

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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**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 228
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE EXISTENCE OF SANDALWOOD ON THE MAJOR
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.**

House Concurrent Resolution 228 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to conduct studies related to sandalwood for each of the major Hawaiian Islands. **The Department supports the concept of this resolution and offers the following comments:**

Information pertaining to harvested sandalwood that is sold internationally or shipped out of state is available through the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the Department has reviewed this information as far back as 2010. Any harvesting of sandalwood in the Conservation District zone is regulated through the Department's Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands.

The only commercial harvest of sandalwood occurring in the State are located in the South Kona area of Hawaii Island, and the Department has visited and is familiar with both operations. The Department believes that sustainable commercial harvest of sandalwood has the potential to encourage investment in restoration and management of these highly valuable trees.

The Department agrees that an inventory and distribution survey of Hawaiian sandalwood, especially those on Hawaii Island, is needed to determine the impact of current harvest and extent of restoration that may be needed. There are several methods that can be used to conduct these kinds of surveys and the Department feels the best and most inexpensive method involves high resolution remote sensing. The estimate to conduct such surveys on Hawaii Island is approximately \$1,000,000.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to support this resolution should adequate funds be made available.

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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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
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HCR228

Submitted on: 3/21/2014

Testimony for WAL on Mar 24, 2014 10:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Matson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support HCR 228. There are several sandalwood trees on the exterior of Diamond Head Crater. Mahalo!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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