

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FERAL ANIMAL MANAGEMENT.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the imbalance of feral animals in the State is wreaking havoc on the environment, agriculture, and communities. As the frequency of storms and severe droughts increases, so will the impact of feral animals. The populations of wild pigs on Hawaii island, axis deer on Maui, and certain non-native species of birds on Oahu and Kauai are evidence of the growing problem. The legislature further finds that proactive long-term and short-term measures are needed to address the issue.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- (1) Require the department of land and natural resources and department of agriculture to collaborate on feral animal management; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for a natural resources management specialist position related to feral animal management.



1       SECTION 2. (a) The department of land and natural  
2 resources and department of agriculture shall collaborate on  
3 feral animal management projects to manage feral animal  
4 populations; mitigate the impacts of feral animals on native  
5 habitats and ecosystems; and reduce their disturbance to  
6 indigenous species of wildlife and land plants, agriculture, and  
7 communities. A secondary goal of feral animal management shall  
8 be to generate a viable source of food to assist in feeding the  
9 State's houseless or hungry; provided that a species'  
10 inappropriateness as a food source shall not alone prevent the  
11 species from being targeted.

12       (b) Feral animal management shall:

13       (1) Manage the identified feral animal populations and  
14       implement species-specific goals, to include:

15       (A) Best management practices for population  
16       management, with practices that are appropriate  
17       for public and private lands with various land  
18       uses;

19       (B) Minimization of diseased and starving feral  
20       species due to uncontrolled population growth;



- 1 (C) Programs to assist population management of  
2 species that threaten agricultural viability;
- 3 (D) A program to encourage the beneficial use of  
4 carcasses, including retail and nonprofit options  
5 for feeding the houseless and hungry, which shall  
6 include:
- 7 (i) Authority and capacity for ante- and post-  
8 mortem inspections, slaughtering, and  
9 processing of the animals; and
- 10 (ii) Best management practices for the safe  
11 handling of a carcass from the time the  
12 animal is caught to the time it is  
13 processed;
- 14 (E) Approaches depending on whether the feral animals  
15 are on public or private land, including access  
16 agreements, legal authorizations, and liability  
17 concerns;
- 18 (F) Consultation with the office of Hawaiian affairs  
19 and the department of Hawaiian home lands when  
20 feral animals are on their lands;



- 1 (G) Practices to reduce reef sedimentation through
- 2 feral animal management;
- 3 (H) Implementation of milestones and timeframes
- 4 proposed in existing plans for management of
- 5 targeted species, including plans to adapt
- 6 management goals as needed to keep populations
- 7 from rebuilding; and
- 8 (I) Partnering with state and county agencies and
- 9 other collaborators, including federal partners
- 10 and resources, responsible for each action;
- 11 (2) Pursue funding mechanisms to support feral animal
- 12 management, including:
- 13 (A) Sources of seed money to develop and initiate
- 14 programs;
- 15 (B) Public-private partnerships to reduce reliance on
- 16 public funds;
- 17 (C) Hunting fees and other cost recovery methods to
- 18 subsidize costs; and
- 19 (D) Potential public and private grant funding to
- 20 facilitate implementation, such as Clean Water



1 Act funding to assist with practices to reduce  
2 reef sedimentation; and

3 (3) Address any other matters deemed appropriate by the  
4 department of land and natural resources and  
5 department of agriculture.

6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to  
9 establish one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) natural resources  
10 management specialist position related to feral animal  
11 management.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
13 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050;  
15 provided that section 3 of this Act shall take effect on July 1,  
16 2022.

17



# H.B. NO. 1721 H.D. 1

**Report Title:**

Feral Animal Management; DLNR; DOA; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the department of land and natural resources and department of agriculture to collaborate on feral animal management. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

