Report to the Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Regular Session of 2013

PROGRESS REPORT REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PUBLIC LAND TRUST INVENTORY



Prepared by

THE STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

In response to Section 3 of Act 54, Session Laws of Hawaii 2011

Honolulu, Hawaii

November 2012

PROGRESS REPORT REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PUBLIC LAND TRUST INVENTORY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is prepared pursuant to Section 3 of Act 54, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2011, which calls for the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to provide a progress report to the Legislature regarding the establishment of a comprehensive information system to inventory and maintain information about the lands of the public land trust described in Section 5(f) of the Admission Act and Article XII, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution.

The Department experienced several unexpected departures of key personnel in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012, including the resignation of the State Lands Information Systems Manager. As a result, the project got off to a delayed start. The Department has since filled the position, and has also created and filled an Applications/Systems Analyst position, pursuant to Section 4 of Act 54. In addition, as of September 4, 2012, the Department contracted with a vendor to begin developing the Public Land Trust Information System. The project is now well underway.

Given the delayed start and the complexity of this task, the Department respectfully requests that the project delivery date be extended to December 31, 2014.

BACKGROUND

Section 3 of Act 54, SLH 2011, states:

"(a) The department of land and natural resources shall submit a progress report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular sessions of 2012 and 2013. The progress report shall:

(1) Indicate what is necessary to complete the public land trust inventory and the Public Land Trust Information System; and

(2) Include any proposed legislation that the department deems necessary to facilitate the expeditious completion and support of the inventory and information system.

(b) The inventory and information system shall be completed and operational by December 31, 2013, unless the department advises the legislature otherwise in a progress report."

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Department hired a replacement for the State Lands Information Systems Manager position which was vacated via resignation in FY 2012.

Pursuant to Section 4 of Act 54, the Department created and filled an Applications/Systems Analyst position in service of the System. The primary function of this position is to manage all technical aspects of the comprehensive Public Land Trust Information System.

The Department created a Request For Proposal to solicit proposals to develop the comprehensive Public Land Trust Information System. The Department selected and awarded the contract to a vendor who officially began work on the project on September 4, 2012.

CHALLENGES

The Department is tasked with managing the overall project and coordinating with all state and county agencies to ensure successful implementation of the Public Land Trust Information System. The project is still in its early stages and the Department is currently working with agencies to obtain as much data and information as possible during the information gathering phase of the project.

The original target date for project completion was December 31, 2013. However, due to unforeseen personnel departures, the project got off to a delayed start. Now that the staffing issues have been addressed and the project is now underway, the Department is requesting that the project completion date be extended to December 31, 2014.