



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Pacific Islands Regional Office
1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 1110
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-4700
(808) 944-2200 • Fax (808) 973-2941

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE, 2012
STATE OF HAWAII

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES
Rep. Jerry L. Chang, Chair
Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

April 9, 2012

Regarding HR 61 and HCR 87

Comments from the National Marine Fisheries Service, Pacific Islands Regional Office

The National Marine Fisheries Service would like to clarify some apparent misconceptions concerning the effects of green sea turtles (honu) on the environment and ecosystem of Hawaii, as well as how listing or de-listing decisions are made under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The resolutions state that “the environment and ecosystem are suffering from the current over-protection, over-population, and lack of management of honu.” The resolutions suggest that this is scientific and accepted fact. However, it is not. The level of scientific study necessary to support the broad statement in the resolution is unavailable. The green sea turtle has and continues to be an important part of the marine and coastal ecosystem of Hawaii, and it is inaccurate to assign broad environmental and ecosystem problems to the honu.

The resolutions also state “that the United States is urged to recognize the recovery of Hawaiian green sea turtle,” and also urges the National Marine Fisheries Service and United States Fish and Wildlife Service “to designate the Hawaiian green turtle as a distinct population segment and delist it from the threatened list under the Endangered Species Act.” While we respect the opinion of the House of Representatives and the suggestions in its resolutions, it is important to recognize that there is a very specific and well defined process under the ESA that must be followed in order to determine whether a distinct population segment exists, whether a species has recovered, and whether it can be de-listed. This process requires us to review the status of the species and consider the best scientific and commercial data available. Only after conducting such a review can we make any kind of determination regarding the green sea turtle.



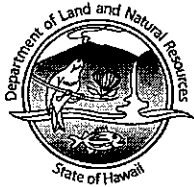
The National Marine Fisheries Service and United States Fish and Wildlife Service recently received a petition to classify the Hawai'i population of green sea turtle as a Distinct Population Segment and evaluate that population segment for de-listing under the ESA. The petition is currently being reviewed to determine if it warrants further consideration. If so, a scientific review of the status of the species will be initiated. If the Services propose any changes to the listing status of green sea turtles in the future, public comments will be requested and considered before any final decisions about de-listing are made. We are communicating regularly with the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding the green sea turtle petition and will continue to do so as we evaluate the petition.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on these resolutions. We look forward to continuing our existing work with the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources on this and other issues related to the honu.

Mahalo,

Lisa K. Croft
Deputy Regional Administrator
Pacific Islands Regional Office
National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER, LAND & OCEAN RESOURCES**

**Thursday, April 12, 2012
11:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 87/HOUSE RESOLUTION 61
URGING THE UNITED STATES TO RECOGNIZE THE RECOVERY OF
HAWAIIAN GREEN SEA TURTLES AND BEGIN ACTIVE MANAGEMENT OF
THIS IMPORTANT SPECIES**

House Concurrent Resolution 87 and House Resolution 61 urge the United States to declare the Hawaiian green sea turtle a distinct population segment (DPS), that this DPS has recovered and therefore should remove the species within the DPS from the list of threatened and endangered species. The Department of Land and Natural Resources takes no position on these resolutions and offers the following comments.

All marine turtle species that occur in Hawaii waters are currently listed as threatened or endangered, protected by both federal and state law. The Department is aware that a petition has been filed with the United States Departments of Commerce and Interior to classify the Hawaiian green sea turtle as a DPS and then remove it from the Endangered Species Act (ESA) list. These federal agencies will initially determine whether the petition is substantive and proceed in accordance with federal ESA regulations, which include a full scientific review. Existing studies both support and are precautionary as to the recovery status of the green sea turtle stock. The Department expects to work with the federal government in their ESA process in order to fully evaluate this proposal.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GUY H. KAULUKURUI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

P. O. Box 1135

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96807

TESTIMONY OF PRESIDENT SOULEE STROUD

HCR87/HR61 URGING THE UNITED STATES TO RECOGNIZE THE RECOVERY OF HAWAIIAN GREEN SEA TURTLES AND BEGIN ACTIVE MANAGEMENT OF THIS IMPORTANT SPECIES

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND & OCEAN RESOURCES

Thursday, April 12, 2012; 11:30 a.m.; Room 325

Aloha Chairman Chang, Vice Chair Har and members of the House Committee on Land and Ocean Resources. I am Soulee Stroud president of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs here to testify in support of House Concurrent Resolution 87 and House Resolution 61.

On February 15 of this year it was my privilege to initiate a petition to the U.S. Secretaries of Commerce and Interior to classify the Hawaiian green sea turtle, or honu, as a discrete population segment(DPS) and then to remove it from the endangered species list.

The most recent review of the honu by the National Marine Fisheries Service and the US Fish and Wildlife Service recommended an analysis to determine if the DPS policy can be applied to the honu. The discrete population segment is the smallest division of a species allowed under the endangered species list. If the honu is listed as a DPS it could then be delisted and the honu can be managed by the State of Hawaii.

The Hawaiian Civic clubs have discussed this possibility at our annual conventions since 2007 and last year a resolution to pursue and move forward on the new status and delisting was passed by the House of Delegates. We especially want to commend the Maunalua Hawaiian Civic Club for their patient reviews and analyses of the honu situation and for bringing the resolution to convention for so many years.

We urge the passage of HCR 87 and HR61. Mahalo.

Contact: jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 12:51 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: kaenap@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kaena Peterson
Organization: So. Kohala Hawn. Civic Club
E-mail: kaenap@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2012

Comments:

I support HCR87/HR61, home owner in Makaha oceanfront, our reefs are over populated with Honu eating all of our limu kohu, and coral. Having permit for honu fishing is a population control fishing of honu, also my observation is that foreign islanders deplete our reefs and seafood, should learn Hawaii host o frespect for Aina and Wai tradition that Hawaiian Natives follow which I was taught by my parents

har2-Samantha

From: Marilyn Leimomi Khan [mkhan@hawaiiintel.net]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 1:34 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Testimony HCR87/HR61, Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources, Thursday, April 12, 2012

Rep. Jerry Chang, Chair
Rep. Sharon Har, Vice Chair
Members
House Committee on Water Land and Ocean Resources

Aloha mai kakou,

On behalf of the members of the Kalihi Palama Hawaiian Civic Club, I urge you to retain the original language of HCR87/HR61, concerning the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle. Please note below the arguments raised by the testimony of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs which our club fully supports. We participated in discussions and voted on this issue at our annual convention and subsequently the AHCC President and Government Relations Committee Chair implemented our will. Thus, we feel affronted that our work has been displaced with a completely unrelated issue. We fully support the original intent of HCR87/HR61 and urge you to return to its original version.

Mahalo for your consideration of our request.

Me kealoha pumehana,

Leimomi Khan
President
Kalihi Palama HCC

From: jalna.keala2@hawaiiintel.net
To: Rephanohano@capitol.hawaii.gov, RepThielen@capitol.hawaii.gov, RepRiviere@capitol.hawaii.gov,
RepNakashima@capitol.hawaii.gov, RepKawakami@capitol.hawaii.gov, Replto@capitol.hawaii.gov,
RepHerkes@capitol.hawaii.gov, RepCoffman@capitol.hawaii.gov, RepCarroll@capitol.hawaii.gov,
RepCabanilla@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: 4/3/2012 10:28:02 P.M. Hawaiian Standard Time
Subj: Fw: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/5/2012 11:45:00 AM

To members of the House Water, Land and Ocean Resources Committee; The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs(AHCC) will be testifying in opposition to the actions taken by the committee to gut HCR87/HR61 and inserting language for the planning and development of Korea Town. Years of thought, observation, scientific research, review and analysis went into the resolution that you have trashed and cast aside. Additionally, there has been discussion and deliberation at several AHCC conventions and supportive action taken by the House of Delegates. Please pay attention to the documentation attached - rejection of the original resolution by the Hawaii State Legislature could have negative implications with the US Department of Interior and the US Department of Commerce with regard to the Hawaiian green sea turtle. We ask that you resuscitate the original HCR87/HR61 for the Hawaiian green sea turtle and plan and establish Korea Town through some other means. Mahalo. *Jalna Keala, Government Relations Chair, AHCC.*

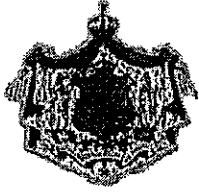
har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 2:08 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: watson@honuaconsulting.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM
Attachments: Honu Reso FINAL.docx

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Comments Only
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Trisha Kehaulani Watson
Organization: Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu
E-mail: watson@honuaconsulting.com
Submitted on: 4/11/2012

Comments:



Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu

Est. 1918 by Prince Kalaniana'ole

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources,
April 12, 2012 at 11:30 am
by
Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu

HCR 87 / HR 61 URGING THE UNITED STATES TO RECOGNIZE THE RECOVERY OF
HAWAIIAN GREEN SEA TURTLES AND BEGIN ACTIVE MANAGEMENT OF THIS
IMPORTANT SPECIES.

The Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu was established in 1918 by Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole. It is the original of the Hawaiian Civic Clubs and a 501(c)(4) organization. Today, the Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu has over 200 members who reside across the state of Hawai'i and U.S. continent.

The Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu would like to provide comments on this resolution.

The Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu supports the intent of this resolution. We concur that the green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) was listed in 1978 under the Endangered Species Act and currently enjoys protection under both federal and state law.

We also recognize that the green sea turtle, or honu, was a significant and important traditional biocultural resource to Native Hawaiians. An example of this significance comes from its appearance in the Kumulipo, one of the Hawaiian creation chants. Mention of sea turtles are found in the fourth wā, the fourth era of the Kumulipo.

0396. Hānau ka pō

The darkness of the sea gives birth

0397. Hānau ka pō ia mili nanea

The darkness of the sea gives birth to the cherished ones

0398. Kuka'a ka pō ia ki'i nana'a

The darkness of the sea is swollen as if a protruding statute

0399. Hānau ka pō ia honu kua nanaka

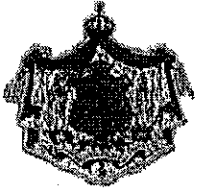
The darkness of the sea gives birth to the green sea turtle

0400. Kūlia ka pō ia 'ea kua neneke

The darkness of the sea sets forth the hawkbill turtle

Honu played many roles in traditional Hawaiian culture. Hawaiian language resources reveal that turtles were used as a source for food and medicine. Honu references appear in hula, traditional dance, and recreation activities.

We applaud the work of community organizations that have worked to gather information on the status of the green sea turtle in Hawai'i. We support the effort to delist the species should the appropriate scientific studies support that action.



Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu

Est. 1918 by Prince Kalaniana'ole

We urge the legislature to encourage the state and federal government to work closely with the Hawaiian community in its current protection and recovery activities. We believe a thorough cultural study regarding the biocultural significance of the green sea turtle in Hawaii would be appropriate. We believe such a study should not only contain a thorough ethnographic history, but we believe it should include a substantial analysis of existing laws and regulations so the community can better understand opportunities and impacts of the existing and applicable regulations.

We strongly urge the federal government to move forward with conducting the studies necessary to make a determination regarding the Hawaiian green sea turtle as a distinct population segment (DPS). We recognize that the delisting process is not a simple nor discretionary process, but one requiring extensive data gathering beforehand. We urge the federal government to expedite this process. We urge the federal government to work closely with the Hawaiian community as this process moves forward.

Finally, we want to encourage all parties involved to promote accurate information about the delisting process. We strongly feel that it is not in the interest of the community to build up expectations of the delisting process based on inaccurate information. We feel the Hawaiian civic clubs and Hawai'i State Legislature have a particular responsibility in providing this education to the larger community.

As an organization of community leaders and practitioners, we firmly believe the honu should be available as a resource to Native Hawaiians. We want to emphasize that many Hawaiian practitioners who are still alive today have enjoyed honu as a food resource. We believe that the Native Hawaiian community should have this opportunity again as soon as possible. In these difficult economic times, it is more critical now than ever that Hawaiians have the right to harvest food resources from the land and ocean.

We also concur that there are many questions about the honu population in Hawai'i, and we encourage the agencies with legal jurisdiction over the species (DLNR, FWS and NMFS) to move swiftly and efficiently to bring the community together to discuss these questions.

Thank you this opportunity to provide comments.



CONSERVATION COUNCIL FOR HAWAII

Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Water, Land, and Ocean Resources
Hearing: Thursday, April 12, 2012 11:30 am
Conference Room 325

In Opposition to HCR 87 and HR 61 Urging the United States to recognize the recovery of Hawaiian green sea turtles and begin active management of this important species

Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i opposes HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to establish a distinct population segment of the green sea turtle in Hawai'i, remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow taking of the species).

We do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list, and will be monitoring and participating in the ongoing federal process relating to distinct population segments and delisting.

There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

This is not a popularity contest for and against delisting the honu. The determination to establish a distinct population segment and change the status of a threatened or an endangered species must be rigorous, based on the best available scientific and other information, and free of political interference. In the absence of certainty, the precautionary principle must also apply, especially when determining the fate of an imperiled species in a warming world.

We do not agree with claims in HCR 87 and HR 61 that "scientific studies as well as reports by Native Hawaiian iawaia (cultural practitioners of fishing) have concluded that the honu is approaching full recovery and that the environment and ecosystem are suffering from the current over-protection, over-population, and lack of management of honu." We request copies (or titles, authors, and dates) of these studies and reports if this committee is willing to share them, and we will share them with others, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Rather than adopt these resolutions – which include assertions about the honu's recovery in the absence of supporting data and habitat analyses – we urge you to monitor and participate in the ongoing federal process as we are. Please oppose HCR 87 and HR 61.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely, Marjorie Ziegler



Hawai'i's Voice for Wildlife – Ko Leo Hawai'i no na holoholona lohiu

Telephone/Fax 808.593.0255 • email: info@conservehi.org • web: www.conservehi.org
P.O. Box 2923 • Honolulu, HI 96802 • Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 220 • Honolulu, HI 96814

President: Hannah Springer * Vice-President: Julie Leialoha * Treasurer: Rick Barboza * Secretary: Maka'ala Ka'aumoana
Directors: Lida Pigott Burney * Koalani Kaulukukui * Robin Kaye
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler

Spencer Yim

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 7:13 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: karenpoepoe@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kelson Poepoe
Organization: Hui Malama o Mo'omomi
E-mail: karenpoepoe@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/11/2012

Comments:

Since the ban on turtles went into effect more than 20 years ago, the turtle population has now exceeded the limit to maintain a proper balance within the ecosystem. People need to understand how the ecosystem actually functions in order to make reasonable judgements about this issue. Our group has done over 20 years of study in our area, and there has been a significant increase in the general turtle population and also in different nesting sites around the island of Moloka'i.

We recommend that the green sea turtle be delisted from the present ban. Management of the green sea turtle should be in accordance with a plan that encourages best practices to sustain a balanced ecosystem.

Mac Poepoe Resource Manager



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

TO: Honorable Chair Chang, Vice-Chair Har and Committee members
House Water, Land and Ocean Resources Committee, Thursday, 4-12-12 1130am

RE: OPPOSITION to Resolution HR61/HCR87; Urging the US to Recognize Recovery of the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle and to Begin Active Management of the Species

FROM: Inga Gibson, Hawaii State Director, The Humane Society of the United States, P.O. Box 89131, Honolulu, HI 96830, igibson@humanesociety.org or 808-922-9910

Thank you for this opportunity to comment in opposition to House Resolutions 61 and 87.

As you know, all species of sea turtle found in U.S. waters, including Hawaii, are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Federal law permits states to implement measures that afford greater protection to a listed species but must at a minimum comply with and not undermine federal mandates for protection.

There is an important distinction between evidence that a species is recovering versus that it has recovered. NMFS has set as a recovery goal for the sea turtle an average of 5,000 breeding females per year over six consecutive years. An August 2007 status review shows the nesting population at French Frigate Shoals at 400 over a 5 year period. The review indicates that the population is increasing, but it is nowhere near meeting the criteria for demonstrating that the population is recovered and can be considered for delisting at the Federal level. Another 5-year status review will take place later this year. The resolution claims that the sea turtle is currently over-populated however there is no evidence to support the idea that the population is recovered, much less over-populated.

In order to delist a species, it is also necessary to determine that threats facing the species have been adequately addressed so that populations can be secured in perpetuity. The sea turtle faces continued and possibly increasing threats that include by-catch by commercial fisheries, development near nesting beaches, marine debris, ship traffic and ship strikes, and the effects of climate change on sex ratios and habitat. In fact, there are multiple reports of poaching of sea turtles for their meat, in spite of their protected status, indicating a lack of compliance with current management measures. This illegal activity does not give us much confidence that future management measures would be followed if a delisting was to occur.

These draft resolutions would send a dangerous message by allowing parties with commercial interests in exploiting a vulnerable species to dictate the fate of that species—a treasured natural resource that is valued by all. It would jeopardize the progress that has already been made in the recovery of the sea turtle. It also completely disregards the interests and livelihood of all of those who benefit from the many tourists who visit our islands to enjoy their natural beauty and unique wildlife, including the sea turtle.

We respectfully urge your opposition to HR 61 and HCR 87.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 9:13 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: malamaopuna@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Rene Siracusa
Organization: Malama O Puna
E-mail: malamaopuna@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:

Malama O Puna is a 501(c)(3) environmental nonprofit and we have been active in projects along the Puna coast since 1990. Sightings of honu are very rare, more so in recent years. Thus, we take exception to the claim that this species has recovered and is overly impacting the environment. The honu is still in need of the protections offered by the threatened list of the ESA. We have seen no data that contradicts our experience, and doubt that such exists. Unless this committee can verify these claims of species recovery, it should vote down HCR87 and HR61, in order to avoid unnecessary harm (i.e., takings) to Hawaii's beloved honu. Malama O Puna supports the position of the Conservation Council for Hawai'i. Mahalo for your consideration of our mana'o.
Rene Siracusa, President

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 10:00 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: lopekana@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: George Robertson
Organization: Puako Community Assn.
E-mail: lopekana@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:

This resolution should be killed. I am a native Hawaiian. Don't mess with our honu!



PO Box 370 • Forest Knolls, CA 94933 P: 415.663.8590 • F: 415.663.9534
www.SeaTurtles.org • www.tirn.net • www.SpawnUSA.org • www.GotMercury.org

April 10, 2012

The Honorable Rep. Jerry L. Chang, Chair
The Honorable Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair
Hawaii House of Representatives
Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources
Conference Room 325
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Oppose HR 87, HR 61 – Urging the United States to Recognize the Recovery of Hawaiian Green Sea Turtles and Begin Active Management of this Important Species

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har and Committee Members,

Turtle Island Restoration Network (SeaTurtles.org) is writing on behalf of its more than 60,000 members and supporters in Hawaii, California and across America to oppose HR 87 and HR 61, which urge the U.S. government to remove the Hawaii green turtle or honu from protections and threatened status under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

SeaTurtles.org opposes this resolution for the following reasons:

1. The Hawaiian green sea turtle has not met recovery goals under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.
2. Threats to the survival and recovery of Hawaiian green sea turtles from human activities are increasing, not decreasing.
3. As a result of the facts above, statements in the resolutions are inaccurate.
4. The resolutions are premature given pending actions by National Marine Fisheries in response to a petition to the U.S. government submitted on February 14, 2012, seeking federal actions related to the Hawaii green turtle under the Endangered Species Act.

Turtle Island Restoration Network (SeaTurtles.org) is a nonprofit environmental organization based in Marin County, California. Turtle Island carries out four initiatives: the Sea Turtle Restoration Project, Shark Stewards, the Salmon Protection and Watershed Network and the Got Mercury Campaign. We work to protect endangered marine species, save critical ecosystems, improve consumer choices, encourage government action and inspire corporate responsibility, all to protect marine wildlife and the wild oceans we all rely upon.

1. The Hawaiian green sea turtle has not met recovery goals set under the U.S. Endangered Species Act

The Hawaiian green sea turtle has been listed as threatened under the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA) since 1978. The most recent status review for the green sea turtle was published by the U.S. government in August 2007 (NMFS 2007). The recovery goal for the Hawaiian green sea turtle is an average of 5,000 breeding females per year over six consecutive years. (NMFS 2007). As a result of protections under the ESA, the Hawaiian green sea turtle population has increased from near-extinction when as few as 83 females nested each year in the 1970s. Nevertheless, the average number of breeding females per year between 2002 and 2009 totals 400 breeding females.

The highest number of breeding female green sea turtles recorded since the 1970s numbered 843 in 2011. (NMFS 2012). Even at this level, the number of breeding females falls far short of the 5,000 breeding females required under the ESA to be considered for delisting. While a several criterion are considered when listing or delisting a species under the ESA, the recovery plan for Pacific green sea turtles is clear that *all* criteria including number of breeders must be met before any change in status can be considered. (NMFS 2007).

2. Threats to the survival and recovery of the Hawaiian green sea turtle from human activities are increasing, not decreasing

The threats to the survival and recovery of Hawaiian green sea turtles are expected to increase, not decrease, in the future. Threats to the population include loss of habitat due to coastal development and submersion due to rising sea levels, feminization of populations due to warmer beach temperatures due to global warming, excess bycatch in commercial fisheries due to expanding fisheries, exposure to heavy metals and other contaminants, boat strikes, as well as hunting and egg poaching. (NMFS 2007)

SeaTurtles.org is particularly concerned that the Hawaii longline fishery for swordfish exceeded its legal take of green sea turtles in 2011. Between January to September 16, 2011, there were four observed green turtle interactions in the Hawaii surface longline fishery for swordfish, when the incidental take limit in the 2008 Biological Opinion authorized the take of three green turtles over a three-year period, including one mortality. (NMFS 2012). The fact that the Hawaii longline fishery continues to violate the ESA and harm sea turtle populations, and that the regional fishery council intends to expand this and other deadly surface longline fisheries in the Pacific including American Samoa, provides ample evidence that caution is needed when it comes to weakening the federal protective status of Hawaiian green sea turtles and other sea turtle species.

3. The Resolutions Make Inaccurate Statements

HR 87, HR 61 state that *“the honu is approaching full recovery.”* Based on the fact that an average of 400 Hawaiian green sea turtles nested every year between 2002 and 2009, and that the recovery goal is 5,000 breeding females, the honu is nowhere near approaching full recovery.

HR 87, HR 61 state that *“the environment and ecosystem are suffering from the current over protection, over population and lack of management.”* If Hawaiian green sea turtles have not met recovery goals under the ESA, it is not accurate to say that they are “over protected” or “over populated.” In fact, SeaTurtles.org cannot find a definition for the terms “over protection” or “over population” in the context of sea turtle protection under the ESA.

The Hawaii green sea turtle and its habitat is protected and managed under the ESA, a management plan that has been successful in slowly increasing the population. Therefore, the statement that the sea turtle's environment and ecosystem suffers from "lack of management" is inaccurate.

4. The Resolution is Premature

Given that a petition to designate distinct population segments for the green sea turtles and delist the species under the ESA was submitted just 60 days ago, HR 87 and HR 61 are premature. National Marine Fisheries Service has not responded to the merits or accuracy of the petition nor has it acted on any of the requests it contains. A resolution from the Hawaiian state legislature on the status of Hawaiian green sea turtles would be more timely once NMFS makes its findings on the petition.

Vote No on HR 87, HR 61

Many of our members, families, and friends have shared stories about the incredible sea turtle experiences they have had while visiting Hawaii when swimming with sea turtles or observing them basking on rocks and outcroppings. As a result, we believe that there is strong national and international support for continued protection for the Hawaiian green sea turtle. Decreasing protections for these iconic ocean dwellers by delisting them or allowing greater numbers to die as a result of human activities would draw widespread opposition and likely cast a shadow on tourism to the state.

SeaTurtles.org strongly opposes removing the Hawaiian sea turtle from ESA protections until it meets stated recovery goals. We believe that is premature and possibly illegal to take such action to remove the Hawaiian green sea turtle from ESA protections until that time.

For these reasons, SeaTurtles.org opposes HR 87 and HR 61 and urges that the members of the Committee Water, Land and Ocean Resources vote "no" on these unnecessary, inaccurate and premature resolutions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Teri Shore
Program Director
SeaTurtles.org
415 663 8590 ext. 104

References

Green Sea Turtle, 5-Year Review: Summary and Evaluation, National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, August 2007.

Biological Opinion, Continued Operation of the Hawaii-based Shallow-set Longline Swordfish Fishery, National Marine Fisheries Service, January 2012.

har2-Samantha

From: Robert Wintner [robertw@snorkelbob.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 2:11 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87, HR 61



April 10, 2012

Re: **Oppose HR 87, HR 61** – Urging the United States to Recognize the Recovery of Hawaiian Green Sea Turtles and Begin Active Management of this Important Species

Dear Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har and Committee Members,

The Snorkel Bob Foundation opposes HR 87 and HR 61, which urge the U.S. government to remove the Hawaii green turtle or honu from protections and threatened status under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

The US Fish and Wildlife website confirms 400 nesting females through 2009. In the U.S. Pacific, over 90 percent of Hawaiian archipelago honu nesting occurs at French Frigate Shoals, where an average of 390 females nested annually from 2000-2009. See

<http://www.fws.gov/northflorida/SeaTurtles/Turtle%20Factsheets/green-sea-turtle.htm>

The Hawaii longline fleet has exceeded its allowable green sea turtle take. THAT's why the National Marine Fisheries Service re-initiated consultation and produced a new bi-op which calls for higher takes all around. From January to September 16, 2011, there were four observed green turtle interactions in the HI surface longline fishery, when the incidental take limit in the 2008 Bi-Op authorized the take of three green turtles over a three-year period, including one mortality.

NMFS may want to increase leatherback and loggerhead takes too, but these increases have not been approved through a public process. Moreover, this process to date is regrettable, with the Hawaii State Legislature suffering subterfuge on changing content. First we had notice on a resolution to urge delisting of the honu. Then we had a resolution to urge establishment of Koreatown in Honolulu.

Then the language went back to urging a honu delisting—MERE MINUTES PRIOR TO THE HEARING. Please note for the record these tactics that are likely beyond the ethical parameters most legislators live by.

har2-Samantha

From: Joan Lloyd [joani@snorkelbob.com]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 10:35 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: OPPOSED TO HCR87

Dear Chairman Chang and Committee Members,

I am opposed to HCR87 and urge you not to pass HCR87 to delist the Hawaiian green sea turtle from protection. The honu is only beginning recovery in Hawaii because of protections. We need to protect Hawaii reefs, not commercial fishing interests.

Thanks and Aloha,
Joan Lloyd
Director
The Snorkel Bob Foundation
(808)879-8575



WESTERN
PACIFIC
REGIONAL
FISHERY
MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL

**De-listing of Hawaiian Green Sea Turtles
from the Endangered Species Act
A rebuttal of the statements by the Conservation Council
for Hawaii opposing the species delisting from the ESA**

by Paul Dalzell

Paul Dalzell is the Senior Scientist at the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council. He has worked in the Pacific Islands and Southeast Asia for 35 years on fisheries management and management of fisheries interactions with protected and sensitive species. He is a Pacific Islander through marriage, whose family hold traditional title to important nesting and foraging grounds for green sea turtles in Papua New Guinea. Dalzell started the Council's Protected Species Program (PSP) in 2000, and convened the Sea Turtle Advisory Committee which comprises some of the leading researchers in sea turtle ecology and population biology¹. Dalzell continues to oversee the PSP with the Council's Protected Species Coordinator. Dalzell has led and co-authored several amendments which have resulted in the Hawaii and American Samoa longline fisheries becoming the world's most environmentally responsible pelagic longline fisheries, with 93-96% compliance with the FA Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The seabird and sea turtle mitigation measures use by these fleets are now being adopted worldwide by other pelagic longline fleets. He has also so-authored numerous peer reviewed papers on minimizing fishery interactions with protected and sensitive species. Along with his Council responsibilities he has served as the Ecosystem and Bycatch Specialist Working Group Chair for the Western and Central Pacific Fishery Commission, is currently a member of the Science Advisory Committee to the US delegation to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission; and member of the Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Team and False Killer Whale Take Reduction Team. Dalzell has also been instrumental in the convening of numerous international workshops and symposia on protected species, including the International Fishers Forum serried to promote the exchange of protected species mitigation between fishermen.

1. The primary goal of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) is to prevent the extinction of imperiled plant and animal life, and secondly, to recover and maintain those populations by removing or lessening threats to their survival.
(Text of Endangered Species Act on line at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/laws/esa/text.htm>)
2. Hawaiian green sea turtles have sustained a well documented and researched 30+ year recovery from depletion (primarily by commercial harvesting) to 20% of per-exploitation biomass in the 1970s
(Balazs, G.H. & M. Chaloupka 2009. Thirty-year recover trend in the once depleted Hawaiian green sea turtle stock. *Biological Conservation* 117, 591-498.
De-Listing the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle. Honolulu Magazine, November 2011.)

¹ Mr. George Balazs, Dr. Milani Chaloupka (CHAIR), Ms. Raquel Briseno Duenas, Dr. Peter Dutton, Dr. Naoki Kamezaki, Dr. Colin Limpus, Dr. Nicolas Pilcher, Dr. Jeffrey Polovina.

3. The stock is estimated to be now at about 83% of its pre-exploitation biomass with an intrinsic growth rate of about 5.4% pa.
(Chaloupka, M. & G.H. Balazs. 2007. Using Bayesian state-space modelling to assess the recovery and harvest potential of the Hawaiian green sea turtle stock. *Ecological Modelling* 2005, 93-109.)
4. Green turtle populations globally have also recovered
(Chaloupka, M. *et al.* 2008. Encouraging outlook of a once severely exploited marine mega-herbivore. *Global Ecology and Biogeography* 17, 297-304)
5. Sea turtles have been on earth for over 65 million years so have had to adapt to a multitude of stressors, including sea level declines and rises associated with inter-millennial climate change.
(Bowen, Brian W. & B. Wallace. 2009-2010. How Sea Turtles Have Weathered Past Climate Changes. *Status of the World's Turtles (SWOT), Fifth Report*, 13-15, online at <http://seaturtlestatus.org/sites/swot/files/SWOT-Report-5.pdf>)
6. Longline fisheries impacts to Hawaiian green sea turtles are minimal thanks to the 50-75 nm area closures implemented by the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, and to the use of large circle hooks and mackerel-type bait which have reduced all turtle interactions with longlines by about 90%.
(Amendment to Pelagics Fishery Management Plan, online at <http://www.wpcouncil.org/pelagic/Pelagics%20FMP.html>.
Gilman, E., D. Kobayashi T. Swenarton, N. Brothers, P. Dalzell & I. Kinan-Kelly. 2007. Reducing sea turtle interactions in the Hawaii-based longline swordfish fishery. *Biological Conservation* 139, 9-28.)
7. Stressors such as the fibropapilloma disease have had no effect on population recovery
(Chaloupka, M. & George Balazs. 2005. Modelling the effect of fibropapilloma disease on the somatic growth dynamics of Hawaiian green sea turtles. *Marine Biology* 147, 1251-1260.)
8. Growth of sea-turtle populations may be reaching the carrying capacity of the coastal environment in Hawaii.
(Wabnitz, C.C. *et al.* 2010. Ecosystem structure and processes at Kaloko Honoko-hau, focusing on the role of herbivores, including the green sea turtle *Chelonia mydas*, in reef resilience. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 420, 27-44)
9. This spectacular recovery is a great example of how the Endangered Species Act can recover populations and a testament to the hard work and dedication of NMFS scientist George Balazs and his co-workers
10. It is now time to specify green sea turtle distinct population segments (as has been conducted for loggerhead turtles by NMFS and USFWS), specify the Hawaii green sea turtles as a distinct population segment and de-list the Hawaii green sea turtles from the ESA

(Federal Register , Vol. 76, No. 184, Thursday, September 22, 2011, 58868- 58951)

11. De-listing does not mean removal of protection. It would return control and management of the Hawaii green sea turtles from the federal government back to the State of Hawaii
12. Part of the de-listing process will be a requirement for the State of Hawaii to develop a Turtle Management Plan to monitor and control any harvesting of this resource.
13. It is highly unlikely that the State of Hawaii would permit a return to commercial harvesting.
14. State management might involve the limited commercial harvest of a de-listed species, provided population targets are maintained and recovery goals continue to be achieved. If some harvesting were to be permitted by the State of Hawaii, the current Hawaiian sea turtle population could likely sustain harvests of between 200 - 500 turtles per annum, based on a Bayesian population model.
(Chaloupka, M. & G.H. Balazs. 2007. Using Bayesian state-space modelling to assess the recovery and harvest potential of the Hawaiian green sea turtle stock. *Ecological Modelling* 2005, 93-109.)
15. The State's management plan would also have to deal with the shifting population demographics of Hawaii's residents, especially the increasing number of Micronesians from the Compact States, for whom turtle harvesting is not a distant memory, as it is for Native Hawaiians.
(Yamada, S. 2011. Discrimination in Hawaii and the Health of Micronesians. *Hawaii Journal of Public Health* 3 (1), 55-57.)
16. It would be naive to suppose that some harvesting is not already taking place given the high abundance of turtles around Hawaii. Addressing some harvesting activity under a State plan would be desirable to not drive this activity further underground where it cannot be monitored.
17. In addition, a State plan needs to look at the Hawaiian green sea turtle in the context of its ecosystem function as a macro-herbivore on coral reef ecosystems.
(Wabnitz, C.C. *et al.* 2010. Ecosystem structure and processes at Kaloko Honoko-hau, focusing on the role of herbivores, including the green sea turtle *Chelonia mydas*, in reef resilience. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 420, 27-44)
18. Green sea turtles are competing with herbivorous fish and there is good traditional ecological knowledge from other parts of the Pacific that they do make a difference as turtle numbers increase and some herbivorous fish are out competed.
19. Other aspects to the green turtle recovery that may impact ocean users since the now abundant turtle population may well bring more sharks, especially tiger sharks into the coastal zone, with the potential for more shark attacks on humans.

(Marine Turtle Strandings in the Hawaiian Islands 1 January – 31 March 2011 Marine Turtle Research Program Protected Species Division Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, online at:

<http://akepa.hpa.edu/~mrice/turtle/Articles%20of%20interest/2011quarterlystranding%20report.pdf>)

20. Further human encounters will also increase, e.g. boaters, surfers, wind and kite surfers, stand-up paddle boarders and kayaks hitting turtles, sometimes with disastrous consequences to man and animal.
(see reference above)

Council and Council Staff Publication on turtles

1. WPRFMC. 2002. Measures to Reduce the Incidental Catch of Sea Turtles in the Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region. A regulatory amendment under the Pelagics Fishery Management Plan of the Western Pacific Region, Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, Honolulu, 141 pp.
2. WPRFMC. 2004. Management Measures to Implement New Technologies for the Western Pacific Pelagic Longline Fisheries. A Regulatory Amendment to the Fishery Management Plan for the Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region. Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, Honolulu, 1 pp.
3. Kinan I. & P. Dalzell. 2005. Sea Turtles: Flagship Species For Conservation And Fishery Management. Presented at the People & the Sea II Conference, Amsterdam, September 4-6, 2003. Maritime Studies (MAST), vol 3, No. 2 & Vol 4, No 1, 195-212
4. Gilman, E.L. P. Dalzell & S. Martin. 2006. Fleet communication to abate fisheries bycatch. Marine Policy, 30, 4, 360-366.
5. Gilman, E., E. Zollett, S. Beverly, H. Nakano, K. Davis, D. Shiode, P. Dalzell & I. Kinan. 2006. Reducing sea turtle by-catch in pelagic longline fisheries. Fish & Fisheries, 7, 2-23.
6. Gilman, E., D. Kobayashi T. Swenarton, N. Brothers, P. Dalzell & I. Kinan-Kelly. 2007. Reducing sea turtle interactions in the Hawaii-based longline swordfish fishery. Biological Conservation 139, 9-28.
7. Gilman, E., J. Gearhart, B. Price, S. Eckert, H. Milliken, J. Wang, Y. Swimmer, D. Shiode, O. Abe, S.H. Peckham, M. Chaloupka, M. Hall, J. Mangel, J. Alfaro-Shigueto, P. Dalzell and A. Ishizaki. 2009. Mitigating sea turtle by-catch in coastal passive net fisheries. Fish and Fisheries. DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-2979.2009.00342.

har2-Samantha

From: Lyn McNutt [zensea1@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2012 11:41 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: H.C.R. No. 87

The point of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) is to bring a species to a point of "recovery", not to keep the species on the list forever. If a species recovers, it MUST be removed from the list. Both the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle and the Humpback Whale have reached sufficient numbers with associated reproductive success to warrant their removal from the ESA list.

I fully support this resolution

Lyn McNutt
Wailua, Kauai, HI

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2012 9:53 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: osako@wave.hicv.net
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/5/2012 11:45:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/5/2012 11:45:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Warren Osako
Organization: Individual
E-mail: osako@wave.hicv.net
Submitted on: 4/5/2012

Comments:

I believe that the Hawaiian green sea turtle population has recovered. At the present time there are more green sea turtles than I have ever seen in my lifetime.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 10:03 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: pbartram@tripleb.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Comments Only
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Paul Bartram
Organization: Individual
E-mail: pbartram@tripleb.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2012

Comments:
Support bill

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 10:29 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: kawamotok008@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87 *

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kurt Kawamoto
Organization: Individual
E-mail: kawamotok008@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2012

Comments:

Strong support for delisting the hawaiian green sea turtle. Strong support for designating hawaii's green turtles as a distinct population as science indicates. The population has increased such that it is now in need of management actions. The State of Hawaii should be proud of its proactive actions to help the turtle population recover. Now it is time to move on to the next stage of responsible management of an important natural resource. Without responsible management the natural balance of our reef ecosystem will be affected by the overabundance of turtles. The delisting and management is the logical next step in this success story.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 10:47 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: tokunaga@hialoha.net
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael Tokunaga
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tokunaga@hialoha.net
Submitted on: 4/6/2012

Comments:

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 11:34 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: pomroys001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Sharon Pomroy
Organization: Individual
E-mail: pomroys001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2012

Comments:

As a native Hawaiian Fisher of more than 55 years I have been around to witness the decline, ban, restoration and current population in 2012 of the Honu: I have never seen such an abundant recovery of any land or ocean species. The work of all those involved in this effort should be applauded for their efforts over the past 4.5 decades.

Today their numbers and presence on the reef and in the ocean are countless times what they were in 1967. With such a recovery for the honu I feel the time has to begin controlled harvest of honu.

It would be best that taking of Honu be limited to a permit/drawing process and to Native Hawaiians. Permit numbers could be limited to a set number of permits per Moku by native Hawaiian population as registered in the US Census data bank.

Size minimums and maximums should be set. No part of a honu shall be sold. Parts of the Honu can be fashioned into tools and other cultural items. These items may not be sold.

This process once established shall be reviewed yearly and a report released to the Legislature, Executive branch and the Native Hawaiian Community. Based on report evaluations a review could be held 5 years after the take is established to study the possibility of expanding the permit process beyond the Native Hawaiian Community. Pau.

har2-Samantha

From: Varsha [oceanart@flex.com]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 12:29 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87 / HR 61

Please make four copies of this testimony available to:
Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair and related committee members of
the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES:

Regarding bills HCR 87 / HR 61 to be heard Thursday, April 12, 2012 TIME: 11:30 a.m,

Please do not NOT "delist" the Hawaiian Sea Turtle from the Endangered Species List.

The turtles recovery from complete extinction by being protected is a clear sign that this was and is an effective way to keep their existence in safe numbers and thus doing what is responsible on humanities part to nurture the balance of all creatures. The ocean waters are already severely impacted in too many ways to list. And so for the health and future health of our waters, I see it advisable to keep these animals on the endangered list. The minute they would be removed from that list it is inevitable that they would be hunted for their meat and beautiful shells and once again quickly jeopardize their safety in numbers. I plead that you consider this and avoid the inevitable and keep them protected by law.

Tourists come from all over the world to see these animals in our waters. Tourism is of importance to the islands well being, but most of all, if we can set financial gain aside for a moment, we carry a responsibility to aina and future generations, the latter being at one point in time, able to question our actions of present. What is the right course of action here? We understand our actions of recent on this particular topic, have supported the turtle populations to recover. Now it is important to keep it that way. For the sake of the turtles and the entire delicate life cycle which they are part of, including our children and all future generations.

Be thoughtful, be responsible. Thank you for your decision to NOT pass the aforementioned bills.

Aloha,
Andrea Titus

har2-Samantha

From: Dionne Miller [hawaiidionne@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 12:58 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87 / HR 61 Testimony OPPOSE

Aloha Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources,

As a 24 year Hawaii resident, I strongly oppose active management of Hawaii's beloved seaturtles. I've lived in Kailua Kona for the past 4 years, before that 20 years on Kauai.

Our seaturtles are one of our greatest tourist attractions. To begin killing them is an atrocity that won't be forgotten by the millions of visitors and residents who have grown to love them. Those who watch them for hours, who cry out in delight at seeing one, who photograph & video them constantly here at Kahaluu Beach in Kona and Poipu Beach when I lived on Kauai (among many other places). To many who have had an encounter with a seaturtle, it has been one of the greatest experiences of their lives.

Hawaii is one of the the only places in the entire world where seaturtles can be seen living in peace and they want to destroy that? Shame. Plus, how will turtle hunters be able to identify them as green seaturtles and not the critically endangered Hawksbill? Shame? Let the beauty of Hawaii's beloved Honu remain as they are now, peaceful and free.

Thank you for considering my letter.

Dionne Miller
Kailua Kona
Hawaii

har2-Samantha

From: Tamara Rainbow Tavernier [rainbowsart@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 1:33 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87/HR61.

Testimony regarding: HCR 87 / HR 61
DATE: Thursday, April 12, 2012 TIME: 11:30 a.m.

To: Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair, and the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES

Dear Sir, Madame,

i ask you to please not delist the Hawaiian sea turtle from the list of endangered species. I swim since many years in Hawaii every day the increase in sea turtles. they need our support, because i see them stuck with fish lines as well. Then we try to help them as best as we can.

Out of my heart, they need more than ever our support and protection.

thank you,

tamara tavernier

Tamara Tavernier (Rainbow)
www.rainbowsheart.com
808-754-5883

Spreading love through my ART, so people feel they ARE love.

har2-Samantha

From: Ira Leitel [iraleitel@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 2:21 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR87 HR61

To Chairman Chang & Members of the Committee on Water, Land & Ocean Resources
Hearing date & time – April 12, 2012 at 11:30 AM
Re: HCR 87 & HR61

My name is Ira Leitel. I have lived on the Big Island for 30 years. I do not represent any committee or organization. I do however swim every day in the ocean. I believe that the Hawaiian green sea turtle should continue to be afforded maximum protection under the law. I urge you not to delist it from whatever protections presently exist to protect this once endangered species. Ira Leitel, 68-1050 Mauna Lani Pt. Dr., Kamuela, HI 96743.

har2-Samantha

From: Robin Newbold [robin@mauirobin.com]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 2:50 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87 / HR 61 - Do Not Support

From: Robin Newbold

To: Rep Jerry L. Chang, Chair and members of Committee on Water, Land & Ocean Resources

Re: HCR 87 / HR 61 - Hearing Date: Thursday, April 12, 2012

Please do not support this effort to delist the Hawaiian green sea turtle as an endangered species.

While snorkeling and diving around the island of Maui we see very few green turtles - too few to allow them to be killed in commercial fishing nets or to be used for consumption. The Hawaiian green sea turtle plays an important role in the ecology of our reefs and it attracts visitors to our island, thus supporting our economy.

Thank you for voting "NO" on HCR 87 / HR 61; your vote will help protect Hawaii's reefs and key species for the benefit of all Hawaii's people.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 3:01 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Javier Mendez-Alvarez
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 4/6/2012

Comments:

har2-Samantha

From: Amy Cheney [ajcheney@mac.com]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 7:59 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87 / HR 61

Testimony regarding: HCR 87 / HR 61

DATE: Thursday, April 12, 2012 TIME: 11:30 a.m.

To: Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair, and the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES

Please make four copies of this testimony available to:

Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair and related committee members of the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES:

Regarding bills HCR 87 / HR 61 to be heard Thursday, April 12, 2012 TIME: 11:30 a.m, I BEG, PLEAD and PRAY with you to NOT "delist" the Hawaiian Sea Turtle from the Endangered Species List. This animal is a precious resource to Hawai'i. I come each year to see these animals.....and they have a clear role in the balance of our marine eco-system overall. We almost lost these vital creatures some decades ago, but thanks to the Endangered Species Act, they are coming back to provide a vital existence in Hawaiian waters. I understand that this vitality is the very reason you might think they can be delisted now, but the minute they are delisted, they will very quickly be fished out for food and the beauty of their shells, and will once again become endangered. **Please avoid this inevitable outcome by simply leaving their protections in place.** Thank you for your wise decision to NOT pass the aforementioned bills.

Amy Cheney, Oakland, CA.

har2-Samantha

From: Margo Cruse [margo.cruse@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2012 6:30 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HRC 87 andf HR61

Dear Committee Members. Please DO NOT take the Green Sea Turtles or any other turtle off the endangered species list. I swim most days off the Maui shores and have see the increased and healthier population of these turtles. They eat the non native seaweeda and add to the health of our reefs. The tourists always ask me where to see the turtles.They LOVE as well as I do.It would not be in the economic or ethical good of our Islands to put our turtles at risk. Thank you and Aloha,

Margo Cruse
margo_cruse@aol.com

har2-Samantha

From: Linda Stone [linda.stone@loveable.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2012 7:16 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87 / HR 61

Please make four copies of this testimony available to:
Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair and related committee members of the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES:

Regarding bills HCR 87 / HR 61 to be heard Thursday, April 12, 2012 TIME: 11:30 a.m, I PLEAD with you to NOT "delist" the Hawaiian Sea Turtle from the Endangered Species List. This animal is a precious resource to Hawai'i in ways both known and unknown. Tourists flock from all over the world to see these animals in our waters.....and they have a clear role in the balance of our marine eco-system overall. We almost lost these vital creatures some decades ago, but thanks to the Endangered Species Act, they are coming back to provide a vital existence in Hawaiian waters. I understand that this vitality is the very reason you might think they can be delisted now, but the minute they are delisted, they will very quickly be fished out for food and the beauty of their shells, and will once again become endangered. **Please avoid this inevitable outcome by simply leaving their protections in place.** They are good for tourism, which is the life blood of Hawai'i nei, and they are good for our oceans, which is also the life blood of Hawai'i nei. Thank you for your wise decision to NOT pass the aforementioned bills.

Mahalo,

Linda Stone

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 08, 2012 5:56 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: viviansuet@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Vivian S. Toellner
Organization: Individual
E-mail: viviansuet@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/8/2012

Comments:

Aloha,

I am very concerned for the safety of the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle - Honu, that is being threatened again my man.

HCR 87 and HR 61 states:

“have concluded that the honu is approaching full recovery and that the environment and ecosystem are suffering from the current over-protection, over-population and lack of management of honu.”

This makes the Honu sound like a nuisance species, that does not belong in Hawaii.

One of the few natural species approaching a come-back and man is already mouth watering.

Approaching recovery? By what standards? For what purpose?

Please stay informed and concerned for these precious animals.

Mahalo

har2-Samantha

From: Deidre [kohealoha@earthlink.net]
Sent: Sunday, April 08, 2012 10:35 AM
To: WLOtestimony; Rep. Jerry Chang; Rep. Sharon Har
Subject: Regarding bills HCR 87 and HR 61

Regarding bills HCR
87 <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2012/Bills/HCR87_.pdf> / HR 61
<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2012/Bills/HR61_.pdf> to be
heard Thursday, April 12, 2012 TIME: 11:30 a.m,

We are writing to add our voices to those who strongly PLEAD with you to NOT "delist" the Hawaiian Sea Turtle from the Endangered Species List. This animal is a precious resource to Hawai'i in many ways. Not only are these animals important to our daily lives as residents here and to our ecosystem, they play such an important role in tourism. Please continue to keep them protected so they will be enjoyed now as well as for generations to come.

Please make four copies of this testimony available to:
Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair
and related committee members of the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, &
OCEAN RESOURCES

We thank you in advance. Mahalo,
Rocky and Deidre Cimarusti

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 08, 2012 7:28 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carl P Jellings Sr
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mjellings@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/8/2012

Comments:
In Support

Mahalo Chair Chang Vice Chair Har members House WLO committee

Mahalo Carl P Jellings Sr

har2-Samantha

From: Don Mcleish [dmcleish@pacbell.net]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 12:15 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: RE: HCR 87 / HR 61

Hello,

I have been visiting Hawaii since 1969 and have taken to full time residence about 6 years ago. I have watched the waters go from lacking in honu to present times where one can easily find a honu should one seek them and know where to look. I have also come to recognize individuals and photograph them; some now for over 10 years. It is my impression that many of these turtles have no inherent fear of humans and are quite willing to share the ocean, in close proximity to us. I imagine that there are now breeding adults that have never witnessed man take a fellow turtle for harvesting and in the last few years I have even seen honu haul out on secluded beaches trusting to their safety. If we have granted these turtles protection solely based on their numbers then I understand how such protection can be withdrawn, also based on numbers. My problem is that I recognize some of these turtles as individuals not simply as a number. To change the rules on their safety and have them protected one day and subject to mortality at our hand the next hardly seems fair if we wish to treat them with any sense of fairness and I would hope we would. There are conflicts of interest at hand and I wish to be counted as one not interested in green sea turtles once again being harvested. I attempt to hold and show respect for all cultures and certainly this includes the Hawaiian culture. My interest in the honu may be in conflict with tradition although it is not in conflict with what has been law for over 30 years now. If we can turn back the clock that's great but let's not stop with the honu.

If the green sea turtle is no longer threatened or endangered then that's great news and it only makes sense that it be removed from such lists. Is it necessary to then harvest and/or reduce their numbers?

Thanks for your consideration,
- Don

Don McLeish
62 Haku Hale Pl.
Lahaina, HI 96761

Cell - 510-388-2127
<http://dmcleish.com>

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 9:09 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: rjlmaui@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Bob Lloyd
Organization: Individual
E-mail: rjlmaui@aol.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 9:41 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: jmichaels@hdcc.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: James F. Michaels
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jmichaels@hdcc.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

I oppose this bill. This is an endangered species integral to the ecosystem of Hawaii. We need to be preserving these animals, not killing them.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 10:42 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: maka_nokaoui@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Melonie Fernandez
Organization: Individual
E-mail: maka_nokaoui@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

har2-Samantha

From: Jerry Kane [kane@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 11:07 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87 / HR 61

I urge a no vote on the subject resolutions.

Green sea turtles should not be delisted, and protections for them should continue.

Thank you.

Jerry Kane
71-1689 Puu Kamanu Lp
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 11:08 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: keithc@snorkelbob.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Keith Christie
Organization: Individual
E-mail: keithc@snorkelbob.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

Eating honu is not managing. Honu can manage themselves. This is an effort by PROFIT organizations to increase their ability to make a PROFIT at the expense of an animal that is an aumakua. We don't need to leave aumakua alone, not manage them by eating them.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 11:50 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: ratguppy@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jespah Koja
Organization: Individual
E-mail: ratguppy@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:
Please don't eat the honu! Thank you.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 12:00 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: Balmoresaf@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: April
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Balmoresaf@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

The sea turtles are beautiful gentle creatures that are already being killed by other means, such as pollution, fishers nets and the beaches they nest on are being taken over by the inclination of human population. Tourist always ask about where the best places are to watch these gentle creatures, these turtles are loved by locals and tourist. I really hate the idea of people eating a sea turtle, please reconsider!

Mahalo,
April Balmores

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 12:41 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: rj_brns@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Judy Barnes
Organization: Individual
E-mail: rj_brns@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

April 9, 2012

Re: HCR87 OPPOSITION

Dear Chairman Chang:

I oppose delisting the Hawaiian Green Turtle from protection. This turtle is just beginning to come back from almost being extinct. Please protect Hawaiian reefs, not fishing interests. Tourism depends on fertile reefs.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Michaels
Folsom, Calif.

har2-Samantha

From: Margit@Hookipa.com
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 1:15 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87 / HR 61

To: Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair, and the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES

Reg.: Testimony regarding: HCR 87 / HR 61
DATE: Thursday, April 12, 2012 **TIME:** 11:30 a.m.

Please keep Hawaiian Sea Turtle ON the Endangered Species list.

The sea turtle population might have increased but taken them off the Endangered Species List will open a market for a profitable business over fishing.

How would be the killing of sea turtles be monitored??? It will be only a short time that they are disappearing from our waters.

Our marine life around the island is attracting visitors from all over the world, it deserves to be protected now and for future generations.

Best Regards,
Margit Tolman

har2-Samantha

From: Isaac Harp [imua-hawaii@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 1:49 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Comments on HR 61 AND Companion HCR 87

Aloha Chair and Members of the WLO Committee,

My name is Isaac Harp. In 1999, I had the honor of serving as Chairman of the first Native and Indigenous Rights Advisory Panel to the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, commonly known as Wespac. The advisory panel included members from the Western Pacific Region, which includes American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and Hawaii.

In April of 1999, the advisory panel presented a formal recommendation to Wespac that a limited take of green sea turtle (honu) be provided for the indigenous peoples in the four island areas of Western Pacific Region for non-commercial cultural and religious purposes. The response the advisory panel received from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) was that, when evidence exists to demonstrate that there are a minimum of five thousand (5,000) breeding females that they would consider providing for a limited take of honu for non-commercial cultural and religious purposes.

According to information compiled by the NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center and US Fish and Wildlife Service in 2010

(http://www.fpir.noaa.gov/Library/PUBDOCS/tech_memo/GreenTurtle_TechMemoFINAL2.pdf), Hawaii has 12 known nesting sites with an annual average estimate of 400 – 500 breeding females. American Samoa has 3 known nesting sites supporting an annual estimate of 30 – 100 breeding females. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has 16 known nesting sites supporting less than 10 breeding females. And Guam has 15 known nesting sites supporting less than 10 breeding females. According to my calculations, the total aggregate number of breeding females of these four island areas falls well short of 5,000.

Because a non-commercial cultural/religious take has not yet been considered or provided for, I do not believe the NMFS minimum requirement has been achieved requiring established protections for honu remain intact as a precautionary measure.

In conclusion, the honu delisting effort appears to be covertly intended to relieve the long-line fishing industry from NMFS established honu take limit safeguards, which I understand may have already been exceeded. I humbly suggest that your committee very carefully consider the purpose of HR 61 and companion HCR 87 in relation to those showing the strongest support for this measure.

I hope you find this information helpful in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Isaac Harp
P.O. Box 437347
Kamuela, HI 96743

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 3:51 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: davidlhenkin@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: David Henkin
Organization: Individual
E-mail: davidlhenkin@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

I respectfully ask the committee to hold this measure and its companion (HCR 87).

By law, the determinations to establish a distinct population segment and to change the status of a threatened or an endangered species must be rigorous, based on the best available scientific and other information, and free of political interference.

The Legislature would best serve the interests of the people of Hawai'i, including those supporting delisting, by allowing the scientists to do their work, based on the data, rather than turn this into a political dispute. Attempting to influence the decision by exerting political influence could make any ultimate decision on the petition vulnerable to legal challenge.

Mahalo for considering my testimony.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 3:53 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: mausue1@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Susan R Armstrong
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mausue1@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

I strongly oppose HCR87 to delist sea turtles. These animals still need protection - please do not remove them from the protected list.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 4:06 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: launahele@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Benton Pang
Organization: Individual
E-mail: launahele@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

I am a member of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and one of a handful of members who did not support the Resolution passed at our last convention. I still oppose this resolution before the Committee.

I feel more science and honu observations collected by Native Hawaiians is greatly needed before we can safely say the turtle has reached recovery.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 4:28 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: burnett@bishopmuseum.org
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Burke Burnett
Organization: Individual
E-mail: burnett@bishopmuseum.org
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

I am writing to express my opposition to HCR 87 and HR 61, which urges the federal government to establish a distinct population segment of the green sea turtle in Hawai'i, remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow taking of the species). I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list, as the long-term threats to the species (including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching) have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 4:35 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: jadamsesq@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position:
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jo-Ann Adams
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jadamsesq@aol.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

I oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urges the federal government to establish the green sea turtle as a distinct population segment, remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively allow taking of the species.

The honu populations have not recovered sufficient to be removed from the threatened species list.

There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle, including loss of nesting beaches from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris and fishing gear, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats remain.

Rather than adopt resolutions - which include assertions about the honu's recovery - we urge you to monitor and participate in the ongoing federal process. Please oppose HCR 87 and HR 1.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 4:48 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: ooom@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Katleen Luiten
Organization: Individual
E-mail: oooom@msn.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

My husband and I are very concerned about the need to protect the honu in Hawaiian waters. Please listen to the Conservation Council and the many others who want the honu to be protected and maintain their status as a threatened species. Our honu are rare, and if we lose many more of them they will be endangered and may become extinct. Their reproduction is not strong and they are very vulnerable. Please do the right thing for these precious creatures and maintain their threatened species status.

- We oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to establish a distinct population segment of the green sea turtle in Hawai'i, remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow taking of the species).

- We do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list, and will be monitoring and participating in the ongoing federal process relating to distinct population segments and delisting.

- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

- This is not a popularity contest for and against delisting the honu. The determination to establish a distinct population segment and change the status of a threatened or an endangered species must be rigorous, based on the best available scientific and other information, and free of political interference. In the absence of certainty, the precautionary principle must also apply, especially when determining the fate of an imperiled species in a warming world.

- We do not agree with claims in HCR 87 and HR 61 that "scientific studies as well as reports by Native Hawaiian lawaia (cultural practitioners of fishing) have concluded that the honu is approaching full recovery and that the environment and ecosystem are suffering from the current over-protection, over-population, and lack of management of honu." We request copies (or titles, authors, and dates) of these studies and reports if this committee is willing to

share them, and we will share them with others, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources.

•Rather than adopt these resolutions - which include assertions about the honu's recovery in the absence of supporting data and habitat analyses - we urge you to monitor and participate in the ongoing federal process as we are. Please oppose HCR 87 and HR 1.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 4:59 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: newsletter@riseup.net
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: r kinslow
Organization: Individual
E-mail: newsletter@riseup.net
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

I oppose the delisting of the green sea turtle based on several fundamental truths. First, it is easy to see that from a moral and ethical standpoint, the term 'management' means in practice that more sea turtles will be killed not less. Second, a science-based, that is reality-based perspective does not bear out de-listing these sea beings. There are no studies which have concluded that the actions being contemplated are appropriate at this time. Thus, this bill is not based in reality, in science or prudent policy. Third, NONE of the numerous man-made threats to honu, monk seals or other marine species have been mitigated, alleviated or lessened. In fact, the approach of this bill will increase these threats. And, it is arguable that the reason for this bill is a part of a set of bills intended to eliminate regulations of near-shore environments specifically and the environmental regulatory regime in general. That this approach has come from this administration is of grave concern to those of us who monitor and respond to attempts from politicians to liquidate our children's future today. It's enormously cheaper to preserve the natural world than to liquidate it and then try to restore it's complexity later.

In closing, I would ask you, the politician or legislator, a couple of questions:

How can civil society make decisions about sustainability when decision-makers don't know what is sustainability?

How can society manifest sustainability when 99% of our politicians have no training in sustainable decision-making?

How can civil society make decisions sustainably when we continue to make decisions on special interest pay-to-play politics?

How can we make decisions for our children when the approach we are using is based fundamentally on liquidating the future in order to pay for 'progress' in the present?

Thanks for listening to my questions and concerns.

For the children of the future, I remain.

Rob Kinslow
Sustainability educator

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 4:53 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: medeiros_matthew@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Matt Medeiros
Organization: Individual
E-mail: medeiros_matthew@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way. Please do not De-List the green sea turtle!

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 5:07 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: dmclegg@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: dorothy clegg
Organization: Individual
E-mail: dmclegg@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

har2-Samantha

From: Rachel Altman [rachel.altman@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 5:08 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87 / HR 61

Testimony regarding: HCR 87 / HR 61

DATE: Thursday, April 12, 2012 TIME: 11:30 a.m.

To: Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair, and the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES Please make four copies of this testimony available to:

Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair and related committee members of the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES:

Regarding bills HCR 87 / HR 61 to be heard Thursday, April 12, 2012 TIME: 11:30 a.m,
I PLEAD with you to NOT "delist" the Hawaiian Sea Turtle from the Endangered Species List. This animal is a precious resource to Hawai'i in ways both known and unknown. Tourists flock from all over the world to see these animals in our waters.....and they have a clear role in the balance of our marine eco-system overall. We almost lost these vital creatures some decades ago, but thanks to the Endangered Species Act, they are coming back to provide a vital existence in Hawaiian waters. I understand that this vitality is the very reason you might think they can be delisted now, but the minute they are delisted, they will very quickly be fished out for food and the beauty of their shells, and will once again become endangered. **Please avoid this inevitable outcome by simply leaving their protections in place.** They are good for tourism, which is the life blood of Hawai'i nei, and they are good for our oceans, which is also the life blood of Hawai'i nei. Thank you for your wise decision to NOT pass the aforementioned bills.

Mahalo,
Rachel Altman
1383 Sycamore Canyon Road
Santa Barbara, California 93108

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 5:09 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: samuel.chesser@ml.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM
Attachments: Honu Oppose Bill.docx

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Samuel Chesser
Organization: Individual
E-mail: samuel.chesser@ml.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to establish a distinct population segment of the green sea turtle in Hawai'i, remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow taking of the species).

I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list, and will be monitoring and participating in the ongoing federal process relating to distinct population segments and delisting.

There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

This is not a popularity contest for and against delisting the honu. The determination to establish a distinct population segment and change the status of a threatened or an endangered species must be rigorous, based on the best available scientific and other information, and free of political interference. In the absence of certainty, the precautionary principle must also apply, especially when determining the fate of an imperiled species in a warming world.

I do not agree with claims in HCR 87 and HR 61 that "scientific studies as well as reports by Native Hawaiian lawaia (cultural practitioners of fishing) have concluded that the honu is approaching full recovery and that the environment and ecosystem are suffering from the current over-protection, over-population, and lack of management of honu." We request copies (or titles, authors, and dates) of these studies and reports if this committee is willing to share them, and we will share them with others, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Rather than adopt these resolutions – which include assertions about the honu's recovery in the absence of supporting data and habitat analyses – I urge you to monitor and participate in the ongoing federal process as we are. Please oppose HCR 87 and HR 61.

Mahalo

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 5:15 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: sjoe@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Stephanie M. Joe
Organization: Individual
E-mail: sjoe@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

I oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to establish a distinct population segment of the green sea turtle in Hawai'i, remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow taking of the species). There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way. I do not agree with claims in HCR 87 and HR 61 that "scientific studies as well as reports by Native Hawaiian lawaia (cultural practitioners of fishing) have concluded that the honu is approaching full recovery and that the environment and ecosystem are suffering from the current over-protection, over-population, and lack of management of honu." We request copies (or titles, authors, and dates) of these studies and reports if this committee is willing to share them, and we will share them with others, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources. Rather than adopt these resolutions - which include assertions about the honu's recovery in the absence of supporting data and habitat analyses - I urge you to monitor and participate in the ongoing federal process as I am. Please oppose HCR 87 and HR 61.

har2-Samantha

From: Madhu Sugavanam [madhumathy@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 7:38 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87/HR 61

Regarding bills HCR 87 / HR 61 to be heard Thursday, April 12, 2012 TIME: 11:30 a.m., I PLEAD with you to NOT "delist" the Hawaiian Sea Turtle from the Endangered Species List. This animal is a precious resource to Hawai'i in ways both known and unknown. Tourists flock from all over the world to see these animals in our waters.....and they have a clear role in the balance of our marine eco-system overall. We almost lost these vital creatures some decades ago, but thanks to the Endangered Species Act, they are coming back to provide a vital existence in Hawaiian waters. I understand that this vitality is the very reason you might think they can be delisted now, but the minute they are delisted, they will very quickly be fished out for food and the beauty of their shells, and will once again become endangered. **Please avoid this inevitable outcome by simply leaving their protections in place.** They are good for tourism, which is the life blood of Hawai'i nei, and they are good for our oceans, which is also the life blood of Hawai'i nei. Thank you for your wise decision to NOT pass the aforementioned bills.

Human beings have been and still are, in many places, decimating animal populations, with no thought to the consequences of their actions. The fact that Hawaiian sea turtle population is making a comeback due to conservation efforts is a fact that need to be rejoiced. Please do not let the years of conservation efforts go asunder by delisting them.

Madhumathy Sugavanam

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 10:32 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: evernw@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Evern Williams
Organization: Individual
E-mail: evernw@aol.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

The Honu is not ready to be delisted. The data you are relying on is inaccurate. Do not pass this bill.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 12:00 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: tamara.ticktin@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tamara Ticktin
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tamara.ticktin@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

I oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to establish a distinct population segment of the green sea turtle in Hawai'i, remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species.

There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way. The assertions that the honu has recovered is not back up by published studies.

As kama'aina we love to see honu at our beaches. It is a special treat for our children as it is for the many tourists who come here to see Hawai'i's precious marine life. Please, please let the honu continue to recover and do not remove it from the threatened species list.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 4:59 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: tlalocct@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: tlaloc TOKUDA
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tlalocct@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:

We oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to establish a distinct population segment of the green sea turtle in Hawai'i, remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow taking of the species).

We do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list, and will be monitoring and participating in the ongoing federal process relating to distinct population segments and delisting.

There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

This is not a popularity contest for and against delisting the honu. The determination to establish a distinct population segment and change the status of a threatened or an endangered species must be rigorous, based on the best available scientific and other information, and free of political interference. In the absence of certainty, the precautionary principle must also apply, especially when determining the fate of an imperiled species in a warming world.

We do not agree with claims in HCR 87 and HR 61 that "scientific studies as well as reports by Native Hawaiian lawaia (cultural practitioners of fishing) have concluded that the honu is approaching full recovery and that the environment and ecosystem are suffering from the current over-protection, over-population, and lack of management of honu." We request copies (or titles, authors, and dates) of these studies and reports if this committee is willing to share them, and we will share them with others, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Rather than adopt these resolutions - which include assertions about the honu's recovery in the absence of supporting data and habitat analyses - we urge you to monitor and participate in the ongoing federal process as we are. Please oppose HCR 87 and HR 61.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

RE: HCR 87/HR 61

Hearing April 12, 2012, 11:30am rm 325

9 copies - mahalo

Honorable Jerry Chang and Committee Members:

1. There is not adequate evidence to determine that the green honu has successfully recovered in total worldwide nor in Hawaii nei.
2. We must understand that the nesting sites have severely declined as well as their food source and their habitat in general.
3. To see a few honu monthly or in a few locales does not mean that their numbers are high or that they will survive for next year.
4. Other species use them for food especially their keiki.

Please OPPOSE this bill HCR87/HR61, realizing that we are blest with the green honu and should continue its protection.

Thank you so much for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely with aloha,

Linda Lyerly

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 8:12 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: shawnjamesleavey@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Shawn James Leavey
Organization: Individual
E-mail: shawnjamesleavey@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:
Aloha Members,

Where are the studies the reso claims to be based upon? No references are made. Who are the lawai'a whose observations this reso cites? No names are given to determine the veracity.

Let decisions be made on facts. Please oppose this reso.

Mahalo.
Shawn James Leavey

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 9:06 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: namaka@interpac.net
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Joan Lander
Organization: Individual
E-mail: namaka@interpac.net
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 11:32 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: anita wintner
Organization: Individual
E-mail: anitabanana@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:

I oppose the delisting of green turtles in Hawaii. Hawaii does NOT have the employees of DOCARE, DAR or DLNR to "REGULATE" the killing of honu. They aren't enough employees to stop the poaching here on Maui of MPA's. It is happening daily. About 1 of every 5 honu I see in the water now have fibropapilloma. Tourism is Hawaii's biggest industry and the last thing tourist will want to see is the killing of honu. How many nesting turtles are there? What is the sustainable number needed? If you cannot answer these questions, this resolution needs to end now. Mahalo, Anita w

har2-Samantha

From: Teri Shore [terishore@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:02 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Teri Shore
515 Hopkins St.
none
Sonoma, CA 95476

har2-Samantha

From: A. Galvez [rayvnluv@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:24 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

A. Galvez

Burbank, CA 91501

har2-Samantha

From: Trina Fuoco [tfuoco1220@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:29 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Trina Fuoco
10511 Epson Lane
Jacksonville, FL 32221

har2-Samantha

From: Kian Pheng Soh [peng06@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:35 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Kian Pheng Soh

Singapore, ot 150102

har2-Samantha

From: ron silver [rhinopias@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:50 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

ron silver
3107 homewood pkwy.
atlantic beach, FL 32233

har2-Samantha

From: Lynn Ellis [wiseturtle@netzero.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 2:08 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Lynn Ellis
1100 W. Pine st
Lodi, CA 95240

har2-Samantha

From: Madeline Mckenna [maddy@mckennas.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:57 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Madeline Mckenna
1255 Sandalwood Ln
Los Altos, CA 94024

har2-Samantha

From: Kelly Hou [ch3333@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:32 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Kelly Hou

Milpitas, CA 95035

har2-Samantha

From: Lisa Bohannon [lbohannon@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:43 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Lisa Bohannon
2150 Camino A Los Cerros
Menlo Park, CA 95025

har2-Samantha

From: Leala Farnsworth [loveearnliberate@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 1:34 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Leala Farnsworth
718 Woodbend Dr
Lewisville, TX 75067

har2-Samantha

From: Teresa Hull [thull@san.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 2:26 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Teresa Hull
15645 Caldas de Reyes
San Diego, CA 92128

har2-Samantha

From: margaret silver [cattleya@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 2:45 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

margaret silver
3107 homewood pkwy.
atlantic beach, FL 32233

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2012 9:20 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: admnmnrc@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/5/2012 11:45:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/5/2012 11:45:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mia Charleston
Organization: Individual
E-mail: admnmnrc@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 4/5/2012

Comments:

I do not believe the Green Sea Turtle should be taken off the Endangered Species List because there is evidence that many of the turtles suffer from fibropapilloma. Although the existing population of green sea turtles may have grown, the same population is sick and therefore should not be taken off of the list until we find out more about what is causing the spread of fibropapilloma and fix the problem.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 10:08 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: reeflections.maui@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Michael Roberts
Organization: Individual
E-mail: reeflections.maui@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2012

Comments:

Please do not remove any protection status for the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle. Since there is not enough enforcement for ocean regulations already, think of the added burden the wholesale slaughter of the honu would create. I have a neighbor that says he can't wait to hunt turtles. Bag limits will never work due to lack of enforcement. We can't even keep poachers from hunting in a few reserves now, how in the world will we keep track of the number of turtles taken once the flood gates are open and any kind of hunting is possible?

If you don't care about the honu, you should at least care about the tourist industry. Like so many others here, I depend on tourists for my living and pay a lot of those earnings in local taxes. Picture the visitors that come every year to enjoy swimming with the most popular Hawaiian attraction. They will instead be viewing carnage and turtles will no longer be unafraid of people.

Please DO NOT change the protected status of our beloved honu.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 5:16 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: nan@nanharter.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nanette Harter
Organization: Individual
E-mail: nan@nanharter.com
Submitted on: 4/6/2012

Comments:

I am a scuba diver and active in our coastal waters. Honu are NOT abundant and not recovered from prior devastation. Please don't pass a bill that will encourage what would cause the rapid decline and possible decimalization of such an important Hawaii reef dweller.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, April 08, 2012 1:30 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Mike Moran
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mmmmahalo2000@aol.com
Submitted on: 4/8/2012

Comments:

Our ocean is already dying of pollutants from run off, vessel dumping, chemical pollutants, plastic overload, as well as overfishing and on and on.

So lets make it OK to break federal & state law by killing turtles. Who thinks up these things? Please get rid of this reso now, so you can concentrate on making positive changes. Mahalo.

Testimony regarding HR 61 URGING THE UNITED STATES TO RECOGNIZE THE RECOVERY OF HAWAIIAN GREEN SEA TURTLES AND BEGIN ACTIVE MANAGEMENT OF THIS IMPORTANT SPECIES.

I oppose delisting the Hawaiian green turtle.

How could the environment and eco-system be suffering from over-population of honu? They were here thousands of years before humans. If anything, it is humans who are overpopulating and harming the environment. The environment and eco-system was doing fine before humans stepped in took all they could. Just take a look at the state of fisheries around the Main Hawaiian Islands compared to the Northwest Hawaiian Islands which are not being exploited.

This resolution says that the species has recovered to 80% of what it was in the 1940s. It was probably very exploited even by that time. In addition, many of the honu still have fibropapilloma tumors. Will people eat those turtles? I don't think so. Some of the turtles are showing a resistance to the tumors. We need these turtles in the gene pool, however it will be these healthy turtles that people will want to eat.

Turtles are very slow growing and take many years to reach reproductive age. A very low percentage of turtles live long enough to reproduce even under protection. They do have natural predators, especially the juvenile turtles.

How will turtles be managed? How will hunting be regulated? What about the critically endangered Hawksbill turtle? They look very similar to Green Sea Turtles. Will they be wiped out as an incidental by-catch? Fishing regulations are poorly enforced now. There is never enough money to enforce the laws we already have. If Green Sea Turtles are de-listed and hunting is resumed, it won't take long before they will be depleted again.

Please do not pass this Resolution.

Mahalo, Donna Brown 82 S. Lauhoe Pl. Lahaina, HI 96761

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 11:09 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: keithc@snorkelbob.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Keith Christie
Organization: Individual
E-mail: keithc@snorkelbob.com
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

No management is required thank you. Honu can manage themselves and as an aumakua should be honored by appreciation, not ingestion.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 5:05 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: dmclegg@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: dorothy clegg
Organization: Individual
E-mail: dmclegg@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 4/9/2012

Comments:

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 7:02 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: mauishamrock@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: James Falahee
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mauishamrock@aol.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:
Please do not allow the Honu's to be hunted

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 7:12 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: tmelcher9403@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tom Melcher
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tmelcher9403@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:
To Whom It May Concern:

Please do not remove the protected status of the Green Sea Turtle.

Although we think we can, humans cannot manage nature. All that we can manage is to what extent we will knowingly destroy it.

¬
Let nature take care of itself, as it always had, before there were 7-billion humans.

Please think of the big picture. In our short time inhabiting this planet, humans have been responsible for directly or indirectly causing the extinction of thousands of species. When will we learn? Let's start now.

Please do not remove the protected status of the Green Sea Turtle.

Sincerely,

Tom Melcher
Granite Falls, WA.

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 8:26 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: dougmillerhawaii@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Douglas Miller
Organization: Individual
E-mail: dougmillerhawaii@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:
Leave the Hawaiian green seaturtle alone.

har2-Samantha

From: Jasmyne Boswell [jasmyne@jasmyneconsulting.com]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 3:05 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Sea Turtles

They are precious. Do not kill

har2-Samantha

From: Mary Sherman [spiloga@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2012 4:39 PM
To: WLOtestimony

please, please, please, do not take the beautiful sea turtles off the Endangered Species list. They deserve our protection. My friends and I come to the Islands once a year just to swim in the sea with them. If they are no longer protected, they will begin to be scarce again. They belong to the sea and it is our job to protect them

Thank you,
Mary Sherman

har2-Samantha

From: Duffysemail@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, April 07, 2012 2:00 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Don't Delist the Hawai'ian green sea turtle...

To whom it may concern:

The real reasons to delist the Hawaiian green sea turtle as an endangered species are to make Hawaii waters a) easier for commercial fishing nets that are now restricted from killing "too many" endangered species and b) to allow humans to eat these turtles.

Please don't let this happen.

Thank you for you co-operation...

Ms. Duffy Bowman

har2-Samantha

From: robin rogers [rlrogers05@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 08, 2012 5:12 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HONU TURTLES

Dear Chair Chang and committee members,

As a frequent visitor to your beautiful islands and a relative to a landowner in Maui, I strongly urge you to desist in pursuing the capture and destruction of the beautiful and ancient Honu Turtles.

These creatures of nature are a part of what makes the waters of the Hawaiian Islands so special, engaging, and filled with the mystery of the undersea world. To deny the life of these gentle animals is destructive and beneath the integrity of the Hawaiian people, who are recognized as wise, gentle, and in tune with nature and her gifts.

The Honu is one of these.

Thank-you for your time and consideration,

Robin Rogers

Robin Rogers

rlrogers05@yahoo.com

www.wix.com/rlrogers05/fitness

har2-Samantha

From: Shayla Middleton [Shayla@Blissfulhat.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 4:34 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HEARING_WLO_04-12-12 PLEASE Keep Hawaiian Sea Turtles on endangered list

Importance: High

Aloha Friends-

According to the 2007 status review, there were an average of four hundred female green turtles nesting at Frigate Shoals between 2002 and 2006. This is an order of magnitude less than the 5,000 that must nest each year for six years to be considered having met recovery goals.

hearing next Thursday 4/12/12:

http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2012/hearingnotices/HEARING_WLO_04-12-12 .HTM

Shayla Middleton
Kihei, HI

har2-Samantha

From: David Amack [david@sharkville.com]
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2012 6:48 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Honu are still threatened, do not delist

Chair Chang and committee members,

I urge you not to delist Honu from the endangered species list. The sea turtles do not need "management." They need to be left alone to continue their recovery from near extinction. Ancient Hawaiians would call it Kapu.

David Amack
Kihei

har2-Samantha

From: eileen falahee [mauishamrock@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 7:00 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Aloha

Please do not allow this bill to pass. These turtles because of the protection laws have no fear of humans we can not now go hunting them.
This will affect the whole eco system in a negative way.
Eileen Falahee
Maui Resident

har2-Samantha

From: Kathryn Mascovich [kmascovich@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 3:20 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Kathryn Mascovich
20250 Osprey Dr
PO Box 715
Bodega Bay, CA 94923

har2-Samantha

From: Kimberly Metzger [kimmetzg@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 3:34 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
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The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Kimberly Metzger
1125 Filbert St.
#1
San Francisco, CA 94109

har2-Samantha

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 3:35 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: r.t.nishimura@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Randall Nishimura
Organization: Individual
E-mail: r.t.nishimura@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:

HCR 87 provides the balance for the need to protect species, but limit the waste of resources once species become healthy, in this case, the green sea turtle.

Passage of the resolution sends a clear message to the Feds to spend their dollars wisely!

har2-Samantha

From: Amanda Nichols [amandalynn0420@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 3:43 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Amanda Nichols
656 South Avenue
Bradford, PA 16701

har2-Samantha

From: Melanie Stephens [mel_s_gbf@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 3:57 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: HCR 87/HR 61

Testimony regarding: HCR 87 / HR 61
DATE: Thursday, April 12, 2012 TIME: 11:30 a.m.

To: Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair, and the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES

Please, please do not delist the Hawaiian Sea Turtle from the Endangered Species List. The benefits of their presence in our Hawaiian waters can not be measured. They are an ambassador of the wild ocean to all of our visiting tourists, making Hawaii a place to snorkel. Here tourists can see up close and personal a large sea creature that creates no fear. How special is that? The turtles' health and abundance is a boon to Hawaii and an important part of our near reef ecology. Please help these gentle creatures thrive and repopulate even more.

It would be worth focusing on invasive species instead, and doing something more proactive about halting their proliferation.

Thank you for your wisdom and compassion in protecting hawaiian Sea Turtles,

Melanie Stephens
Makawao, Maui, HI

Please make four copies of this testimony available to:
Representatives Jerry L. Chang, Chair, and Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair and related committee members of the COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES:

Melanie Stephens
156 Alaluana Rd
Makawao, HI 96768
808-573-9260
mel s_gbf@yahoo.com

har2-Samantha

From: Irene Gaz [igaz3@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 2:36 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Irene Gaz
3127 Surfside Way
3127 Surfside Way
Maitland, FL 32751

har2-Samantha

From: Christopher Pincetich [chris@tirn.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 3:08 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Christopher Pincetich
10B Tomasini Canyon Rd
unit B
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

har2-Samantha

From: Steve Shultz [skeletorsteve@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 3:25 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Steve Shultz
1475 S Quebec Way #36
Denver, CO 80231

har2-Samantha

From: Carla Garcia [cargarce@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 4:14 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Carla Garcia

Brooklyn, NY 11217

har2-Samantha

From: Larry Cernilli [Pistonburn@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 4:45 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Larry Cernilli

Yaphank, NY 11980

**Hawaii House of Representatives
Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources
Hearing, 11:30 a.m., Thursday, April 12, 2012 Conference Room 325
State Capitol, Honolulu, HI 96813**

Public Testimony by Kimberly Gilfillan, 68-024 Apuhihi St. Unit 101W, Waialua, HI
96791

Oppose HR 87 and HR 61

Urging the United States to Recognize the Recovery of Hawaiian Green Sea Turtles
and Begin Active Management of this Important Species

Good Afternoon Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Kimberly Gilfillan. I work in Honolulu and live in Waialua. I am a avid scuba diver and care very deeply about the health of our oceans and protecting all marine life including our Hawaiian honu. I am member of Turtle Island Restoration Network and support comments that it submitted to the Committee.

I am here to urge your “no” vote on House Resolution 87 and 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from protections under the Endangered Species Act.

I have seen green sea turtles entangled in fishing lines outside my home and watched them struggle to get free. I have helped in the rescue of sea turtles. And I have assisted in monitoring and counting sea turtles with government scientists.

Based on the science, I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the Endangered Species List.

An average of 400 to 500 Hawaiian green sea turtles nested every year between 2002 and 2010. Last year a record 843 green sea turtles nested.

However those numbers fall far short of the requirement that 5,000 green sea turtles must nest each year for six consecutive years in order to reach recovery goals under the Endangered Species Act.

The threats to the honu from human activities are increasing, not decreasing. These threats have not been eliminated nor minimized in any significant way. The honu needs continued protection.

I want you to know that many of my friends and family members who live here or visit have had incredible sea turtle experiences swimming with the honu and watching them basking on rocks and outcroppings. I believe that there is strong support for continued protection of the Hawaiian green sea turtle here in Hawaii, across U.S. and around the world.

For these reasons, I oppose HR 87 and HR 61 and urge you to vote “no” on these resolutions.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Spencer Yim

From: Sonia Wierzba [jellyfishsamich@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:55 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Sonia Wierzba

San Francisco, CA 94109

Spencer Yim

From: Rachel Kippen [rkippen@calacademy.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:44 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
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The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Rachel Kippen
1276 Aloha'Oe Dr.
Kailua, HI 96734

Testimony in Opposition to HR 61

Submitted by: Christina Aiu (Individual)

Committee: WLO

Hearing Date: 3/12/12, 11:30 am, Rm 325

1. HR No. 61 proposes to bypass proper administrative procedure and preempt DLNR from participation in the delisting decision-making process. The federal agencies will make a "90-day" finding by the middle of May 2012 as to whether the petition to delist Honu presents sufficient information to suggest that delisting (and designation as a DPS) may be warranted. At that time, pursuant to the Section 6 of the federal Endangered Species Act, the State of Hawai'i, through DLNR, will have ample opportunity to assess whether scientific or place-based information support delisting the Honu and to provide its comments to the federal agencies. The action proposed by HR No. 61 should be left to the State agency, following proper review.
2. The resolution urges the *federal government* to "begin active management" of Honu, but if the species is taken off the endangered species list, management will become the responsibility of the State of Hawai'i. The federal agencies recognized that "States possess primary authority and responsibility for protection and management of fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats" following removal of a species from the endangered/threatened species list. 59 Fed. Reg. 34274 (July 1, 1994). Thus, following a decision to delist Honu, the federal agencies will have no legal authority to actively manage Honu.
3. The resolution proposes to combine two issues, which should be treated separately: (1) whether the Honu population has recovered enough and the threats eliminated to warrant de-listing (a federal decision with significant opportunity for State of Hawai'i input) and (2) a Honu management plan that may or may not allow Honu harvest. The Recovery Plan for U.S. Populations of the Pacific Green Turtle requires a management plan to sustain the Honu population before a de-listing can occur; no such management plan currently exists. However, the State, not the federal agencies, is the appropriate entity to prepare a Honu management plan.

Spencer Yim

From: Nuha Amara [nuha@shaw.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:44 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

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Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Nuha Amara
3844 Heather Street
Vancouver, BC V5Z 3L3

Spencer Yim

From: Amanda Kippen [kippenrachel@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:38 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

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Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Amanda Kippen
1476 26th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94122

Spencer Yim

From: Tom Harvie [tomharvie@yahoo.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:10 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
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Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Tom Harvie
112-1827 Mckenzie Ave.
Saanich, BC V8N1A6

Spencer Yim

From: David Cooch [david.cooch@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 8:13 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

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David Cooch
24 S Huntington Ave
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Spencer Yim

From: Judith Shematek [jshematek119@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 6:36 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Judith Shematek
119 Chisman Landing
119 Chisman Landing
Seaford, VA 23696

Spencer Yim

From: anne fulbright [anne.fulbright@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 3:00 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

anne fulbright
300 Highgrove dr
chapel Hill, NC 27516

Spencer Yim

From: dogan ozkan [doanodna@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 11:18 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

dogan ozkan
zambak sok. no:8/10 ciftci apt.
dikilitas besiktas
istanbul turkey, AK 99701

Spencer Yim

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 11:43 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: cadiza005@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Patricia Cadiz
Organization: Individual
E-mail: cadiza005@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:

Spencer Yim

From: David Kaliner [dkalstud@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 9:52 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

David Kaliner
225 Las Vegas Boulevard South
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Spencer Yim

From: Roman LoBianco [zoolojest@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 8:46 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Response to HR 87 and HR 61

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee:

I absolutely oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which would remove the honu (Green sea turtle) from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- Honu populations have NOT recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Roman LoBianco
PO Box 1024
PO Box 1024
Benicia, CA 94510

Spencer Yim

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 8:46 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: jlmerrick22@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HR61 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HR61

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Julie Merrick
Organization: Individual
E-mail: jlmerrick22@gmail.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:

I do not support delisting the Hawaiian green sea turtle from threatened status or designating the Hawaiian green turtle as a distinct species under the Endangered Species Act. Consequently, I do not support HCR 87 or HR 61.

I do not believe the State of Hawaii or the Department of Land and Natural Resources has sufficient resources to take on the responsibility to effectively manage Hawaiian green sea turtles at sustainable levels or enforce a green sea turtle management plan. Given the current economic challenges and competing priorities facing the state, I do not see this situation changing in the foreseeable future.

Also, having frequent interaction with residents, guests and tourists at public outreach and education venues, I encounter so many people who express delight and/or a desire to see a green sea turtle in it's natural habitat. The beloved Honu IS a resource and marine treasure that needs to be protected. Because of the endangered and protective status the green turtle has worldwide, I believe there would be tremendous public outcry, negative publicity and ill will toward Hawaii if we passed a resolution advocating delisting the Hawaiian green turtle so that it can be "harvested" OR "slaughtered" (think clubbing harbor seal pups!). I am uncertain of the timing but it could result in a significant loss of tourism dollars and jeopardize an already tenuous economic recovery in the state.

Spencer Yim

From: Heidi Pacher [heidipacher@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 8:45 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Heidi Pacher
po box 27414
seattle, WA 98165

Spencer Yim

From: Anne Kobayashi [annekobayashi@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 8:05 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Anne Kobayashi
23 East 10th Street #509
New York, NY 10003

Spencer Yim

From: kris rusling [cobaltbludolphin@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 7:16 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

kris rusling

burlington, ON l7r1j8

Spencer Yim

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 7:44 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: alannakagawa@me.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM
Attachments: HCR 87 and HR 61.docx

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Alan Nakagawa
Organization: Individual
E-mail: alannakagawa@me.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:
Please support HCR 87 and HR 61

- I support HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to establish a distinct population segment of the green sea turtle in Hawai'i, remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow taking of the species).
- Walking along the shoreline on the Big Island where I have lived for over 50 years it is evident that the honu have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list. I have never seen so many turtles and the numbers seem to be increasing.
-
- The many major threats that directly impact the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, have been significantly eliminated and/or mitigated. Other factors such as loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching may indirectly affect the sea turtles but those issues are being addressed through other measures and regulation that will not be impacted by removing the honu from the threatened status.
- I agree with claims in HCR 87 and HR 61 that "scientific studies as well as reports by Native Hawaiian lawaia (cultural practitioners of fishing) have concluded that the honu is approaching full recovery and that the environment and ecosystem are suffering from the current over-protection, over-population, and lack of management of honu." The scientific community (of which I am part of) needs to place value on observations and cultural practices of local residents such as fishermen that have close and intimate knowledge of the coastal environments.

- Others may strongly oppose this (HCR 87 and HR 61) claiming the need for more studies, data collection and analysis, but where does protection end...when are we going to see the end result of species protection. The delisting of a species does not happen very often and when it does it should be celebrated as a success.
- Please support HCR 87 and HR 1.

Spencer Yim

From: Joseph W. Griesbaum [josephg@15021.bbnc.bbcust.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 6:40 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Joseph W. Griesbaum
64 North Drive
Southampton, PA 18966

Spencer Yim

From: Vadim Melerzanov [vadik98@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 6:58 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Vadim Melerzanov
2955 brighton 7th street
brooklyn, NY 11235

Spencer Yim

From: john seeburger [chakrawind@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 6:51 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

john seeburger
8 lakeside club sw
lakewood, WA 98498

Spencer Yim

From: DJ Zalac [dzalac@wi.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 6:46 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

DJ Zalac
1501 S 98th St
West Allis, WI 53214

Spencer Yim

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 6:23 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: dragonoire@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: D Friedman
Organization: Individual
E-mail: dragonoire@aol.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:

Even in Missouri we know Honu, Hawaiian green sea turtle. A blessing for Hawaiians everywhere.

SHAME, SHAME, SHAME to kill and eat.

PROTECT NOW!

Spencer Yim

From: Janet Davis [creaturelover@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 5:32 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species. I've been to Hawaii and have seen these beautiful, gentle creatures from a submarine. I do love them. I have contributed to the restoration project. This must be continued.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Janet Davis
P.O. Box 2
Weatherly, PA 18255

Spencer Yim

From: Isabel Lopez [izzyreaks15@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 5:24 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Isabel Lopez
12505 bougainvillea way
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91739

Spencer Yim

From: Tristan Chavez [Chavez.Tristan@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 5:38 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Tristan Chavez

la puente, CA 91744

Spencer Yim

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 5:23 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: rjcompton@juno.com
Subject: Testimony for HCR87 on 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM

Testimony for WLO 4/12/2012 11:30:00 AM HCR87

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jean Compton
Organization: Individual
E-mail: rjcompton@juno.com
Submitted on: 4/10/2012

Comments:

I oppose harvesting and active managing and de listing the Green Sea Turtle-it is still endangered and its recovery is fragile. It still needs protection. Tourists come here to see our turtles. If they are hunted they will no longer come on the beaches to bask and we will lose important tourist dollars.

Spencer Yim

From: Gail Smith [gels333@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 4:15 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Gail Smith
913 Ocean Blvd, REAR
REAR
Hampton, NH 03842

Spencer Yim

From: Spencer Quong [squong@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 4:15 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Spencer Quong
2355 Westwood Blvd.
#502
Los Angeles, CA 90064

Spencer Yim

From: Curt Fuhrmann [wow123@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2012 5:09 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Curt Fuhrmann
185 Ponsbury Rd
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

har2-Samantha

From: Annie McCollough [turtletraffic@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 1:33 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Annie McCollough
671 37th Ave
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Spencer Yim

From: nicole silva [nrmds74@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 4:47 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

nicole silva
134h old ferry rd
haverhill, MA 01830

Spencer Yim

From: Dawn Hampton [dawn_hampton@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 4:22 AM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Dawn Hampton
616 NE 80th ave
616 NE 80th Ave
Portland, OR 97213

har2-Samantha

From: Deirdra Rogers [deidrarogers@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 3:16 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Comment on HR 87 and HR 61 Thurs., April 12, 11:30 am hearing

Testimony from Deirdra Rogers, Citizen

I oppose HR 87 and HR 61 which urges the US government to remove the Hawaiian Green Sea turtle, or Honu, from protections and threatened status under the U.S. Endangered Species Act
The fact that the HLA (Hawaii Longline Association) has already exceeded its allowable "take" or by-catch of Hawaiian Green Sea turtles should not be a justification for the NMFS to keep things "legal" by upping the allowable take. There have been only 400 reported turtle nests annually; the requirement is 5,000 before turtles are delisted. Hawaiian Green Sea turtles are not Hawaii's alone, nor are they the HLA's alone, but belong to all citizens of the US. I expect that the NMFS would represent the interests of all U.S. citizens in protecting these important and special sea creatures.

The U.S. should not recognize the recovery of Hawaiian Green Sea Turtles

Sincerely,
Deirdra Rogers

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Deirdra Rogers
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har2-Samantha

From: Roberta Richardson [lilyfishpond@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2012 3:17 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Subject: Oppose HR 87 and HR 61 - Save the Honu!

Dear Mr.

Dear Chairman and Committee,

I am writing to oppose HCR 87 and HR 61, which urge the federal government to remove the honu from the threatened species list, and actively manage the species (meaning allow hunting and taking of the species).

- I do not think honu populations have recovered to the point of being removed from the threatened species list.
- There are too many major threats to the long-term survival of the green sea turtle globally and in Hawai'i, including the loss of nesting beaches resulting from sea level rise, invasive algae, disease, interactions with fishing gear, ingestion of and entanglement with marine debris, ocean acidification, and coral bleaching. These threats have not been eliminated nor mitigated in any significant way.

The green sea turtle of Hawaii is an iconic animal that is loved by people around the world. It is wrong to remove them from protections so that the fishing industry and hunters can benefit at the expense of an ancient and endangered species.

Please vote "no" on HR 87 and HR 61 and oppose the delisting of the Hawaiian honu until they have reached all recovery goals.

Roberta Richardson
11647 Brook Road
Golden, CO 80403