

GM 727

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
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BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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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

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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE**

**Monday, April 18, 2016
2:50 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 727
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE NATURAL
AREA RESERVES SYSTEM COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, ROBIN
NEWBOLD, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2020**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports
Governor's Message 727, nominating Robin Newbold to the Natural Area Reserves System
Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2020.**

Pursuant to Section 195-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), the Natural Area Reserves System Commission (Commission) shall: (1) Establish criteria to be used in determining whether an area is suitable for inclusion with the reserves system; (2) Conduct studies of areas for possible inclusion within the reserves system; (3) Recommend to the Governor and the Department areas suitable for inclusion within the reserves system; (4) Establish policies and criteria regarding the management, protection, and permitted uses of areas which are part of the reserves system; (5) Advise the Governor and the Department on any matter relating to the preservation of Hawaii's unique natural resources; (6) Develop ways and means of extending and strengthening presently established preserves, sanctuaries, and refuges within the State; (7) Advise the Department and other public agencies managing state-owned land or natural resources regarding areas under their respective jurisdictions which are or may be appropriate for designation as natural area reserves; and (8) In carrying out the above duties, consult the most comprehensive up-to-date compilation of scientific data on the communities of natural flora and fauna of Hawaii.

Ms. Robin Newbold meets the requirements as one of six members with scientific qualifications and an academic degree. Ms. Newbold graduated from Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh,

Pennsylvania, received a Master of Education Degree in Biological Sciences from the University of California, Irvine, and a Master of Science Degree specializing in Marine Biology also from the University of California, Irvine. Ms. Newbold has had a varied and active career, with an extensive background in marine-oriented field work on other islands in the Pacific, as well as Hawai'i. She has been most actively involved on Maui as a Research Assistant on the Coral Reef Research Project and Co-Founder, Vice Chair, and Chair of the Maui Nui Marine Research Council. Her extensive marine background and links to many other marine organizations bring an important perspective to the Commission.

The Department strongly supports the appointment of Ms. Robin Newbold to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this nomination.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jgorman@mauiocenter.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM727 on Apr 18, 2016 14:50PM
Date: Friday, April 15, 2016 11:27:54 AM

GM727

Submitted on: 4/15/2016

Testimony for WLA on Apr 18, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
john gorman	maui ocean center	Support	No

Comments: I support the appointment of Robin Newbold to the NARSC for a second term. Robin is an excellent biologist, motivated by the ocean issues that affect us all on the Island of Maui. She is a motivated and trustworthy leader in the ocean community, who is able to build bridges between activists, government and the private sector,

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: abtarr@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM727 on Apr 18, 2016 14:50PM
Date: Friday, April 15, 2016 1:58:05 AM

GM727

Submitted on: 4/15/2016

Testimony for WLA on Apr 18, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Tarr	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support Robin Newbold's nomination to serve on the NARSC for a second term

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To: Office of the Governor
Boards and Commissions

From: Edwin "Ekolu" Lindsey

Re: Recommendation for Robin Newbold to Natural Areas Reserve Commission

Date: April 15, 2016

I highly recommend Robin Newbold be appointed to the Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Commission.

I have known Robin since 2009 as the Co-Founder and Chair of the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council. She was integral in the foundation of the Community Managed Makai Area creation on Maui and is one of the founding members of the Maui Nui Makai Network. Her passion and expertise of Marine Ecosystems, ability to effectively manage relationships/partnerships, and exceptional communication skills will ensure pono conservation/preservation of marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

Robin has been a catalyst in the creation of our Polanui Hiu Community Managed Makai Area here in Lahaina. Her support of time, treasure, and expertise has helped to produce a community group that is seeking a CBSFA designation under the DLNR rule making process.

She is a leader and well respected within the community. I highly recommend her appointment without reservations. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edwin Lindsey".

Edwin "Ekolu" Lindsey
Polanui Hiu – Facilitator
Email: PolanuiHiu@Hawaii.rr.com

April 14, 2016

To: Senator Mike Gabbard
Chair, Hawai'i Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

From: John M. Sinton, Chair
Natural Area Reserves System Commission

Re: Nomination of Robin Newbold to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission

As Chair of the State of Hawai'i, Natural Area Reserves Commission, I offer my strongest support for the nomination of Robin Newbold to serve a second term on the Commission. Commissioner Newbold presently serves as one of six Governor-appointed commissioners with scientific background. With a specialty in marine biology and marine resources, Robin brings a critical specialty to our deliberations. As a resident of Maui she has long been involved with the conservation of the 'Āhihi Kina'u Natural Area Reserve, and has been an important voice in commission matters concerning this most intensely visited area. She has been a frequent volunteer for commission tasks, and consistently offers conscientious input to our deliberations. The reappointment of Robin Newbold will allow the Commission to continue with its business of advising the Governor and Board of Land and Natural resources, seeking a balance between all the various expectations. I strongly support this nomination.



From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: keolani2@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM727 on Apr 18, 2016 14:50PM
Date: Friday, April 15, 2016 10:32:42 AM

GM727

Submitted on: 4/15/2016

Testimony for WLA on Apr 18, 2016 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lisa Agdeppa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Robin Newbold's nomination to serve on the NARSC for a 2nd term Lisa Agdeppa

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From: [Rock Riggs](#)
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: Support Reappointment of Robin Newbold to NARS Commission
Date: Friday, April 15, 2016 2:27:31 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: wam5 - Caroline On Behalf Of WAM Testimony
Sent: Friday, April 15, 2016 2:20 PM
To: Rock Riggs
Subject: FW: Support Reappointment of Robin Newbold to NARS Commission

Forwarding testimony for GM727.
Caroline

-----Original Message-----

From: Lucienne de Naie [<mailto:laluz@maui.net>]
Sent: Friday, April 15, 2016 12:05 AM
To: WAM Testimony
Subject: Support Reappointment of Robin Newbold to NARS Commission

Please support Ms Newbold to be reappointed to the NARS Commission.

She is well qualified, as a marine environment educator and leader in conservation management policy.

She is also very conscientious and dedicated to anything she undertakes.

Mahalo for your consideration

Lucienne de Naie
Huelo, Maui, HI

**Response to Questionnaire from Senator Mike Gabbard
Robin Newbold, Marine Biologist
April 13, 2016**

Re: Nomination to the Natural Areas Reserve System Commission

(1) Why do you wish to be a member of the Natural Area Reserves System Commission?

I am grateful for Hawaii's commitment to protect our fragile and unique ecosystems by establishing a Natural Area Reserves System and would like to support that effort by continuing to serve on the NARS Commission. During the past four years on the Commission my expertise in marine biology has brought a unique perspective to the Commission, and my active involvement in conservation issues at the community, county and federal level has been helpful.

I was appointed in June, 2012, have greatly enjoyed serving, and would appreciate the opportunity to continue for another term. I've been a long time proponent of natural area reserves as they have proven to be an effective way to protect natural resources worldwide.

(2) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a member of the Natural Area Reserves System Commission?

My perception of a member's role on the Commission is to provide guidance, oversight and support for management and acquisition efforts; to insure fiscal responsibility of state funds; and to address and help resolve conflicts that arise.

A member's responsibility is to become familiar with the 20 natural area reserves, to attend and participate in NARS commission meetings, to insure that Hawaii's natural area reserves are protected and managed properly, and that the goals of the commission are achieved. That would include providing support for education and outreach efforts, monitoring, research, habitat restoration, and addressing threats from invasive species.

(3) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a member of the Natural Area Reserves System Commission, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a member of the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.

During the past four years of serving on the NARS Commission I have learned a lot about Hawaii's Natural Area Reserves, gotten to know the staff and other commissioners, and the nuances and issues at many of the reserves. Thus I feel qualified to continue to serve and actively participate in the discussions and difficult decisions we're often asked to make.

Skills, experience and knowledge that qualify me for this position and which have helped me fulfill the role and responsibilities of the Natural Area Reserves System Commission are my:

- Experience serving on the NARS Commission for the past four years
- Ability to work well with others, to compromise and resolve conflict
- Dedication to conservation of Hawaii's resources
- Leadership experience as a professor, underwater researcher, and now Chair of the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council for the past seven years.
- Teaching experience - having been a Professor for 20 years
- Representation of Maui County on the National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council
- Masters degrees in both education and marine biology
- Underwater, scientific research in California, Hawaii, Micronesia, Australia, Phoenix and Line Islands
- Diverse contacts and good working relationships on Maui and statewide with community members, fishers, educators, conservationists, scientists and government employees at all levels
- Administration of grants from federal, state and local agencies and non-profits
- Understanding of the connection between healthy reefs, rain forests, functioning watersheds, open space, native species, clean ocean water, flowing streams
- Ability to connect diverse groups for a common cause
- Facilitation of meetings
- Fiscal responsibility, accounting, and money management
- Fair and balanced perspective

(4) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

My personal goals are to contribute my knowledge and experience to the protection of Hawaii's natural resources; to promote scientific research and monitoring while honoring cultural traditions; and to increase public awareness of our natural area reserves and their importance to our island state.

I would like the Natural Area Reserve System, and the individual reserves, to be stronger and healthier when my term is finished.

And I would particularly like to represent sensitive issues at Ahihi Kina'u Natural Area Reserve and the goals of the Ahihi Kina'u Advisory Group to the Commission as I spend a lot of time in the reserve SCUBA diving and snorkeling, and am able to provide expertise on the marine related issues peculiar to that reserve.

(5) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the Natural Area Reserves System Commission?

- I'm dedicated to conservation of Hawaii's precious natural resources and understand that they support all life in our islands.

- I'm a marine biologist living on Maui who understands the importance of native rain forests, functioning watersheds, sustainable development, clean water, flowing streams and healthy coral reefs to island life
- I'm able to work well with a wide variety of people from different backgrounds and varying needs and interests.

I believe these qualities, along with the skills, experience and knowledge mentioned in Question #3 above, will allow me to fulfill the role and responsibilities of the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.

(6) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the Natural Area Reserves System Commission?

Co-founding and chairing the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council in 2007 has

- greatly increased my understanding of Hawaii's diverse and inter-related ecosystems
- introduced me to a broad cross-section of community members
- allowed me to work side-by-side with fishermen, native Hawaiians, and community members from diverse backgrounds
- provided an opportunity to manage grants and oversee projects
- improved my leadership skills
- connected me to people within local, state and federal government
- provided the opportunity to participate in the Palau-Hawaii learning exchange where we saw and experienced the benefits of conservation efforts to the coral reefs, local economy and well being of the people.

I believe these experiences with the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, in addition to my training as a marine biologist, experience in scientific research, career as a professor, personality, and background will allow me to continue to make significant contributions to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.

(7) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on the Natural Area Reserves System Commission? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

I do not foresee any conflicts of interest, as I am not employed or beholden to any other person or organization. I chair the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council and participate on the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary as a volunteer. My only interest is to support efforts to protect and preserve Hawaii's environment for future generations.

If such a conflict were to arise, I would excuse myself from both the discussion and vote.

Thank you for your consideration of my application.

