From:
 <u>JeriRick@TWC.COM</u>

 To:
 <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1 I OPPOSE Issuing AQ Permits & I OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department Chair

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 6:55:09 AM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Richard Abbott of Waikoloa, Hawaii.

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chair.

Regarding Terms & Conditions to Issue West Hawai'i AQ permits,

I request you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny any and all permits. Are you not suppose to "conserve and restore the state's unique aquatic resources and ecosystems for present and future generations"?

Regarding Delegating Authority to Issue AQ Permits to the Department Chair,

Do not delegate authority to the Department Chair. Retain the discretionary authority with the Board who will continue to utilize their diverse island communities, specialize knowledge, and expertise to weigh in and make informed decisions together.

Mahalo for this opportunity, Richard V. Abbott South Kohala District, Waikoloa Resort. From: <u>laura acasio</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1 I OPPOSE Issuing AQ Permits & I OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department Chair

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 11:19:10 PM **Attachments:** Aguarium Fishing Opposition .pdf

August 19, 2024

Aloha Chair Chang and Esteemed Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Laura Acasio, former State Senator of Hilo. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the issuance of commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i and to voice my concerns about the proposal to delegate authority for issuing these permits to the Department Chair.

## Opposition to Issuing Commercial Aquarium Permits in West Hawai'i:

Hawai'i's marine ecosystems are among the most unique and fragile in the world, and the aquarium trade continues to pose significant threats to their sustainability. The collection of marine species for commercial purposes not only disrupts the balance of these ecosystems but also has profound negative cultural implications. Many species targeted by the aquarium trade are integral to Native Hawaiian cultural practices and beliefs, which are deeply connected to the land and sea.

Despite ongoing efforts to regulate the aquarium industry, the long-term impacts of commercial collection remain largely unknown, and recent studies have shown that these activities lead to the rapid decline of local fish populations. Given the precautionary principle, which prioritizes the protection of the environment in the face of scientific uncertainty, I urge you to reject the Department of Aquatic Resources' (DAR) proposed Terms and Conditions for issuing aquarium permits. It is essential that we err on the side of caution and prioritize the health of our marine ecosystems over extractive commercial interests.

# Opposition to Delegating Authority to Issue Permits to the Department Chair:

I am also deeply concerned about the proposal to delegate authority to issue aquarium permits to the Department Chair. The Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) plays a critical role in representing the diverse perspectives of our island communities, each of which has a unique relationship with Hawai'i's natural resources. The Board's collective expertise and understanding of local conditions are invaluable in making informed and balanced decisions that reflect the interests of all stakeholders.

Delegating this authority to the Department Chair would undermine the Board's ability to provide comprehensive oversight and could lead to decisions that do not fully consider the environmental, cultural, and community impacts. Retaining this discretionary authority within the Board ensures that decisions are made with the input of knowledgeable and concerned citizens, helping to protect the interests of both the environment and the people of Hawai'i.

In conclusion, I respectfully request that the BLNR reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions, deny any and all aquarium permits, and retain the authority to issue such permits within the Board. These actions are necessary to safeguard the integrity of Hawai'i's marine ecosystems and to ensure that decisions about our natural resources are made with the full participation of the communities they affect.

Mahalo for your time, consideration and opportunity to testify,

Laura Acasio Hilo From: Sue Adams

**To:** <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] August 23; Agenda Item F.1Date:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:07:03 PM

As a person living next to the beautiful Puako Reef, and supporting efforts to remove all of the wastewater off of the reef to allow it to recover, the last thing we want is to have the reef's vital fish populations taken. DO NOT AGREE TO AC IN WEST HAWAII.

- BLNR should be the ultimate decision-makers on whether or not to issue AQ permits, not just the Chair of DAR staff
- NO AQ permits should be issued

I remember when two boats were bagging fish at the reef. When it was stopped the fish population definitely increased. The bagging had a negative effect on the reef. I have been a certified diver since 1988 diving at Puako.

Sincerely, Sue Adams
Puako Hawaii Home Owner

From: <u>Marie Addario</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] DNR outrageous request for AC fishing to restart:

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:01:07 PM

Dear Board, Committee members and staff;

I live on Puako Beach and am a member of both "Puako For Reefs Committee" and the Puako Community Association.

We have been working over 10 years to restore fish life and reef health by finding waste water solutions both from run off and cesspools which have contributed to the reduction of our coral coverage from 70% to 7% and lowered the diversity of our local reef fish (these numbers have been substantiated by research from a number of sources). It has been proven that over-fishing is also a contributator to this demise. Ourcreef services most of South Kahala in West Hawaii.

It seems outrageous that DAR wants to reinstate aquarium fishing in West Hawaii to profit mainland businesses, given the environmental impacts on our fish population and our citizens' efforts to save our corrals and fish. Please do not allow DAR to do that!

Sincerely Marie Addario 
 From:
 Rosemary Alles

 To:
 DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

 Cc:
 Jonnetta Peters

Subject: [EXTERNAL] August 23; Agenda Item F.1 | End the permitting procedures of reef fish collecting

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:18:40 AM

#### Dear BLNR representative.

Please end the permitting procedures of reef fish collecting.

### BLNR should be the ultimate decision-makers on whether or not to issue AQ permits, not just the Chair of DAR staff

#### NO AQ permits should be issued

Rosemary Alles, Honokaa, Big Island.

Warmly, rosemary Software Engineer & GIS Specialist Hawaii, California & South Africa

Core strategist & Co-founder

The Global March for Elephants and Rhinos



From: <u>Joey Alonso</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 5:31:39 AM

To whom it may concern,

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Joey Alonso

From: <a href="mailto:amandaa@seadwelling.com">amandaa@seadwelling.com</a>
To: <a href="mailto:DLNR.BLNR.Testimony">DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</a>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 9:45:01 AM

Attachments: <u>image002.png</u>

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you today to express my support for opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science proving by DAR.

Sincerely

Amanda Alvarado

#### Amanda Alvarado

**Sales Representative Sea Dwelling Creatures** 

Tel: 310.676.9697 x8042











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From: Joan Alworth

To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1 I OPPOSE Issuing AQ Permits & I OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department Chair

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:01:56 AM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Joan Alworth and I am a former resident of Hawaii and a long term visitor to the state. I return year after year specifically to appreciate the land and waters that make Hawai'i a unique treasure on our planet.

Please add my name to this testimony to **oppose** issuing commercial aquarium permits in west Hawai'i and I **oppose** delegating authority to the Department Chair.

This trade is nothing short of <u>natural resource extraction</u> which benefits few at the expense of many.

The illegal aquarium trade's disregard of our unique Hawaiian environment is short term thinking and I implore the Department of Land and Natural Resources - Division of Aquatic Resources to enact a rule to prohibit collection of reef wildlife for the aquarium pet trade.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this petition to end commercial aquarium collection.

Joan Alworth Seattle, Washington From: Pelika Andrade
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1 I OPPOSE Issuing AQ Permits & I OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department Chair

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 8:09:19 PM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Pelika Andrade, a past resident of West Hawaii and a continued supporter of marine and watershed initiatives that are driven by community. I've spent over 20 years working along the West Hawaii coastline as a voyager with voyaging canoe Makalii, as a fisherwoman and hoa'aina from Kalaemano to Mahukona, as an educator in various schools from preschool to university, and an advocate for community based resource management with Kailapa Community Association, Na Kalai Wa'a Moku o Hawaii, Ala Kahakai, Hui Aloha Kiholo, Kaupulehu Marine Life Advisory Council, KUPA of Hookena, the 'ohana of Miloli'i and a few others.

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chair.

Regarding Terms & Conditions to Issue West Hawai'i AQ permits, I request you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny any and all permits. The West Hawaii community has been in opposition of this bad practice for years as it does not support sustainability for the West Hawaii marine environment, continues to support commercialism above community, and works in opposition to the tradition of only taking what we know how to replace.

Regarding Delegating Authority to Issue AQ Permits to the Department Chair, do not delegate authority to the Department Chair. Retain the discretionary authority with the Board who will continue to utilize their diverse island communities, specialize knowledge, and expertise to weigh in and make informed decisions together.

Mahalo for this opportunity, Pelika Andrade

--

### I la Maika'i

Pelika Andrade Extension, UH Sea Grant College Program ED, Na Maka Onaona 808-960-8001 pelikaok@hawaii.edu

"Make your thoughts, choices, and actions reflect your hopes... not your fears!"

From: <u>Avinnova</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 4:55:45 AM

#### Dear Sirs,

as Italian registered commercial dealer in the aquarium industry I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Kind regards,

Alfonso de Angelis

Avinnova di Alfonso de Angelis Via Gregorio VII n°9 84125 Salerno Italy

VAT:IT05891870650 Tel:+39089229361

Mobile:+393385609385

From: <u>John Baarda</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda item F1 support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 7:22:51 AM

#### Hello.

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

#### Thanks.

Sent from my Metro By T-Mobile 5G LTE Android Device Get <u>Outlook for Android</u>

From: Zach Ballard

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 - No Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 5:58:59 AM

I do not support opening the aquarium fishery.

In some cases, I do support the extraction of specific numbers of broodstock for aquaculture operations in very limited quantities.

From: Bape 47

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:31:41 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR

From: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:05:53 AM

----Original Message----

From: John Barron-Ethridge <john@petcityhouston.com>

Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 4:04 PM

To: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR <dlnr@hawaii.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

Dear Chairperson Chang,

Please support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by Hawaii's scientists and experts in the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources.

This fishery has been extensively studied and aquarium collection is environmentally responsible and sustainable.

The recent UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) workshop on marine ornamentals repeatedly featured discussion on the yellow tang as one of the most resilient and sustainable fish in the trade.

Putting an extremist agenda of ending aquarium keeping before the livelihoods of Hawaiians and the immense amount of science confirming the sustainability of the fishery is irresponsible and wrong.

The Hawaii fishers are just a small group of local citizens that have been forced to undergo an overwhelming process to satisfy the requirements and whims of the state. Having accomplished that, they should be issued their licenses and the limited entry fishery reopened.

Sincerely,

John Barron-Ethridge 31566 Ember Trail Ln Spring, TX 77386 john@petcityhouston.com From: <u>Jim Beets</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item F-1 OPPOSE Issuing AQ Permits & OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department Chair

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:31:44 AM

Attachments: Testimony-AQPermit HiRevisedStatutesSect88-31 beets.docx

#### Aloha,

I have attached my written testimony. If you cannot open OR need in the body of the email or another format, please contact me.

I would appreciate confirmation of receipt of my testimony.

Respectfully,

Jim Beets Pepeekeo, HI From: <u>biy3nmk07vhcjb5fmhzn@yahoo.co.jp</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support **Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 7:48:06 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

From: To:

Marcus Boone
DLNR.BLNR.Testimony
[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support
Monday, August 19, 2024 4:33:50 PM Subject: Date:

I support opening the aquarium fishery.

Thanks, Marcus

From: <u>Taylor Borsari</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] August 23; Agenda Item F.1----stop reef collection please

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:16:30 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

#### To Whom It May Concern:

As a person living in Puako with our beautiful Puako reef, and supporting efforts to remove all of the wastewater off of the reef to allow it to recover, we are extremely opposed to having the reef's vital fish populations taken. PLEASE DO NOT AGREE TO AC IN WEST HAWAII.

- BLNR should be the ultimate decision-makers on whether or not to issue AQ permits, not just the Chair of DAR staff
- NO AQ permits should be issued

Sincerely,

Taylor and Craig Borsari



#### **TAYLOR BORSARI**

f 702.939.9074

8901 Players Club Drive Las Vegas, NV 89134 t 702.263.2664

taylor@taylorborsari.com www.taylorborsari.com From: <u>kaedin bovinet</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:25:01 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR. I believe that opening Hawaii back up to collect aquarium fish will benefit the Hawaiian people with the revenue that they can receive from the aquarium hobby. I believe that with the assistance provided by DAR, that collection can be maintained to keep a safe population of fish in the wild, but also let aquarium hobbyists enjoy the fish as well in their own home. I myself am a saltwater hobbyist and I care for every single creature in my care as well as others. I want nothing but the best for the fish, and I believe that aquarium hobbyists feel the same.

Thank you, Kaedin Bovinet From: Nick Bridel

**DLNR.BLNR.Testimony** To:

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 11:11:04 AM

Attachments: image001.png

image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png image007.png image008.png image009.png image010.png image011.png

To whom it may concern:

#### I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR

I believe that opening of the Hawaii fishery not only safeguards marine biodiversity, as evidenced in the research undertaken on the fishery, but also supports the Hawaiian community economically and culturally.

As a Director of Biosystems, the commercial division of TMC servicing the Public Aquarium, Aquaculture and R&D sectors, our focus is centred on ensuring the health and well-being of marine life under our care and care of the hundreds of research centres and aquaculture facilities around the world. Our practices are deeply rooted in sustainability and conservation, reflecting our commitment to the environment and marine ecosystems.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Kind regards,

#### **Nick Bridel | Director**

**1** +44 1923 284151

tropicalmarinecentre.com

Solesbridge Lane, Chorleywood, Hertfordshire, WD3 5SX

















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From: <u>Kerry BROMBERG</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Stop aquarium collection in Puako. **Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 11:10:32 AM

#### Why take when we're trying to save!

As a community member who lives in Puako next to the Reef, and supporting efforts to remove all of the wastewater off of the reef to allow it to recover, the last thing we want is to have the reef's vital fish populations taken. DO NOT AGREE TO AC IN WEST HAWAII.

Kerry Bromberg

Sent from my iPhone

From: <u>Charlotte Brown</u> on behalf of <u>Rep. Nicole E. Lowen</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Cc: Lowen, Nicole

**Subject:** BLNR Testimony - Item F-1 Issuing AQ Permits **Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:00:11 PM

Attachments: 8.19.24 BLNR Testimony.pdf

Aloha,

Please find attached testimony on behalf of Representative Lowen.

Mahalo,

#### Charlotte R. Brown

Office Manager Representative Nicole E. Lowen 415 S. Beretania St. Room 436 Honolulu, HI 96813

Office: (808) 586-8400

Email: <u>c.brown@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>

From: <u>Jason Bylsma</u>

**To:** <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:00:23 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Thank you,

Jason Bylsma

From: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:07:12 AM

----Original Message-----

From: Courtney Carper < courtney@360readvisors.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 6:18 AM

To: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR <dlnr@hawaii.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

Dear Chairperson Chang,

Please support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by Hawaii's scientists and experts in the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources.

This fishery has been extensively studied and aquarium collection is environmentally responsible and sustainable.

The recent UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) workshop on marine ornamentals repeatedly featured discussion on the yellow tang as one of the most resilient and sustainable fish in the trade.

Putting an extremist agenda of ending aquarium keeping before the livelihoods of Hawaiians and the immense amount of science confirming the sustainability of the fishery is irresponsible and wrong.

The Hawaii fishers are just a small group of local citizens that have been forced to undergo an overwhelming process to satisfy the requirements and whims of the state. Having accomplished that, they should be issued their licenses and the limited entry fishery reopened.

Sincerely,

Courtney Carper 2675 Anderson Dr Hilliard, OH 43026 courtney@360readvisors.com From: Rafael

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:40:50 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Rafael Casillas

From: <u>Terrell C Chambers</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:38:34 AM

I support the reopening of the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Get Outlook for Android

From: <u>Christopher Chaples</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support **Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 9:57:27 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Sincerely, Christopher Chaples From: <u>Cindi</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1 Oppose Terms and Conditions to Issue Aquarium Permits in West Hawai'i

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 4:40:07 PM

#### Aloha Honorable Chair Dawn Chang and the Board of Land and Natural Resources Members

I strongly urge the Board of Land and Natural Resources to oppose the issuance of Aquarium permits in West Hawai'i. Additionally, I believe that the Department Chair should not be the delegating authority to issue aquarium permits. Instead, the delegating authority should be the Board, which comprises members from diverse island communities and their unique knowledge.

We are still recovering from the devastating coral bleaching events in West Hawaii in 2015 and 2019. These events resulted in over 90% of cauliflower corals dying at Kahalu'u Bay and along the Kona Coast. Since 2018, Hawai'i County Parks has closed Kahalu'u Beach Park once a year and implemented a coral educational program during the cauliflower coral spawning event. After six years of annual park closures, we have observed a significant increase in cauliflower and other coral growth in the bay and an influx of fish like never before. It's crucial to recognize that this recovery is in its early stages and that we must safeguard our marine life. Given that we are experiencing climate change, we are still determining when the next bleaching event will occur and what its impact will be on our coastal areas.

We must also protect our food source, as our ocean serves as our "ice box," and our children will depend on it. I am a kama'āina of West Hawai'i and have seen the decline of our marine resources over many years. We must make decisions today to help protect our aquatic resources for tomorrow. You can make a difference.

Mahalo, Aunty Cindi Cynthia Punihaole Kennedy West Hawaii Resident From: <u>derek clay</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please pass F1 and return permits to fishers

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:19:24 AM

Please pass F1. It helps with the livelihood of thousand upon thousand across the globe.

Thx

Derek clay

From: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:06:23 AM

----Original Message----

From: James Collins <james.collins@segrestfarms.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:36 AM To: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR <dlnr@hawaii.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

Dear Chairperson Chang,

Hello, My name is James Collins and I have been involved in the industry for over 30 years. Studies going back to the early 2000's have shown that the limited entry fishery is thriving. Many people depend on the aquarium fish industry for survival, not just in Hawaii, but across the entire country. The science has shown that sustainable collection is not deleterious to the species or environment.

Please support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by Hawaii's scientists and experts in the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources.

This fishery has been extensively studied and aquarium collection is environmentally responsible and sustainable.

The recent UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) workshop on marine ornamentals repeatedly featured discussion on the yellow tang as one of the most resilient and sustainable fish in the trade.

Putting an extremist agenda of ending aquarium keeping before the livelihoods of Hawaiians and the immense amount of science confirming the sustainability of the fishery is irresponsible and wrong.

The Hawaii fishers are just a small group of local citizens that have been forced to undergo an overwhelming process to satisfy the requirements and whims of the state. Having accomplished that, they should be issued their licenses and the limited entry fishery reopened.

Sincerely,

James Collins 6232 Fairway Blvd Apollo Beach, FL 33572 james.collins@segrestfarms.com From: <u>The Pet Shop</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:07:07 AM

Hello,

The Pet Shop supports opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Thank You Vanessa Costanzo The Pet Shop 2235 S. Power Rd Ste 107 Mesa, AZ. 85209 480-807-7840 From: Courtney Adams
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] August 23; Agenda Item F.1

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:15:06 PM

Dear Board of Land and Natural Resources,

As a person living next to the beautiful Puako Reef, the last thing we want is to have the reef's vital fish populations taken. DO NOT AGREE TO COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM COLLECTION (AQ) IN WEST HAWAII.

- BLNR should be the ultimate decision-makers on whether or not to issue AQ permits, not just the Chair of DAR staff
- NO AQ permits should be issued

I have been a certified diver for almost 20 years and my husband for over 40 years. We dive regularly in Puako. We had a period a while back where boats were bagging fish. The reef fish population suffered dramatically. When this harvesting was stopped, the fish population definitely increased. Please protect the fish.

Sincerely,

Courtney Adams
Puako Home Owner
puakogirl@gmail.com

From: <u>Sara Cowles</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1: OPPOSE Terms & Conditions to Issue Permit; OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department

Chair

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 4:34:55 PM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I am Sara of Kailua-Kona.

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i, and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chair.

Regarding Terms & Conditions to Issue West Hawai'i AQ permits, I request you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny any and all permits.

Regarding Delegating Authority to Issue AQ Permits to the Department Chair, do not delegate authority to the Department Chair. Retain the discretionary authority with the Board, which will continue to utilize their diverse island communities, specialized knowledge, and expertise to weigh in and make informed decisions together.

Thank you for this opportunity, Sara Cowles Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740 From: <u>Lois Crozer</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] August 23, Agenda item f1 **Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 6:23:59 PM

I love snorkeling and learning about our aquatic friends. Unfortunately, there are so few of them now where I live in Kailua, Oahu. I'm deeply saddened by the fact that it is still legal to take wild fish from the wild to be sold to the aquarium trade. This is an unsustainable practice. We can do better!!!

So...I think the BLNR should be able to make the ultimate decision on whether to issue AQ permits. Actually, just DON'T.

Lois Crozer Kailua, Oahu From: <u>Charles Dejurnett</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 7:08:50 AM

### Good Afternoon,

I support the opening of the aquarium fishery, provided it is guided by scientific data and resource management strategies from the Department of Aquatic Resources (DAR). Sustainable practices and evidence-based guidelines are key to balancing the needs of the industry with long-term ecosystem health. Prioritizing science-driven management ensures that resources are harvested responsibly while protecting marine biodiversity for future generations.

Best Regards,

## **Dejay DeJurnett**

Loan Officer

**M** 760.443.4323

E dejay@sd-loans.com

### SD Loans

8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 370 San Diego, CA 92108 Individual NMLS# 1981474 Company NMLS# 191628 From: mike dempsey
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:55:31 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

From: <u>Daniel Devoe</u>

**To:** <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 6:02:52 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

The reason I support is because I want it to be an avenue for sustainability in the future. In doing so we can further our goal to be out of the oceans period. access to species to perfect breeding would be pivotal to the continuation of ocean life as well as the aquarium industry. I believe there should be stipulations on the amount of fish that can be pulled from the ocean as I do not wish for this to be exploited in any way. My concern is for the fish and environment first. As an avid aquarist I deeply care for this hobby but not to the extent of eradication.

 From:
 Enos, Sonja K

 To:
 DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Cc: Sonja Enos

Subject: [EXTERNAL] August 23; Agenda Item F.1

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:50:00 PM

### Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Kanani Enos. I am born and raised in Hōnaunau on the island of Hawai i with generational roots in South Kona from Kealakekua down to Miloli i. I am a mother of four, raised in the traditions of mālama āīna (caring for the land) as well as lawai a and hānai i a (traditional fishing practices).

The health of our reefs and fish populations have been a big concern for our local community and families who depend on the ocean for food, for our cultural practices, and for life. We have watched the abundance and health of our reefs in West Hawaii decline, especially in the last two decades. The delicate balance of life in our reef ecosystems has suffered enough due to the greed of those who put money and profits before life. I've watched the fish populations rapidly decline in front of my eyes; a lot of fish are not even present in our oceans, and the impact of that has been devastating. In our cultural view, every fish, ever aquatic life-form, has a purpose. To remove any life form disrupts the balance. Our ancestors knew this, which is why they only took what they needed at certain times, and at certain seasons.

The AQ trade is in complete conflict with local, cultural, and social values of our West Hawai i community. Most of the fish collected die in nets and during transport. 90% of these wild-caught fish that make it to an aquarium, die within a year of capture. We need fish not only for food, but for their role in keeping our reefs healthy, supporting large fish, and balancing our marine eco-systems. Scientists say we must increase fish abundance if our reefs are going to have a fighting chance against climate change impacts. Allowing tens to thousands of important herbivores to be stolen from our ocean for unnecessary and destructive activities is completely wrong. These irresponsible AQ trade activities do not benefit our community here in West Hawaii, they only further disrupt our environment, and the delicate balance of our ocean eco-system.

I am in strong opposition to reopening our reefs to the destructive AQ trade. NO AQ PERMITS SHOULD BE ISSUED, and BLNR should be the ultimate decision-makers on whether or not to issue AQ permits, not just the Chair of DAR staff.

Do the right thing, the life of our ocean and people depend on it!!

Mahalo, Kanani Enos From: <u>Thalia Fajans</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1: OPPOSE Terms & Conditions to Issue Permit; OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department

Chair

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 5:19:19 PM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I have been a resident of Kona for over 27 years. I paddle out of Keauhou Bay on my outrigger canoe at least three days a week and have been able to witness a time when people were free to collect reef fish by the dozens if not hundreds. This is not a good practice. We need to protect our reefs and keep the fish where they belong...please do not issue permits and reopen the collection trade.

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i, and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chair.

Regarding Terms & Conditions to Issue West Hawai'i AQ permits, I request you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny any and all permits.

Regarding Delegating Authority to Issue AQ Permits to the Department Chair, do not delegate authority to the Department Chair. Retain the discretionary authority with the Board, which will continue to utilize their diverse island communities, specialized knowledge, and expertise to weigh in and make informed decisions together.

Thank you for this opportunity, Thalia Fajans Kailua Kona, Hawai'i 96740 From: <u>Aaron Felt</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 7:59:15 AM

### Hello,

My name is Aaron Felt and I am a resident of California. I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR. I have been an aquarist as well as avid snorkeling tourist to Hawaii my entire nearly 40 years. I have worked in the aquarium industry and it has driven me to obtain a marine biology degree from University of California, Santa Cruz. Without the aquarium hobby, particularly marine aquariums, I would not have pursued that degree. We need to continue to allow for reasonable and conservative use of resources without removing ourselves from the ecology. When you place a value on resources, you sustain and protect them. When value is removed, or when oversight is weak, resources are lost.

In summary please allow the scientists to do their work, naming the quotas and enforcing them, without a total ban. We are a country of conservation. That means usage. Let's continue this long tradition of conservative usage which has maintained elk, bears, and waterfowl among many other species of value across our vast country.

Thank you, Aaron Felt From: <u>elise okuna</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 (support)Date:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:42:21 AM

i support the opening of the aquarium fishery on the Big Island. Managing resources by science provided by the DAR has proven the fishery to be both sustainable and healthy.

Elise Fernley

From: Bob Fewell

**To:** <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Cc: Gail DeSilva

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO to aquarium reef fishing **Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:40:06 PM

As a person living next to the beautiful Puako Reef, and supporting efforts to remove all of the wastewater off of the reef to allow it to recover, the last thing we want is to have the reef's vital fish populations taken. DO NOT AGREE TO AC IN WEST HAWAII.

- BLNR should be the ultimate decision-makers on whether or not to issue AQ permits, not just the Chair of DAR staff
- NO AQ permits should be issued

Sincerely, Bob Fewell

 From:
 Fish NE Where

 To:
 DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda item F1 Support

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 4:28:32 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

From: <u>fred hofer</u>

**To:** <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1: OPPOSE Terms & Conditions to Issue Permit; OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department

Chair

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 5:09:29 PM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I am Fred Hofer of Hilo

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i, and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chair.

Regarding Terms & Conditions to Issue West Hawai'i AQ permits, I request you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny any and all permits.

Save the fishes, & Our fishermen Allow NO aquarium fishing

mahalo, Fred

From: Glenn Fukuda

To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item agenda F-1
Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 9:03:16 PM

My family being supported by AQ fishing for 40 years and threatened most of those years by an opposition with no proof to their platforms that sparks government's unsympathetic to fishermen's rights and livelihoods. In the future that any AQ fishermen may have to hold a state approved EIS credential violating fair managing goals compared to other fisheries. Hapless fishermen, sincerely obedient and deserve more support. In support of item agenda F-1. Oe sim Fukuda

Sent from my iPad

From: Kevin Gaines

To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:36:50 AM

## To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of re-opening the aquarium fishery in Hawaii with management and sound science provided by DAR. This is a model fishery for sustainable catch and should be demonstrated as such.

Best Regards,

### **Kevin Gaines**

## **Director of Sales & Marketing**

## **Sea Dwelling Creatures, Inc.**

Tal. 424 501 1555

Tel: 424.501.1555

Fax: 310.676.9699 Cell: 772.979.0756 keving@seadwelling.com

kevingta,seaaweiing.

seadwelling.com 5515 W. 104th St.,

Los Angeles, CA 90045







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From: Emily Garland

To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1: OPPOSE Terms & Conditions to Issue Permit; OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department

Chair

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 5:57:22 PM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I am Emily Garland and I live in Hilo.

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i, and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chair.

Regarding Terms & Conditions to Issue West Hawai'i AQ permits, I request you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny any and all permits. I enjoy snorkeling in Kona's beautiful oceans.

Regarding Delegating Authority to Issue AQ Permits to the Department Chair, do not delegate authority to the Department Chair. Retain the discretionary authority with the Board, which will continue to utilize their diverse island communities, specialized knowledge, and expertise to weigh in and make informed decisions together.

Thank you for this opportunity, Emily Garland Hilo, 96720 Hawaii Island From: <u>Jim Gintner</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support From Largest Coral Farm

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 5:33:48 AM

## To All Respected Parties,

As the owner and operator of one of the worlds largest aquaculture coral farms I am writing to you today with my fullest I support for opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

## Today I will briefly discuss 4 things I think you should know when making your decision.

- #1 Sustainable collection of marine life should ALWAYS be allowed as long as it is backed by science and done in a sustainable manner. This is the basis for all of the world's fisheries and if you all shut it down it can snowball into hurting many other great fisheries, companies, people, and jobs. It is irresponsible, unreasonable, unethical, and unfair to not allow sustainable collection.
- #2 Tourism and Hawaii. I visited Hawaii with my wife many years ago when we first started dating. Why did we pick Hawaii? Because I have had yellow tangs in my aquariums as a young child and feel in love with them. This made me want to visit Hawaii. If it was not for those yellow tangs in my aquarium I would not have pushed so hard to choose Hawaii as our #1 vacation pick. These sustainably caught fish DO help and encourage tourism. Every one of them in an advertisement for your thriving ecosystem, sustainable collection, and Hawaii as a whole. I have talked to hundreds of people who have or wish to visit Hawaii because of their aquariums.
- #3 These fish are VITAL to our coral farm and aquariums. Without yellow tangs it is my firm belief that my coral farm would not be able to prosper. We have many yellow tangs here that help our ecosystem stay healthy too. Just like these fish are vital to your reefs health they are also vital to our aquariums health here too. They should only be collected responsibly and sustainably. Not allowing these fish to be collected is a vote to shut down peoples RIGHT to keep aquariums. As you know aquariums have many benefits to peoples health, joy, education, and life.

#4 These fish survive and prosper. Like anything in life proper care, respect, planning, and husbandry are required. When the proper steps are all followed we find close to zero fish loss. That includes in shipping even with delays (These can be easily planned for to avoid issues). We have many Hawaiian fish here in our care for over 10+ Years. They are living a great life in huge aquariums with no predators and wonderful care.

We strongly stand with the fisherman of Hawaii and all the great sustainable fisheries of the world. Do the right thing and allow responsible and sustainable collection to take place. We and all of the aquarium community are counting on you.

I can be reached at anytime for a phone call if you have any additional questions.

Thank you,

# Jim Gintner

Chief Executive Officer 1-877-556-5112 ext. 99



Tony Giovannetti From: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony
[EXTERNAL] Agenda item f1 support To:

Subject: Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 6:15:29 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR. Sent from my iPhone

From: <u>Cheryl Goguen</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda item F1 OPPOSITIONDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:54:28 AM

I am writing to say that I oppose reopening of the aquarium fishery.

We must protect our natural reefs and aquatic life

From: <u>chancy grace</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Testimony

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 7:21:45 AM

From: chancy grace <chancygrace@hotmail.com>
Date: August 20, 2024 at 6:53:10 AM GMT-10

To: blnrtestimony@hawaii.gov

**Subject: Testimony** 

Stop the Aquariam Fish Trade in West Hawaii.

AGENDA ITEM: F1.

I OPPOSE THE BOARD ISSUING AQ PERMITS.

I OPPOSE DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR.

Deny any and all AQ Trade Permits.

Over the many years I have been swimming in Hawaii I have witnessed a significant decrease in fish and other marine life. Do not allow this to continue.

Mahalo,

Chancy Grace, MSW Sent from my iPhone

 From:
 Michael Greenspan

 To:
 DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

 Subject:
 [EXTERNAL]

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:12:53 PM

How many times do we have to do this? Why do u keep bringing this back? Are government officials getting special treatment from these fisherman and there industry? Why else would this keep coming back? It's so obvious that the earth and it's oceans are dying from so many things, trash, plastic, sewage runoff, global warming, coral bleaching etc. Why do u think it's a great idea to let this business survive when everything shows the ocean has been overfished and now so many fish and crabs are gone! Now you think it's a good idea to finish off the last remaining fish to an industry that losses and kills more than half and more of the fish on the way to market! And what about people that come to Hawaii to snorkel and dive, who will come here when there's no fish left on the reef! Our Hawaii tourism is already down a lot and will only get worse when these fish are gone! Keep this up and we will have no fish left like

what has happened on the Mexican Rivera. No fish left there! Total wasteland with dead coral piles everywhere and no fish! Please do the right thing for the fish, coral and ocean and stop this destructive industry. The fish are almost gone please give them a chance to survive!

From: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:06:58 AM

----Original Message-----

From: Sarah Hettinger <sarah.hettinger@petlandinc.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:50 AM

To: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR <dlnr@hawaii.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

Dear Chairperson Chang,

Much like anything, conservation is an important way to sustain species around the world. It is also an important teaching moment to foster the desire for future conservation. When done properly, this should actually benefit aquariums and fisheries around the world.

With reference to other species too, fish included, animals that are not found in the wild are good models for studying behavior and health needs. Therefore, when an issue or disease arises, better care may be provided as such.

Given the focus to satisfying the environmental analysis requirements, closing this fishery permanently can deter from jobs and from furthering species knowledge.

Please support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by Hawaii's scientists and experts in the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources.

This fishery has been extensively studied and aquarium collection is environmentally responsible and sustainable.

The recent UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) workshop on marine ornamentals repeatedly featured discussion on the yellow tang as one of the most resilient and sustainable fish in the trade.

Putting an extremist agenda of ending aquarium keeping before the livelihoods of Hawaiians and the immense amount of science confirming the sustainability of the fishery is irresponsible and wrong.

The Hawaii fishers are just a small group of local citizens that have been forced to undergo an overwhelming process to satisfy the requirements and whims of the state. Having accomplished that, they should be issued their licenses and the limited entry fishery reopened.

Sincerely,

Sarah Hettinger 250 Riverside St Chillicothe, OH 45601 sarah.hettinger@petlandinc.com From: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to Oppose Banning Aquarium Fisheries

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:05:18 AM

----Original Message-----

From: Scott Hughes <shughes@saltwaterfish.com>

Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 1:00 PM

To: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR <dlnr@hawaii.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to Oppose Banning Aquarium Fisheries

Dear Chairperson Chang,

Please help small businesses in Hawaii and Pet Stores throughout the USA by allowing the Hawaii fishery to reopen. After years of research determining that the fishery is not impacted by aquarium usage, it is time to put politics aside and reopen this important source of income for small businesses

Please support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by Hawaii's scientists and experts in the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources.

This fishery has been extensively studied and aquarium collection is environmentally responsible and sustainable.

The recent UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) workshop on marine ornamentals repeatedly featured discussion on the yellow tang as one of the most resilient and sustainable fish in the trade.

Putting an extremist agenda of ending aquarium keeping before the livelihoods of Hawaiians and the immense amount of science confirming the sustainability of the fishery is irresponsible and wrong.

The Hawaii fishers are just a small group of local citizens that have been forced to undergo an overwhelming process to satisfy the requirements and whims of the state. Having accomplished that, they should be issued their licenses and the limited entry fishery reopened.

Sincerely,

Scott Hughes PO Box 371 Ouray, CO 81427 shughes@saltwaterfish.com From: <u>Muhammad Hussain Dawood</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support

Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 8:49:25 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Regards,

Muhammad Hussain

From: Nashional Jag
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] AGENDA ITEM F1 SUPPORT Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:14:13 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

From: Andrew Jones
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 4:09:11 AM

we support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by the science and facts provided by DAR

From: Andrew Jones
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] agenda item f1 support **Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 4:08:19 AM

i support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by the science and facts supplied by DAR

From: <u>Makaala Kaaumoana</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] BLNR August 23, 2024 testimony
Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:26:40 PM

Attachments: HHM BLNR testimony 8-23-24 Aquarium fishery mk.pdf

Aloha,

Please provide the attached testimony on item F-1.

Mahalo

--

Makaala Kaaumoana POB 1205 Kilauea, HI 96754 808-828-1205 home 808-346-5458 cell From: <u>Damien Kenison</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F-1 West Hawaii AQ permits.

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 11:15:14 AM

Attachments: Testimony F-1 AO permits.pdf

Darwin's Fishes.pdf

Aloha Chair Dawn Chang and the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Please accept our testimony regarding Agenda Item F-1 West Hawaii AQ permits. Also attached a document describing the significant loss of Hawaii's endemic species.

Mahalo, Damien Kenison Kauhako Ohana Association From: <u>Tu Kieu</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:17:47 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Thank you! Tu Kieu





### NORTH KOHALA CULTURE AND HISTORY ADVISORY GROUP

P.O. Box 659 Kapa'au, HI 96755 kohalaculturehistoryadvisory@gmail.com

## 8.20.24

Dear esteemed members of BLNR,

The North Kohala Culture and History Advisory group is writing in <u>STRONG OPPOSITION</u> to the Division of Aquatic Resources' (DAR) request to approve their issuance of aquarium fishing permits in West Hawai'i's reefs.

We are also **STRONGLY OPPOSING** DAR's request particularly due to their proposal being made while an **EIS is still pending** before the Hawai'i Supreme Court, ahead of the community's petitioned rule-making to prohibit commercial AQ statewide (which the BLNR unanimously approved in December 2023). Also because they are requesting to remove BLNR's oversight, blocking the community from having input, and thus undermining public trust.

Our group's kuleana is to protect, preserve, and perpetuate historic and cultural resources in North Kohala for today and future generations. Hawai'i's native fish serve longstanding cultural values, with Native Hawaiians and those with other culturally rich backgrounds catching the fish to feed their families. Before colonization, native fish were also used in religious and medicinal ceremonies, which are practices that continue today.

Our longtime local fisherman have watched once abundant yellow tang populations, as well as other species, dwindle over the last several decades because of this industry, which harms both our local communities, and our ecosystems. Reef fish play a critical role in maintaining the health of coral reefs. By consuming algae, these fish help prevent algae from overgrowing and smothering corals, which allows the corals to access sunlight and carry out photosynthesis. Healthy coral reefs, in turn, provide important ecosystem services, such as buffering against ocean waves, storms, and floods, which helps protect coastal areas. Something that is intensifying with climate change.

According to data from Earthjustice, between 1976 and 2018, the aquarium pet industry took more than 8.6 million fish from West Hawai'i waters for use in aquariums around the world. In 2017, Earthjustice won the court battle that ruled regulators can't ignore the devastating impacts of unlimited commercial fish collection on Hawai'i's reefs. The court also determined that

regulators can't allow more commercial collection until they adequately study the industry's environmental impacts.

Under the Hawai'i Environmental Policy Act (HEPA), the state must scrutinize a proposed project's environmental, cultural and socioeconomic impacts **before approving it.** However, here we are with DAR making this request while the EIS is still pending.

We cannot afford to accommodate an extractive industry that benefits off the backs of our environment, our culture, our fish, and fundamentally conflicts with local, cultural, and broad social values of our Hawaii home. Please move to reject DAR's request to issue permits and continue to keep BLNR as the ultimate decision-makers on whether or not to issue AQ permits, not just the Chair of DAR staff.

Mahalo,

The North Kohala Culture and History Advisory Group

From: Konan, Abel M

To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: F-1 OPPOSE Terms & Conditions to Issue Permits, OPPOSE Delegation of Authority

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 5:17:50 PM

The state of Hawaii in its constitution protects our natural environment in its entirety. picking apart the marine fauna for ornamental purpose its a hidden to disregard the rule of the Land. This is why I oppose any Terms & Conditions to Issue Permits to deplete our common good. There I OPPOSE Delegation of Authority to erase Hawaii.

Abel Marie Konan 734 Ocean View Dr. Honolulu, HI 96816 From: <u>Jon Kramer</u>

To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Aquarium fishery
Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:54:31 PM

Here in Florida livestock collectors are responsible and keep a lot of hobbyists businesses and themselves healthy and help economy by being able to harvest the allowed aquarium industry reef fish and organisms.

Thank you for considering reopening certain species for my hobby and friends businesses.

Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer

From: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:06:34 AM

----Original Message----

From: Elizabeth Kunzelman <elizabeth.kunzelman@petlandinc.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:01 AM

To: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR <dlnr@hawaii.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

Dear Chairperson Chang,

Please support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by Hawaii's scientists and experts in the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources.

This fishery has been extensively studied and aquarium collection is environmentally responsible and sustainable.

The recent UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) workshop on marine ornamentals repeatedly featured discussion on the yellow tang as one of the most resilient and sustainable fish in the trade.

Putting an extremist agenda of ending aquarium keeping before the livelihoods of Hawaiians and the immense amount of science confirming the sustainability of the fishery is irresponsible and wrong.

The Hawaii fishers are just a small group of local citizens that have been forced to undergo an overwhelming process to satisfy the requirements and whims of the state. Having accomplished that, they should be issued their licenses and the limited entry fishery reopened.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Kunzelman 250 Riverside St Chillicothe, OH 45601 elizabeth.kunzelman@petlandinc.com From: Brandon Lamb

To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Hawaiian Fishery

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 5:48:48 AM

The saltwater reef aquarium hobby has benefitted by numerous successful breeding programs of saltwater fish species. The Hawaiian Fishery offers important breeding stock. This results in fewer wild-caught species being collected. Captive- bred fish offer sustainability in contrast with wild caught species.

From: One Jae Lee

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 6:38:02 AM

### Aloha,

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources based on sciences provided by DAR. As someone who grew up in Maui and ended up having a career in the field of oceanography, I can say that I would never have been able to have fallen in love with the ocean and have been able to learn the various biological and other scientific processes involved with our moana. I would not have been able to learn the skillsets required to have volunteered and interned at the Maui Ocean Center Marine Institute helping restore the local coral reef and rescue local honu. Our local children already have an issue with having a lack of exposure to sciences and especially marine biology. I know firsthand that there is a severe lack of those who grew up here that are involved professionally in marine biology or other ocean related sciences in Hawaii. Mitigating this further through restricting their exposure to it will not help in this at all. We need to regulate these things in manners that will manage our resources properly through science and in ways that will also benefit the future of our local community and natural resources. We also need to face reality and realize that having a well regulated industry is much more preferable to the local economy and our environment than to have a blanket ban that might encourage a black market trade.

Mahalo,

One Jae Lee

From: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:06:46 AM

----Original Message-----

From: Mitchell Lewis <mlewis@apetinc.com> Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:18 AM To: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR <dlnr@hawaii.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

Dear Chairperson Chang,

Please support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by Hawaii's scientists and experts in the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources.

This fishery has been extensively studied and aquarium collection is environmentally responsible and sustainable.

The recent UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) workshop on marine ornamentals repeatedly featured discussion on the yellow tang as one of the most resilient and sustainable fish in the trade.

Putting an extremist agenda of ending aquarium keeping before the livelihoods of Hawaiians and the immense amount of science confirming the sustainability of the fishery is irresponsible and wrong.

The Hawaii fishers are just a small group of local citizens that have been forced to undergo an overwhelming process to satisfy the requirements and whims of the state. Having accomplished that, they should be issued their licenses and the limited entry fishery reopened.

Sincerely,

Mitchell Lewis 1900 Canterfield Pkwy E West Dundee, IL 60118 mlewis@apetinc.com From: <u>Liam S.T.B.</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 6:07:49 PM

Attachments: Artboard2.png

#### Hello,

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

--

Best Regards

Liam S.T.B.

#### President

盛天合生物科技(股)公司 S. T. Biotechnology Inc.

Website: www.nemoclownfish.com

Line ID:hsuehyunglin

Mobile(WharsApp): +886-910-537-658

WeChat: liamshiue

Add: 50646彰化縣福興鄉福寶村新生路33-6號

No.33-6, Xinsheng Rd., Fuxing Township, Changhua County 506, Taiwan (R.O.C.)







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From: Jovi Macatugal
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:46:54 AM

#### To Whom it May Concern,

This email is to express my support for opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

#### Many thanks!

#### **JOVIZM**

<u>Sea Dwelling Creatures, Inc.</u> 5515 West 104th Street Los Angeles, CA 90045 Ph:310-676-9697

Fx:310-676-9699 jovi@seawelling.com From: Joyce Mahoney
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 9:08:34 AM

Hi,

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

The aquarium industry does not have that large of an effect on these species. In order to go forth with captive bred programs, we need wild bred species.

#### Sincerely,



BRE #00515798

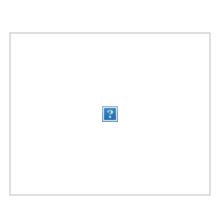
Cell/Text: 661-965-6300

Direct Line: 661-434-5987

Email: <u>JoyceinBaja@gmail.com</u>

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From: Melvin Malinowski
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] August 23; Agenda Item F.1

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 4:37:49 AM

Aloha,

As a long-time resident of the Mauna Lani Resort, and founder of the South Kohala Reef Alliance, I oppose the DAR proposal to allow the approval of aquarium collection without public input or review by the full DLNR board.

Since collecting wild reef fish and exporting them benefits a small number of businesses, while reducing our already-stressed reef fish populations, it seems improper to implement a policy that would appear suspect to improper influence or even corruption.

Since aquarium collection has finally stopped, and a proposal is on the table to not allow it in the future, restarting it now would be contrary to the best interests of Hawai'i. No collection permits should be issued while this matter is unresolved. We need to rely on the DLNR to protect our natural environment.

The former abundance of wild reef fish is under pressure from many factors. This abundance has great traditional value to local people, as well as to Hawai'i's attractiveness to visitors. That value far exceeds the revenues that collection and export provides.

Please do not approve this proposal, or re-start a business that never should have begun: selling off Hawai'i's resources to the mainland for a pittance.

E mālama kākou i ke kai.

Mel Malinowski

From: <u>Caitlin Maratea</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] August 23; Agenda Item F.1

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 9:11:30 AM

#### Aloha,

My name is Caitlin Maratea. I am a Lāhainā, Maui resident and I am writing in strong opposition to reopening our reefs to the extractive aquarium trade.

I dive off of the west Maui coast almost daily, and especially during the summer months when warmer waters cause an overgrowth of invasive algae, I see first-hand (although also well documented scientifically) how intrinsic primary consumers are to the health of our coral reefs. The benefit, not only economically but also environmentally, of leaving nearshore reef fishes in the ecosystem FAR outweighs the economic benefit of a niche business that does nothing but extract and cause harm to the reefs as well as the fish they take.

According to sharkstewards.org over 90% of the fish taken don't live beyond a year after capture. Compare that to the 10-15 years a yellow tang can survive in its natural habitat. By leaving these animals to do their natural "jobs" in the wild we can maintain a glimmer of hope of saving Hawai'i's reefs.

The fact that DAR is pushing to remove the BLNR as the decision-makers regarding permitting is a clear nod to the nefarious intentions that DAR has to support this unhealthy industry. The BLNR should remain the ultimate authority on this issue and public transparency should be paramount.

If there is any common sense and motivation for the board to do the right thing then please listen to your constituents and maintain the ban of the extractive aquarium trade in Hawai'i.

Mahalo, Caitlin M From: Oliver Marcelo
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:33:52 PM

#### Hello,

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Regards, Oj Marcelo From: <u>Christopher Mathews</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:12:00 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

My wife and I are expecting a child and the first thing I knew we needed in our new house was a salt water aquarium. I had a tank as young kid and remembered how much joy it brought me. I am so excited to pass this along to my kids. Having access and proper management of sustainable fisherys is the backbone to the industry. I support agenda item f1.

Thanks, Chris Mathews From: <u>Madelyn McKeague</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Matter F1 - Aquarium Fish Permits

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 11:25:50 AM

Attachments: Outlook-nl5tm22d.png

24.08.20 West Hawaii Fisheries.pdf

Aloha,

On behalf of the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, I've attached our testimony in opposition to aquarium fish permits. Please let me know if there is anything else you need from me.

E mālama, Maddy

Madelyn McKeague

#### **Director of Advocacy**

Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement 91-1270 Kinoiki Street, Bldg 1 Kapolei, HI 96707 O. (808) 829-4191 E. madelyn@hawaiiancouncil.org



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From: Nedi McKnight
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1: OPPOSE Terms & Conditions to Issue Permit; OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department

Chair

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:05:40 AM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I am [ ] of [ ]. [INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND ALL OF YOUR ROLES IN WEST HAWAI'I, ESPECIALLY HOA'ĀINA (tenant, caretaker) OF YOUR AHUPUA'A/DISTRICT.]

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i, and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chair.

Regarding Terms & Conditions to Issue West Hawai'i AQ permits, I request you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny any and all permits. [Provide personal knowledge, family stories, perspective ... mana'o ]

Regarding Delegating Authority to Issue AQ Permits to the Department Chair, do not delegate authority to the Department Chair. Retain the discretionary authority with the Board, which will continue to utilize their diverse island communities, specialized knowledge, and expertise to weigh in and make informed decisions together.

Thank you for this opportunity, [FULL NAME] [TOWN], [ZIP CODE] [ISLAND]

From: <u>G Metz</u>

**To:** <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] August 23; Agenda Item F.1

Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 5:50:21 PM

#### Dear BLNR,

My name is Glenn Metzler and I live in Keaau on the Big Island. I wish to express my opinion on the following points:

- The BLNR, not DAR, should be the final decision-maker on whether or not to issue Aquarium Collection Permits.
- NO Aquarium Collection Permits should be issued.
- I snorkel the waters of West Hawaii and I very much enjoy all the aquatic life, but the areas to see them are already too few. In this time with the known severe impacts of climate change and ocean degradation already taking place, taking fish for aquaria makes little sense. We need healthy reefs and these fish contribute to ecologically balanced and healthy reefs.

Thank you.

From: Matthew Meyer
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:33:48 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR. Matthew Meyer

From: Mike Adams

**To:** <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] August 23; Agenda Item F.1

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:40:34 PM

Dear Board of Land and Natural Resources,

As a person living next to the beautiful Puako Reef the last thing we want is to have the reef's vital fish populations taken. DO NOT AGREE TO COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM COLLECTION (AQ) IN WEST HAWAII.

- BLNR should be the ultimate decision-makers on whether or not to issue AQ permits, not just the Chair of DAR staff
- NO AQ permits should be issued

I am a certified diver; certified in 1983. I have been diving at Puako for over 40 years. We had a period a while back where boats were bagging fish. The reef fish population definitely suffered. When this harvesting was stopped the fish population definitely increased. Three of my children are certified divers, and we dive regularly at Puako. Please protect the fish.

Sincerely,

Michael Adams
Puako Home Owner
puako.hawaii@gmail.com

From: Brent Mitchell
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:43:55 AM

Good day,

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR. Additionally, I would like to know the results of the environmental survey that was conducted to gain an understanding of decorative fish being harvested. I support reopening the fisheries. One reason is legal fishing is better for the environment than non managed areas or destructive methods of illegal fishing. With the correct management the fishery can support being utilized.

V/r,

Brent Mitchell

August 16, 2024

Dawn Chang, Chairperson Board Members Department of Land and Natural Resources

RE: Cancellation of RP S-7088

Aloha mai kakou Chair Chang and Board Members,

As members of the Moloa'a Irrigation Cooperative (MIC), we are asking that DLNR prevail upon Mr. Linder to continue to provide water under the conditions of the RP annual renewal that he received in December 2023.

At present, the water that we purchase from Mr. Lindner is our sole source of water. (MIC) distributes this water to 70 metered connections which serve between 250 - 300 people on a daily basis. We rely on the use of the water for domestic purposes, business needs, and irrigation on 45 commercial farms in the system..

MIC is in the final stages of developing our own well. We are scheduled to have the final pump tests during the week of August 26-30. At the same time, we will collect water samples to be sent to Eurofins Labs in California to be tested. The sampling is required by the Department of Health and the results will need to be reviewed by the Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB) in order to certify the well for use as a Public Water Source. The lab results can take up to 2 weeks, and we are hoping that the results are satisfactory to have the well certified by SDWB. We will ask for expedited review of the tests by SDWB, however they will have additional requirements in order to certify the well. That being said, we are not confident that we can have water coming from our well by the October 5<sup>th</sup> timeline that Mr. Lindner has suggested or even by the extension to October 31<sup>st</sup> which the DLNR has required for decommissioning the well.

We request that the well not be decommissioned prior to December 2024 to allow sufficient time for our well to be providing water. MIC has relied on this water source for 13 years since the coop was formed in 2011. Many of our present members relied on the water even before Mr. Lindner assumed the permit from AMFAC in 1996. MIC has paid Mr. Lindner \$1,614,946.21 for water from August 2011 through our last billing for July 2024. (see attachment) We have also paid for a number of repairs to his delivery lines through the years. We furnished supplies from our own O&M inventory when emergency repairs were needed in order for him to continue service to us. We do not have records for costs for the water purchased from 1996-2010 when Mr. Lindner sold the water to MHL, Inc. and distributed to the farmers, but it should be a substantial amount.

We hope that the there can be a more humane and sensible alternative to this timeline than to create a situation that compromises the health and livelihood for so many of Kaua'i residents.

Mahalo piha,

Members of MIC

### All Figures Taken from P & L Statements

Water Purchased		11-2024
Aug - Dec 2011		\$56,736.68
2012	2 \$	149,226.00
2013	3 \$	106,313.00
2014	\$	80,083.00
2015	5 \$	94,130.00
2016	\$	123,478.00
2017	7 \$	145,021.00
2018	3 \$	95,525.00
2019	\$	114,763.00
2020	) \$	118,208.49
2021	L \$	133,700.00
2022	2 \$	191,509.42
2023	3 \$	126,134.75
2024 YTD	\$	80,117.87
13 year total		\$1,614,946.21

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29 DANIEL WHITE	Jan Went	UNIT 22	AG
30 ADAM HARRIS	John Hanning	Unit 22	A6
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33 HRIKA WITTE		DAIT 21	AG
34 Teresa Johnston		Unital	A & Roi 2 1055
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6180 KO'OLAU Rd. AN SIGNATURE

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47 Chiara Rothuell-Ferran	is Chianf	UNITZI	AG home bisiness
48 Tessa Juhl	terregul	Unit 24	Ag, home business
49 Kazue Moore	Any moo	un Unit 27	Ag. business
50 Mark Anderson	Men Perhan	- unit al	<u> </u>
5 Thomas Schanon	THSA	Unit 28	home
52 Megan Schulte.	Magazett	unit 28	home
53 John Wooten	Shothoton	CPR+13	Ag
54 Wandan Wooten	Myday, wog 6	CPR #3	Ag. Bu.
55 Oby Joyner		unit 28	AG
56 Matrinallyminska	Masmalmosta	unit-28	A9,8U.
St Jansen Lee		Unit 27	Home
58 Matt Rich		Unit 28	As_
59 Gabrielle Greenfield	Galuitle Gugu		ag
Danica Smith	Hance putt	Unit 28	4G_
61 Mackenzil Brooks	Wasting Grond	5 Unit 28	<u> 1967</u>
62 Gaya Bortz	Jug &	Unit 28	HG
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65 Theodore T Javellana Sr	Keol Re Javellane	sh und 30	Home, ay, Bus.
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67 Bruce Tovellana	The witness ovellown	h unt 30	Home Bus
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6020 Korolan Rd

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MIC PETITION - RE: CANCELLATION of RPS-7088

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## MIC PETITION HUI3: RE: CANCELLATION of 72PS-7088

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From: Arthur Mori

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Aquarium Trade collecting **Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:18:25 AM

I am strongly opposed to allowing AQ collection on our Hawai'ian reefs. There is absolutely no reason to harm our environment so that a small group can see financial gain. As climate change takes its toll this is becoming more and more important. BLNR should continue to make the final decision.

Waltraut Mori 571 Hao St. HI 96821 808-373-4386 amori@chaminade.edu From: <u>Dan Morrissey</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support **Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 9:37:19 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources By science provided by DAR.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Dan Morrissey, Aquarist

 From:
 Nancy Mueller

 To:
 DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

 Cc:
 Nancy Mueller

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] REOPENING REEFS TO AQUARIUM FISHING

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:04:57 PM

THIS WOULD BE A HUGE STEP BACKWARD.

WE ARE AN ISLAND AND HAVE FEW MARINE SPECIES AS IT IS.

FOR A HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM WE MUST MAINTAIN GENETIC DIVERSITY, OTHERWISE, THE SPECIES WILL SELF DESTRUCT.

MONEY SHOULD NOT RULE COMMON SENSE.

# NO FISHING ALLOWED ON PROTECTED REEFS

Nancy S. Mueller 2110 Waverley Street Palo Alto, CA 94301 650-804-5345 From: Pat Mullen

**To:** <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commercial Aquarium Permits

Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 8:09:56 PM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Pat Mullen. I have owned a townhouse at the Village's at Mauna Lani for approximately twelve years and am a full time resident. Currently, I serve as Vice President on the Board of Directors at the Villages.

I oppose issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawaii and I oppose delegating authority to the Department Chair.

Regarding Terms and Conditions to Issue West Hawaiian AQ permits, I request that you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny all permits.

My wife and I came to West Hawaii for our retirement. What drew us here was the water; the healthy coral and abundant sea life. My wife's Grandfather and Grandmother came to Hawaii in the early 1900's for the same reason. My father-in-law grew up on O'ahu also loving the ocean. There is nowhere on this earth that can compare. Over the years we have seen the coral become more stressed, the sea life reduced in numbers. As avid snorkelers and scuba divers, my wife and I can see first hand the changes that are occurring. Issuing commercial aquarium permits to harvest our fish will only make things worse. The impact cannot be underestimated. The balance of the ocean ecosystem will be forever changed and will eventually turn our reefs into areas of dead coral with little to no fish. People come to West Hawaii because of the healthy reefs. Please don't allow that to change.

Regarding Delegating Authority to Issue AQ permits to the Department Chair, please do not do this. Please retain the discretionary authority with the Board who will continue to utilize their diverse, specialized knowledge and make informed decisions together.

Mahalo,

~Pat Mullen

From: <u>C Nylin</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1 I OPPOSE Issuing AQ Permits & I OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department Chair

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 5:06:48 PM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Christal Nylin life time resident of the big island. Avid swimmer and Diver

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chair.

Regarding Terms & Conditions to Issue West Hawai'i AQ permits, I request you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny any and all permits.

Regarding Delegating Authority to Issue AQ Permits to the Department Chair, do not delegate authority to the Department Chair. Retain the discretionary authority with the Board who will continue to utilize their diverse island communities, specialize knowledge, and expertise to weigh in and make informed decisions together.

Mahalo for this opportunity, Christal Nylin From: Chris Otto

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:37:53 PM

I am writing to you today to express my support for opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Sincerely,

--

#### **Chris Otto**

Sales Representative-WYSIWYG Operations Sea Dwelling Creatures, Inc.



Tel: 310.676.9697 x8007 Fax: 310.676.9699 Direct line: 213.357.5211 chris@seadwelling.com www.seadwelling.com 5515 W. 104th St. Los Angeles, CA 90045



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From: <u>Kyle Parker</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:34:09 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR. I believe it's Hawaii's best commercial fishery and should have never been closed.

From: <u>Vasnarungruengkul, Pavee</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support

Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 10:57:54 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Thank you,

Pavee

From: Gene Plotkin

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:30:31 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Thank you,

Gene Plotkin

From: Andres Rea

**To:** <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:52:50 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR. This important aspect of your ecosystem can help raise further awareness and conservation. Through selective permitting, additional funding for research and conservation can be achieved.

Thank you for your consideration, Andy Rea

From: Matt R.

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:00:45 PM

I support reopening the aquarium industry. Please do so asap.

Mahalo

Matthew Reigle

From: <u>Matthias Reising</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Opening aquarium fishery **Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 8:25:17 PM

Hello,

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Kind regards

Matthias Reising

Meeresaquaristik Reising Schanzenkopfstr. 9 63755 Alzenau - Germany From: <u>Jonathan Richards</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:38:45 AM

To whom it may concern. I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Please consider my opinion as an aquarist with 40 years of experience keeping Hawaii raised pets.

Jonathan Richards Red Bluff CA From: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:05:36 AM

----Original Message----

From: Anna Richardson <arichardson@saltwater.com>

Sent: Monday, August 19, 2024 1:34 PM

To: DLNR.CO.PublicDLNR <dlnr@hawaii.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Please Tell the Hawaii Land Board to support the proposed DAR actions

Dear Chairperson Chang,

Please support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by Hawaii's scientists and experts in the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources.

This fishery has been extensively studied and aquarium collection is environmentally responsible and sustainable.

The recent UN Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) workshop on marine ornamentals repeatedly featured discussion on the yellow tang as one of the most resilient and sustainable fish in the trade.

Putting an extremist agenda of ending aquarium keeping before the livelihoods of Hawaiians and the immense amount of science confirming the sustainability of the fishery is irresponsible and wrong.

The Hawaii fishers are just a small group of local citizens that have been forced to undergo an overwhelming process to satisfy the requirements and whims of the state. Having accomplished that, they should be issued their licenses and the limited entry fishery reopened.

Sincerely,

Anna Richardson 7004 SEBASTIAN RD FORT PIERCE, FL 34951 arichardson@saltwater.com 
 From:
 Gabriel Rodon

 To:
 DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:52:27 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Sent from my iPhone

From: <u>jairor@seadwelling.com</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:46:50 AM

Attachments: image002.png

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you today to express my support for opning the aquarium fishery and managing resouces by science proving by DAR.

Sincerely,

Jairo Rodriguez

**CREATURES** 

.....

Tel: 310.676.9697 **x8045** Fax: 310.676.9699

Direct line: 213.493.6425

jairor@seadwelling.com www.seadwelling.com 5515 W. 104th St., Los Angeles, CA 90045







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From: Raven Scholtz
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 9:05:36 AM

## To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to you today to express my support for opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Sincerely,

Raven

--

### **Raven Scholtz**

Sales Representative Sea Dwelling Creatures, Inc.



Tel: 310.676.9697 x8301 Fax: 310.676.9699 Direct line: 310.744.1202 ravens@seadwelling.com www.seadwelling.com 5515 W. 104th St. Los Angeles, CA 90045



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From: To:

Shawnee Winterson
DLNR.BLNR.Testimony
[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support
Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:11:30 PM Subject: Date:

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Thank you, Shawnee

From: Todd and Caelly Shiraki
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] AGENDA F1 SUPPORT

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:22:56 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR. We should allow them because there is little evidence that the aquarium fishery has depleted the numbers of fish.

Thank you Caelly Shiraki Kealakekua From: Mike@dustbrothers.com
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] August 23 Agenda Item F.1

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 11:13:33 AM

## Hello,

As a person living next to the beautiful Puako Reef, and supporting efforts to remove all of the wastewater off of the reef to allow it to recover, the last thing we want is to have the reef's vital fish populations taken. Please DO NOT AGREE TO AQ IN WEST HAWAII.

- BLNR should be the ultimate decision-makers on whether or not to issue AQ permits, not just the Chair of DAR staff
- NO AQ permits should be issued

Sincerely, Mike Simpson Sent from my iPhone From: Nicola Smart

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 8:56:38 PM

Attachments: image001.png

image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png image007.png image008.png image010.png image011.png image011.png

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

# Nicola Smart | Manchester General Manager

**1** +44 161 9461538

tropicalmarinecentre.com

🗣 Unit 3, Beta Court, Sharston Industrial Estate, Harper Rd, Wythenshawe,, Manchester, M22 4QE

















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From: <u>Linda Smisko</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Aquarium Fish Collection **Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:20:54 PM

It is difficult for me to imagine that this would be up for consideration. I have been coming to West Hawaii for over 25 years. In that time, there has been an obviously noticeable decline in the number of fish. I snorkel in many different spots and it's nothing like it was decades ago. Let's give this amazing area full of fish and coral a chance to grow and heal. Please. Linda Smisko

From: <u>James Smith</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 9:08:57 AM

### To Whom it May Concern,

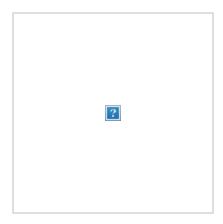
I am writing to you today to express my support for opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Sincerely,

James Smith

--

Place your order today @ node.seadwelling.com



### **James Smith**

Sales Representative Sea Dwelling Creatures, Inc.



Tel: 310.676.9697 x8060 Fax: 310.676.9699 Direct line: 213.908.1255 jamessmith@seadwelling.com www.seadwelling.com

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From: Richard Sobolik
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 4:02:53 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Regards, Richard Sobolik From: Charley Somsanguansit
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] F-1: OPPOSE Terms & Conditions to Issue Permit; OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department

Chair

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 7:43:40 AM

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

I am Charley Somsanguansit of Kailua Kona. I am a licensed acupuncturist and massage therapist.

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i, and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chair.

Regarding Terms & Conditions to Issue West Hawai'i AQ permits, I request you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny any and all permits.

Regarding Delegating Authority to Issue AQ Permits to the Department Chair, do not delegate authority to the Department Chair. Retain the discretionary authority with the Board, which will continue to utilize their diverse island communities, specialized knowledge, and expertise to weigh in and make informed decisions together.

Thank you for this opportunity, Charley Somsanguansit Kailua Kona, 96740 Hawaii Island

Charley Somsanguansit, LAc, LMT Tel: 808-345-1402 rootedfirewellness.com From: <u>Marcus Steenbergen</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support

Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:49:10 AM

To Whom it may concern,

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Thank you,

Marcus Steenbergen

From: Sandy Stein

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:23:33 AM

**Attachments:** <u>image001.png</u>

I support opening the aquarium fishery and I support managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Sandy Stein | Executive Administrator O 626-447-2222 | C 951-987-9152

World Pet Association
GROOM'D | March 7-9, 2025
SUPERZOO | August 12-15, 2025



 From:
 stol37@aol.com

 To:
 DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda item F-21 Aug 23, 2025Date:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:21:16 PM

Having lived on the coast of west Hawaii for 30 years, I have personally witnessed the decline of tropical fish and other marine wildlife living on the fragile coral reef system. Please protect our waters and keep this type of fishing and collecting wildlife illegal... thank you, Scott Stoltz 159 Puako Beach Dr Kamuela,HI

Sent from AOL on Android

From: pomai stone

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] NO AQUARIUM COLLECTION OF OUR I'A

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 10:11:23 PM

#### Aloha mai kākou!

My name is Johanna Stone and we are descendants of Kailua, Koʻolaupoko. Our iʻa are ancestors and are NOT to be collected for aquarium trade. Just like how you would not consent to be stolen from your home and family to be put in a tank.

This is an outrageous, egregious attack upon our kupuna. We as descendants to this 'āina, these i'a and waters, stand against this attempt to hijack our abundance for a self serving, distorted agenda of capitalists raping our icebox to hoard resources for a select few.

BLNR UNANIMOUSLY agreed to protect our i'a from the thieving hands that DAR would like to sell our i'a kupuna to. This is an attack upon our life force that is the antithesis of the impetus for DAR AND BLNR in the first place. Choose right relation and being a good younger sibling of these i'a ancestors that we celebrate being 'ohana to. Leave them in their reef homes. No permits shall be issued and BLNR should decide this.

me ke aloha nui johanna k stone

--

na-u me ke aloha na Johanna Kapōmaika'i Stone .:me he lau no ke Ko'olau ke aloha:. From: Richard Strieber
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda item F1 SUPPORTDate:Monday, August 19, 2024 6:12:32 PM

To Whom it May Concern:

Hawaii has long had a well regulated ornamental fishery. There is no valid scientific reason not to permit the collection of ornamental marine aquarium fish in Hawaii,

Thanks

Richard Strieber

Sent from my iPhone

From: Yuk Sum

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:01:16 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

From: Ashley Taliana
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 10:27:36 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Thank you

From: <u>Darren Tan</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 5:45:28 PM

# Dear Hawaii gov,

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR. Thank you

Best regards Ah Beng Aquarium From: <u>guilherme teixeira</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 6:24:58 PM

"I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR".

I'm a Brazilian aquarist and I support strongly this project, because it isn't predatory capture of fishes; on the contrary, we can preserve the Hawaiian fishes species.

Why is allowed fishes capture for other objectives? Ex: to eat?

Enviado do meu iPhone

 From:
 George Teodoro

 To:
 DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:03:39 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR. I believe it will be a economic benefit for the Hawaiian people.

Thank you, George

From: **Christian Tovar** To:

DLNR.BLNR.Testimony
[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support Subject: Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 12:30:22 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

From: <u>Dean Trice</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 8:39:38 AM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

From: <u>TU KIEU</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 supportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:07:10 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

With selective permits, cities and limits reopening the Hawaiian fisheries will help the local economy, tourism and create jobs!

From: ciklidhuset@telia.com DLNR.BLNR.Testimony
[EXTERNAL] "Agenda Item F1 Support" To:

Subject: Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 6:41:28 AM

Hi.

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Regards Ulf

From: Mark V

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:47:56 AM

To whom it may concern,

support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Regards, Mark Valentino Reef Hobbyist NJ From: <u>Juan Visser</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] "Agenda Item F1 support"

Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 8:58:48 PM

"I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR"

I believe it is necessary for the livelihood of the aquarium fisherman that make a living from the trade, but monitor certain species closely.

Together we can make it successful by working together and monitoring the trade.

Regards Juan

--



 From:
 darkona@hawaiiantel.net

 To:
 DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Additional Testimony for 23 August BLNR meeting DAR F:1

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 11:16:28 AM

To: Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources

From: William Walsh Ph.D., Aquatic Biologist, Hawai'i Division of Aquatic Resources,

Retired.

Date: August 20, 2024

Subject: F. DIVISION OF AQUATIC RESOURCES 1.

Aloha Chair Chang and Members of the Board: Yesterday I submitted extensive testimony in support for approval of Item F-1. I subsequently realized I had omitted one significant addition to the testimony. Here it is:

Additional support for the issuance of West Hawai'i aquarium permits was provided in a June 25, 2020 West Hawai'i Today newspaper opinion article authored by 21 highly experienced Hawai'i marine science researchers (including me) with a direct and intimate understanding of this issue.

The scientists conclude that "The monitoring data show that the regulations put in place have been very effective in managing aquarium collecting in West Hawai'i. The West Hawai'i Regional Fishery Management Area is among the best studied and most effective fishery management efforts to date, and scientific data clearly show that management is working with population increases of the primary targets."

From: aquatics

To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Monday, August 19, 2024 10:50:29 PM

### Dear Sirs,

Agenda Item F1 Support - I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR!

Not only do i feel this will help with local financial benefits i also feel that nothing is better to monitor an environment than the actual persons who spend there time out on the ocean every day.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Wanklyn Aquatics Supervisor Planters Garden centre From: <u>HALE KEA FARMS</u>
To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] STOP Aquarium Collection on West Hawaii Reefs

**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:32:24 PM

I live next to the beautiful Puako Reef and supporting efforts to remove all the wastewater off the reef to allow it to recover. The last thing I want is to have the reef's vital fish populations taken. I DO NOT AGREE TO THE COMMERCIAL AQUARIUM COLLECTION IN WEST HAWAII.

- BLNR should be the ultimate decision-makers on whether to or whether not to issue AQ permits, not just the Chair of DAR staff
- NO AQ permits should be issued

Sincerely, William T. White, III, President Wailea Property Owners Association From: Bryan Wibberley
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 5:24:21 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Please open these fisheries so we can bring these beautiful fish to our home aquariums once again.

Thank you,



# **Bryan Wibberley**

Post Producer | Video Editor, Big Cat Media Lab

5308521106 | 530.852.1106 | vimeo.com/user55592360

bryan.wibberley@gmail.com | Nashville, TN



Powered by WiseStamp



From: Christy Wiggins
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 SupportDate:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 3:25:58 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Thank you Christy Wiggins From: <u>Fish Works</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 Support Date: Tuesday, August 20, 2024 4:15:29 AM

## To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to you today to express my support for opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR.

Sincerely,

ReBecca Wolfson Fish Works

--

It's that time of year again, if you go away on vacation this summer, your fish still need to stay cool. As long as you leave your AC on 82° or cooler, they should be fine while you are away. We also sell automatic fish feeders that can be installed to take care of your fish while away or even year round.

--

Fish Works

http://fishworks4u.com

Since 1990

Office: 508-881-8830

Emergency Pager: 508-492-5290 - Enter phone number at tone.



From: Elliot wong

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject:[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F1 support.Date:Tuesday, August 20, 2024 1:50:31 PM

I support opening the aquarium fishery and managing resources by science provided by DAR!

Thank you for the consideration,

Elliot Wong

From: <u>John Wright</u>

To: <u>DLNR.BLNR.Testimony</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F-1: I OPPOSE Issuing AQ (Aquarium Collection) Permits, & I OPPOSE Delegating

Permitting Authority to the Department Chair

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 7:48:01 PM

# Aloha Chair and Board of Land & Natural Resources,

I am John Paul Wright, M.D. I first moved to Hawaii in 1982 & have lived on Oahu, Maui, and the Big Island. My home is in Milolii, South Kona.

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawaii, and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chairperson.

RE: Terms & Conditions to Issue West Hawaii "AQ" permits: I request that you please reject the Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR)'s "AQ" Terms and Conditions and deny any and all "AQ" (Aquarium Collection) permits.

I have personally observed the vast reduction in reef fish, every time that I, my children, and my grandchildren go snorkeling. It's actually quite shocking to see how vastly fewer reef fish there are, vs. former years. The Hawaii Supreme Court's moratorium on the "harvesting" of Hawaiian reef fish must continue! I would like my grandchildren, and their descendants, to be able to see more than just rocks in the ocean! Our reef fish in Hawaii must be preserved!

To try to justify the taking of one (1) fish, much less thousands per year, is beyond outrageous. Hawaii's fish belong in Hawaii's ocean waters, not in the aquarium tanks of anyone, rich or poor, who may live in Hawaii, the mainland, or around the world.

Reef fish "harvesting" is not humane, and it is not right. Everyone is well aware that MOST reef fish do not live long enough to make it to an aquarium at all.

This practice is NOT 'PONO'! This practice is not in keeping with Hawaiian culture whatsoever. The words "Ua mau ke ea o ka aina i ka pono" which mean "The life of the land is perpetuated in

righteousness", actually DO mean something !! I'm asking you to do what is right, and to not cave into the aquarium industry. What they want to do is NOT ethical, and it is vastly different than catching edible fish (Ono, etc.) to feed one's family.

Should I start "harvesting" the native Hawaiian birds, the 'Apapane, 'I'iwi, & the Nene, for my own private aviary ?? How crazy would that be ?? Just as crazy as those who would justify, for any reason whatsoever, the wanton "harvesting" (the taking) of OUR Hawaiian reef fish!

ENFORCEMENT has many issues! (1) Will the DLNR / DAR have 100 patrol boats, 24/7, posted 1 mile apart, along the entire West Hawaii coastline, to enforce this "business"? The enforcement is already problematic, with many locals reporting many illegal incidents, over many years, far too many for DLNR / DAR to even investigate.

- (2) This shady "business" would depend on the Honor System of permit-holders self-reporting their own catches. As has been well reported for decades, some of these individuals have not been honest, nor ethical, to say the least. Does anyone at DLNR / DAR really believe that every permit-holder would accurately report every catch, every day? What about the many fish that died from ocean catch--to holding tank(s)-- to aquarium(s)? This is unbelievable.
- (3) Does DLNR / DAR realize that many illegal catches are going on frequently, in the dead of night? Do you realize that between midnight to 4am, there are many people catching along the West Hawaii coastline, already, using every conceivable form of fish-catching equipment; many of these folks are newly-arrived to Hawaii, and many live in the Ocean View Area.
- (4) This whole mess is already out of control, and unenforceable. When you allow some people an inch, they will literally take a mile.

RE: Delegating Authority to Issue AQ Permits to the Dept. Chair: Please, do not do this. I have personally served on Committees at both Hilo Medical Center, and Maui Memorial

Medical Center. No important Committees are a Committee of one (1). The purpose of a Committee is to make joint decisions. I have been a Committee Chairperson myself. It was never up to me alone, to decide what was, or was not in the best interest of the hospital, or our patients. You have serious business to conduct. Please retain your discretionary authority as a Board to make informed decisions together, using your specialized knowledge, expertise, and serious responsibility to represent your individual island communities, as well as to represent the people of Hawaii, and not the special interests of Hawaii.

Thank You for the opportunity to testify. Do not hesitate to call me. I have two (2) cell phones, and my cell numbers are below, Sincerely, John Paul Wright, M.D. (808) 281-0419 or (928) 614-1727

 From:
 James E Zampathas

 To:
 DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

 Cc:
 Jim Zampathas

Subject: [EXTERNAL] I OPPOSE Issuing AQ Permits & I OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department Chair

**Date:** Monday, August 19, 2024 5:31:04 PM

I OPPOSE Issuing AQ Permits & I OPPOSE Delegating Authority to Department Chair

Aloha Chair and Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is James Zampathas of Kamuela Hawaii, District of South Kohala, Ouli ahapua. I am a 30 year resident of Waimea/Kamuela and I frequent the ocean regularly with my family and have done so for the last 30 years, We watched our reefs deteriorate as the fisher stolen repeatedly by these aquarium thieves. The ocean and the coral reef and all the fish that live at are part of the heritage of everyone living here in Hawaii and part of the environment. They are very important part of the environment and they keep a balance for the reef so that it will not to go out of whack with vegetation growth and further to be a productive hatchery for the fish and wildlife population on our coastline. Since the cessation of Aquarium harvesting of fish, there has been a rebound in the smaller fish along the shoreline and more healthy environment has started to develop. It has been proven that allowing the reef and fish in the entire ocean to grow is great for the entire marine environment of all the other fish, large and small. This is a travesty that the authority would be taken away from the organization that has managed to salvage and revive our ocean habitat. Please don't stop the progress that is started and allow ocean our become healthy again.

I OPPOSE issuing commercial aquarium permits in West Hawai'i and I OPPOSE delegating authority to the Department Chair.

If so, much money is invested by these people that want to sell these fish they should set up aquariums and raise them not in the ocean and not taking them from the ocean and do a better job of not killing them when they're shipping them too many of them even lost this created with them vacuuming and shoving them in the boats and mailing them off. Only one quarter of the fish harvested make it to market. A complete waste of ocean life.

I request you reject DAR's AQ Terms and Conditions and deny any and all permits.

Do not delegate authority to the Department Chair. Retain the discretionary authority with the Board who will continue to utilize their diverse island communities, specialize knowledge, and expertise to weigh in and make informed decisions together.

Mahalo for this opportunity, James Zampathas Ouli, South Kohala District, Moku o Keawe 808-960-8741 P.O.Box 6703 Kamuela, Hawaii 96743 virtual@hawaii.rr.com From: Paulo Zocchio
To: DLNR.BLNR.Testimony

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item F2 and F3 **Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 2:00:26 AM

"I oppose banning the aquarium fishery, and I support managing resources by science as provided by DAR"

# Paulo Zocchio