

[EXTERNAL] Historic Preservation Division


From John Kahawaii <ahukinialaa@icloud.com>

Date Tue 4/21/2026 6:51 AM

To DLNR.BLNR.Testimony <blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha BLNR,

I would like to submit this testimony on behalf of Malama KAKANILUA, Hooponopono O Makena, & Pele Defense Fund.

In the last 5-years, these groups have advocated for Iwi Kupuna stored in boxes  at the SHPD Maui office.

Five boxes of remains were laid to rest discarded from their original resting places. These remains covered the Wailuku Moku area of Waiale road.

And various areas listed in this photo copy:

LIST OF RE-INTERMENT IWI KUPUNAS AT NA WAI EHA CEMETERY

BOX 1- Iwi kupuna disinterred from Hawaiian Cement on 12/12/2011: (1) L wawae (2) R wawae (1) Pelvis (1) Po'o (2) Lf lima (1) Rt lima (1) Vertebrae (1) iwi'ao'ao (1) ka'ei pectoral (1) Rt lima (1) Lf lima (1) Femur (1) Unidentified
SIHP#: None

BOX 3- Iwi Kupuna disinterred from DLNR HPP disinterment date unknown, method unknown

3C- Iwi Kupuna SIHP#: 50-04-1812 little pieces of iwi mixed in one a me ka lepo located at burial #3 in bag 4 of 7, no other information

3D- Iwi kupuna SIHP#: 50-09-4000 little pieces of iwi mixed in one a me ka lepo

3E- Iwi kupuna SIHP#: 50-09-3525 little pieces of iwi mixed in one a me ka lepo

3F- Iwi kupuna SIHP#: 50-09-1172 little pieces of iwi mixed in one a me ka lepo

BOX 8C: Iwi kupuna disinterred on March 2, 2006, Kahului Harbor, Maui (1) makua me na apama iwi

BOX 8F- Iwi Kupuna disinterred from Waiehu Beach Road (1) large po'o found by Kealana on TMK#2-3-3-001:001 dated September 11, 2019
SIHP#: None

BOX 8G- Iwi kupuna disinterred at 378 Neki Place, Kahului Beach Rd. Maui Y HATA (4) pieces of niho and iwi fragments SIHP#: 50-5-04-587 found on 03/05/2006 by beach walker Ric Ginda

BOX 10- Iwi kupuna disinterred at Ka Hale A Ke Ola, 670 Waiale Rd. Wailuku, Maui TMK#3-8-46:21 (23) bags of iwi mixed with one a me ka lepo in 1996 & 1997

BOX 11- Iwi kupuna disinterred at Ka Hale A Ke Ola, 670 Waiale Rd, Wailuku (14) bags of iwi mixed with one a me ka lepo found in 1996 & 1997

BOX 14- Iwi kupuna disinterred at Nakamura Parcel, 1218 Lower Main Street, Wailuku TMK#3402-3404 contain a piece of an iwi ao'ao, umauma, 'oiwi and pieces of the po'o

BOX 18C- Iwi kupuna disinterred at Kahului Resurfacing Project DOT (1) makua me ka iwi aoao hema found on 12/16/2008 on TMK#: 3-7-001 & 002 reference SIHP#: 50-50

END EXHIBIT A

[EXTERNAL] Re: Historic Preservation Division

From John Kahawaii <ahukinialaa@icloud.com>
Date Tue 4/21/2026 7:02 AM
To DLNR.BLNR.Testimony <blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Letter continued:

With community collaboration with the Maui Burial council, the Royal Order of Kamehameha Kahekili chapter 4, SHPD Maui office, and the Aha Moku of Wailuku, the burials were interred at Na Wai Eha Cemetery.


Burials do not deserve inappropriate storage boxes at the SHPD Maui office for 10, 20 or 30 years.

SHPD Maui office, or any other related department, should never store burials in their offices, or in their homes, or closets.

Stop these heinous acts of discrimination, and after life brutality of humanity.

John Kahawaii
Malama KAKANILUA

Sent from my iPhone

> On Apr 21, 2026, at 6:48 AM, John Kahawaii <ahukinialaa@icloud.com> wrote:
>
> Aloha BLNR,
>
> I would like to submit this testimony on behalf of Malama KAKANILUA, Hooponopono O Makena,
> & Pele Defense Fund.
>
> In the last 5-years, these groups have advocated for Iwi Kupuna stored in boxes  at the SHPD Maui office.
> Five boxes of remains were laid to rest discarded from their original resting places. These remains covered the Wailuku Moku area of Waiale road.
> And various areas listed in this photo copy:
> <image0.jpeg>
>
>
> Sent from my iPhone

[EXTERNAL] Support for Agenda Item I-1 (Petition for Rulemaking)

From Stacey Alapai <staceyalapai@gmail.com>
Date Tue 4/21/2026 10:56 AM
To DLNR.BLNR.Testimony <blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov>
Cc info@malamakakanilua.org <info@malamakakanilua.org>

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support of the petition for rulemaking filed March 25 submitted by Mālama Kakanilua, Ho'oponopono o Mākena, and Pele Defense Fund. This is agenda item I-1 on the 4/24/26 Agenda.

I have copied some of the more significant changes to the bottom of this email. Please support this effort to improve these processes that protect our history and sacredness of our iwi kupuna to be able to rest in peace.

Mahalo,
Stacey Alapai

The revised rules would improve necessary protections of Iwi Kupuna through some of the following changes:

Informed consultation: consultation with knowledgeable community members cannot mean just sending an email and then using their names in project documents. You have to inform people about what may be affected, how you're going to use their information, and provide them with records of the consultation process.

Qualifications for archaeological consultants: Currently anyone can call themselves an archaeologist and go about handling sensitive historic properties, including iwi kupuna. Proposed rules also say you can't have a permit to sell archaeological services if you're going to just delegate archaeological work to your office staff.

Kupuna iwi organizations – when SHPD cannot identify lineal or cultural descendants of Kānaka Maoli iwi, it may decide not consult with anyone. To address this situation, Petitioners proposed having SHPD at least consult kupuna iwi organizations, non-commercial community groups with a record of protecting iwi kupuna.

Consult if iwi kupuna may be impacted – in sandy areas, lava tubes, and others places where iwi kupuna may be buried, Kānaka Maoli descendants or organizations must be consulted about protections. Currently, the rules allow archaeologists to identify where iwi are “likely” to be but because iwi are not actually revealed, burial councils do not have jurisdiction. Proposed rule will allow more protection for iwi.

Stale archaeological surveys: even where project have changed, or multiple iwi kupuna have been unearthed, developers can continue to rely on old archaeological inventory surveys (“AIS”). This means the burial council lacks jurisdiction over those iwi kupuna. Proposed rule requires updated AISs where the project changed or subsequent findings show the area is more sensitive than previously

believed, and authorizes a process for changing SHPD approvals when the scope or significance of the project changes.