

Big Island Mountain Bike Association
318 East Kāwili street, Hilo Hawai'i 96720

To: Board of Land and Natural Resources

RE: BLNR Agenda, item C1: Supportive Testimony

Aloha mai kākou,

On behalf of the Big Island Mountain Bike Association (BIMBA), I would like to mahalo and acknowledge the Department of Forest and Wildlife (DOFAW), the Nā Ala Hele Trails program, the Nā Ala Hele trail council Hawai'i Island, and the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) for recognizing the Kūlanihāko'i Mountain Bicycle Park, located in the Waiākea Forest Reserve just south of Hilo, as an asset o the community and its well-being.

Since 1989 our group has been working in this timber management area clearing roads and singletrack trails. Over the years this trail system has brought many different groups together as a way to enjoy and celebrate outdoor life through exercise and comradery. BIMBA is greatly honored to become the official partner with DOFAW to manage and maintain this bicycle park. This official status that is being granted to BIMBA will not be taken lightly. Our group has been and will continue to be committed to the perpetuation and inclusion of these trails for our community. Our group lives through this 'ōlelo no'eau (Hawaiian proverb), "E mālama kākou i ka 'āina, e mālama ka 'āina iā kākou." When we take care of the land, the land takes care of us.

Na'u me ka ha'aha'a loa,

Na Chris Seymour

Executive Director, BIMBA