



FUJITA & MIURA
PUBLIC RELATIONS, INC.
Hawai'i • Pennsylvania

Your public is waiting.

October 16, 2025

Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources
Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW)
Attention: Habitat Conservation Planning
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative second draft Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter in support of the draft HCP submitted by Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC). I am a fifth-generation Kaua'i resident, business owner, and KIUC member.

It is my understanding that KIUC developed the draft HCP in close coordination with and under guidance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and DOFAW over several years, and the draft has been reviewed by technical experts from both agencies multiple times. This second draft addresses comments received from the public, the Endangered Species Recovery Committee (ESRC), USFWS, and DOFAW.

KIUC has demonstrated a strong commitment to conservation of these species by implementing most of the HCP prior to it being finalized and approved, and by the significant amount of powerline minimization that can be seen on powerlines across the island. It is my understanding that initial monitoring of the benefit of KIUC's minimization efforts (e.g., line reconfiguration and use of diverters on line spans) tracks with the stated goal of the HCP of a reduction of more than 66% in covered seabird line strikes. Based on historical data, the HCP conservation strategy outlined in the draft should be successful in increasing seabird populations at conservation sites, and reducing powerline collisions.

Electrical power is essential to Kaua'i. I encourage you to approve this well-researched HCP so that KIUC can move forward with implementing the plan and continue providing safe and reliable power for the island.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Joy M. Koerte
Partner