

House District(s) 7

Senate District(s) 4

THE TWENTY-NINTH 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

Db/a: 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) 885-0900

Fax # n/a

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 DEVELOP AND PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE WILDFIRE PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS EDUCATION FOR HAWAII'S YOUTH, RESIDENTS, AND THOSE LIVING OR WORKING IN FIRE-PRONE AREAS. AS AN AWARD-WINNING HUB OF WILDFIRE EDUCATION AND PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS IN HAWAII, HWMO IS WELL-POSITIONED TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND PRIVATE PARTNERS TO RAMP UP PUBLIC WILDFIRE SAFETY THROUGH EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS.

4. FEDERAL TAX ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

5. STATE TAX ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

7. AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDS REQUESTED:

FISCAL YEAR 2019: \$208,000

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 \$ 360,000

COUNTY \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PRIVATE/OTHER \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Elizabeth Pickett, Executive Director 1/17/18  
NAME & TITLE DATE SIGNED

## Application for Grants

*Please check the box when item/section has been completed. If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter "not applicable".*

### **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 serves as a hub of wildfire education and project coordination across the state, aiming for wildfire-ready residents and wildfire-safe landscapes. The organization has won several national awards for its work to improve wildfire safety and preparedness in Hawaii.

HWMO was founded in 2000 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 value of our organization's work became clear in its role of filling in the wildfire prevention gaps in the area, our participation and leadership were requested across the state by a growing number of agencies and other partners. Every island in Hawaii has wildfire issues and has needs associated with preparedness and hazard reduction. HWMO now works on each island with the relevant collaborators to facilitate and coordinate multi-partner wildfire planning, hazard reduction, and education projects. Our projects have become as diverse as our partners and the needs on the ground, but the common thread to our work is that Hawaii's people and places are safer from the threat of wildfire as a result of the work that we do.

HWMO is the only organization of its kind in the state. Cumulatively, its Board of Directors, Technical Advisory Committee, fire agency partners, and staff offer the best wildfire mitigation expertise in Hawaii. HWMO operates with the understanding that prevention is the most cost-effective means of addressing wildfire. Our organization has been able to fill a critical gap within emergency response agencies across the state by improving and delivering wildfire education to youth, communities, natural resource managers, and even fire agencies whose training is focused on structural fires rather than wildfires. We are able to do this work mostly by competing for and utilizing funds from competitive grants. For the last few years, HWMO's focus has been on developing Hawaii-focused prevention education materials and learning events for homeowners, students, and large landowners. We have developed Community Wildfire Protection Plans covering over half of the state, and initiated and continue to coordinate the first statewide multi-agency wildfire prevention campaign, *Wildfire Lookout!*

([www.hawaiiwildfire.org/lookout](http://www.hawaiiwildfire.org/lookout)), which is endorsed by nearly 40 government and non-governmental organizations. We provide information, workshops, and assemblies on wildfire prevention for local schools and community groups. HWMO's work has saved lives, protected communities, assisted fire fighters, and broadened public conversation and knowledge about wildfire impacts in Hawaii.

2.  The goals and objectives related to the request;

**Goal: Increase public wildfire prevention education and action**

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 ramp up wildfire prevention education across Hawaii. This project is based on a thorough understanding of priority projects and issues across the state (explained further below), and has become a top priority of the fire and land managers currently serving as technical advisors to the organization. The inspiration for the project originally came from Senator Mazie Hirono in a Senate Committee on Energy & Natural Resources Oversight Hearing on Wildland Fire Management on August 3rd, 2017. Senator Hirono voiced concern over the lack of federal wildfire prevention education in Hawaii and suggested that Hawaii needs a local approach and mascot to engage and inspire wildfire awareness and prevention in Hawaii, and a campaign that focuses on youth involvement in wildfire prevention. She suggested it be called something like "Every Child Preventing Wildfire". We are proposing to follow up on these suggestions, because they are aligned with a rich analysis of the highest priority needs in Hawaii related to wildfire. This background is briefly described below, as it is important for highlighting the value of and need for the proposed project.

In 2012, HWMO completed two landmark efforts that led to projects that have paved the way to 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 over the last decade, revealing important trends and patterns of wildfire occurrence. In addition to confirming that 99% of wildfires in Hawaii are human-caused,



*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 1-35,000 acres, threatening lives, structures, and irreplaceable natural resources.*

we also found that the ignitions almost always occur along a road, endangering the adjacent subdivisions and natural areas. The results indicate that wildfire is, in large part, a people issue. To address this, we need to engage the people of Hawaii in new and better ways.

In 2016, about 40 government and non-governmental organizations came together to launch the first-ever multi-partner statewide wildfire preparedness campaign. In 2017, the campaign was successfully relaunched at the start of wildfire season, and we will continue to do this each year. That said, the entire campaign comprises a press conference, press releases, and informational materials housed on the HWMO website. Through this grant proposal, we are requesting funds to address additional goals related to expanding the reach of the campaign and wildfire education in general.

**Objective 1: Youth Wildfire Prevention Education**

Add a youth-focused wildfire prevention and preparedness campaign to the existing multi-partner *Wildfire and Drought Lookout!* effort. This will include the following:

1. Develop and distribute *'Every Child Preventing Wildfire'* materials to students in fire-prone regions on all islands.
2. Develop teacher training materials and hold workshops that encourage and support incorporating wildfire prevention into in-school learning.
3. Develop extracurricular program materials and hold workshops to support afterschool educational programs and field-based conservation groups in incorporating wildfire prevention education into their programming.
4. Develop a youth program component to accompany the Firewise Certification program. (By 2019, there will be at least 15 Firewise-certified communities in Hawaii. HWMO assists communities through this national recognition and wildfire preparedness process, and proposes to follow innovative examples across the US for engaging youth in this process as junior community leaders).

**Objective 2: Adult Wildfire Prevention Education**

1. Continue to serve as hub and co-coordinator for statewide, multi-partner *Wildfire and Drought Lookout!* campaign.
2. Provide community-based workshops on wildfire preparedness and prevention on all islands. (In-person contact has shown to directly increase action toward preparedness).

**Objective 3: Professional Wildfire Prevention Education and Training**

Numerous professions, from land use planning to forest restoration to emergency services, community leaders, and more, all deal with wildfire. In May 2018, HWMO will hold a week of training and workshops to a) bring together these diverse professionals from across Hawaii to better collaborate, b) share lessons learned, c) plan next steps as a cohesive effort toward greater public safety and resource protection, and d) provide certification and training opportunities that are typically only available on the mainland. The interest and registration for this training event is already high, and we believe it will be important to continue this multi-agency, multi-partner coordinated effort into the future. As part of this proposal, we are seeking

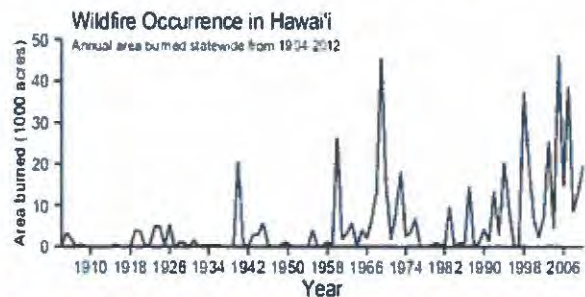
part of the funding required to hold the next set of trainings and workshops (to be held during the FY2019 grant term).

3.  The public purpose and need to be served;

HWMO collaborates with and supports fire response agencies by working with and educating local communities, supporting partnerships that improve our knowledge of wildfire and effective risk mitigation and implementing on-the-ground measures to improve wildfire suppression response. HWMO follows a unique model in that the services we provide are typically covered in other states by government agencies. However, Hawaii is unique in its land ownership, and because there is little federal land in the state, federal wildfire prevention education for the public is very limited. Hawaii also faces state and county agency limitations, as there are very few government agency positions in Hawaii that exclusively focus on wildfire, let alone wildfire outreach or cross-boundary hazard reduction. Hawaii also has a culture wherein the public most readily embraces community-based efforts. For these reasons, having a nonprofit such as HWMO lead and facilitate cross-boundary, cross-jurisdiction, agency-community collaborations, and serve as a hub of wildfire-focused prevention activities across all islands is working well to begin addressing Hawaii's unmet wildfire-related needs.

After completing the statewide Wildfire Hazard Assessment and Wildfire History Map described in Section 2 above, HWMO and our partners at University of Hawaii CTAHR Cooperative Extension conducted a thorough analysis of statewide firefighting records, which revealed that, on average, a greater percentage of Hawaii's 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 weren't able to effectively articulate the scope of the fire issue or its 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 as detailed above. Causes include growing size of nonnative grasslands (now over 20% of state land cover), increasing drought, abundant human-caused ignitions, and year-round fire-promoting weather. The public is not yet fully aware of the severity of our 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. 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 keep up with the growing fire problem.*

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

- threaten lives, homes, and communities
- decrease groundwater recharge (burned soil affects drinking water supplies)
- damage nearshore resources (fishponds, coral reefs, fisheries) from post-fire erosion
- cause flooding
- create traffic and road closures
- degrade air quality (smoke and post-fire dust)
- destroy native forests (threatening native species and their habitats)
- change soil (and often convert native vegetation to fire-prone nonnative vegetation, causing more fires and a vicious cycle of increasing hazard)
- 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 and families. Very importantly, the proposed project is focusing on youth education and continued cross-agency coordination. In 2016, HWMO and about 40 partners launched the first-ever statewide wildfire awareness campaign (Wildfire Lookout!). This proposal adds a youth component to that campaign, and works to provide teacher trainings for in-school and extracurricular incorporation of wildfire prevention education and materials into their programming.

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 threats and impacts). 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 help the efforts of our County and State wildfire suppression agencies and our conservation and community partners, HWMO has been raising funds and implementing collaborative projects to address many of the wildfire challenges listed above.

Wildfire issues are 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.

Funding requested here will allow the next set of priority projects to take place to publicize both the necessity of wildfire prevention and preparedness and the strategies people can take to be safe and reduce risk. It will also support HWMO's currently-unfunded operational expenses. These projects 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 that live and work in high-risk fire-prone communities throughout the state. Specifically, adult and youth residents will be supported with information and strategies they can use to become wildfire-ready and wildfire-safe. Professionals from diverse fields will be supported with information, training, and collaboration opportunities toward bolstering their work to reduce wildfire occurrence and impacts.

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 threaten 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 informational and educational support to employ fire preparedness strategies on their homes and yards, and the effort to reduce fire spread toward and through their subdivisions.

As described in sections 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, meaningful way.

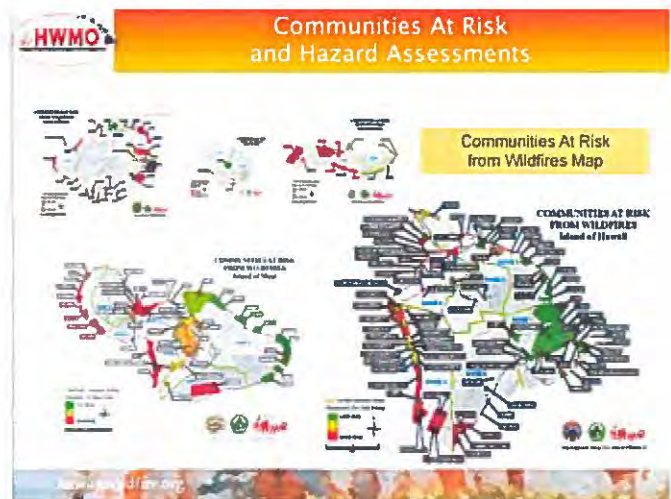


Figure 3. Communities at Risk from Wildfire Map (2012). All subdivisions in Hawaii were assessed for 36 hazard characteristics that put them at risk of wildfire occurrence and damages. Natural areas were not assessed; however, the susceptibility of adjacent natural areas to burning was included in the 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.

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 (see Figure 3 above). 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 Figure 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 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.

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. In 2015, we held public and agency-based meetings throughout West Oahu, Kauai, Maui, Molokai, and Hawaii Island (5 districts) to aid communities in developing area-specific, federally-complaint Community Wildfire Protection Plans. 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, and were stated over and over again as paramount concerns:

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

To serve these geographies and stakeholders, the projects we have proposed here address the education priority. Our goal is to build resilient fire-protected residential communities and landscapes statewide through strategic collaborative projects. Through other grant opportunities and partnerships, we are working to address the other priority, vegetative fuels management.

## **II. Service Summary and Outcomes**

1.  Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities;

HWMO will augment existing wildfire prevention education opportunities in the state by working with the wildfire coordinating groups on each island to develop and distribute youth and adult wildfire prevention and preparedness materials, as well as hold workshops for adult residents, in-school teachers, and extracurricular program instructors.

Specifically, the tasks are as follows:



**Youth Wildfire Prevention Education:**

1. Develop and distribute *'Every Child Preventing Wildfire'* materials to students in fire prone regions on all islands.
2. Develop teacher training materials and hold webinars/workshops that encourage and support incorporating wildfire prevention into in-school learning.
3. Develop extracurricular program materials and hold webinars/workshops to support afterschool educational programs and field-based conservation groups in incorporating wildfire prevention education into their programming.
4. Develop a youth program component to accompany the Firewise Certification program.

**Adult Wildfire Prevention Education**

1. Continue to serve as hub and co-coordinator for statewide, multi-partner *Wildfire and Drought Lookout!* campaign.
2. Provide community-based workshops on wildfire preparedness and prevention.

**Professional Wildfire Education and Training**

1. Hold 2 days of professional meetings that include wildfire-related continuing education trainings for professionals whose work deals with wildfire in some capacity.
2.  Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;

Activities	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Objective 1: Youth Wildfire Prevention Education</b>				
1. Develop and distribute <i>'Every Child Preventing Wildfire'</i> materials to students in fire prone regions on all islands.	*	*		
2. Develop teacher wildfire-related training materials and hold live teacher webinar and workshops .	*	*		
3. Develop extracurricular wildfire-related program materials and hold live webinar and workshops.		*	*	
4. Develop a youth program component to accompany the Firewise Certification program.			*	*
<b>Objective 2: Adult Wildfire Prevention Education</b>				
1. Continue to serve as hub and co-coordinator for statewide multi-partner <i>Wildfire and Drought Lookout!</i> campaign.	*	*	*	*
2. Provide community-based workshops on wildfire preparedness and prevention.	*	*	*	*
<b>Objective 3: Professional Continuing Wildfire Education and Training</b>				
1. Hold 2 days of professional meeting that include wildfire-related continuing education trainings.	Date TBD based on participant availability, likely May 2019			

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

Since the proposed projects are multi-partner collaborative efforts, all of the proposed objectives include processes to utilize the expertise of 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 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.

The following table demonstrates our plan for evaluation:

Activity	Method	Information to be monitored & evaluated for future improvement
<b>Collaborative Outreach &amp; Education</b>	Materials reviewed by field experts	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?
	Web-surveys regarding effectiveness of informational resources to public who download online resources	Was information or experience helpful? Did it answer questions? Has awareness/knowledge increased? How? Likelihood to take wildfire preparedness action.
	Evaluation surveys after community, teacher, and professional workshops	Recommendations for improvement and follow-up activities.
	Track distribution of materials, workshops	# materials distributed, # communities reached. Was info distributed to all fire prone communities? All fire prone schools?
<b>Public-private collaboration processes</b>	Track efforts	Type and # entities involved, are all fire management agencies involved? Are all products endorsed?
	Participant feedback questionnaire	Participant experience feedback and recommendations for improvement and follow-up activities.

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:

Activity	Measure of Effectiveness
Youth Wildfire Prevention Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 Classroom <i>Every Child Preventing Wildfire</i> poster, distributed to all schools and fire stations</li> <li>- 2-page <i>Every Child Preventing Wildfire</i> flyer (front and back), distributed to all schools and fire departments</li> <li>- 1 set of teacher-related training materials, downloadable from HWMO website</li> <li>- 2 live teacher training webinars archived and available on website, 1 in-person training per island</li> <li>- 1 live extracurricular program webinar archived and available on website, 1 in-person training per island</li> <li>- Youth hazard assessment training program materials and implementation plan developed</li> </ul>
Adult Wildfire Prevention Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yearly fire season re-launch of <i>Wildfire and Drought Lookout!</i> Campaign (with partners), with HWMO website updated to reflect all new informational resources and partner preferences</li> <li>- 10 (minimum) wildfire prevention and preparedness community workshops/events per county</li> </ul>
Professional Continuing Wildfire Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 days of continuing professional training for those whose lines of work deal with wildfire</li> </ul>

### **III. Financial**

#### **Budget**

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

Attached.

2.  The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2019.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
70,000	60,000	50,000	28,000	208,000

3.  The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2019.

HWMO will be submitting grant proposals for the following projects and amounts for FY 19, but due to the timing of 2019 grant deadlines, none are yet secured:

Proposed Project	Source	Amount for FY19
Wildland-Urban Interface Education and Mitigation	US Forest Service	\$150,000 (\$300,000 total for a 2-year grant; FY 19 & 20)
HWMO Operational Support	Hawaii Community Foundation FLEX grant	\$30,000
Community Hazard Reduction Workshops and Training	County of Hawaii Nonprofit Grant Program	\$14,000

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.

None.

5.  The applicant shall provide a listing of all federal, state, and county government contracts, grants, and grants in aid it has been granted within the prior three years and will be receiving for fiscal year 2019 for program funding.

Secured Project	Source	Full Grant Amount	Grant term
Wildland-Urban Interface Planning, Education, and Mitigation (WUI 143)	US Forest Service	\$300,000 (FY19: \$150,000)	July 2017- June 2019 (Current)
Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Planning for Guam and Hawaii	US Forest Service	\$477,000 (FY19: \$120,000)	FY 2016- FY 2020 (Current)
Pacific Fire Exchange	Joint Fire Science Program, U.S.	\$100,472 (FY19: \$34,000)	FY 2016- FY 2020 (Current)

6.  The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2017.

\$24,273.00

#### **IV. Experience and Capability**

1.  **Necessary Skills and Experience**

The applicant shall demonstrate that it has the necessary skills, abilities, knowledge of, and experience relating to the request.

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 developed and adapted 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 its activities is to provide the public service of wildfire preparedness and decreased 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 they 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 Staff***

In addition to the Executive Director, HWMO's paid 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 each position for the portion of time dedicated to the proposed objectives.

***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 includes:

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  
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

Leeward Haleakala Watershed Partnership  
Big Island Wildfire Coordinating Group  
Oahu Wildfire Information and Education Group  
Waikoloa Dry Forest Initiative  
Hawaii Community College  
Hawaii Island Native Seed Bank  
Parker Ranch  
Ponoholo Ranch  
Firewise USA  
Fire Adapted Communities  
National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy  
Pacific Fire Exchange  
Guam Forestry  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

***Verifiable Projects Over Prior 3 Years***

- **Coordinated and wrote 12 Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)**, on behalf of County Fire Departments, Civil Defense/Emergency Management, and State Division of Forestry and Wildlife:
  - **6 new CWPPs:**
    - North Kona
    - Upcountry Maui
    - Western Maui (covers entire western half of Maui)
    - South Maui
    - Moloka'i
    - Western Oahu (Waianae to approx. Makakilo)
  - **6 Updated CWPPs**
    - Kauai (whole island)
    - North and South Kohala
    - South Kona
    - Ka'u
    - Ocean View
    - Volcano
- **Supported 10 new communities across Hawaii to become Nationally Recognized Firewise Communities**, with more currently in the process:
  - **Hawaii Island**
    - 1) Kanehoa, 2015, in good standing for 2018
    - 2) Waikoloa Village, 2016, in good standing for 2018
    - 3) Waialea, 2016, in good standing for 2018
    - 4) Puako, 2016, in good standing for 2018
    - 5) Honokoa, 2016, in good standing for 2018
    - 6) Kohala Waterfront, 2017, in good standing for 2018
    - 7) Waikii Ranch, 2017, in good standing for 2018

8) Pu'u Kapu, in process

**Maui**

- 1) Waiohuli, 2016, in good standing for 2018
- 2) Kahikinui, 2016, in good standing for 2018
- 3) Launiupoko, 2016, in good standing for 2018

**Oahu**

- 1) Kamilonui, in process

- Raised funds and coordinated implementation of **vegetation hazard reduction projects**, both small/community scale and larger landscape scale:
  - 10 x \$5,000 vegetation management projects in Firewise Communities, reducing vegetation hazard across approximately 60 acres total
  - 12 miles of roadside and powerline vegetation reduction on Hawaii Island and Maui
  - Approx. 200 acres of strategic vegetation management to reduce fire fuels endangering sensitive natural resources on Maui and Hawaii Island.
- Provided approximately **150 workshops** across the state (50 each year, 2015- current) to communities on wildfire preparedness.
- Developed, printed, and distributed ***Wildfire and Drought Lookout!*** prevention materials to **every school** in fire prone areas across the state as part of local National Community Wildfire Preparedness Day efforts.
- Served as **information hub and co-lead of 40 partner statewide *Wildfire and Drought Lookout!* campaign** information and media materials.
- **Co-developed the Pacific Fire Exchange**, a partnership between HWMO, University of Hawaii, and US Forest Service to develop more Hawaii-focused fire science and to translate fire science results into information and training usable in land management practices to decrease fire risk in Hawaii.
- Conducted **statewide wildfire hazard assessments** and developed associated maps
- Completed **first-ever all-agency statewide wildfire history database and maps**, leading to valuable statistics and understanding now used by legislators, government agencies, planners, natural resource managers, and scientists to further wildfire-related work and increase public safety.

**2.  Facilities**

The applicant shall provide a description of its facilities and demonstrate its adequacy in relation to the request.

HWMO rents an office space in Kamuela, HI and stores field equipment in a storage container also in Kamuela. These facilities, though tight, generally fit our current and anticipated needs for staff workspace and equipment storage, so long as we can continue to cover the associated expenses. Part of this proposal includes costs associated with these expenses.

**V. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing**

**1.  Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training**

The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe its ability to supervise, train and provide administrative direction relative to the request.

HWMO has achieved much of its success through strong partnerships and collaboration, and very dedicated and passionate employees who often donate additional time to their projects. 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, prescriptions, 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. 4+ years of wildfire prevention and preparedness. 6+ years working with the public. Print, web, and media skills.
Cont'd below		



Programs and Operations 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. 6+ years experience working with the public, planning events, and/or working in the environmental or nonprofit fields. Strong organizational and planning 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.
PFX Project Assistant	Work with Pacific Fire Exchange Project Coordinator at UH Manoa to develop projects and coordinate workshops related to fire science.	Bachelor's degree. Background in natural resources management. Strong organizational and planning skills.
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 2018 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 which 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 education projects. We want to continue the momentum generated from our multi-partner and across-the-state public meetings, which led to the motivation and design of these projects. No other entity in the state is poised to carry out such cross-jurisdictional, collaboration-focused, and community-focused statewide wildfire-related projects. HWMO's

mission, vision, and experience provide the best platform for the accomplishment of the proposed projects.

**2.  Organization Chart**

The applicant shall illustrate the position of each staff and line of responsibility/supervision. If the request is part of a large, multi-purpose organization, include an organization chart that illustrates the placement of this request.



**3.  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.

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: \$46,000; Part-time PFX Project Assistant: \$22,000. Note: A new position is currently being developed and advertised that will have a salary of approximately (\$54,000).

## **VI. Other**

### **1. Litigation**

The applicant shall disclose any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement. If applicable, please explain.

Not applicable

### **2. Licensure or Accreditation**

The applicant shall specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that the 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 staff each have degrees in their area 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 inspection training, etc.).

### **3. Private Educational Institutions**

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution. Please see [Article X, Section 1. of the State Constitution](#) for the relevance of this question.

Not applicable

### **4. Future Sustainability Plan**

The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2018-19 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

- (a) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2018-19, but
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.

HWMO has been very successful in its application for grants to conduct the work prioritized by its technical advisors and partners. Because the projects are supported, and in part generated, by public and private partners from across the state, we are often able to pool resources toward collaborative priorities as needed, as funds to our organization wax and wane. We will continue to leverage partners and existing resources and assets, and apply for additional grant funding to pursue the very important work that we do and that has been prioritized for our state. We are

the only 100% wildfire-focused entity in the state, so we are persistent in our efforts and adapt as necessary to fill this unique role.

That said, in 2017, HWMO held its first large fundraising event and it sold out, providing much needed funds to the organization for operations overhead and outreach projects. We plan to continue to grow our donation-focused and event-driven fundraising efforts in 2018 and beyond, with the goal of covering operation and project expenses into the future.

**5.  Certificate of Good Standing (If the Applicant is an Organization)**

If the applicant is an organization, the applicant shall submit one (1) copy of a certificate of good standing from the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs that is dated no earlier than December 1, 2017.

Attached.

**6.  Declaration Statement**

The applicant shall submit a declaration statement affirming its compliance with Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes. ([Link](#))

Attached.

**7.  Public Purpose**

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes. ([Link](#))

Yes, the grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

## BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

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)
<b>A. PERSONNEL COST</b>				
1. Salaries	82,000	140,000		45,000
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	8,200	14,000		4,500
3. Fringe Benefits	11,480	19,600		6,300
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL COST</b>	<b>101,680</b>	<b>173,600</b>		<b>55,800</b>
<b>B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES</b>				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	4,320	8,000		2,500
2. Insurance	10,000	5,000		
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	18,000			
4. Lease/Rental of Space	17,500			5,000
5. Staff Training	2,500	2,500		
6. Education and Outreach Supplies		20,000		5,000
7. Telecommunication	2,000			
8. Utilities				
9. Bookkeeping	14,000			
10. Printing for wildfire prevention materials	26,000			
11. Hazardous vegetation removal		50,000		
12. Meeting/conference rental/ coord costs	12,000		8,000	
13. Other meeting/conference training support			6,000	
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<b>TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES</b>	<b>106,320</b>	<b>85,500</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>12,500</b>
<b>C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES</b>				
<b>D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES</b>				
<b>E. CAPITAL</b>				
<b>TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)</b>	<b>208,000</b>	<b>259,100</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>68,300</b>
<b>SOURCES OF FUNDING</b>		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	208,000	Elizabeth Pickett	808-885-0900	
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	259,100		Phone	
(c) Total County Funds Requested	14,000			1/17/18
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	68,300			Date
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>549,400</b>	Elizabeth Pickett, Executive Director Name and Title (Please type or print)		

## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

Applicant: 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	50.00%	\$ 32,000.00
Programs and Operations Assistant	1	\$54,000.00	50.00%	\$ 27,000.00
Education and Outreach Coordinator	1	\$46,000.00	50.00%	\$ 23,000.00
GIS Mapping Analyst	0.5	\$18,000.00	0.00%	\$ -
PFX Project Assistant	0.5	\$22,000.00	0.00%	\$ -
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<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>82,000.00</b>
<b>JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:</b>				

## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

Applicant: Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization

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

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

## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

Applicant: Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization

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: 2016-2017	FY: 2017-2018	FY:2018-2019	FY:2018-2019	FY:2019-2020	FY:2020-2021
PLANS						
LAND ACQUISITION						
DESIGN						
CONSTRUCTION						
EQUIPMENT						
<b>TOTAL:</b>						
<b>JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:</b>	Not applicable					



**GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID**

Applicant: Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization

Contracts Total: 877,472

	<b>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATES</b>	<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S. / State / Haw / Hon / Kau / Mau)</b>	<b>CONTRACT VALUE</b>
1	Wildland-Urban Interface Grant Program	July 2017- June 2019	US Forest Service	U.S.	300,000
2	USFS Fire and Aviation Region 5 Grant- Wildfire Hazard Reduction for Hawaii and Guam	July 2016- Dec 2020	US Forest Service	U.S.	477,000
3	Pacific Fire Exchange	Sept 2017- Aug 2019	Joint Fire Science Program	U.S.	100,472
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**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF  
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO  
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISIED 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, Hawaii 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, Hawaii 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, Hawaii 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, Hawaii 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.

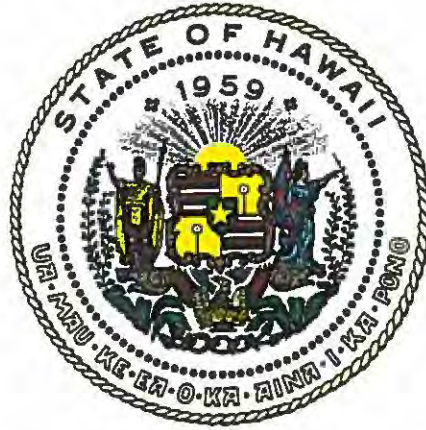
**Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization**

[Redacted Signature Block]

1/17/18  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**Elizabeth Pickett**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Typed Name)

**Executive Director**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)



## 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 14, 2018

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

