

From: [Godfrey Akaka](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Herbavore proposal
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 6:53:51 PM

Aloha, my name is Godfrey Akaka Jr. President for The Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights Association Fisherman, Hunter, Farmer, Rancher, Gatherer, Cultural practitioner, and Resource manager. I represent many families on Molokai as well as statewide from Kauai to Bigisland Hawaii.

We are in strong opposition to the DLNR herbavore proposal to create bag limits on fish for substance fishermen. I have personally attended DLNR's public herbavore meetings and I did not witness an overwhelming support in favor for the proposal throughout the state in these meetings. These meetings appeared to be presented and tailored in attempt to convince the public of the need to create these unnecessary restrictions for substance gatherers.

DLNR's purpose or excuse to create these restrictions is to encourage more herbavore fish to eat more limu to stimulate the reef growth due to reef bleaching from climate change. The presentation comes across as if this is scientific fact but the real fact is that this purpose is a weak scientific theory.

After attending a turtle conference in Honolulu this past year. The marine biologist reported turtle swimming up the river in Big island and eating grass. Turtles eat limu and with the overpopulation of turtle, they are wiping out the limu. So scientifically and realistically the herbavore purpose is not only government over reach, but their theory does not justify restricting thousands of families who rely on these resources especially during these inflated economic time. And especially trying to recover from the Covid pandemic. Further, all of the DLNR's targeted species are fish that mostly locals and Hawaiians eat.

Continuing to make restrictions on top of restrictions is diminishing our culture and our gathering rights. There is so much more we are concerned about and would like to share but i will keep this short. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please call me my personal cell @ 808-213-1013 if you have any more questions.

Respectfully,

Godfrey Akaka Jr. NHGRA President

From: [Caroline Kaholoa](#)"a
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Oppose
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 4:13:26 PM

The Kaholoaa families oppose DLNR fishing plan for Molokai.

William and Caroline Kaholoaa
Japheth, Caroline with 3 minor children
Age 9 Caroline
Age 11 Nawaihuliliokalani
Age 14 Japheth

Nephi and Tashady Kaholoaa
Age 3 Jordan
Age 1 Alea

Jimmy Ksholoaa

Steven K Kaholoaa

William and Tania Kaholoas
Kainoa Kaholoaa
Payden Kaholoaa
Amber Kaholoaa
Hunter Kaholoaa

Jeremiah and Amber Kaholoaa
Paka Haliniak
Lavea Haliniak
Noah Haliniak
Titain Alcon
T. Alconb

From: [U'ilani Kiaha](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I Oppose
Date: Thursday, December 8, 2022 8:35:24 AM

Aloha BLNR,

I oppose the herbivores marine restrictions being propose for all islands in Hawaii. Please restrict for commercial use. Native Hawaiians should have access to resources to feed their families especially on the outer islands that the ocean is one of few resources that help families survive and thrive because we don't have supermarkets or stores, and the ones we do have are really \$\$ expensive. Please hear our voices.

Na'u me ka ha'aha'a

A concerned Hawaiian. U'ILANI KIAHA

From: [Kawehiwehi Lemn](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Kala and Uhu Rule/Law
Date: Thursday, December 8, 2022 7:10:30 AM

Hi my name is Harry Lemn, I am a commercial fisherman. I fished with my grandfather Ward Lemn and my father Ward Lemn Jr., when I was being brought up. My grandfather passed away as I got older, next thing you know, it was only me and my dad in the water. Later on as years passed by my dad came to the age where he can't fish any more (77 years old). I decided to take over fishing and carry our family legend as fishermans. As of today I am teaching my kids, nieces, and nephews, about fishing. I am the third generation of fishing.

These fishes that you guys are trying to make rules on, are the main fishes that we (me and my family) catch, especially the kala. We catch these fish for years and we provide to the market so the market can provide to the people that can't catch fish but love to eat it. The people in our community and the outside community like to eat these fish as well. For example, my dad likes to eat kala. Now that he's older he can't fish and now he apparently can't eat it either, due to the cause of these rules. So after all these years my grandfather, my father and I provided this fish for the market, he can't eat it as well because you all want to change the fishing amount rules. My father was hoping that one of those people could have been him, he would be eating the fish that he used to catch, but he can't do that no more if you guys pass this rule.

Two fish per-person, really? In my opinion this is outrageous, my family is a very big family that loves to eat, not any random food but mainly fish. When we have gatherings we have a lot of people. How are we supposed to feed my whole family with just two kala or two uhu? I am hoping this is a big eye opener to a lot of you guys, especially the local people of Hawaiian culture, after so many years this is how we survived. The Hawaiian lands were made to support the people on it with the land and natural environment that it provides. For example we trade food, we give others fish that don't know how to catch it and they give us vegetables, pork, and baked goods. A lady gives us bananas and she makes banana bread that is really good and we give her fish, my father loves to eat his banana bread for his breakfast as she makes her fish for dinner. All of a sudden you guys wanna change the rules.

In the end, please don't pass this rule/law because it's all us hawaiians know, we were raised in it and we sure won't be taken out of it easily. It's been in many family generations for a very long time. Thank you for hearing my statement. Once again please don't pass this law.

Sincerely,

Harry Lemn

From: [Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights Association](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony in opposition to fishing for herbavore restriction proposal
Date: Thursday, December 8, 2022 10:41:34 AM

Aloha,

We are The Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights Association which consist of Fisherman, Hunter, Farmer, Rancher, Gatherer, Cultural practitioner, and Resource manager. We represent many families on Molokai as well as statewide from Kauai to Hawaii island.

We are in strong **opposition** to the DLNR herbavore proposal to create bag limits on fish for substance fishermen. Our President has personally attended DLNR's public herbavore meetings and did not witness an overwhelming support in favor for the proposal throughout the state in these meetings. These meetings appeared to be presented and tailored in attempt to convince the public of the need to create these unnecessary restrictions for substance gatherers.

DLNR's purpose or excuse to create these restrictions is to encourage more herbavore fish to eat more limu to stimulate the reef growth due to reef bleaching from climate change. The presentation comes across as if this is scientific fact but the real fact is that this purpose is not a substantial scientific theory.

After our President attended a turtle conference in Honolulu this past year. The marine biologist reported turtle swimming up the river in Big island and eating grass. Turtles eat limu and with the overpopulation of turtle, they are wiping out the limu. So scientifically and realistically the herbavore purpose is not only government over reach, but theories that do not justify restricting thousands of families who rely on these resources especially during these inflated economic time. And especially trying to recover from the Covid pandemic. Further, all of the DLNR's targeted species are fish that mostly locals and Hawaiians eat.

Continuing to make restrictions on top of restrictions is diminishing our cultural ptactices and our gathering rights. There is so much more we are concerned about and would like to share but we will keep this short. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please call our President Godfrey Akaka at 808-213-1013 if you have any more questions.

Respectfully,

Native Hawaiian Gathering Rights Association
Godfrey Akaka Jr. NHGRA President