

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

**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 AND LAND**

**Monday, June 29, 2020
12:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 838
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE NATURAL
AREA RESERVES SYSTEM COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
ARTI CLARK, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2024**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports
Governor's Message 838, nominating Arti Michelle Clark to the Natural Area Reserves
System Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2024.**

Ms. Arti Michelle Clark graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology (with Honors) from the University of Hawai'i Hilo in 2001, with a major in Conservation Biology, Evolution, and Ecology, and a Minor in Tropical Forestry. She was a Soil Conservationist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Pacific Islands Area from 1999 to 2008 on the island of Kaua'i where she helped to develop conservation plans for over 9,500 acres of agricultural and wildlife habitat. She was instrumental in working with the Kaua'i Native Plant Society to create an exhibit at the United States Botanic Garden Conservatory (USBGC) in Washington D.C. Titled "Our Nation's Crown Jewels: Rare and Endangered Plants of Hawai'i", the exhibit resulted in a permanent exhibition room of native Hawaiian plants at USBGC. From 2008 to the present, she has been the Kaua'i Partnerships Biologist with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) where she collaborates with private landowners, non-government organizations, and the State of Hawai'i to implement conservation projects which aid in the recovery of listed species and threatened ecosystems in a variety of habitats on the island. She works with partners from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds in a range of environments from coastal areas to caves, mesic and wet forests, and montane bogs. She is involved in a number of programs and activities

with numerous partners, including the State, and the Natural Area Reserves System Commission and Department will benefit greatly from her perspective and can-do nature.

The Department strongly supports GM 838 and recommends that the Senate confirm the appointment of Ms. Arti Michelle Clark on the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.



BISHOP MUSEUM

June 26, 2020

The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President
And Members of the Senate

RE: Testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, Arti Clark to the NARS Commission
Hearing GM 838

Dear Senate President Kouchi and Members of the Senate:

I am writing in enthusiastic support of Ms. Arti Michelle Clark's position as a commissioner to the Natural Area Reserve (NARS) Commission. As a scientist working with some of the most threatened fauna in the world, land snails and other invertebrates, I am uniquely qualified to understand the importance of the NARS commissioners work. I have been fortunate to know Michelle both professionally and personally for more than 10 years. In that time, she has been a passionate and effective advocate of conservation in Hawaii and worked tirelessly to improve collaborative efforts across the islands and particularly on Kauai. Her breadth of experience after more than 20 years of conservation work in the islands, combined with her knowledge and compassion make her an ideal NARS commissioner. As such, it is without reservation that I urge you to consider Ms. Clark's appointment to the NARS commission for another term. We need her and others like her to ensure that the best decisions are being made for the future of our natural resources. I have no doubts that she will continue to advise the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and other partners in making decisions to protect Hawaii's incredible flora and fauna.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Hayes
Director, Pacific Center for Molecular Biodiversity

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1525 Bernice Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-2704
Phone (808) 847-8217

EEO AA/M/F/Veteran/Disability

GM-838

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 12:32:49 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
maya clark	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-838

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 2:13:44 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Klayton Kubo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-838

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 9:37:41 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marigold Zoll	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I support confirmation of Ms. Clark to the Natural Area Reserve Commission representing the island of Kauai because of her expertise in the field of native ecosystem conservation on Kauai, her commitment to the advancement of science, and her personal and professional commitment to responsibly managing trust resources in Hawaii in a way that honors and respects our host culture. She is an ethical, fair, balanced professional and the Commission would benefit from her continued participation.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Marigold Zoll

GM-838

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 1:17:58 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ilana Nimz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-838

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 1:26:33 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leah Laramie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-838

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 1:29:38 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fern Duvall II	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have known Michelle as colleague and her work on Kaua'i for conservation and excellent natural resources work. She will represent expert plant and insect knowledge and greatly further NATURAL AREA RESERVE actions and conservation interests on Kauai and if selected also for the entire natural area reserves system. Please confirm Michelle to the NARS Commission for Kaua'i member - but for all of Hawaii.

GM-838

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 1:45:24 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support Michelle Clark to the NARS Commission.

Benton Kealii Pang

GM-838

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 4:08:43 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kyle Kagimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing to strongly support Michelle Clark's appointment to the NARS Commission. Having known Michelle for over 10 years and spending many days doing remote field work with her to protect Hawaii's endangered species, I know first-hand how dedicated and passionate she is about this work. It is not just a profession, it is a life-long calling. She will be a strong voice for the plants, birds, and insects who do not have a voice that most humans are willing to listen to. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kyle Kagimoto

NANCY J. Y. BUDD
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June 26, 2020

The Honorable Kaiali`i Kahele, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813

RE: GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 838

**IN SUPPORT of the Nomination of ARTI MICHELLE CLARK
for Re-Appointment to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission**

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Arti Michelle Clark to serve on the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.

I have known Michelle for over a decade. In 2009, we were appointed to serve on the Koke`e Advisory Council. This council was established by the Hawai`i State Legislature to review and assist in updating and revising the Koke`e and Waimea Canyon State Parks Master Plan, including protection and preservation of the area's natural and cultural resources. Michelle served as an ex-officio member representing the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and brought impressive experience and expertise to our important task.

Through the years of service on the Koke`e Advisory Council, Michelle spent countless hours poring over the intricacies of the various iterations of the Master Plan and always generously brought valuable insights and scientific clarity to our discussions. Michelle is a champion of habitat and species conservation and ecosystems preservation and recovery.

I am confident she will continue to bring great credit to the commission and to the State of Hawaii. We are grateful that Michelle has been representing us on the Natural Area Reserves Commission and I urge that she be confirmed.

NANCY J. Y. BUDD

GM-838

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 9:44:22 AM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

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

Comments:

I love NARS!! Ecosystem level protection of endangered species and our native forest is done very well by the stewards managing it. Big thanks to all those who work endlessly to protect it!!! Please, we can't sacrifice funding to complete this crucial work for our island. Species are on the brink of extinction, fresh water recharge trickling into the aquifers from NARS is crucial to secure fresh water resources for future generations. Thank you.

GM-838

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 5:19:14 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Norine Yeung	Individual	Support	No

Comments: