

CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF KAUA'I

4231 Ahukini Road • Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766
Phone: (808) 246-2662 • Fax: (808) 246-8642



October 14, 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:

The Contractors Association of Kaua'i (CAK) was established in 1957 as a trade association of licensed contractors, suppliers and businesses affiliated with the construction industry on Kaua'i. Please accept our letter in support of the draft HCP submitted by Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC).

It is our 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.

Electrical power is essential to Kaua'i. We support approval of this well-researched HCP so KIUC can move forward with implementing the plan and remain focused on continuing to provide safe and reliable power for the island.

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 our understanding that initial monitoring of the benefit of KIUC's minimization efforts (e.g., line reconfiguration and use of diverters on line spans) track with the stated goal of the HCP of a reduction of more than 66% in covered seabird line strikes.

We encourage you to approve this HCP as drafted.

Sincerely,

CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF KAUA'I

Nathan T. Konishi, President
Board of Directors