

Subject: CPAC Testimony for 3/15/23

From: Kelly King <ktk@biodiesel.com>

Date: 3/13/23, 3:33 PM

To: "wearesouthmaui@mauicounty.gov" <wearesouthmaui@mauicounty.gov>

CC: Rob Weltman <rob.weltman@gmail.com>

Dear CPAC Members,

The County of Maui adopted ordinance 5421, effective on October 4, 2022, to protect the county's wetlands. The definition of wetlands is scientific and extensive, going beyond the Army Corp of Engineers' definition of a "Water of the US". Land that conveys stormwater, land that attenuates and stores flood water, areas that formerly had wetlands character but have been degraded - all are wetlands in Maui County.

The ordinance proposes acquiring "real property containing wetlands either by negotiation under chapter 3.44 or by eminent domain".

The seven properties named in the added action for topic 4 on 3/8/2023 are all wetlands by the definition of the County of Maui and should be acquired by the County for preservation and to enhance their role in flood mitigation, water health and a healthy habitat. The acquisition of these properties is essential to all of Maui, but especially to South Maui as we continue to grow and storm surges are not likely to stop.

Mahalo nui,

Kelly King

Vice President

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