



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HARBORS DIVISION
79 So. Nimitz Hwy., Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 29, 2016

Ms. Melissa Iwamoto, Director
Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS)
1680 East-West Road, POST 815
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Dear Ms. Iwamoto,

The DOT Harbors Division is signatory partner with the Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS), under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). Our memorandum of agreement with PacIOOS, is an important effort for our broad ocean community and joint efforts in the State to promote a safe, healthy, productive ocean and resilient coastal zone.

With the mission of the DOT Harbors Division to effectively manage and operate a statewide commercial harbors system, PacIOOS provides real-time and forecast information relevant to the harbors in our jurisdiction across the State of Hawaii. Specifically, the PacIOOS six-day high sea level forecast provides advanced notice of potential flooding for several of our state harbors. In addition, real-time data from the PacIOOS wave buoys, which are strategically deployed outside of major harbors across the Main Hawaiian Islands, aid with safe navigation in and out of state harbors, thereby supporting the economic, environmental, and public safety needs of stakeholders utilizing our harbors.

PacIOOS's continued support is vital to an island state that relies on ocean going vessels to deliver cargo for its economic security. Enhancing the efforts and capacity of to deliver timely, relevant, and accurate information on the open and coastal ocean, including exploring the placement of additional or modification to sensors to collect in the harbor surge data before and after a tsunami will support DOT Harbors Division in determining whether vessels can remain in port or evacuate the harbor – data that could be used in modeling and avoid costly evacuations of all vessels within the harbor.

Previous IOOS investments in the Pacific Islands region have resulted in the successful development of PacIOOS's business processes of end-to-end network of observations, data management and delivery, data analysis and modeling, research, education and outreach, and

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organizational structure and management that links the needs of users to ocean observations throughout the region and beyond. Sustaining and expanding upon this strong foundation makes strategic and economic sense and will benefit Hawaii into the future.

We maintain our commitment to PacIOOS with its current efforts and efforts to transform research into commercial viable products for the commercial harbor system.

If anyone has questions regarding our relationship with PacIOOS, please feel free to have the person contact me at 587-1928.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Davis K. Yogi', with a stylized, flowing script.

DAVIS K. YOGI
Harbors Administrator