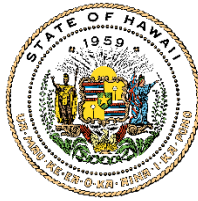


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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

November 22, 2024

Michael Cain, Administrator  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands  
1151 Punchbowl St. #131  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Attn. Rachel Beasley  
Email: rachel.beasley@hawaii.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
Project No. 2021PR00975  
Doc. No. 2411SN13  
Archaeology

Aloha Mr. Cain:

**SUBJECT: Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 6E-8 Historic Preservation Review – Caltech Submillimeter Observatory Decommissioning Project Archaeological Monitoring Report Ka'oho Ahupua'a, Hāmākua District, Island of Hawai'i TMK: (3) 4-4-015:009 por.**

This letter provides the State Historic Preservation Division's (SHPD's) review of the archaeological monitoring report (AMR) titled, *An Archaeological Monitoring Report for the Caltech Submillimeter Observatory Decommissioning Project on Mauna Kea, TMK: (3) 4-4-015:009 (por.), Ka'oho Ahupua'a, Hāmākua District, Island of Hawai'i* (Namnama and Clark July 2024). SHPD received the draft AMR on August 7, 2024. Previously, SHPD accepted an archaeological monitoring plan (AMP; Barna 2022) for the project on December 16, 2021 (Project No. 2021PR00975, Doc. No. 2112SN11). SHPD requested archaeological monitoring be conducted for identification purposes during the initial ground disturbance and subsequent deconstruction, removal, and restoration of the project area to decommission the Caltech Submillimeter Observatory.

Caltech's proposal to decommission the observatory involves a comprehensive plan to remove all existing structures and restore the site to its original condition prior to telescope construction. This includes dismantling the observatory building, outbuilding, water pump shed, and electrical equipment, as well as all underground components such as foundations, cesspools, and utilities.

ASM Affiliates conducted archaeological monitoring activities for all ground disturbing activities on September 13, 2022, April 18, 2024, and May 28 through June 28, 2024. No archaeological sites or subsurface features were encountered during the project and, as a result, no historic properties were affected by the ground-disturbing activities associated with the decommissioning.

The AMR report (Namnama and Clark, July 2024) meets the requirements of HAR §13-279-5. **It is accepted.** Please send one hard copy and a text-searchable PDF copy, each clearly marked Final, along with a copy of this acceptance letter to the Kapolei SHPD office, attention SHPD Library. Also, send one hard copy, clearly marked Final, along with a copy of this acceptance letter to the Hilo Office, attention Sean Nāleimaile. Lastly, please upload a text-searchable PDF copy of the report to HICRIS Project No. 2021PR00975 in response to the request, and a PDF copy of the report to lehua.k.soares@hawaii.gov.

Michael Cain  
November 22, 2024  
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**SHPD hereby notifies** the OCCL that the archaeological monitoring report is accepted and pursuant to HAR §13-275-9(c) and HAR §13-275-10(3), the work described within the archaeological monitoring plan has been successfully concluded and documented in the archaeological monitoring report. The HRS §6E historic preservation review process is completed.

Please contact Sean Nāleimaile, at (808) 933-7651 or at [sean.p.naleimaile@hawaii.gov](mailto:sean.p.naleimaile@hawaii.gov), for any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Aloha,



Jessica L. Puff  
Administrator, State Historic Preservation Division  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Greg Chun, [gchun711@hawaii.edu](mailto:gchun711@hawaii.edu)  
Jim Hayes, [jim@psi-hi.com](mailto:jim@psi-hi.com)  
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