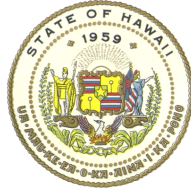
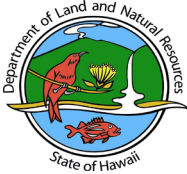


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND**

**Monday, March 29, 2021
1:15 PM**

State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 229

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 207
SUBMITTING TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII FOR REVIEW
AND APPROVAL OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL
RESOURCES ON A LAND EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE STATE OF HAWAII AND
PARKER LAND TRUST**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 207 requests the review and approval of a land exchange, previously approved in principle by the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) at its meeting on April 11, 2014, under agenda item D-6, and subsequently approved by the Board at its meeting on August 28, 2020, under agenda item D-3, pursuant to Section 171-50(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this concurrent resolution.**

To summarize the need for this concurrent resolution, Parker Land Trust, as landowner for Parker Ranch, Inc. (Parker Ranch), has been in discussion with the Department since 2003 concerning a proposal to exchange some private land in Waimea on the Island of Hawaii for the state-owned site of the former Lalamilo Reservoir, which is configured as a flag lot. The Department was also interested in acquiring, through exchange, other land with better development potential than its flag lot, so sought and received approval in principle from the Board at its meeting of April 11, 2014, under Agenda Item D-6, for a proposed land exchange involving the former Lalamilo Reservoir site.

Parker Ranch aims to carry out its Waimea Town Center Plan through developments that support the vision of its benefactor, Richard Smart, to benefit Waimea town. In 2019, the United States Postal Service (USPS) announced its need to relocate the Kamuela Post Office to a site that could better meet the needs of its Waimea postal customers. Soon thereafter, Parker Ranch offered the Department an exchange proposition that would enable it to assist the USPS. In this exchange scenario, the flagpole portion of the Lalamilo Reservoir flag lot would be exchanged

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

for a portion of a neighboring parcel that would provide the Department with alternative access to the otherwise inaccessible remaining flag portion of its lot. The exchange would also serve to straighten the lots lines of the State land. Parker Ranch would then be able to consolidate the newly acquired flagpole area with adjacent portions of its own land on either side of the flagpole to create a rectangular parcel suitable for a new post office site. At its meeting of August 28, 2020, under Agenda Item D-3, the Board approved the proposed land exchange, thereby also initiating statutory administrative procedures which include seeking legislative approval.

The proposed exchange complies with the requirements of Section 171-50, HRS. The value of the Parker Ranch land (\$250,000) exceeds that value of the state land to be exchanged (\$19,400). A copy of the draft concurrent resolution was submitted to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs on October 19, 2020. Compliance with these and other requirements of Section 171-50, HRS, is recited in the concurrent resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.