Protected Wildlife Permit Application Guidelines

These are general guidelines for Protected Wildlife Permits issued by the Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW). Activities which fall under these permits include scientific research, scientific collection, educational display, propagation, and wildlife rehabilitation.

Studies/research with direct management or conservation aspects are greatly encouraged, especially with critically endangered species.

Protected Wildlife Permits may be reviewed at multiple levels. This includes review by staff from the DOFAW Administration office, DOFAW Branch/ Island Office, and/or by peer review. Requests for permits should be submitted at least 90 days prior to the expected start of the requested activities to allow sufficient time for such review and processing. Submission of incomplete applications (including those applications submitted without the appropriate paperwork) may necessitate additional processing time.

All permit applications must have original signatures. Permit applications shall be submitted to the DOFAW Administration office via U.S. mail or by hand delivery. A copy of the fully authorized permit must be carried by the permittee at all times while conducting permitted activities. For Scientific Research and Collection Permits the permit holder must check-in with the appropriate DOFAW Branch Office prior to the initiation of fieldwork. Access to State lands may be denied or rescheduled for any reason including the threat of fire, hurricane or other natural calamity. For safety reasons contact with the DOFAW Branch Office must be made prior to the initiation of fieldwork. Fieldwork in Hawaii can be hazardous and must be approached accordingly.

It should be noted that additional permits may be required to conduct the proposed activities and that it is the applicant’s sole responsibility to ensure that all applicable permits are held prior to commencement of regulated activities.