

HFC Committee

From: Conroy Kathleen <kconroy43@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 3:41 PM
To: HFC Committee; County Clerk
Subject: Feeding of Feral Animals Bill

Good Afternoon,

As a resident of Kihei, I fully support the bill that prohibits the feeding of feral animals.

Feral cats pose a serious threat to the native birds of Maui, especially the Hawaiian stilt and Hawaiian coot. Right now in nesting season, the chicks will be at serious risk as they cannot fend off attacks from cats. With the high number of feral cats, these chicks are in danger. However, by feeding these cats means that the feral cats will have more energy to reproduce and to catch birds. By reproducing more means that more feral cats will be joining the community.

A problem with feeding is the creation of feral cat colonies. This is where many feral cats will go because they know they will be fed. This will lead to an increase of disease as there would be many cats interacting with each other. With more disease between feral cats, will also put domestic cats at risk, especially the ones allowed to go out doors. Feeding feral cats will not solve the problem of having too many feral cats, it will just create more problems.

With all these factors in mind, I would like to say again that I fully support the bill that prohibits the feeding of feral cats. It is what is best for each community of Maui.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Conroy