

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

July 22, 2009

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

Land Board Members:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE BLNR CHAIRPERSON TO ENTER INTO AND NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT FOR THE RECOVERY YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAM COORDINATOR.

This board submittal requests that the Chairperson be authorized to negotiate and execute contracts for services for the State of Hawaii Recovery Youth Conservation Corps Program subject to the availability of funds and approval as to form by the Attorney General's Office. An RFP process is being used to select a coordinator for the program based on the approval of the Chairperson and approval as to form by the Attorney General's Office.

BACKGROUND:

The 2009 State of Hawaii Recovery Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) is an ongoing state program established under Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) chapter 193, and administered by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR's) Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW). The Recovery YCC Program is being funded by a comparative grant awarded to DLNR-DOFAW by the Corporation for National and Community Service, AmeriCorps state program, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Federal Stimulus Package.

The primary goal of the State of Hawaii Recovery YCC Program is to provide educational and introductory level work experiences for the participants/members through "hands-on" participation in conservation services. Forty-five (45) full-time members will spend between 10 and 10.5 months (1700 hours) "in the field" with Hawaii's natural resource managers, educators, scientists and community leaders; learning about Hawaiian plants and animals, native ecosystems, watersheds, historic sites, aquaculture, and the current demands being placed on Hawaii's natural resources. The members will be mentored by professional resource managers, as they work on conservation projects, and make important professional contacts.

The Recovery YCC Program provides support for participants in the form of living allowances, health care (for full-time participants only), workers' compensation and assistance for higher education through an education award following completion of service. Not only does the program provide participants contact with Hawaii's natural environment, but it also teaches skills that may be directed towards professional careers in resource management.

The RFP and contract specifies that the contractor is responsible for managing the Americorps program by recruiting members, providing stipends and benefits to members and acting as liaison between DLNR, complying with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) reporting requirements, and providing fiscal oversight for the grant. These members will be supervised by DLNR and other partner organization field staff directly and guided indirectly by the program coordinators through administrative support.

The Recovery Youth Conservation Corps Program is funded with \$863,451 federal dollars for 1 year. No State Special or General funds will be used for this program. Approval to apply for and expend these funds for this ARRA program were granted by the Governor on 6/15/09.

PROVISIONS

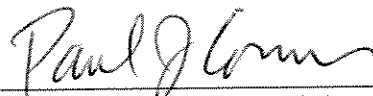
On June 25, 2009 the RFP was posted on the State Procurement Office website the State of Hawaii Recovery Youth Conservation Corps Program (RFP-DOFAW-09-RecoveryYCC). The due date for proposal submissions was July 10, 2009.

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 standard contract for the RYCC projects, will be used.

RECOMMENDATION:

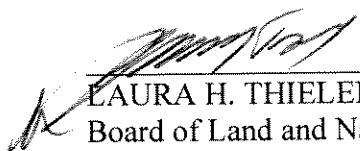
That the board authorize the chairperson to negotiate and execute a contract for the Recovery Youth Conservation Corps Program based on the scope of work in the RFP, subject to the availability of funds and review and approval by the Attorney General.

Respectfully submitted,



PAUL J. CONRY, Administrator
Division of Forestry and Wildlife

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



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