

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
Governor

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
Lt. Governor



**SHARON HURD**  
Chairperson  
Board of Agriculture & Biosecurity

**DEAN M. MATSUKAWA**  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & BIOSECURITY**  
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**TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND BIOSECURITY**

**BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026  
2:00 PM  
CONFERENCE ROOM 308**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2113, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES**

Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2113, House Draft 1. This bill appropriates funds for the removal of overgrown vegetation from the Kainahola Stream on Kaua'i. The Department respectfully provides comments.

The Department complied with the court orders entered in the civil case cited in the bill by thoroughly clearing the portion of Kainahola Stream located on land managed by the Department in 2024. Since then, the Department has leased the land and the tenant has been keeping up with required maintenance. A segment of the stream extending from the makai boundary of the Department-managed property downslope to the Kapa'a Bypass Road was not cleared. That segment of the stream is located on property the Department believes is managed by the Department of Transportation, Highways Division (DOT-Highways), designated as Tax Map Key: (4) 4-3-004:008 (Parcel 8). When Kainahola Stream reaches the Kapaa Bypass Road, it passes under a DOT-Highways bridge before continuing on to the sea.

The Department appreciates the amendment made by House Draft 1 of the measure that redirects the appropriation of funds to DOT-Highways as the agency managing Parcel 8.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

To: Representative Chris Todd, Chair  
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair  
Committee on Finance

From: Veronica Moore, Individual Citizen

Date: February 24, 2026

RE: House Bill 2113 HD1  
Measure Title: RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES.  
Report Title: DOT; Kainahola Stream; Appropriation (\$)

To All Concerned,

My name is Veronica Moore and I support House Bill 2113 HD1. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Veronica M. Moore

**KURT R. BOSSHARD**

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February 25, 2026

Bill #HB2113, HD1 Relating to Natural Resources

Dear Committee Chairs and Members:

I have reviewed the Testimony of Sharon Hurd, Chairperson, Board of Agriculture and Food Systems submitted relevant to the above identified measure. I have extensive first hand knowledge of these matters as an adjacent property owner of twenty three (23) years and a farmer just upstream from Kainahola Bridge.

With all due respect, I can emphatically state that Chairperson Hurd's testimony is in error. The funds requested as to Bills HB2113 and SB2310 pertain only to the clearing of hau bush on TMK 4-3-004-009, a property solely administered by the State Department of Agriculture. The attached Tax Map Key aerial mapping (#1 attachment) particularly identifies the area required by the Court to be cleared on TMK 4-3-004-009. The darkened (hau bush covered) area with the yellow dot is the area to be cleared. Clearing of this area will satisfy the area designated by the Court to be cleared.

Chairperson Hurd mistakenly identifies TMK 4-3-004-008 as the area to be cleared with the requested funds. While it's true that the State Department of Transportation owns this property, the vegetation on that property is not the source of the blockage of Kainahola Stream or pertinent to the Court's Judgment. That is not to say that this property is being properly maintained by the State Department of Transportation, but that is not a matter to be addressed by the Legislature as to this appropriation. I'm certain that the State Department of Transportation would confirm all that I've above stated.

I appreciate the opportunity to address your bodies and again express my strong support of Bills HB2113 and SB2310 as originally written.

Sincerely,



KURT BOSSHARD

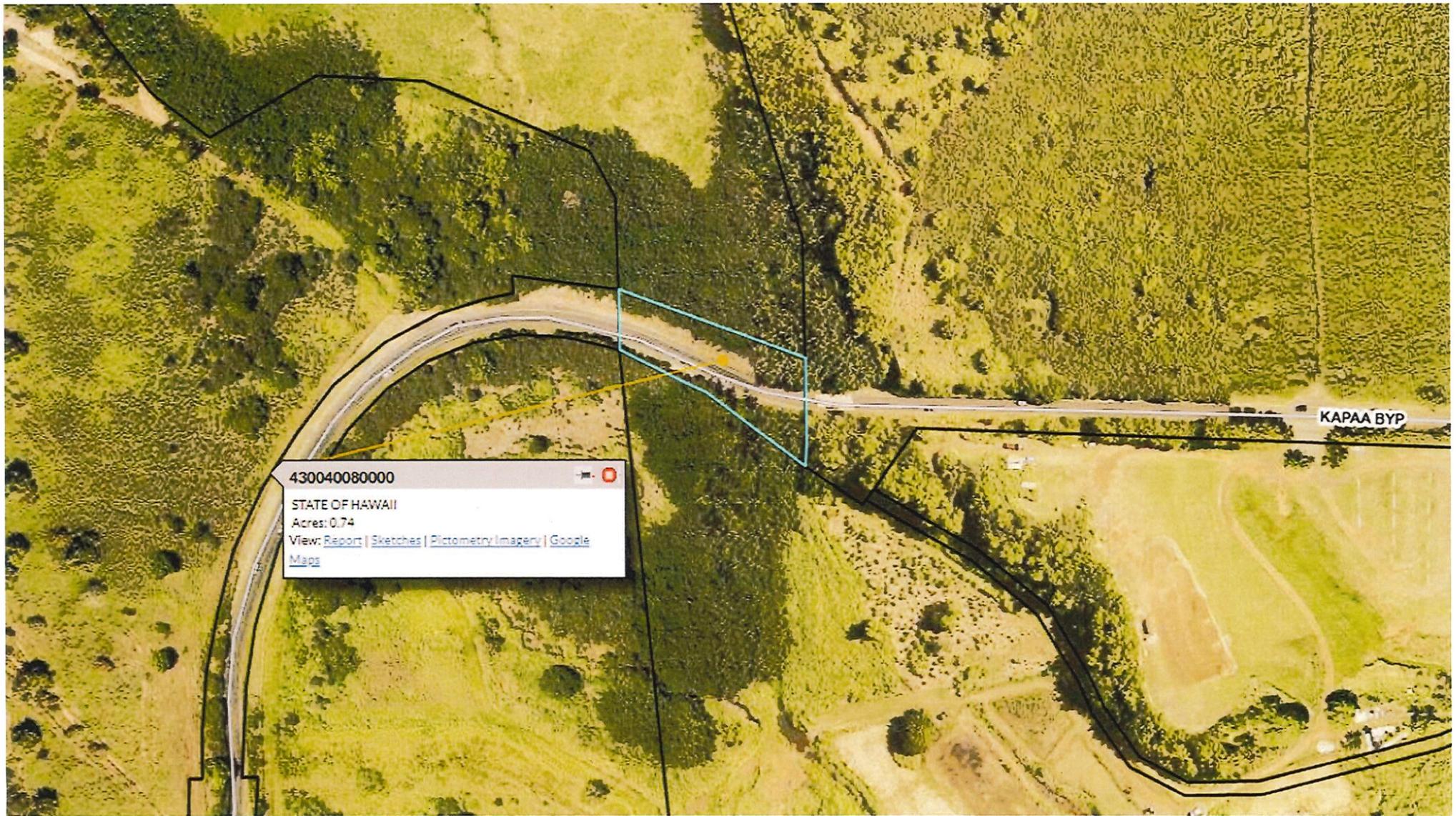
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#1



#2