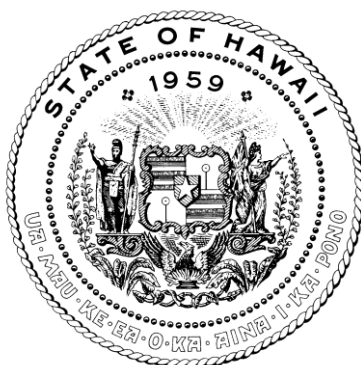


**REPORT TO THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010  
HAWAII STATEWIDE TRAIL AND ACCESS SYSTEM**

**“Na Ala Hele”**



**Prepared by:**

**THE STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
Na Ala Hele Trail and Access Program**

**In response to Section 198D-9(7), Hawaii Revised Statutes**

**Honolulu, Hawaii  
November 2009**

# HAWAII STATEWIDE TRAIL AND ACCESS SYSTEM

## “Na Ala Hele”

### **PURPOSE**

Chapter 198D, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), which established the Hawaii Trail and Access System, requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) under Section 198D-9(7), HRS, to submit an annual report on activities engaged under this Chapter. This report covers activities and revenue in Fiscal Year (FY) 08-09 and other activities from December 2008 to October 2009.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Na Ala Hele (NAH), the Hawaii Statewide Trail and Access Program, was established in 1988. Section 198D-2, HRS, directs DLNR to plan, develop, acquire land or rights for public use of land, construct, and engage in coordination activities to implement a trail and access system. The Program is administered through DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) Specifically; this report contains the following subjects:

- 1. Program Summary**
- 2. Funding Sources**
- 3. Recreational Trails and Access Road Management**
- 4. Ancient and Historic Trails Activity**
- 5. Commercial Trail and Access Road Tour Activity**

### **1. PROGRAM SUMMARY**

#### **Functional Value of Trails and Access Roads**

**Trails and unpaved access road are critical resource management and recreational features that serve multiple access functions:**

- Assisting county search and rescue efforts
- Restoring native flora and fauna and watersheds
- Monitoring and removal of invasive plant and animal species
- Combating and controlling wildland fire as firebreaks and firefighter access routes
- Experiencing and protecting Hawaiian culture through ancient and historic trails
- Recreating hunting, hiking, bicycling, equestrian riding, off-highway vehicle riding
- Diversifying Hawaii's economy via commercial trail and access road tours

#### **NAH Core Activities**

**Activities associated with NAH administration, management, and implementation are comprised of four distinct, divergent and potentially conflicting subject areas of responsibility:**

- Recreational trail and access road management and maintenance for recreation and resource management: Managing transit along linear features for a variety of activities and watershed management actions.
- Ancient and historic trails abstracting, coordinating with other DLNR divisions on planning and restoring managed public use: Managing both transit along ancient and historic trails and protecting the feature as a cultural resource.
- Commercial trail tour activity management and monitoring: Management of a subset of public visitor transit guided by authorized commercial operators.
- Environmental risk assessment, management and establishing methods to improve public safety: Assessing trail and ancillary natural resource condition for specific hazards and executing mitigative action and/or applying warning signage along transit corridors pursuant to Act 82, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH), 2003.

Over the past few years, these multiple mandates have become particularly challenging on DOFAW's Hawaii Branch due to the increased development actions affecting ancient and historic trails and responding at a rapid pace to development pressure, while also managing increased demand for developing recreational trail opportunities such as managing the new off-highway vehicle riding areas in the upper Waiakea Forest Reserve, and access roads on Mauna Kea. Balancing these multiple needs is challenging.

### Positions

**There are 13 permanent NAH staff positions (6.5 general funded and 6.5 special funded) to implement and manage Program activities:** Honolulu NAH Administrative Trail and Access Specialist (Program Manager), Historic Trail Abstractor, four Branch Trail and Access Specialists and three ancillary Trail and Access Technicians, and three Forestry Worker II's. These positions are funded through a combination of LNR 804 General Funds, the Liquid Fuel Tax (LFT) and Transient Accommodation Tax (TAT) allocation. The number of staff salary (4.5 positions) funded by the LFT is a result of the continuing trend to shift LNR 804 general fund positions to special funds.

<b>Na Ala Hele Funding &amp; Revenue Table</b>		<b>FY09</b>
<b>(Source)</b>	<b>(Application)</b>	
Liquid Fuel Tax Revenue	(3.5 perm.positions)	235,441.00
Federal Recreational Trails Program Grant	(operations)	886,600.00
Transient Accommodation Tax Allocation	(3 perm. positions)	100,000.00
LNR 804 General Fund Allocation	(6.5 perm.positions)	301,164.00
Commercial Trail Tour Activity Revenue	(operations)	79,415.00
Investment Earnings	(operations)	33,407.00
<b>Total cost for 13 Positions and Trail and Access Operations</b>		<b>\$1,636,027.00</b>

## **2. FUNDING SOURCES**

- **LFT Allocation**

0.3% of LFT collected under Chapter 243, HRS, is deposited each fiscal year to the Special Land and Development Fund (Section 171-19, HRS) of DLNR. These funds are set aside to the LNR 804 Outdoor and Forest Recreation Program and administered by NAH. The allocation is for the purposes of management, maintenance, and development of NAH trails and trail accesses established under Chapter 198D, HRS. Legislation established a limit of \$250,000 that may be allocated to DLNR from LFT revenue. In FY 09, \$235,283.00 was allocated to NAH and supports 3.5 NAH positions.

- **Federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Allocation**

RTP is derived from the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) 1101(a)(8), 1109. RTP is a Federal-aid Highway Program, under 23 USC 104(h) & 206. The Federal Highways Administration determines eligibility on allocation of RTP funds and qualifies DLNR, through NAH. Criteria for eligibility mandates that the states have trail councils that include representation by the motorized recreational vehicle constituency, which NAH established at its inception. RTP is a state-administered, federal-aid program, and provides funds to states for trails and trail-related projects that fulfill the goals of a State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. In utilizing RTP funds, the state must comply with the Assured Access to Funds requirement: a minimum of 30% of the funding must be used for motorized trail use, 30% for non-motorized trail use, and 40% for diversified (multiple) trail use. The current RTP establishes an 80/20 matching requirement. Due to the limited availability of operating funds from LFT, providing the state RTP match is challenging. DOFAW special and general funded labor provided all of the state 20% matching requirement. RTP is the largest source of funding for NAH. Hawaii's 2009 portion of RTP funds totaled \$ 886,600.00. Congress has asked that all the states return a share of RTP monies to fund other projects in FY10. Hawaii's allocation was restricted by \$252,000.00. This will reduce the operating budget available for the trail program in future years.

- **TAT Allocation via the Hawaii Tourism Authority**

Act 235, SLH 2005, increased TAT allocation to the Tourism Special Fund to 34.2% and, in the process, repealed the TAT Trust Fund. Act 235, SLH 2005, amended Act 250, SLH 2002, in a significant manner for DLNR: In 2007, a provision went into effect guaranteeing DLNR \$1,000,000 in TAT revenue (\$900,000 for DLNR's Division of State Parks and \$100,000 to NAH.)

*This allocation acknowledges the relationship between tourism and its impact on Recreational features under DLNR jurisdiction.* There has been a gradual, but steady increase in interest by the visitor industry in ecotourism activities, as trails are an attractive venue for visitors. The market growth, until the recent downturn in tourism, over the past several years illustrates the visiting consumer's increased interest in hiking and visiting natural resources. In FY09, 12,003 visitors participated in permitted and guided trail and access road tours. This represented a 3% downturn in the tourism economy, down 329 from FY08 level and is expected to be larger in FY10.. There are very compelling reasons to use TAT funds on improving the quality of maintenance on specific trails:

- Improved maintenance enhances both visitor and resident safety and facilitates ease of hiking.
- Trail surface repairs, such as the installation of boardwalks and/or applying gravel in poorly drained or habitually wet trail sections, or the installation of amenities such as benches and interpretive signage, improves aesthetic quality of the trail experience, and vegetation trimming in a manner that favors distribution of native plant species and reduces the quantity of non-native plant species along a trail corridor is a natural resource management goal that has direct ecotourism market applications.

The \$100,000 allocated to NAH is distributed between Kauai, Oahu, and Maui (locations with a high percentage of trails used by visitors) to fund three permanent Forestry Worker (FW) II positions to maintain and improve the condition of trails and trail features frequented by visitors. The funding for three FW II exceeds the TAT allocation \$3,329, which will be made up by a portion of LFT.

- **LNR 804 General Funds**

There is \$301,164 in general funds allocated to fund 6.5 permanent NAH positions. Due to reductions in general fund revenues over the past few years, LNR 804 program has had to rely on federal funding and other state special funding in order to pay for basic operating supplies and support. The program has also had to scale back program expenditures in general funds, further for FY10 to meet payroll restrictions.

- **Commercial Trail Tour Revenue (see Section #5)**

### **3. RECREATIONAL TRAILS AND ACCESS ROADS**

**Recreational trail and access road development and management activities includes:**

- 1) Physically maintaining the condition of appropriate trails and access roads under DOFAW jurisdiction to specific management standards and specifications
- 2) Responding to adjacent natural and cultural resource management issues associated with trail and access road corridors,
- 3) Managing multiple public and commercial recreational activities.
- 4) Assisting in the resolution of specific public access disputes and initiate planning and development for trails or access routes to trails that may be suitable for inclusion into NAH.
- 5) Commenting on projects that may affect trails and access, and
- 6) Providing NAH technical or developmental support to other organizations or agencies developing or managing trails and access.

#### **Physical Trail and Access Road Management**

The vast majority of staff time is spent on maintaining the condition of trail/access roads and ancillary conditions to insure public safety, resource management objectives and to provide an aesthetically pleasing user experience. The management specifications are in the Trail Design Guidelines of the 1991 NAH Program Plan. Physical management consists of the following activities:

- **Grading:** Trail or access road surface improvements
- **Brushing:** Cutting back brush along trail and road corridors to specific dimensions
- **Tree removal:** Removing blow downs or other tree related impediments
- **Water diversion:** Installing or repairing soil retention steps swales, water bars, culverts, etc. to drain precipitation and retain soil along trail and road corridors
- **Hardscaping:** Installing gravel, geotextiles, rocks, rock boxes, or other types of materials along trail and access road corridors subject to high use or precipitation
- **Boardwalk installation or repair:** Boardwalks may be installed in excessively boggy and sensitive environments subject to high use
- **Re-construction or re-route:** Extensive trail or access road rebuilding or re-routing
- **Herbicide application:** Herbicide application is used to specifically target noxious, non-native plant species that spread rapidly along trail and access road corridors
- **Equipment purchase, repair, or rental:** Vehicles, helicopter rental, chain saws, brush-cutters, herbicide, fuel, and other ancillary equipment and related equipment maintenance
- **Informational and warning sign assessments, installation and monitoring**

**STATEWIDE RECREATIONAL TRAIL AND ACCESS ROAD  
MANAGEMENT PROJECTS**

<b>Kauai Trail and Access Road Project Description</b>	<b>Distance</b>
<b>Kuamoo Trail:</b> Grading, Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation, herbicide application	2.0 mi.
<b>Nualolo Cliff Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance, re-construction, helicopter support, herbicide application, trail shelter repair.	2.1 mi.
<b>Awaawapuhi Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation, helicopter support, herbicide application, trailhead parking area improvements, plant identification sign replacement.	3.1 mi.
<b>Nualolo Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation, helicopter support, herbicide application, trailhead parking improvements.	3.8 mi.
<b>Pihea Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, boardwalk repair, sign installation, helicopter support, trail shelter maintenance, bridge maintenance, and composting toilet maintenance.	3.8 mi.
<b>Alakai Swamp Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, boardwalk repair, sign maintenance, helicopter support.	3.5 mi.
<b>Kawaikoi Stream Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, boardwalk repair, herbicide application, trail shelter repair.	1.8 mi.
<b>Koae Canyon Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, helicopter support, herbicide application, trail shelter repairs, composting toilet maintenance	3.0 mi.
<b>Iliau Nature Loop:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation, trail shelter repair, herbicide application.	.3 mi.
<b>Kukui Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation, re-construction, trail shelter maintenance, herbicide application, composting toilet maintenance.	2.5 mi.
<b>Kauai Trail and Access Road Project Description</b>	<b>Distance</b>

<b>Kuilau Trail:</b> grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, sign installation, trail shelter repair, herbicide application, bridge and gate repair.	2.1 mi.
<b>Moalepe Trail:</b> Reconstruction and grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, sign installation, gate maintenance, and herbicide application.	2.5 mi.
<b>Okolehau Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, sign maintenance, herbicide application.	2.3 mi.
<b>Nounou East and West Trails:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation, gate maintenance, fence maintenance.	3.5 mi.
<b>Kohua Ridge Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation	2.5 mi.
<b>Milolii Vista Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation	2.5 mi.
<b>Mohihi-Waialae Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation	2.5 mi.
<b>Waimea Canyon Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign installation	2.5 mi.

**Trail Total  
46.3 mi.**

<b>Wailua Forest Management Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, sign maintenance, excavator rentals, culvert repair, bridge maintenance	3.0 mi.
<b>Kauhao Ridge Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, sign maintenance, herbicide application, gate maintenance	5.0 mi.
<b>Kaaweiki Ridge Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, sign maintenance, herbicide application, gate maintenance	4.3 mi.
<b>Mohihi-Camp 10 Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, sign maintenance, herbicide application, gate maintenance	6.1 mi.
<b>Polihale Ridge Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, sign maintenance, herbicide application, gate maintenance	5.3 mi.
<b>Makaha Arboretum Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, sign maintenance, herbicide application, gate maintenance	2.5 mi.
<b>Pine Forest Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, sign maintenance herbicide application, gate maintenance	1.3 mi.
<b>Milolii Ridge Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, sign maintenance, herbicide application, gate maintenance	3.8 mi.

**Access Road Total:  
31.3 mi.**

<b>Hawaii Trail and Access Road Project Description</b>	<b>Distance</b>
<b>Ala Kahakai Trail:</b> Grading, re-construction, brushing, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance, tree branch removal, helicopter support	7.7 mi.
<b>Keauhou-Napoopoo Trail:</b> (MOA with private landowner for stewardship) sign installation and maintenance.	4.0 mi.
<b>Puna Trail:</b> Grading, re-construction brushing, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance, tree branch removal.	2.5 mi.
<b>Puu Huluhulu Trail:</b> Grading, re-construction, brushing, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance	0.6 mi.
<b>Puu Oo Horse Trail:</b> Grading, re-construction, brushing, sign installation and maintenance, helicopter support.	7.4 mi.

<b>Hawaii Trail and Access Road Project Description</b>		<b>Distance</b>
<b>Ainapo Trail:</b> Brushing, tree branch removal, sign installation and maintenance, helicopter support.		20.4 mi.
<b>Onomea Trails:</b> Grading, re-construction, brushing, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance		1.2 mi.
<b>Muliwai Trail:</b> Grading, re-construction, brushing, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance, helicopter support.		18.0 mi.
<b>Humuula Trail:</b> Grading, re-construction brushing, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance, tree branch removal		10.5 mi.
<b>Doctor's Pit Trail:</b> Grading, re-construction brushing, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance, tree branch removal.		0.4 mi.
<b>Kaumana Trail:</b> Brushing, tree branch removal, sign installation and maintenance.		3.0 mi.
<b>Puakea Bay Trail:</b> Brushing, re-construction, water diversion, sign installation, helicopter support.		0.5 mi.
<b>Pololu Trail:</b> Grading, re-construction, brushing, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance.		1.0 mi.
<b>Kaulana Manu Native Bird &amp; Plant Sanctuary:</b> Bulldozing, Brushing, Tree Removal, Water diversion, Hardscaping parking lot and trails, Sign installation and maintenance, Reconstruction & re-route, Equipment purchase and rental, Rubbish disposal, Portable toilet rental, Composting toilet acquisition, Picnic site development		0.7
		<b>Trail total 77.9 mi.</b>
<b>Mauna Loa Observatory Access Road:</b> Grading, water diversion, brushing, sign installation and maintenance		35.0 mi.
<b>Puu Laau Access Road:</b> Grading, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance.		8.4 mi.
<b>Mauna Kea Access Road:</b> Grading, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance.		32.0 mi.
<b>Ainapo Access Road</b> Grading, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance.		16.0 mi.
		<b>Access road total: 91.4 mi.</b>
<b>Upper Waiakea ATV/Dirtbike Park:</b> Bulldozing, Brushing, Tree removal, Water diversion, Hardscaping parking lot and trails, Sign installation & maintenance, Reconstruction & re-route, Equipment purchase & Rental, Rubbish disposal, Portable toilet rental, Composting toilet acquisition, Picnic site development		<b>2,000 acres 56 mi.</b>
<b>Mauna Kea:</b> Bulldozing, Brushing, Tree removal, Water diversion, Sign installation & maintenance, Equipment purchase & Rental, Rubbish disposal, Composting toilet acquisition, Picnic site development		<b>Access road total: 56 miles</b>
<b>Oahu Trail and Access Road Project Description</b>		<b>Distance</b>
<b>Kuakala Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance		2.5 mi.
<b>Kealia Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance, herbicide application		2.3 mi.
<b>Kaunala Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance		2.5 mi.



<b>Hauula-Maakua Trails:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance	5.0 mi.
<b>Oahu Trail and Access Road Project Description</b>	<b>Distance</b>
<b>Poamoho Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance, helicopter support	3.0 mi.
<b>Schofield-Waikane Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance, helicopter support	3.5 mi.
<b>Manana Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance, herbicide application helicopter support	6.0 mi.
<b>Waimano Trails:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance, helicopter support	7.2 mi.
<b>Honolulu Mauka Trail System:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, hardscaping, boardwalk maintenance and installation, sign maintenance, herbicide application	15.53 mi.
<b>Maunawili Trails: (Demonstration, Falls and Ditch trails)</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance, herbicide application, helicopter support	15.00 mi.
<b>Wiliwilinui Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance, helicopter support	3.00 mi.
<b>Hawaiiloa Ridge Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance, helicopter support	3.5 mi.
<b>Kuliouou Valley and Ridge Trails:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance, helicopter support	3.00 mi.
<b>Kaiwa Ridge Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, hardscaping, sign installation	1.0 mi.
	<b>Trail Total: 73.00 mi.</b>
<b>Kuaokala &amp; Mokuleia Access Roads:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance	10.8 mi.
<b>Poamoho Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, hardscaping, water diversion, sign maintenance	2.5 mi.
<b>Kealia Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance	1.5 mi.
	<b>Access road total: 14.8 mi.</b>
<b>Kamananui Nui Valley Road:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance	2.3 mi.
<b>Kulana'ahane Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, tree removal, water diversion, sign maintenance	4.0 mi.
<b>Kahuku OHV Park (Hawaii Motorsports Association)</b> Access road grading, track grading and re-construction, trail grading and re-construction, rubbish disposal, fencing materials, chemi-toi rental, equipment rental and acquisition	<b>500 acres 30.5 mi.</b>
<b>Sand Island OHV Park (Partnership with Sand Island Off Highway Vehicle Association)</b> Design, permits, fencing, grading and trail construction, parking construction, planting	<b>30 acres</b>

<b>Maui Trail and Access Road Project Description</b>	<b>Distance</b>
<b>Ohai Loop Trail and Overlook:</b> Brushing, water diversion, sign installation and maintenance, parking area maintenance, overlook maintenance.	1.25mi.
<b>Hoapili Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, sign installation	5.5 mi.
<b>Skyline Trail:</b> Brushing, tree removal, equipment rental	6.8 mi.
<b>Waihee Ridge Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, water diversion, boardwalk installation, herbicide application	2.5 mi.
<b>Lahaina Pali Trail:</b> Grading, water diversion, sign installation, herbicide and weed wrenching	5.5 mi.
<b>Boundary Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, water diversion, tree removal herbicide	4.4 mi.
<b>Plum Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, water diversion, tree removal	1.7 mi.
<b>Tie Trail:</b> Grading, Brushing, water diversion, tree removal	0.5 mi.
<b>Polipoli Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, water diversion, sign installation	0.6 mi.
<b>Ke Alaloa O Maui:</b> Brushing, tree removal, sign installation	3.0 mi.
<b>Waiakoa trail:</b> Grading, Brushing, water diversion, tree removal	7.0 mi.
<b>Waiakoa Loop:</b> Grading, Brushing, water diversion, tree removal	3.0 mi.
<b>Waihou Spring Trail:</b> Grading, Brushing, water diversion, tree removal	1.0 mi.
<b>Waiohuli Trail:</b> Grading, Brushing, water diversion, tree removal	1.4 mi.
<b>Redwood Trail:</b> Grading, Brushing, water diversion, tree removal	1.7 mi.
<b>Haleakala Ridge Trail:</b> Grading, Brushing, water diversion, tree removal	1.6 mi.
<b>Mamane Trail:</b> Grading, Brushing, water diversion, tree removal	1.8 mi.
<b>Waikamoi Ridge Trail:</b> Brushing, hardscaping, boardwalk installation, tree removal, herbicide application	0.8 mi.
<b>Keanae Arboretum:</b> Brushing, herbicide application, tree removal, sign maintenance	0.6 mi.
<b>Kahakapao Loop Trail:</b> Brushing, hardscaping, water diversion, tree removal, sign installation, parking area maintenance	7.4 mi.
	<b>Trail total 59.65 mi.</b>

<b>Waipoli Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, water diversion	<b>Access road total: 8.1</b>
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<b>Maui Moto X trails and track:</b> non-permanent structures and plantings for shade and windbreak, replace old broken fencing, irrigation equipment, soil to create track and trails, hauling materials and repairs to machinery	<b>17 acres</b>
<b>Wahikuli OHV Trail Complex (under feasibility investigation)</b>	<b>600 acres</b>

<b>Molokai Trail and Access Road Project Description</b>	<b>Distance</b>
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<b>Maunahui-Makakupaia Access Road:</b> Grading, brushing, water diversion, tree removal	9.8 mi
<b>Kahanui Access Roads:</b> Brushing, tree removal, water diversion	3.3 mi.
<b>Kaulahuki Road:</b> Grading, brushing, water diversion, tree removal	2.1 mi.
	<b>Access road total: 15.3 mi.</b>

<b>Lanai Trail and Access Road Project Description</b>	<b>Distance</b>
<b>Hulopoe-Huawai Fisherman Trail:</b> Grading, brushing, water diversion	<b>Trail total: 2.0 mi.</b>
<b>Federation Camp Access Road:</b> Grading	1.24 mi.
<b>Mahana Access Road:</b> Grading	1.52 mi.
<b>Kahua Access Road:</b> Grading	5.41 mi.
<b>Kuamoo Access Road:</b> Grading	.94 mi.
<b>Lapaiki Access Road:</b> Grading	3.8 mi.
<b>Awalua Access Road:</b> Grading	3.66 mi.
<b>Kaena Access Road:</b> Grading	3.75 mi.
<b>#7 Access Road:</b> Grading	1.6 mi.
<b>#5 Access Road:</b> Grading	1.78 mi.
<b>#3 Access Road:</b> Grading	1.06 mi.
<b>Honopu Access Road:</b> Grading	3.22 mi.
<b>Guard Access Road:</b> Grading	38.2 mi.
<b>Nanahoa Access Road:</b> Grading	1.05 mi.
<b>Paliamono Access Road:</b> Grading	.41 mi.
<b>Naupaka Access Road:</b> Grading	.97 mi.
<b>Keone Access Road:</b> Grading	1.74 mi.
<b>#57 Access Road:</b> Grading	3.42 mi.
<b>Kahue Access Road:</b> Grading	<b>4.15 mi.</b>
	<b>Total 79.90 mi.</b>

**Examples of Pertinent New Recreational Trail Projects Pending Completion**

**Oahu:** NAH worked closely with private and public organizations to establish the Sandbox – an all terrain vehicle (ATV) recreational area at Sand Island. Once completed, children and adults will have a place to enjoy their ATV vehicles in an area that will not harm the fragile natural environment. Another major accomplishment of the Oahu Trail Program were the opening of both the Kamana Nui Valley Road and Kulana’ahane Trails on National Trails Day. This added 6.75 miles to the Oahu Trail and road inventory.

**Maui:** Participated in DLNR Recreational Renaissance with the Wahikuli off highway vehicle (OHV) Park Project. Planning is well under way to create this 600 acre all terrain vehicle park in Lahaina.

**Hawaii:** A ceremony of the signing of the memorandum of agreement (MOA) for the Ala Kahakai Trail between the state, county and federal government is being planned for the coming months. This will finalize and clarify the roles of each of the agencies involved.

#### **4. ANCIENT AND HISTORIC TRAILS**

##### **Inventoring, Abstracting, Evaluation, Coordination with Divisions of Land and Historic Preservation Division and the National park service (on Hawaii), and Physical Management**

Section 198D-3, HRS, requires that an inventory of trails and accesses shall be established, maintained and amended as required. NAH has one full time staff position to abstract ancient and historic trails, non-vehicular old government roads, and old cart roads, for inclusion in the inventory and determine if the features qualify as government owned under the provisions of the Highways Act of 1892. Section 264-1, HRS, subsumed the Highways Act of 1892 and contains the following provision:

**“(b) All trails, and other non-vehicular rights-of-way in the State declared to be public rights-of-way by the Highways Act of 1892, or opened, laid out, or built by the government or otherwise created or vested as non-vehicular rights-of-way at any time thereafter, or in the future, are declared to be public trails. A public trail is under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) unless it was created by or dedicated to a particular county, in which case it shall be under the jurisdiction of that county.”**

The Abstract Section of NAH provides technical support in locating and determining governmental jurisdiction to historic roads and ancient trails throughout the State. Abstracts of title are accomplished through historical research of documents, maps and other media. Development actions that threaten old trails often result in request for abstracts as part of the Conservation District Use Permit application or county subdivision process. Discussions and evaluation among Island Advisory Council and NAH staff also result in specific requests for abstract information, and plays an integral role in determining current and future options for developing and restoring trail and non-vehicular access roads.

NAH has identified a variety of re-occurring historic trail scenarios and potential responses to address the State’s interest in the application of Section 264-1 HRS. These scenarios are further affected by Chapters 6E, 171, 264, and 198D, HRS. Management and protection of historic trails requires coordination among DLNR’s Land Division, Historic Preservation Division, DOFAW, and affected private landowners if the trail traverses private property. The determination of title is subject to litigation if the affected landowner disputes the findings of the Abstractor. Ultimately, litigation is the only definitive method to determine ownership if there is a dispute.

The NAH Abstract Section also assists the Department of the Attorney General (AG) in identifying possible interest the State may claim in roads and/or trails situate within the boundaries of lands that are the subject of quiet title actions (QTA) or Land Court applications. If public ownership is confirmed, access via roads or trails is documented. Affirmation of ownership provides future options for recreational development and/or access. Coordination with the Historic Preservation Division is necessary if the trail has archeological value. The following table provides a statewide breakdown of NAH abstract of

title requests during FY 09 and shows the culmination of data collected since 1992. The Island of Hawaii has the most significant need for abstract data due to the abundance of historic trails and current development trends that inadvertently place these features at risk.

LOCATION	FY09	TO DATE (since 1992)	STATE OWNED	PUBLIC ACCESS	OTHER OWNERSHIP
Kauai	0	26	9	11	6
Oahu	5	27	7	7	13
Maui	6	68	28	23	17
Hawaii	10	207	110	30	68
TOTAL	21	328	154	71	104

**Examples of Pertinent Ancient and Historic Trail Projects Pending:**

**Hawaii:**

- Hokuilia Trail System: Pending final easement dedications for utility and golf and vehicular crossing, and one easement dedication for public access to the trails, an MOA for stewardship of the Old Cart Road. Reconstruction and preserve Steppingstone Trail (Ala Loa) Execute quitclaim deeds with adjacent landowners; create cultural mitigation plan, and initiate physical management to Kealakekua Bay.
- Ka’u Forest Reserve Access: Pending final abstract on ownership
- Judd Trail: Working with surveyors to determine alignment
- Government Road along Church Row: pending abstract on ownership
- Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail: The Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail was designated in the year 2000 by the United States Congress. Administered by the National Park Service (NPS), the 175-mile shoreline corridor runs from Hawaii Island's Upolu Point, along the western shoreline through the Kohala, Kona, Ka'u, and Puna District sending at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park's Puna boundary. This system of trails is envisioned to connect historic shoreline communities, national, state and county parks, state natural area reserves and modern resort and rural communities. NPS and its state, county and private sector partners are working to build trail planning and management capacity of communities, led by native Hawaiians and other families with deep historic ties to the trail, to sustainably manage their associated segments of the trail. The Trail's Comprehensive Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement is in its final stage of approval and adoption.

A memorandum of understanding with NPS, the State and the County on the implementation of the trail plan has been developed and in the process of being approved.

**Maui:** Makawao Forest Reserve Gate: Research ongoing to resolve issues regarding use of the road to the reserve.

**Kauai:** Moloa'a Bay Coastal Trail: Established an easement dedication of the trail to NAH, consummated an MOA for adjacent landowner to assist with maintenance. Trail qualifies, as government owned next parcel - subject to determining location and negotiation with landowner.

## **5. COMMERCIAL TRAIL TOUR ACTIVITY (CTTA)**

Act 106, SLH 1997, allows for user fees from commercial use of NAH trails and access routes to be set aside for trail and access management. This allows DLNR to defray a portion of the costs for trail maintenance and regulating, and monitoring commercial trail tour operations on public trails. The private sector agrees that it is in the commercial trail tour industry's best interest to protect trails and access roads used by the tour industry through intervening regulation. Commercial trail use is regulated under Chapter 13-130, Hawaii Administrative Rules. The fees are nominal to encourage compliance, eliminate the need for enforcement actions and attract occasional new commercial companies that operate without permits. CTTA and to foster a working relationship between the commercial trail tour industry and DLNR. The goal has always been to eliminate the need for enforcement action.

A permitting and internet scheduling method was developed in 2000 to ensure that commercial activities by multiple vendors do not exceed the daily capacities and/or number of groups established for CTTA trails and roads. The reservation system records the trail reservation, date, and calculates the fee. In 2008, there were increasing glitches and down time of the aging website that were problematic, since permitted operators cannot make reservations if the site is down. Due this situation, NAH executed a scope of work with Hawaii Information Consortium (HIC) to evaluate the website – and the recommendation was to either purchase a new server or to have HIC host the site on their secure server. The HIC server and site management was the preferred alternative for a variety of reasons.

While HIC worked on the NAH site in order to execute the hosting transfer on the HIC secured server, NAH informed the CTTA operators that in July of 2008, NAH would transfer the hosting service of the NAH website to the HIC. NAH established a new annual \$75 dollar subscription fee for the CTTA operators to HIC, and an additional 10% fee on each reservation. In exchange – at no cost to NAH, HIC now conducts the billing and manages the site, and established the option of credit card payment to the CTTA operators, which prior to the transfer NAH could not manage. There were no objections to the nominal reservation charge – particularly with the assurance of the site now being 100% free of glitches, and the option for credit card payment, which several companies had been requesting. For a complete list of current CTTA operators, visit: [www.hawaiitrails.org](http://www.hawaiitrails.org).

This relationship has eliminated the need for NAH staff to monitor the site, and has vastly reduced the amount of DOFAW staff time spent on managing the overall CTTA process. NAH staff now only approves the permit applications and spot check for compliance on trails; HIC manages the rest of the process. DOFAW calculates the 20% portion to Office of

Hawaiian Affairs and then deposits monthly checks submitted by HIC with DLNR Fiscal Office and records each island CTTA revenue for allocation in the next fiscal year.

While there is an additional 10% per transaction charge and annual subscription fee for HIC management, the CTTA fees have not changed since the program's inception in 2000 and are assessed per unit of use and based upon the potential trail impact of the mode of transport:

Hike	Bike/Horse	Motorcycle	4wd 5 passenger	4wd 8 passenger	4wd 12 passenger	4wd 15 passenger
\$5.00	\$7.00	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$100.00

**Revenue** The downturn in the tourism industry is reflected in the following table. It appears the end of the cruise ship visits to the Island of Kauai has made a dramatic difference in revenues collected. It appears however, that more tourists are patronizing commercial trail tour operators on the Island of Oahu.

(Total revenue since the inception of the CTTA program is @ \$659,387.)

CTTA Revenue	FY09	FY08	FY07	FY06	FY05	FY04	FY03	FY02
Kauai	\$19,574	\$41,792	\$35,973	\$ 37,332	\$ 34,273	\$11,114	\$33,232	\$36,145
Oahu	\$43,597	\$30,622	\$32,260	\$ 38,356	\$ 37,442	\$18,884	\$ 6,119	\$ 2,154
Maui	\$55	\$1,012	\$836	\$1,348	\$1,644	\$336	\$640	\$ 3,436
Hawaii	\$6967	\$5,989	\$22 844	\$37,368	\$38,723	\$10,172	\$25,752	\$4,028
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$70,193</b>	<b>\$79,415</b>	<b>\$91,913</b>	<b>\$114,404</b>	<b>\$112,082</b>	<b>\$40,506</b>	<b>\$65,743</b>	<b>\$45,763</b>

<b>FY08/09 CTTA Patrons</b>	<b>OAHU</b>	<b>KAUAI</b>	<b>HAWAII</b>	<b>MAUI</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Hikers	7,932	132	890	10	<b>8,964</b>
4 Wheel Drive Passengers	0	2,306	344	0	<b>2,650</b>
Equestrian Riders	0	389	0	0	<b>389</b>
Motorcycle Riders	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Mountain Bike Riders	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,932</b>	<b>2,827</b>	<b>1,234</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12,003</b>

**Increased Camping Fees** – DOFAW, as part of DLNR's Recreational Renaissance initiative, to improve service to the public and increase management capacity, requested approval from the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) to increase fees for camping, cabins and other recreational uses in forest reserves. At its August 14, 2009 meeting, the Board approved updated fees for Forest Reserve and NAH System camping permits, with fees to be deposited into the respective program special funds.

The new fees charge \$12 per night per campsite for residents and \$18 per night per campsite for non-residents. A \$2 per person fee is accessed per site over 6 campers for residents and a \$3 per person fee is accessed per site over 6 campers for non-residents. Cabin rentals range in fees from \$30 - \$50 per night per cabin for residents and \$60 - \$90 per night per cabin for non-residents. Fees will be phased in during FY 10 when the new e-hawaii permitting system is initiated.