

**From:** [Grant Stuart](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Turner, James C](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR Board Meeting Testimony - 10/27 Meeting, Item D-6  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 25, 2023 6:25:41 AM

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To Whom it may concern,

Please accept this testimony for Item D-6 of the Board of Land and Natural Resources Meeting scheduled for October 27, 2023 - *Issuance of Revocable Permit to Elmo J. Tafoya III and Natalie M. Kekuewa for Maintenance and Recreational Purposes, Hanapepe, Waimea, Kauai, Tax Map Keys: (4) 1-9-002:003 and por. of 004.*

As neighbors of Mr. Tafoya, we are in full support of him receiving a lease(s) in the area. As many are aware, the valley in general has long been a dumping ground and zone for unwelcome activity. We have witnessed the community coming together since the yellow gates went up that lead to the river access with removal of junk cars/rubish, making sure the people who are utilizing the river crossing are doing it for the right reasons, i.e. no squatters, drug use, etc. A lot of this effort has fallen directly on the residents of this area. Allowing Mr. Tafoya a lease would only strengthen the momentum we, as a community, have gotten in the area. He has the means, the know-how, the equipment and the respect of the neighbors to continue to malama the land around the river, so that the river crossing can once again be enjoyed by this neighborhood and treated as the precious resource that it is.

I can be contacted via the email or phone below should you have any questions or need any additional information. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Mahalo,

**Grant Stuart, Owner/Captain**  
**Blue Water Fishing Kauai**  
**808.634.8916**  
[www.bluewaterfishingkauai.com](http://www.bluewaterfishingkauai.com)