

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA  
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
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**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

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

**Monday, June 29, 2020  
12:30 PM**

**State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of  
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE GM837  
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE NATURAL  
AREA RESERVES SYSTEM COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, JAY  
PENNIMAN, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2024.**

**The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message (GM) 837, nominating Mr. Jay Penniman to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission (Commission) for a term to expire 06-30-2024.**

Mr. Jay Penniman has knowledge, skills, and commitment to the natural world and conservation of place here in the Hawaiian Islands. Mr. Penniman is a research biologist, an accomplished field scientist, and simultaneously a skilled communicator. Mr. Penniman has worked extensively with the Natural Area Reserves System including surveys for nene, research and survey for Blackburn's sphinx moth, and seabird work on Oahu, Kahoolawe, Molokai, Maui and Lanai, including survey, protection and management of Hawaiian Petrels. Mr. Penniman is considered an expert at various topics and is an articulate, science-based, respected, knowledgeable, and a committed communicator on conservation, Hawaiian biota, and management needs in Hawai'i. Mr. Jay Penniman is a well-rounded naturalist, knowledgeable in insect, bird, and plant life, all tied to a conservation ethic. He holds a B.S. from Portland State University in Natural Sciences, with emphasis on Wildlife Biology and Native American Studies, thus fulfilling the Commission membership requirements of Section 195-6, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, as an expert in a relevant field.

The Department strongly supports GM 837 and recommends that the Senate confirm the appointment of Mr. Jay Penniman on the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.

**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 8:54:00 AM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Adam	Testifying for Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC)	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

The Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC) and I support the nomination of Jay Penniman to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.

Jay is an incredibly well regarded member of the conservation community in Hawaii. Recent successes include development and garnering support for Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project, giving impressive presentations and contributing to scientific literature. The Project is leading the charge to protect seabirds throughout Maui Nui. It has become an example of successful efforts in Hawaii and throughout the Pacific.

Jay is exemplary in his reasonable approach to complex problems, working through those problems, and engaging key constituents. For the reasons mentioned, I fully support the nomination of Jay Penniman to the Natural Area Reserves System Commission .

Mahalo for your consideration,

All the best,

Adam Radford, Manager - Maui Invasive Species Committee

**LATE**

**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/29/2020 10:30:49 AM  
Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Gottlieb	Testifying for Ponoholo Ranch Limited	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/25/2020 4:33:29 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Adam Knox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I can think of no better person in the State of Hawaii to occupy this role. Jay would be invaluable as a resource for the State in this position and would draw from years of collaborative experience in conservation projects. He is incredibly resourceful and full of knowledge about natural area ecosystems in Hawaii based on his focused work with endemic wildlife and expertise in building partnerships. I fully support this nomination and hope that he is confirmed.

**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 10:16:44 AM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brittani Capps-Balinbin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing to recommend Jay Penniman's nomination to serve on the Natural Areas Reserves Commission. I have had the pleasure to collaborate with Jay in a professional capacity for the past ten years. I've personally witnessed his tireless efforts to protect and increase populations of Maui Nui's threatened and endangered seabirds. It has been inspiring to watch the Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project grow in staff and capabilities over the last ten years with Jay serving as the Program Manager. Jay and his staff have done extensive research within Maui Nui's rugged Natural Area Reserves, and I feel he would be a valuable asset to the Commission.

**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 11:42:31 AM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Charles Chimera	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Members of the Water and Land Committee,

I am writing to wholeheartedly endorse Jay Penniman's nomination to serve on the Natural Area Reserves System Commission. Mr. Penniman possesses an expertise in seabird conservation, and broad experience in both local and global conservation issues, that will bring a unique and qualified perspective to matters concerning the state's natural areas. His history of collaboration with public and private organizations and individuals, and his track record of successfully implementing programs that have benefited Maui Nui's imperiled seabird populations, demonstrate that Jay is perfectly suited to ensure a productive term of the NARS Commission, and his inclusion will greatly benefit the stewardship of Hawaii's conservation lands.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Charles Chimera

Hawaii-Pacific Weed Risk Assessment

**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 1:28:32 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leah Laramie	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/26/2020 2:31:54 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Fern Duvall II	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have sent in a letter of recommendation. I wanted to reinforce that recommendation. Mr. Penniman will be a superb commissioner if selected, representing wildlife and Maui. He will be great for the whole Natural Area Reserves system and Commission.



**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 12:35:32 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Learned	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Jay Penniman to the Natural Area Reserves Commission. Jay has the experience and the knowledge necessary to make informed and conscientious decisions regarding Hawai'i's land and resources. Throughout his years managing the Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project, he has worked tirelessly to restore and protect sensitive island ecosystems and native species, and continues to bring together community members and stakeholders to achieve goals. Jay understands the importance of engaging cultural leaders in order to reach the best possible outcomes for the islands.

When considering futures for Hawai'i's open space, several factors and different perspectives need to be weighed. One of Jay's greatest strengths is his ability to listen and make careful decisions. His contributions among conservation agencies and other committees and groups are highly regarded. He possesses great skill at mediating and providing realistic solutions.

In addition to his experience, Jay has the passion and care for Hawai'i, its native species, its residents and visitors, that are necessary to be a successful member of the NARS committee. Mahalo for your consideration.

**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 9:25:34 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kalani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/27/2020 9:26:53 PM

Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
J Ashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**GM-837**

Submitted on: 6/28/2020 9:33:29 PM  
Testimony for WTL on 6/29/2020 12:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melissa Price	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have interacted with Jay for the last four years on a number of projects, most recently as he trained my lab members on proper techniques for banding seabirds, and assisted with a large banding project. I highly respect his work in conservation, and believe he can contribute valuable on-the-ground knowledge regarding conservation of endangered species and ecosystems as a member of this commission.