

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

**Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND**

**Monday, March 24, 2014
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 227
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
TO SUBMIT A FINANCIAL REPORT ON THE COSTS OF
MANAGING WAO KELE O PUNA**

House Concurrent Resolution 227 requests that the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) submit a financial report on the costs of managing Wao Kele O Puna. **The Department has the following comments.**

The 25,856 acre Wao Kele O Puna Reserve has several important natural and cultural resources in need of protection. The Department is working closely with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to assure the proper management of Wao Kele O Puna. The Department continues to work towards the transition where OHA will have full management responsibility of the area by 2016 target. Over the past year, more management activities have shifted to OHA staff. The Department continues to support these efforts. The Department has shared all of its financial information with OHA and continue to work cooperatively.

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

JESSE K. SOUKI
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
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