

SB 2773

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committees on
WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE
and
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY

Friday, February 12, 2016
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2773
RELATING TO THE ALOHA+ CHALLENGE

Senate Bill 2773 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

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VOTING MEMBERS

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY

2:00 PM, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2016
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

SENATE BILL 2773 RELATING TO THE ALOHA+ CHALLENGE

Senate Bill 2773 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/>.



The Senate
Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
February 12, 2016
2:00 p.m., Conference Room 414
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of SB 2773

Aloha Chairs Wakai and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Slom and Nishihara, and Members of the Committees,

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **supports SB 2773**, *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 SB 2773. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS



Testimony of the O'ahu Invasive Species Committee
Supporting SB 2773 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Friday, February 12, 2016 2:30PM Room 414

The O'ahu Invasive Species Committee supports S.B. 2773 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 for the HISC and the Legislature 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.

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor



DAVID TAYLOR, P.E.
Director

PAUL J. MEYER
Deputy Director

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793-2155
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February 10, 2016

Testimony of the Maui County Department of Water Supply
Supporting Specific Provisions of S.B. 2773 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Friday, February 12, 2016, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 414

Dear Honorable Chair Gabbard and Wakai and Members of the Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment and Technology:

The Maui County Department of Water Supply's ("DWS") mission is to *provide clean water efficiently* to approximately 35,600 services on Maui and Moloka'i. To ensure that we can continue to accomplish our mission, we have taken a proactive approach to face the challenges of urban sprawl, global warming and drought, and habitat loss linked to water recharge and source availability. For example, with help from our watershed partners our watershed protection program conducts projects aimed to tackle threats such as non-native, invasive, animals and plants responsible for destroying Maui's native forest. Maui's native habitat and indigenous upland forests collectively constitute the watersheds' ecosystem which helps to recharge our water supply through important hydrological processes.

Specifically in reference to S.B. 2773, Part III and V, relating to the Aloha+ Challenge, which recognizes the limited supply of fresh water and economic dangers from invasive species, respectively, DWS has provided financial support to Watershed Partnerships on Maui and Molokai since 1995. We have provided over \$12 million dollars of funding to watershed partnerships which resulted in positive outcomes such as the reduction of feral animal populations and the restoration of forests with native species of plants and trees. Innovative research, development of technology and best management practices also continues to help achieve greater cost efficiency of watershed management and protection that is crucial for maintaining water supply.

"By Water All Things Find Life"

The lack of adequate forest protection and continued financial support endangers the water supply nourishing Maui and the entire State's interests. Dedicated and sustained funding by the State will provide long term, sustainable leverage to continue implementing a holistic island-wide collaborative approach protecting Maui's watersheds and the State's interests.

In support of S.B. 2773 Part III and V, relating to the Aloha+ Challenge, we recognize that it proposes a sound investment in natural resources with strong economic return potential. It will not only help our watershed protection partners develop a more sustainable future water supply for Maui County, but also helps them contribute to the wider scope of the Aloha+ Challenge for all of Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Your support of S.B. 2773 would be appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Taylor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Taylor, P.E.
Director of Water Supply



West Maui Mountains Watershed Partnership

February 3rd, 2016

Supporting SB 2773 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Friday, February 12, 2016, 2:30PM, Room 414

West Maui Mountains
Watershed Partnership
P.O. Box 13240

Lahaina, Hawai'i
96761

Phone (808) 661-6600

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Watershed Partners

County of Maui

Dept. of Land &
Natural Resources

General Finance
Group, Inc.

Ka'anapali Land
Company, LLC

Kahoma Land, LLC

Kamehameha Schools

Makila Land Co., LLC

Maui County
Department of Water
Supply

Maui Land &
Pineapple
Company Inc

Wailuku Water Co.
LLC

The Nature
Conservancy

Aloha Legislators,

The West Maui Mountains Watershed Partnership **Supports S.B.2773** which provides general funding to a variety of DLNR programs, including \$4M for watershed protection and \$5.25M for invasive species programs.

Our governor and mayors committed to support natural resource management and reverse the trend of natural resource loss as one of six explicit targets in the Aloha Plus Challenge. Watershed and invasive species protection programs are prepared to be a progressive instrument in this initiative, however, we need sustained and consistent funding to meet this goal.

For instance, in fiscal year 2016, statewide watershed protection received a total of \$3.2 million in funding through general funds allocations to support on the ground operations and C.I.P. investments in protection fencing. Unfortunately, this represents a 60% decrease in funding levels as compared to 2014 with 8 million in funding and is more on par with funding years during the recession. Improved and consistent funding will be necessary to meet Aloha Plus goals.

At present only 10% of Hawaii's watersheds are currently protected and the rest are continuing to degrade without adequate management. Funds would allow for resource management to be increased, reverse the degradation of additional forest acres, and further secure the water resources that our state depends on for residential, agricultural and commercial use. Funding will also be leveraged with federal, county, or private grant sources to further stimulate local economies, bring in millions of outside dollars and provide jobs.

As a partnership, we understand that without adequate forest protection and continued support, we cannot depend on the water which nourishes Hawaii's interests. The Aloha Plus Challenge proposes a sound investment in natural resources and this bill will enable us to reverse the trend of loss. We hope that you can join us in lending your support for watershed protection and a more sustainable Hawaii.

Thoughtfully submitted with broad partner support and one abstention.



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 SB 2773 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Friday, February 12, 2016, 2:30PM, Room 414

The Kaua'i Watershed Alliance strongly supports SB 2773 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 can be leveraged with matching funds from county, federal and private sources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supportive testimony.

Mahalo.



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

Testimony of Tom Shigemoto

Supporting SB 2773 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge*

Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology

Friday, February 12, 2016, 2:30 pm, Room 414

The Kaua`i Watershed Alliance strongly supports SB2773, 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 the 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.
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- 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 are leveraged with matching funds from county, federal and private sources. We ask for your kind consideration in support of these very important programs to continue our efforts. Thank you.

Tom H. Shigemoto

Vice President, A&B Properties, Inc.

Agents for McBryde Sugar Company, LLC



**Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture and Senate Committee on Economic
Development, Environment, and Technology**

Hawai'i Center for Food Safety Supports SB2773

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of Both Committees:

My name is Dr. Ashley Lukens and I am the Hawai'i Director for the Center for Food Safety (CFS). CFS is a nationwide public interest, sustainable agriculture nonprofit organization whose mission centers on furthering the public's right to know how their food is produced, through labeling and other means. We have over 750,000 farmer and consumer members across the country, including nearing 10,000 in Hawai'i. On behalf of CFS and our members, I thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today regarding this important bill.

CFS has been dedicated to addressing the human health and environmental impacts of our increased reliance on pesticide use in food production, both in the State of Hawai'i and nationally. We were instrumental in providing legal and communications support in the passage of numerous ordinances relating to pesticide use and disclosure, such as Kaua'i's Bill 2491. Since 2014, as the inaugural director here in Hawai'i, I have worked closely with community members across the state, in all counties, and have played an instrumental role in the passage of Maui's moratorium on GE production until companies submit environmental and public health impact assessments.

I am writing in support of SB2773, which appropriates funds for the natural resource, clean energy, and green workforce goals of the Aloha+ Challenge. We support this bill due to the focus on protecting local natural resources and community welfare.

A recent study found that humans have caused a reduction of fish populations in the Hawaiian archipelago by as much as 78%¹. This bill would allocate funds to expand the Maui CFEU pilot project, which has proven to compel participation and compliance. We believe that an increase in community-based regulations will create a more resilient ocean food system, as well as a stronger sense of community and pride in local resources.

In addition to increasing local fishing regulation, we support the allocation of funds to research, protect, and restore local species. As Hawai'i moves farther away from the paradise that the Polynesians once inhabited, we must make an effort to protect and re-establish native and indigenous species, if not for food consumption, but for the balance of our ecosystems that we rely on so heavily.

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To achieve the Aloha+ Challenge, Hawai'i would be reinventing paradise for a sustainable future. We support this program and bill due to the reasons above.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I am happy to answer any follow up questions or provide additional analysis.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashley Lukens', written in a cursive style.

Ashley Lukens
Director, Hawai'i Center for Food Safety

ⁱ Williams ID, Baum JK, Heenan A, Hanson KM, Nadon MO, Brainard RE (2015) Human, Oceanographic and Habitat Drivers of Central and Western Pacific Coral Reef Fish Assemblages. PLoS ONE 10(4): e0120516. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0120516



The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i Program
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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 2773 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology
Friday, February 12, 2016, 2:00PM, Room 414

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 S.B. 2773 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 'ohi'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 and severe weather 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 (HISC) 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.

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Conservation Council
for Hawai'i

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
And Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology

Hearing: Friday, February 12, 2016 2 pm
Conference Room 414

Support for SB 2773 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge

Chair Gabbard, Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee.

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SB 2773, 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.

Environmental protection, including watershed management and invasive species control, are of cultural and economic concern; they are not only "environmental issues." As such, these programs should receive the highest level of support. With all due respect, the State is not doing enough to protect and properly manage ceded land (mauka and submerged) and public trust resources. And the legislature is not providing enough money to protect these resources. We are concerned about the condition of ceded and other lands held in trust by the State for the people of Hawai'i, including future generations.

Please support SB 2773 and increase the appropriation.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

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

Marjorie Ziegler

Aloha,

As a practitioner of Korean Natural Farming, who has seen first-hand its positive effect and ability to regenerate soil that has been bulldozed, poisoned and degraded...I strongly advise you to support SB2746. A new organic, non-toxic KNF formulation is effective against coffee borer, killing them within 4-24 hours, depending upon the concentration. This is enough reason to support this bill, given the size of the coffee industry and the destruction this pest has caused already. Korean Natural Farming is also valuable because very little of the home-made inputs require ingredients that are shipped to Hawaii from the mainland, allowing farmers to be truly sustainable. Korean Natural Farming is cheap, effective and efficient: music to any farmers ears. For more information please go to, www.ctahr.org, www.cgnf-hawaii.org or www.kalapanaorganics.com. Please support this bill.

Thank you,

Jackie Prell

President,

Cho Global Natural Farming-Hawaii

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: aipohaku@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 12:17:15 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vince Kana`i Dodge	`Ai Pohaku	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Legislators, Thank you for introducing this comprehensive bill to care for and protect Hawaii's natural resources. It will take government will and funding to rebuild our `aina, and the time is now. Let's do it! May our efforts today provide for the coming generations! aloha nui!

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To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: jkimof@msn.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Thursday, February 04, 2016 9:08:55 AM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
james Kimo Falconer	MauiGrown Coffee, Inc	Support	No

Comments: Please support this measure. It is very important not to lose funding for programs supporting our watersheds, conservation districts and protective environmental work processes. Mahalo James Kimo Falconer President MauiGrown Coffee, Inc.

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Cc: Alana.Ross@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 3:17:33 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

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

Comments:

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Cc: rustysfarm@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 2:32:56 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Astrid Watanabe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 1:48:09 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Yes! I support this bill, Mahalo

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To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: Benjitheshammy@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:28:38 AM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Hambright	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: lee8502@pacificu.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Saturday, February 06, 2016 10:41:22 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

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

Comments:

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To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: theatacamakid@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 12:59:01 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

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

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: panther_dave@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:55:12 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dave Kisor	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I can support this as long as you don't believe the way they do geothermal around here is clean and green. All you have to be is downwind from their releases to know that! I support solar, wind, tidal and other forms with which you may not be at all familiar, but they do not run off of fossil or radioactive fuels.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: ihemphi@live.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 3:15:29 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Denise Key	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: whoru@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 12:17:47 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Ben Dyre Family Limited Partnership

*Supporting SB 2773 Relating to the Aloha+ Challenge**

Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

Senate Committee on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology

Friday, February 12, 2016, 2:30PM, Room 414

The Kaua'i Watershed Alliance strongly supports *HB 2773* 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.

The Ben Dyre Family Limited Partnership has been a part of the Kauai Watershed Alliance since its formation in 2003. As a landowner on Kauai, it is an honor to be a part of such a group, which has helped to protect and conserve our most vital assets- water, and our unique native plants and animal species. We as members make up a diverse group of public and private entities that own land within the mountainous watershed and understand the importance of protecting and preserving the forests that capture fresh water—our most precious resource. We recognize the necessity of natural resource stewardship. The Alliance understands that the source of our pure water is a system of healthy forested watersheds, which capture rain and cloud moisture and deliver it efficiently to aquifers and surface sources for subsequent consumption in our daily lives and for the benefit of our island economy.

The Kauai Watershed Alliance has been actively managing portions of the mauka watershed on Kauai since its formation in 2003. Specifically, in the past several years the Alliance has worked on fences, ungulate removal and invasive weed control in Priority One watershed areas in the mauka forests and watersheds over thousands of acres.

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

Mahalo and much appreciation for your consideration!

Sincerely,



*Holly Dyre
General Partner
Ben Dyre Family Ltd Partnership*

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: milholen.jennifer@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 8:39:55 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: jparish@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:08:33 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Julia Parish	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 2773 bill that will create "A Culture of Sustainability -- He Nohona 'Ae'oiia" in Hawaii by providing funding and additional resources, while creating green jobs, for positive, proactive natural resource management. This bill continues the long-standing support the Legislature has provided natural resource management and demonstrates that the Legislature is looking to protect Hawaii's future. The IUCN World Conservation Congress will showcase successful work completed by initiatives funded via the Hawaii Invasive Species Council and the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources. To achieve the Aloha+ goals, there must be adequate funding to support the work effort of creating clean energy, accessible & safe hiking trails, and watershed protection, as well as conducting conservation enforcement and invasive species control.

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To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: kristenmartinek@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 8:26:47 AM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristen Martinek	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: marie.janiszewski@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:14:58 AM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
marie janiszewski	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 12:17:47 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dennis F Lokmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: neil.vonhof@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 10:49:29 AM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Neil Vonhof	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: [WLA Testimony](#)
Cc: pogqoppogqop@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 12:05:13 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Marshall	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a very constructive and positive conservation measure and very timely.

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Cc: pulelehua23@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 11:05:44 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stephanie Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: suellen@maui.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 6:20:56 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suellen Barton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: sunnysavage@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 12:59:03 AM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/10/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sunny Savage-Luskin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2773 on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM*
Date: Monday, February 08, 2016 12:33:42 PM

SB2773

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for WLA/EET on Feb 12, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tracy E Mills	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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