit (PCSU) Projects (which may consist of Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH) and UH personnel) to fly on scheduled DOFAW Helicopter flights. This will allow state funded projects to complete DOFAW objectives written into grants/awards with the University of Hawaii.

**BACKGROUND:**

The RCUH (PCSU) Projects and DOFAW have a unique partnership in promoting conservation on Hawaii State Lands. DOFAW is in charge of the Natural Area Reserves (NARS) which protects much of the remaining native Hawaiian ecosystems, including many endangered native plants and animals statewide. The RCUH (PCSU) Projects have been doing applied research work to protect these plants and animals from going extinct. The RCUH (PCSU) Projects and DOFAW also collaborate with federal partners to ensure that every effort and newest applications are being used to stop the spread of non-native plants, and to repopulate the habitat to promote growth for native plants, snails and birds. DOFAW is able to provide the resources to help fund the research, and the RCUH (PCSU) Projects provides the science and students, staff to implement the newest research in the field.

The research and work done by the RCUH (PCSU) Projects and DOFAW often require the transport of personnel and equipment to remote areas within the State of Hawaii via aircraft. When such transportation is required, DOFAW funds and purchases flight time with various aircraft vendors via a State of Hawaii –DOFAW contract and or Purchase Order.


The purpose of this request is to develop a MOU to continue to allow personnel of the RCUH (PCSU) Projects (which may consist of Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH) and UH personnel) to fly on the DOFAW flights. This will allow state funded projects to complete their grant objectives.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

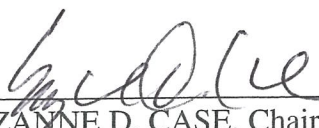
That the Board:

- 1) Delegate authority to the Chairperson to negotiate and execute a Memorandum of Understanding providing that the Attorney General review and approve the contents of the MOU to ensure compliance with all State requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

 For DGS  
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David G. Smith, Administrator  
Division of Forestry and Wildlife

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

  
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SUZANNE D. CASE, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources