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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
601 KAMOKILA BOULEVARD, ROOM 555
KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707

April 16, 2007

Mr. Chris Yuen, Director
County of Hawaii Planning Department
101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

LOG NO: 2007.1216
DOC NO: 0704JP20
Archaeology

Dear Mr. Yuen:

**SUBJECT: Chapter 6E-42 Historic Preservation Review
Archaeological and Cultural Concerns Regarding the Development of the Kona
Sea Ranch Subdivision
Kukuioopae Ahupua'a, South Kona District, Island of Hawaii
TMK: (3) 8-7-11:001**

We have recently been informed of some issues regarding the development of the Kona Sea Ranch Subdivision. We have previously reviewed an NPDES and recommended that an archaeological inventory survey be conducted (LOG NO: 2003.2082/ DOC NO: 0310JK15). At that time we accepted the archaeological inventory survey report that encompassed a portion of the subject project to allow the placement of a road corridor. It was our understanding that a full survey of the entire parcel would be completed prior to any further work.

Specifically, there have been two archaeological investigations on the proposed roadway corridor. An archaeological assessment investigated a proposed roadway corridor that measured approximately 600 feet by 40 feet and no historic properties were located (LOG NO: 2003.1176/ DOC NO: 0307PM11 and LOG NO: 2003.1872/ DOC NO: 0309MM27). An archaeological inventory survey was conducted in the same proposed roadway corridor that measured approximately 3,550 feet by 150-554 feet and three historic properties were documented (LOG NO: 2003.1176/ DOC NO: 0307PM11 and LOG NO: 2003.1872/ DOC NO: 0309MM27).

We believe that additional historic properties may be identified within the proposed subdivision. This area is likely to have once been the location of pre-Contact farming, perhaps with scattered habitation and/or ceremonial sites possibly consisting of pre-Contact *heiau*, rock walls, rock terraces, rock mounds, petroglyphs (rock carvings), modified rock outcrops, rock alignments, overhangs, caves, lava tubes and blisters, as well as post-Contact historic properties.

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We understand that there is a disclosure in each property deed indicating that archaeological inventory survey of the individual parcels is the responsibility of each individual future property owner. However, it has come to my attention that some landowners may have received county grubbing and grading permits without first completing the required archaeological survey work. I would appreciate your verification as to whether the County of Hawaii has issued any permits beyond that for the placement of this project's corridor road.

Moreover, in order to avoid any negative effects on any possible historic properties I am requesting your assistance in ensuring that the archaeological survey work is completed for each individual lot prior to the issuance of any county permit. We would appreciate the opportunity to review all future permit applications regarding the Kona Sea Ranch Subdivision project including any permits requested by individual lot owners.

Thank you very much for your attention to this issue. Please direct any questions or concerns to the State Historic Preservation Division at (808) 243-5169 or (808) 243-4641.

Aloha,



Melanie Chinen, Administrator
State Historic Preservation Division

JP:

c: Bruce McClure, County of Hawai'i Department of Public Works
Peter T. Young, Chair, Board of Land and Natural Resources
Keola Lindsey, Culture and History Branch