Dan Inouye
U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII
NEWS

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Project Summaries
U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye
Fiscal Year 2010
Interior, Environment Markup

HAWAII PRIORITIES

James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge $7,400,0000

This funding will allow the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire remaining parcels (to a total of approximately 1,100 acres) on Oahu's northern shore to complete the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge as a natural coastal dune and wetland ecosystem. James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1976, is the premier endangered Hawaiian waterbird recovery area in the northern portion of the island of Oahu. It supports four endangered Hawaiian waterbirds and a variety of migratory shorebirds and waterfowl. In 2005, FWS purchased 222 acres in fee and 16 acres in easement, including the two units previously managed under a 55-year lease from the Estate of James Campbell. In 2006 Public Law 109-225 increased the total acreage within the approved refuge boundary from 342 acres to 1,100 acres. This funding would complete the expansion of James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge for wildlife and habitat protection and resolve issues associated with the hydrology of the Kahuku floodplain.

Hawaii Forest Research Facility $2,500,000

The Hawaii Tropical Forest Recovery Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-574) authorized the establishment of the Hawaii Experimental Tropical Forest "to serve as a center

for long-term research and a focal point for developing and transferring knowledge and expertise for the management of tropical landscapes." Working with the University of Hawaii, the Hawaii Experimental Tropical Forest (HETF) has been selected as one of the National Science Foundation's 20 Core Wildland Sites of the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON), a 30-year science program. These funds will continue to help build the research facility field station and education center.

Recovery of Native Hawaiian Birds $3,000,000

Earlier this year a report came out entitled The State of the Birds United States of America 2009, Hawaii had the highest percentage of species that were federally threatened or endangered in fact more than one third of all U.S. listed bird species occur in Hawaii and 71 bird species have gone extinct since 300 A.D. According to the report at least 10 more birds have not been seen in as long as 40 years and may very well be extinct. The Fish & Wildlife Service will use this funding to develop a comprehensive strategy, hire staff, and begin on the ground projects to recover endangered and threatened bird species.

Hawaii Invasive Species Program $1,250,000

These funds will be used to aid the State of Hawaii in reducing the impact of established invasive species in the State of Hawai'i and support on-going efforts to prevent future invasive species introductions. Invasive species have significant, negative impacts on Hawaii's endangered species, insular ecosystems, human health, and the continued viability of its tourism and agriculture-based economy. The major factor limiting endangered species recovery and contributing to endangered species decline in Hawai'i is the continued presence of invasive species that are ecologically harmful.

Invasive Rat Eradication on Palmyra $1,200,000

Palmyra's coral reefs harbor more coral species than the Florida Keys or Hawai'i, and encompass one of the few remaining intact reef ecosystems in the world. Eradication of invasive rats is the top management priority on the Refuge and requires decisive action that will eliminate all rats in a single coordinated

management action. Efforts to control rats over time or in intermittent management actions are ineffective and do not get ahead of the pest's reproductive capacity. Rat eradication will significantly improve Palmyra's habitat for protected seabird species. Ground nesting seabirds, such as Sooty Terns, Red-tailed Tropicbirds, and Masked Boobies, are still breeding on the atoll, but all of these populations are reduced by rats which prey on unattended eggs and chicks. Surveys show that other seabirds, such as petrels and shearwaters, have been extirpated from the atoll since the introduction of rats. Once rats are removed from the atoll, seabird nesting habitat should expand significantly. There are also native land crabs, and reptile and plants species that will notably benefit from rat removal.

Kilauea Point Lighthouse Repair $1,000,000

This funding would provide a federal match for private funding donated to restore the historic Kīlauea Point Lighthouse Station in partnership with the Kīlauea Point Natural History Association. Completed in 1913, the station is the only intact lighthouse station remaining in Hawai'i. The Kīlauea Lighthouse itself is surrounded by ten supporting structures, including three caretaker cottages, an oil storage building, cisterns, and a supply landing platform, all of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Over the years, Compromised the corrosive effects of salt water oxidizing the cast iron roof, decaying dissimilar metals, crumbling concrete, and trapped moisture accelerating the deterioration inside the tower, the Kīlauea Lighthouse is in danger of collapse. In order to preserve this destination site the goal of the project is to restore and preserve these structures to their historic character from 1913 to 1927.

Native Hawaiian Culture and Arts Program $500,000

The Native Hawaiian Culture and Arts Program (NHCAP) is authorized by P.L. 99-498 up to a maximum of $1 million annually. The program's efforts are focused on assisting Hawaiians to be practitioners of their culture in a rapidly changing multi-cultural world. Four priorities support these efforts: increase access to resources, provide opportunities to learn and practice, provide opportunities to celebrate culture, and create partnerships to enhance the NHCAP's efforts. The four priorities are achieved through a network of Cultural Learning Centers linked electronically to a Resource Center at the Bishop Museum. Increased funding will support a new partnership between Bishop Museum and the Honolulu Symphony to create music enrichment program targeted to Native Hawaiian children, and communities and public Schools serving a high number of Native Hawaiian

children.

National Tropical Botanical Garden $500,000

Hawaii has the highest number of endangered species per square mile in the United States, losses to extinction already have eliminated many of our endemic plants and animals, and ecosystems are rapidly being invaded by exotic species. Climate change will accelerate these losses. NTBG works with State and Federal agencies to implement emergency actions to perpetuate exceptionally rare species and prevent them from going extinct (Hawaii has over 230 plant species on the verge of extinction). NTBG's "intensive care" nursery is used to propagate and grow the plants brought in by field collectors. In addition to growing these at risk species the NTBG nursery is capable of producing up to 14,000 native plants per year for use in ecosystem restoration projects. NTBG's restoration projects are a critical link in NTBG's overall conservation strategy as they provide a "safe-harbor" plant-community that rare species can be planted into. NTBG currently has five different ecosystems under restoration as part of this safety net for native Hawaiian species. These funds will help in their conservation efforts.

Hawaii Volcanoes Observatory $250,000

These funds will be used to initiate and support a USGS cooperative agreement with UH Mānoa's School of Ocean, Earth, and Space Technology. These funds will provide continuity of application of critically needed expertise at UHM to the HVO mission, including seismology, geodesy, infrasound, explosive eruption hazard assessment, lava flow modeling, remote sensing, gas geochemistry, and experimentation with new monitoring technologies. Funding will support UHM graduate students, inter-island travel, and UHM faculty time.

Hawaii Well Monitoring Program $500,000

These funds will be used to continue work with stakeholders in Hawaii to provide information on water resources so that they can be managed on a sustainable and legally defensible basis. Fresh water in Hawaii is one of the most limiting and important of the natural resources in the State. As water management becomes increasingly contentious, information to evaluate the sustainability of water resources is needed to provide accurate decisions that balance environmental protection with economic opportunity. This program will assess and provide water resource information in critical areas. This will include summaries and internet

distribution of existing information sources, evaluation of hydrologic data collection networks and identification of gaps in the network, and studies to fill information needs. This program has funded will continue to fund the construction of monitoring wells across the State, produced summaries of hydrologic conditions, upgraded stream and rain gage data telemetry, and evaluated water budgets and groundwater recharge.

<u>EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants</u>

Maui County	
Kaa Force Main Replacement	**$1,000,000**
Kamole Wastewater Treatment Plant Project	**$1,000,000**
Hawaii County	
Ocean View Estates Drinking Water Project	**$220,000**
Kapulena Drinking Water Project	**$739,750**
Kauai County	
Waimea Wastewater Project	**$1,000,000**