

**Hawaii Experimental Tropical Forest Research Station; Laupahoehoe, Hawaii
Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, Pacific Southwest Research Station; Hilo,
Hawaii
\$2,500,000
U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture**

This funding would finance the costs associated with the establishment and construction of a research and education center for the Hawaii Experimental Tropical Forest (HETF). Public Law 102-574 authorized the establishment of the HETF to serve as a center for long-term research and a focal point for developing and transferring knowledge and expertise for managing the tropical landscapes. Dozens of research projects have begun at HETF since its establishment, and it has the potential to become a world center of excellence in the study and education of tropical forests and watersheds. Indeed, working with the University of Hawaii, HETF has been selected as one of the National Science Foundation's 20 Core Wildland Sites of the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON), a 30 year science program. The HETF was also selected as a site of the Forest Service's National Experimental Forest Synthesis Network. Constructing this center will aid HETF in fully realizing its potential as a research center and will help HETF to build upon its long term and locally relevant scientific research that aids in making better land management decisions.

**Hawaii Invasive Species Management; Hawaii (statewide)
FWS Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office; Honolulu, Hawaii
\$350,000
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior**

This funding would help to reduce the impact of established invasive species in Hawaii and support on-going efforts to prevent future invasive species introductions. Invasive species threaten Hawaii's endangered species, insular ecosystems, and human health, and they have significant, negative impacts on the continued viability of its tourism and agriculture economies. The major factor limiting endangered species recovery and contributing to endangered species decline in Hawaii is the continued presence of invasive species that are ecologically harmful. It is anticipated that state funding will be significantly reduced in the upcoming year due to a decline in state revenue. Without additional federal support, critical invasive species prevention and control efforts spanning decades are in jeopardy.

**James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge Land Acquisition; Kahuku, Hawaii
James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge; Haleiwa, Hawaii
\$7,400,000
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior**

This funding would provide for the acquisition of the remaining parcels totaling approximately 1,100 acres on Oahu's northern shore to complete the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge as a natural coastal dune and wetland ecosystem. The purchase would protect

the largest natural coastal wetland and last remaining natural coastal dune ecosystem on Oahu. It is a premier endangered Hawaiian waterbird recovery area and supports four endangered Hawaiian waterbirds and a variety of migratory shorebirds and waterfowl. In 2005, the Fish and Wildlife Service purchased 222 acres in fee and 16 acres in easement, including the two units previously managed under a 55-year lease from the Estate of James Campbell. Public Law 109-225 increased the total acreage within the approved refuge boundary from 342 acres to 1,100 acres. This funding would complete the expansion of James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge for wildlife and habitat protection and resolve issues associated with the hydrology of the Kahuku floodplain. Heavy floods occur frequently in this area, devastating residents who live in the adjacent town of Kahuku. Because of the location and natural function of this floodplain, the land acquisition also serves as the crucial component for the proposed Kahuku flood control project by preserving the floodwater retention of these wetlands and providing an area where flood control design can be made more efficient.

National Tropical Botanical Garden Conservation Efforts; Hawaii
National Tropical Botanical Garden; Hawaii
\$500,000
National Park Service, Department of the Interior

This funding would support conservation efforts at the National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) as authorized in the Public Law 111-11. Hawaii has over 230 plant species on the verge of extinction. This funding request will allow the NTBG to continue work with state and federal agencies to implement emergency actions to perpetuate these exceptionally rare species and prevent their extinction. This request will also support NTBG's "intensive care" nursery to propagate and grow at risk species. Finally, this funding will support the classification and systematic research needed to identify rare and endangered plants in the Hawaiian flora.

Native Hawaiian Culture and Arts Program; Honolulu, Hawaii
Bishop Museum; Honolulu, Hawaii
\$740,000
National Park Service, Department of the Interior

This funding would support the Native Hawaiian Culture and Arts Program (NHCAP). NHCAP was authorized by Public Law 99-498 to preserve, support, revitalize, and develop Native Hawaiian art and culture. NHCAP's efforts are focused on assisting Hawaiians to be practitioners of their culture in a rapidly changing multi-cultural world and to share knowledge of and celebrate Hawaiian art and culture. NHCAP projects include educational programs, exhibits, publications, and increased access to Bishop Museum's vast cultural collections of artifacts, documents, and images. These projects align with the NHCAP Board's strategic priorities to support and celebrate Native Hawaiian culture, create opportunities for youth, and establish partnerships with similar organizations.

**Watershed and Coral Reef Management; Hawaii (statewide)
Pacific Island Ecosystem Research Center; Honolulu, Hawaii
\$300,000
U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior**

This funding would provide for the execution of a multidisciplinary process-oriented study of watersheds and ecosystems to provide scientific information to resource managers on tropical islands. Hawaiian watersheds hold about 40 percent of all U.S. endangered species, and healthy watersheds are vital to maintaining a sustainable supply of fresh water to support residents, tourists, agriculture, and industry. However, many watersheds and coastal areas are threatened by human impacts. Information and predictive models are needed to effectively address these threats. Therefore, the funding will go towards developing modeling tools that can be used by watershed managers to evaluate the effectiveness of various watershed restoration actions. The work would have broad transferability to other areas where watershed management is linked to coastal resources. Information from the program would support land, wildlife, and marine management decisions by federal and local agencies, in addition to numerous non-governmental organizations. Project data would allow land managers to better address watershed degradation, invasive species, threatened and endangered species, and coral reef degradation. In addition this project would develop methods for local landowners and citizen groups to better estimate the efficacy of efforts to restore forests. The work would add scientific guidance to the efforts of several watershed partnerships in Hawaii, which are collectively spending about \$5,000,000 annually on watershed protection and restoration.

**Well Monitoring and Water Assessment; Hawaii (islands of Hawaii, Oahu, and
Molokai)
Pacific Islands Water Science Center; Honolulu, Hawaii
\$500,000
U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior**

This funding would enable continued work with stakeholders to provide information on water resources so that they can be managed on a sustainable and legally defensible basis. It will also provide for the operation of long-term stream gages. These gages have previously been funded in cooperation with the State Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM), but local budget shortfalls have forced CWRM to reduce funding for this work. Most of these gages have been in operations for more than 50 years, and provide important information on climate change, water availability, and flood alerts. As with previous years, other specific tasks in FY 2010 will be developed in consultation with stakeholders, such as CWRM and county water departments. Water-resource agencies and private-sector interests use this information to get a picture of the quantity and quality of water resources. This program will be used by local stakeholders to guide allocation disputes, improve long-term planning, and provide sustainable and economically viable development. As water management becomes increasingly contentious, information to evaluate the sustainability of water resources is needed to provide accurate decisions that balance environmental protection with economic opportunity.