

1. Being an avid hunter and outdoorsman. I believe we cannot complain about things unless we're willing to do something about it so I thought instead of just grumbling and hearing it from the rest of my friends I thought that I would at least try to be a bridge between the community and the DLNR the management of game.

2. I believe the role and responsibility is to be a liaison between the community and give input to the DLNR regarding the management of our game animals, hunting laws, and access.

3. I have been a licensed contractor in the state of Hawaii for well over 30 years. I have also been an avid outdoors person utilizing the ocean as well as the trail systems. I am a hunter. I am also a rancher and farmer.

I think I bring a unique skill set in that I live both sides of the coin. I run a ranch and farm with livestock where I have issues all the time with trespassing and poachers and dealing with law-enforcement to curtail these issues on the other side I do think that we have a right to access public lands and hunting. It's not only good for the community but also the economy. the wild game is a food source for many people here that cannot afford.

I think my decision-making would be clearly based on a right to access, but also on a respect issue not to trespass, laws need to be enforced and property needs to be respected while still allow allowing access. Game limits and ethical harvesting are vital.

4. I think my main goal while serving on the commission would be to somehow bridge the gap of public access while also maintaining the integrity of private ranches and land and limit trespassing and damage. I think there is a happy medium in there. We just gotta get to it. I also think that managing the resource correctly.

Managing animal numbers especially pigs on Oahu to reduce damage to livestock and crops is essential.

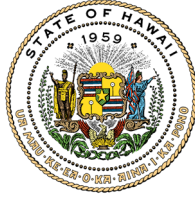
Working on ethical means to harvest those animals and providing that meat to those who need it.

5. I do not think there is anything in my past that would conflict with my appointment to the commission.

I was a soldier who got an honorable discharge more than 35 years ago. I run a company for 30 some years with no problems. I've raised a family in Hawaii. I've been a good citizen.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA**

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
Acting Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND, CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2026
01:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 703
SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE GAME
MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE,
STEPHEN DEWALD, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2030**

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports Governor's Message 703, nominating Mr. Dewald to the Game Management Advisory Commission for a term to expire June 30, 2030.

Under Section 183D-4.5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), the Game Management Advisory Commission (Commission) shall: 1) Serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board); and 2) Consist of nine members to be appointed by the Governor in the manner provided in Section 26-34, HRS. The Commission shall include a member from the County of Kaua'i, three members from the County of Maui (one member from each of the islands of Maui, Moloka'i and Lāna'i), two members from the County of Hawai'i (one member from East Hawai'i and one member from West Hawai'i), one member from the City and County of Honolulu, one at-large member, and the Chairperson of the Board or the Chairperson's designated representative. Other than the Chairperson of the Board, each member must be a hunter licensed in the State and have leadership experience in working directly with local hunters or shooting organizations. At least one member shall have knowledge, experience, and expertise in native Hawaiian cultural practices, and no more than three members shall represent, be employed by, or be under contract to any government sector.

Mr. Dewald has been nominated to serve as a member-at-large of the Commission. He brings decades of professional and personal experience that align with the commission's mission. As the owner and operator of Steve's Gardening Service since 1993, he has demonstrated long-

standing experience in business management, regulatory compliance, team supervision, and operational planning. His background also includes service as an infantry fire team leader in the U.S. Army, where he gained leadership experience and training in safety, emergency response, and field operations.

In addition to his professional experience, Mr. Dewald is an avid hunter and fisherman with strong ties to Hawai'i's outdoor community. His firsthand knowledge of the land and hunting traditions in Hawai'i will provide a valuable perspective to the Commission. He has also been a crucial partner with the Division of Forestry and Wildlife's O'ahu Game Bird Rearing-Release program, providing workspace and volunteer support to ensure its continuation. His appointment will help ensure the Game Management Advisory Commission continues to provide informed recommendations that support sustainable wildlife management and public hunting opportunities across the state.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.