

To the Access Hawaii Committee:

Please consider this letter to serve as a recommendation of the excellent service and performance that Hawaii Information Consortium, LLC (HIC) has provided to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) on our online Hunt Application System (hunthawaii.ehawaii.gov).

The Division of Forestry and Wildlife regulates game mammal hunting opportunities on the six major islands in the State of Hawai'i. Certain hunting opportunities require special permits or tags that are only available by lottery. In the past, all public applications to be entered into such lotteries had to be submitted and processed through a cumbersome, paper-based process.

In 2012, DOFAW decided to leverage the existing division's contract with HIC on e-Permitting initiatives and automate the manual application process. By May 2014, HIC developed and launched an online hunt application system for use by DOFAW and the public. The new system has not only streamlined the application process, but also resulted in significant cost savings and efficiencies for our staff by eliminating duplicate submissions, reducing paper and printing costs, and decreasing manual data entry and the time required to process each application.

DOFAW receives approximately 7,500 applications for hunting seasons by lottery drawing each year. Before the online system, it would take the agency approximately four to five weeks to manually enter all applications into the lottery system, generate reports and prepare for each individual lottery. The new system reduces that time to one to two weeks.

HIC has been a very important part in leading the automation of this program, and collaborating with our staff across the major islands. As much as we've been able to accomplish in the past, with HIC's help, we are looking forward to expanding this project to automate the second phase of the program – the lottery process. We have had a very rewarding relationship with HIC, and hope that relationship continues well into the future.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 808-984-8113 if you desire any additional information regarding my experience working with HIC.

Best regards,



Shane De Mattos
Wildlife Biologist