

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

May 9, 2014

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

Land Board Members:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CHAIRPERSON TO SIGN, EXECUTE, AND AMEND AGREEMENT(S), CONTRACT(S), AND OTHER DOCUMENT(S) REGARDING THE MOANALUA GARDENS FOUNDATION, MOANALUA DISTRICT OF THE HONOLULU FOREST RESERVE, TMKs 1-1:013:001, 1-1:004:005, AND 1-1:008:013, OAHU

AND

REQUEST APPROVAL OF DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION TO CHAPTER 343, HRS, ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROJECT

BACKGROUND:

Kamananui Valley is located in the Moanalua District of the Honolulu Forest Reserve. The existing unimproved road is degraded and damaged by flood waters and runoff. Current road conditions negatively impact Moanalua Gardens Foundation's educational programs which take schools and community organizations into the valley for interpretive trips. The poor condition of the road are likely to cause damage to vehicles and equipment attempting to access the valley, and may hinder Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) crews from performing native forest and watershed management activities such as wildland fire control, or Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) crews from servicing the high tension powerlines in the valley. Improvements to the road will provide safe, reliable access into the valley.

The Board approved entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Moanalua Gardens Foundation for use of portions of the Moanalua Valley Road on December 9, 2011. The Grant-In-Aid Agreement with the Moanalua Gardens Foundation for Repair and Restoration of the Kamananui Valley Road was appropriated by Act 164, SLH 2011, as amended by Act 106, SLH 2012, Item H-1.02, Capital Improvement Project funds of \$610,000 were released by the Governor on March 7, 2013.

The funds will be used to provide the following services:

1. Research and Data Gathering services to determine specific requirements and permitting necessary for Kamananui Valley Road improvements.
2. Engineering Services to develop a design/build plan for Kamananui Valley Road improvements, and
3. To begin road improvements as described in the design/build plan for Kamananui Valley Road. Road improvements will begin at the Forest Reserve Access Gate. Completion of the road improvements is contingent upon executing the contract for additional funding.

ANALYSIS:

In order to partner with the Moanalua Gardens Foundations and prepare for the road improvements, the Department needs to finalize various documents including agreements, contracts, and memorandums of understanding.

CHAPTER 343 – ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

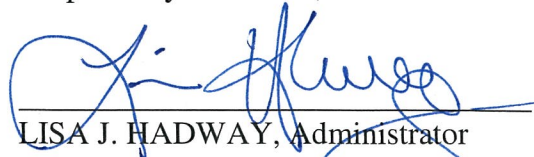
In accordance with the requirements of Chapter 343, HRS, and Chapter 11-200-8(6), HAR, the Exemption List for the Department of Land and Natural Resources as reviewed and concurred upon by the Environmental Council on June 12, 2008, the subject project is exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to the exemption classes listed in Attachment 1.

RECOMMENDATION:


That the Board:

- 1) Declare that, after considering the potential effects of the proposed project as provided by Chapter 343, HRS, and Chapter 11-200, HAR, this project will likely have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and is therefore exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment;
- 2) Delegates authority to the Chairperson to: sign, execute, and amend agreement(s), contract(s), and other document(s) regarding the Moanalua Gardens Foundation, subject to the availability of funds and approval by the Department of the Attorney General.

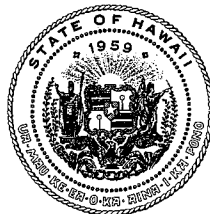
Respectfully submitted,


LISA J. HADWAY, Administrator
Division of Forestry and Wildlife

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:


WILLIAM J. AILA, JR., Chairperson
Board of Land and Natural Resources

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION

from the preparation of an environmental assessment under the authority of Chapter 343, HRS
and Chapter 11-200, HAR

Project Title: Moanalua Valley Road Improvement Project and Partnership Activities

Project Description: Kamananui Valley is located in the Moanalua District of the Honolulu Forest Reserve (TMKs 1-1:013:001, 1-1:004:005, and 1-1:008:013). The existing unimproved road is degraded and damaged by flood waters and runoff. Current road conditions negatively impact Moanalua Gardens Foundation's educational programs which take schools and community organizations into the valley for interpretive trips. The poor condition of the road are likely to cause damage to vehicles and equipment attempting to access the valley, and may hinder Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) crews from performing native forest and watershed management activities such as wildland fire control, or Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) crews from servicing the high tension powerlines in the valley. Improvements to the road will provide safe, reliable access into the valley.

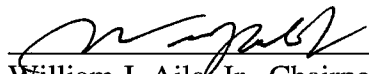
Exemption Class: DLNR, Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Class 1

Exempt Item Number: 2

Exempt Item Description: Repair and maintenance of existing roads (paved, unpaved, dirt, cinder and gravel), concrete fords, cattle guards, gates and wash-out ditches in DOFAW program areas; involves grading, patching, and resurfacing roads; removing encroaching vegetation; and cleaning or repairing ditches, fords and culverts by hand.

Date of Agency Exemption List: July 18, 2011, June 12, 2008

I have considered the potential effects of the above listed project as provided by Chapter 343, HRS and Chapter 11-200 HAR. I declare that this project will probably have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and is therefore exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment under the above exemption classes.



William J. Aila, Jr., Chairperson
Department of Land and Natural Resources

4/29/14
Date

Original: Agency file
Copy: Project file