REPORT TO THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
2022 REGULAR SESSION

RELATING TO THE GAME MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION
FISCAL YEAR 2021

Prepared by
THE STATE OF HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
In response to Section 183D-4.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes

November 2021
GAME MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

PURPOSE

The legislature finds that the enhancement and maintenance of sustainable public hunting opportunities for subsistence and recreational purposes are of critical importance to the State and its people. A coordinated resource management effort involving stakeholders is needed to enhance hunter opportunities on each island and manage lands and provide access for hunting.

Act 210, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2016, amended Chapter 183D, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), by adding a new section to establish the Game Management Advisory Commission to serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board). Section 183D-4.5, HRS, requires an annual report to be submitted by the Game Management Advisory Commission on its efforts, including a summary of its activities during the year preceding the regular legislative session for which the report was prepared.

The Game Management Advisory Commission is made up of nine members, including:

1. One member from the County of Kauai;
2. Three members from the County of Maui, with one member from each of the Islands of Maui, Lanai, and Molokai;
3. Two members from the County of Hawaii, with one member from East Hawaii and one member from West Hawaii;
4. One member from the City and County of Honolulu;
5. One at-large member; and
6. The Chairperson of the Board or the Chairperson's designated representative, who shall serve as an ex officio, voting member.

GAME MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETINGS

During the 2021 fiscal year, a total of two Game Management Advisory Commission meetings were held with a reduction of meetings due to COVID-19. One conducted on August 17, 2020 and another on Feb. 18, 2021. Commission meetings were also held on July 22, 2021 on the current calendar year and January 23, 2020 of the previous calendar year. This report will be reporting by fiscal year. Below are the agendas for the meetings; the minutes for these meetings is available on the Division of Forestry and Wildlife website at: https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/recreation/hunting/gmac/

Meeting 1:
August 17, 2020 3:00 PM-5:00PM
Meeting held via ZOOM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:
Stan Ruidas —Lanai (Chair)
Nelson Rapanot—Molokai
Ryan Kohatsu—Molokai
Robert Masuda—Representative of the Chair of DLNR
AGENDA:
ITEM 1. Call to order, introductions of members, staff, and visitors; request for move-ups on the agenda.
ITEM 2. Action Required: Approval of minutes from the January 23, 2020 GMAC meeting.
ITEM 3. Discussion COVID-19 Impacts to program.
ITEM 4. Hunting program discussion- Management plans, steering documents, and other project updates.
ITEM 5. A short report by each commissioner summarizing their meetings with DOFAW staff on the island that they represent.
ITEM 6. Set future meeting schedule and potential Agenda items.
ITEM 7. Announcements.
ITEM 8. Adjournment.

Meeting 2:
Feb. 18, 2021 05:00-7:00 PM
Meeting held via ZOOM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:
Stan Ruidas —Lanai (Chair)
Nelson Rapanot—Molokai
Nicolai Barca—Kauai
Robert Masuda—Representative of the Chair of DLNR
Nancy Timko—Oahu (at-large)

AGENDA:
ITEM 1. Call to order, introductions of members, staff, and visitors; request for move-ups on the agenda.
ITEM 2. Action Required: Approval of minutes from the January 23, 2020 GMAC meeting.
ITEM 3. Action Required: Approval of minutes from the August 17, 2020 GMAC meeting.
ITEM 4. Hunting program discussion- Management plans, steering documents, and other program project updates.
ITEM 5. Discussion on bag limits and deer issues within the State of Hawaii.
ITEM 7. 2021 Legislation Season update and possible action on bill review.
ITEM 8.  Training - Commissioners need to ensure they have attended or will attend the State Law Ethics Training and Sunshine Law (OIP) training.  
https://oip.hawaii.gov/training/


ITEM 10.  Discussion on wildlife management plan feasibility costs for each island.

ITEM 11.  A short report by each commissioner summarizing their meetings with DOFAW staff on the island that they represent. Commissioners to provide a list of hunting and wildlife issues for each island that includes priorities and changes each commissioner would like to see.

ITEM 12.  Set future meeting schedule and potential agenda items.