

HFC Committee

From: Zorah Rodgers <lucasandzorah@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 1:25 PM
To: HFC Committee
Cc: Alice L. Lee; Keani N. Rawlins; Tasha A. Kama; Riki Hokama; Kelly King; Mike J. Molina; Tamara A. Paltin; Shane M. Sinenci; Yukilei Sugimura
Subject: I Support the reduction of feral cats.

To whom this may concern,

I have been on this island since 1991. I was a small child returning to my grandfathers homeland as eighth generation Maui Islander. I have lived on Maui for most of those 30 years. I windsurfed as a child at Kanaha beach park and now I'm raising my own family, as a mother of two small children.

I have stood whitened to the growing cat population and plead your help.

Please consider the affect these feral cats are causing to our community and wildlife. Our focused should be on what is native and sacred and not someone's discarded pet.

It's become clear to me that trap and release has not been done to a level that supports its effectiveness. I completely support cats as pets, as that is when they seem to thrive, but to support "pets" that have been returned to wild, harmfully affecting the animals and native species seems irresponsible and damaging. Please stop the feeding to help reduce numbers and densities. Licensing and containment of cats absolutely needs to be the same as for cats as it is dogs. And please, please enforce the laws already in place that forbids feeding of feral cat colonies in county parks. I witnessed, what appeared to be someone feeding a colony yesterday at another beach park in Kihei, and if there is no fear of getting caught then there is no way the practices in place are working.

Our communities deserve better. This is what our community wants, and our wildlife and ecosystem deserves. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Zorah Meyer