

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
WATER, LAND, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2019  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 125/HOUSE RESOLUTION 115  
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO  
ESTABLISH THE LANIAKEA BEACH MARINE LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

House Concurrent Resolution 125/House Resolution 115 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to establish the Laniakea Beach Marine Life Conservation District. **The Department appreciates the intent of these measures and offers the following comments.**

Marine Life Conservation Districts (MLCDs) are useful tools for conserving marine life and protecting the marine environment. However, MLCD's or any designated marine management area (MMA) should include extensive scoping in the local area to gain input and feedback on the potential benefits or impacts of a proposed managed area before making such a designation. For example, the Department has concerns that establishing an MLCD at Laniakea Beach would only increase ocean use in the area and exacerbate existing parking and crowding issues. Feedback from the local community would be vital to address these concerns.

MLCDs and other MMAs have historically been designated on a piecemeal basis, with little consideration of ecological connectivity. As part of the Department's Division of Aquatic Resources' (DAR) 30x30 Marine initiative, DAR plans to develop a network of MMAs to provide better protections for the State's nearshore marine resources, while ensuring the continuation of sustainable fishing practices. This process will involve extensive stakeholder input and incorporate the best available scientific data to ensure that the resulting MMA network benefits our nearshore marine resources, our local communities, and our visitors. We encourage all Hawaii residents and stakeholders to engage in the 30x30 planning process to help sustain Hawaii's marine resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.

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

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
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

**HCR-125**

Submitted on: 3/22/2019 9:31:06 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/27/2019 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Laura Gray	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please give us this park. We need to let our beaches and lagoons recover. The state has made alot of tourist dollars off of this area. Please give alittle back. We need to preserve these areas for fish stock rejuvenation and for the future. The tourists want to see a healthy environment, not broken coral and lagoons devoid of all living creatures. Nature needs our help once in a while, and we have so neglected our ocean for so long. Most of the people who fish now are doing it for contests to try to make big money, or to make money selling tropicals. We need areas to be set aside for preservation. In any case there is almost nothing left to catch. Mahalo, Laura Gray