

STATE OF HAWAI'I PUBLIC LAND TRUST INFORMATION SYSTEM



DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES - LAND DIVISION THE ONYX GROUP

The PLTIS was developed in response to Act 54 SLH 2011. The purpose of Act 54 was to facilitate the establishment of a comprehensive information system to inventory and maintain information about the lands of the public land trust as described in Section 5(f) of the Admission Act and Article XII, Section 4 of the Hawai'i State Constitution. The Land Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) was tasked with coordinating all efforts to establish such a system, including data collection from all State and County agencies, as well as the development of the system itself.

Development of the system included outreach to all State agencies that own lands in fee or manage lands through long term set aside, including a survey of what data they maintain and how they maintain it. A custom-designed database was developed to align with current business processes to encourage data accuracy. The functionality of the system was developed through a series of meetings with stakeholder agencies as well as DLNR-LD personnel.

The data collection process included a survey of approximately 40 state agencies. Both a parcel and an encumbrance template were developed to collect the required data. Parcel data was collected from 18 agencies and encumbrance data collected from 33 agencies. Parcel information includes tax map key (TMK), owner, area, date acquired, trust land status, and any associated encumbrances, including leases, easements, covenants, regulatory conditions, or other benefit to which the parcel is entitled. Encumbrance information includes lessor, lessee, encumbrance type, term, area, annual rent, and description. In addition, a system of alternate identifiers was developed to track land parcels that are not necessarily tied to TMKs, for example, submerged off-shore lands and aggregations of parcels to form larger items such as a forest reserve.

The APA Hawai'i Chapter 2015 award for GIS goes to The Onyx Group for their innovative application and database called the Public Land Trust Information System (PLTIS). This system was contracted by the State of Hawai'i's Department of Land and Natural Resources Land Division. The need to replace a cumbersome and manual process and comply with Act 54 SLH 2011 resulted in a modern tool which simplifies access for state employees to a large array of disparate data on all state lands owned and managed by multiple state agencies. The application supports both tabular reporting as well as a map based GIS information products. This application is in line with the State's overall efforts to modernize and benefit from Information Technology, both in reducing staff time as well as proliferating information to decision makers in a timely and efficient manner.

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