

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

May 8, 2015

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

Land Board Members:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE AND SIGN A CONTRACT(S) TO INSTALL UNGULATE-PROOF FENCING WITHIN THE KAALA NATURAL AREA RESERVE AND MOKULEIA FOREST RESERVE, AND ADJACENT LANDS CONTINGENT ON LANDOWNER APPROVAL, TMKs 6-8-01:01, 6-7-03:18, 6-7-03:25, 8-4-02:65, OAHU

AND

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

BACKGROUND

A fence project is proposed to protect watershed forests in portions of the Mokuleia Forest Reserve and Kaala Natural Area Reserve. This includes installation of approximately 4 foot high ungulate fencing to protect native montane forest and watershed from the negative impacts of feral ungulates. Feral ungulate damage in these forests threatens Hawaii's water supplies and unique natural and cultural resources, including rare native plant and animal species. Step-overs and gates will allow public access and traditional gathering within fenced areas.

The first phase of the fence will protect the north-facing slopes of the Reserves from feral goats entering from Makaha valley by fencing along the ridge separating Mokuleia from Makaha to the Kaala plateau. Subsequent phases are planned to install strategic fences that protect these north-facing slopes from feral pigs. These projects are part of an ongoing effort to protect Oahu's core watershed forests. The proposed fences are located in remote and steep areas. Fence alignments are approximate and subject to change, and include cross fences. Existing topography may necessitate inclusion of adjacent lands, contingent on landowner approval. A map is attached as Exhibit 1.

The Division of Forestry and Wildlife and other partners will also conduct natural resource management activities including invasive species control, outplanting of native vegetation and

installation of associated management infrastructure.

In order to expedite the contract(s) for this procurement, DOFAW requests that the Board delegate authority to the Chairperson to award, execute, and extend contract(s) for goods and services and other terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Chairperson to best serve the interest of the State. One or more contracts will be awarded based on the lowest qualified bidder.

CHAPTER 343 – ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

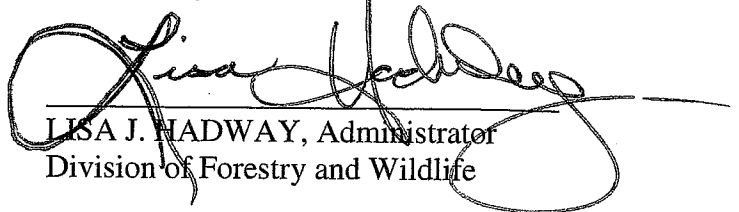
In accordance with the requirements of Chapter 343, HRS, and Chapter 11-200-8(6), Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), the Exemption List for the Department of Land and Natural Resources as reviewed and concurred upon by the Environmental Council on July 13, 2011 and June 12, 2008, the subject project is exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to the exemption classes listed in Exhibit 2.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

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:
 - a. Award, execute and extend contract(s) for goods and services, 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:

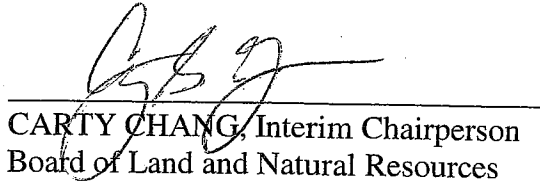
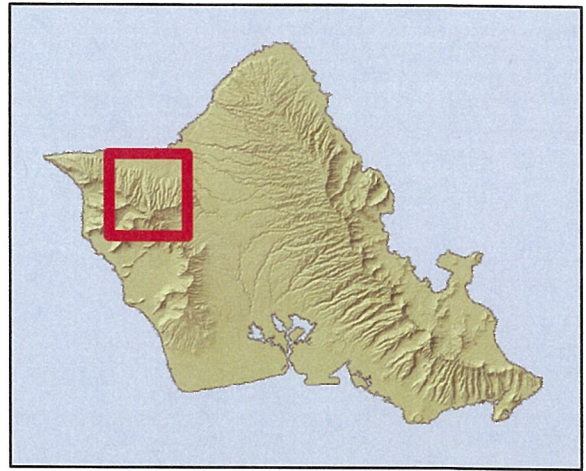

CARTY CHANG, Interim Chairperson
Board of Land and Natural Resources

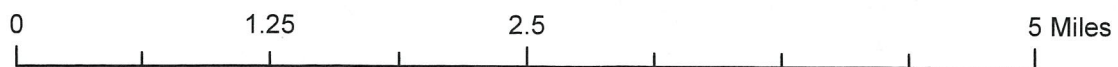
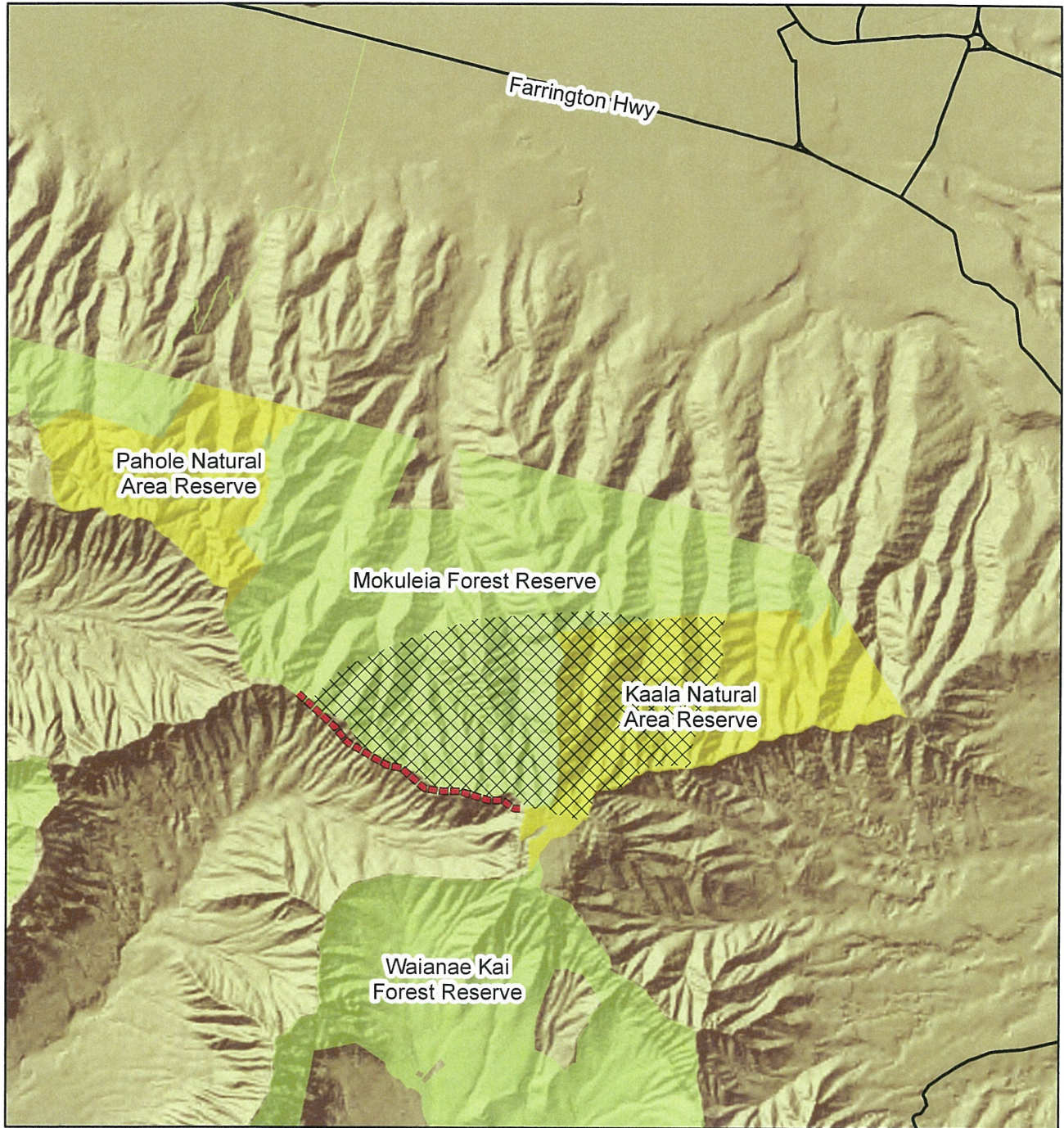
Exhibit 1. Map
Exhibit 2. Declaration of Exemption



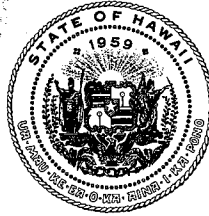
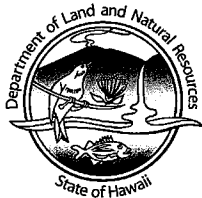
Proposed Fences



- Major Roads
- ▨ Potential Strategic Fencing Area
- ▬▬▬ Phase 1 fenceline



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

CARTY S. CHANG
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
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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: Kaala Natural Area Reserve and Mokuleia Forest Reserve Watershed Protection Project

Project Description: This project will occur in the Waialua Districts of Oahu including portions of Tax Map Keys 6-8-01:01, 6-7-03:18, 6-7-03:25, 8-4-02:65. Project has been funded through various State, and Federal sources, and private funding may also be secured. The proposed project is part of the Division of Forestry and Wildlife's (DOFAW) on-going watershed protection efforts. This project is located in the Conservation District. The proposed project will involve the installation of ungulate-proof fences that will exclude feral ungulates. Stepovers and/or gates will be constructed at access points to allow public access into fenced areas. The project will also include invasive species control and outplanting of native vegetation and installation of associated management infrastructure. The project is anticipated to benefit the natural resources of the region.

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

Exempt Item Number: 8

Exempt Item Description: Weed, brush and noxious tree control using hand tools, small motorized equipment (chainsaws and weed eaters), and approved herbicides on DOFAW program areas, campsites, picnic grounds, viewpoints, baseyards, wildlife water units, trails, captive propagation facilities, arboreta, plant nurseries, checking stations, and public use facilities.

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

Exempt Item Number: 17

Exempt Item Description: Animal damage control actions, when needed to maintain resource values, in Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) program areas, including application of approved rodenticides, and ungulate removal.

Exemption Class: Department of Land and Natural Resources Class 3

Exempt Item Number: 1

Exempt Item Description: Fences around or to manage threatened or endangered plants; covered and open areas for endangered species, game birds and mammals; auxiliary buildings for food storage, equipment storage, incubators and brooders; open-top breeding and release pens, field aviaries and hacking boxes; and for watershed and native forest management and restoration. Fences shall contain step-overs or other features that permit pedestrian access for cultural and recreational use.

Exemption Class: Department of Land and Natural Resources Class 3

Exempt Item Number: 2

Exempt Item Description: Cabins, resident workers' quarters, warehouse workshops, mobile camping structures, weather stations, checking stations for hunters, hikers, and campers; meat safes, viewing kiosks and platforms, wildlife viewing towers, sanitary facilities, trail shelters, equipment shelters, fire equipment caches, arboreta, and plant nurseries.

Exemption Class: Department of Land and Natural Resources Class 4

Exempt Item Number: 1

Exempt Item Description: Establishment of helispots.

Exemption Class: Department of Land and Natural Resources Class 4

Exempt Item Number: 7

Exempt Item Description: Establish temporary or permanent vegetative cover including trees, shrubs and grasses for landscaping, reforestation, soil stabilization, and wildlife habitat.

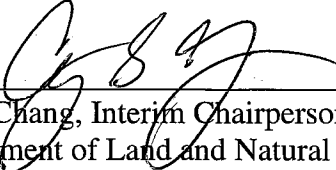
Exemption Class: Department of Land and Natural Resources Class 5

Exempt Item Number: 2

Exempt Item Description: Game and non-game wildlife surveys, inventory studies, new transect lines, photographing, recording, sampling, collection and captive propagation (involves walking, driving, and flying in the field (helicopters, light aircraft), use of nets and firearms, temporary traps including snares, mist nets, corral traps, drop door traps or leg hold traps.

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.



Carty Chang, Interim Chairperson
Department of Land and Natural Resources

4/10/15
Date

Original: Agency file

Copy: Project file