

From: [Cory Harden](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Feb 26 C 2 #6 Palila Forest Discovery Trail
Date: Monday, February 22, 2021 8:27:02 PM

C 2 #6 Palila Forest Discovery Trail

Aloha Board members,

Please consider these concerns from Diane Ware of Volcano, who has extensive experience hiking all over the island as a Sierra Club outings leader.

“I would object to the Palila discovery trail being open to commercial tours on grounds of : 3. The trail and adjacent resources are not considered environmentally or culturally sensitive. This is critically endangered habitat for the palila and under restoration. Tour vans on the dirt road would be a conflict with restoration efforts and could negatively affect the birds.”

Mahalo,

Cory Harden

From: [Ramona Hussey](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] OPPOSE Agenda Item #2 -Opening Trails to Commercial Use
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2021 1:02:15 PM

I oppose opening up Forest Preserve Trail Areas on Maui and Hawaii Island to commercial activities.

Firstly, these areas are PRESERVES. We are supposed to be protecting them, not exploiting them for monetary gain.

Secondly, how does the State of Hawai'i have the resources to provide the inevitable services needed for commercial use? Budgets are being cut, staff laid off.

I urge you to vote no on this proposal, and to designate these lands as part of the Na Ala Trail system.

Thank you,
Ramona

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Ramona Hussey
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From: [Hank Hawaiian](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony on agenda items 2-26-21/ please note that this email was rerouted to this address
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2021 2:53:59 PM

NA KUPUNA MOKU O KEAWE

Hanalei Fergerstrom, Spokesperson
Na Kupuna Moku O Keawe
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Department of Land and Natural Resources
Meeting : 2/26/21

Agenda item C (1) OPPOSITION

This item concerns two of Hawaii's endangered species, the Hoary Bat and the Petrel. Request is to grant an increase in the number of incidental "TAKES" allowed. We are also concerned that in these reports you have combined the number of sites together which makes the reporting of takes per facility harder to trace. Are these TAKES to be counted by the industry or evaluated for incidental takes per facility location? It makes a difference. We are already disappointed that any "TAKES" of any endangered species is allowed period. Now, it is insulting that you would even consider an increase.

Agenda item C(2) OPPOSITION

We opposed this item because we could not identify where this KUHIIWA BAY is located. We could not find it on our maps of the Kiholo area and are concerned because this area is under a fishing KAPU where the State has a moratorium in effect so the area could regenerate....there is also a little know water cave the area that does not need exposure. We could not determine if this may include mooring which we would certainly oppose.

Dated:2/24/21

Thank you for all considerations.
// Hanalei Fergerstrom

From: [Susan Rosier](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] BLNR AGENDA 2/26/21
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2021 8:48:00 AM

Susan Rosier
RR#3 Box 1022
Pahoa, HI

Board of Land and Natural Resources

Re: BLNR-Agenda-210226

Division of Forestry and Wildlife

Agenda Item #2

Request to designate the following Nā ala Hele trails as Commercial Trails:
Part's 1), 2), 3), 4), 5), 6)

I OPPOSE this Request that would open up Forest Preserves to commercial use .

Please consider these realities before voting on this item:

- 1) DLNR Personnel "in the field" is currently spread out so thin that remote areas such as these have an extreme lag time for response (even more so when adding travel time on the BIG Island). Many times personnel are not able to reach areas during emergencies to render aide within sufficient time.
- 2) The current legislative session is considering charging the cost of all aide to the victims of distress, such as hiking accidents, because of the increase in incidences and the extreme expense of reaching such remote areas and airlifting people out.
- 3). These areas are PRESERVES. To the average person that means to Preserve the areas for future generations. History proves when an area is opened up for commercial use, the area rapidly becomes degenerated. Commercial Use therefore should be considered in t conflict with preservation.

In a time of World-Wide pandemic which has, and will continue to have a devastating affect on financial reserves of government agencies such as the DLNR, it would seem unwise to add another financial burden on the department. More visitors to these remote forests would mean :

- 1) More cleanup after the public use = increase in Personnel. And where are all these visitors going to "relieve" themselves?
- 2) a) Monitoring Trails for off-trail prohibited use = Increasing Personnel
b) construction of barriers to prevent such activities = Increasing Personnel

Construction of barriers to keep visitors on the trails is already happening as I recently viewed a video of DLNR personnel carrying out this activity in a forest preserve in Makawao

on Maui, yet there are 2 trails in the Makawao preserve areas in this very proposal to open up to commercial ventures.

3) On Hawai'i Island these Forest Preserve Trails are even more remote in that the land mass of the "Big Island" is larger than all of the islands combined. Travel time to reach a trail area is time consuming before even reaching an area of concern or a victim of an accidental fall.

Think about this, please. I understand the request, but it is definitely not appropriate to even consider NOW!

Susan Rosier,
Waikahekahe, Puna, Moku O Keawe

From: [Diane Ware](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] C2 opposing commercial tours in critical palila habitat
Date: Thursday, February 25, 2021 6:53:38 AM

Dear Chaor Case and board members,

My name is Diane Ware and I have led many Sierra Club service projects with DLNR to restore the mamane forest in critical habitat for the palila bird now on the brink of extinction. I would object to the Palila discovery trail being open to commercial tours on grounds of # 3. The trail and adjacent resources are not considered environmentally or culturally sensitive. I disagree. This is critically endangered habitat for the palila and under restoration. Multiple tour vans on the dirt road would be a conflict with restoration efforts and increasing visitation for profit could negatively affect the bird's recovery.

I urge you to reconsider tour activity on the Palila Discovery Trail.

Sincerely,

Diane Ware
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