
Friday, April 21, 2017 at 3:33:09 PM Hawaii-Aleutian Standard Time

Subject: Draft EA for Lehua Island (Rat Eradication)

Date: Friday, April 7, 2017 at 3:09:48 PM Hawaii-Aleutian Standard Time

From: Kaliko

To: DLNR.FW.LehuaRestoration

I attended the community informational meeting at Kekaha Neighborhood Center on 4/3/17.

As we were told by Sheri Mann/DLNR all comments had to be submitted in writing 'to be legal' and nothing said verbally at this meeting meant anything, I am submitting this comment so that comments shared by community kupuna are not lost.

Continued community outreach is critical and mana'o in any form is vital and proven for the success of any project. Kauai is a "rural" community and its populoua appreciates face-to-face interactions that concern and surrounds our community.

The discussion on Monday was valuable to percolate concerns/questions regarding the rat eradication project.

As one person shared--"I believe we are saying pretty much the same thing in our own different ways".

The community favored an integrated approach with both aerial & hand broadcasting. Various type and application of rodenticide to be used, were also discussed.

Adverse and consequential issues relating to the Rat eradication process were also discussed on behalf of both Kauai and Niihau residents. Discussion regarding to inclemental weather, air drifts, effects to marine life, near shore impact on the coral reef ecosystem, impact on tourist based ocean activities, impact on commercial fishing economy, impact on recreational fishing community, flexibility and timing of rodenticide application, consequential issues and adverse effect on health and wellness were just a part of what was discussed.

This plan should include more small community group discussion throughout this process in addition to more modern forms of outreach.

Sincerely,

D. Kaliko Santos
Na Kuleana O Kanaka 'O'iwi

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