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MICHAEL D. WILSON, CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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DEPT. OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION  
33 SOUTH KING STREET, 6TH FLOOR  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

REF:HP-AMK

JUL - 6 1995

Ms. Mililani B. Trask, Kia'aina  
Ka Lahui Hawai'i  
P.O. Box 4964  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

LOG NO: 14906 ✓  
DOC NO: 9506RC52

Dear Ms. Trask:

**SUBJECT: Proposal for Cultural Review Committee for Mauna Kea Summit Area  
Mauna Kea, Hamakua, Hawai'i**

Thank you for your letter of June 2, 1995. We have no objection to the formation of a cultural review committee for projects related to the Mauna Kea summit area. It seems like an excellent idea.

Any land altering projects in the Mauna Kea summit area that entails federal involvement are currently supposed to obtain input from native Hawaiian individuals and groups on possible traditional cultural properties of significance, impacts and proposed mitigation plans as part of the National Historic Preservation Act. We are striving to obtain this input for state projects and permits without federal funding too, as part of the State's Chapter 6E review. Typically, this process first involves archaeologically documenting historic properties -- included for this survey process is consultation with knowledgeable Hawaiians. Then input is obtained on the completeness of the inventory, to ensure that all historic properties (including traditional cultural places) are properly identified and evaluated. Proposed mitigation (preservation, data recovery, etc.) is also evaluated at this stage. Having a cultural review committee consisting of representative Hawaiian groups and local Hawaiian communities in place should be quite useful. It would expedite reviews by having a review body in place, and it would improve the cultural sensitivity of the reviews.

Our Historic Preservation Division is in the initial stages of assisting the University of Hawaii's Institute for Astronomy develop a management plan for the historic properties on the mountain. This summer our Division will be involved in exact mapping of all known site locations and will be conducting survey of areas not yet surveyed. Having a cultural committee in place to assist with this management plan would also be quite useful.

M. Trask  
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Please contact our Historic Preservation Division on moving forward with this idea of a cultural review committee. Holly McEldowney (587-0008) or Nathan Napoka (587-0040) can be contacted. They will then work with you and the University of Hawaii's Institute of Astronomy to set up this committee. One of the concerns will clearly be to operate such a committee with minimal costs due to State fiscal constraints.

Aloha,

*Michael D. Wilson*  
MICHAEL D. WILSON Chairperson  
Dept. of Land & Natural Resources

c: Dr. Don Hall, Director, Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Nelson Ho, Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter  
Governor Cayetano (Gov. ref. 95-616510 & 95-613716)