

**From:** [Monica Platten](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BLNR 5/10/24 C6  
**Date:** Thursday, May 9, 2024 11:50:36 AM

---

Aloha!

I am writing to state that I am opposed to the BLNR 5/10/24 agenda item C6. These bacteria-infected mosquito releases are a dangerous experiment on the fragile ecosystems and the people of our islands.

The truth is that serious concerns about this plan have not been adequately addressed! The agencies involved in this project have lied about the introduction of foreign organisms into the islands and about the release of female mosquitoes that bite, breed, and spread disease. On Maui, these agencies are also flagrantly deviating from the approved plan, increasing the risks of helicopter fire and accident incidents. This is not pono.

Southern house mosquitoes transmit diseases to people and animals, and pathogen screenings are not being disclosed. Wolbachia bacteria can cause mosquitoes to become more capable of spreading diseases. The agencies releasing these lab-altered mosquitoes have admitted that the plan does not include monitoring the effects of the experimental mosquitoes on forest birds. This project has the potential to cause the extinction of the native birds it is meant to protect, and it could impact the health of the people.

I demand an environmental impact statement! I stand opposed to these releases.

Mahalo,  
Monica