

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

March 13, 2009

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

Land Board Members:

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL TO FUND & IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSALS TO BE AWARDED FROM THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM**

This board submittal requests approval to enter into contracts or letters of agreements for the ten projects to be awarded from the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) request for proposals (RFP), aimed at addressing research and technology needs for invasive species priorities. This board submittal also requests that the Chairperson be authorized to negotiate and execute contracts and agreements for services, subject to the availability of funds and approval as to form by the Attorney General's Office.

**BACKGROUND:**

The 2003 State Legislature authorized the creation of the HISC and stated "the silent invasion of Hawaii by alien invasive species is the single greatest threat to Hawaii's economy, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of Hawaii's people and visitors." Hawaii is one of the few states in the nation that has recognized the need for coordination among all state agencies at a cabinet level, addressing and coordinating the responsibility to control invasive species on the ground, as well as regulate the pathways in which invasive species can gain access into the state.

HISC, which is administered by DLNR, received a budget of \$4 million for the year FY09 to provide support for the operations of the HISC and its cooperating partners, to develop a comprehensive state-wide invasive species prevention, control, research, and outreach program. Of that amount, including some redirected contingency funds, \$330,000 was budgeted for the Research and Technology Program out of the special fund portion of the budget (S-09-314). HISC research and technology evaluation committees have completed a review of 29 research and technology proposals submitted in response to the Requests for Proposals. A total of 18 reviewers evaluated some or all of the proposals, including staff from DOA, DEBDT, DOH, DLNR, HISC, USDA, UH, Bishop

Museum, USGS etc. A core group met at Lyon Arboretum on January 30, 2009 to review the top ranked projects. Ten projects were selected and funds requested come to a total of \$329,737, slightly below the \$330,000 allotted for Research and Technology projects in the FY09 HISC budget.

These ten Research and Technology projects are matched with \$366,949 in non-state dollars (summaries attached). They will be funded to the level indicated here:

	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Research Provider</b>	<b>Type of agreement</b>
1.	\$50,000	Control of arboreal Little Fire Ants ( <i>Wasmannia auropunctata</i> ) in Hawai'ian agricultural systems	University of Hawaii	Contract
2.	\$23,805	Development of Herbicide Ballistic Technology as an effective incipient weed mitigation tool	University of Hawaii	Contract or LOA
3.	\$12,100	Assessing the risk of Jackson's chameleon, <i>Chameleo jacksonii</i> , to native animal communities in Hawaii	Bishop Museum	Contract
4.	\$47,000	Evaluating methods for the eradication of invasive tilapia from Hawaiian wetlands	PAHIO Development, Inc.	Contract
5.	\$34,440	Improving the Spatial Accuracy of Image-Based Weed Mapping Technology to Evaluate Weed Control Efforts	The Nature Conservancy	Contract or LOA
6.	\$43,000	The potential for the biological control of wild ginger ( <i>Hedychium</i> spp.)	Tri-Isle Conservation	Contract
7.	\$22,719	The Value of Preventing <i>Solenopsis invicta</i> from Invading Hawaii	University of Hawaii	Contract or LOA
8.	\$27,433	Evaluating Policy Options to Reduce the Risk of Ohia Rust in Hawaii	University of Hawaii	Contract or LOA
9.	\$27,620	Invasive species management using prevention and control technologies in the West Maui mountains.	Malama Kahalawai, Inc	Contract
10.	\$41,620	Applying state of the art remote sensing technology to invasive species management in East Maui	Tri Isle Conservation	Contract

PROVISIONS

On November 13, 2008 the RFP was posted on the State Procurement Office website for HISC Research and Technology Program (HISCRT-09). The due date for proposal submissions was January 5, 2009.

Approval for contract services according to budget execution policies has been requested from the Governor's office and is being reviewed by the Department of Budget and Finance. Subject to receipt of necessary legal and procurement approvals, contracts or agreements will be negotiated with the awarded principal investigators to ensure implementation of the projects according to their proposal's scope, goals and deliverables. The State of Hawaii AG contract or a standard Letter of Agreement, developed specifically for the HISC projects, will be used.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the board: 1) approve implementation of the HISC Research and Technology Program for FY09; and 2) authorize the chairperson to negotiate and execute contracts subject to:

- a. Scope of services (contract deliverables) as summarized in the attachment.
- b. Availability of State funds and approvals to procure services as per amended Budget Execution policies.
- c. Approval as to form by the Attorney General's Office.

Respectfully submitted,



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PAUL J. CONRY, Administrator  
Division of Forestry and Wildlife

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



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LAURA H. THIELEN, Chairperson  
Board of Land and Natural Resources