

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
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**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

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committees on  
WATER, LAND & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
and  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Wednesday, February 6, 2019  
10:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 591  
RELATING TO WATERSHED AREAS**

House Bill 591 proposes to require the Department of the Land and Natural Resources (Department) to obtain approval of the Game Management Advisory Council when designating an area as a watershed, conducting a new watershed project, or amending an existing watershed management plan if the land affected is also a game management area or a public hunting area. **The Department opposes this measure and offers the following comments.**

The Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) is responsible for managing over 1 million acres statewide, including important watershed forests that are vital to our future water security and which may allow for public hunting. Where these uses are inconsistent, the Department must often make a difficult choice about whether to prioritize an area for hunting or for watershed protection. Watershed plans provide information on significant and important natural and cultural resources, as well as guidance on management activities within certain watersheds and which include identification of future watershed protection projects. Watershed protection projects and activities may include invasive species removal, tree planting and restoration, forest health monitoring, wildfire threat mitigation and prevention, and the construction of remote ungulate-proof fences to keep ungulates (pigs, deer, goats, sheep) out of important watershed areas.

The Department opposes this bill for the following reasons:

- The Board of Land and Natural Resources is the established decision-making entity that reviews the Department's watershed plans and projects in a public forum. The Game Management Advisory Commission (GMAC) current established role is to advise the Board on game animal management matters. This bill would provide an unprecedented and inconsistent level of power for an advisory commission to be able to approve or reject the Division of Forestry and Wildlife's primary management responsibility - watershed protection.
- This bill provides GMAC with the power to approve or reject watershed management plans and watershed projects regardless of whether they are affecting public hunting opportunities. This would create the burden of an additional approval needed in many situations that do not affect public hunting. For example, many watershed activities do not include projects that directly affect game animal management, such as tree planting, forest and species surveys, etc. Thus, this requirement would unnecessarily hamper a wide range of projects that are not relevant to the GMAC. This would be particularly burdensome for the many watershed projects that need to be completed quickly, such as wildfire prevention and control, hazardous tree removal, and rare species protection.
- Designated public hunting areas includes places established for watershed, native ecosystem, and native wildlife protection. For example, most Natural Area Reserves are included within the public hunting areas, but the purpose of those areas are to "preserve in perpetuity specific land and water areas which support communities, as relatively unmodified as possible, of the natural flora and fauna, as well as geological sites, of Hawaii" (Chapter 195, HRS). It would be inconsistent with the existing statutory purpose of those lands to require that any watershed management plan or project require the approval of the GMAC, whose expertise and purpose is to advise on hunting activities. This requirement would also be inconsistent with the duties of the existing advisory commissions, such as the Natural Area Reserves System Commission.
- In 1903, the Forest Reserve System and the predecessor to the Division of Forestry and Wildlife (the first forestry agency established in the country) were established by the government, because nowhere else was the connection between forests and water supplies more apparent. By empowering the GMAC to be the decision-making authority on watershed protection matters, it elevates hunting as the top priority for the Division's management. This could contradict the original purpose of the Division and primary purpose and intent of much of the land the Division manages (including most of the forest reserves), which has guided it for over a century. It would also conflict with the mandates of other commissions, such as the natural area reserve commission, as well as the primary goals of our watershed partnership alliances.
- If the GMAC does not allow the Department to remove non-native hooved animals from certain locations proposed in watershed plans, this will lead to the extinction of Hawaii's plants and animals, accelerate the loss of native forests, and allow for degradation of our essential watersheds. For example, if the GMAC rejects a Departmental plan to build a fence around a last remaining rare plant population because it would constrict game animal movements, that rare plant would be eaten and trampled by goats, pigs, sheep, or deer and be forever lost. It is unacceptable to provide an advisory commission the power

to prevent the Department from fulfilling its constitutional and statutory duties to protect forests, watersheds, and endangered species from their biggest threat – hooved game animals.

- Pursuant to Section 183D-4.5, HRS, the GMAC was established to serve exclusively in an advisory capacity to the Board of Land and Natural Resources. The section clearly defines the role and responsibilities of the GMAC as well as the required qualifications of the commission members. Currently, the GMAC is comprised of individuals who have extensive backgrounds in hunting non-native game species. As such, they provide expert advice on hunting and hunting related issues across the state. However, they were not selected for their training or knowledge of watershed, endangered species, native forest protection, or general wildlife management practices. It is inappropriate to require them to make informed decisions for the Department about the management of these other public trust resources. This bill reaches well beyond the original advisory role of the GMAC, as described in Section 183D-4.5, HRS.
- The Department has been implementing recommendations of the GMAC and making impressive progress on surveying hunters, connecting via newsletters and meetings, opening new lands for hunters, and improving access and overall hunting experience. For example in October 2018, the Department successfully acquired nearly 2,900 acres in Central O‘ahu for the Helemano Wilderness Area that will provide for new access and areas for public hunting. The Department does recognize; however, additional funding would be required to implement most of the proposals recommended by the GMAC. In particular, increased funding is needed to support access and acquisition to new or existing public hunting areas as well as for game animal management. This would provide the Department the ability to more quickly address and carry out the priorities of the GMAC to improve the hunter experience.

Additionally, the Department undertakes the following due diligence when planning for watershed projects, particularly fencing, that may encroach onto public hunting land:

- Engage with hunters and community stakeholders during initial planning phase for new fences to better understand how the area is currently used for hunting, recreation, etc. This includes outreach to individual hunting families who have a direct connection to a particular place or area.
- Re-align proposed fence lines, to the extent possible, to reduce land taken out of public hunting. For example, in 2017 a proposed fence on Kaua‘i was reduced in size to accommodate hunters.
- Install step-overs and gates to allow continued public access into fenced areas. Hunter and community input helps determine the location for these access points.
- Include public hunting in the initial stages of animal removal in newly fenced areas whenever safe, feasible, and effective.

- Present to GMAC on watershed protection priorities. The Department will continue to include the GMAC on watershed and land management projects and seek recommendations on hunting issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



**HB591**  
**RELATING TO WATERSHED AREAS**

House Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs  
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

February 6, 2019

10:30 a.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Beneficiary and Advocacy Committee will recommend that the Board of Trustees **OPPOSE** HB591, which may unnecessarily tie the Department of Land and Natural Resources' (DLNRs') hands in the protection of Hawai'i's native forests and watersheds, and undermine efforts to ensure our future water security in today's era of climate change.

The Game Management Advisory Commission (GMAC) plays a laudable and important role in advising the Board of Land and Natural Resources on game management issues that may arise throughout the islands, including those relating to the subsistence hunting needs of Native Hawaiians. OHA understands that GMAC members are selected based largely on their connection with and leadership in the hunting community, and as such can provide the BLNR with particular insight into the wide range of needs and concerns of hunters throughout the islands, which BLNR and DLNR staff may not necessarily possess.

However, GMAC members are not required to have any specialized expertise in hydrogeology, native forest restoration science, climate change resiliency strategies, groundwater recharge, and the various other disciplines which should inform watershed protection efforts, particularly given the critical role such efforts may play in ensuring our future water security and protecting our culturally and ecologically significant native species. Accordingly, while their required hunting expertise allows them to play an important advisory role in game management and ensuring adequate hunting opportunities for state residents, including Native Hawaiians, GMAC members may not necessarily have the expertise or background to fully evaluate all aspects of watershed protection proposals. Providing GMAC with absolute veto authority over watershed protection initiatives, such as establishing new or amending existing watershed projects or management plans or establishing watershed areas in game management areas or public hunting areas (which encompass substantial portions of our forested and undeveloped areas that may be most critical for aquifer recharge), may therefore significantly inhibit our ability to protect our aquifers, native forests, and public trust resources for future generations.

Accordingly, OHA urges the Committees to **HOLD** HB591. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 10:02:07 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shyla Moon	Hunting Farming and Fishing Association, board member	Support	No

Comments:

We support the opinions of the appointed GMAC.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:32:57 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kymberly child	hawaii hunting association	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 12:16:13 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Syreen Hostallero	Beekeeper/ Waianae Hunting Association	Support	No

Comments:

Hi

I am from the Waianae Hunting Association and I support this bill.

Mahalo,

Syreen



Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i  
Opposing HB 591 Relating to the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
House Committee on Water, Land, and Hawaiian Affairs  
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
Wednesday, February 6, 2019, 10:30 AM, Room 325

The Nature Conservancy opposes HB 591 because it would create an inappropriate decision-making authority for establishing public policy in an advisory body, and unreasonably hinder the Department of Land and Natural Resource's ability to carry out its responsibility to manage the public trust resources of the State.

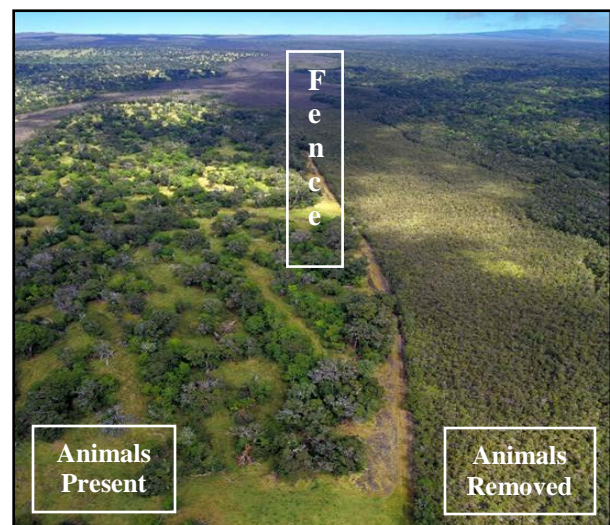
We agree that introduced wildlife resources need to be wisely managed both for their benefits and, in some cases, for the risks they pose. Hawai'i has an important history of hunting game mammals for food and recreation that should be perpetuated and even enhanced, but it is a modern history. With the exception of the Hawaiian bat, Hawai'i has no native land mammals. Wild pigs were introduced from Europe and Asia after 1778. The smaller Polynesian pig brought by the first Hawaiians is gone (except on Ni'ihau), crowded out by these later introductions.



While an important resource, wild pigs, goats, sheep, deer, and cattle are also a major threat to the health of some of our most important native forests and watersheds. Centuries before the introduction of game mammals, Hawai'i's native plants and animals evolved in geographic isolation to form the unique ecosystems that make up these islands. In the absence of predators, native species did not develop defenses such as thorns or other mechanism to deter browsing or rooting animals. As a result, our native forests have no natural defenses against wild mammals. Left unmanaged, feral ungulates can strip large areas of forest bare, contributing to erosion, sedimentation harmful to coastlines and coral reefs, and impairing the natural absorptive function of watersheds. The areas disturbed by these animals also create open soil for weed invasions, further enhancing the decline of native ecosystems and watershed values.

Effective animal control is essential in specific high priority natural areas for preserving native species and managing healthy watersheds. However, hundreds of thousands of acres can be maintained for managed populations of game and livestock animals. A balance can be achieved between game production for recreational and subsistence uses, livestock production, public health, property protection, and conservation of irreplaceable native ecosystems and watersheds.

Advisory groups of stakeholders, experts and community members provide important knowledge and experience to the Department of Land and Natural Resources as it carries out its governmental responsibility to care for and promote wise use of Hawai'i's unique and limited natural resources. However, by intention and establishment they are advisory. They are not final decision-making or approving bodies. This is not only the case for the game management advisory commission, but also the Department's endangered species recovery committee, the aha moku advisory committee, the legacy land commission, the natural area reserves system commission, and the forest stewardship advisory committee.



While the Department should and does benefit from the experienced advice of the game management advisory commission and these other advisory bodies, it also draws from the knowledge, training and expertise of its own personnel, academia, and scientific data and analysis, amongst others. No one source of input or expertise has individual approval or veto authority over decisions that must ultimately rest with the Department's leadership and the statutorily established Board of Land and Natural Resources.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 9:56:48 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pooya Motlagh	Waianae Hunting Association	Support	No

## Comments:

Aloha my name is Pooya Motlagh and I'm president of the Waianae hunting association. I'm writing this testimony in support of hb591. I believe the people who actually use the land should have a strong voice in helping manage our aina. By Requiring the DLNR to get approval first from our Game mammal advisory committee on topics such as designating an area as watershed, conducting a new watershed project or amending an existing watershed plan if the land affected is also a game management area or a public hunting area we are doing just this. The GMAC is the voice of the people. And it is important that we have that. The DLNR has been doing whatever they feel like doing without listening to the community This needs to stop. The hunter or outdoors man is the true manager of the mountains. We need the GMAC to have this power to oversee the DLNR



The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair  
House Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs

The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair  
House Committee on Energy, Environmental Protection

State Capitol, Room 325  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

HEARING: Wednesday, February 6, 2019, at 10:30am

RE: HB591 Relating to Watershed Areas

Aloha Members of the House Committees,

The Hawaii Firearms Coalition SUPPORTS HB591

Hunters in Hawaii face a growing threat to their way of life through the widespread elimination of game species. Hunters rely on these animals for sustenance and a connection to nature with a dedication to protecting the environment and native species. This bill would ensure that the DLNR and Game Management Advisory Council (GMAC) can work toward mutual agreements which benefit everyone. There are alternative methods which can be used to protect native species and sensitive areas without resorting to eradication and elimination of hunting lands. Hunters can aid in managing game populations to protect the environment.

For these reasons the Hawaii Firearms Coalition Supports HB591. Thank you for your consideration.

Mahalo

Todd Yukutake  
Director, Hawaii Firearms Coalition  
PH. (808) 255-3066  
Email: [todd@hifico.org](mailto:todd@hifico.org)

# Hawaii Sportsmen's Alliance

## Supporting HB591

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

### Committee on Water, Land, & Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. Ryan I. Yamane, Chair - Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair  
Committee Members

### Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair - Rep. Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair  
Committee Members

Balancing of our natural resources must include good resource management for sustainable use of all our natural resources for subsistence and survival. Our subsistence and survival includes all of our human demands mutually defined and determined. Subsistence and survival are not the exclusive privilege of the few. It is an **inclusive** human legacy and heritage.

Outdoor recreation, including hunting and gathering is an integral part of the health and well-being of Hawaii's residents. Of further importance and of necessity to many residents in rural communities is the ability to enjoy and share in a sustainable subsistence lifestyle.

Hawaii's game animals were introduced to the Islands as an alternative source to ocean protein dating back to the arrival of early Polynesians. They have become a fixture in our culture as a sustainable food resource.

Properly managed, they contribute to our Islands self-sufficiency, generate income, and provide recreational opportunity for the people of Hawaii.

To further enjoy this lifestyle a more balanced approach to resource management is required. This means more balance in policy making and implementation.

Current forest conservation and watershed management plans do not address long term mixed use resource management practices.

The difference between preservation and conservation must be understood.

Preservation is usually based on the principle that things simply have the right to exist, therefore they must be protected. In other words, to keep possession of and no touch no access.

Conservation implies that the reasons behind protecting something are based on using and managing that resource wisely.

Wildlife management is challenging, engaging, and often controversial. The beauty of working collaboratively with all parties of interest allows us to take down barriers and build partnerships to overcome differences while completing important work on the ground. This is especially important in the face of habitat fragmentation, drought, human population expansion, and conflicting agendas that could be disastrous for wildlife, for hunting and gathering, and for other types of outdoor recreation that we all hold so dear.

Mahalo,

Tony Sylvester

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 1:01:57 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James S Kawasaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 10:09:09 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 2:24:39 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 4:41:04 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Riley De Mattos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 5:28:26 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Writing in support of hb591 to give the game management advisory council a say in matters pertaining to hunting areas.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 7:24:56 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 9:50:49 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 10:41:56 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Hunters understand watershed ecology. The GMAC is an excellent resource for understanding what is happening in the mountains. Support the GMAC and consult their viewpoints.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 10:59:19 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Aloha my name is David Pepperman. Supporter of the hunting community in Hawaii. My thoughts are simple: I believe that nature is a resource, and a resources and not to be wasted. Hunters are there to gather and feed our families. They make use of our god given gifts and at the same time reducing goverment spending. I believe they deserve their yearly funding they are granted and they sould be working with not against our government in this matter. Mahalo for listening.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/3/2019 11:49:08 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill that requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to obtain the approval of the Game Management Advisory Council when designating an area as a watershed, conducting a new watershed project, or amending an existing watershed management plan if the land affected is also a game management area or a public hunting area.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 12:54:44 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Ching	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I am in favor of the bill. Many lands set aside aren't actually critical to the watershed and if the state is worried about damaging the watershed they should first look into stopping poison and herbicide dropping/spraying and the lasting damage to the mountains, groundwater, oceans and our bodies. GMO farming should be banned from these islands. No more fences and lands already fenced should actually be restored. Not just left for grass and Koa haole.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:02:29 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:



**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:10:22 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:49:23 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 9:06:02 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please pass this proposal.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 8:59:07 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 11:48:18 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tom Lodge	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please pass this out of Committee. GMAC needs to be a viable and vibrant voice for the people of Hawaii.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 1:16:20 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
nani pogline	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

The State Game Management Advisory Commission was established by the Legislature and sworn in by the governor, yet it has lacked effectiveness with the DLNR. This bill will help the commission perform its duties, to represent and protect game resources and hunting opportunity for the people of Hawaii. This move toward a balance is way over due. Game resources and native eco-systems can co-exist in a mutually beneficial balance.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 1:44:33 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leo A Millan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 4:16:29 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stanley Mendes	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:



**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 7:05:51 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill and ask the support of the legislative committee members. I am a 52 year resident of Hawaii, a veteran, a high school teacher, a voter and supporter of the 2nd Amendment of the US Constitution.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 7:56:53 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

## Comments:

I am a hunter education instructor and have been volunteering for over 30 years to improve and sustain hunting opportunities in Hawaii. I am in support of HB 591 and feel that it will go a long way in ensuring hunting opportunities for future generations as well as protect the few Game Management Areas that still exist.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 7:46:09 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 9:19:01 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicolai Barca	Individual	Comments	No

## Comments:

I am both an avid recreational hunter and professional watershed conservationists who specializes in animal control and fencing. This testimony is my own and does not represent the views and opinions of my employer. That said:

I was under the impression that the Department (DLNR) is not actually the one making Watershed plans. It is the Watershed Partnership organizations which are making the plans, of which the State (represented by the DLNR) is simply one member in each partnership. Therefore, please consider modifying the language in the bill "*watershed management plan by the department*" to something like "*watershed management plan by any organization of which the state is a member*".

I do not understand how this bill could work, as written. It would freeze all watershed plans because, in my opinion, there is no way that the Game Mammal Advisory Commission would ever approve ANY plan that suggests ANY fencing of any public hunting area. While some elements of the GMAC are not opposed to watershed protection, if truly needed, most seem to not believe it is needed, or that ungulate fencing helps native ecosystems. ...and they may be right in some cases.

On one hand, this bill appears to possibly be a power play for the GMAC to stop fencing, or at least have more control over it. On the other hand, I do support GMACs having say in watershed plans and thus would suggest the bill be amended to say that any watershed plan must be presented to the GMAC before any plan is passed and GMAC's input considered. They should have good input. But to rely upon them to approve it... wouldn't that just be dysfunctional government?

Therefore I suggest changing "*shall require the approval of the game management advisory commission*" to something of the effect of "*shall require presentation to, and written input from, the game management advisory commission*". I anticipate the

GMACs may try to stall some plans by not providing input, so perhaps another line should say something to the effect of "*if GMAC does not give their written input within 180 days (6 months) of presenting, that their input is not required.*"

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to share my opinions.

Nicolai Barca,

Kapaa, Kauai

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 11:05:11 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrew Namiki Roberts	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 8:22:30 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
steven a kumasaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

support

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 7:38:00 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Abraham Antonio sr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 10:47:29 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teresa L Nakama	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I Teresa L. Nakama a registered voter hereby submit my testimony to strongly support your approval of HB591. The Game Management Advisory Council represents all the Hawaiian Islands at Large of each community, that is actively involved in our watershed areas and has become our voice when advising the various County, State and Federal departments that affect our way of life.

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 1:31:52 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 8:16:22 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joel Berg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Public input is necessary when discussing the eradication of "invasive species". Many individuals rely on pig hunting for business, cultural practices, sustenance, and supplemental income. To intentionally destroy this resource would place a burden on island families, many of whom rely on hunting for food and supplemental income removes a valuable option for families and individuals who might otherwise struggle to survive or stay off govt. assistance.

**LATE**

**HB-591**

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 10:36:00 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/6/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fred Delosantos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB591. It makes sense for the DLNR to get approval from the GMAC regarding watershed projects, plans, and decisions. This supports the Hawaii hunters community.