

**From:** [Haven King-Nobles](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] April 12; Agenda Items F.2 and F.3 Testimony  
**Date:** Friday, May 3, 2024 11:45:34 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to provide input on the Division of Aquatic Resources' plan to allow the capture of wild fish for the aquarium trade in West Hawaii. I write to you on behalf of my organization, Fish Welfare Initiative, which advocates internationally for the welfare of fish. I also write as someone who once spent a month in Hawaii, and who found the beauty of the reef fish there truly spectacular.

Specifically, I want to encourage you to not accept the DAR's plan to allow the capturing of fish for the aquarium trade. These are wild animals who belong in the wild, and we know firsthand that their welfare is often severely neglected when they are brought into these industries.

Secondly, I request the Board to uphold what I understand to be its prior vote directing the DAR to begin rulemaking on this issue. The DAR should also hold all required public hearings.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,  
Haven King-Nobles

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