

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

DHHL Feral Cattle Removal Project  
Humuula/Piihonua Mauka, Island of Hawaii  
August 2, 2010

## 1. Request For Proposal

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) invites your written proposal for a Feral Cattle Removal land license on 20,500 acres, more or less, located in Humuula/Piihonua Mauka on the island of Hawaii. Selection will be based on the Comparative Evaluation Criteria listed in Section 6. A copy of this Request for Proposal may be downloaded at DHHL's website at <http://hawaii.gov/dhhl/>. It may also be obtained by calling (808) 933-3480 or by writing to DHHL, Land Management Division at 160 Baker Street, Hilo, Hawaii 96720.

A pre-proposal conference and site visit is scheduled for Thursday, August 12, 2010 at 9 a.m. The site visit will begin at the Humuula Sheep Station. The Sheep Station is located approximately 0.8 miles north of the Saddle Road/Mauna Kea Summit Road intersection. Attendance at the pre-proposal conference is not required, but is encouraged. Following a brief project introduction, a site visit to the Feral Cattle Removal project area will be conducted. A four-wheel drive vehicle is necessary and travel time through the project site from the Sheep Station is approximately 4 hours.

Written proposals must be received by DHHL no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 16, 2010. Proposals shall be sealed and clearly marked "DHHL Feral Cattle Removal Project" on the outside so that proposals are not opened prior to the above deadline. DHHL may reject any or all proposals when, in its opinion, such rejection will be in the best interest of its beneficiaries. Three (3) copies of the proposal should be mailed or hand delivered to:

Land Management Division – Forestry and Natural Resources  
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands  
160 Baker Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

The primary contact for this RFP is:

Mr. Mike Robinson  
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands  
160 Baker Street  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Phone: (808) 933-3480  
email: [mike.e.robinson@hawaii.gov](mailto:mike.e.robinson@hawaii.gov)

## **2. Objectives**

The objectives of the cattle removal project are to:

- Remove all cattle from the designated project area within three years;
- Contribute additional resources to Hawaii's existing cattle industry;
- Generate income for DHHL;
- Promote the natural regeneration of koa and other native plants on site;
- Determine what barriers, natural and man-made, need to be created and/or maintained to protect the project area from future ingress by cattle.

A license to accomplish the above objectives will be issued to the selected proposal. The incorporation of these objectives into the proposal will enhance the chance of selection.

## **3. The Feral Cattle Removal Project Location and Description**

The cattle removal project site is located along Keanakolu Road on the northeast flank of Mauna Kea on all DHHL lands between Puu O'o to the south and Nauhi Gulch to the north on the island of Hawaii. Elevations range from 4,680 to 8,800 feet above sea level and the project area totals approximately 20,500 acres. The Tax Map Key numbers for this area are (3) 3-08-01: por. 07 and (3) 3-08-01:02. Figures 1 and 2 indicate the project's location.

The project area consists of a wide variety of habitats and vegetation, from steep, rocky land to more gentle slopes; from thick, impenetrable gorse to open koa/ohia forest and open grasslands. Feral cattle have multiplied in this area since 2002 with minimal management of their numbers or their behavioral disposition. As a result, an estimated 1,000 to 2,000 feral cattle are expected to be removed. These feral cattle represent a continued impact on restoration efforts by preventing natural and artificial regeneration, damaging existing vegetation, contributing to soil erosion, and spreading noxious weeds such as gorse. Safe access for humans has declined as wild bulls delineate their territory and aggressively defend it. Valuable infrastructure such as fences and roads have deteriorated as the cattle break fences, dig soil pits, and deepen paths along exiting roadways.

Capture blocks have been delineated within the project area and each block will be rendered cattle free before the next block may be entered. These areas are specified in Figure 2, Cattle Removal Blocks. On-going periodic monitoring of cattle free blocks will be required to prevent "restocking" as the project continues.

All animals are expected to be captured regardless of age, sex, or condition, with the exception of animals that are sick, diseased, or too dangerous to handle safely. These cattle will be disposed of on-site in a humane and sanitary manner. Care will be employed to ensure that no corralled cattle escape from the licensee's traps. Escaped cattle will learn to avoid traps and teach other cattle to avoid them, making subsequent captures more difficult. Captured cattle will be video taped immediately to document and ascertain their numbers, sex,

approximate age, size, and condition. Video taping will include a time and date stamp in the picture. Ownership will be determined via brands or other distinguishing ownership marks. All cattle without ownership marks are considered feral and belonging to DHHL.

**3.1** Four types of DHHL feral cattle are expected to be encountered during this project.

1. Marketable animals are animals over one thousand (1,000) pounds or weaned calves up to 400 pounds.
2. Potentially marketable animals are animals such as cows with calves, cows under one thousand (1,000) pounds without calves, and bulls under one thousand (1,000) pounds.
3. Sick and/or diseased animals are either incurably sick and/or diseased and will not be removed from the project area. These cattle will be disposed of on-site in a humane and sanitary manner.
4. Dangerous animals are too dangerous to handle safely. These cattle will also be disposed of on-site in a humane and sanitary manner.

The successful licensee will determine which animals fit each description listed above.

Captured DHHL feral cattle that are marketable or potentially marketable will be purchased by the successful cattle removal licensee, removed from the site within three (3) days of DHHL verification, and the appropriate fee paid via monthly invoices from DHHL.

Cattle identified as belonging to someone else via distinguishing brands or marks will be separated from DHHL feral cattle. The successful licensee will be responsible for contacting DHHL and the owner within 24 hours so arrangements can be made for pickup of these “escaped ranch cattle”.

The licensee will be expected to hold any captured cattle, regardless of ownership, for not more than seven (7) days until removal can occur. Feed and water will be the licensee’s responsibility.

**3.2** Prospective licensees shall submit a Proposal based on the information contained within this RFP and their own personal knowledge, skill, and experience. Each Proposal will include a brief “project management plan” which must address the following eight topics. Proposals that do not include this brief project management plan will not be considered:

1. the “per animal price” offered to DHHL for feral cattle. Only one “per animal” price may be offered. This is the price to be paid DHHL for every captured DHHL animal that is verified prior to removal.
2. a brief description of how the licensee expects to remove cattle from each of the designated removal blocks, e.g. trapping, roping, etc.

3. the order in which all blocks will be rendered cattle free, e.g. which block will be first and which block will be last. If some blocks are needed as capture areas throughout the term of the license it should be stated in the proposal.
4. the location of fences and/or other infrastructure needed to complete the project.
5. a description of equipment, tools, and technology expected to be used during the removal process.
6. a listing of key personnel expected to be associated with the project and the role they will play.
7. a description of each person's knowledge, skill, and experience that is relevant to implementing this project successfully.
8. a brief statement about how this project will impact the Big Island cattle industry, both positively and negatively, and how the proposal will mitigate any negative impacts.

#### **4. Scope of Work**

All activities must be conducted according to a project management plan prepared by the selected licensee and approved by DHHL. Activities of the selected licensee shall consist of the following:

- 4.1. Prepare a project management plan and submit it to DHHL for approval prior to any capturing.
- 4.2. Repair or create infrastructure (e.g. fences, gates, traps, corrals, loading docks, roads) as necessary and when needed for capturing and removing cattle.
- 4.3. Capture and/or dispose of all cattle in a safe, humane, methodical, and timely manner.
- 4.4. Document via video all animals encountered, captured, and/or disposed of.
- 4.5. Following documentation, notify DHHL so verification of captured animals and their ownership can occur prior to removal from holding pens.
- 4.6. Dispose of captured animals per the license agreement.
- 4.7. Submit monthly reports to DHHL listing the total number of animals captured or otherwise disposed of that month and the ownership of all animals.
- 4.8. Notify DHHL when a block is considered cattle free. Following a successful site inspection, proceed with the next designated block.

4.9. Submit monthly payments to DHHL for purchased DHHL feral cattle, per the license agreement.

**5. Timeline of Performance (estimated)**

Timeline	Action
August, 2010	Publicize and mail out Request For Proposal
August 12, 2010	Pre-proposal conference/field trip, Humuula, Hawaii
September 16, 2010	Deadline for receipt of proposals
October, 2010	Evaluate proposals, award/develop license
November, 2010	License approved by Hawaiian Homes Commission
December, 2010 to December, 2013	Implement Cattle Removal Project

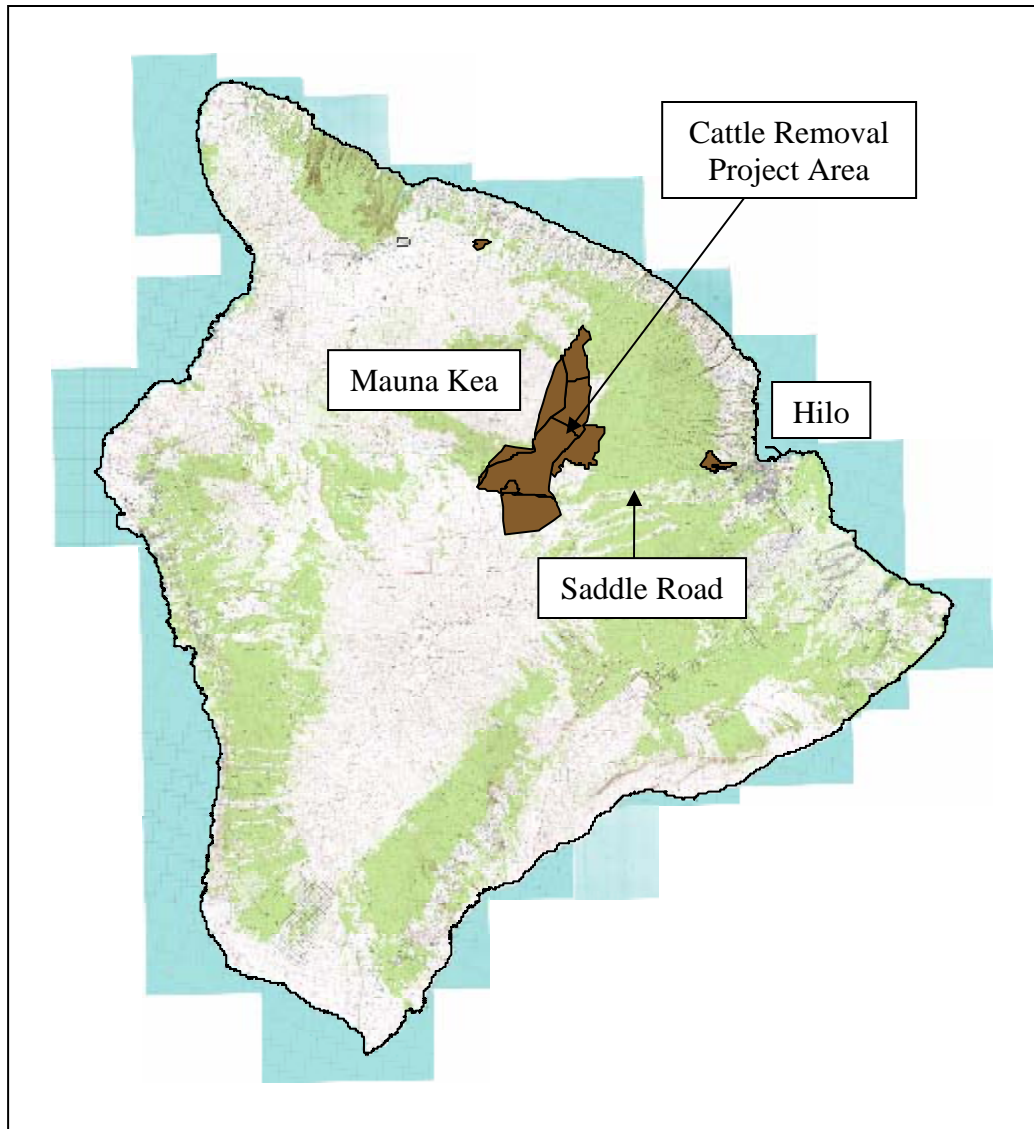
**6. Comparative Evaluation Criteria**

This section presents the criteria to be used in the comparative proposal evaluation process and the relative weights of the criteria, in percent. For example, “6.1 Net Project Revenue” to DHHL shall represent 40% of the total merit of any proposal. Higher purchase prices paid to DHHL will mean higher standing in the list of proposals received by DHHL. Conversely, purchase price is only part (40%) of the criteria considered by DHHL in selecting a proposal and may not be the decisive factor.

Each proposal will be evaluated in relation to its conformance with the weighted criteria (totaling 100%). Each applicant must satisfy the following requirements:

<p><b>6.1 Net Project Revenue.</b> Cattle purchase revenues to DHHL shall be maximized as outlined in this RFP. Captured DHHL feral cattle will be counted onsite to determine revenues to DHHL. The proposal’s per animal price will be used for comparison with other proposals.</p>	40%
<p><b>6.2 Project Management Plan.</b> The applicant shall submit a brief project management plan using, at least, the eight (8) required topics described above under 3.2. The successful licensee will be required to provide a cash performance bond of not less than \$5,000 and liability insurance of not less than \$1,000,000.</p>	15%
<p><b>6.3 DHHL Community Benefit.</b> This includes the number or types of jobs, projected timing on the availability of these jobs, local investment opportunities created by the project, and how these will benefit the DHHL trust. Cultural values, in-service training of local workers, and other forms of community participation are acceptable forms of DHHL benefit.</p>	15%
<p><b>6.4 Qualifications.</b> The applicant shall establish that they have relevant experience in Hawaii, have worked with feral and potentially dangerous cattle, are involved in the local cattle industry, and are able to successfully complete a project of this magnitude on time and as planned. Specific and relevant knowledge of Humuula and Piihonua Mauka should be described here.</p>	30%

**Figure 1 – Cattle Removal Project Location Map**



**Figure 2 - Cattle Removal Blocks on DHHL lands, Humuula/Piihonua Mauka**

