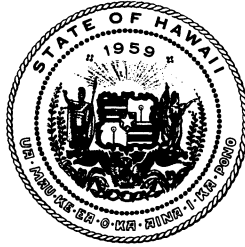


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DEPT. COMM. NO. 21

December 27, 2005

The Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 003
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit to you a copy of our report, *Follow-Up Audit of the Management of Mauna Kea and the Mauna Kea Science Reserve*.

We found that while the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources have implemented many of our 1998 audit recommendations, some management areas still need improvement. Critical management issues, such as the lack of administrative rule-making authority, weak permit monitoring, and indeterminate management plans, continue to hamper the university's efforts to protect Mauna Kea's resources. Additionally, the department still needs to intensify its efforts to protect Mauna Kea's natural and cultural resources.

We hope that the report will assist you in reviewing the issues examined. We will place the report on our website, www.state.hi.us/auditor, and release it to the public and press, on Wednesday, December 28, 2005.

Sincerely,

Marion M. Higa
State Auditor

Enclosure

c: ✓ Paul Kawaguchi, Senate Clerk