

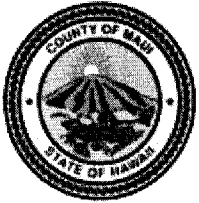
## HFC Committee

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**From:** Raynette Yap  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 13, 2020 8:25 AM  
**To:** HFC Committee  
**Subject:** FW: Please Support - Proposed Ordinance Prohibiting Feeding Feral Animals  
**Attachments:** American Bird Conservancy letter of support for feral animal feeding prohibition.pdf

**From:** Kelly King <Kelly.King@mauicounty.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:35 PM  
**To:** HFC Committee <HFCCommittee@mauicounty.us>  
**Subject:** FW: Please Support - Proposed Ordinance Prohibiting Feeding Feral Animals

With Aloha,



**Office of Councilmember Kelly Takaya King**  
South Maui Residency  
Office: 808.270.7108  
200 South High Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Fl  
Wailuku HI 96793  
[mauicounty.us](http://mauicounty.us)

**From:** Grant Sizemore <GSizemore@abcbirds.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 9:49 AM  
**To:** Keani N. Rawlins <Keani.Rawlins@mauicounty.us>; Tasha A. Kama <Tasha.Kama@mauicounty.us>; Riki Hokama <Riki.Hokama@mauicounty.us>; Kelly King <Kelly.King@mauicounty.us>; Mike J. Molina <Mike.Molina@mauicounty.us>; Tamara A. Paltin <Tamara.Paltin@mauicounty.us>; Yukilei Sugimura <Yukilei.Sugimura@mauicounty.us>  
**Subject:** Please Support - Proposed Ordinance Prohibiting Feeding Feral Animals

Aloha Councilmembers:

Please accept the attached letter on behalf of American Bird Conservancy regarding the proposed ordinance prohibiting feeding feral animals. American Bird Conservancy respectfully requests your support for this bill.

Mahalo,

Grant

Grant Sizemore, M.S., CWB®  
Director of Invasive Species Programs  
American Bird Conservancy  
Phone: 202-888-7480  
[gsizemore@abcbirds.org](mailto:gsizemore@abcbirds.org)  
[@gsizemoreABC](#)



*Bringing back the birds*

5/11/2020

Healthy Families and Communities Committee  
Maui County Council  
Kalana O Maui Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
200 S. High St.  
Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Councilmembers:

On behalf of American Bird Conservancy and our members, I am writing to **urge your passage** of an ordinance to amend Section 6.04.010 of Maui County Code, as reported in County Communication No. 20-268, regarding the **prohibition on feeding feral animals**.

Effective feral animal control is a critical component to a healthy community. Feeding feral animals, though it may have noble motivations, supports populations of these animals on the landscape and contributes to the harmful impacts they have on people and wildlife.

In Maui County and throughout Hawai'i, such impacts have been widely observed with many feral species, perhaps none more so than feral domestic cats (*Felis catus*). Feral cats are not native to Hawai'i and are a major predator of Hawai'i's native birds, many of which are threatened with extinction. These birds are culturally, ecologically, and economically important, and most residents (78%) do not want to see feral cats on the landscape ([Lohr and Lepczyk 2014](#)). The proposed bill is consistent with [Hawai'i Invasive Species Council guidance](#).

Furthermore, sustaining feral cats on the landscape puts people and wildlife at risk of zoonotic diseases, such as toxoplasmosis. Toxoplasmosis is caused by infection with a parasite transmitted in cat feces. If accidentally ingested or inhaled, this parasite may infect any bird or mammal – including people – and survives in terrestrial, freshwater, or marine environments. A recent study on O'ahu found that feral cats commonly transmit this parasite onto the landscape ([Lepczyk et al. 2020](#)). Toxoplasmosis can cause a variety of symptoms up to and including death in people and wildlife (e.g., Hawaiian monk seals). Consequently, the Hawai'i Department of Health has ranked feral cats a "[very high risk factor](#)" for public health risk.

American Bird Conservancy supports effective management of feral cats and other feral animals and asks you to support this proposed ordinance.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grant Sizemore".

Grant Sizemore, M.S., AWB®  
Director of Invasive Species Programs