Agribusiness Development Corporation State of Hawaii – Department of Agriculture

Chapter 163D, Hawaii Revised Statutes



The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC), a State agency administratively attached to the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, was established by the Hawaii State Legislature in 1994. Our purpose is to facilitate and coordinate the development and expansion of Hawaii's agricultural industry by directly participating in the shift from plantation-based production and infrastructure to a multi-farm/multi-crop industry.

Objectives

- Transition former plantation lands and water systems for diversified agriculture.
- Develop facilities and provide support as necessary for successful diversified agriculture.
- Provide solutions to certain bottleneck issues facing the agriculture industry.
- Explore the expansion of, and State involvement in, the aquaculture industry in conjunction with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture.
- Manage agricultural lands on Kauai and Oahu.

Projects

Zero Waste Conversion, Keaau, Hawaii

- ▶ Livestock Feed Mill, Oahu
- Central Oahu Water Security Plan, Kunia, Oahu
- ▶ R-1 Recycled Water Irrigation System, Wahiawa, Oahu
- Lake Wilson Straw In-Take Irrigation System, Wahiawa, Oahu
- ▶ Whitmore Project, Whitmore, Oahu
- Develop Aquaculture Activity on North Shore, Waialee, Oahu



■Kekaha, Kauai ■Kalepa, Kauai ■Central Oahu

Kauai



ADC inherited land on Kauai from the State Department of Land and Natural Resources in Kekaha and Kalepa. The existing tenants that ADC also inherited include seed corn, ranching, and diversified agriculture operations. Ongoing initiatives include issuing long term licenses to farmers for diversified agriculture production and making improvements to the existing irrigation infrastructure.

Kalepa, Kauai



In Kalepa, ADC manages, operates, and maintains 6,200 acres of agricultural land and infrastructure. Current tenants include ranchers, farmers, and a renewable bioenergy producer. Since ADC acquired these lands, it has issued new long-term licenses to small farmers and ranchers to increase diversified agriculture production on the irrigated lands and pastoral use on non-irrigated lands.

Kekaha, Kauai



In Kekaha, ADC manages and operates 12,500 acres of agricultural lands and infrastructure. Current tenants include seed corn companies, agribusinesses, and small farmers. In addition to managing land licenses, ADC is working with the Kekaha Agricultural Association to enclose and pressurize the Kekaha Irrigation System to reduce run off and increase the system's efficiency and reliability.

Waiahole Ditch System



The Waiahole Ditch System was constructed by the Oahu Sugar Company in 1916. Today, the system is operated and managed by ADC through the Waiahole Water System. The system is approximately 26.4 miles long and distributes irrigation water to 5,600 acres in Central Oahu.

Central Oahu



ADC received funds from the Hawaii State Legislature and acquired 3,300 acres of former plantation lands and infrastructure in Central Oahu to increase the State's inventory of good agricultural lands. ADC acquired these lands from large private agricultural land owners and has been developing these lands and infrastructure for active farming. These lands include the former Galbraith Estate Lands and Dole Plantation Lands.

Galbraith Agricultural Lands



The acquisition of the Galbraith Agricultural Lands (GAL) was made possible through a partnership between the Trust for Public Lands, Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), the City, State, and Federal agencies. ADC acquired 1,200 acres and has prepared 950 acres for agricultural production. ADC is also developing the irrigation infrastructure to support more farming activity in the region.

Dole Lands



In addition to the GAL, ADC acquired 2,100 acres of former Dole agricultural lands and infrastructure. Many of these fields have been vacant for decades and are overgrown with invasive trees and grass. Due to its isolation, these areas have become rampant with criminal activity.

Vacant Lands



Since ADC acquired the vacant agricultural lands surrounding Whitmore Village and Poamoho Camp, it has been inundated with calls and complaints from the community and its tenants about illegal structures, dumping, gambling, drug use, harassment, loud noise, fires, fights, loose dogs, homelessness, and prostitution.

Vacant Lands



In Whitmore, ADC began clearing brush and removing hazardous trees to prepare these land for agricultural use. Besides clearing brush and removing hazardous trees, ADC has been actively installing signage, barriers, and gates to secure the areas where the illegal activities are occurring. ADC also continues to remove trash, issue trespass warnings, and remove unpermitted structures from vacant and unfarmable areas.



The area along Uwalu Circle behind the Whitmore Circle Apartments has been plagued with criminal trespassing for years. To help reduce the high volume of unwanted traffic and criminal activity in the area, ADC made a request to the City & County of Honolulu to install "No Parking Tow Away" signs on Uwalu Circle. ADC's request was strongly supported by the Whitmore Circle Apartment residents and neighboring homeowners.



Photo of unpermitted structure behind the Whitmore Circle Apartments.



Photo of unpermitted structure behind the Whitmore Circle Apartments.



Photo of unpermitted structure behind the Whitmore Circle Apartments.















While installing "No Trespassing" signs along its property line in Whitmore, ADC encountered numerous encroachments on State property preventing access to the property line behind the residences along Circle Mauka Street and Circle Mauka Place. Following instructions from the Attorney General's Office, ADC sent a notification to the homeowners on August 13, 2018 to inform them that they have 30 days to claim and remove any of the personal property found on State property.



Fencing, structures, and chicken coops located on State property.



Trash and chicken coops located on State property.



Chicken coops and unpermitted structures on State property.



Garden in drainage easement on State property.



Garden in drainage easement on State property.



Unpermitted structure located on State property.



Goat pen located within the drainage easement on State property.



Swimming pool and unpermitted structures on State property.

That's all for now Mahalo for your attention