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Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR76 on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM
Date: Saturday, March 21, 2015 8:49:18 AM
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SCR76

Submitted on: 3/21/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carty Chang	DLNR	Comments Only	Yes

Comments: Will need additional resources and funding to implement the recommendations.

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND**

**Monday, March 23, 2015
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 76/ SENATE RESOLUTION 36
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO TAKE
ACTION TO PROTECT 'ILIAHI, HAWAIIAN SANDALWOOD.**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 76/ Senate Resolution 36 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to take action to protect 'iliahi, Hawaiian Sandalwood. **The Department offers the following comments:**

Over the past 200 years, there has been a steady decline of all native sandalwood species (*Santalum* spp.) in Hawai'i. The major decline of Hawaiian sandalwood can be attributed to harvesting during the Sandalwood Era from 1815-1825, as well as other deleterious regeneration impacts such as rodent seed predation and ungulate browsing. Hawaiian sandalwood harvesting continues today, but is mostly focused on one species of Hawaiian sandalwood found only on Hawai'i Island that is not endangered. The State Conservation District provides a level of protection for sandalwood found within those lands, but there is no regulation or oversight on the harvest, sale or destruction of native forests outside of that district on private land. In addition, except for one subspecies of sandalwood on Lanai (*Santalum freycinetianum* var. *lanaiense*), the other species of sandalwood are not listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.

The Department supports the development of a sustainable harvest plan for commercial production of native sandalwood species that are not endangered, similar to Forest Practices Acts that have been adopted by many mainland U.S. states. It is in the best interest of the State to assure sustainable management of our rare and valuable forest species; however, the Department does not want to restrict sustainable harvest practices on private lands. The Department is in support of developing a Forest Practices Act in consultation with forestry, ecology and cultural experts to determine the needs and methods for state regulation on commercial harvest of Hawaiian

CARTY S. CHANG
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

DANIEL S. QUINN
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

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ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

sandalwood and other commercially valuable native forest species. Such discussions would focus on the need and value of sustainable harvest plans, guiding harvest principles on sensitive areas, environmental protection, regeneration practices, sustainable production, and best management practices commonly found in Forest Practices Acts.

The Department is interested in supporting the continued use of sandalwood for commercial purposes, especially with the potentially high value for the oil from Hawaiian varieties, and is hopeful that we can achieve a sustainable sandalwood program in the State. The existing six (plus the two sub-varieties) endemic Hawaiian sandalwood species represent one-fourth of all the sandalwood species found in the world, and Hawai'i is the only region globally where sandalwood is being commercially harvested without oversight or regulation, outside of the Conservation District. However, restricting or banning the commercial production of sandalwood at this time may not be necessary to achieve protection of this species. With a stronger support of incentive programs, such as the Forest Stewardship Program, the resurgence of Hawaiian sandalwood as an important economic resource could be attained.

The Department would be pleased to work with this Committee to develop an initiative highlighting the sustainable management of Hawaiian sandalwood and other commercially valuable forest species that ensure sustained use of our forest resources into the future.

Information pertaining to harvested sandalwood that is sold internationally or shipped out of state is available through the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the Department has reviewed this information as far back as 2010. Any harvesting of sandalwood in the Conservation District zone is regulated through the Department's Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands.

The Department believes that an inventory and distribution survey of Hawaiian sandalwood, especially those on Hawaii Island, is needed to determine the impact of current harvest and extent of restoration that may be needed. There are several methods that can be used to conduct these kinds of surveys and the Department feels the best and most inexpensive method involves high resolution remote sensing. The estimate to conduct such surveys on Hawaii Island is approximately \$1,000,000.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to comment on these resolutions, and will need additional resources and funding to implement the recommendations.

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To: [WTLTestimony](#)
Cc: mz@conservehi.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR76 on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM
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Attachments: [CCH testimony SCR 76 SR 36 "Iliahi.pdf](#)

SCR76

Submitted on: 3/20/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marjorie Ziegler	Conservation Council for Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

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Conservation Council
for Hawai'i

Hawai'i's voice for wildlife

Kō Hawai'i / leo no nā holoholona lōhiu



Testimony Submitted to the
Senate Committee on Water and Land
Hearing: Monday, March 23, 2015

In Support of SCR 76 and SR 36

Aloha, Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Galuteria, and Members of the Committee. The Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports SCR 76 and SR 36, which urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources to take action to protect 'iliahi, Hawaiian sandalwood.

There are several taxa of native Hawaiian sandalwood in the islands. Some are valued for their fragrant wood and oil. Some are listed as endangered species, and it is already a violation of federal and state law to market wood from the endangered Hawaiian sandalwood species.

Other Hawaiian 'iliahi are rare, but not yet listed as threatened or endangered. Prohibiting the export of raw or unprocessed timber of native 'iliahi that are not listed as endangered species would likely require legislative action by you. Furthermore, the most significant threat to Hawaiian 'iliahi (and hundreds of additional native plants and animals) is non-native weeds and introduced hoofed mammals, such as pigs, deer, sheep, goats, and cattle. If we care about the 'iliahi, then we must address the threat of introduced species to our native resources.

SCR 76/SR 36 also urge the DLNR to invest in efforts to replant 'iliahi trees to prevent extinction. However, the DLNR needs funding to do so and is seriously underfunded; 1% of the entire state budget is simply not enough for the DLNR.

To make matters worse, the House budget this session eliminated all funding for at least three important programs that would help save 'iliahi and other native species: the Legacy Land Fund, which may be used to purchase native forested land and 'iliahi habitat; the Natural Area Reserve Fund, which may be used to manage and protect native forest and 'iliahi habitat on state, mostly ceded land; and the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council, which funds the island invasive species committees, which help protect native Hawaiian resources from invasive species.

We ask you to: (1) make an appropriation to the DLNR for the 'iliahi program called for in this resolution; (2) reinstate adequate funding in the budget for the DLNR's Legacy Land Fund, Natural Area Reserve Fund, and Hawai'i Invasive Species Council; (3) allocate adequate funding for the DLNR in the annual budget to help save hundreds of native Hawaiian plants and animals at risk; and (4) pass legislation to prohibit the export of native Hawaiian sandalwood if such legislation is necessary to protect 'iliahi taxa that are harvested. **Here is a photo of the endangered Lana'i sandalwood.** Please kokua. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify. Sincerely, Marjorie Ziegler



Conservation Council for Hawai'i is a nonprofit, environmental membership organization dedicated to protecting native Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems for future generations.

Established in 1950 and based in Honolulu, CCH is one of the largest and most effective wildlife organizations in Hawai'i with more than 5,000 members and supporters, including concerned citizens, educators, scientists, government agencies, and elected officials.

Through research, education, service, organizing, and legal advocacy, CCH works to stop the destruction of native wildlife and wild places in Hawai'i.

Since 1973, CCH has served as the Hawai'i state affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation.

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President: Hannah Kihalani Springer | Vice-President: Julie Leialoha | Treasurer: Bianca Isaki | Secretary: Wayne Tanaka
Directors: Rick Barboza | Ryan Belcher | Maka'ala Ka'auomoana | Koalani Kaulukukui
Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler | Administrator: Jonnetta Peters



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SCR76

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Matson	Diamond Head Scenic Byway Committee	Support	Yes

Comments:

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DIAMOND HEAD SCENIC BYWAY COMMITTEE

**Senate Committee on Water and Land
Public Hearing
Monday, March 23, 2015
3:00 PM
Conference Room 224**

SENATE CONCURRRENT RESOLUTION 76 and SENATE RESOLUTION 36

Honorable Chair Thielen and Committee Members:

Senate Concurrent Resolution 76 and Senate Resolution 36 emphasize the urgent need for protection, preservation and propagation of the endemic and endangered native Hawaiian sandalwood, which has been culturally and historically treasured for centuries. Yet, today comparatively few remain in Hawai'i because of exploitation and export since the 1800's, threatening their extinction.

The Diamond Head Scenic Byway is a designated Hawaii Scenic Byway under National Scenic Byway guidelines. These guidelines include a Corridor Management Plan, now undertaken by the Diamond Head Scenic Byway Committee of the Diamond Head State Monument Foundation. During the course of the Corridor Management Plan's required sites and features inventory and management evaluation process, the Committee recently conducted a Tree Inventory Survey to assess the rare and exceptional trees within the Scenic Byway corridor, which includes Diamond Head's semi-wilderness slopes and crater park.

Discussion was held at length on the past historic presence of Hawaiian sandalwood native to this area, 'Iliahi'alo'e, the coastal lowland *Santalum ellipticum*, and that none could be found. Found instead are hybrid strains comingling the east Indian sandalwood species with the endangered native Hawaiian species, of which apparently only a few may remain on a high and inaccessible ridgeline - out of sight of both residents and visitors who wish to learn more about truly native plants thriving within this Scenic Byway area.

During February 2015, the Committee was advised of the following comparisons between the native Hawaiian sandalwood species and the east Indian sandalwood species, and hybrids thereof, by the O'ahu District Botanist for DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife:

- The Indian species is considered as "naturalizing" at Diamond Head, i.e., spreading and growing on its own beyond where it was planted inside the crater some time ago by people in the area, and also some planted outside the park below the intersection of Diamond Head Road and Makapuu Avenue along the sidewalk.
- The non-native Indian sandalwood represents a threat to the unique genetic identity of our native coastal sandalwood.

- The hybrids are quite variable between the two parent sandalwood species, and are not an appropriate representative of Hawaii's unique native sandalwoods.
- The hybrid species now grow on the western slopes of the crater, and it has been noted that hybrid individuals now outnumber the few native coastal sandalwood plants on the inaccessible northern slopes of the crater.

Given the above, we thus **strongly support** and urge concurrent adoption of this Resolution by both the Senate and the House to establish a comprehensive program within the Department of Land and Natural Resources to ensure the protection, preservation and propagation of the native 'Iliahi on all the Islands of Hawai'i Nei - for their survival in accordance with the public trust and within the greater public interest for generations to come. Thank you for considering and supporting Senate Concurrent Resolution 76 and Senate Resolution 36, and for providing this opportunity for public testimony and support.

Most sincerely,



Michelle S. Matson, Chairperson
Diamond Head Scenic Byway Committee, Diamond Head State Monument Foundation
Hawaii Scenic Byways Program, Hawaii Department of Transportation

Attachment: Page 3

Comparison of the native coastal sandalwood, *Santalum ellipticum*, with the non-native Indian sandalwood, *Santalum album*, and the hybrids that have resulted from *S. album* being planted at and naturalizing at Diamond Head State Park

Santalum ellipticum
'Iliahialo'e
Native, Endemic to Hawaii



Sprawling shrub to small coastal tree. Leaves are relatively rounded at the tip, dull grayish green in color on both surfaces and leathery to succulent in texture. Flowers are cream-colored to greenish white inside.

Santalum album
Indian sandalwood
Non-native



Small to medium-sized tree up to 25 feet in height with slender drooping branches. Leaves are pointed at the tip, thin in texture, bright green and shiny on the surface and pale green on the under surface. Flowers are red to purplish brown inside.

Santalum ellipticum x
Santalum album
Hybrid



Hybrids are extremely variable and have characteristics with some degree of intermediacy between *S. ellipticum* and *S. album*. The hybrid in the above photo is growing as a shrub form and has green to grayish green leaves that are more pointed at the tip (intermediate between *S. ellipticum* and *S. album*), and reddish flowers (indicative of *S. album* partial parentage). You would not see this combination of traits in a pure *S. ellipticum* or a pure *S. album*.

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Cc: cfrith@fbsmgt.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR76 on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM*
Date: Sunday, March 22, 2015 10:00:29 PM

SCR76

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cynthia Frith	Hawaiian Alliance	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 10:34:59 AM

SCR76

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Bond	Kanehili Cultural Hui	Support	No

Comments: John Bond and Kanehili Cultural Hui supports propagation of the native Sandalwood on Diamond Head and also their protection and preservation in every way possible as one of Hawaii Nei's most important historic and cultural living assets.

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SCR76

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ben Shafer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: bill@puna.us
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SCR76

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bill Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please help the few remaining native 'Iliahi trees in Hawai`i grow and propagate.

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Subject: *Submitted testimony for SCR76 on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM*
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SCR76

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Aloii	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Date: Monday, March 23, 2015 8:28:33 AM

SCR76

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Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Yunker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: jenniferbonadio1@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR76 on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM
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SCR76

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Bonadio	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for protecting the sandalwood trees. Aloha

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Subject: Testimony to Save our Sandalwood

Aloha, please preserve, protect and propagate our native Hawaiian Sandalwood, Iliahi, through HR 55, HCR 139, SR 36, and SCR 76.Support

Dear Hawaii State Legislators and Committees,

Is it true? I have read, and heard it said , that:

1. Hawaii is the only place in the world that has native Sandalwood with no government protection nor plan nor oversight.
2. International market demand for sandalwood today has caused Hawaii's native Sandalwood, Iliahi, to command the highest prices of any of Hawaii's woods internationally and the few remaining stands of Sandalwood are commercially being cut.
3. Once prolific on all islands, perhaps only 2% of the Pre 1790 original sandalwood population in Hawaii remained at the turn of the last century; however in the past decade that number may have been reduced by half.
4. Historically, Hawaii's sandalwood tree is as important as any historic building, art, law, location or place having created the Sandalwood Era of 1790 to 1830.
5. Hawaii's present flag was created for the sandalwood trade and for Hawaii to be recognized as a nation.
6. King Kamehameha I created the first written law of Hawaii to protect sandalwood and the Hawaiian people.
7. Hawaii's first written law on Sandalwood is thought to be the first written law in the United States on any tree in America.
8. As a commodity, Sandalwood marks the transition from a self-sufficient barter economy of the ahupuaa to an international market system economy and attitude in which sandalwood was a currency of trade in Hawaii to buy guns, ships (at least 6), and Western finery.
9. The first buying on credit, by Hawaiian chiefs, was introduced with security of repayment in sandalwood as demonstrated by the sandalwood pits in the shape of ship hulls still found today.
10. Makaainana, The people of Hawaii, were commanded to cut the Sandalwood so the Hawaiian Chiefs could repay their debts causing great hardship on the Hawaiian population with resulting decreased resistance to introduced diseases, famines, and dispersed families. Within 100 years the Hawaiian population had been reduced to 10% of the numbers estimated at the time of discovery by Capt. Cook in 1778.
11. the first source of money income through the sandalwood era , was the mooring fees, and portage fees on American ,British and other European ships landing in Hawaii's bays , principally for sandalwood trade to China.
12. Then, as now today, the Chinese name for Honolulu is sandalwood mountain. Over 1 .3 billion people know in Chinese characters the name of Honolulu as sandalwood mountain.
13. Ecologically, Sandalwood is likely the oldest tree species in the lands of Hawaii. It was found on Laysan island which is 22.3 million years old, as part of the northwest Hawaiian island archipelago. Sandcasting's, not dissimilar to petrified rock, are found there as well as ship reports on the cutting of sandalwood on Laysan in 1790 and subsequent sightings.
14. Through evolution, Hawaii's endemic sandalwood species have evolved over millions of years to be six different species unique to each island group with different species from Kauai, 6 million years old, to Oahu 5-3, Maui 3- and the Big Island today still growing.
15. Iliahi, Hawaii's Sandalwood is a keystone of the Hawaiian plant community as it is hemi parasitic with a symbiotic relationship to other Hawaiian native plants and some exotic plants. It is the symbolic of a plant which thrives in a Hawaiian community and also a few selected foreign plants. It is slow and hard to grow to a large , mature tree.. Its precious perfume emanates only after a mature heartwood of 25 years plus and the very old trees, A hundred to three hundred plus years old are needed as endemic seed banks without the threat of hybridization.
16. In days of old Hawaii and today, Iliahi had a uniquely reverent and spiritual role as it is sprinkled on Hawaiian bones wrapped in tapa to be buried as well as in the legends of Kahala O Puna as told by King Kalakaua. To some of old, Iliahi was a kupuna laau kini akua, an ancient plant god.

17. Spiritually sandalwood is revered around the world as Buddha is said to have been cremated in Sandalwood, Hindu cherish it in funeral pyres, Muslims have authorized it as one of the woods allowed in Islamic ceremonies, Chinese Buddhist/Confucianist/Taoist cherish sandalwood in it's incense, and furniture, Catholics in Southeast Asia use it in its ceremonial smoke pots , as its smoke and oil have cleansing purifying qualities as well as resists decay.

18. As Hawaii's spirit, we want to exhibit our newly awakened care and atonement for Hawaii's conservation practices which has in the past labeled Hawaii as “the extinction capital of the world” ,such that we may say that we have been reborn and reformed.

19. In September 2016 Honolulu, Sandalwood Mountain, will host the World Conservation Congress . the world then will spotlight Hawaii's efforts in conservation which will include Hawaii's native sandalwood.

20. May it be that we will rejoice on the resurrection of Iliahi, Hawaii's native Sandalwood through the efforts of the Hawaii state government and people so that Iliahi will flourish because we care.

21. Please adopt the House and Senate Resolutions requesting the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Legislative Reference Bureau to propose legislation for adoption in 2016 to preserve, protect, and propagate our Sandalwood, Iliahi .

Respectfully submitted, Leigh-Wai Doo
Chair of the Foundation for Islands of Harmony t
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email lwdo04u@gmail.com

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR76 on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM
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SCR76

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lucienne de naie	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Committee members please support this resolution. Our iliiahi are a very culturally important plant. Mahalo for your consideration Lucienne de Naie Huelo, Maui

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SCR76

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Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sylvia Cenzano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SCR76

Submitted on: 3/23/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanja Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Senators, I am in STRONG support of HB 508 SD1 Proposed. Please protect our Sandalwood trees from further extinction! Respectfully Yours, Tanja Miller

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SCR76

Submitted on: 3/22/2015

Testimony for WTL on Mar 23, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Cannon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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