

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
FINANCE**

**Friday, February 21, 2014
12:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1902, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO HUNTING**

House Bill 1902, House Draft 1 proposes to 1) Prohibit the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) from reducing the net acreage of public hunting area on each island, 2) Require the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) to make comparable state land available for hunting upon the loss of land within a public hunting area, and 3) Require the Department to submit an annual report. **The Department opposes this bill as it will have severe financial implications and may be impractical or impossible to implement.**

Many of the State's most important public hunting areas are managed through voluntary cooperative agreements with private landowners, or through agreements with other governmental agencies. The Department does not have control over areas that a landowner may choose to withdraw from such agreements. Similarly, the Department may be required to restrict or close areas for reasons beyond its control, such as to comply with court orders or to protect public safety.

Nearly 900,000 acres of the 1 million acres managed by the Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) is available for public hunting. In addition, the Department is mandated to manage lands for the protection of natural and cultural resources that provide vital environmental and economic benefits to the people of Hawaii. Restricting the Department's ability to carry out those responsibilities will result in loss of watershed yield and function, damage to native ecosystems, and may result in lawsuits resulting from take of endangered species.

Securing comparable replacement lands creates enormous financial impacts for the state. For example, if the state were to lose its agreement with the landowner of Lanai, the state would need to replace 35,000 acres of hunting land at the Department's expense. Further, replacement areas may be impractical, inappropriate, or unsafe for hunting because they are in urban or

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

ESTHER KIA'AINA
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

agricultural lands or otherwise do not meet the criteria proposed in Section 183D-(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Department is committed to enhancing public hunting and increasing hunting opportunities. In the past decade, more than 17,000 acres of new hunting opportunities have been added to the DOFAW's managed lands and an additional 28,000 acres are in the process of being added. In addition, the Department has included a request for \$750,000 in general funds for the public hunting program. Those funds will be used to directly benefit the approximately 11,500 licensed hunters in Hawaii through improved game management and to continue the Department's public hunting access and acquisitions program.

The Department is actively and successfully pursuing net increases in public hunting areas but urges the committee to consider that this measure may be impossible to comply with and that support for the administration's budget request for the hunting program will provide a more productive means to achieve the desired goal.



HB1902 HD1
RELATING TO HUNTING
House Committee on Finance

February 21, 2014

12:00 p.m.

Room 308

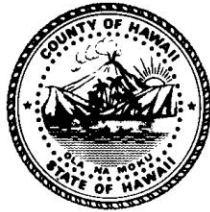
The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following **COMMENTS** for HB1902 HD1, which prohibits any net reduction of public hunting area statewide without making comparable land available.

Many Native Hawaiians currently practice hunting for subsistence and other purposes as a traditional and customary practice. The Hawai'i Constitution, Supreme Court, and this Legislature consistently protect the perpetuation of these historic practices as a living component of the Hawaiian culture. Hunting remains an important cultural and subsistence practice for many Native Hawaiians, particularly in rural communities. For example, a report issued by the Governor's Moloka'i Subsistence Task Force found that Hawaiian families on Moloka'i rely heavily upon subsistence to supplement meager incomes, deriving 38% of their food from these activities. This report revealed that subsistence activities, including hunting, were also critical to the persistence of Hawaiian cultural customs and values.

OHA takes no position on requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to replace any closed public hunting areas with other comparable lands, which OHA recognizes requires a more indepth understanding of DLNR's land holdings and priorities. Instead, OHA hopes to ensure that Native Hawaiians continue to have adequate areas to hunt for subsistence and other purposes as a traditional and customary practice, while balancing the long-term interests of present and future generations, particularly Native Hawaiians. These interests include the need to ensure adequate protection for watershed areas and the natural and cultural resources they contain, the facilitation of aquifer recharge, and the protection of makai areas and resources from erosion-related runoff.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Walter K.M. Lau
Managing Director

Randall M. Kurohara
Deputy Managing Director

County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

February 21, 2014

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
And Members of the House Committee on Finance
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room, 308
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: House Bill 1902, HD 1 RELATING TO HUNTING

Aloha, Chair Luke and Committee Members:

Mahalo for this opportunity to express our support of HB 1902, HD 1, which seeks to preserve state lands set aside for the perpetuation of hunting in the State of Hawai'i.

The county's recently established Game Management Advisory Commission (GMAC) has identified this bill as key to the survival of hunting in Hawai'i. The nine members of this commission, all long-time outdoorsmen who represent the interests of Hawai'i's hunters, fishermen and others who enjoy Hawai'i's natural resources, have advised me that game management areas on the Island of Hawai'i are disappearing at alarming rates. HB 1902, HD 1 requires that there be no net loss of these lands. This measure is ideal as it will protect the interests of Hawai'i's hunters, and give the state the flexibility to move suitable lands into game management status and unsuitable lands into conservation.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,

William P. Kenoi
MAYOR

DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI
Council Member
District 3



PHONE: (808) 961-8396
FAX: (808) 961-8912
EMAIL: donishi@co.hawaii.hi.us

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

February 19, 2014

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Finance

Dear Representative Luke and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 1902.

When the State makes decisions regarding the use of its limited land resources it should always keep in mind the importance of preserving hunting lands.

House Bill 1902 prevents the loss of acreage of public hunting areas by making other lands available on the affected island.

Currently there is no requirement for the State to make public land available for hunting should it close an existing parcel for any reason. House Bill 1902 ensures that hunting lands will be available on each island for the future.

I ask that your committee give full consideration to the recommendations of the Hawai'i County Game Management Advisory Commission, which was established by Charter amendment in 2012 to advise county, state and federal agencies. The Commission strongly supports this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Onishi". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dennis "Fresh" Onishi
Hawai'i County Council Member

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Opposing H.B. 1902 HD1 Relating to Hunting
House Committee on Finance
Friday, February 21, 2014, 12:00 PM, Room 308

The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i is a private non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which life in these islands depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. We also work closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects.

The Nature Conservancy opposes H.B. 1902 HD1.

We believe that a more effective solution than requiring a one-for-one acreage exchange would be to support the DLNR's programs to improve hunting access, including its FY15 supplemental budget requests for:

- **\$750,000 in general funds to match federal funds in support of programs and staff that improve access on all islands to State lands already open to hunting such as by purchasing access easements and improving existing roads and trails, as well as creating access to other appropriate non-state lands;**
- **General obligation bond funds to help purchase Central O'ahu lands that, amongst other things, includes expanded hunting opportunities; and**
- **In addition, departmental rules that ease restrictions on bag limits and seasons and requiring the department to report annually on progress toward improving hunting opportunities across the state.**

While we agree that both native and introduced wildlife resources need to be wisely managed both for their benefits and, in some cases, for the risks they pose, we don't believe that a statutory directive requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide an absolute minimum acreage for public hunting areas is necessary or appropriate.

There are currently **more than 900,000 acres of public hunting areas** across the state managed by the DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife. The State constitution, State statutes and administrative rules currently provide sufficient directive, authority, and process—including resource user and stakeholder participation—for managing wildlife, hunting and hunting areas in Hawai'i. Certainly, reasoned discussion and planning is important to determine where and how to manage both native and introduced wildlife, including significant areas for both enhanced game animal production for public use and enjoyment, as well as game animal removal for native species, habitat, watershed, public health, private property, and agricultural protection.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Jean E. Rolles Scott C. Rolles Crystal K. Rose Dustin E. Sellers Dustin M. Shindo Nathan E. Smith James Wei Eric K. Yeaman

Testimony of the Game Management Advisory Commission

Supporting H.B. 1902 HD1

Committee on Finance

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Committee Members

Relating to Hunting, No Net Loss

Friday, February 21, 2014, 12:00PM room 308

The Hawaii Game Management Advisory Commission (GMAC) was instituted in 2012 to advise County, State, and Federal agencies on matters relating to the preservation of subsistence hunting and fishing, as well as the protection of traditional and cultural gathering rights.

"We are tied to our lands. It is as much a part of us as we are of it."

In full Support of HB1902 HD1

Proper management of **all** our resources is critical to the well being of **all** our people.

Our forested public lands help to sustain our people by providing us with nourishment, exercise and essentials used to perform our cultural and traditional practices.

Hunting is an essential activity for many. It provides food, sport and exercise along with discipline for self and family and provides a vital service in maintaining a balance approach to resource management.

Unfortunately, the Rain Follows The Forest Watershed Protection Plan will systematically remove forever our game animal resources.

HB1902 HD1 is one potential way we can support a balanced approach to resource management before hunting becomes a thing of the past.

Thank you for your consideration of our view.

Tony Sylvester, Chairperson
Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission

HAWAII SPORTSMEN ALLIANCE

SUPPORTING H.B. 1902 HD1

RELATING TO HUNTING/NO NET LOSS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2014, 12:00 PM, ROOM 308

The Hawaii Sportsmen Alliance strives for balanced conservation and wise use of all our natural resources.

<http://www.hawaiisportsmensalliance.com/>

Hunting in Hawaii has been a tradition in my family for decades. We have seen hunting areas, game animal numbers, and hunting opportunity all decline in recent years. This has mainly been the result of loss of hunting lands due to new classifications such as critical habitat and natural area reserves. When hunting areas are classified as these new preservation areas and no longer classified as hunting areas, game animals are killed and removed and access to the land is restricted.

The loss of hunting areas is therefore directly linked to the loss of hunting itself. One way to help prevent the loss of the sport of hunting in Hawaii is to enact a no net loss provision. This measure will facilitate this. **Therefore I strongly support HB1902 HD1.** This bill will create a balance so that any hunting lands that are taken away for other purposes will be replaced with comparable lands suited for hunting.

Please join us in preserving the sport of hunting in Hawaii by funding this bill.

I also request that the typo for the effective date of this bill be changed to **January 1, 2014** as stated in Section 1 instead of December 1, 2014.

Thank you,
Steven Sylvester
Member, Hawaii Sportsmen Alliance
Honolulu, HI

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 10:20 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: voggymtn@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Willie-Joe Camara	National Wild Turkey Federation	Support	No

Comments: The Volcano Island chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation strongly supports HB 1902 prohibiting DLNR from reducing the net acreage of hunting lands. This measure is desperately needed to ensure that future generations of kama'aina as well as visitors will be able to enjoy the outdoors as well as provide their families with added food for the table.

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House of Representatives
Committee on Finance
February 21, 2014
12:00 p.m., Conference Room 308
State Capitol

Testimony in Opposition to HB 1902 HD1

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee,
The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) opposes HB 1902 HD1, *Relating to Hunting*, which would prohibit DLNR from reducing the net acreage of public hunting area on each island and require the BLNR to make comparable state land available for hunting upon the loss of land within a public hunting area.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources is responsible for protecting a wide variety of natural resources for the benefit of all. From this perspective, based on the hundreds of thousands of acres available for public hunting (image at right is taken from the Hawai'i Island *Baseline Study for Food Self-Sufficiency*), the department is already prioritizing hunting opportunities over a wide variety of other land uses.

We have wild animals entering neighborhoods and farms to forage for food, perhaps because the forests cannot sustain such a large population. If access to food is the basis for this bill, then a better policy would be to remove or ease hunting restrictions and bag limits.

Hunting is clearly important, but so is fresh water, agriculture, and the native Hawaiian plants and animals that were here long before people. We must find a way to acknowledge and respect all sides. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,

Christy Martin
Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species
Ph: (808) 722-0995

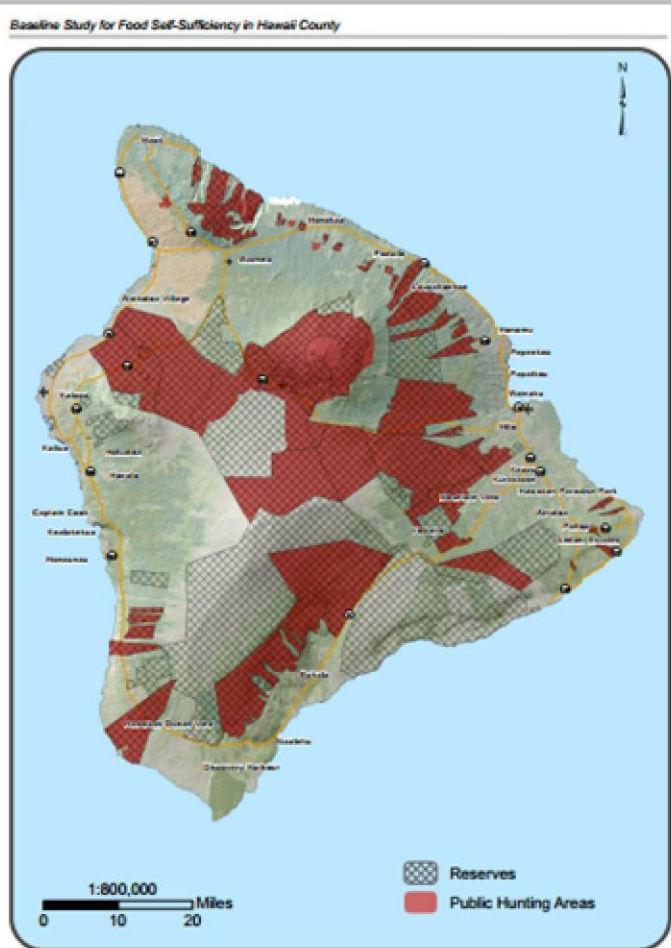


Figure 33. Hawaii Island Public Hunting Areas

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 9:33 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: matthoeflinger@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

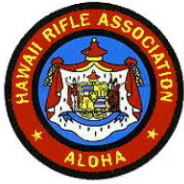
Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt Hoeflinger	Mauna Kea Recreational Users Group	Support	No

Comments: Our hunting lands are the food reserves for the people of Hawaii. Please support this legislation and help protect those reseves for the future. Matt Hoeflinger Hunting Chair Mauna Kea Users Group

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Hawaii Rifle Association

State Affiliate of the National Rifle Association
Founded in 1857

February 19, 2014

Testimony on HB 1902, HD1
Before FIN, Friday, February 21, 2014, Rm 308, 12 noon
IN SUPPORT

Hon. Chair and Members,

HRA supports preservation and expansion of public hunting areas.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of Hawaii Rifle Association.

Dr. Maxwell Cooper,
HRA Legislative Liaison
macooper.1941@gmail.com
225-6944



REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT Y. NISHIMOTO, VICE-CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE AARON LING JOHANSON, VICE-CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1902, H.D. 1
RELATING TO HUNTING

February 21, 2014, 12:00 p.m.
Conference Room 308

Good afternoon Chair Luke, Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and members of the committee:

My name is David Lane Henkin, and I am an attorney with Earthjustice. We appreciate the opportunity to testify in opposition to House Bill 1902, House Draft 1, which would prohibit any net reduction of public hunting area on each island, regardless of the reason for placing areas off-limits to hunting.

Requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to replace, acre-for-acre, any land that is made unavailable for hunting would drastically increase the cost of long overdue efforts to protect our irreplaceable native forests and the watersheds they protect from the devastating impacts of feral pigs, goats, sheep and other game mammals. In many cases, these vital conservation efforts take place in remote areas that, while nominally currently open to public hunting, are rarely used and accessed.

Because so much land is already set aside for hunting (over 900,000 acres statewide), DLNR may not always be able to acquire on the same island replacement land of equal or higher wildlife habitat, as HB 1902 demands. Conservation measures that are essential to prevent species extinctions, to protect watersheds so that future generations have adequate supplies of fresh water, or to provide recreational opportunities would be unable to go forward.

The Legislature should not impose on DLNR a mandate to replace every square inch of land withdrawn from hunting, regardless of the value of the land to actual hunters or the public benefit conferred by protecting the area from destruction by game mammals. Accordingly, we urge the committee to hold HB 1902, HD 1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this testimony.

HAWAII SPORTSMEN ALLIANCE

SUPPORTING H.B. 1902 HD1

RELATING TO HUNTING/NO NET LOSS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2014, 12:00 PM, ROOM 308

The Hawaii Sportsmen Alliance strives for balanced conservation and wise use of all our natural resources.

<http://www.hawaiisportsmensalliance.com/>

I strongly support HB1902 HD1: No net loss of public hunting areas.

I have been an avid hunter for years and have seen the continual degradation of both public hunting lands and game animals available for hunting. Previous available hunting lands are rapidly being re-named and re-designated as forest reserves, natural area reserves, and critical habitat. Once this happens animals are completely eradicated from these areas and public access is eliminated.

With this new trend of the decline and destruction of game animals and the removal of public hunting areas; the sport of hunting will also decline and soon be a thing of the past.

Therefore, I respectfully urge you to also support the funding of this bill to help ensure our hunting areas and the sport of hunting in Hawaii will be preserved for future generations.

Additionally, I also noticed a typo in Section 3 and in the description of the bill. The effective date should be corrected from December 1, 2014 and instead read January 1, 2014. I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Travis Figueira
Member, Hawaii Sportsmen Alliance
Honolulu, HI

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 4:49 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jktaxidermyhawaii@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jon Katada	Jk Taxidermy	Support	No

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 3:15 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ilojerry@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jerry Ilo	Babooze Bowstrings	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, My name is Jerry Ilo. I am on Lanai partaking in the Axis deer season and submitting testimony on this from my phone. Needless to say I wholeheartedly support this bill! Mahalo, Jerry Ilo Babooze Bowstrings

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HAWAII SPORTSMEN ALLIANCE

SUPPORTING H.B. 1902 HD1

RELATING TO HUNTING/NO NET LOSS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Friday, February 21, 2014, 12:00pm room 308

The Hawaii Sportsmen Alliance strives for balanced conservation and wise use of all our natural resources.

Protecting the culture and traditions of our Island residents is paramount in seeking balance within our community.

While we support efforts to control invasive plants, insects, pathogens and the true cause of much extinction, rats and the spread of invasive plant seeds by cardinals and the myna bird, we see very little focus on this. Instead we see millions vesting in fencing and the eradication of wild food resources.

Because DLNR has failed measurable in the past to manage our game resources, land management has turned to fencing and eradication, a very costly method of management for our taxpayers and those that rely on our wild food resources. With no Game Management plan does anyone wonder why?

HB1902 HD1 is one way to insure that public hunting lands remain intact. Our public forest land should not be corralled by miles of fences that are offense to the landscape and its people.

If DLNR would only implement an aggressive Game Management Program much of our forests could sustain wild food resources and provide environmental protection.

The landscape type of approach that DLNR and their partners are attempting to achieve is not reality. Current science and research is showing that the landscape approach is not physically real, environmentally sustainable and is a waste of resources and funding. Natural recruitment the benchmark of success is not achievable in a landscape approach. Instead resources should be directed to a specific area in need of further protection, get the invasive plants, insect and plant diseases and rodents under control, improve chances for natural recruitment and support replanting efforts in a more manageable manner. Otherwise what we get is a self-fulfilling prophecy, and the need to acquire evermore lands to prove their validity.

Respectfully submitted

Hawaii Sportsmen Alliance
614 Haihai St
Hilo, HI. 96720



*To Protect & Promote
Sustainable Public
Hunting in Hawaii*

Testimony from The Hawaii Hunting Association

Committee on Finance

Friday, February 21, 2014, 12:00 pm

Supporting H.B. 1902 HD1

Relating to Hunting- No Net Loss

The Hawaii Hunting Association supports H.B. 1902 HD1.

This forest is not yours, and it's not theirs, it is ours, the people of Hawaii, many of which are consumptive users. The forest is part of the allure of Hawaii, it is also part of the Culture. If you are thinking of preserving the forest, you **MUST** at the same time be thinking of persevering the culture of Hawaii along with it.

The excuse for all this carnage we as hunters and gatherers is Watershed Protection. Some facts might be in order here. According to the The US Geological Surveys Scientific Investigations Report 2011 - 5078 "A Water-Budget Model and Assessment of Groundwater Recharge for the Island of Hawaii", starts with "Groundwater Recharge on Hawaii's Estimated mean annual recharge on the Island of Hawai'i is 6,594 million gallons per day, which is about **49 percent** of mean annual rainfall."

What's more, In 18 of the 24 aquifer systems on the island, mean annual recharge estimated in this study for baseline conditions was

higher than the recharge estimates used in the 2008 WRPP (fig. ES2) (Water Budget and Model Assessment of Groundwater Recharge for the Island of Hawaii) These two findings are part of the US Geological Survey 2011 water recharge survey for Hawaii.

I'm told that people who come to Hawaii enjoy most those areas that represented the old lifestyles of Hawaii the most. The Historic/Heritage communities. Your mission is to preserve the Culture of Hawaii and putting fences around our forest areas and killing off resources present in Hawaii since the arrival of the first Polynesians on these shores is not Cultural.

Resources. Since 1972 there has been no measurable or discernable game management on the Big Island. There have been sort of "de facto" efforts that have preserved game but not MANAGED Game and this is in direct contradiction to the mandates imposed on the DLNR by §183D.

According to the professional writings of DLNR's Biologist, Jon Giffen, our pristine forests can support with minor disturbance to vegetation or soil 1 pig per 26 acres to 1 pig per 32 acres... That is 300 pigs per 10,000 acres with little or no impact to our most pristine areas. According to this publication of the DLNR's, the carrying capacity of the Rain Forest is 125 pigs per square mile. That is 1 pig per 5 acres (page 118 The ecology of the Feral Pig on the Island of Hawaii 1972 (Jon Giffin)). The necessity is not ZERO by any stretch of the imagination, in spite of all the rhetoric to the contrary.

Why is no net loss important? The biggest reason of course is that it forces the DLNR to meet their obligations. One would be to provide adequate land IMMEDIATELY for hunting and groom it for game and their pursuers. The other would be to start managing their forests through Cooperative Resource Management Strategies along with cultural consumptive users, rather than special interest partnerships especially when their interest should be with the people of Hawaii. This is not your forest, and not their forest, it is our forest and DLNR has an obligation of stewardship to all of its users, who they should be encouraging to work together to manage effectively all of its lands rather than this ludicrous seek and destroy strategy leaving behind an

unsightly and hostile encirclement of wire and posts and oftentimes a path to more invasives.

Much Aloha,

Tom Lodge, Hawaii Hunting Association



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION
555 CAPITOL MALL, SUITE 625
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
(916) 446-2455 voice ▪ (916) 448-7469 fax
www.nraila.org

STATE & LOCAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
DANIEL REID, HAWAII STATE LIAISON

February 19, 2014

The Honorable Sylvia Luke
Chair, House Finance Committee
Sent Via Email

Re: House Bill 1902 – SUPPORT

Dear Representative Luke:

On behalf of the Hawaii members of the National Rifle Association, I support House Bill 1902.

This is critical legislation to help preserve the rich hunting traditions of Hawaii for generations to come. One of the biggest threats to preserving hunting for future generations is the availability of hunting opportunities. This legislation helps ensure those opportunities will remain available. This is done so by establishing a net amount of available public hunting acreage and requiring that the department not fall below that threshold. In the event that lands do need to be closed to hunting, a mechanism is provided to allow for this to happen, by requiring that land of equal or greater size and similar in location and hunting opportunities be opened in its place.

Thank you for your attention and I ask that you support this important piece of hunting legislation.

Cordially,

Daniel S. Reid
State Liaison

Cc: Members, House Finance Committee

finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:33 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: colin_miura@ktasuperstores.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colin Miura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I am in favor of this bill and appreciate quality state land being preserved for hunting. So much is being taken away. Mahalo for supporting this bill.

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Re. HB1902 HD1, relating to hunting

Chairwoman Luke and Members:

This bill makes no sense, is unjustified and should be killed. I speak as a Hawaii hunter for over fifty years. While hunting in Hawaii is a valid and reasonable recreational activity, this bill is not reasonable or a valid approach to a non-existent problem. A much better approach to increase hunting opportunities is to liberalize the hunting rules, which make very little sense in the context of this century's realities.

Numerous news articles over recent years have documented that all over Hawaii game animals are increasing their numbers and spreading into new areas, often urban, suburban and agricultural areas. All of the efforts from all of the hunters have not been able to contain the ranges of animals or to reduce their increasing numbers. Hunting is simply a recreational activity, and it does not provide any effective protection of watersheds, native species, farmland, pastures, backyards or other areas. This is why our watersheds and native species are declining so rapidly, especially on state land.

This is no surprise, as we licensed hunters make up only 8/10ths of one percent of Hawaii's population. It is a tough task to attempt to control hunted animals on the 900,000 acres (90%) of DOFAW land open to hunting with so few of us. We can, however, provide an inordinate amount of political pressure for unreasonable demands. Listen up--even though we are a tiny minority of the state's population, we have ready access to 90% of DOFAW land for our recreational activities and the right to demand even more considerations at each legislative session. Every year our incredulous claims supersede actual facts on the status of our watersheds and hunting areas, especially when the adverse impacts of over-abundant game animals are concerned. This bill will grant us even more prioritization over our limited natural resources, in effect pre-empting choices to protect watersheds, native species and agricultural lands. Overabundant game on state lands spills animals and adverse consequences onto neighboring private lands, at private landowners' expense. Protective fences and damages cost the state's economy a lot of kala and are a direct result.

As forest protection measures progress across Hawaii, a much better way to expand or replace hunting areas is to direct them to other state lands closer to residential and agricultural areas that are impacted by too many animals. Perhaps the state could lease hunting rights on private lands as well, where respect and accountability on private lands can be assured, such as via bonded hunting organizations. Most of us are reasonable, respectful and accountable for our actions. Hunt clubs on Maui have been doing this for years on important watershed lands on East Maui.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Warshauer, Volcano

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 3:33 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: tcuyo@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tyrel Cuyo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 4:06 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rileydemattos@gmx.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Riley De Mattos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:48 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: josh_gealon@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josh Gealon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
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Kobayashi
Rep. Nicole E. Rep. Beth Fukumoto
Lowen
Rep. Dee Morikawa Rep. Gene Ward

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 21, 2014
TIME: 12:00 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 308
 State Capitol
 415 South Beretania Street

A G E N D A # 2

HB 1902, HD1
(HSCR190-14)
Status

RELATING TO HUNTING.
Prohibits DLNR from reducing the net acreage of public hunting area on each island. Requires the BLNR to make comparable state land available for hunting upon the loss of land within a public hunting area. Requires the DLNR to submit an annual report. Effective December 1, 2014.

WAL, FIN

Dear Hawaii State Legislators,

Please accomodare this Bill for an Act relating to wildlife in perpetuating the heritage of hunting; whereby, a sizable share of your constituents hold hunting dear to their beliefs, as an inalienable right of the human race.

According to this belief, your constituents are not alone in striving to maintain this heritage.

The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation; whereby, assists the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus nationally; has help other states in the union with legislation such HB 1092.

The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation highlights in their history of involvement with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus that since 2008:

More lands opened to hunting; No Net Loss Legislation passed in 9 states which ensured more than 8 million acres will remain open to hunting forever. As of June 2011, thirteen states have passed no-net-loss legislation that prevents state lands open to hunting and fishing to be closed without an equal amount of suitable lands becoming available for hunting and fishing access, (<http://www.sportsmenslink.org/#sthash.uM7je7pi.dpuf>)

I appreciate your heartfelt public service work for the citizens of Hawaii.

Very truly yours,

Cleon M. Bailey

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 9:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rtb808@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randal Bartlett	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Testimony of Randy Tadashi Bartlett Opposing H.B. 1902 Relating to Hunting House Committee on Finance Friday, February 21, 2014, 12:00 P.M., Conference Room 308 Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto & Johanson and Committee Members As a taxpayer, conservation professional and licensed hunter on Maui for over 25 years, I strongly oppose H.B. 1902. I believe that a more effective solution than requiring a one-for-one acreage exchange would be to support the DLNR's programs to improve hunting access, including its supplemental budget requests for: 0 \$750,000 in general funds to match federal funds in support of programs and staff that improve access to those State lands already open to hunting as well as create hunting access to other appropriate non-state lands; and 0 \$10,000,000 in general obligation bond funds to help purchase Central O'ahu lands that would include expanded hunting opportunities. While I agree that both native and introduced wildlife resources need to be wisely managed both for their benefits and, in some cases, for the risks they pose, I don't agree that a statutory directive requiring the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide an absolute minimum acreage for public hunting areas is necessary or appropriate. There are currently more than 900,000 acres of public hunting areas across the state managed by the DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife. The State constitution, State statutes and administrative rules currently provide sufficient directive, authority, and process—including resource user and stakeholder participation—for managing wildlife, hunting and hunting areas in Hawai'i. Certainly, reasoned discussion and planning is important to determine where and how to manage both native and introduced wildlife, including significant areas for both enhanced game animal production for public use and enjoyment, as well as game animal removal for native species, habitat, watershed, public health, private property, and agricultural protection. Mahalo nui loa no kou kokua! Ua Mau Ke Ea O Ka `Aina I Ka Pono!

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 2:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Aaronbrown808@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aaron Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hunting has been a part of Hawaii's culture for hundreds of years. Thousands of families, including mine, practice the activity to help sustain a healthy way of living that continues to connect us with our culture. Not only does hunting help with our state's Food Sustainability Initiative, which continues to be a HUGE issue in our communities, but it creates economic opportunity for the business and employees, that support hunting and families that rely on hunting for putting food on the table. Not to mention the millions of dollars generated by GE Tax revenues from these activities! We all want to protect our native species here in Hawaii but taking away all of the fertile hunting ground is NOT the logical answer. Allow hunters/gathers to help MANAGE the game populations. Please help the people! We cannot afford anymore net loss in hunting land.

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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, 2014
STATE OF HAWAII**

H.B. NO.1902 HD1

To: The Hawaii State Legislature,
House Committee on Finance

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB1902 HD1

Subject: DLNR; Hunting; No Net Loss

Purpose: Prohibits any net reduction of public hunting area on each island. Requires the DLNR to make comparable land available for hunting upon making land unavailable for hunting. Requires the DLNR to submit an annual report. Effective 1/01/2014.

Summary: This is an important measure to the Hawai'i community in that it ensures continued access for hunting and gathering opportunities on public lands for all the people of Hawai'i. By passing this measure we will be able to continue improving the "quality of life" of the people of Hawai'i. By allowing them to benefit from the public lands in activates that contribute to good health and well-being.

Currently budgeted NARS and Watershed

	2013-2014	2014-2015
NARS	\$5 million	\$2.5 million
Watershed	\$5 million	\$7.5 million
NARS		
Manuka	\$1.5 million	\$2 million

Also for Natural Area Reserves & Watershed Management operating under(general funds)

FY 2013-2014 FY 2014-2015

\$4,222,515 \$8,222,575

For a total of \$36,000,000 to Preservation.

If the argument that money will be a problem please see above it seems that money is easily accessible for activities that do not promote public land usage. Where is the money and support for hunting land? We need to have Hunting lands open for everyone so we all can benefit from them. We do not need them controlled and used for and by so-called

“partnerships” that exclude the public from usage of the land. These hunting lands will be “open spaces” that promote multi usage, healthy, family cultural activities. It is an easy decision that I hope you all can agree upon.

Signature:  _____

Paul Bueltmann
Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission
District 4

Date: 2/20/2014

Address: PO Box 5535

Email: paul.bueltmann@gmail.com

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 10:38 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: wjc3030@hawaiiintel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura A. Camara	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB 1902 prohibiting the DLNR from reducing the net acreage of hunting lands. Gov. Abercrombie's "Rain Follows The Forest" plan will take from the people of the state of Hawaii 480,000 acres of hunting lands in upcoming years. Those lands will be fenced and all game animals will be eradicated. Where will future generations of kama'aina go to practice their cultural and gathering rights? HB 1902 will help ensure that those opportunities be available for future generations of not only Kama'aina but visitors as well.

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finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 12:36 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: scoleman@surfrider.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stuart Coleman	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As a former hunter myself, I have to say that hunters already have access to more than 900,000 acres so they don't need any more. Please oppose this bill.

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To: Sylvia Luke, Chair
Aaron A. Johanson, Vice Chair
and Members of the House Finance Comm.,

From: Patrick Conant, Volcano, Hawaii.

Subject: Testimony Against HB 1902 HD 1 to be Heard on 2/21/14.

I am very much opposed to this bill because there is presently not an equitable way to make it effective without irreversible damage to our native forests and shrublands and the watersheds that they compose.

Ideally, there would be ample State lands or private lands accessible to hunters that are dominated by alien plants where damage to our watersheds would not result. But, there is no "land bank" of such lands at present to make this proposed legislation work. It would be great if many private land owners freely entered into agreements with the State to provide hunting on their non-native forest and shrub lands. However, it seems there are not enough that do. Hawaii's climate is predicted to get drier and we need to conserve every bit of good native forest for water conservation. Wild ungulates (including game animals) are well documented as very destructive to native forest and vegetation cover of our mountain slopes. Having grown up on Oahu and having lived and worked in agriculture on most of the different islands over 30 years, I have seen much of this damage myself. Also, note that Mr. William Aila, Chair of DLNR points out that over 700,000 acres on the Big Island alone is available to hunters, while there is a total of 1 million acres of land under DLNR-DOFAW control in the entire State.

I understand that a single person has been hired by DLNR to improve access to hunting areas, and I suggest that the legislature study and fully support that much needed program. We need to be sure that the State lands used to create new Game Management Areas are not dominated by irreplaceable native forest, that has been shown by University of Hawaii researchers to be the best form of watersheds in the State. If the Legislature is going to propose a "land exchange" as seen here, then the Legislature is obligated to see that native forests and intact watersheds that benefit all Hawaii residents are not given up to the less than 1.5% hunting public at the expense of our environment and long term sustainability.

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:07 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Nakui77@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eli	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of HB 1902. Hunting and gathering is an important component to food sustainability, cultural identity, and provides a healthy way for the people of Hawaii to experience a connection to the land. Any reduction in lands designated for this purpose is injurious to these activities and is a disservice to the people and future generations. For these reasons I am in strong support of HB 1902. Aloha, Eli Sanderson

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finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 12:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lavaracer@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Foster	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The website is not accepting my testimony. Could you please take my testimony below and submit it? Dean Foster I support HB 1902 as it will mitigate the cumulative effects of state of Hawaii ungulate fencing projects on acreage of public lands open to hunting. Below are the comments I submitted last September for the Puu Waawaa enclosure fencing EA. These comments accurately summarize why I support HB 1902. Recently DOFAW and other agencies (NPS) have been reducing the total number of acreage on Hawaii Island that is available to hunting. Past and planned large scale fencing projects have removed public lands that were historically utilized for hunting and other recreational uses (planned Pu'u Wa'a wa'a fences and existing forest bird sanctuary, NAR fences) and converted them into ungulate free enclosures for the purpose of conserving and protecting native species. In addition to fencing lands to eliminate ungulates, DOFAW currently (2013) utilizes aircraft shooters to reduce or eliminate the ungulate population within the Mauna Kea Forest Reserve and Game Management Area thus effectively removing this large tract of land from the public lands available to Hawaii citizens for hunting big game (goats, pigs, and sheep). This situation is frustrating to hunters as the area is both a "Game management Area" and palila critical habitat and it appears DOFAW can't accomplish both goals in the same place. The Natural Area Reserve system is also fencing their public lands to remove ungulates and is planning additional fences and ungulate removal operations in the near future (example Manuka). This would seem reasonable as the intended use of NARS lands is to preserve native species. However, some of the NARS public lands were historically utilized by hunters and the Manuka reserve is currently utilized by goat hunters. Protecting Hawaii's native species is a noble goal and supported by many citizens of the state of Hawaii. However, many hunters in Hawaii are concerned that more and more tracts of historic public hunting lands are being reclassified as conservation/preservation lands without mitigating those losses by opening up other public lands of similar quality to hunting. Moreover, Hawaii citizens want assurances that not all of the public hunting lands will be converted to ungulate free zones and that there will be some minimum public acreage left for hunting purposes on Hawaii Island. As part of the cumulative effects analysis for the Pu'u Wa'a wa'a fence project environmental assessment, Hawaii citizens need certain assurances that a minimum percent of public lands will not be fenced to eliminate ungulates and that losses of hunting lands by planned fencing projects will be offset (mitigated) by creating at least an equal acreage of accessible, quality public lands for the management of wildlife for hunting purposes. Concern 2. Certain planned enclosure fences in Pu'u Wa'a wa'a are in prime hunting lands that are quickly being removed from public use. The following proposed fencing units will remove quality hunting lands from use by the citizens of Hawaii and need

to be mitigated: 1. HenaHena and Aiea fencing units are prime sheep habitats 2. Lowland Ohia fencing unit is good goat habitat 3. Waihou units are in excellent sheep and goat units 4. Safety zone area including the Pu'u.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 1:15 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Freediving@earthlink.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Glennon T. Gingo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To: Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair Finance Committee and Committee members. Aloha and Mahalo for your public service. I strongly support HB 1902. Game hunting and the heritage of game harvesting exists throughout our islands and continues to provide enjoyment and especially sustenance for our families. For generations our families and communities have participated in game harvesting and hunting and will continue to do so. We must preserve this activity for our current generation and for future generations as well. Keeping our lands accessible and ensuring that we maintain all areas that currently exist for hunting is critical for survival and in many ways for food security. Best wishes from Holualoa on the Island of Hawaii. Glennon T. Gingo

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 5:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dgh70@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Hanners	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is so valuable to our future to preserve our way of life. Please move forward and pass this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:39 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: holly@kuaokala.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
holly	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This measure will protect land access for the hunters and fishermen of Hawaii. This is a bill we need to protect the people and future generations.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 8:05 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: walkeratmksp@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Walker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I feel we need more hunting areas and support this bill.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 1:00 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: matthoeflinger@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt Hoeflinger	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As the state looks forward to self sustainable food sources, hunting must be considered as a high priority. Eradication of game animals takes food off of many local peoples tables. Loss of hunting areas equals loss of animals. Our game animals and hunting areas must be managed in an equal and sensible way, Please support this bill

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:26 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ptong8@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Philip Tong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Yes, please support this bill as do I. Additionally, always keep in the back of your mind to oppose converting any of our remaining Ag lands into housing or shopping centers. Mahalo

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 11:01 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: churkel@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steven Hurt	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Too much land has already been lost for hunting opportunities. The loss must stop.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 5:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Hanatarok@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taylor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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February 19, 2014

To: House Committee on Finance

From: Mary Ikagawa, Kailua

RE: H.B. 1902 HD1 Relating to Hunting, to be heard Friday, February 21, 2014, 12:00 PM, Room 308

Aloha,

I write to oppose HB 1902 HD1 because though the intent has merit, it appears to be based on the erroneous idea that the lands being fenced for watershed and forest protection are lands that are heavily used for hunting. Although some hunters sometimes hike into some these areas, most of the areas that will be fenced are not frequently used by hunters, nor is hunting a primary land use ("hunting area" is not equivalent to "game management area". The heaviest hunting use is near roads.

The other important consideration is that Hawaii has hundreds of thousands of acres that are not Game Management Areas (where hunting is a primary land use) but are forest reserves or other land designations, where hunting is allowed simply because the systems are open and there is little reason to prohibit hunting. The total acreage where hunting is allowed represents most of the lands managed by DLNR. Therefore it presents an unsupportable burden to ask DLNR to find new hunting areas to replace fenced lands that were never intended primarily for hunting, but rather are important watershed forests that need more protection from ungulates than public hunting can provide.

DOFAW has already established a position for a hunting access coordinator, and the position has been successful in finding new, accessible parcels for hunters to enjoy. The legislature could most effectively support both hunters and the state by providing the \$750,000 in general funds DLNR has requested to improve hunter access and programs.



Testimony for the House Committee on Finance

Hearing on HB1902 - February 21, 2014

I strongly oppose HB 1902

My name is Rob Shallenberger. I have been a career conservation biologist and wildlife photographer for more than 50 years. I have been an enthusiastic hunter and fisherman even longer. I am appreciative of steps taken by DLNR to provide recreational and subsistence hunting opportunity in Hawaii. However, I am deeply troubled when I see public and private land owners managing Hawaii's forest lands in a way that contributes to the loss of native species, the erosion of watershed soil and the accelerated invasion of non-native plants and animals.

I oppose this legislation because it is unnecessary and inappropriate. It represents a solution in search of a problem. This legislation, however well intended, would exacerbate conflicts between users and lead to serious unintended consequences.

- Supporters of this bill allege that this bill is necessary to reverse a "dramatic decline" in hunting opportunity. The State argues that public hunting opportunity has increased, not decreased. Neither position has been supported by a presentation of relevant data. DOFAW should be tasked to compile the relevant data.
- Federal and State land managing agencies should explore ways to expand the role that hunters may play in the control of hoofed mammals. Regulations or policies that limit the efficient distribution of game taken during control projects should be evaluated and modified where feasible.
- The State contracted for preparation of a Game Management Plan for Hawaii Island several years ago. Although the contracted document was completed and submitted to DOFAW, it has not been distributed for review and implementation. This plan should be made public.
- The State developed a framework for setting management priorities on DOFAW managed lands on Hawaii Island. The draft guidelines were developed in response to conflicting resource demands by various user groups. They were intended to provide administrative policy direction and to prioritize resource management and use activities. The draft guidelines were never finalized. DOFAW should be directed to complete this project.

- Important management projects are underway or planned that would likely be derailed by this legislation if it is enacted. For example, the recently completed Ka'u Forest Reserve Management Plan calls for fencing and ungulate removal within a 12,000 acre core area of native forest. The "no net loss" provision in this legislation could jeopardize the completion of the Ka'u forest project.
- DLNR has submitted a supplemental budget request for \$750,000 in general funds that would be used for game management and for enhancing public hunting access and land acquisition. This funding request should be approved.

HB1902, if enacted, would create far more problems than it would solve. It should be tabled.

Robert J. Shallenberger, Ph.D.

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:33 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jstuebs@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
josh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB1902! This is an important measure to the Hawai 'i community in that it ensures continued access for hunting and gathering opportunities on public lands for all the people of Hawai'i. By passing this measure we will be able to continue improving the "quality of life" of the people of Hawai'i. By allowing them to benefit from the public lands in activates that contribute to good health and well-being.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 10:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: georgekamakahi@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
George Kamakahi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB 1902 that proposes to prohibit any net reduction of public hunting area on each island.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 7:33 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: ehkaneshiro@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Kaneshiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support and preserve the hunting experience and traditions for current and future generations. Mahalo.

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finance1

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Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 11:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: deltawave.as@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harold Sylvester	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Committee On Finance, This is a very important measure for the outdoor sports community in Hawaii. People from all islands will benefit from this. At the current rate things are going I fear that my children will not have access to public lands for uses of hunting and gathering when they are of age. These are traditions that have been in my family for over 100 years in Hawaii. Supporting and financing this bill will help ensure that our lands and our traditions will not be lost forever. Mahalo for your support.

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Testimony of
RYAN N. KOHATSU

Mechanical Engineer and Avid Hunter/Gatherer

Before the House Committee on
FINANCE

Relating to
HOUSE BILL 1902 : RELATING TO HUNTING
STRONGLY SUPPORT

Dear House Committee on Finance,

I **strongly support** HB 1902 that proposes to prohibit any net reduction of public hunting area on each island.

While I understand there are private landowner relationships and leases DLNR has to grant access for recreation and hunting on private lands, this bill is to concern us on lands that DLNR already has ownership of and controls. From the standpoint of finance and removing privately owned lands from this bill, there should be no adverse effect fiscally on maintaining public lands already available for hunting to remain available for hunting.

In maintaining public lands publicly accessible for recreation, which includes hunting, DLNR can and should fulfill their duty to support the recreational needs of the residents of Hawaii.

In previous testimonies and statements by DLNR, Gov. Abercrombie, and various environmental groups like the Sierra Club, The Nature Conservancy, etc. , it is almost always publicly stated that they support ethical hunting and that hunting serves important roles in land management. Their previous testimonies can be accessed and the committee can witness this in truth. However, it is known that environmental groups (like Sierra Club, The Nature Conservancy, etc.) will likely oppose, and already have opposed, HB 1902 because they believe hunting in perpetuity is adverse for the land and does not align with their views of forest management and protection. I urge the committee and concerned representatives, to please closely examine this hypocrisy. Hunting and ungulates are two different discussions. They will claim that ungulates destroy the forests and that hunting them is important. However, why would you oppose a bill that would maintain public hunting in these public lands? There is no language in this bill that states non-native species are to be maintained. These groups can still go on their eradication efforts if they so wish. However, public hunting in public hunting lands must be considered. So honestly, the only way you are against HB 1902 is that you are against "public hunting." Whether the public hunts their public lands or whether these groups decide to fence it up and hire (on our tax dollars) professional shooters to eradicate animals, that latter choice is always more costly. So in spirit of Finance, I believe the Finance Committee should also strongly support HB 1902 because it is far

more fiscally sound to have public hunting in public lands manage animal numbers than having taxpayer funded eradicators come in to do the same job with no direct benefit to the public. Simply put, these are public resources and lands; not lands select non-profit groups can gain control of, fence, restrict, or prohibit public access or recreation on.

Currently, there is zero legislation to protect the public's involvement in hunting on public lands. This should be enacted to promote public involvement in land management, protect the economic drivers of outdoor recreation, and uphold the public statements made by our officials and environmental groups that support ethical and responsible public hunting.

Sincerely,

- Ryan Kohatsu

Mechanical Engineer

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:40 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: wekeis333@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tony Sylvester	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:07 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jonagustine_lim@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonagustine Lim	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill and keep our animal habitats. Thank you.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 10:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: meedolly@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
taylor sumida	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I would like to say that I support this bill. It would ensure my children will learn about the forest and have access to it. This also allows them to access the beaches we camp and fish because you have to have a truck and pass through hunting area's to get here. It also allows my children to learn and observe how nature works for themselves. And how we should all co exist. The fish, the game animals everyone wants to destroy in the name of science. I don't understand how people condemn these animals that were once gifts to the king. For decades these animals have roamed Hawaii. And every where you attempt to take them out the rest of the eco system fails. The Palila, declining since they started the eradication efforts. The threat of invasive plants, that n o one see's the blatant truth. I'm tired of seeing fence lines. I feel that the peoples tax money should be respected and spent on the people. Not just a few scientist.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 10:26 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rydersouza@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryder Souza	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a fairly new hunter, I have been able to enjoy many places that I would otherwise never experience. The loss of land suitable for hunting is worry-some, the decrease in game with the increase of hunters requires more access to areas that hunters have utilized in the past. It is wonderful and disappointing at the same to hear the stories of old- time hunters talking about the good old days when hunting was at its prime. A lot has changed, but as a recreational activity, hunting can benefit the economy, provide food, and offers a healthy lifestyle. New generations are interested, but it is only becoming more difficult for them to find success with diminishing resources and land.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 8:46 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: lschnell0324@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lena schnell	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 10:55 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: daltonkaitoku_lucas@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dalton H.Y. Lucas-Camara	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HB1902. This measure is greatly needed to ensure that the people of Hawaii have lands to be able to hunt on to help provide for their families. As we know, the "rain follows the forest" plan will end hunting on our public lands state wide if allowed to go on as planned. Already 480,000 acres are "in the crosshairs" to be taken away from our people. These lands are greatly valued by both the people of Hawaii and visitors alike. It will be a shame when the only way to enjoy these lands is by looking over a fence. Thanks for your time, Aloha.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 12:12 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: keithsakatas@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephaine Sakata	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is Stephaine Sakata I am writing in support if this bill. I am married to a hunter and have to two sons one which is old enough to hunt. This is a very important part of life for my whole family. Including my brother and brothers in law and their c hildren. DLNR keeps closing hunting areas..when they do have open areas they are so packed with people it's down right dangerous because everyone has been dying to hunt. I don't even allow my son to go because it has become so out of hand. Last season my h usband waited from the day before and camped in is truck to get a spot to be allowed to hunt. It is such an important part of living for us. Please see this as a great outlet for the younger generations. We need to help keep it alive. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 11:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: akiraomik@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimo Sakata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:47 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: hawaii hunting association@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tom Lodge	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: This forest is not yours, and it's not theirs, it is ours, the people of Hawaii, many of which are consumptive users. The forest is part of the allure of Hawaii, it is also part of the Culture. If you are thinking of preserving the forest, you MUST at the same time be thinking of persevering the culture of Hawaii along with it. Resources. Since 1972 there has been no measurable or discernable game management on the Big Island. There have been sort of "de facto" efforts that have preserved game but not MANAGED Game and this is in direct contradiction to the mandates imposed on the DLNR by §183D. Now is the time for DLNR to step up and Cooperate with ALL users especially the consumptive users so that the Partnerships they brag about are meaningful, since the most important partnership, that of the people, has not been forged. With a constructive partnership, giving up land wouldn't be necessary, but management would. That wouldn't hurt, though it might be something novel and new, it's good to try out new things from time to time instead of the cross purpose to the actual users and Citizens of Hawaii, Fence and Eradicate.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 12:18 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: reo9mm@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
russell ryan rudel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 4:38 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: makani.christensen@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
makani	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I support HB1902, that prohibits DLNR from reducing the net acreage of public hunting area on each island, and requires DLNR to make comparable lands available. Sustainability, we talk about sustainability daily. Yet, we allow DLNR to massacre millions of pounds of food (sheep, cows, and pigs) in the name of conservation. We allow DLNR/The State to sell hundreds of thousands of acres to conservation groups in hopes of protecting native birds and fauna. We allow DLNR to fence hundreds of thousands of acres in efforts to protect our watershed. What are the results? Individuals that depend on hunting are forced into inaccessible areas, or areas where food (sheep, cows, and pigs) is harder to find. Millions of dollars are wasted on fences that are to bring the forest back to its native state, however we, hunters, have seen the opposite effect. The forest becomes overgrown with invasive plants, which suffocate the native inhabitants. Families that depend on this food source are forced to look for other means to eat. What about "gathering rights"? The pigs have been here for over 2000 years. The pigs, the birds and the fauna co-existed wonderfully. The pigs were revered in the Hawaiian Culture, to the point of having god like powers. Killing Kamapua'a without "valid reason," and in this case "valid reason" is food consumption or religious practices or cultural practices, is disrespectful to the people of Hawaii and especially the Hawaiian. Food sustainability is the essence of our culture. DLNR and the Nature Conservancy along with other conservancy groups are constantly attacking our culture, our religious rights, and our gathering rights from the mountain to the sea. How can we allow our food to become public enemy number 1? These words are of the practitioners of the forest, who have proven themselves through blood, sweat, and tears, to be worthy of your ear. We ask humbly, that each of you to support this bill. Mahalo, Makani Christensen

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:43 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: rittew@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Walter Ritte	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My name is Walter Ritte from the island of Molokai and I am in strong support of HB 1902. Subsistence is the second economy for our island of Molokai, and this bill will help us ensure the survival of our subsistence economy. The building of the cash economy should not be on the backs of nor the loss of the subsistence economy.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 7:09 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: chadmata84@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chad mata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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finance1

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Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 12:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: bhnr@isp.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leo A Millan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: No net reduction of public lands for hunting. We need to maintain same acreage available.

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finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jakemuise@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jake Muise	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Although I understand the intent of this bill and agree there is a drastic need for more effective "game management", this bill would not acheive these goals and will be impossible to execute for a variety of obvious reasons.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 4:06 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nanihawaii@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
nani pogline	Individual	Support	No

Comments: On behalf of my family and friends here on the Big Island, we strongly support HB1902. In the last elections the public demonstrated strong support for hunting and game lands, in voting for the Game Management Advisory Commission. Hunting is a rooted cultural practice, as well as a form of local sustainability. Game animals, when able to graze in migratory patterns, help eco-systems. Ohia and Koa thrive with game animal manure. Public hunting areas should be increased, not decreased. Hunting also provides another source of economic stimulus.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 8:54 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: charlene.nakagawa@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlene Nakagawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 8:49 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: alannakagawa@mac.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Nakagawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 4:45 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: randynakashima@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy L Nakashima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 5:23 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: davidnorris@me.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Norris	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB1902 and want to see land kept open for us to continue hunting and preserve our way of life. I also like the idea of the DLNR staying accountable by being required to submit an annual report.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 12:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: waynen377@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne Nishijima	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In full Support of HN1902 HD1 Proper management of all our resources is critical to the well being of all our people. Our forested public lands help to sustain our people by providing us with nourishment, exercise and essentials used to perform our cultural and traditional practices. Hunting is an essential activity for many. It provides food, sport and exercise along with discipline for self and family and provides a vital service in maintaining a balance approach to resource management. Unfortunately, the Rain Follows The Forest Watershed Protection Plan will systematically remove forever our game animal resources. HB1902 HD1 is one potential way we can support a balanced approach to resource management before hunting becomes a thing of the past. Thank you for your consideration of my view.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: wongr024@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

LATE

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. Please do also. Mahalo.

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OISC

O'AHU INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

LATE

Committee on Finance
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Testimony of the Oahu Invasive Species Committee in **opposition** of HB 1902:
Relating to Hunting.

Friday, February 21, 2014 9:20 AM, Room 308

The Oahu Invasive Species Committee opposes HB 1902 which would require the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to replace, acre-for-acre, any land that is made unavailable for hunting. This bill would increase the cost of conservation measures to protect our irreplaceable native forests and protect our watersheds and water supply. In many cases, areas closed to hunting in conservation areas are located in remote areas that are rarely used and accessed for public hunting because of the remote location, difficulty to access due to terrain or lack of roads or do not have the density of game animals that make it worthwhile to hunt in.

There are currently **more than 900,000 acres** of public hunting areas across the state managed by the DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife. **This is a larger area than the 741,760 acres of Maui County:** the islands of Maui, Molokai, Lānai, Molokini and Kahoolawe combined. Due to so many acres already set aside for hunting, it may make it impossible to match acre for acre with equal wildlife habitat on islands.

A potential alternative to this bill could be increasing hunting right of ways and access to current inaccessible hunting areas and approving DLNR's supplemental budget request of \$750,000 in general funds that would match federal funds that would improve access to State lands already open to hunting.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

FIN-Jo

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 2:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: danepacheco@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dane Pacheco	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill because the youth of Hawaii need to have things to do and if you keep taking away hunting and fishing rights our youth will end up with nothing to do, but get in trouble. Mahalo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:35 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: HuiKuahiwi@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colin Onaka	Hui Kuahiwi	Support	No

Comments: Hui Kuahiwi which is a club made up of three generations of lifelong residents ask that HB 1902 gets support from our law makers. No Net Loss supports balance among public land users such as hunters/gathers which have fed people in our community long before Hawai'i became a state. Hunters/gathers are the core of conservation. Our law makers talk about Hawai'i becoming more food self sustainable yet our state spends millions of dollars annually to eradicate the most organic meat resources we have. Hunters/gathers continue to lose more and more acres of land each year for reasons that are yet to be proven to be managed by DLNR. This bill makes good sense. Our keiki deserve to be assured that they will have areas for sustainable hunting in the future acre for acre. Please support HB 1902. Thank you, Colin Onaka Hui Kuahiwi

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 8:11 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: csogura@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM



HB1902

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
christine ogura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It is unfair to other users of state lands to single out a certain use and to guarantee their access at the cost of other potential uses. DLNR must be given the flexibility to meet changing demands of the public. Additionally, a public process is already in place to allow input on proposed use changes that DLNR manages and this is what should be used for fairness and equity.

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finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: morrislures@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

LATE

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nick Morris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:34 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: pastordennisjr@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dennis martin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support HB1902. It would greatly help myself support my family of 6 children by keeping hunting lands available for use by myself and all of my 6 children. 6 boys and 6 girls who all hunt. Thank you, Pastor Dennis Martin Dep. Sheriff I E.H. Kona Hawaii

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 5:24 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jdkramer2@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josh Kramer	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I cannot give facts and details to support my argument against this bill, but the efforts towards conservation on the Hawaiian Islands cannot be fully supported if this bill moves forward. Conservation of Hawaii's native flora and fauna requires not only the preservation of what still exists but the future opportunity to take back other areas which are currently not being managed. Please oppose this this bill and vote for the future of Hawaii.

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23 E. Kawili St, Hilo, HI 96720 • Phone: (808) 933-3340



Opposing HB1902 Relating to Hunting
House Finance Committee
February 21, 2014 12:00 PM Room 308

The Big Island Invasive Species Committee is a partnership of private citizens, community organizations, businesses, land owners, and local, state, and federal government agencies organized to address invasive species issues on the island of Hawaii. Our mission is to prevent, detect, and control the spread of the highest risk invasive species threats to the Big Island environment, economy, and way of life.

As an organization that places high value on preserving the economy, including informal economy, and way of life in Hawaii we take hunting issues under careful consideration. BIISC understands hunting to be a valued way of life on Hawaii Island, and that wild caught meat makes up a substantial part of the diet for many. We believe this legislature understands that there is a genuine concern, even fear, among hunting families that their source of game, recreation, and family tradition are under siege. However, we ask that the legislature consider that those fears may be unfounded, and suggest that legitimate concerns may be better addressed by providing the requested \$750,000 funding to the State Hunting Program, which seeks to *increase* access to existing and new hunting areas through cooperative agreements with landowners and purchasing access easements. BIISC opposes this measure, and offers the following comments:

Accessibility, not Acreage.

The Island of Hawaii has 700,000 acres, or 27% of the total land mass, in public hunting lands. This is about the same acreage as the entire state of Rhode Island (775,000 acres), and greater than the acreage of agricultural lands on the island; there are 638,000 acres of pasture land and 43,000 acres of planted crops on the island (Melrose and Delparte, 2012). We note that private ranches and pastures are frequently used for hunting as well.



Saddle Road area devastated by overpopulation of goats.

It appears the Hawaii County Game Advisory Commission was misinformed when they advised Mayor Kenoi and many others in Hawaii County that public hunting areas are disappearing at an alarming rate. DLNR Chair William Aila's testimony reports, to the contrary, an active access and acquisitions program, 5% statewide increase over a decade, and that 90% of DLNR lands--900,000 acres--are public hunting areas. It would have been more correct to advise that we are losing native species, forests, water supply, erosion control, and clean air at an alarming rate.

The majority of reported game mammal hunting takes place within two miles of an accessible road (Hess, 2013). Two miles is a long way to carry a mature pig or sheep. But the majority of hunting areas far wider, with road access, if any, only along one edge of the parcel. Hunting Area B, for example, has some of the worst access. Good gravel roads owned by the state are kept locked and inaccessible for lack of maintenance funding and liability reasons. Old cane or forestry roads may exist, but are kept closed by private ranches and farms which form a barrier between public roads and the state forest reserves and hunting areas. This is a problem with a straightforward solution, and it is our understanding that DLNR is working hard to increase access and open roads through cooperative agreements and easements.



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Quality, not Quantity.

While “no net loss” sounds very well and good, it is not the net acreage that matters. It is the quality of the forest, quality of the game, and the personal connection to a particular site. About 12,000 acres of the Mauna Kea Game Management Area is Alpine desert, above 11,000 foot elevation. The dry, freezing atmosphere is not a place to find herds of animals or accomplish any game mammal hunting. If these 12,000 acres were removed from public hunting, the number of sheep hunted in the area would not change. Similarly, if the most remote, middle sections of certain parcels in Hunting Area B, where pigs and sheep thrive, were increased or decreased, hunting rates would not change—many of these are too far, or the forest is too thick, to hunt effectively.

Conversely, there are hunting areas that are beloved. Just below the alpine desert hunting is popular and successful. All over the island, generations of family members have hunted the same game in the same way at the same place. It is their hunting area, in the same way another family always sits under the same tree at Waimanalo Beach Park, or hikes the same trail on Tantalus, or fishes the same reef in Ka’ā’awa. If it were taken away, it could not be replaced—not by any amount of acreage. This regulation, if enacted, would please no one in the long term. Funding for the DLNR hunting program will allow more staff to interact more cooperatively with hunters to find out where the best hunting areas are, where access is needed, and seek common ground.

Balancing public interests. The 680,000 acres devoted to cattle and crop production on the Island of Hawaii produces roughly 95% of the fresh milk, over 17% of the fresh beef, more than 34% of the vegetables, and more than 32% of the fruit consumed on the island. The majority of the population makes use of these products. Among the greatest challenges to continued ranching and farming is access to water (Melrose and Delparte, 2012), and feral ungulates destroy the watershed. A second obstacle to profitable vegetable production is direct damage by feral pigs. On the island of Hawaii farmers cannot find enough hunters reliable enough and willing to control pigs on their land. Though deer have been prevented from establishing on the Big Island, sheep wander through coffee farms stripping bark and leaves off the trees. Ranch managers trap and shoot pigs and goats daily, and bury the carcasses because the freezer is full and there is no one who will take them.

We have entrusted the Department of Land and Natural Resources to protect our state’s water supply, our forests, our ocean and fresh water bodies and fisheries, and regulate hunting. Despite the fact that allowing large populations of introduced animals to roam freely reduces our water supply, harms our native forests, pollutes our ocean, reef, and fresh water bodies, DLNR continues to work diligently with the 0.8% of the population who are legal hunters to be sure hunting continues as a valued recreational and subsistence activity.

We ask that the committee vote to oppose this legislation, allowing DLNR to continue to shoulder the responsibility for actively and responsibly managing game hunting and a diversity of other public interests in the state.



These native akoko trees died after feral goats and sheep stripped the bark from the trunks for water. After the 2009-2010 drought every akoko in the 150 acre stand was dead. In nearby fenced areas, akoko continued to flower and sprout keiki throughout the drought.



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The only green plant around was in this little fence. Most of the land in this image is a Public Hunting Area.



Two miles away, 45,000 acres of fenced land from which ungulates were removed were green and healthy.



Kaua'i Watershed Alliance

LATE

Ben A. Dyre Limited Family Partnership, Department of Hawaiian Homelands, Department of Water County of Kaua'i, DLNR – Division of Forestry and Wildlife & Land Management Division, Grove Farm Company, Inc., Jurassic Kahili Ranch, Kamehameha Schools, Kaua'i Ranch LLC, Lihu'e Land Company, McBryde Sugar Company, Ltd., National Tropical Botanical Garden, Princeville Development, LLC

"The Mission of the Kaua'i Watershed Alliance is to PROTECT, PRESERVE and MANAGE our valuable watershed resources for the benefit of our residents, communities and all future generations through the concerted efforts of its members."

Testimony of Kaua'i Watershed Alliance Opposing H.B. 1902 HD1 Relating to Hunting House Committee on Finance Friday, February 21, 2014, 12:00 PM, Room 308

The Kaua'i Watershed Alliance (KWA) strongly supports the testimony submitted by the DLNR and suggests that HB 1902 does not represent the best interests of the people of Hawai'i nor does it improve upon the best way to manage state lands.

The KWA has been actively managing portions of the mauka watershed on Kaua'i since 2003. Its members make up a diverse group of public and private entities who own land within the mountainous watershed and understand the importance of protecting and preserving the forests that capture the water - our most precious resource.

At this time there are approx. 1million acres that the DLNR manages for the benefit of the people of Hawai'i. Of this, about 900,000 acres are committed to public hunting under varying management rules. Yet these lands have considerable value to our people and not just to hunters. These lands provide:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ○ Ground water quality - \$ 4.5 - 8.5 billion | ○ Hunting - \$ 63 – 237 million |
| ○ Surface water quality- 83 - 394 million | ○ Aesthetic Values - 1 – 3 billion |
| ○ In-stream uses- 82 - 242 million | ○ Commercial Harvests - .6 – 2.5 million |
| ○ Species habitat - .5 - 1.4 billion | ○ Ecotourism - 1 – 3 billion |
| ○ Biodiversity - .5 - 5.5 million | ○ Climate Control - 82 million |
| ○ Subsistence - 34 - 131 million | |

(data estimated by University of Hawai'i researchers, from the publication: *Last Stand The Vanishing Hawaiian Forest 2003*)

There are approximately 13,000 licensed hunters out of over a million people with diverse interests in Hawai'i today that have put their trust in our elected representatives and those appointed officials who manage our public lands. Article XI, section 1 and Section 7 of the State Constitution cited.

What this bill does is create an intractable law that precludes the very agency given the lawful authority to manage these lands for the benefit of all of the people of Hawai'i. This bill will make it unlawful for the DLNR to change the use of these lands for whatever critical or good use or purpose or mandate that exists now or in the future. There is not enough state land left to offset other uses which include watershed protection.

It is well documented in scientific literature that the existence of feral ungulates are a source of destruction to resources on public and private lands in Hawai'i and across the country.

Please allow the DLNR to manage these lands without a law that may potentially harm the majority of our people in Hawai'i if enacted.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Chipper Wichman, Chair
Kaua'i Watershed Alliance



Kaua`i Watershed Alliance

Ben A. Dyre Limited Family Partnership, Department of Hawaiian Homelands, Department of Water County of Kaua`i, DLNR – Division of Forestry and Wildlife & Land Management Division, Grove Farm Company, Inc., Jurassic Kahili Ranch, Kamehameha Schools, Kaua`i Ranch LLC, Lihu`e Land Company, McBryde Sugar Company, Ltd., National Tropical Botanical Garden, Princeville Development, LLC

“The Mission of the Kaua`i Watershed Alliance is to PROTECT, PRESERVE and MANAGE our valuable watershed resources for the benefit of our residents, communities and all future generations through the concerted efforts of its members.”



For the Protection of Hawaii's Native Wildlife

LATE

HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY

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TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION OF 2014
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair; Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Friday, February 21, 2014, 12:00 p.m., Conference Room 308, State Capitol

HOUSE BILL NO. 1902 HD1 - Relating to Hunting

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and members of the committee, my name is Linda Paul and I am submitting testimony on behalf of the 2,000+ members of the Hawaii Audubon Society against House Bill 1902 HD1. As you know, the purpose of this measure is to ensure no net loss of public hunting areas throughout the State by prohibiting the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) from reducing the total amount of state land open to hunting on each island and requiring DLNR to designate replacement land if DLNR makes public hunting area land unavailable. However, we strongly urge this committee to amend this bill and direct DLNR to significantly reduce the amount of land occupied by feral alien "game" animals, not maintain it, if we want our native forests and the native species that depend on them to survive.

During the 2013 legislative session, DLNR testified that 950,000 acres out of 1.3 million acres of state land are currently open to hunting, and approximately 10,000 animals are "harvested" each year. Hawaii county estimates 413,000 pounds of dressed meat are harvested annually from that island alone. But there are hundreds of thousands of feral alien "game" animals still out there and they decimating our native forests. Axis deer graze vegetation down to the roots, totally denuding the land, with the result that clouds of dust blow offshore from the bare land and smother coral reefs. Goats graze on native plants up to the highest mountain tops in Kauai and Oahu. After wild pigs finish foraging in an area, it looks like a plowed field.

The only way "game management" can help restore our native ecosystems is by confining these animals to fenced-in game management areas, and eliminating them from all other habitat. But as a practical and financial matter this isn't going to happen. The least we can do is reduce the amount of native forest set aside as "game management areas", not maintain it. Either amend this bill to require DLNR to significantly reduce the amount of state land set aside for game animals or kill this bill. Thank you.

Linda Paul, President, Hawaii Audubon Society

LATE

19 February 2014

To: House Finance Committee

From: The Friends of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge does not support HB 1902

The Friends of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge urges the Finance Committee of the Hawaii House of Representatives to table HB 1902. This bill, which proposes that DLNR ensure there is “no net loss” of hunting areas, is well intended, but proposes to solve a problem (conflict among people who favor either protection of ungulate free areas or increase of hunting areas) cannot be solved by a single, sweeping piece of legislation. The issues involved in this problem are quite complex, and a number of specific actions need to be taken (publication of management plans, etc.) before policies on how to designate land for hunting or ungulate free conservation.

We note that other testimonies on this bill have pointed out that the approximate 11,000 hunters (1.1% of Hawaii’s population) currently has access to ~700,000 (70%) acres of the ~1,000,000 acres of land managed by DLNR. Furthermore, the amount of land open for hunting has in reality and contrary to claims by some hunters, recently increased, as has the amount of land now dedicated to conservation via eradication of ungulates, which are destroying native forests and hence watershed on which all of the people of Hawaii depend.

The bill should be tabled until appropriate data, draft management plans, etc. are made available by DLNR staff to the public for review.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony

Sheila Conant

Director

On behalf of Friends of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge

Date: February 19, 2014

To: Rep. Sylvia Luke

Re: Opposition to HB1902, Relating to Hunting.



I am writing to testify against House Bill 1902.

You probably know the story of Jacob and his brother Esau from the Old Testament. Esau came home one day and was hungry. Jacob was cooking stew, but he would not give his older brother any until the older brother swore away his birthright. Esau was the kind of guy who never thought beyond the next meal and happily agreed, but for the rest of his life he regretted his decision.

Our birthright here in Hawai'i is the land, with the plants and animals that are unique to this land, such as the palila and the 'i'iwi, the halapepe and the 'iliahi. Don't sell our birthright. Don't sell out the palilia and the 'i'iwi for goats or pigs or sheep. There will always be goats and pigs and sheep, but once the native plants and animals of Hawai'i become extinct they will be gone forever. They need our protection. We can't give up on them now. Please allow the foresters to do their work and protect the forest. Please vote against HB 1902.

Aloha,

J. B. Friday

Hilo, Hawai'i

FIN-Jo

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 1:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: brf@maui.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bruce R. Faulkner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I think everyone would agree that we need a balanced approach to managing all of our State's resources and this bill will address that concern.

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FIN-Jo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 3:46 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: d_wamar@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dustin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill. DLNR stole too much land from the people that is been fenced and eradicated free of ungulates. For what???? The land that they have they are doing nothing with! It's all overgrown and lifeless! No invasive plant removal nothing! So why did they have to remove ungulates??? I am 24 years old and I have seen a lot of changes over the years and nothing for the better. A forest with pigs to till the ground and keep the weeds under control is a healthy forest. A mountain with sheep and goats that inhabit them is beautiful. Grass and weeds are kept short due to the grazing of our ungulates, therefore fire hazard are brought down and weeds that tangle mamane trees are under control. Us Hunters and gatherers are being robbed of our natural resources and we can't stand to see anymore stolen from us. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!!!

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Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 7:58 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: surf77@mac.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

LATE

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ROBERT DUERR	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Gov Abercrombie and DLNR are misguided with the cruel and unusual slaughter and eradication of the Pua'a, the wild pig. The Ahu'pua'a is the basic conservation district of Hawaii...it is the place of the pig. We need management plans and conservation controls not fencing and eradication. The forest is sacred stop making it a corral. No more taking of public lands for the cruel snaring slaughter of the pua'a. The pua'a has a long and deep history in Hawaii. IT is honored as a sustainable food source.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 8:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dakujaku001@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM



HB1902

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JoAnne Dakujaku	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hunting not only provides recreation & food for Hawaii's people, It also provides great family time. Time well spent with children and parents = keeping kids off of the streets and not getting into trouble. It also creates everlasting memories that can never be re-created. Our family of 5 has spent countless hours hunting together. You don't understand the joy and happiness it brings a person until you have tried it yourself, and unfortunately, there are many people out there who are too closed minded to even give it a try. We live on an island where drugs are everywhere and there is not much to do since it costs an arm and a leg to fly to an outer island or to the mainland, why not give our children the opportunity to be exposed to something positive that they can do without having to hang out on the streets exposed to those dangers or without having to spend a lot of money that we don't have? We support HB1902, It is in the best interest of the people of Hawaii and our future generations to come. We need to find a way to work together, not again st each other. Mahalo for your time.

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Hawaii Rifle Association

State Affiliate of the National Rifle Association

Founded in 1857

February 21, 2014

LATE

Supplemental Testimony

HB 1902, HD1, IN SUPPORT

Before FIN, Friday, February 21, 2014, Rm308, 12:00noon

Hon. Chair and Members,

Hunting is not a sport. It is a *heritage*, older than our species. Our distant ancestors hunted before they made tools, learned agriculture, or built cities. Hunting with tools defines our species.

Ethical hunters respect non-hunters and have reasonable expectations of the same from them.

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) estimated in November 2009 that approximately three to four million animals are killed yearly in shelters across the United States. PETA does run an “animal shelter” at its headquarters. And [PETA kills the vast majority of cats and dogs in its care](#) at this shelter—about 90 percent, or 1,647 cats and dogs, in 2012 and about 30,000 animals since 1998. HSUS explains there is no other way to manage unwanted animals.

Likewise, lawful ethical hunters harvest only surplus animals, the ones that would damage habitat and develop starvation or disease if allowed to propagate beyond the carrying capacity of a habitat area. Without public hunting, the government must hire contract hunters to reduce surplus animals, and the meat may be wasted.

Game animal meat is healthful, lower in fat and cholesterol. Hunting for sustenance is important in Hawaii.

Food Self-Sufficiency. Baseline 2012. Prepared for *Hawai'i County* Department of Research and Development. Prepared by. University of *Hawai'i* at Hilo. Feral Pig, Sheep and Goats
Recreational and subsistence hunters kill nearly 10,000 feral pigs, sheep and goats annually on Hawai'i Island. Most of this harvest is unrecorded. A more expanded discussion of this local food supply can be found in Section 6 of this report. The meat contribution of pig, sheep and goat hunting is represented in Figure 4 as an estimate of the amount of meat that is gathered informally by local hunters that is in excess of 400,000 pounds per year or the meat equivalent of over 900 head of cattle annually
http://geodata.sdal.hilo.hawaii.edu/techgis/coh/BASELINE_FOOD_SUSTAINABILITY_WEB.pdf

An actual letter-to-the-editor comment by an anti-hunting advocate: “We should all buy our fish and meat at Safeway, where no animals are hurt.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the Hawaii Rifle Association.

Dr. Maxwell Cooper, HRA Legislative Liaison



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 4:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: KCLegislature@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelvin Ching	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I support this with amendments. It is important for us to be able to hunt safely and legally to provide food for our families. Elimination of hunting areas will create hardships for those of us who live off the land. We also help feed those who are less fortunate. This will lead to more burden on government, taxpayers, and non-profit organizations who help feed the hungry. Just this week my wife told me a co worker is in the process of selling his house to leave the island because he can't make ends meet and oftentimes goes hungry. I took fish and meat out of my freezer and gave it to his family. By the way, they are teachers. Respectfully, Kelvin Ching

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FIN-Jo

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 5:32 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: JessiHallman@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jessica Hallman Behnke	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Evans and Members of the Committee, I oppose HB 1902 because it does not appear to take into account the devastating impact that introduced ungulates have had and continue to have on Hawai'i's native plants and animals. In fact, there is no mention of the imbalance between hundreds of thousands of acres of designated hunting land and the small areas, by comparison, that have been set aside to be protected in an attempt to ensure the survival of those remaining Hawaiian species into the future. Our conservation efforts are likely too little too late. The last thing the unique biota of Hawai'i need now is the loss of their last strongholds. In the interest of preserving what is left for future Hawaiian generations, please join me in opposing this bill. Mahalo nui loa, Jessica Hallman Behnke

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To: FINTestimony
Cc: edabbot1@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM*

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Abbot	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 9:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mizuno@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM
Attachments: opposition to HB1902.pdf



HB1902

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melinda Mizuno	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am in strong opposition to HB 1902 which would compromise the native-dominated natural areas upon which we all rely for clean water, fresh air and cultural practices. 90% of all DLNR lands (900,000 acres) are already designated for public hunting. These areas have actually increased by 5% in the past decade. This bill will not help the hunting community with its need for more access, it will merely allow our native forest - which has already been reduced significantly over time due to invasive species, development and agriculture - to slowly disappear until there is no more "Hawaii" in a Hawaiian forest. While a bill like this might make sense in other states with other ecosystems, it in no way makes sense for or in Hawaii. Thank you for considering my opposition.

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Cc: rezentesc@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM



HB1902

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia K.L. Rezentes	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Luke and members of the Finance Committee, I submit these comments for consideration of mandating a net zero loss of public hunting lands. While this might be the desire of the hunters to guarantee what they believe would be adequate hunting access, I would ask you to consider that this bill is mathematically un-doable with the current amount of acreage that is controlled by DLNR. By taking some lands out and needing to replace those acres with acre for acre loss, DLNR would quickly come to the position of not being able to manage lands for conservation or species protection purposes without acquiring additional lands from private landowners or negotiating with private landowners for the use of their lands for hunting. Therefore, there needs to be a balance struck between hunting and conservation/preservation without placing such un-manageable restrictions on the DLNR to do what they are tasked to do for the continuing overall health of the watersheds which directly contribute to our health by having these healthy watersheds allowing for production of much needed drinking water. Mahalo for your consideration of these comments.

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 Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 11:42 AM
 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: mldudley@hawaii.edu
 Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melanie Dudley	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: If this bill was passed, it would be devastating to our native forest ecosystems. We already do not have enough native forest. There needs to be more of a balance, but I do not think that hunters should be hunting in forests that have the same quality as those being protected/fenced as ungulates are the main cause of habitat destruction and loss. This bill does not fix the problem. Public hunting areas have increased by 5% in the past decade. A better compromise needs to be found between the hunting community and the conservation community, but this bill simply does not address the problem and is not the right solution.

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 To: FINTestimony
 Cc: mldudley@hawaii.edu
 Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1902 on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM

HB1902

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 12:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melanie Dudley	Individual	Oppose	No

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