

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Ann Goody <animals@threeringranch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** HDOA.BOARD.TESTIMONY  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Support for 3RR Zebra Permit

**From:** Leslie Woods [mailto:lesliewoods58@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 10:44 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY@HAWAII.GOV; animals@threeringranch.org  
**Subject:** Support for 3RR Zebra Permit

Good day,

I am a resident of Kailua Kona and have been for 19 years. Three Ring Ranch has been an integral part of our community with their outreach programs and education for pre-vet students are second to none. The animals at 3RR are protected and cared for very well.

Herd animals, such as the zebras, need to be with their kind. 3RR has the space and the ability to have 3 zebras. Please provide the permit necessary for these zebras to live their lives as god intended....together.

Aloha!

Leslie Woods  
808-896-5775

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Ann Goody <animals@threeringranch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 12:14 PM  
**To:** HDOA.BOARD.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** 'Ann Goody'  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony in favor of Three Ring Ranch

Dear HDOA,

I am writing to express my strong support for the petition to permit placement of 3 zebras at Three Ring Ranch. I am requesting that the permit conditions be updated so that this can be done as drafted. As a concerned citizen and a passionate advocate for animal welfare, I believe that granting this import permit aligns with the values of conservation, education, and the well-being of wildlife.

Three Ring Ranch has an exceptional track record of providing a safe and nurturing environment for a variety of animals. Their dedication to the preservation and care of wildlife is truly commendable. I have witnessed the sanctuary's commitment to creating a home where animals can thrive and receive the utmost care and attention.

Zebras, with their unique beauty and charm, deserve a sanctuary where they can live comfortably and happily. As a regular volunteer, I know that Three Ring Ranch has the expertise and resources necessary to ensure the zebra's well-being and a high quality of life.

I believe that this import permit is not only in the best interest of the zebras in question but also serves a larger purpose of educating the public about the importance of wildlife conservation and the responsibility we all share in protecting these incredible animals. Three Ring Ranch has a proven record of promoting awareness and understanding of wildlife, and this endeavor with the zebra will undoubtedly contribute to these goals.

I kindly request that you consider the importance of this import permit in furthering the goals of animal welfare and conservation. I am confident that Three Ring Ranch will continue to serve as a model for responsible and compassionate animal care.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I urge you to support the petition for the import permit for the zebra at Three Ring Ranch. Your decision will undoubtedly contribute to the betterment of the lives of these animals and to the broader cause of wildlife preservation.

Sincerely,

Azin Sayah, DDS  
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon  
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Mgee5674 <mgee5674@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 15, 2023 4:09 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** animals@threeringranch.org  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 3RR Zebra Permit

Three Ring Ranch (3RR) should be permitted to accept up to 3 zebra. and request that the board please update the permit conditions so that this can be done as drafted.

3RR has decades of exceptional accredited history in animal care without escape, injury or citation. They remain accredited by GFAS and ASA, the only accredited exotic animal sanctuary in HI. Offering sanctuary space to animals in need is what they, as an accredited sanctuary, do.

There is already a rescued zebra at 3RR so the Keepers there are experts in providing safe, stimulating healthy homes. The conditions given to 3RR at the time of the last zebra import have been carefully adhered to at all times. All the residents of 3RR receive exceptional care including enrichment, nutrition, healthcare and psychological care. There will not be breeding, all male animals will be surgically rendered sterile. 3RR has the space and financial ability to care for these animals. 3RR habitats are already in existence and have been recently inspected by HI DOA to verify that they meet or exceed even the newly proposed, increased, fencing requirements. These areas will provide safe stable environments for the animals and allow them to be integrated into social groups with other 3RR residents. The sanctuary is not going to be overextending to accept these animals nor would accepting them put other sanctuary residents at risk.

At no time are the animals at 3RR used in entertainment or promoted to be pets. 3RR teaches that these are wild animals and are not pets. All materials published by 3RR clearly state that they are against exotic animals as pets.

These creatures deserve a chance for a safe life and 3RR is more than capable of providing it.

Please grant the request for the Zebra permit to 3RR

Thank you,  
Marjorie Gottesman

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Captain Sylvia <captainsylvia@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 15, 2023 3:18 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** Ann/norm Goody  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In support for Three Ring Ranch Zebra Permit

Three Ring Ranch (3RR) should be permitted to accept up to 3 zebra. and request that the board please update the permit conditions so that this can be done as drafted.

3RR has decades of exceptional accredited history in animal care without escape, injury or citation. They remain accredited by GFAS and ASA, the only accredited exotic animal sanctuary in HI. Offering sanctuary space to animals in need is what they, as an accredited sanctuary, do.

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At no time are the animals at 3RR used in entertainment or promoted to be pets. 3RR teaches that these are wild animals and are not pets. All materials published by 3RR clearly state that they are against exotic animals as pets.

These creatures deserve a chance for a safe life and 3RR is more than capable of providing it.

Please grant the request for the Zebra permit to 3RR

Thank you,  
Sylvia Lindquist Owens  
Deputy Inspector General, USPS  
Office of Inspector General  
(Retired)

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Baez, Wendy <Wendy.Baez@hawaiicounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 3:34 PM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** 'animals@threeringranch.org'; Inaba, Holeka  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Inaba support letter for Three Ring Ranch - Import Permit for 3 Zebras with State Department of Ag  
**Attachments:** Inaba Support letter for Three Ring Ranch, October 16, 2023.pdf

Aloha, attached is a support letter from Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba, Council Member for District 8 in North Kona, for Three Ring Ranch's petition for an Import Permit for Zebras.

Kindly respond that you are in receipt of this email and its attachment - Mahalo.

Wendy P. Baez, Legislative Assistant to Holeka Goro Inaba, Ed.D.  
District 8 Council Member, North Kona  
West Hawai'i Civic Center – Building "A"  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy., Kailua-Kona, HI 96740  
808/323-4279 or 808/936-7307 | Email: [Wendy.Baez@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:Wendy.Baez@hawaiicounty.gov)

*...Nothing is so Strong as Gentleness, and Nothing is so Gentle as Real Strength...*

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Captain Sylvia <captainsylvia@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 15, 2023 7:05 AM  
**To:** Colleen Ebright; HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** animals@threeringranch.org  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Request for Zebra Permit

Thank you. That was great to add your titles!!

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS

On Sunday, October 15, 2023, 12:46 PM, Colleen Ebright <colleen.ebright@yahoo.com> wrote:

Three Ring Ranch (3RR) should be permitted to accept up to 3 zebra, and request that the board please update the permit conditions so that this can be done as drafted.

3RR has decades of exceptional accredited history in animal care without escape, injury or citation. They remain accredited by GFAS and ASA, the only accredited exotic animal sanctuary in Hawaii. Offering sanctuary space to animals in need is what they, as an accredited sanctuary, do.

There is already a rescued zebra at 3RR so the Keepers there are experts in providing safe, stimulating, healthy homes. The conditions given to 3RR at the time of the last zebra import have been carefully adhered to at all times. All the residents of 3RR receive exceptional care including enrichment, nutrition healthcare and psychological care. There will not be breeding, all male animals will be surgically rendered sterile. 3RR has the space and financial ability to care for these animals. 3RR habitats are already in existence and have been recently inspected by HI DOA to verify that they meet or exceed even the newly proposed, increased, fencing requirements. These area will provide safe stable environments for the animals and allow them to be integrated into social groups with other 3RR residents. The sanctuary is not going to be overextending to accept these animals nor would accepting them put other sanctuary residents at risk.

At no time are the animals at 3RR used in entertainment or promoted to be pets. 3RR teaches that these are wild animals and are not pets. All materials published by 3RR clearly state that they are against exotic animals as pets. These creatures deserve a chance for a safe life and 3RR is more than capable of providing it.

Please grant the request for the Zebra Permit to 3RR.

Thank you,  
Colleen Ebright  
Former Naturalist/Guide with Hawaii Forest and Trails, Kailua Kona, HI  
Former Naturalist/Captain with Glass Bottom Boat, Kailua Kona, HI  
Former Naturalist with Ocean Rider Seahorse Farm, Kailua Kona, HI  
(Retired)

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Colleen Ebright <colleen.ebright@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 15, 2023 6:46 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** animals@threeringranch.org; Sylvia Owens  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Request for Zebra Permit

Three Ring Ranch (3RR) should be permitted to accept up to 3 zebra, and request that the board please update the permit conditions so that this can be done as drafted.

3RR has decades of exceptional accredited history in animal care without escape, injury or citation. They remain accredited by GFAS and ASA, the only accredited exotic animal sanctuary in Hawaii. Offering sanctuary space to animals in need is what they, as an accredited sanctuary, do.

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Please grant the request for the Zebra Permit to 3RR.

Thank you,  
Colleen Ebright  
Former Naturalist/Guide with Hawaii Forest and Trails, Kailua Kona, HI  
Former Naturalist/Captain with Glass Bottom Boat, Kailua Kona, HI  
Former Naturalist with Ocean Rider Seahorse Farm, Kailua Kona, HI  
(Retired)

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Patti Mickelsen <patti@palikea.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 15, 2023 11:55 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** Ann Goody  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for 3RingRanch Zebra Permit

Aloha,

This letter is to express in the most positive way possible, my support for the application by Dr. Ann Goody, at 3RR, to increase the number of zebras at her award-winning sanctuary in Kona. It is impossible to overstate the amazing work Dr. Goody does for the animals in her care, and the Kailua-Kona/Big Island community at large.

I'm sure I do not need to remind you of the urgent need for suitable sanctuaries for many animals globally. 3RR is Hawaii's only fully accredited animal sanctuary. As 3RR is fully accredited by GFAS and ASA, every conceivable need of each individual animal is always met. I have been privileged to see the extraordinary care, compassion and love given to every single animal at 3RR. I know how vital it is for each animal to have everything they require for a happy, healthy life. Dr. Goody unfailingly provides that.

Zebras, of course, are herd animals, and need their herd companions, in order to have a good life. I have seen the zebras at 3RR run and play and exhibit all the behaviors of healthy herd animals. Sadly, Patti the zebra has lost her companion, and is very much in need of new companions.

The global sanctuary of the year, 3RR, is the perfect place for more zebras - and any animal who needs specialized care. There can be no doubt 3RR has every needed credential to support and care for their animals. There is no possible way any animal in their care would be happier elsewhere. All the animals truly are living their best lives.

As a long time supporter of, and visitor to, 3RR, I can unequivocally say all needed support from your department should immediately be given to this request. I'm sure Dr. Goody would be delighted for you all to come and see the incredibly amazing place that is 3 Ring Ranch. After that, there could definitely be no doubt in your minds about granting this urgent request.

Mahalo for your attention. If I can provide you with any further information, I would be most happy to do so.

Sincerely,

Patti Mickelsen

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Action 4 Animals <a4ahawaii@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 15, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** animals@threeringranch.org  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for 3RR Zebra permit

Dear Sirs, Madams,

And am writing in support of granting a permit for Three Ring Ranch to import up to three zebras to their animal sanctuary. They have already demonstrated outstanding knowledge and responsibility in caring for a variety of animals for many years. The lone resident zebra is depressed after his companion pony died, and he needs the company of his own kind in order to live a full and psychologically healthy life.

I can see no downside to granting this permit, and urge you to move forward with this action as soon as possible.

Sincerely

Elaine Partlow  
Pahoa Hawai'i

Peace and health to all beings! 🐾

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Leslie Woods <lesliewoods58@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 10:44 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY; animals@threeringranch.org  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for 3RR Zebra Permit

Good day,

I am a resident of Kailua Kona and have been for 19 years. Three Ring Ranch has been an integral part of our community with their outreach programs and education for pre-vet students are second to none. The animals at 3RR are protected and cared for very well.

Herd animals, such as the zebras, need to be with their kind. 3RR has the space and the ability to have 3 zebras. Please provide the permit necessary for these zebras to live their lives as god intended....together.

Aloha!

Leslie Woods  
808-896-5775

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** cowens99@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 15, 2023 6:03 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** Ann Goody  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SUPPORT FOR THREE RING RANCH ZEBRA PERMIT

Three Ring Ranch (3RR) should be permitted to accept up to 3 zebra. and request that the board please update the permit conditions so that this can be done as drafted.

3RR has decades of exceptional accredited history in animal care without escape, injury or citation. They remain accredited by GFAS and ASA, the only accredited exotic animal sanctuary in HI. Offering sanctuary space to animals in need is what they, as an accredited sanctuary, do.

There is already a rescued zebra at 3RR so the Keepers there are experts in providing safe, stimulating healthy homes. The conditions given to 3RR at the time of the last zebra import have been carefully adhered to at all times. All the residents of 3RR receive exceptional care including enrichment, nutrition, healthcare and psychological care. There will not be breeding, all male animals will be surgically rendered sterile. 3RR has the space and financial ability to care for these animals. 3RR habitats are already in existence and have been recently inspected by HI DOA to verify that they meet or exceed even the newly proposed, increased, fencing requirements. These areas will provide safe stable environments for the animals and allow them to be integrated into social groups with other 3RR residents. The sanctuary is not going to be overextending to accept these animals nor would accepting them put other sanctuary residents at risk.

At no time are the animals at 3RR used in entertainment or promoted to be pets. 3RR teaches that these are wild animals and are not pets. All materials published by 3RR clearly state that they are against exotic animals as pets.

These creatures deserve a chance for a safe life and 3RR is more than capable of providing it.

Please grant the request for the Zebra permit to 3RR

Thank you,  
Charles R Owens

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Marian Isaac <misaac02@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 9:01 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY; Ann Goody  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Three Ring Ranch zebra permit/update permit conditions

3RR's offer to give sanctuary for up to three zebras is a gift.  
There is no justification for any agency (HDOA Advisory Board) to vote against this offer.  
What does the Advisory hope to gain by voting against this generous offer?

Animals at 3RR live peaceful lives, with excellent care.  
Any offer by 3RR to accept any animal in need is a gift that Hawaii's government should recognize as such and approve.  
3RR is ready now to provide lifelong care for zebras  
Please make the moral decision and approve this offer.

Marian Isaac  
Modesto CA

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Kim Driggs <kimd@avatarmarketing.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 4:14 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Three Ring Ranch (3RR) Zebra Request

To whom it may concern,

Three Ring Ranch (3RR) should be permitted to accept up to 3 zebra. and request that the board please update the permit conditions so that this can be done as drafted.

3RR has decades of exceptional accredited history in animal care without escape, injury or citation. They remain accredited by GFAS and ASA, the only accredited exotic animal sanctuary in HI. Offering sanctuary space to animals in need is what they, as an accredited sanctuary, do.

There is already a rescued zebra at 3RR so the Keepers there are experts in providing safe, stimulating healthy homes. The conditions given to 3RR at the time of the last zebra import have been carefully adhered to at all times. All the residents of 3RR receive exceptional care including enrichment, nutrition, healthcare and psychological care. There will not be breeding, all male animals will be surgically rendered sterile. 3RR has the space and financial ability to care for these animals. 3RR habitats are already in existence and have been recently inspected by HI DOA to verify that they meet or exceed even the newly proposed, increased, fencing requirements. These areas will provide safe stable environments for the animals and allow them to be integrated into social groups with other 3RR residents. The sanctuary is not going to be overextending to accept these animals nor would accepting them put other sanctuary residents at risk.

At no time are the animals at 3RR used in entertainment or promoted to be pets. 3RR teaches that these are wild animals and are not pets. All materials published by 3RR clearly state that they are against exotic animals as pets.

These creatures deserve a chance for a safe life and 3RR is more than capable of providing it.

Please grant the request for the Zebra permit to 3RR.

Thank you,

Ann Kimberly Driggs  
President/CEO of Avatar Marketing

Kim Driggs  
President/CEO-Avatar Marketing  
Office: (813) 852-0041  
Cell: 808-443-1295  
[www.avatarmarketing.com](http://www.avatarmarketing.com)  
[kimd@avatarmarketing.com](mailto:kimd@avatarmarketing.com)

"Go Green! Print this email only if necessary.

Thank you for helping Avatar Sales and Marketing be environmentally responsible."

"Energy Flows Where Attention Goes"

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** COLLEEN SMITH <karma620@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 15, 2023 7:26 PM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** Ann & Norm Goody  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] THREE RING RANCH, ZEBRA IMPORT REQUEST

To the HDOA Advisory Board:

I am sending this letter to you for the sole purpose of expressing to you how much your approval of Three Ring Ranch's (3RR) request for an import permit for Zebras be accepted. I understand 3RR has already applied for the Permit.

Please update the permit conditions so that this can be done as drafted.

Currently, 3RR has the space, financial capability and compassion to support up to 3 more Zebras. More importantly, another Zebra (or two) would greatly benefit their resident (solo) Zebra mare (Patti).

3RR has decades of exceptional accredited history in animal care without escape, injury or citation. They remain accredited by GFAS and ASA. They are the only accredited exotic animal sanctuary in HI. Offering sanctuary space to animals in need is what they, as an accredited sanctuary does.

As mentioned earlier, there is already a rescued zebra at 3RR (Patti) so the Keepers there are experts in providing safe, stimulating healthy homes. The conditions Patti is missing the companionship of a herd member since the loss of her equine companion (Teak) to Cushing's last month. Being a Zebra, Patti's best option for a companion we be that of one with another Zebra. Although the equine pairing of Patti worked, it was not optimal. 3RR as been a sanctuary to many equines. Past Zebra rescues were Oreo (pregnant mare), Tootsie (her foal), and Suzi (Patti's initial companion). Past horses were Mr. Big and Voodoo who were pets and not rescues. And of course until recently, Teak.

All the residents of 3RR receive exceptional care including enrichment, nutrition, healthcare and psychological care. There is no breeding at 3RR and all male animals are surgically rendered sterile. To ensure Patti's Psychological health and well being, it is critical to pair her with another Zebra for companionship.

I have seen firsthand that 3RR habitats are already in existence and i believe they have been recently inspected by HI DOA to verify that they meet or exceed even the newly proposed, increased, fencing requirements. Those areas will provide safe stable environments for the animals and allow them to be integrated into social groups with other 3RR residents. The sanctuary is not going to be overextending to accept these animals nor would accepting them put other sanctuary residents at risk. That is not the way of 3RR.

At no time are the animals at 3RR used in entertainment or promoted to be pets. 3RR teaches that these are wild animals and all primates are not pets. All materials published by 3RR clearly state that they are

**Clingan, Marci**

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**From:** shari rooks <sharirooks@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 8:51 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** Ann and Norm Goody  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] THREE RING RANCH, ZEBRA REQUEST

To: HDOA Advisory Board

We understand that Three ring Ranch (3RR) has applied for an import permit to accept up to 3 more zebras to their sanctuary and that an update to the permit conditions needs to be drafted to make granting the permit possible.

**Please let me go on record requesting the HDOA Advisory Board and the State of Hawai'i to do whatever is necessary to approve 3RR's application and grant the import permit without delay.**

My husband and I have been long time supporters as well as frequent volunteers at this fabulous sanctuary and know first-hand that 3RR has decades of accredited history in exceptional animal care. They are accredited by GFAS and ASA. They are also the only accredited exotic animal sanctuary in Hawai'i. We believe they have recently been inspected by HI DOA to verify that they meet or exceed even the newly proposed, increased, fencing requirements in their habitats. Offering sanctuary to animals in need is what they do, and they currently have the space, the financial capability, the species knowledge and above all the knowledgeable, compassionate staff to accept and support up to 3 more zebras.

The current (solo) zebra "Patti" is missing the companionship of a herd member and the best possible companion for her would be another zebra. 3RR has provided exceptional care, including enrichment, nutrition, health and psychological care for 3 other zebras and several equine rescues over the years. It is in Patti's best interest to pair her with another zebra companion.

3RR also provides educational programs for pre-vet students and local youth. A resident herd of zebra would enhance their learning through caring for the herd and observing social dynamics. This enriching experience would give the students an opportunity to broaden their scope of knowledge. For the residential Pre-vet students this is an example of the advantage they have when applying to any veterinary program.

We believe that 3RR's excellent "keepers" under the expert guidance of Drs. Ann and Norm Goody make it the absolute best sanctuary for each resident animal because each one receives a specific diet, exercise plan, appropriate, safe habitats and proper human interaction for their specific species. All the animals we have seen over the years of volunteering simply thrive there because it is heaven on earth for each and everyone of them! Please permit a few more zebras to thrive there.

In closing, I respectfully request that the State of Hawai'i act swiftly and grant approval to 3RR's permit request.

Mahalo,

Shari S. Rooks  
sharirooks@gmail.com

## Clingan, Marci

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**From:** Ken L. <7255rckl@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 18, 2023 7:32 AM  
**To:** HDOA.PQ.TESTIMONY  
**Cc:** animals  
**Subject:** SUPPORT FOR 3RR ZEBRA PERMIT

Having been a volunteer at 3RR for 6 or 7 years ending in 2013, I can report that one of my duties was the feeding of and the socializing with zebras.

The mother lived to be 27 or 28 years old, an all time or nearly all time record. My greatest joy was socializing with "the zebes." As a herd animal they rely heavily on being around each other.

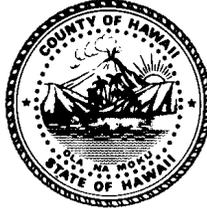
Being at the safety of the sanctuary they developed remarkable personalities. Importantly, 3RR proved to be of more than sufficient size for the zebras to live with each other as well as adapting well to other animals around them.

My years of volunteering at 3RR taught me how important ALL of the animals are to Ann and Norm. I can unequivacally say that the addition of more zebras will be a fantastic addition for the health and well being of all zebras involved, especially for the solo zebra there now.

Regards,

Ken Larson

**Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba**  
Council Member, District 8, N. Kona



Office: (808) 323-4280  
Email: [holeka.inaba@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:holeka.inaba@hawaiicounty.gov)

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i  
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

October 16, 2023

State of Hawai'i Department of Agriculture  
Plan and Animal Quarantine Branch  
Advisory Committee on Plants and Animals Via Email: [hdoa.pq.testimony@hawaii.gov](mailto:hdoa.pq.testimony@hawaii.gov)

Re: Support for an Import Permit for 3 Zebras at Three Ring Ranch

On behalf of myself and Council District 8 in North Kona, I am writing to express strong support for Three Ring Ranch's petition for an Import Permit for up to three Zebras from the State of Hawai'i Department of Agriculture per the conditions as drafted in the petition.

Three Ring Ranch has decades of exceptional accredited history in animal care without escape, injury or citation and remains accredited by GFAS and ASA as the only accredited exotic animal sanctuary in Hawai'i.

Three Ring Ranch has experts in providing safe, stimulating healthy homes, and all conditions given since its last import have been carefully adhered to. Three Ring Ranch animals receive exceptional care including enrichment, nutrition, healthcare and psychological care.

The Ranch has the space and financial ability to care for the animals and have been recently inspected by HI DOA to verify that they meet or exceed even the newly proposed, increased, fencing requirements. Lastly, Three Ring Ranch animals are not used for entertainment or promoted to be pets, and they teach that these are wild animals and that all primates are not pets.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

---

DR. HOLEKA GORO INABA

HGI/wpb



**Rebecca Richard, DVM**

Wildlife Veterinary Services

30606 La Sonora Dr.

Malibu, California 90265

310.912.1274, zoovet2001@gmail.com

October 18, 2023

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of Three Ring Ranch's application for permitting for up to three zebra. As a practicing zoological and wildlife veterinarian, I have worked with many sanctuaries, and I can attest that 3RR provides exceptional care for their resident animals. The facility has experience with the species, which can be difficult to manage, and animal care staff is familiar with enrichment and safe husbandry practices. Animals will not be bred, and facility management has allocated funding to provide lifetime care for a new collection of animals. Equids are herd animals and need companionship for psychological and physical health, so it is imperative that the permit allow for a group of up to three animals to create a small but safe herd.

Animals at 3RR are not sold or exhibited as pets. Very few facilities will accept zebra and there is a need for a safe home for these animals. I encourage the Hawaii Department of Agriculture to allow a permit for three zebras for this excellent facility to proceed through processing.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Richard, DVM". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rebecca Richard, DVM