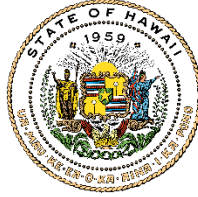


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 325
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

January 28, 2026

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
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BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
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CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

MEMORANDUM

TO: RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE, Acting Chairperson
Department of Land and Natural Resources

FROM: DAVID G. SMITH, Administrator
Division of Forestry and Wildlife

Signature:

Email: david.g.smith@hawaii.gov

SUBJECT: Request for approval of a legal notice to hold a public hearing and select a hearing officer for the Second Draft Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC) Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

Per the decision of the Board of Land and Natural Resources on August 22, 2025, the legal notice for the February 11, 2026, Second Draft Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC) Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) public hearing to be published in the Garden Island newspaper is attached for your review and signature.

We request approval for Jason D. Omick, the Statewide Wildlife Program Manager, to serve as the hearing officer. If Jason is unable to act as the Hearing Officer, the Division will assign an appropriate staff member to conduct the hearing.

If you have any questions, please contact Jesse W. Adams, Protected Species Habitat Conservation Planning Associate, at jesse.w.adams.researcher@hawaii.gov. Thank you for your consideration and your service to protect our natural resources.

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

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SECOND DRAFT KAUA'I ISLAND
UTILITY COOPERATIVE (KIUC) HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN (HCP) FOR THE
ISLAND OF KAUA'I**

Public Hearing Notice, Division of Forestry and Wildlife

DATE: Wednesday, February 11, 2026

TIME: 5:00 PM

**PLACE: Kaua'i Community College, OCET 106 C/D, 3-1901 Kaumuali'i Highway,
Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766**

A Zoom option is also available. Please message:

jesse.w.adams.researcher@hawaii.gov for a link by 4:00 PM on February 10, 2026.

The State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources will hold a public hearing to receive testimony on the second draft of the Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC) Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) affecting the island of Kaua'i, pursuant to Chapter 195D, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

The appointed Hearing Officer is Jason D. Omick, Statewide Wildlife Program Manager, Division of Forestry and Wildlife. A copy of the draft Habitat Conservation Plan and its appendices was made available for public review in the August 23, 2025, edition of *The Environmental Notice*.

Second Draft Habitat Conservation Plan

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Other_TEN_Publications/2025-08-23-KA-2nd-Draft-HCP-Kauai-Island-Utility-Cooperative-Vol-I-of-II.pdf

Second Draft Habitat Conservation Plan Appendices

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Other_TEN_Publications/2025-08-23-KA-2nd-Draft-HCP-Kauai-Island-Utility-Cooperative-Vol-II-of-II.pdf

If you want to attend the above meeting and need auxiliary aids (such as taped materials or a sign language interpreter), please request assistance five working days in advance by contacting the Division of Forestry and Wildlife at 1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 325, Honolulu, HI 96813, or calling (808) 587-0166.

Done at Honolulu this 29th day of January, 2026.



Ryan KP Kanaka'ole, Acting Chairperson
Department of Land and Natural Resources