

HFC Committee

From: Ananda Stone <anandastone8@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 12:55 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 am opposed to Bill 6.04.041 Feeding of feral animals prohibited.

Ananda Stone
1595 Kuuipo St,
Lahaina, Hawaii 96761

RE: FERAL ANIMAL MANAGEMENT ON MAUI (HFC-24)

Aloha Esteemed Council Members,

I am opposed to Bill 6.04.041 Feeding of feral animals prohibited.

I understand the cat problem we have on Maui with regards to the seabird population and the dangers to the monk seal due to urine disease on beaches. We have an issue here that needs to be addressed. I think there are a number of strategies that could be done humanely that could be implemented or made more aggressive. For example using trap/ neuter/ release, including this new thing called CATIOS, harnesses, backpacks, anti-predation collars, etc. We could develop a sanctuary much like Lanai Cat Sanctuary which has become an island attraction for cat lovers.

What would be terrifying and inhumane is to eradicate them or to starve the ones that are used to being fed. Two places I am familiar with where cats are being fed outside have brought joy to many visitors when out for a stroll along the hotel boardwalks. Children love to watch them, pet them and play with them. As far as I can tell they are cared for on a daily basis, just as domesticated pets are. It would be torture for them to stop being fed, and would probably lead to more bird deaths anyway as well as causing erratic behavior.

Please consider my testimony,

Mahalo!

Ananda Stone