

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Forestry and Wildlife

February 11, 2022

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

Land Board Members:

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRPERSON TO NEGOTIATE, ENTER INTO, AMEND, EXTEND, AND TERMINATE A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII, DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE, AND THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE TO MANAGE, MONITOR, RESTORE, AND ENHANCE FOR THE BENEFIT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PLANTS IN THE KONA FOREST UNIT OF HAKALAU FOREST NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AND THE WAIEA TRACT, TMK (3) 8-6-001:003

BACKGROUND:

On January 8, 2021, item C-2, the Board approved to set aside the 1,269-acre Waiea tract as a Natural Area Reserve. The Department is now finalizing the set-aside. The Division now seeks to partner with the adjacent Kona Forest Unit of the Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge on conservation management and access by establishing a cooperative agreement.

DISCUSSION:

A cooperative agreement would allow the parties to agree to combine efforts, and mutually implement activities including managing, monitoring, restoring, and enhancing fish and wildlife management activities in the Refuge and Natural Area Reserve. This will be accomplished by coordinating the acquisition and habitat enhancement activity plans and pursuing joint funding opportunities where applicable. Coordinated management and shared resources would prevent duplicating or conflicting land management efforts by developing annual management and maintenance plans cooperatively and sharing annual reports of accomplishments.

CHAPTER 343 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

In accordance with the requirements of chapter 343, HRS, an environmental assessment is not

required as this request does not include approval of an action, pursuant to §§343-2 and 343-5(a).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

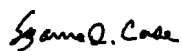
- 1) Authorize the Chairperson to negotiate, enter into, amend, extend, and terminate a Cooperative Agreement with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to manage, monitor, restore, and enhance for the benefit of fish, wildlife, and plants in the Kona Forest Unit of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge and the Waiea Tract, TMK (3) 8-6-001:003.

Respectfully submitted,



DAVID G. SMITH, Administrator
Division of Forestry and Wildlife

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



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