

House District 7
Senate District 4

**THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
APPLICATION FOR GRANTS
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

Log No:

For Legislature's Use Only

Type of Grant Request:

GRANT REQUEST – OPERATING

GRANT REQUEST – CAPITAL

"Grant" means an award of state funds by the legislature, by an appropriation to a specified recipient, to support the activities of the recipient and permit the community to benefit from those activities.

"Recipient" means any organization or person receiving a grant.

STATE DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY RELATED TO THIS REQUEST (LEAVE BLANK IF UNKNOWN): _____

STATE PROGRAM I.D. NO. (LEAVE BLANK IF UNKNOWN): _____

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual:
Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization

Dbas: Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization

Street Address:
65-1279 Kawaihae Rd. Ste 211, Kamuela, HI 96743

Mailing Address:
65-1279 Kawaihae Rd. Ste 211, Kamuela, HI 96743

2. CONTACT PERSON FOR MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION:

Name ELIZABETH PICKETT

Title Executive Director

Phone # 808-443-8303

Fax # _____

E-mail elizabeth@hawaiiwildfire.org

3. TYPE OF BUSINESS ENTITY:

- NON PROFIT CORPORATION INCORPORATED IN HAWAII
- FOR PROFIT CORPORATION INCORPORATED IN HAWAII
- LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
- SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP/INDIVIDUAL
- OTHER

6. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S REQUEST:

OPERATIONAL AND PROJECT FUNDS TO SUPPORT WILDFIRE PREVENTION AND HAZARD REDUCTION MEASURES IN HIGH-RISK FIRE-PRONE COMMUNITIES AND SENSITIVE NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS STATEWIDE AS THE PRIMARY NONPROFIT WILDFIRE COLLABORATIVE

4. FEDERAL TAX ID #: _____

5. STATE TAX ID #: _____

7. AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDS REQUESTED:

FISCAL YEAR 2017: \$ 158,000

8. STATUS OF SERVICE DESCRIBED IN THIS REQUEST:

- NEW SERVICE (PRESENTLY DOES NOT EXIST)
- EXISTING SERVICE (PRESENTLY IN OPERATION)

SPECIFY THE AMOUNT BY SOURCES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF THIS REQUEST:

STATE \$ _____
FEDERAL \$ 177,200
COUNTY \$ _____
PRIVATE/OTHER \$ _____

TYPE NAME & TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:

ELIZABETH PICKETT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NAME & TITLE

Jan 18, 2016
DATE SIGNED



RECEIVED
1/20/16

Application for Grants and Subsidies

I. Background and Summary

1. A brief description of the applicant's background

Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization (HWMO) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to protecting communities and natural resources across the state of Hawaii from the impacts of wildfire. HWMO was founded in 2002 by a diverse group of stakeholders concerned about the lack of wildfire preparedness and prevention in the face of increasing frequency and severity of wildfires. The founders and stakeholders of HWMO include representatives of county and state agencies, fire fighters, scientists, ranchers, natural resource managers, community leaders, planners, and cultural practitioners. This group with diverse interests and jurisdictions came together and formed HWMO to address the growing wildfire problem in a way that wasn't achievable through one agency or entity alone. Initially, HWMO was focused in the area with the largest fires on Hawaii Island (North Kohala to South Kona). Over the years, as the work of our organization became vital to the wildfire prevention efforts of communities, land managers, and fire suppression agencies in the area, our participation and leadership were requested in other districts and on other islands with a growing number of agency and other partners. Every island in Hawaii has a wildfire issue and has needs associated with preparedness and mitigation. HWMO now works on each island with the relevant collaborators to lead and coordinate multi-partner wildfire planning, mitigation, and education projects.

Specifically, HWMO serves as a collaboration-focused nonprofit that works to serve the state's wildfire prevention needs by carrying out diverse projects to:

- reduce wildfire hazards and impacts on the ground
- facilitate and coordinate the collaboration among public and private entities towards protection of communities and natural resources from wildfire
- improve firefighting resources (via improved access, water availability, training, maps)
- work with communities and youth on wildfire prevention and preparedness activities.

HWMO is the only organization of its kind in the state. Cumulatively, its Board of Directors, Technical Advisory Committee, fire agency partners, and employed staff offer the best wildfire mitigation expertise in Hawaii. Through the implementation of projects such as installing helicopter diptanks to aid aerial firefighting, increasing firefighting access around communities by creating fuelbreaks, providing K-12 wildfire prevention assemblies and community workshops, and developing community-based wildfire protection plans, HWMO's work has saved lives and homes, safeguarded numerous subdivisions, enhanced firefighting capacity, and protected some of the last remaining native dryland forests from wildfire.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request

In line with its mission to protect communities and natural resources across Hawaii from wildfire, HWMO is requesting operational funds to support our efforts to increase community participation in wildfire protection and reduce wildfire hazards through vegetation

management. These projects are based on a thorough understanding of priorities and issues across the state (explained further below). They are the top priorities of the fire and land managers currently serving as technical advisors to the organization.

In 2012, HWMO completed two landmark efforts that have informed this request. The first was a statewide wildfire hazard assessment, in which we drove and assessed every subdivision in the state to evaluate 36 wildfire hazard characteristics from vegetative fuels to firefighting access to home building materials, weather and community preparedness (or lack thereof).

From this effort, we now have a comprehensive understanding of the specific wildfire mitigation actions that are necessary to safeguard each subdivision across the state.

The second project was the completion of the first ever Hawaii state wildfire history database and map (Figure 1), which gathered the records of county, state, and federal fire suppression agencies across the state and put them all together for the first time in state history. From the database, HWMO then mapped wildfire ignitions from the last decade, revealing important trends and patterns of wildfire occurrence. In addition to confirming that 99% of wildfires in Hawaii are human-caused (only 1% caused by lava and lightning), we also found that the ignitions almost always occur along the road and spread through unmanaged vegetation, endangering the adjacent subdivisions and natural areas.

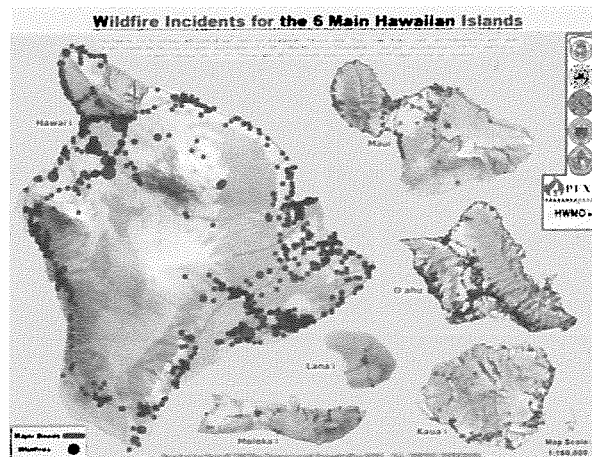


Figure 1. *Hawaii Wildfire Ignitions Map (2002-2011)*. The majority of wildfires begin along roads and human-access areas and are accidentally or intentionally started by people. Note: the points are ignitions, not the full area burned by the fires. Wildfires range between 1-35,000 acres, threatening lives, structures, and irreplaceable natural resources.

This indicates a two-part fire prevention strategy is crucial:

- **Reduce ignitions via education and outreach-** Work with the public to increase wildfire prevention and protection strategies. This is essential for reducing accidental roadside and subdivision fire starts (idling cars over grass, using equipment like mowers and weedwhackers in dry conditions, etc.)
- Reduce the chances that fire will spread from the roadside into communities and natural areas by **strategically managing hazardous vegetation** around community boundaries and within subdivisions (to protect lives and homes), and in areas of high natural or cultural value (to prevent fire from destroying irreplaceable resources). Fire can only burn where there is fuel for it to burn, and unmanaged high hazard vegetative fuels are abundant and dangerous across most leeward areas in Hawaii.

HWMO has been leading the work to address these essential tasks by first developing federally compliant Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs). CWPPs represent an extensive process of holding public and agency meetings to identify the wildfire-related concerns of

residents and fire agencies per fire prone area. CWPPs not only foster awareness and a sense of responsibility regarding actions that can be taken to mitigate the fire hazard, they allow for cross-pollination of ideas and priorities among residents, fire fighters, and other agency personnel. After over 30 public and agency meetings, all Priority 1 areas (making up more than half the state) will have completed plans by HWMO by June 2016. This was an important step toward the first goal of working with the public to increase awareness. Throughout this effort, however, it became more and more clear that wildfire-focused prevention messaging is inconsistent across the state, and wildfire's widespread impacts are underpublicized. This is why Objective 1, below, is an instrumental action to take.

HWMO is also currently working with ten communities on five islands to become Firewise certified. Until HWMO's current effort, only one such community existed, and it was certified eleven years ago. This is an important step for fire prone communities in Hawaii, as it represents a commitment by the residents to safeguard their homes and subdivisions through volunteer vegetation reduction activities, addressing the second goal stated above regarding hazardous vegetation management. While this effort addresses hazardous vegetation within ten subdivisions, there is still a substantial amount of hazardous vegetation to be managed to reduce risk effectively on the landscape level.

With numerous Community Wildfire Protection Plans soon to be in place and a handful of communities on their way to becoming Firewise certified for the first time in a decade, HWMO gathered its Technical Advisory partners to develop a list of next steps— project priorities for the next 1-3 years that are critical to reducing the immediate wildfire threat (which is higher than normal, explained in the next section). The highest priority objectives are as follows, which HWMO proposes to address utilizing the funds requested here. These projects depart from the more piecemeal approach to projects, and instead work toward an overarching collaborative statewide education effort, with county-specific collaborative action and planning for hazardous vegetation management. These objectives not only reduce hazards on their own, but are foundational to moving forward on subsequent priority wildfire prevention efforts over the long term.

Objective 1:

Create all-agency unified wildfire prevention messaging, related materials, and a public awareness campaign to maximize public protection and preparedness.

Each fire suppression agency in Hawaii (there are 8 total among county, state, and federal governments), as well as University of Hawaii Cooperative Extension and HWMO, currently present fire prevention materials and messaging with varying degrees of emphasis on wildland fire (as opposed to structural fires), with varying degrees of collaboration, and with varying frequency. HWMO is the only entity that is 100% focused on wildfire in all that it does and is well positioned to work with the other entities and lead this effort. This education and outreach objective will incorporate the newest and best information about the widespread impacts of fire in Hawaii (from sources such as University of Hawaii, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and HWMO's fire history and hazard data) and strategies to protect homes, communities, and natural resources. The project will also bring together the best of each

agency's existing (albeit scant except for HWMO) outreach materials and strategies to create a more powerful, current, and effective outreach effort. Having consistent messaging and materials and a collaborative outreach plan will be key to getting the word out that wildfires in Hawaii critically affect all people and lands in ways many don't realize (see next section), and that wildfires and their damage are very preventable. HWMO will work with partners across the state to develop a coordinated outreach plan to maximize reach and minimize duplication as everyone moves forward with the same collaboratively developed materials and message. This project will shift separate agency wildfire prevention and preparedness outreach into a broader-reaching and cohesive wildfire prevention/protection campaign across the state. This will be the first time all agencies and partners have worked together toward such an effort (essentially speaking with one voice) and marks a significant step toward improved public safety and hazard resilience.

Objective 2:

Develop cross-boundary vegetation management priorities, maps, and projects for all four counties in Hawaii.

Fire suppression resources, fuelbreak mapping, and vegetation reduction efforts are currently disconnected across jurisdictions and land ownership boundaries on all islands in Hawaii. HWMO's Technical Advisory Committee determined that it is important to ensure that the management of fire prone vegetation is optimized to protect communities and sensitive natural resources. To do this, HWMO proposes to facilitate the collaborative development of plans and maps per county that identify areas of high hazard and strategically delineate fuelbreaks to protect sensitive resources and at-risk subdivisions. From this map and its associated priority projects plan, landowners and land managers can work together in a coordinated fashion to ensure that the highest priority areas are protected and addressed first, making best use of funds and labor. This type of collaborative process to delineate and prioritize the reduction and maintenance of hazardous vegetation will be instrumental in strategically protecting communities and natural resource areas from wildfire spread across land ownership boundaries and jurisdictions. Additionally, this map of pre-identified vegetation management priorities will allow partners across the state to leverage additional funds and labor toward these priority areas, adding additional value and hazard protection outcomes to the project. The long-term outcome for this objective is the strategic management of hazardous, fire-prone vegetation that reduces the ability of fire to spread into communities and ecologically-sensitive areas.

The combination of Objective 1 and 2 articulate the highest priorities determined by the state's fire experts and land managers. From this project, we anticipate a substantial increase in public wildfire awareness from the first-ever statewide coordinated outreach effort, increased risk reduction from landscape-level hazardous vegetation management, and improved coordination of wildfire-focused discussion and planning across each island and among counties.

3. The public purpose and need to be served

After completing the statewide Wildfire Hazard Assessment and Wildfire History Map described in Section 1 above, HWMO and our partners at University of Hawaii CTAHR Cooperative

Extension conducted a thorough analysis of statewide firefighting records, which revealed that *a greater percentage of Hawaii's total land area burns or is under high risk of wildfire than any other U.S. state*. Wildfires are increasing in frequency, size, and severity on all islands, threatening communities, agricultural lands, and natural resources. Yet wildfire is off the radar for many in Hawaii because, until now, we were not able to completely articulate or communicate the scope of the fire issue nor its subtle but irreversible impacts. We now know that each year over the past decade almost 1,000 wildfires burned an average of 20,000 acres per year statewide, with some years reaching closer to 45,000 acres. Fire response agencies are able to contain 90% of wildfire ignitions to less than one acre in size, but large fires (>1000 acres) have occurred on all islands and happen multiple times each year across the state. Although Hawaii's largest wildfires tend to be overshadowed by large mainland wildfires, our fires cause significant long-term damage and immediate effects. Causes include expanding unmanaged non-native grasslands (now over 20% of state land cover), increasing drought, abundant human-caused ignitions, and year-round fire-promoting weather. The public is not aware of the severity of the state's wildfire issue nor its broad-reaching effects, but it is critical that awareness and action are prioritized and supported.

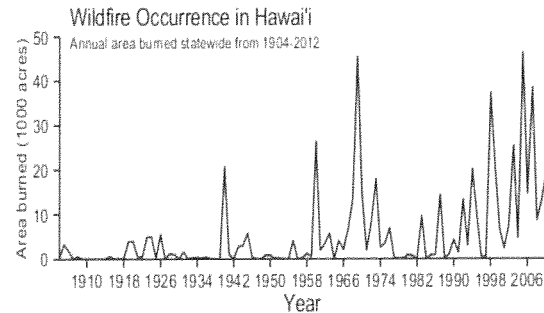


Figure 2. The area burned annually by wildfire in Hawaii is increasing. (Trauernicht 2014). It is important to note that prevention activities like vegetation management and education and outreach have not been supported to keep up with the increased fire hazard. HWMO's mission as a nonprofit organization is to supplement existing activities to ensure the public and our agencies have what they need to keep up with the growing fire problem.

Wildfires affect natural resources from mauka to makai and cause numerous municipal challenges. Wildfires:

- threaten lives, homes, and communities
- change soil (and often convert native vegetation to additional fire-prone non-native vegetation, causing more fires and a vicious cycle of increasing hazard)
- decrease groundwater recharge (burned soil prevents infiltration and affects drinking water supplies)
- cause flooding (burned soil repels water- rain washes off land instead of being absorbed)
- damage nearshore resources (fishponds, coral reefs, fisheries) from post-fire erosion that smothers coral reefs and clouds water
- create traffic and road closures
- degrade air quality (smoke and post-fire dust)
- destroy native forests (threatening native species and their habitats)
- cause erosion, fill streams with sediment (impacting water flow and stream plants and animals)
- are expensive to suppress (and costs are going up, even as funding to fight fires remains the same; firefighting and post-fire recovery are exponentially more expensive than prevention)
- are increasing in size, frequency, and damages.

The proposed project will make this information more available to and known by the public. It will also enable widespread sharing of the strategies the public can use to prevent wildfire ignitions and safeguard homes, families, and Hawaii's land and water resources.

Added to the list of impacts, their seriousness, and urgency is the fact that 2016-17 is projected to experience extreme drought and extreme fire hazard. This is due to El Niño, a periodic warming episode of east-central Pacific equatorial waters that causes significant changes in weather patterns and rainfall, contributing to drought in Hawaii. We are already beginning to see the signs of increased drought and wildfire activity across the state, with recent fires on Hawaii Island, Kauai, and Oahu. Due to the heavy rains experienced in 2015, unmanaged fire-prone vegetation is at an extreme height, density, and hazard. Prevention, pre-fire planning, and hazard reduction efforts are much more cost-effective than firefighting or post-fire recovery, and now is the time to begin these proactive measures. Prevention and mitigation activities, such as reducing ignitions through community education and reducing burnable vegetation has been shown to decrease the size, frequency, and severity of wildfires that occur. These are precisely what we have proposed to complete via this proposal.

HWMO was founded because agencies throughout Hawaii have limited capacity to prevent wildfires, reduce hazards, and restore impacted areas (basically, the non-firefighting aspects of managing wildfire threat and long-term effects). Wildfire impacts and suppression costs are increasing while resources for wildfire prevention, hazard reduction, and research remain relatively unchanged and insufficient. To fill in the gaps and aid the efforts of our County and State wildfire suppression agencies and conservation and community partners, HWMO has been raising funds and implementing collaborative projects to address many of the wildfire challenges listed above. This year has been especially challenging to secure the typical federal grants we pursue, as fire prevention funding opportunities are reduced due to the large-scale suppression efforts of megafires in the Western U.S. Wildfire is underpublicized, underfunded, and under-addressed in Hawaii. While HWMO has been making great strides in communicating the issue to the national audience of wildfire experts and funders, we still have much work to do to communicate the critical nature of the problem here within the state. This proposal would support that exact effort as well as allow HWMO to maintain its momentum on the ground with community preparedness and agency collaboration in the face of the decreased federal grant funding we expect in 2016-2017.

The funds requested here will enable implementation of priority projects to safeguard fire-prone areas statewide and support a portion of the organization's operational expenses. These efforts provide a substantial public service that not only assists the government agencies and other entities with whom we work, but also protects human lives, property, and the natural environment.

4. Describe the target population to be served

The populations to be served by this effort are those who live and work in high-risk fire-prone communities throughout the state. Local residents and visitors alike will be served by this effort, as all are affected by wildfire due to traffic, road closures, and environmental impacts

such as reduced groundwater recharge/drinking water, and air quality issues from smoke and post-fire dust. Post-fire erosion and flooding also impact the visitor/dive/fishing/recreation industries and lifestyles due to sediment input into nearshore waters that cloud the water, smother coral reefs, and degrade water quality. Residents of subdivisions in fire prone areas will especially benefit by the educational and technical support to employ fire preparedness strategies on their home and yard, and the effort to reduce fire spread toward and through their subdivisions.

As described above, firefighting agencies and natural resource managers will also benefit from the services provided by HWMO through the requested funds, as the projects we will implement are specifically and collaboratively designed to assist their efforts to protect communities and natural resources from wildfire through activities that take place before and after wildfire events. The projects were specifically designed to supplement and complement the fire agencies' efforts in a grounded, pre-vetted, and meaningful way.

5. Describe the geographic coverage

Wildfire issues occur on every island in the state. The areas with high wildfire hazard include leeward and drier areas on each island (Fig 3). While the *largest* fires occur in leeward areas, we know from the fire agency records that fire ignitions are already occurring on all sides of all islands (see Fig 1). With projected extreme drought and high levels of vegetative fire fuels in these areas, fires may be able to catch and spread in areas that are more typically too wet to sustain a wildfire. For this reason, the proposed project will provide outreach to all areas of the state, with an additional detailed focus on the most fire-prone communities. Our attention will also be focused on the wildland-urban interface (WUI), which is where developed areas abut natural areas, as these are the zones where fires are most often ignited and spread, endangering the largest populations and natural resources. These WUI areas include a diversity of demographics and types of infrastructure that will be the focus of protection, including residential subdivisions, resorts, businesses, utilities, historical sites, parks, threatened and endangered species, and protected areas.

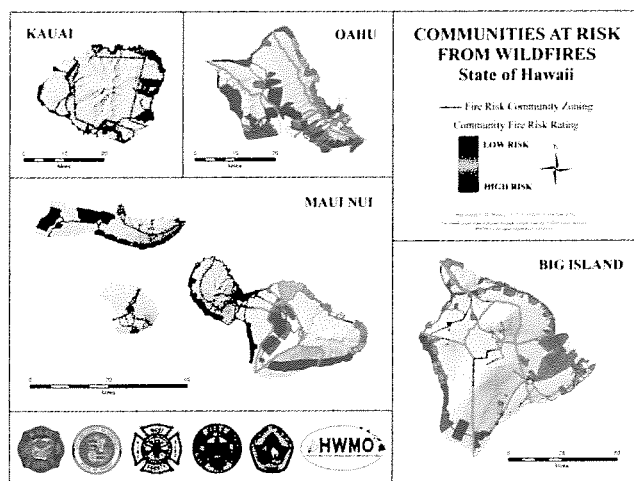


Figure 3. Communities at Risk from Wildfire Map (2012). All subdivisions in Hawaii were assessed for 36 hazard characteristics that put them at risk of wildfire occurrence and damages. Natural areas were not assessed; however, the likelihood of adjacent natural areas to burn was included in the assessment. Red and orange areas are highest priority (red is extreme hazard, orange is high hazard). Yellow areas are moderate risk and green areas are at the lowest risk). HWMO's proposed work will prioritize all moderate to extreme hazard areas.

HWMO has already started the process of working with residents and professionals along the WUI boundaries in all counties. This project would significantly build on that work. Most recently, we held public and agency-based meetings throughout West Oahu, Kauai, Maui,

Molokai, and Hawaii Island to aid communities in developing area-specific federally-compliant Community Wildfire Protection Plans (as stated above). These plans identify each community's wildfire-related concerns and priorities. The priorities in each area were the same as the fire and land management agency priorities:

- Broader community awareness and participation in reducing risk (outreach and education)
- Better-managed fire-prone vegetation (vegetative fuels management and reduction).

To serve these geographies and stakeholders, both of the projects we have proposed here address these two goals. Our goal is to build resilient fire-protected residential communities and landscapes statewide through strategic collaborative projects.

II. Service Summary and Outcomes

1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities

The scope of work includes tasks under two objectives, as detailed below:

Objective 1: Create all-agency unified wildfire prevention messaging, related materials, and a public awareness campaign to maximize public protection and preparedness.

Objective 1 tasks:

HWMO will lead the development of coordinated wildfire prevention outreach and education materials and activities among resource management and fire response agencies, HWMO, University of Hawaii (UH) Cooperative Extension, and cultural/environmental conservation entities. To do so, HWMO will:

- Work with agency/private partners to assess lessons learned, materials, outreach event calendars, etc., to develop unified outreach messaging, a list of key new informational products, and a coordinated outreach strategy/plan.
- Develop the shared outreach materials to be not less than: 4 youth and 4 adult outreach information products, including public service announcements (PSAs) endorsed by all.
- Coordinate printing and distribution of materials to all students and community associations in fire-prone areas across the state.
- Implement outreach plan to include statewide PSAs, National Wildfire Preparedness Day activities in all four counties, and provide 10- 20 workshops and in-school activities per county (depending on population size) using the new materials and messaging to initiate the statewide collaborative prevention campaign.

Objective 2: Develop cross-boundary vegetation management priorities, maps, and plans for all four counties in Hawaii.

Objective 2 tasks:

- Coordinate workshops with County and Federal fire departments, Hawaii DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife, HWMO, and other land management and community partners to:
 - map boundaries and status of current vegetative fuels management activities

- identify critical areas where additional or maintained vegetation management and other mitigation and firefighting resources are needed to address risk at the landscape level
- o Based on the collaborative input:
 - develop maps per county of prioritized fire fuels (vegetation) reduction and other necessary infrastructural development and maintenance needs
 - integrate vegetation management priorities onto existing map layers, such as land cover products, topography, water features, land tenure, and cultural/historical/ ecological preservation priorities. These maps will provide a template for immediate and future cross-boundary projects, land management planning, and for response agencies to readily identify landowners to enhance partnerships and collaboration.
 - develop a coordinated action plan for vegetative fire fuels management
 - identify at least 1 critical project for fuels reduction per county and initiate those projects to catalyze the newly developed collaborative action

The responsibilities of this project will be carried out by Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization staff with technical guidance from our Technical Advisory Committee and project partners. HWMO is a nonprofit organization supported by the technical expertise of over 30 agencies and entities, which connect HWMO to necessary agency leadership, experts, and resources for project implementation. The Technical Advisors contributed to the development of this project.

HWMO staff will be responsible for managing this project, implementing activities, facilitating multi-partner workshops and coordination meetings, facilitating community education workshops, developing and coordinating outreach materials according to collaborative goals, and providing deliverables. Thanks to our strong partnerships, University of Hawaii Cooperative Extension will contribute by assisting in workshop coordination, mapping, and outreach product development. Our partners within Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DLNR-DOFAW), County Fire Departments (Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, Honolulu), US Fish & Wildlife Service, National Park Service, US Army/Fed Fire Depts, and local watershed partnerships will contribute time and expertise toward mapping and planning workshops and participate in developing a coordinated wildfire prevention outreach strategy through existing quarterly wildfire coordinating group activities.

2. Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service.

The following table outlines our plan for accomplishing our goals (see next page):

Annual Timeline for Accomplishing Objectives				
Activities	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Objective 1:				
All-agency statewide wildfire prevention outreach activities				
1. Coordinate and work with partners via meetings and workshops to develop wildfire messaging and materials	*			
2. Develop a coordinated outreach and education strategy and plan for the year (initial launch) and beyond	*			
3. Develop the agreed-upon materials, finalize based on partner review	*	*		
4. Distribute printed materials to students and community associations in fire prone areas		*		
5. Implement the coordinated outreach plan, to include PSAs, National Wildfire Preparedness Day Events, and community workshops		*	*	*
Objective 2:				
Hazardous vegetation management priorities, maps, and plans for all four counties in Hawaii				
1. Coordinate and work with partners via meetings and workshops to develop vegetative fuels management priorities and locations	*			
2. Develop maps	*	*		
3. Coordinate and work with partners to develop hazardous vegetation management action plans, plan one critical project per county		*	*	*

3. Describe quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results.

Quality assurance

Both of the proposed objectives include built-in processes of utilizing expertise from individuals with long and trusted track records of professional experience in wildfire, resource management, and community engagement in Hawaii (fire chiefs and fire personnel, natural resource managers, community association leaders). These individuals will provide their expertise, recommendations, and other input toward the development and implementation of all deliverables. The education and outreach materials will undergo substantial review and revision before they are considered complete. Likewise, the vegetation management planning and prioritization map will be based on the wildfire mitigation priorities and experience of land managers experienced in designing fuelbreaks and protecting communities and natural resources from wildfire. The consequent vegetative fuels reduction projects will be based on the plan and map developed during the collaborative process and carried out in partnership with the appropriate fire and land managers.

The following table demonstrates our plan for evaluation (see next page):

Monitor and Evaluation Plans		
Activity	Methods	Information to be monitored & evaluated for future improvement
1. Collaborative Outreach & Education	<p>Materials reviewed by field experts</p> <p>Web-based surveys regarding effectiveness of informational resources to public who download materials from website</p> <p>Evaluation surveys after community workshops and in-school activities</p> <p>Track distribution of materials, workshops</p>	<p>Review content and style. Is message easily understood, do materials appropriately communicate priorities and strategies per county? Are materials endorsed by all fire and land management agencies? Will the public understand importance of fire prevention and know what actions they can take?</p> <p>Was information or experience helpful? Did it answer questions? Has awareness/ knowledge increased? How? Likeliness to take wildfire preparedness action.</p> <p>Recommendations for improvement and follow-up activities.</p> <p># materials distributed, # communities reached, Was info distributed to all fire-prone communities? All fire-prone schools?</p>
2. Mapping and prioritizing vegetation management for wildfire protection	<p>Maps and plans designed and reviewed by field experts</p> <p>Maps and plans utilized by partners- provided follow-up questionnaires for feedback</p>	<p>Do partners agree on priorities per county? Are priorities based on hazard level, community assets to be protected?</p> <p>Are maps available to all partners? Are maps being leveraged for resources to implement the priorities?</p>
3. Public-private collaboration processes	<p>Track efforts</p> <p>Participant feedback questionnaire</p>	<p>Type and # entities involved, are all fire management agencies involved? Are all products endorsed?</p> <p>Participant experience feedback and recommendations for improvement and follow-up activities.</p>

4. List the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency).

The measures of effectiveness will be as follows (see table on next page)

Measures of Effectiveness to be Reported	
Activity	Measure of Effectiveness
Outreach & Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 public-at-large products, 4 youth-focused products, and 4 PSAs outreach materials developed and endorsed by all fire agencies - Outreach materials developed and distributed to fire-prone community associations and schools on all islands - 10 (minimum) fire prevention and preparedness in-school activities and community workshops/events per county - National Wildfire Preparedness Day Event held in each county
Hazardous Vegetation Management Mapping and Prioritization Plan	- 4 maps and priority lists/plan developed by and distributed to fire and land managers that demonstrate vegetation management needs and priorities for maximum fire protection

III. Financial

Budget

1. The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.

Included.

2. The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2017.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$39,500	\$39,500	\$39,500	\$39,500	\$158,000

3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2017.

HWMO has the following grant proposals in process for FY 17, but due to the timing of grant deadlines, some are not yet secured:

Proposed Project	Source	Amount for FY17
Wildland-Urban Interface Education and Mitigation	US Forest Service	\$150,000 secured (FY 16-17) \$150,000 proposal due Aug.
3 Helicopter diptanks for firefighting	FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant	n/a Currently working with FEMA to develop project
Pacific Fire Exchange	Joint Fire Science Program	\$27,200 secured
HWMO Operational Support	Hawaii Community Foundation	\$30,000 proposal due April

Currently we have partial salary support (3/12 months) already secured for the Executive Director, as well as full salary for our Education and Outreach Coordinator. This request completes the staffing needs essential to implementing these priority projects. including project management, GIS mapping work, and general operational expenses. The other proposals to be submitted (above) are aimed at supporting on-the-ground hazardous vegetation removal projects.

4. The applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits it has been granted within the prior three years. Additionally, the applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits they have applied for or anticipate applying for pertaining to any capital project, if applicable.

Not applicable

5. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2015.

\$37,145

IV. Experience and Capability

A. Necessary Skills and Experience

Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization is the only entity doing the full spectrum of non-suppression wildfire protection activities in the state. For 11 years we have been providing wildfire education, engaging and assisting communities, writing fire plans, reducing hazards, and improving firefighting capacity. Over this time, we have learned, adapted, and developed successful strategies and techniques, and built networks of partnerships and collaborations to increase public safety and to protect Hawaii’s natural and cultural resources from wildfire. We are well prepared and positioned to accomplish the tasks described above. The mission of the organization and all of our activities is to provide the public service of wildfire preparedness and decreased wildfire impacts. State funds provided from this application will be matched with secured federal funds, allowing us to expand our limited geographic foci to include additional fire prone communities throughout the state, greatly expanding the public benefit of our activities.

Elizabeth Pickett, Executive Director of HWMO, will be responsible for oversight and implementation of the goals and activities described in this application. Elizabeth has a proven track record for successful natural resource management as well as engaging communities to be proactive. She has been leading wildfire protection projects, coordinating partner collaborations, and managing HWMO staff since 2008. From her position as Executive Director, she has co-coordinated the multi-partner platform for fire-related information, expertise, and technology exchange throughout the US-Affiliated Pacific. She holds the secretary position for the Big Island Wildfire Coordinating Group and is a participant in the West Maui Fire Task Force, Molokai Fire Task Force, Oahu Wildfire Information and Education Group, and Kauai Brushfire Meeting Group.

Additional expertise and implementation support for the project will come from the HWMO Board of Directors, HWMO Technical Advisory Committee, and paid HWMO staff. Details for each are provided below:

HWMO Volunteer Board of Directors and Technical Advisory Committee

The HWMO Board consists of some of the best wildfire and nonprofit expertise in the state. Federal, state, and county fire experts, land managers, ranchers, University of Hawaii Cooperative Extension, environmental scientists, and planners serve on the HWMO Board and its Technical Advisory Committee. Together these experts co-founded this proactive and collaboration-focused non-profit organization to address wildfire-related issues throughout Hawaii that, to this day (14 years later), are completed by no other entity in the state.

HWMO Directors are as follows:

Mark Thorne, UH Cooperative Extension

Mike Tomich, Retired Hawaii Fire Department

Sam Patten, PhD, Retired US Fish and Wildlife Fire Management Specialist

Carolyn Stewart, President MCS International, President Malama Kai Foundation

Dave Faucette, Native Plant Specialist, Natural Resource Manager

Peter Hackstedde, Community Association President

Frank Sayre, Daniel K. Sayre Memorial Foundation President

Roger Harris, Planner/ Development Manager

Made up of technical and field experts from agencies and organizations across Hawaii, HWMO's Technical Advisory Committee is part of the HWMO Board, and is detailed in the Partners section below.

HWMO Staff

In addition to the Executive Director, HWMO's staff is comprised of a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) specialist, community outreach and information specialist, and a fire mitigation fieldwork crew. The requested funds include salary support for the portion of salary dedicated to the proposed objectives by each of these positions.

Partner Contributors

HWMO has established positive and productive working partnerships with numerous entities. Through HWMO's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), additional fire management and resource management partners with expertise from fire fighting to ecology to community facilitation will contribute to various phases of this project. The TAC is organized precisely to share information and provide expertise on projects such as these. HWMO's TAC and partners includes representatives from:

Hawaii Fire Department
Honolulu Fire Department
Maui Fire Department
Kauai Fire Department
U.S. Army Fire and Emergency Services, PTA
Hawaii County Civil Defense
Maui Civil Defense
Kauai Civil Defense
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
National Park Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.
DLNR- Division of Forestry and Wildlife
DLNR- Division of State Parks
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
University of Hawaii CTAHR, Coop. Extension
South Kohala Coastal Partnership
Mauna Kea Watershed Alliance
West Maui Mountains Watershed Partnership
Hawaii Association of Watershed Partnerships
Waikoloa Dry Forest Initiative
Hawaii Community College
Hawaii Island Native Seed Bank
Parker Ranch
Ponoholo Ranch
Maui Land and Pineapple
Big Island Wildfire Coordinating Group
West Maui Fire Task Force
Molokai Fire Task Force
Oahu Wildfire Information and Education
Coordinating Group

B. Facilities

HWMO rents office space in Kamuela, HI and stores field equipment in a storage container also in Kamuela. These facilities fit our current and anticipated needs for staff workspace and equipment storage, as long as we can continue to cover the associated expenses. Part of the requested funds include costs associated with these expenses.

V. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

A. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

HWMO has achieved much of its success through strong partnerships and collaboration, and very dedicated and passionate employees. With a sufficient budget and the ability to hire our staff members full-time rather than part-time as we have funds for now, the scope and strength of our work would increase dramatically, as well as make possible the proposed projects that have been prioritized by our statewide partners.

The proposed staffing pattern to accomplish the described goals is as follows:

Staff Position	Proposed service	Qualifications
Executive Director/Project Manager	Responsible for overall direction of organization and accomplishment of all goals. Guide and manage daily operations, staff, progress toward milestones, administrative activities, and the completion of proposed projects. HWMO's Executive Director works side by side with staff to implement projects since the organization has only a few paid employees.	Masters degree. 15+ years of natural resource management experience. 7+ years of staff management and administrative experience. Knowledgeable about wildfire issues, best practices, and statewide partners.
Education & Outreach Coordinator	Develop collaboratively-designed educational materials for youth and adults. Maintain web-based educational resources. Coordinate outreach events and lead community workshops.	Bachelor's degree. 6+ years of wildfire prevention and preparedness. 6+ years working with the public. Print, web, and media skills.
Project Assistant	Coordinate logistics for multi-partner collaborative meeting sessions for the development of maps and educational materials, coordinate printing and distribution of materials, arrange and aid in-school education and community workshops. Coordinate all evaluation processes for products and deliverables to aid in measuring effectiveness and success.	Associate or Bachelor's degree. 2+ years experience working with the public, planning events, and/or working in education. Strong organizational skills.
GIS Mapping Analyst	Develop and produce map products and spatial analyses for use in planning projects, educational resources, and for firefighters who request detailed maps during fire events.	Bachelor's degree. Strong knowledge and skills of GIS mapping and analysis. 8+ years of wildfire prevention or natural resource management background.
Bookkeeper/Business manager	Maintain compliance with all laws. Provide bookkeeping services, human resources, administrative support, and payroll services.	Proper certifications and 8+ years experience.

HWMO has the experience and capacity to ensure these positions accomplish the goals laid out in this application. We have compliant labor, administrative, and recordkeeping systems in place, an employee manual, and biannual staff evaluations and work plan updates. Additionally, HWMO holds weekly staff meetings to ensure all work is being accomplished as

planned and to support each other to accomplish overall goals of the organization and our many partners.

The Executive Director is overseen by the Board of Directors and, in turn, oversees the staff. Staff are hired for their experience and skill sets, are required to keep up their specific certifications when necessary, and are supported whenever possible to pursue additional training.

Due to our expansion over the last few years from a focus on Hawaii Island and Maui County to now addressing wildfire issues statewide, we expanded our Board of Directors, with the plan to concurrently increase our capacity through more fundraising. While the Board makes this transition, it is conducting new strategic planning efforts and beginning additional fundraising efforts. We are a small nonprofit that is able to complete disproportionately larger critical projects thanks to our strong partnerships that leverage funds and labor toward our shared goals, expanding the reach and impact of our projects.

HWMO is seeking these state funds as bridge money to allow us to complete a highly prioritized set of public safety and hazard reduction projects. We want to continue the momentum generated from our multi-partner and across-the-state public meetings, which led to the development of these projects. No other entity in the state is poised to carry out such cross-jurisdictional, collaboration-focused statewide wildfire-related projects. HWMO's mission, vision, and experience provide the best platform for the accomplishment of the proposed projects.

B. Organization Chart

The following chart demonstrates the structure of Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization:

To ensure:	HWMO Structure	Expertise on many levels:
Compliant; Sustainable; Integrity	<p>Board of Directors Legal, Financial (including fundraising), Governance, Compliance Provide guidance and accountability to Executive Director</p>	Non-Profit Governance
Grounded in wildfire needs & priorities	<p>Technical Advisory Committee Advise, Assist, and Support HWMO Projects and Programs Keep HWMO grounded, effective, and relevant</p>	Technical Expertise
All aspects are coordinated and managed well	<p>Executive Director Lead operations, staff, finances, grant-writing Implement and manage projects Primary organizational (day-to-day) contact</p>	Overall Operations
Projects are completed on time and well	<p>Staff Implement and manage projects Community education, planning, fuels management, GIS</p>	Project Implementation

hawaiiwildfire.org

C. Compensation

The applicant shall provide the annual salaries paid by the applicant to the three highest paid officers, directors, or employees of the organization by position.

Executive Director: \$64,000, Education Coordinator: \$40,000, Part-time GIS analyst: \$15,400

VI. Other

A. Litigation

Not applicable

B. Licensure or Accreditation- The applicant shall specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that applicant possesses relevant to this request.

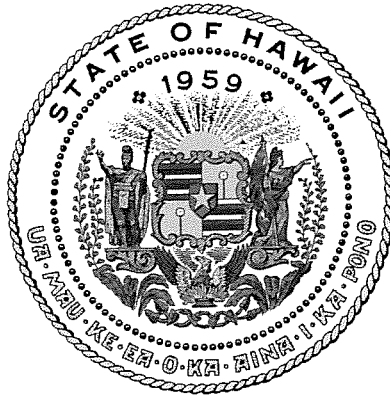
Each of our technical Board Directors and Advisors maintains current training requirements for their field, mostly as firefighters and/or foresters. Our personnel each have degrees in their areas of expertise, and keep up with current training certifications, from field work (chainsaw and equipment training) to wildfire-specific knowledge (Firewise certifications, Home Ignition Zone Assessment training, etc.).

C. Private Educational Institutions

Not applicable

D. Certificate of Good Standing

Included



Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

I, the undersigned Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that

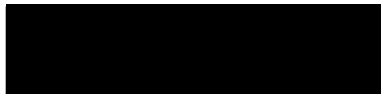
HAWAII WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 12/31/2002 ; that it is an existing nonprofit corporation; and that, as far as the records of this Department reveal, has complied with all of the provisions of the Hawaii Nonprofit Corporations Act, regulating domestic nonprofit corporations.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dated: January 15, 2016



Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Applicant: Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
A. PERSONNEL COST				
1. Salaries	78,240	186,000		
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	7,825			
3. Fringe Benefits	9,390	18,480		
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	95,455	204,480		
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Inter-Island travel	5,045	18,000		
2. Insurance	10,000	4,520		
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment				
4. Lease/Rental of Space	14,000			
5. Staff Training	2,500			
6. Education/Outreach Supplies		5,800		
7. Telecommunication	1,000			
8. Utilities				
9. Bookkeeping	10,000			
10. Printing of wildfire prevention materials	20,000			
11. Hazardous vegetation removal		90,000		
12. Additional/general project expenses, as needed		4,400		30,000
13				
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20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	62,545	122,720		30,000
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	158,000	327,200		30,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	158,000	Elizabeth Pickett	808-443-8303	
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	327,200	Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested		Signature of Authorized Official Date		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	30,000	Elizabeth Pickett Executive Director		
TOTAL BUDGET	515,200	Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
Executive Director/Project Manager	1	\$64,000.00	66.00%	\$ 42,240.00
Education & Outreach Coordinator	1	\$45,000.00	0.00%	\$ -
Project Assistant	0.5	\$18,000.00	100.00%	\$ 18,000.00
GIS Mapping Analyst	0.5	\$18,000.00	100.00%	\$ 18,000.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL:				\$ 78,240.00

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

The ED/Project Manager will oversee all processes and deliverables with assistance from the Project Assistant and the Education & Outreach Coordinator. The GIS Analyst will work half time exclusively on this project, developing the hazardous vegetation maps and plans as described in the proposal.

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Applicant: _Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization Period: July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
Not applicable			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:			\$ -	
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
Not applicable			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:			\$ -	
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Applicant: Hawaii Wildfire Management Organize

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED						
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS REQUESTED		FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS
	FY: 2014-2015	FY: 2015-2016	FY: 2016-2017	FY: 2016-2017	FY: 2017-2018	FY: 2018-2019
PLANS						
LAND ACQUISITION						
DESIGN						
CONSTRUCTION						
EQUIPMENT						
TOTAL:	Not Applicable					
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:						

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S. / State / Haw / Hon / Kau / Mau)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	Wildland Urban Interface Competitive Grant	July 2015- June 2017	US Forest Service	U.S.	300,000
2	Pacific Fire Exchange Coordination Assistant	Jan 2016- Dec 2017	Joint Fire Science Program	U.S.	54,176
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**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAI'I REVISED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant is awarded;
 - b) Complies with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
 - c) Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
 - d) Allows the state agency to which funds for the grant were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring the proper expenditure of the grant.

- 2) If the applicant is an organization, the applicant meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
 - b) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant is awarded shall be conducted or provided.

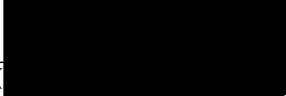
- 3) If the applicant is a non-profit organization, it meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
 - b) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.

Pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, for grants used for the acquisition of land, when the organization discontinues the activities or services on the land acquired for which the grant was awarded and disposes of the land in fee simple or by lease, the organization shall negotiate with the expending agency for a lump sum or installment repayment to the State of the amount of the grant used for the acquisition of the land.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



Jan 18, 2016
(Date)

Elizabeth Pickett

Executive Director

(Typed Name)

(Title)