

159th WESPAC MEETING
MARCH 2014

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4C ISLAND REPORTS

STATE OF HAWAII

1. Fisheries

Bottomfish Fisheries

On January 30, 2013, Chairman William J. Aila, Jr. announced his decision for changes to the Main Hawaiian Islands Bottomfish Restricted Fishing Areas (BRFAs). The original 19 BRFAs were established in 1998. The number of BRFAs was reduced to 12 during the 2007 review of the areas. The current, 2014 revision provides the State an opportunity to evaluate the most recent BRFA closures, review the science being collected through the Botcam study, and to make adjustments as appropriate to the management scheme for the Main Hawaiian Islands bottomfish fishery.

The current revision plan calls for opening six of the existing twelve BRFAs. The six BRFAs that will remain closed are as follows: Ni'ihau (BRFA B), Makapu'u (BRFA E), Penguin Banks – 2nd & 3rd fingers (BRFA F), North Molokai (BRFA G), Pailolo Channel (BRFA H), and Kohala (BRFA K).

Four of the remaining closed BRFAs are currently being studied and they are being kept closed so that the studies can continue as funding is available. The Kohala BRFA (BRFA K) is not currently being studied but it has been recommended for continued closure because of its favorable habitat and location; on the North side of Hawaii which makes it a good candidate for studies on genetic connectivity and other aspects of bottomfish biology and movement.

Other management changes in the MHI bottomfish fishery that are planned are an increase in the non-commercial personal bag limit from five fish to ten fish in the deep-7 complex ; the capability for voluntary catch reporting for bottomfishermen who would like to assist the State in managing the non-commercial sector of this fishery. Those non-commercial fishermen who voluntarily submit their catch reports will provide us with valuable catch and effort data from their fishing trips. This catch data will help fishery managers make better management decisions.

The Department will be holding State-wide public meetings starting this summer to discuss the proposed changes.

Pelagic Fisheries No Report

Hawaii Nearshore Fisheries
No Report

Precious Corals
No report

2. Resource Protection

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

West Hawai'i Regional Fishery Management Area (WHRFMA)

Rule Changes

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) recently adopted a number of rule changes affecting the WHRFMA which includes all state coastal waters from 'Upolu Pt. in the north to Ka Lae in the South. DLNR repealed the current WHRFMA Administrative Rule (chapter 13-60.3) and concurrently adopted a new chapter (13-60.4) incorporating a number of rule changes. The other rule changes were amendments to existing rules. The new rules and other information may be found on our website at <http://state.hi.us/dlnr/dar/announcements.html>

(Copies attached to this report)

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

For Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, there were 3 Research Permits and 1 Special Ocean Use Permit, issued from October 2013 to February 2014.

MLCDs

MLCDs and control sites are surveyed for fish and habitat. Routinely the fish surveys are conducted three times a year and the habitat surveys are conducted every three years, unless there is cause to conduct them more frequently. During this period, seven of the 11 MLCDs were surveyed.

Size Limits/Bag Limits

No Report

Artificial Reefs

During this period, DAR was still working with the regulatory agencies to get the necessary permits and certifications to get the project back up and running. There have been difficulties with obtaining those permits and certifications due to various issues.

3. Ecosystem and Habitat

FADs

During the period of October 2013 to February 2014 activity was light for the FAD Program.

No activity for October 2013

During November 2013, one FAD was reported missing as detailed below:

MM – Mokapu Pt., Oahu (missing on 11/4)

During December 2013, three FADs were reported missing as detailed below:

BO – Barbers Pt., Oahu (missing on 12/9)

LL – Hauula, Oahu (missing on 12/9)

R – Makaha, Oahu (missing on 12/27)

During January 2014, four FADs were reported missing and one FAD was recovered as detailed below:

P – Penguin Bank, Oahu (missing on 1/5)

HO – Hoolawa Pt., Maui (missing on 1/6)

VV – Kahaluu, Hawaii (missing on 1/6)

C – Loa Pt., Hawaii (missing on 1/6)

HO – Hoolawa Pt., Maui (recovered off Bellows Beach, Oahu 1/24)

No activity as of 2/11/14.

Other FAD Project Activities

At the 158th Council in Honolulu, the Council requested that relocating existing fish aggregating devices (FADs) along the West Hawaii coastline be considered by the State. After discussions with the FAD project manager and others working on the FAD project, it was determined that additional review and work needs to be done to enable the FAD project to conduct certain field operations, which includes FAD relocations. The State is working to overcoming these challenges. Meanwhile the project manager has determined that the VV FAD will not be removed at this time, and that if/when it is reported missing, it will not be replaced.

Coastal Areas, Reefs

Coral Reef Task Force

Hawaii continues to participate on the All Islands Coral Reef Committee and US Coral Reef Task Force to represent our priorities and interests. In these fora, Hawaii is encouraging NOAA to consider new and relevant data regarding the proposed listing of corals under ESA and is advocating

for re-instatement of the NOAA coral fellowship program because of its value in building capacity locally and around the world.

Coral Program and Local Action Strategies (LAS)

DAR continues implementation of ridge to reef stewardship projects in West Maui and South Kohala with agency and community partners. Project reports are available at www.hawaiicoralreefstrategy.com.

Implementation of the 2013 Makai Watch Strategy with DOCARE continues. DAR welcomed the new project coordinator, (housed in DOCARE), and are developing an ecological training curriculum for volunteers.

A workshop was conducted in November of 2013 to update and support implementation of the Division's Rapid Response Contingency Plan for coral bleaching, disease, and crown of thorns outbreaks. DAR continues to monitor and investigate these events in Kauai and Maui.

Non-Commercial/Recreational

Subsistence/Recreational

The public hearing was held as scheduled during the latter part of October 2013 in Hilo, Hawaii to amend the rules for the Waiakea public fishing area. The proposed amendments would prohibit the use of stand-up paddleboards, limit boat fishing to only when the boat is anchored, and prohibit the possession or use of any net within the PFA. DAR is currently reviewing testimony received from the hearing.

Hawai'i Marine Recreational Fishing Survey (HMRFS)

The HMRFS program continues to collect non-commercial fisheries data for the State of Hawai'i. From October 2013 through February 2014, approximately 1,000 angler intercepts will be completed for both shoreline and private boat modes from Kaua'i, O'ahu, Maui, Moloka'i and Hawai'i.

A NOAA-MRIP proposal was submitted by HDAR and NOAA staff in October 2013 to test the feasibility of three simultaneous pilot surveys for collecting shoreline effort data. The current access point survey currently conducted by HMRFS has limited area coverage and does not include remote and restricted/private coastal areas or night fishing activities. The three alternative survey approaches include a roving survey for both catch and effort, an aerial survey which includes remote and restricted/private coastal areas, and an address-based mail-in survey which includes both restricted/private areas as well as night fishing activities. All three approaches are intended to expand the areas sampled thereby resulting in more comprehensive representational sampling. The proposal was recently approved in January 2014; pilot testing is targeted to begin in July 2014.

Fisheries Development
No Report

4. Other Issues

Statistical Unit Activities

Commercial Marine Licenses

As of 1/31/2014, a total of 1,160 fishing vessels have registered with DLNR-DAR for the main Hawaiian Islands Deep 7 bottomfish fishery for the current bottomfish fishing year.

Commercial Fisheries Reports

As of 1/31/2014, the cumulative landings of Deep 7 bottomfish for the current bottomfish fishing year were 186,096 pounds, or 53.8% of the ACL (346,000 pounds.) This is 31.5% ahead of last year's pace.

The latest specification document to revise the online fishing report system was received from EHawaii.Gov. The specifications fell short of the overall objective to enhance the fishing report view and improve the online data validation procedures. By agreement with E.Hawaii.Gov the project will be revised to table the development of the commercial aquarium report for another project phase. DLNR-DAR is preparing another proposal to scope specifications to re-design the online reporting system to improve and enhance trip-based reporting with appropriate validation procedures, and include all of the other fishery specific report types except for aquarium. EHawaii.Gov is expected to prepare a revised statement of work in February. DLNR-DAR wants to complete the revisions by this summer and will decide at that time if the online application should be rolled out or deferred until the aquarium portion is completed in a subsequent project.

The West Hawaii Fisheries Management Area Hawaii Administrative Rule was amended to add a new West Hawaii Aquarium Permit, annual Vessel Collecting I.D. registration, and 'white' list of 40 aquarium species with bag limit and minimum size limits for several species. These rule changes, which went into effect on 12/26/2013 impacts the collection and processing of commercial aquarium fish reports. A revised commercial aquarium report form was prepared to contain only the 'white' list of 40 aquarium marine species. The Division's implementation plan involves an outreach period to educate the aquarium collectors on the revised rules before any enforcement actions are taken. The Kona DAR office has been designated to take the lead on implementation plans. The Statistical Unit will be forwarding copies of commercial aquarium fish reports with reported collections of non-white list species, overages of bag limits, and exceeding minimum size to the Kona DAR office for follow up action with the collector.

State Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Management Plan

Use of mechanical removal suction devices (“Super Sucker”) in conjunction with sea urchin bio-control experiments to control alien algae on coral reefs in Kaneohe Bay.

During the period between October 2013 and February 2014, the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) team continued removal of invasive algae on a large patch reef in the central section of Kaneohe Bay, Oahu. During this reporting period, 42,679 pounds of algae was removed from this patch reef, covering 17,900 square meters of area. After removal of invasive algae, approximately 62,952 hatchery raised sea urchins were outplanted.

Sea urchin culture at Anuenue Fisheries Research Center

One spawning event was conducted between October 2013 and January 2014. Approximately 69,000 hatchery raised sea urchins were outplanted onto patch reefs in Kaneohe Bay. On December 19, 2013 the 150,000th hatchery reared sea urchin was released from AFRC into Kaneohe Bay. Larvae performed well during the autumn months. Larval settlement was good. New nursery tanks were installed in October of 2013. The most recent cohorts of hatchery raised larvae were settled in these five new tanks. An additional 20 new tanks are scheduled for installation during 2014. The first hatchery spawn for 2014 is expected to take place on February 18th.

Kaneohe Bay Fish/Benthic Monitoring

Between October 2013 and February 2014, seven separate monitoring surveys were conducted between 5 different patch reefs to collect data on benthic and fish diversity and abundance. Reefs are closely monitored to determine effects of algae removal and sea urchin enhancement on coral recruits and fish biomass.

Japan Tsunami Marine Debris Response

During the reporting period there have been >30 reports of suspected Japan tsunami marine debris (JTMD) in Hawaii to which the state, county and federal agencies responded. Of these, three were confirmed to be JTMD, taking the total number of confirmed items in the Pacific to 39. The three confirmed items include skiffs and a metal cylinder.

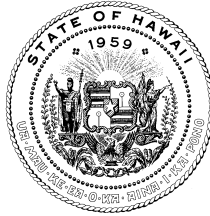
DLNR continues to respond to potential invasive species found on debris. In this period there were 6 reports of debris with potential invasive species found attached to the debris. The organisms have been sampled and sent to taxonomic experts for further analysis.

DLNR continues to be engaged with regional partners in response and preparedness for JTMD.

Ballast Water/Hull Fouling

Preliminary analysis of the data collected on biofouling maintenance and voyage patterns of small craft in Hawaii has begun. Further data collection is planned to take place on Hawaii Island in the summer. Formal requests for commercial vessel data will be issued during February 2014. As mentioned previously, this information will be used to identify drivers and barriers to management measures for vessel biofouling.

Regionally, DLNR was invited to chair the Western Regional Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species' Coastal Committee. The Coastal Committee represents the interests of the 19 western US states and is a key forum to advancing regional partnerships and resource sharing for aquatic invasive species management. Current topics on the agenda for this group include managing contaminant and biological risks of in-water cleaning of ships, a regional workshop for invasive tunicate management, Japan Tsunami Marine Debris, European Green Shore Crab and Spartina management.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Division of Aquatic Resources - Kona
74-380B Kealahou Parkway
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

January 2014

WILLIAM J. AILA JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ESTHER KIA'AINA
FIRST DEPUTY

BILL TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

West Hawai'i Regional Fishery Management Area (WHRFMA) Rule Changes

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) recently adopted a number of rule changes affecting the WHRFMA which includes all state coastal waters from 'Upolu Pt. in the north to Ka Lae in the South. DLNR repealed the current WHRFMA Administrative Rule (chapter 13-60.3) and concurrently adopted a new chapter (13-60.4) incorporating a number of rule changes. The other rule changes were amendments to existing rules. The new rules and other information may be found on our website at <http://state.hi.us/dlnr/dar/announcements.html>

The following new provisions are in effect for the WHRFMA as of 26 December, 2013:

- It is prohibited to take, kill, possess, sell, or offer for sale any of the following 9 species of inshore sharks and rays and 2 invertebrate crown-of-thorns predators.

Common Name	Hawaiian Name	Scientific Name
Spotted Eagle ray	Hīhīmanu	<i>Aetobatus narinari</i>
Broad Stingray	Hīhīmanu	<i>Dasyatis lata</i>
Pelagic Stingray	Hīhīmanu	<i>Pteroplatytrygon violacea</i>
Hawaiian Stingray	Hīhīmanu	<i>Dasyatis hawaiiensis</i>
Tiger Shark	Manō/niuhi	<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>
Whale Shark	Lele wa'a	<i>Rhincodon typus</i>
Whitetip Reef Shark	Manō lālākea	<i>Triaenodon obesus</i>
Blacktip Reef Shark	Manō pā'ele	<i>Carcharhinus melanopterus</i>
Gray Reef Shark	Manō	<i>Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos</i>
Triton's Trumpet	'Ōlē	<i>Charonia tritonis</i>
Horned Helmet	Pū puhi	<i>Cassia cornuta</i>

“Take” means to fish for, catch, or harvest, or to attempt to fish for, catch, or harvest aquatic life. The use of any gear, equipment, tool, or any means to fish for, catch, capture, or harvest aquatic life by any person who is in the water, or in a vessel on the water, or *in the shoreline area* shall be construed as taking.

- It is prohibited for *anyone* to take more than 5 Yellow Tang larger than 4.5 inches in total length (TL) or more than 5 Yellow Tang smaller than 2 inches (TL) per day or possess more than this amount at any time.
- Aquarium collectors (commercial and noncommercial) may only take or possess the following 40 “White List” fish species.

Common Name	Hawaiian/Local Name	Scientific Name
Yellow Tang	Lau'īpala	<i>Zebrasoma flavescens</i>
Goldring Surgeonfish	Kole	<i>Ctenochaetus strigosus</i>
Chevron Tang	Hawaiian Kole	<i>Ctenochaetus hawaiiensis</i>
Achilles Tang	Pāku'īku'ī	<i>Acanthurus achilles</i>
Goldrim Surgeonfish		<i>Acanthurus nigricans</i>
Orangeband Surgeonfish	Na'ena'e	<i>Acanthurus olivaceus</i>
Eyestripe Surgeonfish	Palani	<i>Acanthurus dussumieri</i>
Brown Surgeonfish	Mā'i'i'i	<i>Acanthurus nigrofuscus</i>
Thompson's Surgeonfish		<i>Acanthurus thompsoni</i>
Orangespine Unicornfish	Umauma lei	<i>Naso lituratus</i>
Multiband Butterflyfish	Kīkākāpu	<i>Chaetodon multicoloratus</i>
Fourspot Butterflyfish	Lauhau	<i>Chaetodon quadrimaculatus</i>
Milletseed Butterflyfish	Lauwiliwili	<i>Chaetodon miliaris</i>
Tinker's Butterflyfish		<i>Chaetodon tinkeri</i>
Blacklip Butterflyfish		<i>Chaetodon kleinii</i>
Pyramid Butterflyfish		<i>Hemitaurichthys polylepis</i>
Forcepsfish	Lauwiliwili nukunuku 'oi'oi	<i>Forcipiger flavissimus</i>
Saddle Wrasse	Hīnālea lauwili	<i>Thalassoma duperrey</i>
Flame Wrasse		<i>Cirrhilabrus jordani</i>
Shortnose Wrasse		<i>Macropharyngodon geoffroy</i>
Ornate Wrasse	Lā'ō	<i>Halichoeres ornatissimus</i>
Smalltail Wrasse		<i>Pseudojuloides cerasinus</i>
Fourline Wrasse		<i>Pseudocheilinus tetrataenia</i>
Eightline Wrasse		<i>Pseudocheilinus octotaenia</i>
Smalltail Wrasse		<i>Pseudojuloides cerasinus</i>
Bird Wrasse	Hīnālea 'i'iwi	<i>Gomphosus varius</i>
Psychedelic Wrasse		<i>Anampses chrysocephalus</i>
Yellowtail Coris	Hīnālea 'akilolo	<i>Coris gaimard</i>
Potter's Angelfish		<i>Centropyge potteri</i>
Fisher's Angelfish		<i>Centropyge fisheri</i>
Redbarred Hawkfish	Piliko'a	<i>Cirrhitops fasciatus</i>
Blackside Hawkfish		<i>Paracirrhites forsteri</i>
Black Durgon	Humuhumu 'ele'ele	<i>Melichthys niger</i>

Lei Triggerfish	Humuhumu lei	<i>Sufflamen bursa</i>
Gilded Triggerfish		<i>Xanthichthys auromarginatus</i>
Spotted Boxfish	Moa	<i>Ostracion meleagris</i>
Hi Whitespotted Toby		<i>Canthigaster jactator</i>
Hi Dascyllus	'Ālo'ilo'i	<i>Dascyllus albisella</i>
Hi Longfin Anthias		<i>Pseudanthias hawaiiensis</i>
Bluestripe Snapper	Ta'ape	<i>Lutjanus kasmira</i>
Peacock Grouper	Roi	<i>Cephalopholis argus</i>

- It is prohibited for *aquarium collectors* to take or possess more than 5 Kole larger than 4 inches TL per day.
- It is prohibited for *aquarium collectors* to take or possess more than 10 Achilles Tang of any size per day.
- It is prohibited to possess aquarium collecting gear or possess fish for aquarium purposes on a vessel after sunset or before sunrise without prior phone notification to the DAR Kona office (327-6226). Such notification will allow the possession of more than one day's bag limit for Yellow Tang, Kole and Achilles Tang on multiple day trips.
- It is prohibited to take or possess aquatic life for aquarium purposes without holding a valid West Hawai'i aquarium permit. DLNR may revoke any West Hawai'i aquarium permit for any infraction of these rules or the terms and conditions of the permit.

Note: The West Hawai'i aquarium permit will be implemented in early 2014.

- It is prohibited to possess or use any net or container employed underwater to capture or hold aquatic life for aquarium purposes that is not labeled with the commercial marine license (CML) number (or numbers) of the person (or persons) owning, possessing or using the equipment.
- All aquarium collecting vessels shall be registered every year with the DAR Kona office.
- All aquarium collecting shall *permanently* affix the capital letters "AQ" to both sides of the vessel.
- A Fish Replenishment Area (FRA) is established along a 1,500 foot section of Ka'ōhe Bay (Pebble Beach), South Kona, where no aquarium collecting or recreational fish feeding is allowed.
- An individual can set only one laynet, for 4 hours, within a 24 hour period

- It is prohibited to engage in or attempt to engage in SCUBA spearfishing and/or possess both SCUBA gear and a spear or speared aquatic life.

“SCUBA gear” means any equipment adapted, designed, or commonly used to enable a diver to breathe while underwater, including but not limited to SCUBA regulators, high pressure cylinders, rebreathers, SNUBA and hookah rigs.

A “spear” is any device or implement which is designed or used for impaling marine life. Spears may include but are not limited to spear gun shafts, arbaletes, arrows, bolts, Hawaiian slings, tridents, or three-prong spear. A dive knife is not considered to be a spear.

Penalties

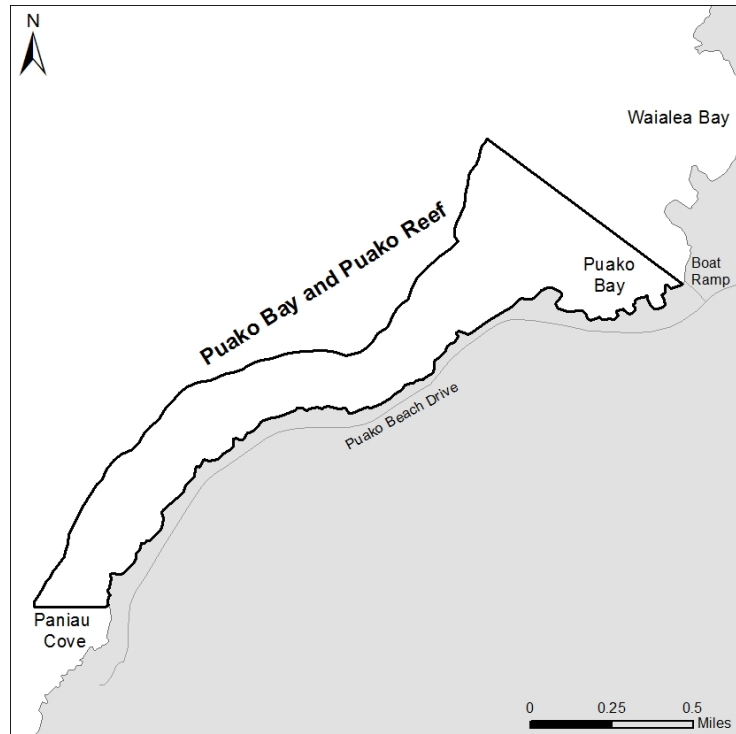
Any person violating any provision of Chapter 13-60.4 or any term or condition of any permit issued as provided by this chapter shall be subject to both criminal penalties (HRS §188-70) and general administrative penalties (HRS §187A-12.5). The fines for these penalties are as follows:

	Criminal Fines	General Administrative Fines
First Violation	Not less than \$100	Not more than \$1,000
Second Violation	Not less than \$200	Not more than \$2,000
Third or Subsequent Violations	Not less than \$500	Not more than \$5,000

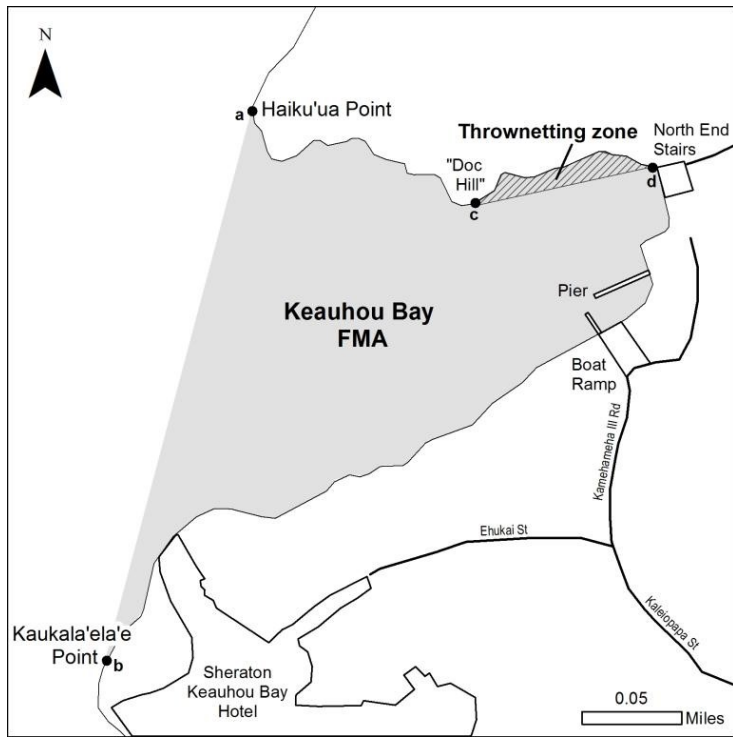
Note: Under general administrative penalties a fine of up to \$1,000 may be levied for *each specimen* taken, killed or possessed in violation of the WHRFMA rule or other relevant rules. The Board of Land and Natural Resources is also authorized to recover administrative fees and costs, including attorney’s fees and costs. In addition to the criminal fines, violators are subject to imprisonment of up to six months.

In addition to the above provisions there are also new rule changes to two Fisheries Management Areas (FMA) within the WHRFMA and an update to DLNR’s lay net rule.

- The seaward boundary of the Puakō Bay and Puakō Reef FMA is defined to extend out to a minimum of 250 yds. from shore or to the edge of the fringing reef if one occurs beyond 250 yds. Unless transiting, no person shall use or possess any type of net except a thrownet within the FMA.



- The no-netting boundaries of the Keauhou Bay Fisheries Management Area (chapter 13-57) are clarified to extend from Haiku'u Point to Kaukala'ela'e Point.



**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET**

January 9, 2014

SUMMARY OF PRIORITY REQUESTS

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (“Department”) provides the following summary of the Department’s key priorities. They are described in more detail below as part of the full Supplemental Budget request.

“Rain Follows the Forest” – Watershed Initiative (\$8.5 million)

The Department’s top priority, “The Rain Follows the Forest” Watershed Initiative requests **\$3.5 million** in general funds and eleven (11) temporary positions (established in Fiscal Year (FY) 14). This funding provides an operating budget for the Department’s Watershed Initiative – “The Rain Follows the Forest” and a “New Day” priority to secure Hawaii’s water supply. The Administration’s goal of doubling the acreage of protected watershed forests in a decade requires approximately \$11 million per year. FY 15 funds already authorized for the initiative include \$2.5 million in CIP funds. A companion FY 15 CIP request of **\$5 million** would reach the yearly goal for the initiative.

Turtle Bay Acquisition (\$40 million)

The Department requests \$40 million to acquire conservation easement(s) to preserve undeveloped portions of the Turtle Bay Resort property on the north shore of Oahu for open space, recreational, and coastal resources. The negotiations with the private landowner continue. The final purchase price is subject to an independent fair market value appraisal as proved in Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §171-30.

International Union of Conservation Nations – 2016 World Congress (\$4.0 million)

The State of Hawaii has the unprecedented opportunity to showcase our natural and cultural resources to the world through the International Union for the Conservation of Nature’s (IUCN) World Conservation Congress in 2016. The Congress is held every four years and draws over 8,000 delegates and dignitaries to share strategies to protect and conserve our natural resources. Hawaii is now competing with Turkey (from a pool of more than 16 countries) to host the event. The Department requests \$4 million to secure the bid. The United States State Department supports Hawaii’s bid. The United States is now poised to host this event for the first time since the IUCN Congress began in 1948.

Community Fisheries Enforcement Unit (CFEU) Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) – Expansion from Maui to Hawaii, Kauai, and Oahu (\$1.0 million, 3 permanent and 9 temporary positions; lift federal fund ceiling)

The Maui CFEU, a pilot program (launched May 2013 under a private grant) placed 3 DOCARE officers, a Makai Watch coordinator, a program coordinator, and a data manager on Maui’s north shore to stop illegal netting activities through land and vessel patrols. Citations and compliance increased dramatically. Current private funding for this program ends in April, 2014. DOCARE

proposes to make the Maui project permanent and expand the program to Hawaii, Oahu, and Kauai.

Hunting Program (\$750,000)

The Department requests \$750,000 general funds to match federal Pittman-Robertson funds to expand the hunting game program across the state and provide better hunting opportunities. Recreational and subsistence hunting is an important part of outdoor life for Hawai'i's citizens and visitors alike. The Division of Forestry and Wildlife manages and administers the game and non-game resources in the State under HRS chapter 183D.

Ocean Management (\$1.0 million for 7 positions and operations)

Under the new Hawaii Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP) (adopted July 2013), the Department is the lead agency on 5 of the State's 11 top management goals and the operational agency on 10 of the 11 goals. In reality, the Department manages Hawaii's ocean resources. These new duties place added responsibilities on aquatics, enforcement, and boating. The Department requests \$1.0 million for 7 positions (Aquatics – 4; Enforcement – 2; and Boating – 1) and operational funds to begin implementing the new ORMP.

Managing Hawai'i's ocean resources is critical to the Department and the State's economy and well-being.

Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) – (2 positions)

The Commission requests two new positions to address new and substantial challenges, and the accumulating backlog of work: multiple complex contested case hearings (Maui: 115 existing and 72 new surface water use permit applications; 216 appurtenant right claims), long term multiple-party disputes (Molokai; Kauai), instream flow standard determinations (statewide), groundwater hydrological investigations (Oahu; Maui; Hawaii), designation petitions (Kona; others pending), delayed analysis of water use reporting (statewide), and loss of experienced staff (retirements and recruiting barriers).

Central Oahu – Conservation Lands (\$10 million)

The Department requests \$10 million to purchase conservation lands in central of Oahu as part of a larger state land acquisition package.

A. Mission Statement

To enhance, protect, conserve, and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations for the people of Hawaii and for visitors, in partnership with others in the public and private sectors; and to restore, protect, revitalize, and steward priority watersheds, ocean resources, and fresh water for the future.

The Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Department are constitutionally responsible for managing and overseeing 1.3 million acres of Hawaii's public lands, 3 million acres of state ocean waters (including all fisheries, coral reefs, small boat facilities, and ocean recreation), all fresh water resources (including more than 376 streams and habitat and all ground water), historic and cultural sites, forest and watersheds, endangered species, all public beaches, dam safety, rock fall mitigation (on public lands), and public

recreation, among others. In addition, the Department regulates over 2 million acres of land in the Conservation District (public and private). The Department works extensively and in partnership with multiple federal agencies (Department of Defense, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Coast Guard, United States Forestry and Wildlife Services, United States Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Interior, and Department of Agriculture) and with all the Counties (and their executive and legislative branches). The Department coordinates with the Departments of Health, Transportation, Civil Defense, Business, Tourism, and Economic Development (including the Office of Planning), Hawaiian Home Lands, Attorney General, Defense (State Civil Defense) and other state departments as needed. In conjunction with the Legislature, the Department plans for and carries out the policies of the State of Hawai'i.

B. Discuss how current economic and fiscal conditions have affected your operations and the ability to meet goals. Identify and discuss notable measures, expected outcomes, and recent results.

Hawaii's natural and cultural resources continue to be the State's most important physical asset and legacy. The visitor industry depends on our ability to provide quality experiences, including beautiful sandy beaches, coral reefs abundant with life, clean ocean and freshwater streams, healthy green forests, scenic parks, trails and vistas, and meaningful and well protected historic and cultural sites.

1. Watershed Initiative

Ensuring fresh water is available for the people of Hawai'i in perpetuity is one of the Department's highest priorities and a central goal of the Abercrombie administration's "A New Day in Hawaii." The Administration's Statewide Watershed Initiative – "The Rain Follows the Forest" – proposes to protect and restore watersheds to secure Hawaii's water supply. The Department's request for \$11 million in annual funding and 11 new positions is our highest priority. The Department's goal is to double the number of protected acres within 10 years.

2. Invasive Species

The Abercrombie administration's "A New Day in Hawaii" plan seeks to restore \$1 million to the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council and improve coordination of invasive species prevention, management, and response, and create "green jobs" in rural communities. Without adequate invasive species prevention funding, Hawai'i will be unable to arrest the arrival of new pests. They will be very difficult (and expensive) to control in the future. There will be substantial (and costly) secondary impacts on agriculture, tourism and the economy. Funds to detect and eradicate axis deer on Hawaii, prevent the spread of fire ants across the state, prevent the introduction of brown tree snakes, control Miconia in watersheds, and remove coqui frogs from Oahu, Kauai and Maui are modest compared to the consequences of not acting now.

3. Conservation and Resources Enforcement

The Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is responsible for enforcing laws to manage, protect and conserve Hawaii's unique and limited, natural, cultural and historic resources. DOCARE is responsible for patrolling and monitoring 3 million acres of marine waters, the largest tropical forest in the nation, and the 11th

largest forest reserve in the nation. Over 1 million acres of forest is set aside for hunting. One million, two hundred thousand (1,200,000) acres are state owned lands. There are two (2) million acres of regulated Conservation District lands. Twenty-three thousand (23,000) acres are inland surface waters. Throughout the state, DOCARE officers serve more than 1.2 million of Hawai'i's citizens and more than 6 million visitors who use or visit these resources on a regular basis.

The past several years have been difficult for DOCARE, financially and operationally. In FY 2009, DOCARE's operating budget was approximately \$2.08 million. Subsequently, because of the economic decline and budget restrictions, DOCARE'S general fund operating budget was cut to its current funding level of \$577,000. The Division had to severely curtail operations at times when the public uses of Hawaii's natural resources increased. Holidays, night shifts, and most special requests were cut. There was severe negative criticism by the public.

Even with better economic conditions, DOCARE's general fund operating budget remains at the same level as in years past. There are not enough general funds for core expenses such as fuel, utilities, special events, overtime (when the situation requires it), and equipment.

DOCARE increasingly relied on Federal funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Joint Enforcement Agreement (JEA) and Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) funding through the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation, to fund overtime and essential equipment purchases. However, the NOAA JEA funds are restricted to support only federal aquatic resource enforcement such as endangered species, bottom fishing, long line fishing and the Hawaii Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. Likewise, the RBS funding is restricted to support enforcement activities relevant to boating safety. Neither source of funds can be used to supplant the shortage of general funds. Private grants (by Conservation International and Harold K.L. Castle Foundation) have helped to establish new initiatives to enhance near shore fisheries enforcement on Maui, to provide administrative support for the Community Fisheries Enforcement Unit (CFEU), and the creation of the DOCARE Legal Fellow and Statewide Makai Watch Coordinator positions.

The Maui CFEU, a pilot program, officially launched in May 2013, includes three DOCARE officers, a Makai Watch coordinator, a program coordinator and a data manager. At the start, CFEU officers focused on illegal netting activities via land and vessel patrols. During the first two months, 12 criminal fishing related citations were issued compared to 15 in all FY 13, 40 in all FY 12, and 19 in FY 11. A new metric, has been developed. It is being field tested by CFEU officers. Officers are measuring fisher compliance rates. The data indicates that compliance with fishing laws in the project areas have increased since the start of the project. Officers documented 109 inspections from May through September 2013. In May, the compliance rate was 69% and in June 50%. The compliance rate increased thereafter to 96% in July, 95% in August, and 100% in September. Funding for this program will terminate in April, 2014.

Inadequate funding has driven DOCARE to seek outside grants through partnerships with the University of Hawai'i, William S. Richardson School of Law and the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii. Legal Fellow and Makai Watch Coordinator positions were established within DOCARE in August 2013. The Legal Fellow position

supports the Department's enforcement processes including the Civil Resources Violation System, administrative penalties and greater cooperation within the civil and criminal justice systems. The Makai Watch Coordinator coordinates and acts as the liaison between the various Makai Watch programs throughout the State and the Department. This coordination is a new and innovative step toward program standardization and recognition that will bridge the gap between communities and the Department.

4. Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission)

The Commission requests two new positions to address new and substantial challenges: multiple complex contested case hearings (Maui), long term multiple-party disputes (Waimea, Kauai), instream flow standard determinations (statewide), groundwater hydrological investigations (Oahu, Maui, Hawaii), designation petitions (Kona; others pending), loss of experienced staff (retirements and recruiting barriers). While the Commission has been able to fill some vacant positions (and is actively recruiting for others), finding experienced candidates has been difficult. This has had a serious impact on the Commission's ability to carry out its existing obligations and new duties. The backlog grows. Specific program impacts include, but are not limited to:

- Delays in reassessing interim instream flow standards (IFS) in multiple west and east Maui streams which have been remanded by the Supreme Court and Intermediate Court of Appeals back to the Commission. Staff has been working with the United States Geological Survey, the Department's Division of Aquatic Resources, the County of Maui, private water users, and the general community. Inadequate staff impacts critical communication, coordination, and outreach efforts.
- Delays in analysis and processing of 115 existing and 72 new surface water use permit applications, in conjunction with 216 appurtenant right claims. This work is required to carry out the designation of surface water management areas (Na Wai Eha) in west Maui. Public hearings on Maui are likely to lead to one or more contested case hearings.
- Delayed analysis and processing of applications and reports for water use permits in designated water management areas, statewide ground and surface water use reporting, stream channel alterations, stream diversion works, well and pump completion reports, etc.
- Curtailment or deferral of complex hydrologic studies and investigations leading to reduced analyses/interpretation of hydrologic/water resource data and studies on the potential impacts of climate change.
- Reduced public outreach and education relating to ground- and surface-water resource regulation, management, and protection.
- Diminished response and resolution of citizen complaints/disputes.
- Reduced capacity to implement and enforce water use reporting program.
- Deferral of water shortage planning in water management areas.

Performance results are measured in part by timeliness of permit processing and/or resolution of complaints/disputes. Most water use permits have a processing time limit of 90-days, while some permits (requiring a public hearing) may take up to 180 days. There are no rules or procedures governing time limits for resolution of complaints/disputes, but they are expected to be addressed within 120 days. The staff has an internal goal to process 90% of the permits within 90 days and 80% of the

complaints/disputes within 120 days. In FY 13, the Commission processed 83% of permit requests and resolved 67% of complaints within these time frames. Variances in percentage rates can be attributed to the complex nature of a request/complaint.

5. Geothermal

Geothermal energy seeks to provide base load renewable energy under the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative and the Administration's New Day Plan. Anticipating increased interest in geothermal resources, the Engineering Division restored and filled several key staff positions.

6. Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR)

DOBOR revenues increased last year from recreational and commercial use of state waters, but cruise ship vendor revenue remained low as their activity remains consistently below pre-2008 levels.

DOBOR completed an appraisal to set harbor use fees and will undertake rule-making in early 2014. In 2013, the Legislature passed legislation prohibiting those who owe money to DOBOR from registering their vessel or obtaining a use permit until all outstanding fees are paid (including amounts owed to salvage grounded or abandoned vessels; in 2013, DOBOR paid over \$200,000 to remove abandoned vessels from Hawaii's ocean waters).

7. Division of State Parks

In 2013, lawmakers and the executive branch supported Hawaii's State Parks through Act 134, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2013, which increased funding for staff, utilities, and lifeguards. There were solid increases in fees and rent income as a result to the staff's efforts.

Act 161, SLH 2013 (approving an increase in funding from the Transient Accommodations Tax (TAT) , recognized that well maintained parks and beaches are important to the visitor industry. However, legal and fiscal issues have delayed the transfer of \$3 million allocated from TAT. As a result, the Division is missing a major component of its Special Fund budget. For fiscal survival, the Division relied on the General Fund, fees, rent income, and reduction in expenses.

8. Aha Moku

Act 288, SLH 2012, established the Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) to integrate indigenous resource management practices with western management practices in each of the 43 moku districts in the State of Hawaii.

AMAC became operative in March 2013 (following Senate confirmation of the Governor's appointees). An Executive Director was hired in June 2013. Act 288 did not appropriate any general funds for FY 2014. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs, through a memorandum of agreement with the Department agreed and was able to fund \$76,500 for the salary of the Executive Director and travel costs for AMAC members. AMAC meetings began to organize the Aha Moku System throughout the eight main Hawaiian Islands. This involved creating a system through which site specific traditional and generational Native Hawaiian natural and cultural resource management methodologies could be shared with the Department's divisions.

In the last six months of 2013, funds were used sparingly. The necessary meetings were held. A strategic plan was developed. Informational community meetings were held on each island to begin the process of moku organization. However, the existing funding is not adequate and is expected to run out by March 2013.

C. Identify federal grants that may lose federal funds under the federal Budget Act Control Act Sequester. Indicate whether a significant loss is likely and discuss the impact and if general funds would be needed to replace the funding.

Federal sequestration budget cuts severely impacted: a) the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and b) the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The Sanctuary and Monument federal funded budgets were slashed by over 50%. Without state assistance from the Governor's Sequestration Impact Fund, these important programs would not function.

- Federal Award Title: Marine Sanctuary Program
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 11.429

Continued federal sequestration impacts to the Sanctuary and Monument may mean the State would lose coordinated and regular representation in the management of these important programs. The Department's proposed budget includes general funds for both the Sanctuary and Monument co-manager positions and operating funds.

- Federal Award Title: Historic Preservation Fund Grant
CFDA Number: 15.904

The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) has taken full responsibility for its activities and is working hard at demonstrating its capacity to carry out the Federally-mandated functions of a State Historic Preservation Office under the National Park Service (NPS), Corrective Action Plan II (CAP II). Furthermore, it continues to work at meeting its obligations under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in order to avoid the loss of grant funds and the removal of Hawaii's approved program status that would negatively impact the economy of the State. This was reflected in the May 2013 NPS report highlighting its positive progress in key program areas such as Certified Local Governments, Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit Incentives, and the National Register nominations. In addition, SHPD continues to work at establishing a fully functional inventory database, along with completing a final draft of Policies and Procedures for the Archaeology and Architecture branches in the program areas of Survey and Inventory, and Review and Compliance. As a result, SHPD's comprehensive efforts are expected to supplant any federal fund reductions in FY 14 and FY 15.

D. Explain the process used to develop the agency's budget and prioritize requests for additional funds.

The Department's mission, the Governor's New Day Objectives and Initiatives, health and safety concerns, and the need to restore lost resources for current programs informed the Department's budget requests for additional funds.

E. Identify significant adjustments contained in the budget. Explain and quantify how significant budget requests for additional funds are expected to affect outcomes.

For more than 5 years, the Department cut staffing, services, and program support. The improving economy and increased tourism provide a foundation to re-establish too long deferred needs to manage the natural and cultural resources which are the foundation of the State's future and economy.

A professional, well trained, and experienced work force is essential to address the drastically expanding demands on Hawaii's environment. The Department requests 57 permanent and 9 temporary positions (funded by all means) for land and water management, forestry, boat harbors, aquatic resources, community fisheries enforcement and overall administration. These positions fill critical resources management, public service duties, and federal obligations, and will help meet operational shortages.

For FY 15, the Department requests \$25.8 million for its operating budget funded as follows:

- \$13.7 million in general funds
- \$7.8 million in special funds
- \$4.3 million in all federal funds

Significant budget requests for additional funds and the expected outcomes are as follows:

Land Division (LNR 101):

- Establish two positions: 1) Oahu District Land Office (ODLO) Shoreline/ Encroachment Specialist 2) Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL) Program Specialist.
- \$1.3 million in special funds to redesign/upgrade State Lands Information Management System (SLIMS).
- Increase Beach Restoration Special Fund (BRSF) ceiling by \$340,000.

ODLO Shoreline/Encroachment Specialist conducts extensive research, comprehends and interprets multiple legal sources (e.g., federal and state statutes and administrative rules, case law, etc.), and thoroughly reviews due diligence documents pertaining to shoreline easements. The process involves locating and interpreting historical maps and aerial photos, understanding of the changes in case law and statues regarding shoreline, discussing with land surveyor, coastal geologist, and conservation district planner on the appropriateness of issuing an easement, conducting site inspections, and interviewing the applicant or other relevant parties on the historical aspect of the shoreline easement. Resolution of the encroachment is a prerequisite for the applicant to obtain a certified shoreline thus a building permit for most of the improvement to be conducted on the private properties.

The Coastal Lands Program Specialist promotes and implements sea level rise (SLR) adaptation strategies and erosion management alternatives, such as beach restoration, shoreline retreat, coastal lands acquisition, and more strategies. The position provides information to the public regarding coastal hazards such as erosion, flooding and SLR. More importantly, the position will provide technical assistance to government and private entities to better manage shoreline hazards and protect beaches around the state.

SLIMS redesign/upgrade to the existing SLIMS is vital in that the Land Division will find itself managing state lands using an unsupported application on an unsupported and insecure operating system in the near future. The Land Division InformationTechnology staff has found a workaround to get SLIMS to run on Windows Server 2003 in a Citrix environment, for which support will end in 2015. Thus far, the Land Division has been able to keep the application running using various workarounds, but deferring the project any longer may eventually leave the Land Division without a viable system to manage the 1.3M acres of state lands, which generate over \$16M in annual revenue.

Act 162, SLH, 2013, provides the Department with \$3,000,000/year from the Transient Accommodations Tax (TAT). Of the \$3,000,000, OCCL has been allocated approximately \$600,000 from the Board of Land and Natural Resources. The current ceiling of the BRSF is \$260,000. The Department would like to increase the ceiling by \$340,000 so that the ceiling is \$600,000, which would match the share of the TAT being allocated to the BRSF annually.

Proposed Land Acquisitions are set forth in the CIP budget. They include:

1. Turtle Bay Conservation Easements;
2. Central Oahu Conservation Lands;
3. Central Maui Regional Park.

Bureau of Conveyances (LNR 111):

The Department requests the special fund ceiling be increased by \$475,000 to continue automating and improving electronic access to all functions in the Bureau of Conveyances. \$250,000 will be used to continue digitizing the microfilmed archived images so consumers may access digital documents. The balance will update equipment, systems and backup schemes.

Engineering Division (LNR 141):

\$89,560 supplemental payroll funds are requested for LNR 141 program to support staff to manage and develop geothermal resources. These positions require highly specialized experience and knowledge so recruitment must be substantially above minimum levels (leading to projected payroll deficits).

Division of Aquatic Resources (LNR 153, 401 & 805):

- \$250,000 in general funds to cover co-manager salaries and operating cost for the Sanctuary and Monument programs impacted by federal cuts.
- \$250,000 in general funds to study the impacts of spear fishing using SCUBA on the West Hawaii reef ecosystem.
- \$300,000 increase in the commercial special fund ceiling for bottomfish studies and to curb possible sequestration cuts on a statistical unit.
- Add three (3) positions to restore the education specialist for Oahu, restore aquatic biologist in charge of all environmental reviews/permits and to study impacts of climate change, and a new position to monitor removal/disposal of tsunami debris and mitigate alien invasive species introductions.
- Increase the federal fund ceiling by over \$2.5 million to continue funding core projects, including the rainbow trout stocking at Kokee, Kauai, Maui/Oahu marine assessment project, estuarine studies, and aquatic education program.

Hawaii's Ocean Resources Management Plan:

\$496,996 in general funds for four positions and operating cost to support the State's implementation of the State's Ocean Resources Management Plan.

Division of Forestry and Wildlife (LNR 172, 402, 407 and 804):

- Add (11) temporary positions and \$3.5 million in general funds for continued funding for "The Rain Follows the Forest" and Governor's New Day initiative.
- \$1 million in general funds for Invasive Species Funding Restoration.
- \$750,000 in general funds for Hawaii's Hunting Program mandated by HRS chapter 183D.
- \$4 million general funds to support preparation for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress in 2016.
- \$2.9 million special fund ceiling increase for various funds.
- Convert 12 positions from temporary to permanent.
- Add \$250,000 in general funds and \$250,000 in special funds in support of the Governor's Kauai Fires Emergency Proclamation.
- \$250,000 in special funds for Kure Atoll Wildlife Refuge Sanctuary.
- Add \$170,000 for motor vehicles and \$75,000 for equipment.
- \$170,000 for Historic Alaloa Trail Adoption on Kauai
- Increase \$827,959 federal fund ceiling to support Pittman-Robinson Program and \$6,747,153 increase in other federal funded programs.
- Change method of financing (MOF) from P to N for various United State Department of Agriculture Federal Recurring Grants to conform to new federal fund budgeting process (\$1,090,000).
- Change MOF from trust fund to other federal funds, Wildlife Biologist V Position.
- Add 10 temporary positions funded by special and federal funds.

"The Rain Follows the Forest" Watershed Initiative"

The Department's top priority, "The Rain Follows the Forest" Watershed Initiative requests \$3.5 million in General Funds and eleven (11) temporary positions (established in Fiscal Year (FY) 14). This funding provides an operating budget for the Department's Watershed Initiative – "The Rain Follows the Forest," a "New Day" priority to secure Hawaii's water supply. The Administration's goal of doubling the acreage of protected watershed forests in a decade requires approximately \$11 million per year. FY 15 funds already authorized for the initiative include \$2.5 million in CIP funds. A companion FY 15 CIP request and this request would reach the yearly goal for the initiative.

Invasive Species Funding Restoration

The Invasive Species Funding Restoration request will support Hawaii Invasive Species Council projects across the State, including control of damaging watershed species such as *Miconia calvenscens* and strawberry guava, control of stinging little fire ants that threaten human health, homes, and the tourist industry, the protection of Hawaii's near shore aquatic environments through invasive algae removal and regulation of ballast water and hull fouling, control of fire-promoting invasive grasses, including pampas and fountain grass, control of damaging ungulates including axis deer on Hawaii and Maui islands, and research on cost-saving biocontrol efforts that can save millions in future control costs for invasive plants and animals.

Hawaii's Hunting Program

The request to increase funding for Hawaii's Hunting Program will support the Wildlife Revolving Fund (WRF) which is the required State match, operating, and salary expenses for game and wildlife projects. Because the major sources of revenue for WRF come from direct charges to hunters, this funding is a priority to benefit hunters.

Hazard Reduction - Kauai

The Governor's Kauai Fires Emergency Proclamation calls for immediate and continued (4 yrs.) action to reduce hazards and soil erosion potential in the Kokee area on Kauai. These funds will mitigate risks in hazardous areas by removing burnt trees and reforesting the land.

International Union for the Conservation of Nature

The Administration requests \$4 million of general funds for Hawaii to host the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Conference in 2016. The IUCN is the world's oldest and largest global environmental network. The IUCN holds a worldwide conference every four years and encourages member organizations to improve their management of the natural and cultural environment for human, social and economic well-being. The Conference hosts approximately 8,000 delegates from around the world for a 10-day event to discuss, debate, and decide on environmental and development issues and policy. The host country needs to cover \$8-10 million in conference costs from a combination of public and private sources.

Commission on Water Resource Management (Commission) (LNR 404):

Hawaii faces serious water challenges and changing water needs for agriculture and development at a time when more frequent and prolonged droughts are occurring on the leeward sides of the islands. Every island is pressing for greater stream restoration, improved system efficiencies, and prioritization of water needs.

The Commission has the particularly difficult task of setting instream flow standards (IFS) for over 376 perennial streams in the State. Proper management of streams requires an understanding of long-term trends in streamflow characteristics and their potential implications. The two new requested positions (Engineering Tech VI and Planner IV) will provide the necessary additional staff to carry out key elements of the Stream Protection and Management ("SPAM") Program including: 1) Improved ability to process stream-related permits, address complaints, and conduct field investigations; 2) Continued investigation and evaluation of nearly 1,500 diversions statewide; 3) Preparation of technical reports for developing IFS; 4) Improved coordination with other regulatory agencies; 5) Improved community outreach and education.

While the Commission's general approach is to develop IFS based on best available information, current data on instream uses and stream conditions are not adequate to make appropriate management decisions for many streams in the State. The Commission's supplemental funding request will allow the SPAM Program to undertake the following critical elements/activities: 1) Conduct public informational meetings to gather public input on proposed interim IFS; 2) Conduct various (minor) studies and investigations; 3) Upgrade of informational databases and equipment; 4) Develop software/stream modeling

applications; 5) Administer contested case hearings; 6) Develop public outreach and educational materials, (6) Attend and hold workshops, seminars and training classes in conjunction with SPAM program measures; and 7) Conduct multi-year regional stream studies in coordination with the Department's Division of Aquatic Resources and United States Geological Survey.

Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) (LNR 405):

- \$1 million in general funds to restore DOCARE budget for personal services, current expenses, equipment and motor vehicles to carry out essential program functions.
- Establish 3 permanent and 9 temporary positions for the Community Fisheries Enforcement Units.
- Increase its federal fund ceiling.
- Change the method of financing of Education Specialist V position from revolving funds to federal funds.
- Convert the Education Specialist III Position, from temporary to permanent status.
- Two positions and funds to support the Hawaii Ocean Resources Management Plan (ORMP).

The current operating budget is not sufficient to cover the costs associated with patrol and enforcement of natural, cultural and historic resources throughout the state. DOCARE relies on its vehicle and vessel fleet to perform core functions. High fuel costs and the costs of maintaining an aging vehicle/vessel fleet require more funding than is currently available. In addition, current funds for utilities, including telecommunications, and equipment lease rental do not cover expenses even after restrictions and reductions have been made in the use of these items. Additional funding will also provide the means to fund the personal services, current expenses, equipment, and motor vehicle costs for Conservation and Resources Enforcement Officer (CREO) positions that are newly hired and/or are currently in recruitment.

DOCARE is also requesting to permanently fund the Maui Community Fisheries Enforcement Unit and establish and fund nine CREO positions. These positions will staff new Community Fisheries Enforcement Units on Kauai, Oahu and Hawaii.

As a part of the Governor's New Day Initiative, DOCARE, in partnership with the Conservation International Foundation and the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, launched a pilot Community Fisheries Enforcement Unit (CFEU) on the North Shore of Maui. The purpose of the pilot project was to respond to the community's longstanding request for increased fisheries enforcement and presence, test the proposed model for dedicated fisheries enforcement, and provide outreach and education to members of the community about marine ecology, pono fishing practices, and fishing regulations. It is because of the success of the pilot project that DOCARE is requesting funds to permanently establish the Community Fisheries Enforcement Unit on Maui and establish and fund positions that will create three additional units on the islands of Hawaii, Oahu and Kauai.

DOCARE requests an increase in the federal fund ceiling net amount of (\$358,886) for the Hunter Education Program (438,741) and for Shooting Range Development and Joint Enforcement Agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (-79,855). An increase to the ceiling for federal grant monies received for Hunter Education

and Shooting Range Development will accommodate the current and anticipated funding increase from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and anticipated decrease of funding from NOAA.

In addition, DOCARE requests a change in the method of financing of Education Specialist V position from revolving funds to federal funds. Over the past four years, there were insufficient funds in the Wildlife Revolving Fund to pay for the Hunter Education Specialist V position. As a result, the position was funded by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service federal grant. This funding change request formalizes the current source of funding.

DOCARE also seeks to convert the Education Specialist III Position from temporary to permanent status. This position is funded and currently filled. It is essential to the Hawaii Hunter Education Program. There is an established need for a permanent position to support and share the workload of running the statewide Hunter Education Program fully, properly and efficiently for the public good.

To support the planning, coordination and program management, DOCARE is requesting a SR26-Program Specialist VI position and a SR-22-Program Specialist IV position be established and funded (as well as other current expenses) to support both positions. The Program Specialist VI position will perform complex, extensive, and intensive program development, implementation, and evaluation assignments. These assignments are highly developmental. They require solving unique and unprecedented problems. The issues are controversial and require new concepts and methodologies that impact both the DOCARE and divisions throughout the Department. This position will support the ORMP.

DOCARE also seeks to establish and fund a Program Specialist IV position to coordinate the statewide Makai Watch Program volunteers in communities statewide, who serve as the “eyes and ears” for the CREOs. The duties of this position will likewise help support the ORMP.

Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) (LNR 801):

- Request two positions to develop property under the jurisdiction of DOBOR, and 10 maintenance and clerical positions.
- Request a Planner/Coordinator position for the Department’s Ocean Recreation Management Area.

The budget requests will provide physical and fiscal resources to repair and maintain harbor and ramp facilities as well as address ongoing recreation issues.

State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) (LNR 802):

SHPD requests that 2 general funded positions and 8 federal funded positions be converted from temporary to permanent status. After lengthy review and many constructive meetings with the National Park Service, in conjunction with the Corrective Action Plan II, the parties mutually agreed to convert the program positions from temporary to permanent. This will enable SHPD to function with greater stability, continuity, and effectiveness in fulfilling its National Historic Preservation Act and HRS chapter 6E mandates.

State Parks (LNR 806):

The Division of State Parks requests an increase of \$700,000 in the special fund ceiling to accommodate increases in Transient Accommodation Tax funds which were appropriated in 2013. When those funds are finally released, it is essential that the Division have an adequate ceiling in place.

Administration (LNR 906):

- Request to establish two positions for the Administrative Services Office (ASO): an Accountant IV and an Account Clerk IV.
- Request to establish two positions for the Chairperson's Office: an Information Specialist II and an Office Assistant IV, and funds related to operational expenses.
- Add \$122,130 in special funds to establish a temporary Sustainability Coordinator position and to fund operational expenditures.
- Request \$110,000 in general funds to fund the Executive Director position for the Aha Moku Advisory Committee and to fund operational expenditures.

Accountant IV and an Account Clerk IV:

Request an Accountant IV and an Account Clerk IV to keep up with the workload resulting from increased operating and CIP budgets and authorized positions. In the past 13 years, the Department's operating budget increased from \$60 million to more than \$125 million. In FY 2014, we anticipate the operating budget to exceed \$146 million. The number of authorized positions increased from 760 to more than 980 positions.

ASO has only 15 authorized positions to support 10 divisions and four staff offices with complex budgets and expenditures. ASO staff is responsible for maintaining 15 general fund, 31 special fund, and 25 trust fund accounts. Due to the new methodology to account for federal grants, the number of federal accounts increased from 17 to more than 80 accounts. Staff cannot keep up with the tremendous workload in recording and reporting the revenues, processing all expenditures including payroll, and meeting various internal and external deadlines.

The Accountant IV and the Account Clerk IV will allow redistribution of the workload to a more manageable level to ensure timely processing of vendor payments and reimbursements to departmental employees, reconcile accounts, and assist management in providing information/preparing reports to various internal and external inquiries, including state and federal agencies and the Legislature.

Information Specialist II:

Due to the scope of its mission, the Department continues to get an increase in TV and print media requests on a daily basis. An Information Specialist II is necessary to help on media needs, as well as coordination of communications to the general public.

Office Assistant IV:

The Office of the Chairperson oversees, directs, plans and coordinates the various activities of the Department. This position will assist the private secretaries with their heavy workload and responsibilities.

State Sustainability Coordinator:

The State Sustainability Coordinator will coordinate state sustainability strategic planning and implementation of policies and programs related to the goals and principles outlined in Act 181, SLH 2011, Relating to Sustainability. The State Sustainability Coordinator will work across departments and with the counties and federal agencies to integrate initiatives, form partnerships, develop and manage public-private networks, and engage communities to realize shared goals and a public sustainability ethic. The 2008 Hawaii 2050 Plan and the University of Hawaii Public Policy Center 2010 and 2011 Reports to the Legislature recommended such a position to initiate and coordinate the diverse, statewide interagency sustainability goals.

Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC):

Act 288, SLH 2012, established AMAC but did not appropriate any funds beyond FY 13. The Executive Director is intended to carry out AMAC's mission of providing advice to the Department's Chairperson on Hawaiian issues relating to natural resource management.

While many relationships have been strengthened between the Department and the Hawaiian community, one major undertaking has been working with the people of Niihau on natural resources management issues. AMAC is moving in the right direction to help the Department.

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Budget:

The Department requests \$74.8 million for its CIP budget. Major projects include (among others) the watershed initiatives, Central Maui Regional Park, and conservation and other lands purchases in central Oahu. Please refer to Table 21, for a detailed description of all CIP projects.

Turtle Bay Acquisition

The Department requests \$40 million to acquire one or more conservation easements to preserve undeveloped portions of the Turtle Bay Resort property on the north shore of Oahu to protect open space, recreational, and coastal resources. Pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 164-2013, a working group issued a report (November 30, 2013) confirming that the Department was diligently negotiating with the private landowner for a conservation easement. The negotiations continue. The final purchase price is subject to the fair market value as determined by an independent appraisal contracted by the Department under HRS §171-30.

Central Oahu – Dole Conservation Lands (\$10 million)

The Department requests \$10 million to purchase Dole conservation lands in central Oahu as part of a larger land acquisition package.

Central Maui Regional Park

The Department requests \$1 million to purchase lands in central Maui for a regional park.