

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 532**

**testimony**

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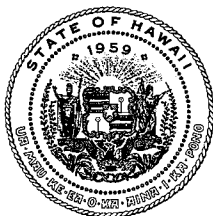
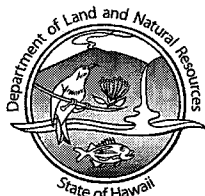
**From:** Claire.S.Kodama@hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 20, 2008 3:56 PM  
**To:** Senatetestimony  
**Cc:** Michael.S.Yoshinaga@hawaii.gov  
**Subject:** Testimony on GM 532  
**Attachments:** GM0532\_LNR\_03-24-08\_WTL.doc

Attached is testimony on GM 532 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Natural Area Reserve System Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, TRAE MENARD, for a term to expire 6-30-2012, to be heard before the Senate Committee on Water and Land on Monday, March 24, 2008, 2:45 p.m. in Conference Room 414.

Should you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you.

Claire Kodama, Secretary  
Office of the Deputy Chairperson  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
1151 Punchbowl Street, Suite 130  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
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LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**TESTIMONY OF THE CHAIRPERSON  
OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**on G.M. 532 – “TRAE MENARD” GUBERNATORIAL  
NOMINEE TO THE NATURAL AREA RESERVES SYSTEM COMMISSION,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2012**

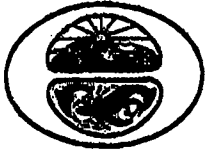
**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
WATER AND LAND**

**March 24, 2008**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports G.M. 532 to appoint Trae Menard to the Natural Area Reserves System (NARS) Commission for full term to expire 06-30-2012.

The NARS Commission (Commission) is composed of thirteen members appointed by the Governor in accordance with Section 26-34, Hawaii Revised Statutes, with six members with scientific qualifications and academic degrees in wildlife or marine biology, botany, forestry, ecology, resource management, biogeography, zoology, or geology; one member representing a hiking organization; one member representing a hunting organization; five representing the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Board of Agriculture, Office of Planning, President of the University of Hawaii, and Superintendent of Education. The purpose of the Commission is to establish criteria and conduct studies for evaluating areas for inclusion within the NARS and recommend to the Governor and Department areas to be included in NARS, establish policies regarding management, protection, and permitted uses of NARS and advise the Governor and Department on preservation of Hawaii's unique natural resources.

Mr. Menard is being appointed for a first term on the Commission, and meets the requirements as one of the six members with scientific qualifications and an academic degree. He graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz with a degree in Environmental Studies and a Masters in Geography from the University of Hawaii Manoa. Mr. Menard is currently the Kaua'i Program Director for The Nature Conservancy and Kaua'i Watershed Alliance Coordinator. Mr. Menard started his career as a Field Intern with the Division of Forestry and Wildlife NARS Program, becoming Field Ecologist with Hawaii Army National Guard, followed by Natural Resources Manager for The Nature Conservancy O'ahu Program, before becoming Natural Resources Manager for their Kaua'i Program before assuming his current position as both Kaua'i Program Director and Coordinator for the Kaua'i Watershed Alliance. Mr. Menard will fill the Ecology Subject Matter position on the Commission. He is very interested in serving on the Commission and brings a very important perspective of hands on management and how it informs and guides enhancement of natural areas.



# Conservation Council for Hawai'i

Testimony Submitted to the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Hearing: Monday, March 24, 2008  
2:45 pm  
Room 414

Support for GM 532 Trae Menard, Natural Area Reserves System Commission

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports the Governor's appointment of Trae Menard to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission. Mr. Menard is dedicated to protecting Hawai'i native species and ecosystems. He is knowledgeable and skillful in conservation efforts. He has a "can do" attitude, which will be beneficial on the commission. Please confirm the nomination of Mr. Menard to the NARS Commission.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

*Marjorie Ziegler*  
Marjorie Ziegler



**Working Today for the Nature of Tomorrow!**

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**Hawai'i Affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation**

President: Julie Lalaloa • Vice-President: Nelson Ho • Secretary/Treasurer: Kim Ramos • Directors: Fred Kraus, Ph.D. • Douglas Lamerson, George Robertson • Claire Shimabukuro • Helene Takemoto • Mashuri Waite • Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler

Patrick Conant  
P.O. Box 1172  
Volcano, HI 96785

March 21, 2008

GM 532

Re: Confirmation of Mr. Trae Menard as Commissioner on the Natural Area Reserve System Commission, to be heard at 2:45 pm on March 24, 2008

Senators Clayton Hee, Chair, and Russel Kokubun Vice Chair, and Senate Committee on Water and Land

I strongly support the confirmation of Mr. Menard to the NARS Commission. I have known Mr. Menard prior to his promotion to Natural Resource Manager of The Nature Conservancy Honouliuli Preserve on Oahu. While working at Honouliuli, he supervised the propagation and outplanting of thousands of rare native plants and used them as part of a progressive native forest restoration program. A rat control program there that he also managed was undoubtedly responsible for doubling the reproduction of the Oahu elepaio, which is now unfortunately on the endangered species list.

He has always impressed me as a person firmly dedicated to the protection of native Hawaiian natural resources. He has done considerable alien species control work for the benefit of native resources, both on the job and as a volunteer. In the latter capacity I (also as a volunteer) have worked with him on Kaala Natural Area Reserve controlling alien species. He has a very positive attitude in such work and works well with people and agencies, even if their opinions are divergent from his.

Since he transferred to run the newly established Kauai Nature Conservancy office as the Kauai Program Director, Trae was a key player working with the land owner in the fencing of Kanaele Bog at Wahiawa on Kauai. This timely and important action was critical to saving this rare low elevation bog from imminent and complete destruction by feral pigs.

Please confirm Trae Menard as a member of the NARS Commission. I believe he will represent the island of Kauai well in NARS efforts to protect examples of the best native Hawaiian natural resources left on State lands.

Aloha,



Patrick Conant

# **Testimony in Support of the Nomination of Mr. Trae Menard**

## **COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND**

**Senator Clayton Hee, Chair**

**Senator Russell S. Kokubun, Vice Chair**

Monday, March 24, 2008

2:45 p.m.

Conference Room 414

### **Support for Mr. Trae Menard nominated for the DLNR's Natural Area Reserves System Commission**

Dear Members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of Mr. Trae Menard who has been nominated for the DLNR's Natural Area Reserves System Commission. I have known Trae for ten years and he has dedicated his life to conservation of natural resources in the island and has wide experience in both management and science related to the islands.

I believe he would be an excellent addition to the NARS Commission, bringing enthusiasm, knowledge and on the ground experience to the important work of the Commission

I would ask that you consider his nomination favorably.

With Aloha,

David Cameron Duffy  
Professor of Botany and Unit Leader  
Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit (PCSU)  
University of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, HI 96822-2279

**Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Supporting GM 532 and the Confirmation of Trae Menard  
to the Natural Area Reserve System Commission  
Senate Committee on Water & Land  
Monday, March 24, 2008, 2:45PM, Room 414**

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*The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of Hawai'i's native plants, animals, and ecosystems. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands for rare and endangered native species in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 32,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i and also work closely with government agencies and private landowners on cooperative land and marine management projects.*

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The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii supports the nomination of Trae Menard to a position on the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.

Established by the Legislature in 1971, the Natural Area Reserves System Commission advises the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Governor on matters having to do with native ecosystems. Its members provide their expertise and background to help in the State's decisions to preserve and protect in perpetuity Hawaii's unique terrestrial and aquatic natural resources so that they may be available for generations to come.

Trae Menard has more than a decade of field experience in natural resource management in Hawai'i. He has designed and implemented everything from the most basic field work to complex management plans over large native landscapes. Trae also has significant direct experience in compliance with the laws and regulations that govern natural areas and natural resource management in Hawai'i. Trae is well-known amongst his colleagues and his community as a reliable partner and leader in conservation. His knowledge, experience, attention to detail, collaborative nature, and commitment to the stewardship of Hawaii's natural resources will be a great asset to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission and to the public goal of protecting these treasures now and for future generations

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**TESTIMONY**

**GM 532**

**(END)**