

HFC Committee

From: Kathryn Reynolds <konakatr@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 9:18 PM
To: HFC Committee
Subject: Do not ban feeding feral cats

Aloha,

Please do not ban feeding feral cats.

Spay and neuter programs will work. The spay and release program is a more humane approach, and just as effective. We should increase our efforts in this direction. Same result without killing the cats. This does not encourage the spread this ends the spread. Education for pet owners would help.

If you ban feeding these cats , you will create an even more dangerous situation. cats will travel to find food and spread disease. Hungry cats will desecrate our bird population even more . Lack of food will weaken healthy cats to further spread disease. Use commonsense and compassion !!! Do NOT create another level of irresponsibility by banning feeding.

Please give all the facts--12 monk seals died of toxoplasmosis over a 19 year span. The #1 cause of death for monk seals (for the main Hawaiian Island chain) is net entanglement and fish hook embedding. In 2019 alone, 21 seals had to have fish hooks removed and 2 seals were entangled. That same year, 3 juvenile monk seals drowned in nets off Oahu. And, while correct that there are roughly 300 monk seals in the main Hawaiian Island chain, there are roughly 1,100 in the NW Hawaiian Island chain (with different issues however in 2019, 12 seals in that population had to be freed from marine debris). This is a complex problem and to promote starvation of cats while eating sushi is incredibly hypocritical. As a community, can't we do better?

Mahalo for thinking,
Kathryn Reynolds