

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Aquatic Resources
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

March 24, 2017

Board of Land
and Natural Resources
Honolulu, Hawaii

SUBJECT: Request for Approval to Add Funding (\$420,000 Federal, \$50,000 Matson Settlement Trust Fund) and Extend through FY18 the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR)/University of Hawaii (UH) Contract No. 60379 (Supplemental Contract No. 6) for the Project Titled "Collaborative Administration of the Hawaii Fish Aggregating Device System."

Submitted herewith for your consideration is a request to amend and extend Contract No. 60379 between DLNR and the UH. Supplemental Contract No. 6 will provide \$470,000 in additional funding and allow continuation of the on-going fisheries project titled "Collaborative Administration of the Hawaii Fish Aggregating Device System." Supplemental Contract No. 6 extends the project from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, and provides \$420,000 in Federal funds from a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration grant and \$50,000 from the Matson Settlement Trust Fund. The Matson funding will provide a portion of the required State match with the UH providing the remainder. The Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) project is under the direction of Dr. Kim Holland of the UH's Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology.

The FAD project maintains and improves the popular statewide FAD system and makes it more cost-effective. The scope of the project remains the same as FY17, with FAD fabrication and deployment continued, as well as the maintenance of the FAD public information system. Ongoing FAD-related research will continue regarding the impact of FADs on Hawaii's pelagic fish resources, especially the influence of FADs on movements and distributions of tuna and marlin in Hawaiian waters. The overall efficacy of the FAD system will continue to be examined and improved by modifying mooring strategies based on analysis of previous deployment results.

Supplemental Contract No. 6 to Contract No. 60379 is currently being reviewed by the UH, and thereafter, will be submitted to the State's Department of the Attorney General for final approval as to form.

Chapter 343 – Compliance with Environmental Law:

Contract No. 60379 involves the use of state lands (submerged lands zoned in the Conservation District, Resource subzone) and use of state funds. The Department declared a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in a programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) for the Fish Aggregating Device System in May 2012 and a supplemental environmental assessment in

December 2014. The Department was the authorizing agency for purposes of compliance with Chapter 343, HRS, and because the PEA was approved, no exemption is being claimed or provided.

RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the attached proposed declaration of exemption prepared by the Department after consultation with and advice of those having jurisdiction and expertise for the proposed actions under the contract:

1. That the Board declares that the actions to be undertaken under this contract will have little or no significant effect on the environment.
2. That the Board concurs with the finding of the Department's analysis that a PEA was approved, so no exemption is being claimed for purposes of recordkeeping requirements of Chapter 343, HRS, and Chapter 11-200, HAR.
3. That the Board authorizes the Chairperson to negotiate and, subject to necessary approvals, amend and extend Contract No. 60379 (Supplemental Contract No. 6) with the University of Hawaii for the project titled "Collaborative Administration of the Hawaii Fish Aggregating Device System."

Respectfully submitted,



BRUCE S. ANDERSON, Ph.D.
Administrator

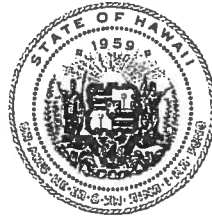
APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Attachment

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT


KEKO A KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

March 24, 2017

TO: Division of Aquatic Resources File

FROM: Bruce S. Anderson, Ph.D., Administrator 
Division of Aquatic Resources

SUBJECT: Notice of Determination of Compliance with Chapter 343, HRS and Chapter 11-200 HAR, for Collaborative Administration of the Hawaii Fish Aggregating Device System.

Project Title:

Request for Approval to Add Funding (\$420,000 Federal, \$50,000 Matson Settlement Trust Fund) and Extend through FY18 the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR)/University of Hawaii (UH) Contract No. 60379 (Supplemental Contract No. 6) for the Project Titled "Collaborative Administration of the Hawaii Fish Aggregating Device System."

Project Description:

The Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) project maintains and improves the popular statewide FAD system and makes it more cost-effective. The scope of the project remains the same as FY17, with FAD fabrication and deployment being continued, as well as the maintenance of the FAD public information system. Ongoing FAD-related research will continue regarding the impact of FADs on Hawaii's pelagic fish resources, especially the influence of FADs on movements and distributions of tuna and marlin in Hawaiian waters. The overall efficacy of the FAD system will continue to be examined and improved by modifying mooring strategies based on analysis of previous deployment results.

Finding:

The Department declared a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in a programmatic environmental assessment (PEA) for the Fish Aggregating Device System in May 2012 and a supplemental environmental assessment in December 2014. The Department was the authorizing agency for purposes of compliance with Chapter 343, HRS, and determined a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for this project. Because the PEA was approved, no exemption is being claimed or provided.