



Animals designated by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) as "injuriously wildlife" are those that are known to be harmful to agriculture, aquaculture, indigenous wildlife or plants, or constitute a nuisance or health hazard. Some species of injurious wildlife are owned by people as pets. It is not illegal to possess these animals, but they cannot be released into the wild. Common pets that are injurious wildlife include chameleons, parrots, turtles, tortoises, skinks, frogs, doves, and geckos.

What are injurious wildlife?

While possession and sale of injurious wildlife is not expressly prohibited, as pet owners it is important to know that if an injurious wildlife is purchased the owner is responsible for the animal until it dies, or the animal is turned over to another responsible owner. If you are moving to the mainland and wish to take your pet, visit the DLNR website (link below) for information about export permits. Releasing injurious wildlife is illegal and can be a punishable offense of up to \$1000 and 30 days in prison. The release, export, or transport of injurious wildlife to a new location in the state is prohibited. Reference links below.

What are the owner's responsibilities?

If you no longer wish to keep your pet, please do not release it into the wild. Follow one of the methods below.

- Humane Society will accept most injurious wildlife, to give it a chance to be adopted.
- Deliver live Jackson's chameleons to the University of Hawaii at Manoa (337 Henke Hall) for research.
- You can humanely euthanize reptiles and amphibians by freezing.
- Deliver live injurious wildlife to the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture or Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife, if you no longer wish to keep it.

No longer wish to keep your pet?



Several species of animals purchased from pet stores are known to have detrimental impacts to Hawaii's environment when released by pet owners. These injurious wildlife are not native to Hawaii and compete with native species for food and habitat, consume native species or agricultural crops, and may carry diseases that are transferable to native species or humans. Release, export, or transport to a new location in the state is prohibited.



List of Common Injurious Wildlife Sold As Pets In Hawaii

- BIRDS
- Parrots
- Parakeets
- Java sparrows
- Doves
- REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS
- Chameleons
- Skinks
- Geckos & Anoles
- Frogs
- Turtles
- Tortoises

For full list and more info, visit <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wildlife/invasives/injurious-wildlife/>

If you'd like to report a sighting of an invasive species, call the statewide pest hotline, 643-PEST (808-643-7378), which will direct you to the nearest Department of Agriculture or other response agency, depending on where in the state you are calling from.

From Friend to Foe



Injurious Wildlife

Impactful Pets



◦ Rose-ringed parakeets compete with native birds for food and habitat. They are also destructive to agricultural crops and help spread invasive seeds throughout native forests.



◦ Jackson's chameleons prey on endemic insects and endangered tree snails.



◦ Red eared sliders feed on native aquatic vegetation and fish like 'o'opu in the wild. Sliders have been documented pulling waterfowl chicks underwater and biting off legs, resulting in death.

A Pet Owner's Guide For Injurious Wildlife



Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife

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www.dlnr.hawaii.gov/dofaw

220

210

WANTED: INJURIOUS PETS

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200

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CHAMELEONS

Jackson's chameleons prey on endemic insects, spiders and endangered kāhuli tree snails in Hawaiian forests.

150

150



Parrots and parakeets damage agricultural crops and eat the seeds of native species including koa and loulu.

PARROTS

160

160



Red eared sliders feed on native aquatic vegetation and fish like 'o'opu in wetlands. They may also carry salmonella.

TURTLES

140

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Injurious wildlife are animals that are known to harm Hawaii's plants, animals, people, or agriculture.

Pets that are injurious wildlife include: parrots, parakeets, chameleons, frogs, geckos, skinks, turtles & tortoises.
Pet owners like you are responsible for keeping a pet in captivity throughout its life.

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It is illegal to release or export pets that are injurious wildlife. It is also illegal to transport them to areas they are not already established. Releasing, transporting, or exporting injurious wildlife could result in a fine of up to \$1000 and 30 days in prison.

By turning in your unwanted pets, you can help keep Hawaii's people, agriculture, and natural areas safe from the these injurious animals.

No longer want your pet?

Sell or give it to a new responsible owner. Otherwise you can turn them in to your local Humane Society, Department of Agriculture office, Division of Forestry and Wildlife branch office, or your pet store if they accept returns.

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