

## GAME MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

**DATE:** January 17, 2018  
**TIME:** 10:00 AM  
**PLACE:** DLNR Board Room 132, Kalanimoku Building, 1151 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu  
**PURPOSE:** Game Management Advisory Commission Meeting (#4)

### MINUTES

**ITEM 1. Call to order, introductions of members, staff, and visitors; request for move-ups on the agenda.**

#### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Josiah Jury—Oahu  
David Smith—Department of Forestry and Wildlife  
Nancy Timko—Oahu  
Ryan Kohatsu—East Hawaii (arrives later)  
Stanley Ruidas—Lanai (arrives later)

#### COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Jon Sabati—West Hawaii (Chair)  
Lori Buchanan—Molokai  
Robert Cramer—Kauai  
Jefferey DeRego—Maui

#### STAFF:

James Cogswell—DOFAW  
Kyle Davis—DOFAW  
Shaya Honarvar – DOFAW  
Lindsey Ibara—DOFAW  
Joey Mello—DOFAW  
Mike Millay—DOFAW  
Jason Misaki—DOFAW  
Dietra Myers-Tremblay—DOFAW  
Kanalū Sproat—DOFAW  
Sarah Way—DOFAW  
Emma Yuen—DOFAW  
Andrew Choy—Hunter Education Program  
Darren Ogura—Hunter Education Program  
Katie Ersbak—DOFAW (arrives later)  
Sheri Mann—DOFAW (arrives later)

VISITORS:

Alvin Ainoa  
Ashley Ainoa  
Modesto Alvarado  
Chris Burner  
Cathrina Cadiente (Sustainable Hunters of Hawaii)  
Abram Correia  
Michael W.K. Eli  
David Kim  
James K. Manaku, Sr.  
Pooya Motlagh (Waianae Hunting Association)  
Austin Salcedo  
Justin Salcedo  
Lee Salcedo  
Rachael Siciliano  
Calfrey Stanton

Commissioner Smith observes the commission is not at quorum. Commissioner Jury requests to move ITEM 5 after ITEM 2. There are no objections.

**ITEM 2. Report by commissioner Robert Cremer regarding Hawaii Apprentice Hunting License bill propped by Hawaii Island County GMAC.**

**Comm. Jury:** Commissioner Robert Cremer is not here, so I think maybe Andrew could give a briefing.

**Comm. Smith:** And, so Andrew, you're going to talk?

**Comm. Jury:** Sorry to put you on the spot.

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** No, no, no. I don't know about that. I'll just come up there.

**Comm. Smith:** We're just kind of winging it today. Our Chairman isn't here.

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** Regarding the report for the Hawaii Apprentice Hunting License bill proposed by the Hawaii Island County GMAC, it's basically a redo of House Bill 2450, which was introduced in the 2016 Legislative Session. Shaya and Jim were on a conference call that we had with the members of the Hawaii County GMAC, as well as Commissioner Cremer and Commissioner Ruidas. I think the bottom line is—and I don't want to speak for anyone else—but from DOCARE at least, and I believe from DOFAW: we agree with the concept of an apprentice hunting license, we appreciate the concept, we think it's a great thing. The challenge is with the implementation—and whether anyone wants to agree with it or not, from our perspective, especially the manager perspective, the challenge is with obviously how it's written, and also the policies that our staff have to implement on the ground with customers. What that means for us is ironing out the details: what are experience requirements, who's eligible, is it resident or non-resident, age restrictions, etc. So that is really what it comes down to, and my understanding of the takeaway—and Jim, you might want to add in to this—was basically, that the conference call that we had was to just pretty much vet these ideas, but not necessarily agree on the terms, because we in our positions can't really agree on it. But I think another meeting is necessary

at the decision-maker level to really review what's going to be in this bill ultimately. Because the fact of the matter is, this bill spells out those details, and I don't know if there's consensus, even within the County GMAC and the State GMAC, on these terms: whether it's ten, whether it's eighteen; whether it's non-resident, whether it's resident; what the fees are; what the term is; how many times you can renew it. So I think that those are things that we need to discuss at the decision-maker level. Unfortunately, today's the opening day of the session, and frankly these are details that are better ironed out internally. I don't know if this bill has been introduced under another bill—or if it's planned to be, what the timeline is—but I don't think it's a good scenario for us to go into the legislative session and have the legislators iron these details out for us. In 2016, this bill went through, and there were a bunch of terms in there that the legislators had amended, which were not consistent with any intent that either the Department had or the Hawaii County Commissioner at the time, Tom Lodge. In short, that's kind of where it's at, not having really prepared. But I'm here to answer any questions if you guys have any.

**Comm. Jury:** Thank you for jumping in on such short notice. So, you're saying that probably this needs a little more work between ironing out some of the details that are going on within this bill. For all of you who just entered, this is something that Commissioner Robert Cremer from Kauai was going to bring up, and we asked Andrew to just jump in really quick and give us a briefing.

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** Yeah, absolutely. Like they say, the devil's in the details. And the terms of these, specifically under subsection B of this bill, subsections 1, 2, A, B, C, D, E, F—all those things we need a consensus on. So, one recommendation that I had proposed before we even started the conference call was to just agree on enabling legislation. Just forgo all the details, put forward a bill that just enabled the apprentice hunting license, obviously put a term on it so that we have to implement this, but then at least internally—whether through rulemaking or policy—establish the terms when we have more time to go through it. And frankly, I don't even know how much this has been vetted by the game biologists, the branch managers as well, because I'm sure we all have concerns—even enforcement for that matter. Enforcement hasn't been involved and I can't speak for my chief. So those are all different parties that haven't really been at the table to go over these details. My recommendation, and I think my chief's recommendation that he conveyed to me before this meeting, was to do enabling legislation, enable the concept of this, and then iron out the details through rulemaking or policy or whatever else. Do you guys want to add anything?

**James Cogswell (DOFAW):** No, I think you covered it.

**Comm. Smith:** Jim, can I ask you a question? What was our testimony last year on this bill?

**James Cosgrove (DOFAW):** Our testimony was: we support the concept, but we have issues with the details that were written into the legislation itself. What Andrew is explaining is that putting that in the legislation makes it more difficult down the line to adapt it and amend it to reality in the field and the implementation and enforcement of it.

**Dietra Myers-Tremblay (DOFAW):** To clarify, it was 2016.

**Comm. Smith:** Oh, so it's not last session.

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** And then one of the main things that came up from that two years ago was that the apprenticeship license should not be more than one year. I think that's what the Department suggested.

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** Yeah, so my recollection—and don't quote me on this—but I don't think this Bill 2450 made it through crossover. But it made it through a couple referrals, and in

one of the referrals, one of the amendments was to make it renewable indefinitely. And so at that point, Suzanne had asked that it just be tabled, because the complete intent of it was lost at that time. So the bill was ultimately tabled.

**Comm. Smith:** Can someone speak to what was the purpose and intent? What are we trying to accomplish?

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** Yeah, so that's a great question. The backbone for this bill is the Families Afield bill that was put forward. It's a recruitment drive for new hunters, but it's with the understanding that new hunters want to try before you buy. Part of it is that it puts Hunter Ed as a barrier to access, but from my experience, Hunter Ed isn't a barrier. It only becomes a barrier when we can't do enough classes. But by and large, people want to take Hunter Ed. Parents want their kids to start off taking Hunter Ed. New people who have no experience hunting want to take Hunter Ed before they—the barrier is perhaps there's not enough classes, but Hunter Ed itself is not a barrier. So, moving that aside, it is a recruitment thing, but I think part of it too is providing immediate opportunities for someone—like my cousin or something—to be able to take that person into the field, and hopefully that person by following me and harvesting an animal gets the bug to take Hunter Ed and expand the hunting base. I think that's the general concept of it. I don't think we've looked into reasonably how many apprentice licenses would be sold in the first year. I would be surprised frankly—and I have no data for this—I would be surprised if we sold 200 apprentice licenses statewide, in any given year. That seems quite high for me.

**Comm. Smith:** And the gist of it would be that you don't have to take Hunter Ed?

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** So basically, you can apply for this hunting apprentice license once in your lifetime and you can defer it for another year. So you get this license—you don't have to take Hunter Ed—you can hunt for one year, and then you can apply again for another year, which is consistent with the hunting license year. So you potentially have two years in your lifetime to defer Hunter Ed and hunt, basically—with a mentor, yeah. I guess the point is that there's a lot of details. That's just one of them: there's referral, there's age, there's a lot of details to it that frankly our staff, our secretary, our clerks, have to interact with when they deal with hunters, and we have to have this solid for them, or it's going to be like anything else. If it's bad policy, why make it into law?

**Comm. Smith:** So you're basically letting somebody hunt for two years with no Hunter Ed as long as they're with somebody—

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** As long as they're with someone that is a, quote, "experienced hunter." But then the thing is, what defines an experienced hunter, right? So some states require that the experienced hunter has a certain number of hunting licenses on record. For example: I'm the mentor, it's required that for me to be a mentor I have to have purchased three hunting licenses sometime in the past, to demonstrate to some degree—it's not a guarantee, but it's an assurance—that I have some experience. But depending on the way that this is written, I could take Hunter Ed tonight—this weekend we have a class—never handle a firearm, won't handle a firearm in our Hunter Ed class, now I'm an experienced hunter. I have my Hunter Ed certification, I can take my friend out now. And granted, there's no guarantee that if I took Hunter Ed five years ago that I would have any more experience, right? I could have taken it and never touched a gun in five years. But I guess the understanding is that by putting some kind of parameters, there's a little bit more assurance that the mentor really, truly is a mentor.

**Comm. Smith:** And what's the benefit of letting a person that has never taken Hunter Ed—what's the benefit of doing that?

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** I think that's why it goes back to the premise, at least in the Families Afield, that Hunter Ed is a barrier. So, if Hunter Ed is a barrier, then this would help, right? If people don't want to take Hunter Ed, then this would help because it allows them to experience it and then maybe commit to a Hunter Ed class. But Hunter Ed is becoming increasingly more available. As it is right now, you can go online, take an online course completely, and go. So, if you said, "Well, I don't want to take Hawaii's Hunter Ed because it's twelve hours, I don't want to give up a weekend," you could go home, go online, take an online course from Texas, complete it in four hours, and you could go out tomorrow. You'd have to go through that exemption process with DOFAW, but you could still go hunting.

**Comm. Smith:** And our intent is to eventually have Hunter Ed largely if not entirely online.

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** Yeah, it is. So, within a year's time, we've expanded certification options, and we already have a hybrid course. You already have many states that offer Hunter Ed completely online anyway, and that's completely recognized.

**Commissioner Timko:** So, since this bill was addressed in 2016 session, that was before the online Hunter Education started. Is this necessary at this point?

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** Technically. So that was before our program started the hybrid option, but other states already had an online Hunter Ed, which was restricted. There are many states that offer Hunter Education that can be completed completely online, but many of them are restricted to residents. I think about 11 of let's say maybe 15 or 20 states, their courses are not restricted to residents. Which is to say, anyone who has not completed Hunter Ed could take any one of those eleven non-resident-restricted Hunter Ed courses, get an exemption through DOFAW, and hunt in Hawaii.

**Comm. Timko:** Thank you.

**Comm. Smith:** Anything else? Okay, if anybody would like to testify, you need to come up, state your name, and then any public testimony. Thanks.

**James K. Manaku, Sr. (public):** James K. Manaku, Sr., concerned parent, grandparent, great-grandparent. Apprentice license—that's interesting. You know, I never had an apprentice license, and I'm 71 years old now. But anyway, we got a different kind of education when I grew up. We learned from the old hunters. They're much better teachers than a book and pictures, believe me, they're much better. They can get across to you much easier. But like he said, hunting education doesn't guarantee you that the person will learn how to use a gun. To walk with a gun with the old guys, and try to do something stupid, you always will remember what stupid was—no really! Today they call it abuse. Back then, they called that being very careful. Because I've had several gunshots close to me. In fact, one time we were walking up Waianae Valley Road when it was the old road—went up like this—and there was someone on top shooting down. So as I was walking up, you could hear the bullets come. I had to take out my gun and shoot it, and I emptied my clip, just to let him know somebody was there, and I gave him a scolding to. So you know, Hunter Education doesn't guarantee anything. I think for me personally—all my children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and the people around them—when I take them in the mountain, I make sure—I'm not as rough as the old time—but I'm very adamant about what they're doing, how they're doing it, and what they're doing it for. I'm also a subsistence cultural

practitioner, and recognized fortunately by the Board of Water Supply, so that's nice for me. But anyway, I'm just concerned that—I think we need to educate and take them with guns and let them see, put blanks in the guns and let them handle the guns, so they understand that when their gun goes off, whoever is in front is going to die. And unless they understand that, they play with the guns. I've seen kids play with guns. When I go in the mountains, I go in a tree, and I watch hunters come underneath me and I think sometimes they're playing war with their guns. An accident can happen at any time. So I'm not sure how we're going to address this, but for me personally, all the people that I talk to and show, I teach in the old way. It's only for their good, and I think that's something that you guys should be encouraging for all of us old guys. Because we know our rights, we know the laws, what we cannot do and what we shouldn't do. So, apprentice license, oh boy—how do I get past an apprentice license? How do I become a regular hunter? Because when I got my first license I became a hunter like that, but I was educated—not to you guys, but to the system. What would an apprentice do? How long does he have to handle a gun, or does he? Because everything we teach is not only with guns, but with knives. Of course you know a knife is a very important instrument for us in the mountains. So I'm just worried—are we trying to get money or something? No really, I mean... apprentice, how does that work? I'm just curious about that, and I just want to assure you guys that for the old hunters, many of us, when we teach our next generation, believe me, safety's very important. Number one. It's not what you're going to get—it's the safety of how you're going to get it that's important. Thank you.

**Comm. Smith:** I just want to clarify that this statewide GMAC did not put forward this bill. This was put forward by the Hawaii County GMAC which preceded this body. So we're not the ones who put this bill forward, we're just here to discuss its merits.

**James K. Manaku, Sr. (public):** Okay. And then you know, it'd be nice to work with a subsistence practitioner, because of course we use weapons when we need to.

**Comm. Smith:** Yep. Great. Thank you, James.

**Comm. Jury:** I just wanted to say that how I'm reading the bill—it's another tool that Hunter Ed is growing, and the apprentice, as what I've interpreted, is kind of more first timers coming along and trying to hook them up with experienced hunters, old-timers, people who know, instead of going to Hunter Ed course. It's just another tool for them, like how they went from classes, to online, to them just getting out and connecting with experienced hunters to be taught the right ways. And then hopefully as this thing progresses, there will be something in there like a reference sheet, that we can work towards.

**Andrew Choy (Hunter Education Program):** Just to clarify, in many states, from what I've researched, there's an application process where you apply to be a mentor, yet you demonstrate your experience in whatever form. But you basically are enrolled in a mentor database, and then apprentices can come in and apply to be with a mentor that's already registered, there's a definite process to it. I'll just add though, if you look at the hunter incidents that have happened within the last five, ten years in Hawaii, most of the fatalities—they've been with experienced hunters. There was that guy up in Kohala on the Big Island that was checking traps, and he had a gun in the front seat, and he pulled it from the muzzle and shot himself in the abdomen. On Maui, there was a group of hunters on one of the private ranches where a guy was unloading his gun in front of a guide and shot the guide in the head. Several years back from Makua Keaau there was Eric Sawchuk that was hunting goats up in Makua Keaau and he fell. So I think it's kind of understood that, assuming students take Hunter Ed, incidents happen primarily with

experienced hunters that kind of get complacent, and nationally it's usually like—falls from tree stands are a big thing. Just for your information.

**Comm. Smith:** Okay. Continue with public testimony, this guy was next. And we'll get everybody in, everybody who wants to testify.

**Unknown (public):** I just wanted to find out what was on the agenda on the floor right now for the bill. I walked in a little late.

**Comm. Smith:** Here's an agenda right here. And we don't have quorum, so we're talking about everything, but we can't vote on it right now. Maybe if more guys show up.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** How much is it for the hunting class?

**Comm. Timko:** There's no fee for the hunting class.

**Comm. Smith:** The class is free.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** Because you know why? I teach my nephews and nieces how to walk in the mountain and not get hurt. Walk safely, walk on open trails, and then gun safety is the number one rule of everything. So at 15, you don't let them hold a gun, you teach them gun safety. When they're 18, then you can give them a gun. At least you get that three years of teaching them that you've got to be responsible for the bullet that comes out of that gun, because now you're an adult. They're going to have to take charge. People are not taking responsibility for their bullet that comes out of their gun. You've got to be responsible for that bullet. And when we're walking in the mountain, I tell them, "You don't need to rush. If you rush, you're going to get hurt. You don't need to get hurt." He said some people get hurt because they're rushing. They're rushing, and if you're going to go goat hunting, you've got to walk safer already, and with the right gear. You've got to go up there with the right shoes, because you know it's going to be rough terrain and slippery. And they're going to fall. This is not like the Big Island, where your gun is loaded in the truck and you're going to shoot yourself. You've got to load the gun in the mountain or wherever you stand. And that's all I have to say.

**Comm. Smith:** One comment I have is that in a lot of sports, the highest number of fatalities are with the expert class. Most rock climbers that die are expert rock climbers. So anyway...

**Comm. Timko:** The only comment I have is that your kids and grandkids are fortunate and very lucky that they have you to teach them how to hunt. This bill, in my mind, is more for the kids who live in town, don't have hunters in their family, but may have friends that hunt, and they are interested, but don't know how to get in. So, this would give them the opportunity to get that first license, find a mentor, take them out. Your kids are fortunate, trust me. Took me five years to get my husband to teach me how to hunt.

**Comm. Smith:** Any other public testimony?

**Abram Correia (public):** My name is Abram Correia, and I not only represent the Waianae Makaha, but the hunters in general, including my family, my keiki—eventually my grandkids, as well. To pass down and to teach them about living off of our natural resources, that's how we all grew up. First of all, I understand we don't have a quorum over here, so there's only so much that can be done right now, and said, and taken in. But for me this brings up the eradication. We're doing eradications, you guys are—

**Comm. Smith:** But that's not what we're talking about right now. We're going to get to that.

**Abram Correia (public):** Where I'm going with this is: you guys are asking for hunting education courses. What's the use of that if there's going to be nothing to go for eventually?

**Comm. Smith:** That's not what we're talking about right now.

**Abram Correia:** That's why, when he's talking about Hunter Education courses and everything—yeah, you guys do put it on. But us as hunters—like he said—our families are fortunate to learn from us. So that's why we're here, to preserve that as well. That's our job as well, our kuleana as Hawaiians, if anything. With that being said, I understand about the Hunter Education course, I myself went through it. But then again, how much are they going to learn from it? There are some kids, in general, who don't come from a hunting background. We like to say holoholo, you know? So that's my statement on that part. He's talking about creating more licenses, and now I'm hearing an apprenticeship program. With that being said—just like Uncle Manaku said—sounds like we're just trying to find funds right now.

**Comm. Timko:** Okay, my understanding is that it wouldn't be mandatory. It's voluntary. So if a student 10 to 18, whatever, wanted to—it's purely voluntary. It's not telling you, "Your kids have to get an apprentice license before they take Hunter Ed." That's not what it's saying.

**Abram Correia (public):** That's good, I'm glad you've made that clear, so everybody can be clear on that.

**Comm. Smith:** I think they're trying to find another entry point for hunters.

**Abram Correia (public):** And that's why we're all here, we're all willing to help, but we never get the access to—

**Comm. Smith:** You get your own natural apprenticeship programs, people learn from you. And of course, you don't learn everything from a course, but the course is good enough where it qualifies as your firearm safety course, so it's something, it's a start. It's like taking a driver's ed course but not actually getting in a car and driving, right? But you learn something. And so the Hunter Ed course has value, but of course it's not everything. So that's where then you go out with you guys in the field and learn the real stuff about firearm safety.

**Abram Correia (public):** We like to participate the best we can as well, instead of getting cut short all the time. We take our time to come to these meetings, but is it really being taken in?

**Comm. Smith:** The thing is, this isn't just a free-for-all thing. This is a commission meeting, so we have to run it like that. We've got a Board, we have to have testimony, it's not just a free-for-all talk. So we will get to all the other stuff, anything you want to talk about, but we can't just do a free-for-all, free-form agenda thing. We have to talk about what's on the agenda. That's just the way it works, because this is a Sunshine meeting, a public meeting. You want a commission, you got a commission, but it's formal, you know. It's like coming to talk to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, you can't just come up and talk about anything you want. You have to talk about the stuff on the agenda. So I'm not trying to cut you off—

**Abram Correia (public):** No, no, that's about all that I wanted to say, and it sucks. Freedom of speech.

**Comm. Smith:** Thank you very much.

**Comm. Jury:** Just real quick—do we have any more agendas? I think a lot of them might not be sure, because they don't have the agenda.

**Shaya Honarvar:** So, we usually provide one or two copies of the agenda which is in the public folder there, and then you all can share. So not each person gets a copy of the agenda, we can all share. I have one more copy, and we can use these.

**Comm. Smith:** Why don't we steal those, and then if other guys show up we can make more copies. Is there any more testimony on this matter? Come up and introduce yourself.

**Austin Salcedo (public):** Hi, my name is Austin Salcedo. I just have questions, because I look at this statement in ITEM 3 and—



**Comm. Smith:** Well we're on ITEM 2. Is there any other testimony on the Hawaii Apprentice Hunting License bill proposed by Hawaii County GMAC?

**Austin Salcedo (public):** Okay, I'll sit, then. I'm just trying to stay on the agenda for all you folks here.

**Comm. Smith:** Okay, awesome. Thank you. Okay, no more testimony...

**Chris Burner (public):** I've got one more!

**Comm. Smith:** Okay, right on.

**Chris Burner (public):** Chris Burner, from Wahiawa. My question is, the apprenticeship program that you guys are trying to get started... as law sits right now, don't we have a guest program, where we can bring a guest as long as he's not packing pigs, stabbing pigs, carrying a rifle, and he can come along without a hunting license? Why are we doing this? We already have a law in place that says you can bring a guest, and as long as he doesn't participate in the actual killing of the pig, carrying of the pig, he doesn't need to be an apprentice. This is for anybody who wants to hunt. So what are we doing? Why are we making more red tape?

**Comm. Smith:** Good point. It's another bill. This is a bill put forward by the Big Island GMAC.

**Comm. Jury:** Robert Cremer wasn't here today, but he did meet with the Big Island Commission, like how Mr. Smith was saying. So he has some insight to it, and he also had a voice call with Andrew Choy, so they're kind of working it out. He wasn't here today to discuss his thoughts on it—we just wanted to hear whatever Andrew had to say about the briefing. Chris, you make a good point about what's in action right now. Please keep in mind that this is not a bill, it's something they're showing to the Commission, and they want to see how we can work toward it, with Andrew working with Rob. I'm pretty sure this will make the next agenda as well when he's present, that way he can be thorough about what the intention is.

**Chris Burner (public):** Forgive me for my ignorance, I just call it like it is, since we're here already. We're kind of like big government already—we need them out of our lives as much as possible. If there's some kind of a list you've got to go on to do a walk in the mountain, that's just another way of controlling the people, if you ask me. And we already have the right to take somebody hunting without any stipulations, as long as they don't participate and are just guests. So, I don't know if this is a way just to get a little bit broader spectrum on the view of who's out there, who wants to go hunting, for survey purposes or not, or for later on, we say, "We have this many people that are showing interest in hunting, now can we find a way to put money to it," you understand what I'm saying? We'll see then what kind of numbers are out there, and then we'll see what kind of fee we can apply to that apprenticeship program later on in the future. Might be just a foot in the door in the beginning being voluntary and free, but if the numbers are big enough, the State will go for the money, I'm almost positive of that. That's all I have to say.

**Comm. Smith:** Can I clarify one thing? This bill was put forward by hunters, not by the State, and I think the Division of Forestry and Wildlife actually agrees with you.

**Chris Burner (public):** That'll be one of the few things.

**Comm. Smith:** Just saying.

**Chris Burner (public):** Thank you very much.

**Comm. Smith:** Okay, any other testimony on this matter? Okay, thank you very much.

**ITEM 5. A short report by each commissioner summarizing their meetings with DOFAW staff on the island that they represent.**

**Comm. Jury:** We can tag-team it, since we're both Oahu Commissioners, and the only ones here.

**Comm. Timko:** I met with Jason Misaki last Friday, basically went over the Department's list of priorities and what they're working on. Do you want to say this? Jason, do you want to brief—

**Jason Misaki (DOFAW):** You can just read off the list that I provided.

**Comm. Timko:** So, the number one item is the development of shooting ranges, not just on Oahu but on all islands: finding property to establish ranges; establishing who would run them; liability insurance; what division would it be under, DOFAW or DOCARE; should we get grants for shooting ranges, to run it; and just getting input from the public about ideas.

**Comm. Jury:** One of the things that was brought up was the development of shooting ranges—like she said—trying to see what kind of restrictions we have, how can we try and get money for it from the CIP, organize support for the shooting ranges—and this is for the island of Oahu now that we're talking about—going back and forth and seeing what the hunters might be saying about this. This is just something that we talk about, as it's our job to go back to our communities, to reach out to the hunters, and to not only bring to you guys what they're saying, but vice versa. Another issue that came up was the multiple land users on Na Ala Hele trails in Forest Reserves, like people who are non-hunters or hikers not being required to wear blaze orange when hiking in hunting areas—kind of working out what will make the trail safer, so that way there's no interaction between hunting dogs and people hiking with dogs. These are things that are occurring on Oahu that's arising here in the Game Commission that the Wildlife Manager is working with us on, and if we do change the rules, what is the standard, and then also how do we enforce it? That's another issue that came up, so we're going to discuss that moving forward. Another issue that we know is hunting on private land. DOFAW is strongly involved in legislation to try and move forward hunter access to hunt on private land. But as always, we need to build trust with the private landowners. So, there's some things that DOFAW is trying to work with, trying to find out a cooperative agreement and seek funding—of course, the landowners are always concerned about liability, it's no surprise to us—while continuing to build trust. We want to look at the incentive for private landowners regarding hunting or hiking, hunting access on land that had been done in the past. So, what we want to try to do is look at what has been done on the mainland or in other states for incentives and try and see if we can mirror that here, especially on this island. We have a lot of landowners, and a lot of places where we want to hunt, and the State understands that and they're working towards it. There's an action item on the bottom, and even the State is moving forward with their access and acquisition position at the state level. And that's the position of the person who's going out there to look for stuff that can help not only the hunters, but statewide as a whole.

**Comm. Smith:** And let me just clarify on that. So Na Ala Hele, our Trails and Access Program, is the lead for that. We did have a separate position, but that position is not—it was funded through RCUH. The University's decided that that isn't really a position that is compatible with their program or suitable to be hired through RCUH. So, our plan is to try to get an additional access and acquisitions person, or another abstractor in the Na Ala Hele program to help out with our access—

**Comm. Jury:** So the access and acquisitions would come under the Na Ala Hele program?

**Comm. Smith:** Yes, that's where it really should live anyway. So, we're just trying to build up more capacity in Na Ala Hele, and with Michael coming on, just trying to reemphasize the fact that access is one of the priorities. Because in the past we've really focused on trail maintenance, which is great, but a few really nice trails—I'd rather have a bunch of not quite as nice trails, personally, and finding those access points that you guys can go, even if it's not great, even if we don't maintain them, but we say, "Legally, you can go." And so that's the kind of thing we'd like to focus on rather than making sure the trail is eight feet wide, six feet high, and blah, blah, blah, you know. Just making sure we find those routes that people can use to get to the mountains.

**Unknown (public):** Kunia. Kunia's all blocked off. Moanalua Valley.

**Comm. Smith:** We're working on that right now. Yeah, so work with your guys. You can work with Mike. All this stuff can happen offline, we don't want to try to fix every little problem at this meeting. But that is our priority, it's something we've been working on, and we have opened up a bunch, we've found a bunch, so it's working.

**James K. Manaku, Sr. (public):** Don't they have to have eradication for their properties? What I'm talking about is private property owners that have pigs on their property. Don't they want to eradicate them? This is the perfect opportunity for them, and it's all free. Maybe you guys can do away with the liability. When I go hunting with a hunting license but I got a bird, you guys are not liable, right?

**Comm. Smith:** Okay, let's go back to the Oahu report.

**Comm. Jury:** So please, regarding the access and acquisition area—he's the one you guys want to speak with if you have questions after the meeting. And he's really open to what everybody has to say. We met with him before, so I'm sure he'll make himself available, but the access and acquisition person is really valuable towards gaining more areas for the hunting as a whole in the state. So... some specific incentive programs from other states that you find... continue to monitor the legislative bills, the resolutions and grants of support from the legislatures... the fourth thing that did come up within that meeting was the aerial shoot. He said: "DOFAW will continue to meet with the community as they did on December 11 and January 11. Aerial shoot is scheduled to continue quarterly. Our staff's continuing to work with groups and other concerned community regarding possible ways to get more hunters involved, or access to control areas. We have issued salvage permits, bag increase permits, and established temporary 'no aerial shooting areas' for the hunters to remove the goats before aerial shooting. We are also exploring new access areas into Waianae Kai public hunting area. Board of Water Supply and DOFAW are also working to renew the land license. Part of the agreement moving forward is to develop a way to allow for public hunting on Board of Water Supply lands." Game birds in 2017 and 2018 in the season, 192 birds were released in Kokala, 160 Ring-necked Pheasants. DOFAW continued to have volunteers releasing birds every Friday in the hunting season. And new signs they're going to put up throughout the island in the public hunting area. That's kind of what we've been going back and forth with, with the Wildlife Manager. He's giving us updates on what action or what direction he has a feel for. And it's our job as a commission to go back to you guys, share that action, see what you guys might say as well, and act as that liaison in the middle. Before we take up testimonies, I've got something to share regarding the aerial shoot. I just wanted to give a conclusion in the perspective of the Game Commissioner on this. As the Game Commissioner, this is what I've observed: the DLNR is mandated with watershed protection, and they have done outreach with a PowerPoint, they have had additional meetings and emails addressing all the concerns they had in the public. DLNR also collaborated with

Waianae Hunting Association, and within the description and the mission justification that I observed over the last six months of first hearing about the aerial control—as well as going through the two trips they had for the aerial control—I understand that DLNR has worked very hard to get this management tool of aerial shooting to this point. However, the hunting community is really for protecting hunting, and I observe as a Game Commissioner that they have a lot of concerns of wasting the meat, wanting to participate, and working with DLNR to arrange more meetings to voice their concerns. A lot of times DLNR says one thing—we had two meetings after and before the game aerial shoot that was scheduled. During the second meeting it was brought to my attention that prior to the meeting which was held in November, agreement was held between the Waianae Association and DLNR for a ‘no shoot zone’—to not shoot the goats in that area, because the agreement was, we’ll let the hunters have a six-month window to shoot in the area. But what happened in the aerial shooting in November, was that DLNR ended up engaging goats within the area. I was followed up with an email, when it was questioned why they engaged the goats in the area, that it was a better landmark to use the gulch than the suggested polygon. So therefore, there was some sort of breaking the agreement, there’s a little mistrust that’s going on that was arising within the hunting community and the DLNR. So, again, as me observing all of this and me going through this in the last six months, hearing all the meetings, coming to this meeting, reading the reports, I can see the tool that DLNR uses—aerial shooting—as part of managing the area. And I also see that their participation outreach has superseded what we have asked, but it doesn’t neglect to show the voice of the community, and at times the loss of credibility or integrity, by saying one thing and doing another. So as the Oahu Commissioner, I asked Shaya, that after the next game meeting, an action item be placed on the agenda for voting to place a hold on aerial control until a respected resolution can be agreed upon between landowners and land users: Board of Water Supply, DLNR and the hunting community. So the dual mandates of DLNR to not only protect the watershed and the native ecosystem, but also to protect, preserve and promote public hunting, can be equally upheld. And that’s what I’ve observed as a Game Commissioner. I feel like until there is a respected resolution, we’re always going to have this conflict, and that’s why I request it be put on the agenda for voting to the commission next week, that a hold be placed. And that’s my observation for the last six months as one who sits here and has to act as a liaison.

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** Just to clarify, it would be an action item to write a letter—

**Comm. Jury:** Yes, to write a letter.

**Comm. Smith:** To the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

**Comm. Jury:** These are the steps, but we just want to do it.

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** You just want to get it onto the agenda so we can—

**Comm. Smith:** Be advisory to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

**Comm. Jury:** So again, like how she said—even though we vote, we’re only advisory. I want to make it clear to everybody, we’re only on an advisory capacity. So if we vote that the letter moves forward, it’s only going to go to the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and it’s up to them what to do with it. But my hope is that prior to that, this agreement could be worked out so that we don’t have to get that far and that vote on the mandate can continue to be upheld with watershed protection and promoting public hunting.

**Chris Burner (public):** Wasn’t the DLNR already advised not to—

**Comm. Smith:** Wait. Okay, so is that all?

**Comm. Jury:** Yes sir.

**Comm. Smith:** Okay, public testimony! And you need to come up and introduce yourself.

**Alvin Ainoa:** I'll be the first. Alvin Ainoa. I just got this email from Ryan stating that on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> they're supposed to do scheduled control operations in Waianae Kai, Lualualei, Nanakuli, Mokuleia, for the aerial shooting, so I don't know if they're stopping or not. As a concerned gatherer/hunter/veteran, I thought they were supposed to be—one of the things was conservation for us, for having game animals. Now with all this aerial shooting, they kind of take away majority of our game animals, so what's left for us to hunt? Then secondly, majority of the areas that they're doing these control shootings, half of them all fenced off, so the goats cannot actually breed or cannot repopulate as much as they're saying. So I went up there on my last trip, I just went up there to go hunt, then the game animals—no more nothing on the mountain, no goats. I used to see herds of 300, now I don't even see one herd of five. So all this aerial shooting, I don't know what control they're still trying to do, if they're just trying to waste money or what. That's what we came here for, to talk to DLNR, the head of DLNR, we wanted to see what's going on. Secondly, that and all the fences—what's going on? Half of our public hunting areas are all fenced off. So when you go into Waianae Kai, majority of our public hunting areas is fenced in, just like up in Tantalus, Poamoho—even Pupukea, they just started fences inside that area. I just went hunting there on Martin Luther King Day, and I just saw a brand-new area they're trying to fence off. So that's my concerns with what's going on with that. How come we're paying \$20 for our hunting license and these guys are fencing off public hunting areas and eradicating our animals? That's all I have to say. Thank you.

**Comm. Smith:** Okay, thank you. Next.

**Pooya Motlagh:** How's it going everybody? I'm Pooya Motlagh. I represent the Waianae Hunting Association. I got a few questions. One: we want to hold the DLNR accountable for wasting the food and the people that they're robbing. Two: the game advisory commission advised the DLNR not to go and do this eradication on the goats, but they still went ahead and did it. Three: how is the DLNR upholding the responsibilities of the house concurrent resolution? They're not. Number four: most of these goats that are targeted in eradication, they're not even in the watershed. You look on that map, they're not even in the watershed, which they claim they want to protect. The other day with the nuclear threat that we had—I think it touched everyone—if Pearl Harbor got hit, our food is coming from that mountain. It's not coming from Hansen Foods, which has a two-week supply for the whole island. It's coming from our backyards, it's coming from those goats, from those pigs—that's how we're going to survive. Here's over a thousand signatures I got in less than a month to stop this eradication. That's all I've got to say.

**Comm. Smith:** Thank you.

**Comm. Timko:** Thank you.

**Pooya Motlagh:** You guys want this? This is a copy, you guys can have it. It's over a thousand signatures.

**Comm. Smith:** Sure. Not sure how we'll actually handle that, but we'll take it. Okay, next!

**Austin Salcedo (public):** Hi, my name's Austin Salcedo. We were at the townhall meeting—the commission was there—and were trying to get the landowners like Board of Water Supply to communicate with the DLNR, but nobody committed to a timeline to have a resolution to come up with a decision. Rather, we have someone who eradicates the meat, the animal, and lets them decay up in the mountain, causing other pests, like rodents and all that. You're asking for disease up there, whether that thing can be consumed by hunters and their families, their friends. Protecting the watershed by

eradicating these animals—you have the rodents, you have fleas, you have ticks, and then they're going to start poisoning the rats, eventually. Then the rat's going to look for water—it's common sense for a rat to do—and guess where they're going to go? Into our watersheds. Then guess who consumes it? You can answer that question. But we need to have a committed timeline for the landowners and DLNR—who basically officiates the whole islands—because we cannot have any yahoo hunters coming down to our islands and eradicating just for trophies. We need to consume in our backyard, because we in the 96792 community go up to the Big Island, and we have to ask permission to reach into their personal icebox, you know? And we in the 96792 area, we don't have anything already, as you can see, as these people were saying. And I'm just trying to speak up about what can happen as a result of eradication, leaving the meat to decay up in the mountains: rodents, parasites, flies—you can answer all those questions for yourselves, I'm just bringing up the topics. We have to protect the watershed. It's important, mind you, but we can't have rodents that are tainted with poison going in our watersheds. And that's conservation. And as far as erosion on properties on the mountains, we were consumed by drought that brought in the brown grassy area, and what happens after that? Fire. So I want to say the goats were cause of the vegetation downfall—some of the elements were beyond human control. That in mind, hopefully this commission has authority into the DLNR area with the landowners as well. So please, have a bite into this meat. Appreciate that, thank you.

**Comm. Jury:** I have a question for you. So, the meeting that was held with DLNR and Board of Water Supply, you feel that they began to talk of resolutions, there just wasn't a resolution timeline that was set in place?

**Austin Salcedo (public):** There was all discussion in that quorum, but there was no committed timeline, it was all, "They have to take that discussion to their higher levels," and those higher levels don't have a timeline to make a decision. That's something the commission and the people can work on, on that timeline decision. Right now, it's all up in the air. That's the way I've heard it, and that's the way other people heard it, too. They've got to be committed to making a decision. That's their job. That's all I have to say.

**Comm. Jury:** Yes, thank you.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** Hey, aloha again. Mike Eli. Yeah, I was trying to stop this eradication from the beginning, but they never listen to me, and I don't how many goats they take out from Waianae Kai—hopefully they leave Makaha alone—but when I was in the mountain behind the houses, no more goats. They usually have goats, and they said they weren't going to shoot over there, but I guess there's nothing now. I don't hear them, they're only across from Makaha. And then when they shoot the goats, they just leave them there, and everything must go downhill. So, if you all are "Land and Natural Resources," that's our resource—you guys are supposed to protect that, yeah? That's our food source, that's what land and natural resources is about. Everything must go downhill, so if the thing now goes in the watershed, the thing has to go into the ocean, so they have to protect the ocean, too. So all these germs and all these *E. coli* or whatever go right into the ocean, everything washes away. Then the goats keep down the grass. When they keep down the grass, that kills the mouse—so once you take out the goats, the Pueo's not going to have his food. He could take out the rats and the mouse, because the shrubs are short now, not high. If the goat is on the cliffs, what native plants can they take out from there, from on the cliffs? Because I only see California Grass, regular grass, and Haole Koa—that's what stays up there, but most of the mountain is fenced off. In Makaha the thing goes straight up to the cliffs

and then in Waianae, too. The whole mountain is fenced off all the way down to Kuaokala, the whole west side is all fenced off, so nothing's going to go over. In Waianae and Makaha, there's only two openings where the pigs can run. The hikers, too—like you just said—they cause erosion on the trails, and I think they probably destroy plants. They leave their rubbish. We learn that if we bring the rubbish there, we have to take it out, we leave the mountain how it is, but with the hikers—we have to take garbage bags of rubbish that's not even ours. It's in Waianae and Makaha, there's so much rubbish, you guys wouldn't even believe it. I mean, if these guys go in a mountain, they would see them. If they plant native plants and stuff, they would see the rubbish. And the solution for the hikers is for you guys to give them hiking permits, you know what I mean? Give them hiking permits. If you go in a mountain, you fine them, because that's part of the erosion.

**Unknown (public):** Hold them responsible.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** Yeah, you have to hold the hikers responsible, because they just keep going in the mountain like it's nothing—military, plenty of people, I see them. They don't care for us, but we're taking care of the mountain, we are the caretakers of the mountain. If you need help and planning, get the community, take them to the community and they can plan, know what I mean? I've been taking care since watershed management came. I've been in the mountain for twelve years already, taking care of that one spot. I've got Punanaula Heiau, and I'm growing kalo. The thing is prospering, water's still coming out, but they should let water go by Kumaipo, so at least the thing could get moisture, could have rain, just like Makaha. There's no moisture, because you have to let it go from the third water tank, but the water costs money now, because the Board of Water Supply needs the service. You guys just have to stop building houses, then we can save our watershed!

**Comm. Smith:** Oh yeah.

**Michel Eli (public):** The infrastructure cannot hold too much water, cause then we're going to lose our water, right? It's common sense, the infrastructure cannot hold—there's too many people. So, to help them out, you guys have to let water go, so that we can have clouds and rain, then we can rebuild the aquifer. Because right now we're just sucking it bone dry. Too many houses, we have to stop that. I'm part of the watershed management—I never signed any agreement, but I am. I've been taking care a long time, twelve years is pretty long, but wake up, you know what I mean? Wake up! How did we let this happen to our community? So I've been there pretty long and now I see what they doing now like they no care for us. The next thing is, we won't even be able to hunt, because we're not going to have any game mammals to hunt. And that's been passed on from generation to generation, because we're all Kanaka Maoli out here and that's our gathering rights, to go into the mountain, and to manage the mountain, too. Not just to hunt and eradicate, but to take care, too. Then we pass it on to the next generation, because that's what I do, I pass it on to my nieces and my nephews. I don't have any kids—my dogs are my kids, they're my companions in life—but here's one more thing: dogs are dying in Waianae and Makaha. I'd like to know why it keeps on happening, and the army said, "Oh, they have to eat ten pounds of rat poison," but I think they only have to eat a little bit of rat poison and the dog's going to die!

**Unknown (public):** Can you eat rat poison and actually live to tell the tale?

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** Yeah! And then they're spraying the road. When they weedwhack the road in Waianae Kai, they spray the stuff on the road, and then dogs lick it! That's another thing the dogs are dying from. Whatever they're spraying, Roundup or whatever—and Roundup is no good for the bees

too, because the bees are Hawaiian bees, yeah? So we need the bees because—you know kalo? The thing needs pollen. He goes from one flower to the next flower, so the kalo evolved, and it became stronger, and it evolved to this day and time. So, we need the bees too, but the Roundup kills all the bees. I know one frame gets 3,000 bees—

**Unknown (public):** 30,000 in a colony.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** 30,000! See, John is a beekeeper. But I don't get 3,000 in a frame. Now if one bee with Roundup goes over here, they're all dead, guaranteed. So, they have to learn how to manage the Roundup on the ground, and whatever they're putting on the ground has to be safe for the bees to land on, because they take it right back to the hive, whatever—water! Because they need water, because they go over there to the hive and they destroy, they can destroy them if, if... nah, that's all I've got to say. "He's crazy!" That's all I get to say, haha. But if you guys do planning and stuff, take it to our communities, and they're going to help you guys plan or whatever.

**Comm. Smith:** Yeah, so just one statement. A lot of this work that we want to get done on the ground that concerns you, we want you to work directly with the branches, and then we're trying to just be an arbiter at the higher level. So, it's really important that you guys get to know your folks at the branch level with Forestry and Wildlife and work correctly with them.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** Yeah, I've known you from the beginning when I started.

**Comm. Smith:** Yeah, right? And I used to be on the branch, right?

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** Yeah, yeah, yeah. You used to be out in the field. But now you're—

**Comm. Smith:** Right. Now I'm stuck in the office, yeah. Don't rub it in! But hey, we just want to make sure that these kinds of concerns get addressed directly on the ground. But it's good, the testimony is good, and everything gets—we got minutes and everything. Any other testimony?

**Justin Salcedo (public):** Yes. My name is Justin Salcedo. I'm a firefighter. I've been a firefighter for twelve years. And all these guys actually—s\*\*t, there's a lot of knowledge that's being passed around, it almost looks like Nat Geo out here, right? You guys already got bee experience, you got hunters—I'm a hunter. I'm from the top of the pass. I was the future, now I'm teaching my future. I see it out there, I understand: everything else in the ecosystem plays a big part, we all know that now. From the little small creature—the bee—to the rat, to the owl that controls the rats, to the goats—even though we're trying to eradicate the goats. Yet that's our food, obviously, as you guys heard. I won't have to tell that again. They're all regulated because they all actually play a part in the ecosystem. I've see a lot of brush fires in my twelve years. And yeah, my action path that I use is a goat trail, how about that? A goat trail. What is a goat trail? A nature trail. Good thing we get the goats, because we're on the same trail, right? This aerial control that you guys are talking about, in my eyes—for my kids—for a future hunter, from a past hunter—it's kind of dangerous, don't you think, liability-wise? I'm also part of HAZMAT. I'm a HAZMAT tech, so the thing that I teach my firefighters is biological control. I don't want this thing going in the water that I drink, obviously. What plays a big part? Those rodents—and once they hit the water, water spreads and it spreads like wildfire, and this is worse than wildfire, and you're hitting yourself. We can't protect you from that. And some of these diseases, they have sometimes no cure, sometimes too late, and you have a pandemic, and it all starts from that? Where does it stop, before this gets worse? Already, as you see, it's gotten worse. You have 1,000 signatures right there. If those guys knew about this meeting, we would have a bigger room. Yeah, I could probably give you the Blaisdell. I only found out about this last night. I'm here at this meeting now. I see the way things are going right now, and as



basically a future hunter: open the gates to us. Have you ever seen that video about Yellowstone Park, when they released the wolves, and how the wolves impacted Yellowstone Park, how they impacted the river? In Hawaii, we're in a very different world, we don't have any predators to regulate those animals. We are your wolves. Send the wolves in. Not somebody that—we regulate, we take the meat, nothing wasted. A win-win situation. You can take that to your committee, to your guys' higher ups, take it to wherever you like. But obviously we give you guys the tools, we give you the ammo, to present to those people. And I hope you guys take this to heart, and I don't want this to end up—how you say, retaliation? I don't want us to butt heads, you know? DLNR and hunters, they regulate us, but who regulates them? I say obviously we kind of need those animals over there, because they regulate brush fires and let me, tell you I've seen—we fight brush fires and it's getting dangerous because of eradication, too. Because after brushfire and after eradication, guess what comes in? California Grass. They get big, and it gets worse every year. Every year it gets worse. I see my brothers and sisters, we fight to keep those houses you guys built on the mountains safe. We keep them safe. There's no 10-1-1, there's 9-1-1. There's only one person you can call, and that's me. Who regulates that? The hunters. We are your wolves. DLNR, all that other stuff like that? Let us go! We know the knowledge, we learn from the past, we did it for how many years? It works! It's worked for how many years? I don't ever, ever want to say that I'm going to have to get out to anybody, because when it gets worse, you're not going to expect quiet mouths in this room. These men are controlled. They're in control. To even get a gun license, literally it's very hard work. When in Hawaii, getting a gun license—oh man! We have to go through some stuff just to get a gun, right? Going through a two-week doctor's notice, all that other stuff, crazy! Then we've got to use dogs—now that they've got this poison coming around killing our dogs, what you expect us to do? And I'm a federal firefighter, so I see the military! I see they way they march around Hawaii and destroy things. We just got Makua back, it's not going to grow back ever since they bombed it for how many years? So, who's going to regulate that? The damage has been done—we already lost an island already, and now it's the Garden Isle? No, we call it the Pothole Isle, where you set one foot down, you might explode. You guys know about that island, right? A little history. Yeah, our military's been bombing it for years, and we just got it back. So as a regulation, we regulate the goats, the goats regulate the aina. We have a system. It works. We save lives. We save houses! That's coming from me, just an ordinary firefighter who's seen how many years of action? But I don't want to see all that—and you know the plants, endangered species? The brushfires are getting so bad that they burn the trees! They burn it, and I've watched them burn, acres and acres. From something caused by kids—two six-year-olds going out to Makakilo, playing with little matches—to just natural causes. In the states it's worse. Look at California, look at all the places, look at their watershed and stuff—they're destroyed. We've got a good system in Hawaii here, one that actually saves lives, it saves our generations to come, our food source, our water source—for people who do not hunt—it feeds the houses, it feeds everything. Everything works. Pretty cool, right, that we live in Hawaii, if you think about it. We just want to say, "Hey, don't put red tape on the person that's helping, you know, don't stop that hand." We're helping. We're your helpers, we're your wolves! I recommend you guys go see that video of when they send the wolves back into Yellowstone Park. Pretty cool video. That's all I have to say. Any question from you guys?

**Comm. Jury:** Thank you.

**Comm. Smith:** I did see the video, it's very good. Okay, any other testimony? Yes sir?

**Unknown (public):** We're still on access, right?

**Comm. Smith:** We're on the Oahu report.

**Chris Burner (public):** Chris Burner from Wahiawa.

Commissioner Ruidas enters.

**Comm. Smith:** Sorry. Stan, you want to introduce yourself?

**Comm. Ruidas:** Okay. My plane was two and a half hours delayed, thank you to Ohana Air. My name is Stan Ruidas, I'm the Lanai representative on the GMAC. Sorry about that Chris.

**Chris Burner (public):** Oh yeah, no problem. So unfortunately, the biggest issue we have on this island is access, and unfortunately—to my Waianae brothers—the fence should've never been built in the first place, because animals don't stay in one area, they have breeding places that they go to and stuff like that. So if the fence is already there, and their proposal to shoot is inside the fence, unless somebody is releasing goats inside the public hunting area, you'll never get the numbers that you had before. But we can have all the access we want, if there's no more nothing in the property, right? Poamoho is a great example of this. We had ten years that we couldn't get inside Poamoho mountain. We finally got access, it was great. We had to help with the road, we helped Na Ala Hele with the trail, we sat on the Board to write the leash laws, not just for that place, but for the whole state. We get this place, it goes great for maybe three or four years, and then the State comes in and takes 500 acres from Poamoho Public Hunting Area, a place that we paid to—though our licenses—to hunt. They take that away from us, they bring all of us together just like we're doing here, and they pretty much give us false hope that they're going to replace that 500 acres from someplace else. Well, Bishop Estate isn't going to be the first one in the line to offer up 500 acres of their land. Timberline came up, that never panned out—we had a big fire there, and they used that as an excuse never to release the lands. So we kept pushing, we kept pushing. Moanalua Valley goes back to the State. There's enough land inside there for maybe two hunters, two groups. We got private clubs hunting inside there. That's state land, you know? All State land is supposed to be accessible to the public. All state land is supposed to be legally a hunting area. So, they take away the 500 acres. Now we have ten groups of hunters going into a public hunting area that is bordered by Bishop Estate, military, farmers—with cows on the bottom—and ten groups of hunters are all compressed into a small area. Well, of course we're going to have problems. Now we're going to have people in Bishop, because—look, we're all in the mountain to catch one pig, so they're going to go where the pig is, and the sign, dogs don't read signs, they're going to go. And so, we get hunters in Bishop Estate, we get hunters in East Range, we get hunters down in the paddocks. Unfortunately, we get hunters that don't have cattle-trained dogs in the paddocks, who are making more problems in the long run. If you guys are going to do this, you guys have to allow my brothers a reasonable access to your guys' little fenced-in area. You cannot be like the Big Island, when they were trying to take away [unintelligible] and telling the guy that he has to park two miles away from where the cattle is actually at. You ever tried carrying 500 pounds of meat? You're not going to carry it two miles back to your truck. If there is a vehicle access to the gate, you need to let the hunters—and you need more than six months Josiah, you need more than six months—and you cannot have bag limits, if you're trying to eradicate something, you don't put bag limits. Get all these people inside there and allow them to do the work that you guys want to pay for, and we'll do it for free. Save all of us money, you know? We shouldn't be

sitting here today, that should be common knowledge, okay? The Bishop Estate has—back in the 80's where I grew up hunting on North Shore, Waialua Sugar was in control of all the lands above Kawailoa, all the way up to Helemano Military Reservation. The hunters were not the issue. The issue was with people stealing cars, taking them inside there, dumping them, fires—people going in there doing drugs, making fires—but the hunters had to get a pass to go inside there. Unfortunately, Waialua Sugar was shut down, and Bishop Estate isn't going to pay a security guard to do roving patrols 24/7. I brought up years ago an idea that got squashed, it's like—we have a bird stamp for our hunting license. Why can't that area have a stamp, charge an extra \$10—nobody here's going to grumble about \$10 to get prime hunting ground—charge an extra \$10, have a portion of it go toward Bishop Estate, have then—the road is paved now, you don't even need a truck to drive on, you can do it in a Honda Civic—and only have access to these valleys from Helemano to Kawailoa, and the State can provide the weekend security with the game wardens, you'd make more than enough money—what is there, 9,000 registered hunters in the State of Hawaii? Over 20,000? How many on the island of Oahu?

**Comm. Smith:** Are you talking about Drum Road?

**Chris Burner (public):** Yeah, I'm talking about Drum Road. In the 80's that road was horrible to drive, you had to have a pretty good four-wheel drive to actually hit all the access points. The army paved it—we got funding from the military to pave it—so now security shouldn't be an issue. So, we have these areas that the State allows us, but there's no more game in there, there's no game, there's no reason—we don't take our dogs for hikes. We're out there to actually catch something to eat. And then, we have fences on both sides of our public hunting area which are normally fallback areas for animals during the off-season or during the harsh season, to go and breed and repopulate. But you guys have already—well not you guys—but the State has already taken those away, so you're not going to get a resupply into this little small area that you're allowing for the hunters to hunt. You're not going to get it. What's going to happen is, you're going to see zero numbers coming out of that, and then the State's going to say, "Well there's no need to have that be public hunting ground," because one: we all have to write our catches down on the stuff that we take out of the mountain, and two: if the State doesn't see a viable source of animals coming out of there to keep it a public hunting ground, it's another piece of property that they can fence for another species that's going extinct. That's what it is. It's just our concern that—well, we have lands, you've just got to give us the access, and when you give us the access you've got to be akamai about it. You can't expect all the gentlemen who are walking four, five hours uphill or downhill with meat to bring home to their family—when there is actually a road that you can actually get to the place—they're not going to pull up in the numbers that you want—and six months is actually too short, it should be a year or longer, with no bag limits—and you will see the younger generation, they will come inside there and they will take out the goats that you want take out. Unfortunately, they'll do a pretty good job of it too, trust me. There's really no reason to hire a helicopter, to hire a shooter, to hire the State, to hire—aviation fuel is not cheap, okay? It's \$600 an hour just to charter a flight from here to Molokai, so that's expensive, and that's our money. I mean—I know, Josiah, I know—people, like Josiah—he's a good person, and I know he works on that. And I don't want to take money out of somebody's pocket, but this is a big picture. I helped on the Schofield Project, I helped on that project. They made me sick, some of the things I saw. After so long, I walked away from it. Four hundred pigs in less than a year came out—they didn't even come out, they suffered in a trap, walked around a big tree, dug a steel cord two inches into the tree, supposed to die within 30 seconds—no, no, it took them hours

to die. We'd catch goats, wild dogs, we'd catch all kinds of stuff in the traps over there, these traps are unforgiving and they're not prejudiced. The rat bait that they're going to drop, they say that ten pounds of it that kills a dog. Anybody with a mind that half works would not take that bet if I gave you, "Oh, here's a gram, try eating it, let's see how you feel." You're not going to eat it, right? Ten pounds is an awful lot. I had a dog die in Schofield by eating a bird that died off of the rat bait. Our hunting dogs—they do some weird things—they roll in the crap, and they lick you in the face, they eat dead animals on the ground. You have dead rats on the ground, and if the dog eats that rat, the dog will die, he will die. What else? If other animals after that eat anything from that rat, if a bird comes back after the rat decays, the poison isn't dead, it eats through the stomach lining or something after it's decayed, and the bird dies. I've seen it firsthand in Schofield. I've seen it, and you cannot control aerial rat bait. You cannot control it, it all filters down. The army can't even control bombs, but bombs hit the side of the mountain. Eventually over time they all corrugate down at the bottom of the gulch, then you can walk through Schofield and you could be on a one-foot-high bed of bombs.

**Justin Salcedo (public):** We got a call to Schofield—my HAZMAT crew got a call to Schofield, like he was saying.

**Chris Burner (public):** So look, the rat bait does the same thing, it filters down into the water. We had mad rainy seasons. You're going to take whatever it is you're dropping, and you're going to take it into—unfortunately, where these people hunt, where they live—into the ocean. It's common sense that everything from the mountain goes to the sea. It's going to happen. That's all I've got to say.

**Comm. Smith:** Hey can I just make one comment? You make a lot of good points. I just want to note that from the Department's and the Division's standpoint, a lot of the issues you're talking about are private land and military lands, and we don't control all lands.

**Chris Burner (public):** Well, Poamoho is public.

**Comm. Smith:** I've been working for—yeah, Poamoho. So you're talking about all kinds of lands. We control state lands, I understand, but I just want put it out that we've been working for many, many years with the military and with private landowners trying to open up lands, with varying degrees of success, mostly very limited success.

**Chris Burner (public):** It has to be structured. You have to come up to them with a structured plan. They have to be rest assured that it's going to be watched at all times when those people are in there. Nobody is willing to take that job on for free, you're going to have to pay people to do it and you're going to have to generate funds, unfortunately, from the sale of hunting licenses. And you can do that, that is a very big—Bishop Estate from Helemano to Kawaihoa is a very big property, but you can do it, and you can open that up whenever the military doesn't need it and have a lottery for it if you wanted to. Money talks, everything is money. I mean, the only reason why these fences are going up—they like to say it's about conservation, but the federal government gives huge grants for these fences, huge. Waimea—they get grants for putting up fences. Everybody gets a grant from the federal government when they put up a fence, and then when they see that the feds are getting too much of a hassle and the money isn't there anymore, well—it doesn't stop fires, it doesn't stop invasive species, it doesn't stop any of that. Try going to some of these older fence lines, and you just see California Grass taking over. So, we just stopped a group of people from going inside there trying to sustain themselves, to have a 15- or 10-acre fence, and then five years down the road, you just have a fenced-in California grass plot, that's all you have. It has to be a lot better, it's gotta be better. Thank you.

**Comm. Smith:** Okay. Any other public testimony? Did you have something you wanted to add?

**Comm. Jury:** Yeah. So again, the access and acquisition position that's going to be opening up under Na Ala Hele is a big role—thank you Chris for your testimony—and areas within state land is kind of where our commission lies, too. So that's the gentleman to talk to. And then knowing your Wildlife Manager and your Forestry Manager per the island so you can talk to them, re-talk to them, they're the ones you want to talk to—and since we're on the Oahu topic, myself and Nancy as well. That's all I have to say.

Commissioner Kohatsu enters. (Quorum was present)

**Comm. Smith:** Okay, we had another commissioner come in.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Ryan Kohatsu, East Hawaii Representative.

**Comm. Smith:** Okay. Yes sir?

**Abram Correia (public):** My name is Abram Correia. So, being on that subject with the fence lining and everything like that—we've come across many times where it's like a gillnet. There's pigs that stick their heads through that and sometimes they can't get it out, along with the goats, so it also takes away from, once again, our natural resource. It kills a multiple amount of wild game, which we live off of. With all these fence lines going up, can you imagine how much wildlife can be killed already, in general? I hate to say it, but it's already being eradicated that way as well, and that part when you guys are trying to control populations of wild game and everything. So, I just wanted to say, the more fences go up, the more eradication goes up as well. That's all I wanted to say on that part.

**Comm. Smith:** Okay, thanks. Next?

**James K. Manaku, Sr. (public):** James K. Manaku, Sr. again, concerned parent, grandparent, great-grandparent. So, what's going to happen? I mean, we already talked to people earlier about not eradicating, and that never worked, yeah? They still eradicating. We haven't talked lately, you guys made the decision enough to eradicate, but they're still eradicating. So how can you make me feel comfortable—crying my heart out to you—I mean, really, how can I cry out to you if there won't be any response? All of us here depend on the meat in the mountain. With landowners getting problems, why don't they just see you guys, and then you guys come see us? A lot of them pay money for a hunting license—for what? If you guys are eradicating our animals today, why would we keep on getting a license in the future? My grandchildren and great-grandchildren won't have meat in the mountains because of what's happening here right now. I mean—please don't take this personally, I'm not talking down to you guys—but you guys are the ones that make the decisions to carry this on, and that's where I'm concerned, because as a grandparent, great-grandparent, and a parent, I'm responsible for my future generations. I'm really concerned. How do we stop this, if you guys can't stop them? Like I said, I'm here for the future generations—I'm not here for me today, my family's coming up behind me—because I know what's going to happen. If you guys can't stop them, how can they get help? Who do we need to speak to? Because like I already said, the fencing—you heard the term, the grass is greener on the other side? I've watched goats that are still dying, because they ate the grass right there and they cannot get back out. Try looking at the pig, when you see it wrapped around a tree, and he took days to die—that's wasting meat. When I teach my children how to eat from the land, the first thing I do is teach them not to waste. But that's what's happening now. If you guys tell me “Don't shoot,” we're not going to shoot. The problem with gathering the meat—if you guys hunt, you guys know—after so long, the

meat becomes no good. Yet still people go out there for five hours after they shoot the animal. So, you guys are not really helping us, you guys are creating more problems, technically. So, I appreciate having this meeting, I appreciate bringing in my concerns, but how can we get action? That's what we need. Because if we don't get action today, my future generation's going to die. We are so dependent on the system and that's not fair to them. So I wish you guys could help them out. Thank you.

**Comm. Smith:** Thank you.

**Unknown (public):** I think Manaku's asking, is there a resolution from the commission that can be committed to? Is there a solution, time limit, timeline? Yeah, is that what you're asking there?

**James K. Manaku, Sr. (public):** Well...

**Comm. Jury:** This is an advisory board. Our commission was instilled through a bill, through Governor Ige. It's an advisory board, and we have the capacity to advise the Board of Land and Natural Resources. That's about as far as we can go. So in hearing the testimony of the people, from every island, what we can do—and I think what Shaya said earlier—when we ask for the next agenda to have a vote, all we're voting is that we write a letter saying: "We as the commission feel that until a resolution is set between the landowners—Board of Water Supply, DLNR—and the land users—the hunting community—until a respected resolution is committed to, we want to advise DLNR to hold off on aerial shooting." That's our advice through a letter for what we can do. We do not make the decisions. That's as far as we take it.

**Unknown (public):** So, your advisory goes up to the level of the lieutenant governor/governor's level, and they make the decision with DLNR?

**Comm. Smith:** This commission is advisory to the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

**Chris Burner (public):** Has the date of voting been set?

**Comm. Smith:** There is no vote.

**Comm. Jury:** Our vote would be on the next agenda they're asking for—the vote would be if the commission agrees to write the letter to DLNR, and then DLNR's going to look at the letter and they'll probably have a vote.

**Comm. Smith:** Where we're at right now is: it's a report by the commissioners summarizing their meeting to DOFAW. We always recommend that the best way to get action is to work with your folks at the district, work with the guys on the ground, work with them directly, and I think this commission already is helping to improve communications with the districts. That's really where the rubber meets the road in terms of managing land on each particular branch. If you want to bring a grievance up to the commission, the commission can vote on something, but we can't just take something from the floor, it has to be on the agenda, we have to vote on it, then that goes to the Board of Land and Natural Resources as a recommendation from the commission.

**Unknown (public):** So, it's based on timelines and everything. While you guys are making the decision for the Board to make their decision—this takes time, then these guys take time—in the meantime, DLNR might do an eradication during this period of time, so—

**Comm. Smith:** We're just telling you what the timeline is, we don't—that's just the way it works.

**Unknown (public):** So we're just spinning our wheels right now.

**Comm. Smith:** If you really want to get stuff done, work with the branch. If you want to try to work through this, it's a bureaucratic system—it just is by nature and by law, that's just the way it is. The best way to get things done is to work with the branch.

**Unknown (public):** You mean DLNR?

**Comm. Smith:** Division of Forestry and Wildlife.

**Unknown (public):** So how come they're not here then?

**Comm. Smith:** They are here.

**Unknown (public):** Where? Can they hear us? I hope you guys hear what everybody says, because I've been to most of the meetings and all they want, for them to go to one meeting.

**Unknown (public):** Somebody give us answers! We want answers now! We don't like to waste three, four, five, six months, one year, two, three, four years, and you make sure during that time you're just doing pilikia—that's all you guys do!

**Unknown (public):** You guys better do something! Don't say you're going to do—do it! Action, like Uncle said. How old is he? Ask him how old he is. How long has he been in Makaha? My family's from Nanakuli. My grandma used to run with Auntie and them, all the Board members down there down in Waianae. And the same thing—when I was eight years old, I went to all you guys—I probably even talked to some of your guys' parents that day: same thing, in one ear out the other. Never-ending! When will it end? I'd like it to end before I die.

**Unknown (public):** We're all tired.

**Unknown (public):** Wasting our gas, wasting our time. Expecting a change.

**Unknown (public):** And we don't get paid.

**Unknown (public):** And on the day of the overthrow of our Queen you guys make this damn meeting. So disrespectful to these people right here.

**Comm. Smith:** This is a public meeting.

**Unknown (public):** —you probably heard my voice. I don't say anything except today. But I'm tired already, brah. I'm fed up, brah. And you know what: I'm only one person, but I'm speaking for the whole Hawaiian nation, the whole Hawaiian kingdom, because the people over there celebrating cannot be here. If I bring those guys over there, what are you guys going to tell them then? Nothing! Exactly. You guys know nothing. You guys better wise up!

**Comm. Smith:** All right. Thank you. Okay. Any other testimony on ITEM 5?

**Comm. Ruidas:** Can we ask for a recess?

**Comm. Smith:** Let's take a break. Let's break until 12:30. Quick lunch break, and then come back at 12:30 and we'll start on ITEM 3. You guys want to do that? Or do you want to go straight through?

**Comm. Kohatsu:** That's fine, 12:30 is fine.

**Comm. Smith:** 12:30? Okay. We're going to break and reconvene at 12:30.

The commission takes a 30-minute lunch break.

James Cogswell sits in Commissioner David Smith's place. Committee is at quorum.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Dave has asked me to sit in as his proxy for the rest of the meeting. So, I believe we're currently at quorum, so we can move on to action items once we complete ITEM 5, which you were in the middle of. So just give me short reports, and I believe Oahu's finished?

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Okay, I guess I'll do Big Island first. So, I met with Joey Mello—he's the East Hawaii DOFAW folk—well, I see Kanalu a lot, not all the time recently, but I see him a lot in general. I guess as far as the meetings with the DOFAW staff, we went over some of the community's concerns—and

maybe this plays into ITEM 4 slightly—but as relating to ITEM 5, I had a bunch of letters from folks about the declining bird take in our upland areas of Mauna Kea and stuff, and Joey and I talked about potential studies or what have you going forward with that, maybe circling back with the community themselves about their take or their seasons—which brings up another issue about administrative rule and how you guys work with that and the timing and the bureaucratic process. But they do have a valid concern. I think there's declining numbers and it's something to work on. I had some concerns from folks about poaching in certain areas during the off-season through accessible roads, and I guess DOCARE does have some patrols there and also catches illegal activities on camera and stuff like that—that's good and I hope that continues. What else? I didn't necessarily talk about this with them, but this is something I wanted to talk about from Big Island. I remember, I think it was the last time Dave Smith was on Big Island, he was real keen on mentioning that DOFAW and DLNR run a hunting program, and maybe—he never said it—but I guess maybe implying that we don't run a game management program, and I wanted to touch on that, because the public didn't ask for a hunting management advisory commission—the interest of this advising commission is in game management. I wanted to stress that, key in on that, because that word I feel is very important. I think that DOFAW does a very good job of trying to get people out there, this and that, whatever. But as far as all of the competing interests and federal stuff and yada, yada, yada—as far as introducing the idea of game management, I think we are very lacking, and maybe there's creative ways to get that done. That's kind of why we're here and that's kind of what we're titled for. I heard the concerns—I came in late, sorry—but I heard the concerns from some of the Oahu people here today about their representation, and I heard two things: I heard one side, the hunting program, getting access, why we do things the way we do them; I also heard another thing about, okay, they understand that eradications are coming and continuing, and finding those places that they can have game where some management is okay, I think is important. And also I just wanted to reiterate—and this is for our folks on Big Island: in 2016 we passed a House Concurrent Resolution 22 HD1 SD1 and now—it's a lengthy document, but there is one part of it that I wanted to cite: "Let it be resolved by the House of Representatives of the 20<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the State of Hawaii, regular session of 2016 the Senate concurring that this body urges the conservation, development, and utilization of game mammal, game bird and fishing resources." Key in, "the conservation of game mammal, game bird, and fishing resources." We run a great program, but I just don't think hunters see a future in what they're doing, and—I understand the environmental thing and everything—it may not be what they want, but it would at least help that they know someone's working for their future. That's a huge concern, as I know it's a huge concern now for folks on Big Island. I don't have a whole ton of inquiry about access, but I do have a ton of inquiry like, "Am I even going to have game here in the future?" So that's their thing. You know, me and Kanalu and Joey, we talk about this all the time, and I understand—as best I can, not working in the system—what the hurdles are, and I do believe with a little bit of creativity and effort, there are ways to at least get something done. I know the HCP is something that's been ongoing at Puuwaawaa for quite a while, but being that it's going on for quite a while, it kind of shows that maybe we don't have the push to get it done, we're just going to drag it out or something like that, and I think that's—I don't know, at some point we need to serve our public instead of kind of always bending to tons of other things, that's just my view. Did I miss anything else? I didn't know they were going to talk about ranges, too. We talked about range issues, initial development for maybe the Mauna Kea section—I don't know, the critical habitat people might freak



out, the usual. What else? I just talked to Andrew—maybe an archery range on the west side of Kona, too, I understand it might be kind of easy to get done—just thought of it now, sorry. But that’s summaries of the meetings I had with DOFAW staff, so yeah.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Is there any public comment?

**Comm. Jury:** So, you’re saying that the hunters up there are kind of noticing a decline in the population?

**Comm. Kohatsu:** They’re noticing a decline in the game bird population, especially on the upland portions, like Mauna Kea, maybe Pohakuloa, even including the private areas, like Parker Ranch. I don’t necessarily know what it is, but we did talk about maybe having such studies, maybe having local kids from UH or something get involved—I didn’t mean kids—college students, sorry.

**Comm. Jury:** Are there monitoring protocols being put in place?

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Right now, I know they have game bird counts—harvest, sorry—that’s been going down, but I can’t speak to it.

**Kanalū Sproat (DOFAW):** I’m Kanalū Sproat, Wildlife Manager for West Hawaii. On Mauna Kea, we do annual game bird surveys—we just do transects from the roads, though, so this is just an index. I obviously don’t have the information right now, but we’ve done it for the last six or seven years.

**Comm. Jury:** You thought about analyzing the data to see if there’s a trend or something?

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** I’ve also looked at the game bird harvest data from 1980’s until last year. This is just the number of game birds that each hunter has been hunting, and the number of game birds per hunter trip, but there is some variation going on, so there’s some ups and downs. But in general, when you look at 30+ years of data, the number of harvests is not changing that much, so the hunters are harvesting similar numbers right now that they were harvesting in 1980. Again, this is just harvest numbers, and it’s not surveys, but I believe that doing game bird surveys would be crucial.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Yeah, surveys and some people like to jump to take, too, as another thing. So, I don’t know what mechanism—if indeed that’s something you want to experiment with or something you want to try, the hunters want to try limiting themselves maybe a little differently as well, and just seeing the impact of that. I don’t know, but it’s early, just talking about it.

**Comm. Jury:** Thank you.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Any other comments from the commission? Questions? If not, we’re going to open it up to the public. Are there any comments?

**Unknown (public):** It’s on the Big Island right now, what you guys talking about, yeah?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Just the Big Island report. If not, we can move onto... Lanai.

**Comm. Ruidas:** Just wanted to see if you knew. [laughter] Okay, so I talked to Shane De Mattos, he’s our guy from our county, and I think his name was Jefferey... the Maui commissioner, he was also there. So, in our meeting, the top three things we talked about was the lease. So, the lease has been signed, so we got another three years, but within three years, a wildlife and habitat management plan has to be made, and if it isn’t made, there’s no more lease, there’s no more hunting on Lanai, so it has to be done.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** On the GM?

**Comm. Ruidas:** On the GM, yeah. And so what David suggested last time is that we hire, you guys ought to hire a consultant, so we should maybe push to formulate a letter to have monies from the Legislature to have them look at it, and maybe we should do it for every island, for both Kauai and over here and on Big Island and Lanai and Molokai and Maui. So that was the first thing we talked about. The second one was the archery season. The archery season starts on a Saturday and it ends on the following Saturday,

so it doesn't make sense for guys to come on Friday to hunt just one day, so we're trying to extend—and it probably won't happen until the Mouflon season—to extend archery season by one more day, so archery hunters would have two weekends to hunt, so everybody's not packed on the first week like it is now. And, third one was talking about the Mouflon counts. We're looking at the quality of the herd and we just have to start the discussion about it, because everyone's saying that we don't have enough big rams. But when we stop everyone from shooting the rams, as soon as we open it, everybody shoots all kinds of rams. So the discussion is going to be, how do we enhance the herd's quality? So that's what we have to work on. But as far as the Axis Deer hunt for the season, there were 2,800 and so many applicants. I think this is the most we've ever had, so right now it's kind of tight. A lot of people got their cards yesterday and it's hard to find housing. And that's the end of my report.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** All right. Thanks. Any comments or questions?

**Sheri Mann (DOFAW):** If there is no management plan, and therefore the GMA, their Forest Reserves, there's no hunting, does that mean the GMA would go away?

**Comm. Ruidas:** The lease is provided by the landowner, Pulama Lanai, and it would go back to Pulama.

**Sheri Mann (DOFAW):** So there would be no more GMA?

**Comm. Ruidas:** No more GMA. So, this has to be done, or else say aloha to hunting.

**Sheri Mann (DOFAW):** Is there a standard at which they want this plan to be done at, or any parameters about it?

**Comm. Ruidas:** Yes, they do have a standard, but it's more of a collaboration between DOFAW and Pulama to formulate a plan that would satisfy their wants, yeah.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** You know what could help your guys' funding out?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** You want to sit up here? You have to...

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** Michael Eli again. You know what can help these guys' funding now: you guys should make hiking permits for the hikers, and their funding can fund—this island is so jam-packed—this is where the money's at. So to fund these guys' programs that they need, you guys try to go get it from the hikers. If they erode the mountains, go make a hiking permit for these guys—any of them, everybody. And they can fund these guys' programs, because we know we see this happen.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** So right now, you guys, no more hiking permits?

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** No hiking permits over here. Maybe at Kuaokala. But I'm saying at Waianae Kai, wherever people hike—Lanikai! Maybe put one guy sitting over there. You know how much money you'd make over there at Lanikai? You'd make a lot, brah. I'm just saying, they're causing erosion. So, to help the other islands, that's what you guys can do. That's just one suggestion, if they cannot get funding for hunting on Lanai. Lanai is a great place to hunt, it's great—turkey, birds, you can get plenty of things up there. Mouflon, like you said. Deer. Just no more pigs, but no matter. But that's just one suggestion—and take them up, because everybody likes to go hiking up these mountains, and they like the picture, that's what they like. You should just charge them—that's funding for the other islands, too. Everybody should get a hiking license, yeah?

**Comm. Ruidas:** Jim, would that be a feasible thing, is a hiking permit?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Uh, feasible, probably. It'd either go through Legislature or it'd probably have to go through—

**Comm. Ruidas:** Who pays for lost hunters and hikers in an evacuation emergency? For the hikers? Who pays for the evacuation?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** The State does.

**Comm. Ruidas:** The State does. Is it you guys?

**Dietra Myers-Tremblay (DOFAW):** It's usually City & County doing search and rescue. It depends.

**Comm. Timko:** Yeah, on the island, and where.

**Abram Correia (public):** And close them out on the days that we do have access. On Wednesdays and Sundays, no hikers belong inside. We come across them all the time.

**Unknown (public):** One day for the hunters, one day for the hikers.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** We only get two days, and they get the rest of the week.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Right now, I don't think we have the authorization to charge for hiking. But you go and could get that through the Legislature.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** They're destroying our mountain, guys. It's just one suggestion, so you guys can fund some of it, because I don't want to see the game go out from Lanai or any of the islands, because everybody pays for the hunting license, right? So that's for nothing we're paying for a hunting license if we cannot go over there and fly over there and hunt—anywhere!

**Unknown (public):** They should be licensed, they should have an education class.

**Abram Correia (public):** Because sometimes I come across hikers, and then we tell them we're in there already before them, and then I respect them in a nice way and I approach them. We're like, "Hey, you guys mind just turning around because we're here already," and I got like, "Wow, hey, what are you going to do?" You know, the way they talk to us, "What are you going to do to us?" No, we have the right to come inside here, and they're not even from here. Bottom line, you know? And then we have our dogs there running, and sometimes when the dogs are running free and everything while we're gathering, the dogs are following them out, and now we got hikers taking dogs home and sometimes they don't want to return them. They said, "No, I like this dog, can I keep the dog?" But I was like, "No, that's my child you're talking about! How's about I keep your child, then?" And that's the same thing, you know? We want our kids back, they're kidnapping our kids, right? With that being said, that's why on days that we do have access—and which, being local here—we should have more access than them. They should have maybe Wednesdays and Sundays while we have the rest of the week. You know what I mean? And then like we said, it's all about access. We're very limited, yet hikers have more access than us, but they're not from here. A lot of them are not local.

**Unknown (public):** And they don't obey rules.

**Abram Correia (public):** And we get blamed for all the opala on the mountain, when in reality, it's not us—it's them. They're not picking up, they don't care about anything, they're just throwing the opala all over, and then who picks it up? Us. We pick up their rubbish, and see how they're treating us over here? That's not fair to us, so give them limited access to the mountain and give us our rights to gather.

**Comm. Ruidas:** Is that something we can talk about later for table?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Yeah, we could get it put on the agenda.

**Abram Correia (public):** That's a great idea, might put a stop to it all. Especially when we're talking about giving us more access—limit the hikers.

**Unknown (public):** Or educate them, because we seem to be rescuing more hikers than hunters, auwe! It's for real.

**Mike Millay (DOFAW):** Mike Millay, Na Ala Hele. Just on that note, with the Legislature, we're actually putting something forward right now: it's a bunch of information for the public to try to educate them,

to try to get that decline of rescues and what not down, to try to get them to understand that there's multiple resources going on here.

**Unknown (public):** They're in danger.

**Mike Millay (DOFAW):** I mean, there is intention on our part to seek money to just inform these folks, because how many are out of town, right? They don't have a clue what you guys are doing, why your dogs are off the leash, and so we are putting forth just some effort even right now to get some paths to educate them, so I just want to bring that to the table. Thank you.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** You know when they come on the plane, you guys should have a video made for these guys, and show them, that this is what you guys are doing here. Take out the rubbish, don't leave the rubbish—you show the people on the plane before you even come—and then tell them all to watch out for the waves. Don't ever turn your back on a wave—it's the same thing, like in the mountain. You've got to walk slow—don't walk fast—make sure you don't get hurt, and always sign the sign-in box because that can save your life. Because if you broke your leg—broke anything—they know you're in the mountain. I sign the box, I do. I sign in and sign out. When I come to the box in Waianae Kai, I sign out. That's why we need more boxes around in Waianae, because if somebody gets hurt on top of the mountain hunting for goats, you've got the sign-in box. But you've got to put one in Makaha, get one at that Lady of Keaau, get one inside there. You've got to get more boxes around, so people know and they can sign their name, because that's what people should be doing. That's what I teach the hikers when they go up there. I say, "Brah, you guys get all these hikers, you only need one signature, and how many are with your party, and you sign in." Some guys, they don't. They get in their hiking club—I see them in Waianae, it's about 20 or 25 people—there's plenty of people with the hiking club, 25 people in the mountain—I never leave the truck there, I'm just talking to them: "Oh no, we're the hiking club, whatever there, go." "But hey, I can go on that side, you can go on that side, where are you guys going? You go that way, I can go that way." The hikers are the ones opening up the trails. They're hiking, they're hacking away, but they don't know what they're destroying. I see the ribbons on the tree and I look at them, I read them, and then I teach the kid, "Look, we can read them, we can look how to spell them out," then he's learning, too—me and him learning at the same time! My friend's son the other day in Makaha said, "Oh look! Oh wow, what is that ribbon? Read them!" "That's a native tree," I told him. "Everything's ribboned to teach us what the trees are. That's good that they're putting ribbons on our trees, so we can all learn. We don't only want to focus on the pig—we're looking at our surroundings, because when we get older, the tree's going to be bigger, right?"

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Thanks. Good. Any other public comments on Lanai stuff?

**Comm. Kohatsu:** I have a comment on Lanai. Is the management plan purely between the State and Pulama, or is that something that you will have federal influence in?

**Comm. Ruidas:** Just between those two, the landowner and the leasee.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Because it would be nice to actually see a game management plan of some sort in the state. I don't believe we have one as it is right now, due to the interjection of federal policies.

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** I just want to clarify: it's not called a game management plan, it's just the management plan. It needs to be still clarified between Pulama Lanai and the State.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** As purely State and Pulama, right?

**Comm. Ruidas:** Yeah.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Maybe one day we can have purely state somewhere else on state land, yeah.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** That's possible. All right. So that's it. I think we can close that.

**ITEM 3. Form a permitted Interaction Group to start working on Land Access and Acquisition priorities. During this meeting, the members will be chosen (less than quorum) and the scope of the investigation will be defined.**

**James Cogswell (proxy):** So, first question would be: is this kind of action group needed?

**Comm. Ruidas:** What are you referring to, from our last time?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** ITEM 3.

**Comm. Ruidas:** Was that from the last meeting?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** I think it was briefly discussed in the last meeting, so this meeting was—

**Comm. Ruidas:** So that's the one discussing the Waianae eradication program?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** No, no, no. This one is just to look at land acquisition priorities on each island.

**Comm. Ruidas:** Oh, okay.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Or statewide. We were suggesting last meeting that it would be a good idea if we prioritize some acquisitions that we could, as a commission, put some influence on the Board to get some movement on.

**Comm. Jury:** I think this is good, but I think it's hard, without the updates that we're doing. I think that might kind of get the ball rolling, but I think just having support from the branch side—when you talk about access and acquisition, there's a lot of factors that come into play: lands, monies, what's been acquired, or is in the process now. So, I think something like that per district would help us to not waste some of our time going after places where maybe you guys have already troubleshot. I mean, I can learn from what you guys have been doing in the past X amount of years. That's my suggestion. For me on Oahu, before I can really go and look at access and acquisition, I would like to know what's been acquired so far, what are the do's and don't's—that's my take on that. But I do think that if you're going to select a bunch of people to do this, it should be per island.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** I think the idea is, that group would go to each island and work with that commissioner on that island, go visit DOFAW and see what their priorities are, go look around...

**Comm. Kohatsu:** I think this means, as far as running a commission, that you can have a permitted Interaction Group where you guys don't have to have the public notice thing, right?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Right. So then more than one commissioner per island would be able to go and talk about what these priorities would be.

**Comm. Jury:** Oh, okay. Thank you for clarifying.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Yes, this would be high level right now.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** It would allow two or three to stay within Sunshine regulations and then report back to this commission on what their findings were, like on Big Island with DOFAW. "We just selected this as a priority, that's a priority," that kind of thing. We can do it individually—that's another option—but if we put together an action group, the theory is that we'll have more of a chance of...

**Comm. Kohatsu:** I'll just speak for myself, I guess. As far as acquisition and access, Milo and I don't get a ton of requests. Of course, we did lose some areas that were in lease and things, and I talked to Joey and Kanalu quite a lot and already identified what the hurdle is for those, and it's something that neither of

us are going to change anytime soon. I don't know if I'd be totally useful in this permitted Interaction Group. I just don't have a whole ton of area that they're seeking, because it's Big Island.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Maybe you could help one of the other islands with their priorities.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** I can help, it's just that we have tons of land—we have too much of it, that's the problem. I don't want to speak for Oahu, but I heard the Oahu people talk a lot about it, so maybe that's something that Oahu heads up. I think the priority may be higher there.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** That's kind of what this little group would be establishing: "Okay, which of the ones are priority that we on the state level want to do?" On the islands, they've got their districts, they'll continue their prioritization and their own acquisitions, but we can help them push forward a couple of key ones that we see as priority along with them. So, first question is: is this something that we want to pursue? Then we can get some responses on that.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** If we don't sign up everybody in this one instance, can they not be added? Would they not be permitted later?

**Comm. Jury:** Yeah, I'm thinking about the rest of the commissioners who aren't present.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Yeah, we'd have to sign them up, probably. I mean, the best is to form the group now, or we can also defer this discussion.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** So, this would require a vote? Am I incorrect?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** It does require a vote, yeah.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Which would mean that to do it again, to add someone else, I would have to have another opening.

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** Just to clarify. So, there are five people here now, right? It has to be less than quorum—quorum means five—so it can be four people, three people, two people—but I wouldn't recommend two people, because two people aren't allowed to talk to each other anyway, right? So, you can choose those four people now, but you cannot, for example, choose that Lori or Jon are going to be on it, because they are not here to say, "I want to be on it," right? So, if you are going to continue with this, it has to be from the people here, right now. If you would like to wait for Jon and Lori and Robert to be on board, then it needs to be deferred to the next meeting. However, someone has to say, "Okay, I would like to defer this, and someone needs to second it," and then you'll have to say, "I do."

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Okay, because I think Robert would do it in Kauai, and Oahu—we got Oahu—but I really think Robert would want to totally be on that. So, we can defer.

**Comm. Jury:** Yeah, I make a motion to defer this to the next agenda item—to the next meeting, sorry.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Okay. Second?

**Comm. Timko:** I'll second.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** So, all right. We'll defer ITEM 3 until next meeting.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Maybe we'll get comments from the audience before we make a final decision.

**Sheri Mann (DOFAW):** Okay, thanks. I'm Sheri Mann. I'm the Branch Manager for Kauai Island, for DOFAW. We would welcome this advice from this group. DOFAW has about 40,000 acres of land-locked land on the east side that we would really like to open up. It's already accessible to hunting—hunting is allowed on those lands—but you can't effectively get to it, and so we would love to look at different acquisitions. When we say acquisitions, I think what we're also saying is not just purchasing the land, but also rights of easements, rights of access, MOU's, any kind of mechanism that would allow somebody to get onto the land, I think is encompassed in that acquisition thing that we're talking about. The other

thing that we would like to do is to get more hunting on private lands, but obviously that's a whole other issue. But that is also access to hunting and should be part of the access discussion. Thanks.

**James Cogswell:** All right. So with that, I think we had a motion—and a second—to defer this to the next meeting, but I think it's been established that this is something that we would like to pursue and discuss.

Commission Jury motions to defer. Commissioner Timko seconds. All Commissioners in favor. No nays.

**ITEM 4. Form a permitted Interaction Group to start working on creation of a comprehensive list of hunting and wildlife related issues per district. During this meeting, the members will be chosen (less than quorum) and the scope of the investigation will be defined.**

**James Cogswell (proxy):** So, first question there is, is this group something that we're interested in doing and would it be useful?

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Totally useful.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** From the other past meetings—if I understand correctly—the major purpose is to give this commission a little bit more focus on what our priorities will be statewide, so that it pulls us a little bit further from the district activities—and analyzing and giving input onto each particular district's actions currently. It pulls us back a little bit to find those priority issues that this commission is more uniquely qualified to handle. As opposed to district issues, right?

**Comm. Jury:** I'm sorry. But it does say here, "issues per district."

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Per district, right. So, this might be the first step to doing that, because each district has their priorities, and from those priorities, we figure out which of those priority issues within the district can this commission influence at a higher level. Because a lot of those issues might be just local issues that need to be dealt with locally.

**Comm. Jury:** Like land management.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Yeah. That's my interpretation of this item. So, the question again: do you think this kind of interaction group is important to identify those district priorities, or is that something each district person can do for themselves and then bring that forward and say, "I want commission advice on, or assistance with, X and Y priority within my district?" Those are kind of the two options that I see that we have, so...

**Comm. Kohatsu:** I just know, I believe that probably Chair Sabati—

**Comm. Ruidas:** Lori...

**Comm. Kohatsu:** —and probably Robert would want to also be on this, so I wouldn't want to vote.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Yeah. Okay. But the five of us think that this is an important enough item that we can maybe not act on it now, but perhaps defer it until next time, but still view it as an action item for the next meeting.

**Comm. Kohatsu:** Motion to defer and put on next meeting.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Maybe we can open it up to a couple of public comments?

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** I think that the comment you made about it being district level and statewide was a good one. So, maybe for next meeting you want to say statewide, so that you have your list per district, and then that group gets together and does this statewide, so that the commission

moves forward with a statewide plan—just a suggestion. It’s just that you guys talked about it and you said, “Oh, that’s a good idea.”

**Comm. Jury:** Thank you. The way I was looking at it was: maybe we each bring three specific items per island and then it’s up to the smaller group to decide, “Hey out of these nine items, out of these 25 items, what are the five that we want to attack?”

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Right. Then they can go around and look at each item, and then come back and say, “These are the items we can most influence on our level.”

**Comm. Jury:** Right. And it’ll be our kuleana to go to our own district and try and work out all the kinks, so that way we can pick those two or three items—maybe we can email the commissioners and we can come in with those three items—and then at that point, we can move forward. It’d be good to work with our managers, so we can look at what’s good for acquisitions. Let’s pull all the low-hanging fruit, so we can kind of speedline through this process.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Any other comments from the public? If not, maybe we’ll just work on rewriting that.

**Katie Ersbak (DOFAW):** I just wanted to say, regarding the last two items: I think it’s super valuable for us as staff to hear the thoughts of this commission. You guys have a lot of knowledge and insight. So, not only for acquisitions, but for management priorities, these permitted Interaction Groups could really be helpful for us at the branches—as well as here at admin—to understand what your priorities are, as well as us explaining what the priorities are for the Division and the Department. So, I think they offer an opportunity to just collaborate a bit more. Thank you.

**Comm. Jury:** Can you, for everybody, just state your position?

**Katie Ersbak (DOFAW):** Sure. I’m the Watershed Partnerships Coordinator for the Division, so I work with mostly watershed partnerships across the state.

**Comm. Jury:** Thank you.

[Comm. Kohatsu motions to defer to next meeting and amend ITEM 4 to focus more on state-level issues. Comm. Ruidas seconds. All aye, no nays.]

#### **ITEM 6. Set future meeting schedule and potential Agenda items.**

**James Cogswell (proxy):** We’ve already set two agenda items. Is there anything on top of your heads for agenda items first that you think we need to—

**Comm. Jury:** I think we requested that third act, Shaya, regarding the goats...

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** Yes. Yeah, we got that one.

**Comm. Jury:** And then—

**Comm. Ruidas:** The hiking one.

**Comm. Jury:** Yes. Trying to see what we can do to help. I think it would raise funds, to help pay for stuff like that—

**James Cogswell (proxy):** And also help to control and educate hikers.

**Comm. Jury:** Yep, to control and educate hikers. That should be on the agenda, there’s something in that.



**Comm. Timko:** There's a couple of commissioners whose terms are expiring in June, so we need to put that on the agenda, to see if they want to continue or if they need to be replaced. And the other issue I would like to see addressed is continued funding for this commission to meet, since our funding ends June 30<sup>th</sup> also.

**Sheri Mann:** Is there going to be a report this commission puts together to give to the legislature?

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Yeah, it's in the act. It's an annual report—we just submitted the first one, yeah? So, it should be online. Any other potential items that we've discussed that you guys might have?

**Comm. Kohatsu:** I've got something, but I probably have to think about it before I ask.

**Comm. Ruidas:** I think I've got one, but it's not for now—maybe it's for later—in case I'm gone. This was brought up from a couple of hunters talking to me, and it might sound something funny, but it's kind of serious: a lot of hunters cannot hunt because of the cannabis card—medical marijuana card—and dealing with firearms. But if you can legally drink alcohol and take prescription drugs, why is it different from the medical marijuana card? You still have to have a prescription for that. And why prevent the hunter from holding a firearm if he's not under the influence, and how to prove to the DOCARE officer that he is—or isn't—under the influence of any drugs or alcohol? The dialogue has to be started, because legalization or whatever may be around the corner. But right now, as it is, a lot of hunters cannot hunt, because of the federal regulations, even though it's a prescription. As a commission, I don't know how we can handle that.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Yeah. That's a great question, and I think that's something we could look into, work on. It's a great idea. Anything else people want to bring up? We'll have plenty of these meetings coming up, so we can bring up all kinds of items. All right!

**Comm. Timko:** So, next meeting date?

**Sheri Mann (DOFAW):** Do these meetings rotate around the state?

**Comm. Timko:** We're going to.

**Comm. Ruidas:** Shaya?

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** Yes? I don't know. I mean, when would you like to have the next meeting? And where? Because I think there's talk between either Kauai or Hawaii Island.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Go to Maui. We haven't had any input from Maui. We could go there to get some.

**Comm. Ruidas:** He probably still won't have input. I would say the Big Island, because I think they have more issues, and Cremer's been pretty good covering Kauai. What do you think? Right?

**Comm. Kohatsu:** That's fine, yeah. Then I won't be late.

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** For the date, we need to see where it's going to be, etc. I don't know if we can set the date, I have no idea. Actually, Joey's here now. I don't know where we're going to have—

**Kanalu Sproat (DOFAW):** We're going to the Big Island? I thought they said they were going to Kauai.

**Joey Mello (DOFAW):** It could be in a DOFAW conference room. Just keep in mind: with inter-island travel, the meeting will be later. It's hard to get from Lanai and Molokai.

**Comm. Ruidas:** I have to come to Honolulu again and then go. Unless I fly the night before...

**James Cogswell (proxy):** But maybe it's best we not fix a date. Depending on where we're going to meet, availability of the room—that kind of thing—do we need to fix a date now?

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** No, we don't need to fix a date now, I can send it out.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** But perhaps we can just say: next meeting, two months, on Big Island?

**Comm. Timko:** In March?

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** March.

**Kanalu Sproat (DOFAW):** If we do March, for us it's probably better at the end of the month. I think Joey is off the middle of February through the middle of March.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Oh yeah, we definitely want Joey there. All right! So, do we need to move on and then vote on that? Or just say it?

**Shaya Honarvar (DOFAW):** I can contact you all after the meeting, after confirming the room, etc.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** All right. If we're done with discussion on that, any other announcements?

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** For the medical marijuana one: they are bound by our second amendment rights, our right to bear arms, so they cannot take away your gun. But like he said, they can, I don't know, deal them out—

**Unknown (public):** They're taking them away already.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** Yeah, they're taking them away automatically, I know.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** And it's the only prescription drug where they'll do that to you.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** Yeah, yeah, yeah. Because a couple of guys, Waianae guys, they took them away already—yeah, registered guns, they started taking them away already.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** It's an interesting issue that's going to happen.

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** Yeah, because it's a second amendment right, no matter. Because they're bound by it, right? They're bound by the amendments, right? So why do they take away your gun?

**James Cogswell:** Yeah. All right. Should be a good discussion when it comes up.

**Sheri Mann (DOFAW):** You might want to pose that to an attorney general or a lawyer for input, or just have a comment from the lawyer before—just something, because it's a very legal issue.

**James Cogswell (proxy):** Oh yeah, it is. Any other comments?

**Dietra Myers-Tremblay (DOFAW):** Shaya wanted me to say that it's opening day of the legislative session, and if you haven't been over there already, there's a lot of action going on. It's an opportunity for you to say hello to your representatives and senators and say, "Hey, I was just at the GMAC meeting."

**Michael W.K. Eli (public):** For three hours!

**District 44 staffer:** Hi everyone. On behalf of Representative Cedric Gates: he likes to apologize sincerely for not making it, due to—as you all know—the overthrow anniversary. So, I came in his place and I've taken a lot of notes—a lot of good notes—and he is very, very sensitive about this issue and he takes it to heart, because this issue not only affects our environment but also the district that he loves the most, which is District 44.

**James Cogswell:** All right, good? If there's no other announcements, let's adjourn this meeting at 1:30?

**District 44 staffer:** Oh, and there's pupus at Cedric's office. He likes to invite everyone, so lots of food. Please come, please come! Room 311.

[Commissioner Kohatsu motions to adjourn at 1:30. Commissioner Jury seconds. All in favor, no nays. Meeting is adjourned at 1:30.]