PREFACE

A Reference Guide to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act

On July 9, 1921, the United States Congress enacted the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. This Act set aside 200,000 acres of land in trust and established trust funds for the use of the indigenous people of Hawai‘i. The Congress intended that this Hawaiian Home Lands Trust would enable its beneficiaries to return to their land to improve and perpetuate their self-sufficiency and cultural preservation.

Since the inception of this Trust nearly a century ago, the Congress has enacted a large number of amendments to the original act and enabled the State of Hawai‘i to provide additional amendments dealing with the day-to-day administration of the Trust.

This Reference Guide to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act is a Department of the Interior initiative to make the full history of the Federal and State amendments to the Act more readily available in a single, cross-referenced document. While the Reference Guide was initially created to address the administrative needs of the Department of the Interior, it is our hope that it also will be of assistance to others whose programs and responsibilities seek to serve the beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust.

Sincerely,

Susan Combs
Senior Advisor to the Secretary
Exercising the Authority of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget