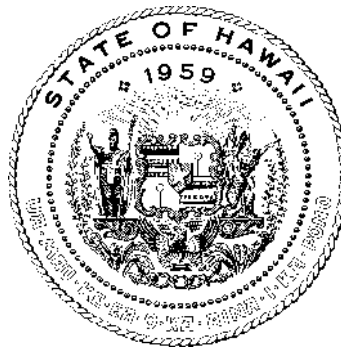


REPORT TO THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII

2026 REGULAR SESSION

RELATING TO THE GAME MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION
FISCAL YEAR 2025



Prepared by

THE STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE

In response to Section 183D-4.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Honolulu, Hawaii

December 2025

RELATING TO THE GAME MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

PURPOSE

Maintaining and enhancing sustainable public hunting opportunities for subsistence and recreation is essential to the State and its residents. The Game Management Advisory Commission (GMAC) may suggest policies and criteria for managing, protecting, and promoting public hunting in Hawaii. The GMAC can also recommend amendments to statutes and current department policies and procedures related to hunting, especially concerning Chapter 183D, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) and chapters 122, 123, and 124 of title 13, Hawaii Administrative Rules.

Act 210, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2016, amended Chapter 183D, HRS, by adding a new section to establish the GMAC to serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board). Section 183D-4.5, HRS, requires an annual report on its efforts to be submitted by the GMAC, including a summary of its activities during the year preceding the regular legislative session for which the report was prepared. This report covers the GMAC's activities from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

The GMAC 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 are from the County of Hawaii, with one member from East Hawaii and one 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 shall serve as an ex officio voting member.

GMAC MEETINGS

During the 2025 fiscal year, one commission meeting was held on June 5th, 2025, with five commissioners present. Meeting agendas and recorded minutes are available at the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Division of Forestry and Wildlife (Division) website at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/recreation/hunting/gmac/>. Items discussed included:

- Game management plans.
- DOCARE staffing/capacity, and recruit academy.
- Overview of DOFAW game management activities.
- The Board of Water Supply's wildlife control activity in Makaha Valley.
- Maui's gamebird rearing and release program.
- Unit F (Kauai) adaptive management rule, with the hope of making it permanent, and applying it statewide to enhance hunter access.
- Create an improved method for people to get notified about upcoming GMAC

meetings.

- How to get involved in the DOFAW Oahu Branch game bird rearing and release program.
- Commissioners' island reports.
- Lanai game management and survey results.
- Maui Axis deer landowner incentive program.

Over the past fiscal year, the GMAC has successfully filled the Lana'i and O'ahu commissioner seats. We are now inviting applications to represent Moloka'i and West Hawai'i, as well as to fill the Member-at-large seat. The previous Member-at-large term ended on June 30, 2025, and the West Hawai'i representative resigned on May 28, 2025. On June 5, 2025, Stanley Ruidas, the Lana'i commissioner, was elected Chair of the GMAC.

To encourage participation, the Division will post announcements on its website and send notices through a mailing list of over 14,000 public hunters. Five commissioners are serving active terms, with three seats vacant.

The Division continues to engage with commissioners on questions related to hunting policies and district needs, ensuring that local perspectives are represented in decision-making. Quarterly meetings are scheduled throughout FY26.

Commission info:

Lanai Representative –	Stanley Ruidas –Active till 06/30/2028
Oahu Representative –	Richard Furst – Active till 06/30/2029
Maui Representative –	Michael Johnson Active till 06/30/2027
Molokai Representative –	vacant – Expired 06/30/2023.
Member at large –	vacant – Expired 06/30/2025.
East Hawaii Representative –	Jason Sanborn – Active till 06/30/2027
West Hawaii Representative –	vacant – Resigned on 05/28/2025.
Kauai Representative –	Nicolai Barca – Active till 06/30/2027

Ex officio (voting) Designee for the Board – Jason D. Omick