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GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committees on
WATER & LAND
and
AGRICULTURE

Thursday, February 18, 2016
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2038, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE ALOHA+ CHALLENGE

House Bill 2038, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate funds for the natural resource, clean energy, and green workforce goals of the Aloha+ Challenge. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure provided that this appropriation does not adversely impact appropriations for other priorities in the Executive Budget request or any existing Department appropriated funding.**

This proposal would expand on the Administration's budget request that increases funding for priority natural resource programs. Funds would be further multiplied, based on these programs' historic minimal match of 1:1 dollars leveraged with non-State sources.

The once every 4 year International Union for the Conservation of Nature's World Conservation Congress (Congress) highlights the hosting countries' excellence in conservation laws and practices. Hawaii's commitment to hosting this globally important Congress in September 2016, and its commitment to sustainability through the Aloha+ Challenge, could enhance important international collaboration, research and funding opportunities for Hawaii. This Congress will also allow Hawaii to showcase the techniques and challenges we face, thus highlighting research, new technologies and funding needs.

The following are Aloha+ target-based examples of programs and projects that additional funding could enable and support; all of which are scalable depending on availability of funds.

Part II: Access, Easements, Trails, Outdoor Recreation Improvements, Environmental Education

The Department's access and environmental education programs connect residents and visitors to Hawaii's natural areas, iconic scenery, and access to important cultural and management areas. Increased funding for these programs would allow:

- Increase trail & road maintenance. The 2015 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan identified hiking as the #1 land based activity in Hawaii. The Na Ala Hele Trails and Access Program manages 124 trails and roads (855 miles statewide), some of which are potentially hazardous due to overuse from hundreds of thousands of users per year.
- Expand activities for a broader array of stakeholders including: mountain bikers, horseback riders, 4 wheel drivers, motor cross, etc.
- Create new hunting areas statewide by securing more permanent access agreements. This will allow hunters to help keep feral ungulate populations in check, as well as help keep highly flammable vegetation down that reduces wildfire severity.
- Develop stronger educational programs in rural areas through internships, volunteer activities and educational curriculum development.

Part III: Watershed Protection

Protecting forested watersheds is one of the Department's top priorities. New climate change studies forecast a 10%-45% decline in rainfall in the mid to late 21st century, making forest protection more urgent than ever.

- The availability and affordability of fresh water is so dependent on Hawaii's forests that economists estimate investments in forest protection have a 50:1 benefit to cost ratio.
- This funding would protect over 110,000 acres and plant over 22,000 trees.

Part IV: Conservation and Resources Enforcement Program

This funding would expand and lengthen a successful and innovative pilot program that involves local communities. The lessons learned from this program could be used to expand these efforts statewide. Education and enforcement are essential to preserve Hawaii's threatened fisheries.

Part V: Invasive Species Control

The Department is the administrative host of the interagency Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC), which funds critical invasive species prevention, control, outreach, and research projects that fill gaps between existing agency programs or develop new tools and methodologies.

- In Fiscal Year 2016, the legislature provided \$4,750,000 to the HISC that support important projects, including the work of the UH Invasive Species Committees, little fire ant control, Rapid Ohia Death monitoring, and an interagency response to the coconut rhinoceros beetle infestation.
- The HISC has worked with partners to develop FY17 pre-proposals illustrating what could be achieved depending on available funds. Pre-proposals totaled \$10,000,000 and can found on the HISC website: <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/projects/fy17/>

Part VI: Native Species Restoration

This request will provide capacity to manage endangered species initiatives for which Federal grants are available to match. The recovery of these incredibly unique plants and wildlife is dependent on increased and sustained funding.

- The Alala (Hawaiian crow) has been extinct in the wild since 2002. State funds are needed to leverage non-state funds to support the release of the Alala into the wild in September 2016.
- It is necessary to expand and refurbish aviaries for the Keauhou Bird Conservation Center and the Maui Bird Conservation Center, which accommodates 2 additional species to the captive breeding program.
- Funds are needed to support a collaborative effort between the Department of Transportation and the Division of Forestry and Wildlife to mitigate bird aircraft strike hazards statewide.
- Due to an increase in size and frequency in wildfires, it is necessary to plan for emergencies by supporting the Wildfire Contingency Fund that is used during any emergency situations.

Part VII: Forest Reserve Management

Forests are increasingly threatened by invasive species and fire cycles. Reducing heavy fuel loads through forest biomass thinning and removal is a cost effective way to lower the risk of catastrophic fires that cost millions of dollars to mitigate.

- The average annual number of fires that burn over 100 acres in Hawaii has increased five-fold in the past 40 years. These burned areas can be harvested to provide wood for bioenergy, local needs and restored as productive forests.
- Funds are needed to launch a pilot volunteer carbon market project on Hawaii Island. If successful, this project could not only finance reforestation of a degraded forest area but also provide a long-term revenue source for other natural resource needs.
- Private landowners make up 66% of the forest owners in Hawaii. On average the Department's landowner assistance programs receive 2:1 in match from non-state dollars. Providing modest incentive programs for private forest landowners is important for the overall health and productivity of Hawaii's forest. A small increase in private landowner assistance programs will increase forest protection, conservation and productivity well beyond the state dollars invested.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

SHAN TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

1151 PUNCHBOWL ST, #325
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

VOTING MEMBERS

SUZANNE CASE
DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL
RESOURCES

SCOTT ENRIGHT
HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

KEITH KAWAOKA D.Env.
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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LEO ASUNCION
OFFICE OF PLANNING, DEPARTMENT OF
BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &
TOURISM

DAVID RODRIGUEZ
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON WATER AND LAND AND AGRICULTURE

11:00 AM, Thursday, February 18, 2016
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

HOUSE BILL 2038 RELATING TO THE ALOHA+ CHALLENGE

House Bill 2038 would appropriate funds to support the natural resource management goals of the Aloha+ Challenge. **The Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in the Executive Budget request.**

The Aloha+ Challenge is a series of sustainability goals supported by the Hawaii State Legislature, the Governor of Hawaii, the mayors of each of the counties, and the CEO of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. The Aloha+ Challenge goal relating to natural resource management aims to reverse the trend of resource loss by, among other actions, mitigating invasive species introduction and establishment.

The HISC asked partners in the field of invasive species prevention and control to develop pre-proposals for Fiscal Year 2017 to illustrate projects that could be achieved, depending on available funds. These pre-proposals, which include research support for Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death mitigation, new biocontrol research, and expanded detection and response projects, are described in detail at <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/projects/fy17/>.

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CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96843



February 18, 2016

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Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
and Members
Committee on Water and Land

and

The Honorable Clift Tsuji, Chair
and Members
Committee on Agriculture

House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 312
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Yamane and Tsuji and Members:

Subject: House Bill 2038, HD1 Relating to The Aloha+ Challenge

We support House Bill 2038, HD1, which provides appropriations to support the natural resources, clean energy, and green workforce goals of the Aloha+ Challenge. We support the protection of watersheds that provides and replenishes freshwater supplies. The protection of our forested watersheds will ensure our groundwater supplies will be sustainable for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony on House Bill 2038, HD1.

Very truly yours,

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer



Conservation Council
for Hawai'i

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the House Committee on Water and Land
And House Committee on Agriculture

Hearing: Thursday, February 18, 2016 11 am
Conference Room 312

Support for HB 2038 HD 1 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge

Chair Yamane, Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Cullen, Vice Chair Onishi, and Members of the Committee.

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports HB 2038 HD 1, which appropriates funds for the natural resource, clean energy, and green workforce goals of the Aloha+ Challenge.

We support adequate funding for outdoor recreation trails, the Natural Area Reserves and watersheds, and a permanent Community Fisheries Enforcement Unit. Outdoor recreation, the reserves, watershed protection, and fisheries management are among the most important, yet underfunded programs of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Further, these programs are focused on protecting ceded land (mauka and makai) and public trust resources.

With all due respect, the State is not doing enough to protect and properly manage ceded land (mauka and submerged) and public trust resources. We are concerned about the condition of these lands for use and enjoyment by future generations.

Please support HB 2038 HD 1 and start funding critical DLNR programs to protect our public trust resources adequately.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marjorie Ziegler".

Marjorie Ziegler



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."

Supporting HB 2038 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge*
House Committee on Water and Land
House Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, February 18, 2016, 11:00AM, Room 312

The Kaua`i Watershed Alliance strongly supports HB 2038 which if passed will appropriate funds for natural resources, clean energy and green work force goals of the Aloha Challenge.

The Kaua`i Watershed Alliance (KWA) has been actively managing portions of the mauka watershed on Kaua`i since 2003. Its members which include DLNR (DOFAW and Land Management Div.) 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. The Alliance also understands the importance of supporting local jobs and contractors.

In the past several years the Alliance has worked on fences, ungulate removal and invasive weed control in Priority One watershed areas in Kauai's mauka forests and watersheds:

2,000 ac., East Alakai Summit Fenced Unit – Feral Ungulates removed; fence, vegetation recovery, ungulate ingress monitored.

- 5,000 ac.; Wainiha valley fenced – Feral Ungulate removal in process, vegetation and fence monitored.
- 1,600 ac., Halehaha Fence Project (eastern Alaka'i) – Planning, permitting, alignment complete; construction in process; partial funding 2013 CIP money granted by the legislature in 2013.
- 2000 ac., two additional Fence Projects (Drinking Glass, Koaie) - Planning, permitting, proposed alignments complete, waiting on available funding; these fences are contiguous with the Halehaha unit.
- 8,000 ac., Wainiha, Lumahai valleys & portions of the Alaka'i - Invasive populations primarily of Australian tree fern, strawberry guava, Kahili ginger that threaten Priority One watersheds have been treated.

The watershed protection and invasive species programs supported with state funds may be leveraged with matching funds from county, federal and private sources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supportive testimony.

Mahalo.



7370 Kuamo'o Road • Kapa'a • Hawaii • 96746 • 808-821-1490 • www.kauaiisc.org

February 16, 2016

Testimony of Bill Lucey – Manager - Kauai Invasive Species Committee

HB2038

Hearing: Friday, February 18, 2016

11:00 AM

Conference Room 312

Testimony in **SUPPORT**

Aloha Chairs Evans and Wooly, Vice Chairs Lowen and Onishi and committee members,

The Kauai Invasive Species Committee enthusiastically supports HB2038.

Our organization focuses on incipient invasive species. We have eradicated coqui frog from Kauai, though re-introductions are constant requiring continued vigilance. Little-fire ant is almost eradicated as well as miconia. Consistent funding from similar bills has generated these Kauai successes; protecting biodiversity, property values and high quality tourist experiences.

We face a continuing stream of new invasions and our team of dedicated professionals is on the job year round identifying potential threats, assisting HDOA in rapid response and working with a large network of partners across the spectrum including many programs in DLNR. Our shared goals are to provide clean water flowing through highly productive balanced ecosystems in order to benefit both the people and wild residents of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Bill Lucey
Project Manager
Kauai Invasive Species Committee
University of Hawaii



The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i Program
923 Nu'uuanu Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96817

Tel (808) 537-4508
Fax (808) 545-2019
nature.org/hawaii

Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting H.B. 2038 HD1 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge
House Committee on Water and Land
House Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, February 18, 2016, 11:00AM, Room 312

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 depends. The Conservancy has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. We manage 40,000 acres in 14 preserves and work in 19 coastal communities to help protect the near-shore reefs and waters of the main Hawaiian Islands. We forge partnerships with government, private parties and communities to protect Hawai'i's important watershed forests and coral reefs.

The Nature Conservancy supports H.B. 2038 HD1 which would provide core funding support for the Department of Land and Natural Resources' (DLNR) critical forest, invasive species, and marine resources enforcement programs.

Healthy Hawaiian forests that are not overrun by invasive species act like a sponge, collecting rain and moisture, slowly delivering fresh water into streams and aquifers, absorbing greenhouse gases, and reducing runoff and siltation into near shore waters. These forests are also an important storehouse for Hawai'i's globally unique cultural and ecological heritage. However, UH's 2011 Rainfall Atlas catalogues a century of declining rainfall that is worse in recent decades. Last summer, temperature records were broken across the state and a record number of storms took aim at Hawai'i. In 2014, tropical storm Iselle hit Hawai'i island hard. Fallen albizia trees left Puna a quagmire of damaged houses, blocked roads and downed power lines. At the same time, native 'ōhi'a and koa forests in the area were virtually undamaged. These same native forests are also showing that they are better at capturing rain water and recharging aquifers than invasive species. Protecting and enhancing the health and function of Hawai'i's forests from the threats of invasive species, severe weather and declining rainfall is one of the most important and effective things we can do to ensure a stable and productive environment for our future.

Invasive weeds, insects, diseases, snakes, and other pests are one of the greatest threats to Hawaii's economy, agriculture, natural environment, and the health and lifestyle of its people. With favorable conditions and limited competition, non-native species arrive in the Hawaiian Islands to find an easy environment in which to thrive. The Hawai'i Invasive Species Council provides a comprehensive, statewide approach to invasive species policy and funding including prevention, early detection, control, research and education programs. This effort necessarily results in important coordination, collaboration, and prioritization amongst government agencies and partners based on a variety of issues including human health, safety and well-being, economic and agricultural harm, and the threat to the health and function of the natural environment.

There is widespread agreement amongst a variety of stakeholders that Hawaii's fragile environment is in need of improved compliance, enforcement and prosecution of violations of our State natural resource laws. A 2006 State Auditor's report concludes that DLNR Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) officers are spread too thin and lack the equipment they need to do their jobs. This situation has not substantially improved in the ensuing ten years. Against this backdrop, a number of communities across the state have been organizing themselves to become more directly involved in the care and management of their natural resources, particularly in coastal and near shore areas. Some communities have partnered with DOCARE to raise awareness of natural resource laws and to improve compliance with those laws. This bill offers necessary funds for DOCARE to expand the successful Community Fisheries Enforcement Unit (CFEU) program statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 13, 2016 12:12 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mklynch@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/13/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Lynch	Asia-Pacific Center for Regenerative Design	Support	No

Comments: The Aloha+ Challenge has gained international recognition for its work in coordinating a statewide public/private partnership to advance our state's sustainability goals. Investing in the natural resource management, clean energy, and green workforce goals of the Aloha+ Challenge is an investment into our future

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Testimony of the O'ahu Invasive Species Committee
Supporting HB 2038 HD1 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge
House Committee on Water & Land
House Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, February 18, 2016 11:00 AM Room 312

The O'ahu Invasive Species Committee supports HB 2038 HD1 which would support funding for invasive species, watershed protection, community fisheries management, recreation, native species restoration and fire protection. All these goals are part of the Aloha+ Challenge and Hawai'i's commitment to natural resource protection.

Natural resource and watershed protection are vital to the state's economy and its residents' quality of life. Without adequate supplies of fresh water, the state will not be able to support the sustainability goals for the Aloha+ Challenge nor will the chief economic activity in the state, tourism, be able to survive. And without healthy forests, the state's fresh water supply will be at risk. A multi-layered and textured forest is better at directing rain and fog drip into the islands' aquifers than bare earth or single-species stands of invasive trees that have eliminated the understory.

OISC is a beneficiary of grants from the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council and we are very grateful to the Legislature and the HISC for being so forward-thinking. OISC aims to eradicate incipient species island-wide before they ever have a chance to move upslope and become a chronic problem for other land managers. Our work is supported and complemented by that of the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, the Watershed Partnerships, and other natural resource management activities that would be supported by the funds from this bill.

We hope this bill are part of a long-term commitment on the part of the state to fully support the agencies entrusted with the protection of our natural resources. Although it would seem that nature should be able to take care of itself, we, the citizens that depend on the ecosystem services natural resources provide, put too much pressure on our state's natural systems for them to be able to function without help. Therefore, we urge this bill to pass not only to provide funds for the coming fiscal year, but as part of a long-term commitment to protect the natural resources on which all life in this state depends.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



The House of Representatives
Committee on Water & Land
Committee on Agriculture
February 18, 2016
11:00 a.m., Conference Room 312
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of HB 2038 HD1

Aloha Chairs Yamane and Tsuji, Vice Chairs Cullen and Onishi, and Members of the Committees,
The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **supports HB 2038 HD1**,
Relating to the Aloha + Challenge, which appropriates funds to support the natural resource, clean energy, and green workforce goals of the Aloha + Challenge.

The influx of invasive species and spread of existing pests, ever-increasing pressures on natural resources, and the urgent need to shift our society from carbon-based energy resources are all linked, as is the need to educate the next generation and engage them in local jobs that protect our islands. CGAPS participates in Hawai'i Green Growth, and we are a strong supporter of cross-cutting initiatives such as the Aloha + Challenge, where many different agencies, businesses, and individuals come together to identify common desires for our islands.

We respectfully ask your support HB 2038 HD1. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 2:47 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: elle.cochran@mauicounty.us
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM*

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elle Cochran	Maui County Council Member	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 2:47 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: amie.stokes@mauicounty.us
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM*

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amie M. Stokes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 7:11 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: melora.purell@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melora Purell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I think we need to step up to fulfill our commitment to support natural resource conservation in Hawai'i. The first rung of the ladder is to provide adequate funding. The next rungs of this ladder will be in the hands of the professional who can make it happen. Mahalo. Melora Purell

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To: waltestimony
Cc: wwmsteiner@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/12/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William W. Steiner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB 2038 in it's entirety. The bill should be expanded in the section on energy biomass to include trees that produce oils for bioenergy as this is a sustainable crop that not only removes carbon from the air while providing providing jobs, it does it in such a way to help suppress weedy invasive species. The term biomass in the bill appears to refer only to natural forest biomass which should not include native trees but might include albizia. This needs to be clarified.

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To: waltestimony
Cc: rnvfishing@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/16/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roy N Morioka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Honorable Chairs Yamane and Tsuji, Vice Chairs Cullen and Onishi, Members of the House Committees on WLA and AGR: While I support the intent of HB2372, I strongly OPPOSE PART IV Sections 6 and 7 of this proposed measure. PART IV places the proverbial “cart before the horse” unlike the positive initiatives of the other parts as proposed. It has gone too long that the DLNR/DAR has not received the appropriate funds and human resources to effectively employ science-based monitoring, assessment and management of our marine resources. The department and division have been relegated to rely on community comments and surveys to assess the health of our marine resources and a slippery slope if perpetuated with the potential of collapse of a resource critical to our State’ sustainability and survivability plans. I urge your committees to review and revise PART IV to follow the direction of the other two parts of the proposed measure and provide the DLNR/DAR with funds to effectively perform its charter and mandates using science-based resources before initiating enforcement actions or initiatives of dated and potentially in appropriate management measures. Mahalo for your consideration of my recommendation. Respectfully, Roy Morioka

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To: waltestimony
Cc: yamaguchd009@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/15/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis Yamaguchi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: The intent of bill HB2038 as a whole is fine. Part IV however gives private entities too much influence in enforcing Hawaii's natural resource laws. Until it is removed I will not support this.

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Hawai'i Green Growth is a public-private partnership that coordinates across government, non-governmental and cultural organizations, business, academia and philanthropy to achieve Hawai'i's Aloha+ Challenge 2030 sustainability goals.

Steering Committee

Deanna Spooner
June Matsumoto
Matt Lynch
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Mike Hamnett
Piia Aarma
Pono Shim
Scott Enright
Scott Seu
Ulalia Woodside
William J. Aila Jr.

**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth
In Support of HB2038 HD1 Relating to The Aloha+ Challenge
House Committee on Water and Land
House Committee on Agriculture
18 February 2016, 11:00am, Room 312**

Aloha Chairs Yamane and Tsuji and Members of the Committees:

Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) strongly supports HB2038 HD1 to provide critical, increased funding for the Department of Land and Natural Resources' programs on watershed protection, invasive species control, public access and education, community fisheries enforcement, and wildfire prevention and native plant and wildlife restoration.

Annual funding for natural resource management is essential to protecting Hawai'i's unique environment, improving the quality of life for residents and visitors, and maintaining important revenue streams in Hawai'i's economy. As the host of the upcoming IUCN World Conservation Congress in September 2016, this legislative session is an important opportunity for Hawai'i to showcase leadership on sustainable development and conservation.

Watershed protection and invasive species management significantly increases water availability by ensuring that our forests function to effectively absorb rain, deliver it into streams and aquifers, and decrease erosion and siltation, which also benefits our reefs and fisheries. This is especially urgent in the face of climate change and projected long-term decline in rainfall. Protection of Hawai'i's coastal communities, ocean resources and fisheries is also critical; funding will allow DLNR to expand successful community-based pilot projects with the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement.

The *Aloha+ Challenge* is a statewide commitment by the State Legislature (SCR 69), Governor, Mayors and Office of Hawaiian Affairs launched in 2014 that identifies six ambitious, yet achievable sustainability goals for 2030 in the areas of clean energy, local food production, natural resource management, solid waste reduction, smart growth and climate resilience, green jobs and education. The *Aloha+ Challenge* was internationally recognized by the US State Department and Global Island Partnership at the UN Conference on Small Island Developing States in Samoa, and serves as a local model for action on the recently adopted UN Sustainable Development Goals. HB2038 HD1 will help advance action on the *Aloha+ Challenge* natural resource management goal to reverse the trend of natural resource loss by increasing fresh water, watershed protection, invasive species control, native species restoration and marine management.

As a public-private partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth supports HB2038 HD1 to help drive implementation on the Aloha+ Nature goal, and demonstrate the state's commitment and investment in natural resource management to national and international conservation partners at the World Conservation Congress and beyond.

LATE



***Hawaii Hunting Association
To Protect & Promote Sustainable
Public Hunting in Hawaii***

HB2038 – HD1

House of Representatives
The Twenty Eighth Legislature
Regular Session of 2016
February 18, 2016

Committees on Water and Land; Agriculture
Conference Room 312, February 18, 2016; 11:00 AM.

Dear Chairs and Committee Members,

Hawaii Hunting Association **Opposes with comment HB2038 – HD1.**

The Hawaii County Game Management Advisory Commission was created primarily in frustration to the DLNR's lack of a cogent management plan that satisfies Hawaii's unique environments, Hawaii's residents and ignores important revenue potentials that could source millions upon millions of dollars to Hawaii, yet we beg year after year for money to support these environmental penchants.

There are other jobs that need funding besides just GREEN JOBS here in Hawaii, jobs that also involve the productive use of our natural resources, including game. Hunting is an outdoor recreational activity that has been supplanted and ignored in favor of other forest goals and programs at the expense of the local residents. The very fact that the State has ignored the financial potential of tourist hunting for Hawaii and a means of helping to secure funding for just such programs as outlined here, is shameful.

Game is considered a NATURAL RESOURCE in our Constitution, and as such demands special attention as DLNR has eroded their numbers and habitat to the point of it being a crisis, and any monies expended on the watershed and other programs regarding our forest lands **should include monies for the management and planning of how to keep a proportional balance of these game resources.**

16-1596 Keaau Paho Road; Keaau, Hi 96749
hawaiihuntingassociation@hawaiiantel.net
(808) 982-4747

Water. We have a 6,594 million gallons per day of rain recharge on the Big Island (2011 Water-Budget Model and Assessment of Groundwater Recharge for the Island of Hawai'i, by the USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2011–5078). This is about half our rainfall.

The very idea that we are going to increase rainfall and recharge through reforestation to any significant degree with NATIVE PLANTS is a myth. If you are thinking about increasing recharge, you need to plant the likes of Cook's Pine, not ohia or Koa.

If you replaced every alien plant island wide with a native the net overall increase in recharge would be 1%. The aquifer systems with the largest increases, Honokaa, Hawi and Paauilo, gain 12, 11, and 10 percent, respectively (page 38). In areas you get recharge, the average gain would be 6%. Millions of dollars spent and no gain in overall recharge. Let's manage our game as part of this ambitious document instead.

The 2011 Water-Budget Model suggests that the Big Island "Recent projections of change in rainfall owing to effects of ongoing climate change generally indicate a slight **increase in island wide rainfall, and estimates of annual recharge in the late 21st century are higher than baseline estimates for every aquifer system, except Anaehoomalu.**" (Executive Summary iii).

Marine management and resource protection laws need to prove themselves and be a benefit to ALL THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII. Education of how we treat our resources is a much more effective way see compliance with idea of promoting "pono" practices. DLNR and their aquatics division needs to be more proactive in every area of their responsibilities. Resource data needs to gathered and evaluated by all stakeholders in our marine areas before enforcement strategies and requirements are implemented.

All things considered, we OPPOSE this HB2038 unless these other issues are adequately addressed with them as well.

Much Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Lodge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tom Lodge

16-1596 Keaau Pahoa Road; Keaau, Hi 96749
hawaiihuntingassociation@hawaiiantel.net
(808) 982-4747

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 9:21 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: shyla.moon@ymail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/17/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shyla Moon	Hunting Farming Fishing Association	Oppose	No

Comments: The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is making an example of the wrong state. We the Hunting Farming Fishing Association and our members, including Kauai Ocean Users on Kauai, opposes the continuation of creations and support for "community based subsistence fishing areas" that are not really community based. We are finding that many of these areas being proposed are backed by special interests (hotels, huge nonprofits with millions of dollars, Hawaiian groups, NGOs) and not the people of Hawaii. To name this bill "Aloha Challenge" is not acting on the true Aloha meaning and feeling of Hawaii. As an Aloha State we need to focus on our reputation. Please do not pass this bill in its current form. Please take out the community based subsistence fishing areas section in 6. And take out the fact that Hawaii is labeled as a nature reserve, people live here and we deserve a right to gather resources for food. Section 10 is also of a concern for me, personally as a resident of the islands my entire life. Identifying Hawaii and its endangered species as a "crucial" part of Hawaii and an "significant source of revenue" is ridiculous and insulting. As a local I am insulted. I work in the tourism industry and I understand why you'd say this but this is not the reason to ask for allocations to something that the people of Hawaii didn't even ask for. What locals asked for this "Aloha Challenge"? None I know even know what it is. That should speak volumes. This quote just upsets me, "Hawaii's four hundred forty-eight federally listed endangered plant and wildlife species are globally important, as well as essential for the preservation of the native Hawaiian culture." Seriously? 484 and the conservation groups are still not happy. Are these 484 endangered species really "essential for the preservation of the native Hawaiian culture"? Or are we just blowing smoke? Hawaiians are humans not plants and animals. And are we speaking about only Hawaiian blooded? If so we could make this a race based issue. Those who are not native Hawaiian, what about their culture in Hawaii? Means nothing? " SECTION 10. The legislature finds that Hawaii's native species are crucial to the cultural and ecological identity of 1432038 HD1 HMS 2016-1529 8 H.B. NO. ~ the islands and provide significant sources of revenue for the State through tourism, while providing for the functioning of our unique ecosystems. Hawaii's four hundred forty-eight federally listed endangered plant and wildlife species are globally

important, as well as essential for the preservation of the native Hawaiian culture."

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Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 3:55 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: teresamlee.51@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/17/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa L. Nakama	BIFA	Oppose	No

Comments: All fisheries in the sea waters of the State shall not include any fish pond, artificial enclosure or state-licensed mariculture operation shall be free to the public, subject to vested rights and the right of the State to regulate the same; provided that mariculture operations shall be established under guidelines enacted by the legislature, which shall protect the public's use and enjoyment of the reefs. The State may condemn such vested rights for public use. [Ren and am Const Con 1978 and election Nov 7, 1978] We cannot let the State condemn our vested rights as are being proposed by the numerous Community-Based Managed Fishing Areas bills being proposed this session. Respectfully Yours, Teresa L. Nakama

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To: waltestimony
Cc: oesim@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/18/2016
Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
glenn fukuda	aquarium fish collector	Oppose	No

Comments: hb2038 IV sect 6-7 we have the right to fish and must protect future generations to fish and not taken away at any time by the state

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FISHING TALES

with
*Mike
Sakamoto*

LATE

Testimony to the House Committees on Water & Land; and
House Committee on Agriculture
Thursday, February 18, 2016

Testimony in opposition to HB 2038 HD1, Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge

To: The Honorable Ryan Yamane, Chair
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Clift Tsuji, Chair
The Honorable Richard Onishi, Vice-Chair
Members of the Committees

My name is Stefanie Sakamoto, and I am testifying on behalf of Fishing Tales with Mike Sakamoto, a company that was founded by my father in 1985.

We are opposed to HB 2038 HD1, Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge. While we understand the general intent of the measure, we are opposed to Section IV of the bill, which deals with community-based marine management. Instead of funding this kind of enforcement/management concept, perhaps it would make better sense to fund a comprehensive scientific assessment of marine resources in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 7:32 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: matt.htfa@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/17/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Ross	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Please remove section 4 (community based fisheries management). Community based management is not based on science, disrupts our local community, and puts our public resources in the hands of special interest groups. Real, science based fisheries management is the answer, not this.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 8:00 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: nathanabe@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM*

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/18/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan Abe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 6:37 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: captsmurf2@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/18/2016
Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gary P. Beals	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: In present form this bill does not provide funding or an explanation as to how DLNR would enforce the rules set forth.

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HB2038

LATE

Dear Representatives Yamane, Cullen, Tsuji, and Onishi:

I am writing in opposition to HB2038.

While I consider the proposed bill to be laudable overall in its stated efforts “to provide funding to directly implement three of the six goals outlined in the Aloha+ Challenge: natural resource management, clean energy, and green workforce development”, it seems that Part IV, Sections 6 & 7 is based on one small experiment and has no supporting scientific rationale to warrant expending further public funds. Furthermore, it concerns me that such public funds may be expended on enforcement when it is not clear what will be enforced and the lack of any basis, i.e. lack of scientific rationale, for any such enforcement.

While the terms “community fisheries enforcement” sounds nice, I believe you wise legislators should step back and see the larger picture, remembering that you enact laws for all the citizens of Hawaii, not to benefit just a few. The slippery slope to “community fisheries enforcement” is the splintering of the great State of Hawaii into bickering special interests, pitting one community against another under the guise of what is good in the view of one community or special interest versus what is good for another, or even the State and general public. If all land below the high water mark is public land, and all are to have equal access to the ocean, then how can there be special interests or individual communities controlling or enforcing specific areas? King Kamehameha united all the islands against the will of those individuals who wanted their own fiefdoms. I ask that you do not reverse his great achievement by enacting HB2038 as written, allowing “community fisheries enforcement”.

Instead, fund development of sound scientific data-based rationale for State-wide management of the various separate fisheries.

Aloha,

Courtland Pang
1213 Komo Mai Drive
Pearl City, HI 96782

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 9:51 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: rydeaway@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/17/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Hansen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Part IV of this bill is particularly bothersome. Although I am concerned about enforcement of the current laws and the continued protection of our natural resources, I do not feel this proposal is the way to go about it. Please oppose the passage of this bill as it is not in the best interest of us voters.

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Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 9:39 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: hanapaaj@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/17/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jim Hori, DDS	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose part 4 sections 6&7. Please have the health and status assessed based on science with proper funding before starting an enforcement plan which may not be needed! Mahalo! Jim Hori DDS

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Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 4:17 PM
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Cc: bcsc@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/17/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William K.Chang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Honorable Chairs Yamane and Tsuji, Vice Chairs Cullen and Onishi, Members of the House Committees on WLA and AGR: While I support the intent of HB2372, "I STRONGLY OPPOSE PART IV Sections 6 and 7 of this proposed measure." I urge your committees to review and revise PART IV to follow the direction of the other two parts of the proposed measure and provide the DLNR/DAR with funds to effectively perform its charter and mandates using science-based resources before initiating enforcement actions or initiatives of dated and potentially in appropriate management measures. Mahalo for your consideration of my recommendation.
Respectfully, William Chang

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Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2016 8:49 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: shay.l.sunderland@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2038 on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM

HB2038

Submitted on: 2/18/2016

Testimony for WAL/AGR on Feb 18, 2016 11:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shay Sunderland	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: It is not logical to focus on enforcement actions without an adequate verification of the status of marine resources to understand the situation at hand.

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