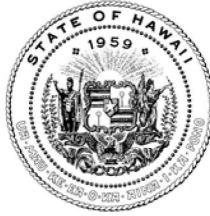


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

KEKO A KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

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

**Wednesday, April 12, 2017
11:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 31, SENATE DRAFT 1
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
CONDUCT AN EXTENSIVE STATEWIDE PUEO HABITAT INVENTORY**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 31, Senate Draft 1 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to conduct an extensive statewide pueo habitat inventory with emphasis on Oahu, in collaboration with the University of Hawaii (UH), nonprofit environmental organizations, and other stakeholders, and submit an interim report to the Legislature no later than one month prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2018, including an estimate of the time and resources necessary to complete a statewide pueo population estimate and habitat inventory. The Department offers the following comments.

The Department recognizes the need for a statewide habitat inventory for pueo and is working on accomplishing that as funding and partnerships develop. Specifically, the Department has received funds from two wind farms owned by SunEdison, LLC: Kaheawa Wind Power II on Maui, and Kahuku Wind Power on Oahu, to mitigate the impacts to pueo populations associated with these wind farms. The Department, in collaboration with UH, is working on a project to develop standardized survey tools for use in evaluating distribution, abundance, and habitat use of the pueo on the island of Oahu, where this species is listed as endangered by the State. The University postdoctoral biologist performing the research started work April 3, 2017. The results of this study will have statewide implications on assessing pueo populations for each island.

Furthermore, a partnership between the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project (administered through the UH Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit), the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission, and the United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health

Inspection Service/Wildlife Services has initiated a feasibility study to test mark/recapture techniques of pueo on multiple islands including Hawaii, Maui, Kahoolawe, and Oahu. The results of this study are expected to recommend specific mark/recapture methods for pueo that will lead to a better ability to monitor the distribution and abundance of the species, and identify limiting factors and management needs of this iconic bird.

Based on the progress of the current studies, the Department will be able to provide an estimate of the time and resources necessary to complete a statewide pueo population estimate and statewide habitat inventory in the time frame requested under this resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Rep. Ryan Yamane, Chair

Rep. Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair

SCR 31SD1

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT
AN EXTENSIVE STATEWIDE PUEO HABITAT INVENTORY

April 9, 2017

Aloha,

Chair Yamane

Vice Chair Kong

Committee Members

My name is Kanani Wond and while I support both resolutions calling for an extensive pueo habitat inventory I do not believe that these resolutions go far enough to protect the endemic endangered pueo on Oahu.

It is my understanding that pueo on the neighbor islands are not considered "endangered" as our Oahu pueo are. Therefore, I urge that that SCR 31SD1 be amended to reflect that an *extensive habitat inventory* concentrate on the island of Oahu and the areas where the Pueo has been seen on Oahu.

Presently, there are no population estimates, no population trend estimates, no movement data and little is understood of the general ecology, especially breeding of the pueo even though the species has been listed as Endangered on Oahu since 1982.

Having an inventory is vital to the survival of the Oahu pueo and will aid in the creation of conservation habitat plans for areas such as Honouliuli where the pueo is known to nest and hunt.

Extremely aggressive land ownership and construction are replacing our islands green space with concrete and forever changing the way the Pueo lives and breeds. Therefore, developing areas such as Kapolei and Ewa deserve the DLNR's immediate attention.

As Educator on the Leeward coast of Oahu, Kupuna have told me, that in the past they seen many Pueo living in the area and flying overhead.

For some, the Pueo is a sacred ancestor watching over them, a family Aumakua and can be seen still today along Saddle Road on Hawai`I Island and upcountry Maui but nearly unseen on Oahu.

It is our living breathing responsibility to protect animals that have been listed Endangered. The Pueo is endangered and unaccounted for.

I ask you, when was the last inventory taken of the Pueo?

****1976-1983** Hawaiian Forest Bird Survey **Explains the loss of habitat and decline of Pueo population**

****1982** the Pueo is listed as endangered on Oahu

****2004** §195D-26, HRS, requires that an annual report be prepared by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) **This report did not include the Pueo**

****2005** Hawaii's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy **This is only a report and implies future management**

Was a population inventory ever done?

I support SCR 31SD1 to ensure the Pueo's Habitat and future, so should you.

Mahalo for your time,

Kanani Wond
Public Outreach Educator
Na Pueo O Honouliuli
91-1046 Haulele St.
Kapolei Hi 96707

kong2 - Crystal

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 1:14 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: mz@conservehi.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR31 on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM

SCR31

Submitted on: 4/11/2017

Testimony for WAL on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marjorie Ziegler	Conservation Council for Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Kong, and Members of the Committee. Aloha. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SCR 31, requesting the DLNR to conduct a comprehensive survey of the pueo's habitat. We recommend that such a survey indicate whether the habitat is currently occupied or has been in the past, and include any current observations of the owls during the survey. Unlike our native forests birds and waterbirds, which tend to occupy areas that receive protection as wildlife refuges, wildlife sanctuaries, natural area reserves, and wetlands, the pueo's habitat includes undeveloped land that may not be protected. Pueo occupy woodlands, scrublands, and grasslands, both native and non-native. As a result, pueo habitat may be lost inadvertently. Pueo are listed by the State as an Endangered Species on O'ahu. Once birds reach a critical low number, it may not be possible to save them from extinction or loss on a single island. For example, the bones of the endangered 'ua'u (Hawaiian petrel) are the most frequently found bones in sinkholes and other archaeological sites on the 'Ewa Plain and in Kapolei and Kalaeloa on O'ahu. There were probably hundreds of thousands, if not millions of 'ua'u on this island at one time. Today, there are none; they have completely disappeared on O'ahu in a relatively short amount of time. Let us not let this happen to the pueo. Please adopt SCR 31 and save our native Hawaiian owl. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

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waltestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 3:30 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: cathyg@animalrightshawaii.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR31 on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

SCR31

Submitted on: 4/7/2017

Testimony for WAL on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cathy Goeggel	Animal Rights Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: We stand in strong support for this very important reso to protect Native Hawaiian birds-Na Pueo

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300 Kuulei Rd. Unit A #281 * Kailua, HI 96734 * Phone/Fax (808) 262-0682 E-Mail: htff3000@gmail.com

COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair

SCR 31 SD1

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT AN
EXTENSIVE STATEWIDE PUEO HABITAT INVENTORY

April 12, 2017

Chair Yamane
Vice Chair Kong
Committee Members

Hawaii's Thousand Friends supports SCR 31 SD1, which calls for an intensive statewide pueo habitat inventory with greater emphasis given to the endangered Oahu pueo.

We understand that U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and DOFAW will be conducting a statewide inventory of pueo but the Oahu pueo is the only pueo listed by the State as endangered under the Endangered Species Law HRS chapter 195D. Therefore, there is an urgency to begin and concentrate an inventory on Oahu.

Endemic to the Hawaiian Islands Oahu's pueo population is believed to be declining and considered very rare due to loss of nesting habitat, loss of foraging habitat, and reduced prey availability from urbanization of open grasslands.

Under the Endangered Species Act HRS Chapter 195D the pueo are only protected from a 'take' which is defined as to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect an endangered species. The Act does not protect pueo habitat or foraging areas.

The endemic pueo is protected under the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Treaty Act but unfortunately this Act also does not protect habitat or foraging areas.

Pueo mainly eat small rodents; live in wet and dry forests, grasslands and shrub lands and nest on the ground. They lay three to six white eggs over a span of several months, which hatch at different times.

Pueo have been seen flying in the grasslands of Honouliuli and around the UH West Oahu area but there have been only two pueo sightings reported in the Ka'ena Point Natural Area Reserve in the last ten years. So how many pueo are there on Oahu?

There is a need for a statewide inventory because there are no population estimates, no population trend estimates, no movement data and little is understood of the general ecology, especially breeding, of the pueo. But that inventory must concentrate on Oahu where the pueo population is the most vulnerable and in the most danger.



Photo: Jack Wolford

kong2 - Crystal

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 10:09 AM
To: waltestimony
Cc: michelematsuo@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR31 on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM



SCR31

Submitted on: 4/12/2017

Testimony for WAL on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michele matsuo	Democratic Party of Hawaii Education Caucus, and Environmental Caucus, respectively	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Kong, and members of the Committee! Thank you for this opportunity to testify strongly in support of this measure with amendments! My name is Michele Matsuo. As Chair of the Democratic Party Education Caucus, I wanted to let you know that the Education Caucus stands in strong support of this measure. We urge the University of Hawaii to malama the Pueo, the mascot of the University of Hawaii-West Oahu, and do its utmost to preserve the endangered (on Oahu) Pueo and its habitat from being adversely impacted on its lands, including any leased to other entities. Abide by the law. Also, the Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii has designated me the point person for Endangered Species and Endangered Species Habitat, and the Environmental Caucus is honored to stand in strong support of this measure, in the hopes that it will help to save the endangered Pueo in Honouliuli and Kalo Gulches and elsewhere. Representing the two caucuses, I request that this measure be amended and passed to specify that the study first address/study the Pueo on Oahu, starting with the Pueo and Pueo habitat in Ewa. We request that this study be of as long duration as is possible in order to finish in the time limits specified by this measure, because the Pueo is elusive and will need months of study, not mere days of study. We urge that DLNR work with traditional practitioners like Kumu Michael Lee of Ewa, who have long studied the Pueo in Ewa in the field. We also request that the last two WHEREAS clauses of this resolution be removed. As a member of the board of the Environment, Energy and Resources Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association, testifying as an individual, I am pleased to report a keen interest in the Pueo by our board members and that our EER Bar Section has had OHA present on the unanimously supported OHA initiative to kokua the Pueo. OHA has determined that the Pueo is an Akua of the Hawaiian people, not just an aumakua of specific families. Further, it is the Pueo of Oahu, which is classified as endangered, which is very clearly an Akua or God. Thank you for all that you are doing to kokua the Pueo. Please pass this measure! I remember Sen. Dan Inouye's efforts to save our endangered birds, and his speech dreaming of the day when their songs would once again ring throughout our forests. Sen. Inouye is gone now, and dearly missed, but we still have this chance to save the Pueo on Oahu and elsewhere in our beloved Hawaii ! With warmest Mahalo, Michele Matsuo Chair, Democratic Party of Hawaii Education Caucus; Designated testifier, Democratic Party of Hawaii Environmental Caucus; Individual member of the Environmental, Energy and Resources Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association Board and Section

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

April 12, 2017 11:15 AM Room 325

In SUPPORT SCR 31 Relating to Pueo Habitat Inventory

Aloha Chairman Yamane and members of the Water and Land Committee,

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i **strongly supports SCR 31**, which urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct an extensive statewide pueo habitat inventory in collaboration with the University of Hawai'i, nonprofit organizations, and other stakeholders and submit reports to the Legislature.

The pueo, or Hawaiian short-eared owl, is Hawai'i's only endemic owl species and has been State listed as an endangered species on O'ahu. Once widespread in the 1900's, their current population and habitat is largely unknown.¹

A statewide pueo habitat inventory is necessary to determine population trends and identify critical habitat areas for the pueo in Hawai'i. This inventory will help guide decisions on how to best protect the habitat of the pueo and determine future management activities related to conserving the population of this endangered bird species.

We have 20,000 members and supporters throughout the Hawaiian Islands. Since 1968, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i has been working to protect the unique natural and cultural resources of our islands.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue.

Mahalo,

Marti Townsend
Director

¹ <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wildlife/files/2013/09/Fact-Sheet-pueo.pdf>

LATE

COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Rep. Sam Satoru Kong, Vice Chair

RE: URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
TO CONDUCT AN EXTENSIVE STATEWIDE PUEO HABITAT
INVENTORY.

Aloha Chair Yamane and Committee Members

Kanehili Cultural Hui is in support of SCR 31 / SR 6

The main flaw in this resolution, which is not a bill, is that the Pueo is not considered endangered on the Neighbor Islands - Just Oahu, and in particular the Ewa Plain where its existence is in the greatest danger.

The endangered Ewa Plain Pueo habitat must be surveyed first before anywhere else on Oahu or the Neighbor Islands. This is important for their habitat survival which is being developed RIGHT NOW.

The UH West Oahu has Na Pueo as its mascot and has a mission statement to preserve and propagate Hawaiian cultural values.

Save The Hawaiian Pueo Owl on the Ewa Plain

<https://www.facebook.com/SavePueoOwl/>

PUEO

ASIO FLAMMEUS SANDWICHENSIS

**ACTIVE IN
DAY TIME**

**EATS MICE, RATS,
MONGOOSE**

LAY 3-6 EGGS

**ENDANGERED
ON OAHU**

14-17 INCHES



Spend an hour talking story with a local and you'll likely hear the word 'aumakua arise. Synonymous with ancestral spirits, 'aumakuas often assume the physical form of sharks, turtles, geckos, eels, and birds. But perhaps its most prevalent shape is that of the Hawaiian owl, the Pueo.

Cat-eyed, black-billed, and quietly strong, pueo are a sight to behold—

The Pueo, a subspecies of the **North American short-eared owl**, can occasionally be seen nesting on the ground and taking to the skies, with arcs of flight natives deem **divine**.



While most owls are known for making an appearance after nightfall, Pueo are an early bird and also seen around sunset and twilight periods.

When active during the day, they're known to hover and soar over grasslands in search of food.

Pueo hunt and feed on **small rodents**, -mice, rats.

Dating is a vigorous game for mating pueo, with males performing aerial displays of flirtation—something that’s known as sky dancing—to frisky, prospective females, who by and large outweigh them.



Consider these show-offs a chivalrous bunch: They feed their women and **defend the nests**. Fledglings mature at a rate that would make any human parent envious: After nesting on foot and relying on their parents for food, they generally embark on their own after a mere six weeks. But such nests are busy places: Females generally lay **three to six eggs** over a span of several months, with chicks hatching at different times throughout the year. Meaning, it’s not uncommon to find adults, teens, and infants sharing the same twiggy abode. And beware, predators: Those who inch too close are met with an incredible fuss, with both parents erupting in hisses, screeches, and barks—a warning call to which, in an ironic twist of nature, the very rodents and mongooses they hunt can be impervious.





While pueo were widely spotted in the 1900s and are present on all of the Hawaiian Islands—from sea level to 8,000 feet—they’re listed as an endangered species on the island of Oahu. They are especially endangered on the Ewa Plain.

Light pollution, to which the 14-17-inch owl is highly sensitive, vehicular crashes, disease, and “**sick owl syndrome**”—an illness with controversial links to pesticides that leaves Pueo dazed and more prone to accidents—have all contributed to this beloved raptor’s decline.

Based on fossils, tawny-plumaged Pueo are believed to have taken perch in the Hawaiian Islands shortly after the arrival of Polynesians around 300 A.D., with some speculating that they appeared even prior to humans.

As with any number of Hawaiian words—take, for example, the myriad definitions of **aloha**—the word Pueo signifies much more than just the owl. It’s associated with **taro**, which for ancient Hawaiians was considered one of life’s foremost staples. The deified Pueo is also linked to the **rocking of a child** and the **canoe**. Drive on any island and you’ll likely find a street sign, school, or park bearing this *‘aumakua’s* sacred name, serving as a testament to its lasting power in life and legend.

As ‘aumakuas, the wingspan of the pueo stretches far and wide.

Believed in Hawaiian culture to be the creaturely manifestation of those who have passed, each form of the *‘Aumakua*—from a rock to an animal to a person to a place—possesses a unique set of strengths, and the Pueo has very high status, which includes *Akua*, which means divine.

Pueo—dark-lashed and sage—are believed to be one of the oldest ancestral spirits.

Hawaiian oral history records the existence of Pueo-nui-akea, an owl that provides **wandering souls** with direction, while Oahu stories tell of Pu’u-pueo, an **owl king** in Manoa. On the Ewa Plain the Pueo is associated with being a guardian and guide for the *Leina a ka Uhane* – leaping place of souls to the next world. Pueo are seen as having a special connection with the spirit world. For anyone who has had a direct experience with Pueo know they have a profound effect with their deep insightful eyes and careful observation of everything around them.

Of their many gifts, Pueo are also associated with battle, functioning as a protector during war or danger.

Ali’i (or chiefs) of defeated armies kept careful watch of a pueo’s line of flight, as it was understood that the owl would lead them back to safety, while the god Kane—from which the word male was derived—was believed to assume the **shape of an owl** in battle to shield his people.

One of the most well-known legends tells of a warrior of King Kamehameha’s who, in the midst of a battle, was on the verge of throwing himself off a cliff when an owl flew to his aid and held him from leaping.



Endemic to Hawaii, Pueo are often confused with the Barn Owl, but telling differences exist.

Barn owls were brought to the islands in the early 60s to control the rat population in **cane fields**—have ivory-hued, heart-shaped faces with dark black eyes. Barn Owls use the cover of darkness to hunt their prey.

On the Ewa Plain, the Pueo and Barn Owl have seemed to have developed a symbiotic relationship, sharing the daytime and nighttime foraging periods.

In conclusion, Pueo have long been believed to be a sign of spiritual intervention.

They are asking for YOUR HELP. This is not a joke. The Pueo are a crucially important part of the Aina and soul of the Ewa Plain and the people who live there. We don't think most people would support killing American Bald Eagles, symbol of the United States.

The Hawaiian Pueo is on a sacred and spiritual level of the highest importance.

Please don't let these wonderful, intelligent, sacred creatures down. Mahalo.

John Bond, President

Kanehili Cultural Hui

Ewa, Honouliuli, Oahu



Spirit Owls And What They Mean To Ancient Cultures

<https://whatismyspiritanimal.com/spirit-totem-power-animal-meanings/birds/owl-symbolism-meaning/>

Native American Beliefs Concerning Spirit Owls - Interesting To Compare With Native Hawaiian Beliefs

<http://www.powwows.com/concerning-owls/>

Community Saddened: Rescued Oahu Pueo is Put Down

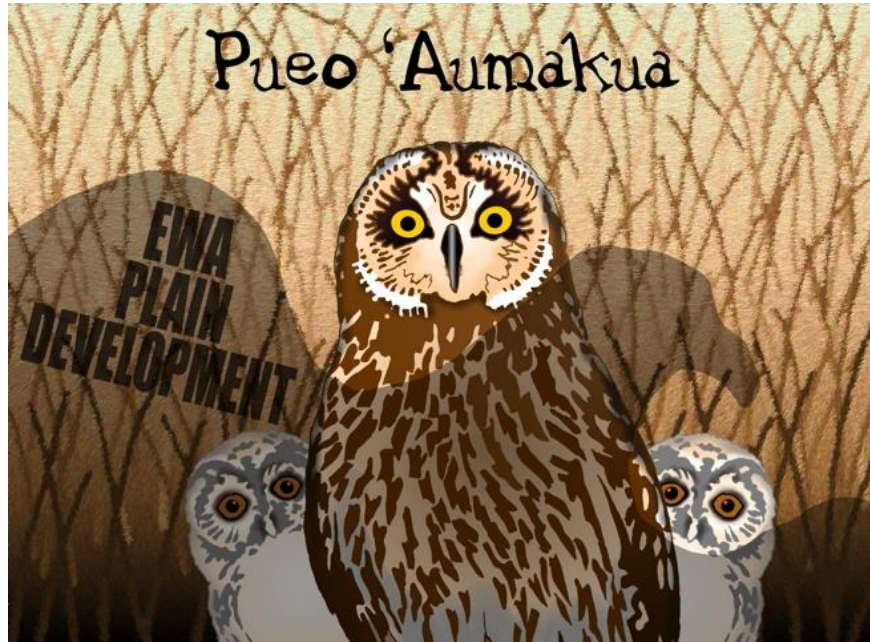
<http://mauiNOW.com/2017/01/26/trio-of-citizens-recognized-for-rescuing-injured-pueo/>

<http://mauiNOW.com/2017/02/22/injured-pueo-heads-to-big-island-for-rehab/>

<http://mauiNOW.com/2017/02/27/rescued-pueo-put-to-sleep-to-prevent-suffering/>







waltestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 5:34 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: felinitous@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR31 on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM*

SCR31

Submitted on: 4/7/2017

Testimony for WAL on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary James	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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waltestimony

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Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 11:49 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: nahele@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR31 on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM

SCR31

Submitted on: 4/7/2017

Testimony for WAL on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karen Luke	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support having DLNR do an extended Pueo habitat survey to be able to conserve this special specie. We have encroached upon his land and he has had to retreat to the gullies and remaining grasslands. Only by patiently studying him in his habitat over many seasons, can a conservation program begin. Mahalo, Karen Luke President, Wild Bird Rehab Haven, an all-volunteer nonprofit of bird lovers.

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waltestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 4:37 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: vanderso@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR31 on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM

SCR31

Submitted on: 4/7/2017

Testimony for WAL on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support and implement this important Resolution! We need to make sure the pueo survives as a species, and doing a thorough habitat inventory statewide is the first step!

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April 12, 2017

Committee on WATER & LAND

Chair REP. RYAN YAMANE,

Vice Chair REP. SAM KONG

Measure: SCR 31, SD1

From TOM BERG

Ewa Beach; Oahu Resident

Chair and Members; Reps Cullen, Evans, Ichiyama, Lee, Lowen, Say, Fukumoto,

IN STRONG OPPOSITION

I. in good faith, cannot accept on page two, lines 5 through 9 of the resolution that contains the language:

5 WHEREAS, SunEdison, LLC: Kaheawa Wind Power II; Kahuku Wind
6 Power; Koho'olawe Island Reserve Commission; University of
7 Hawaii; United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and United
8 States Department of Agriculture have provided ongoing
9 cooperation with the State in efforts to protect the pueo; and

The aforementioned language contained within lines 5 though 9 above are simply not truthful and laden with fallacies.

For example, the University of Hawaii West Oahu (UHWO) has two-hundred acres for its footprint to fully build out its campus.

The three-hundred acres of excess land remaining owned by the State that surrounds the two-hundred acre UHWO campus- that land is to be leased by the State for development even though the property is utilized by the pueo.

This act of leasing the last remaining three-hundred acres of open grassland acreage within Oahu's Urban Growth Boundary existing at UHWO will undoubtedly result in the pueo being extirpated from the property.

What should be done:

The commercial and residential development planned for the three-hundred acres at UHWO should not transpire and rather, the last remaining acreage of three-hundred acres undeveloped at UHWO should be kept as a pueo preserve and serve the university as a refuge to study endangered species - a three-hundred acre built-in outdoor laboratory, in situ to conduct research on endangered species- what a priceless opportunity that could be- making our university a worldwide destination to

study endangered species right on campus.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for UHWO's 500 acres illustrates that only a few hours were dedicated toward searching for the pueo- with the premise being, that the pueo do not exist in the region. The inventory for the pueo during the EIS process at UHWO concluded the bird could not have survived the intensified farming practices and other encroachments and hence was written off as nonexistent.

If you would please strike lines 5 through 9 in the resolution - take those five lines out- and replace the language with the following verbiage for example, I could then, after such amendments were to be adopted, support a SCR 31 SD1 HD1 that reads in part:

5 WHEREAS, University of Hawaii; United States Fish and Wildlife Service, United
6 States Department of Agriculture, State Department
7 of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and the
8 Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation,
9 are to be notified that the pueo utilizes these parcels and to conduct Supplemental
Environmental Impact Statements to
quantify the presence and inhabitation of the pueo as a New Condition since the
video evidence so listed below contradicts
the notion that the pueo were extirpated from within the Urban Growth Boundary:

The Honouliuli Stream and Kaloi Stream converge on the Ewa Plain (above Mango Tree Boulevard) within the Honouliuli Watershed/ Ahupua'a- and is a place teeming with wildlife.

The convergence area of these two streams is home to many endangered species listed on the Hawaii State Registrar - one in particular, includes the Pueo- known as the Hawaiian Owl - (<http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wildlife/files/2013/09/Fact-Sheet-pueo.pdf>).

Videos of Pueo taken by me that prove- government is lying that the Pueo no longer exists on the Ewa Plain where development is slated:

Special - PUEO CAUGHT SLEEPING @ UHWO / Close Ups MARCH 8, 2017
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GiHOev2uh7U>

1. Full Blood Moon, September 27, 2015 @ HART CORRIDOR
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d9fmJk4--CY>

2. December 2, 2016 @ UHWO
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uDtwLzalxKc>

3. February 19, 2017 @ UHWO
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uu9e2G4xttw>

August 9, 2016 @ UHWO
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f3T-VhYEi2c>

August 15, 2016 @ UHWO
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DIYNDLYI6A>

August 17, 2016 @ UHWO
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U4JYSOhFgV0>

August 20, 2016 @ UHWO

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_JS3GCImESc

August 27, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dEqIzG26H24>

August 28, 2016 @ UHWO

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzRWuv_0dyA

August 30, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRFYH-OcEaM>

August 31, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AznT06PmzoA>

September 19, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UzUmqU3IYM>

September 21, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqxsK6Jpy9Q>

September 29, 2016 @ UHWO

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=buFCNg_SWiU

October 7, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRbGdGF6X1I>

October 11, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsbeL8fR5yA>

December 5, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvOAggnCft4>

December 7, 2016 @ UHWO

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3X_5MB5nEu8

December 8, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvyyEEY4CyE>

December 9, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KkKphe2eNKc>

December 12, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VzWNryHImVw>

Super Moon December 13, 2016 @ UHWO

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVxBZ_ws_qQ

December 18, 2016 @ UHWO (Includes Pueo & Barn Owl)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4MRAY8VUig>

Winter Solstice December 21, 2016

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22GycOiaJzw>

Christmas Day December 25, 2016 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QfrDx7DVeja>

January 29, 2017 @ UHWO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVtzjU4UUuU>

February 15, 2017 @ UHWO (Includes Pueo & Barn Owl)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyT3fCxhuWA>

LAND USE DESIGNATIONS NEED TO EMBRACE PUEO HABITAT

LATE

by Michael Kumukauoha Lee

In my family photo album, there is a Hawaiian owl called Pueo. In Hawaiian, 'Aumakua is defined as a benevolent guardian sprit or family protector- and it is this Pueo, that is my family's Aumakua.

Over the years, transformations to Pueo habitat have proven to be fatal to its wellbeing- especially on Oahu where this endemic owl is listed as endangered.

How did the Pueo elude every Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) undertaken on the island of Oahu and furthermore, avoid being sighted by all those petitioners seeking to reclassify their property from agricultural or preservation status to that of commercial, urban or industrial land use?

Historically, the first colonizers could not capture nor even shoot down the Pueo to take back to Europe as a specimen for display even though it was bountiful in their sights. So the answer to the question is, that it is inherent within the Pueo to remain stealth in its activities even though it makes its nest on the ground and is active during the day for all to witness. It simply thrives on not being seen.

And that trait just happens to be the demise of the Pueo on Oahu. For in order for the Pueo to be protected and saved where at, it has to appear and make a scene for the investigators when they are on site performing their EIS inventory. The expectations that the Pueo will suddenly reveal itself on cue, contradicts everything intrinsic to the Pueo. And thus far, the Pueo has won every battle going sight unseen to protect its own interests not knowing that such behavior has contributed to its own plight.

We know the Pueo is here with us getting food to carry on and reproduce. That somewhere is right here in Ewa where I and others do see that bird, and we see it often. Due to the success of the Pueo, it is able to evade all detection during the EIS investigation process and because of that, about to lose critical habitat necessary to sustain itself.

This loss of habitat can be best described as a pair of scissors cutting out the Pueo from all memory, as if it were being systematically and intentionally erased from every picture taken within my family photo album. No habitat, no Pueo, it simply comes down to just that.

I believe we can use the Pueo as a vehicle to heal this town. Whether one is pro or con rail or up or down on Ho'opili, everyone, developer to tree hugger alike, can find common purpose to see to it that the Pueo does indeed, get cared for in our land use plans and remain in photo albums to come.

The first step toward uniting our island, is to learn about what the status of the Pueo is in our own backyard.

Michael Kumukauoha Lee

Recognized Native Hawaiian Cultural Practitioner
and Honouliuli Cultural Descendant

Testimony for SCR 31

In support

Mary Marko



waltestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 3:31 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: launahele@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR31 on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM*

SCR31

Submitted on: 4/7/2017

Testimony for WAL on Apr 12, 2017 11:15AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

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

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