

Grand Wailea Resort
3850 Wailea Alanui Dr.
Wailea, HI 96753

To Whom It May Concern,

I am among the many citizens concerned for the welfare of the 31 cats living on the Grand Wailea Resort's grounds. It has come to my attention that the Resort is strongly considering removing these cats from the property.

If the cats are relocated to a new outdoor location it can easily result in the deterioration of the cats' health, even causing them to die. The same would be true should the cats be taken to a shelter, especially considering the advanced age of most of these cats.

I care about all animals, including birds and sympathize with the desire to protect these birds, but displacing the cats to the detriment of their own survival is neither compassionate nor necessary. Older, well-fed cats are unlikely to hunt. Cats are opportunistic feeders and if volunteers continue providing them with easy meals, these older cats will not be motivated to put the effort into catching moving prey.

TNR stands for "trap-neuter-return," which is the process of trapping, spaying/neutering, vaccinating, and then returning feral cats back to their outdoor homes. TNR is effective because it stops the breeding cycle of outdoor cats. As is evidenced by the reduction of the outdoor cat population at the resort from the original 300 to just 31, this method effectively decreases cat populations, and the number of cats at the resort will continue to dwindle over time.

The senior cats who are there now prevent new, unaltered cats from moving into the area (their "territory") and breeding. Without your current small colony guarding the property, you will actually end up with a new colony within a short period of time. These younger cats would be more likely to and capable of hunting, and would therefore pose a much greater threat to seabirds and other wildlife in the area.

I hope you will consider this information, for the good of the birds and cats alike.

Sincerely,