
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The rose-ringed parakeet, *Psittacula krameri*,
2 is one of the most widespread invasive birds on the planet. In
3 the United States, established populations occur in Florida,
4 Hawaii, and southern California. In its native range of Africa
5 and India, this bird is considered to be one of the most
6 significant agricultural pests of important food crops. In
7 Hawaii, the rose-ringed parakeet population has been
8 particularly damaging on Kauai, where its population has been
9 growing exponentially. Although the first pair of rose-ringed
10 parakeets was introduced in Kauai in the 1960s, the population
11 was estimated at one hundred fifty to two hundred birds by 1994,
12 five hundred to one thousand birds by the late 2000s, and over
13 two thousand birds by 2011. The current number on Kauai is
14 unknown, but observations suggest over five thousand birds.

15 The rose-ringed parakeet poses a significant threat to
16 local economies (through agricultural damage to lychee, longan,
17 rambutan and other crops), ecology (through invasive seed



1 dispersal and competition with native wildlife), and human
2 health and safety (through potential spread of disease). On
3 Kauai, the rose-ringed parakeet causes more crop damage than all
4 other birds and mammals.

5 Kauai residents have complained about the noise from the
6 rose-ringed parakeet calls, feces spread below roosts, damage to
7 local gardens and orchards, and loss of business profits and
8 tourism. The rose-ringed parakeet is also a potential vector of
9 various pathogens and diseases (e.g., Avian influenza, Avian
10 malaria, salmonella) that could be passed to humans, pets, and
11 native wildlife.

12 The legislature finds that Act 31, Session Laws of Hawaii
13 2017, appropriated \$75,000 to the department of land and natural
14 resources to support research on damage mitigation and
15 population reduction strategies, to be carried out by the United
16 States Department of Agriculture's National Wildlife Research
17 Center in Hilo. This initial appropriation will be used to hire
18 a director for the study, support a review of existing damage
19 mitigation tools, identify potential new tools for evaluation,
20 develop stakeholder-specific guidelines for damage control to
21 farmers, ranchers, tourism operators, and homeowners, and



1 establish protocols for pilot studies to evaluate the most
2 promising control tools.

3 The legislature further finds that additional funding will
4 be required to complete evaluation studies and carry out the
5 second phase of the project: conducting pilot field studies to
6 evaluate control tools and developing a management plan to
7 reduce populations of the rose-ringed parakeet on Kauai. This
8 process will include tracking and mapping populations and field
9 assessment of population reduction methods.

10 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
11 department of land and natural resources to provide assistance
12 and funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the
13 United States Department of Agriculture to continue its efforts
14 to manage the population of rose-ringed parakeets on the island
15 of Kauai.

16 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
19 department of land and natural resources to assist and fund the
20 National Wildlife Research Center of the United States
21 Department of Agriculture in its efforts to:



- 1 (1) Establish protocols for pilot studies to evaluate the
2 most promising control tools;
- 3 (2) Conduct up to three field trials of the most promising
4 control tools to evaluate efficacy and practicality;
- 5 (3) Update rose-ringed parakeet habitat uses, daily
6 dispersal patterns, and overall range on Kauai;
- 7 (4) Develop an effective control plan for reducing the
8 rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai; and
- 9 (5) Implement an experimental rose-ringed parakeet
10 population reduction as a practical evaluation of the
11 control plan.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
13 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Rose-ringed Parakeet; DLNR; Natural Wildlife Research Center;
Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide assistance and supplemental funding to the National Wildlife Research Center of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to conduct pilot field studies to evaluate control tools and develop a management plan to reduce the rose-ringed parakeet population on Kauai. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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