Table 1.1
EARLIEST RECORDED PLACE NAMES FOR THE MAUNA KEÀ SUMMIT PLATEAU REGION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Documentation</th>
<th>Summit</th>
<th>Waiau and Lake</th>
<th>Poliahu</th>
<th>Adze Quarry</th>
<th>Within Summit Plateau</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sect. North Sect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiltse Map (1862)</td>
<td>Pond Poliahu</td>
<td>Pond Poliahu</td>
<td>Kaluahakai</td>
<td>Laimakeloa</td>
<td>Kamahakalau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boundary Commission Book for Hawaii (1873)</td>
<td>Puu o kukahauula (highest peak)</td>
<td>Waiau (water in gulch)</td>
<td>Poliahu (on side of the mountain)</td>
<td>Kaluakaakoi (a cave... stone adzes)</td>
<td>Lainikepua (a large ahu)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waiau (pond of water)</td>
<td>Poliahu (cave where Lilinoe lived)</td>
<td>Kaluakaakoi (two times)</td>
<td>Kamakahalau (a hill)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waiau (three times)</td>
<td>Poliahu (five times)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kamakahalau (one time)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES: Place names are grouped only by similar name or probable location, as most could not be consistently or reliably correlated with specific topographic features. Descriptive characteristics (e.g., hill, pond, pali, etc.) are listed with each place name when given in the native testimonies. Names mentioned without descriptions are listed with the total number of times that name appears in the Humuula testimonies.
Table 1.2.  
CORRELATIONS BETWEEN NAMED CINDER CONES (OR PEAKS) AND AN ADZE QUARRY CAVE  
AS DESIGNATED ON FIVE MAPS BETWEEN 1884 AND 1956, MAUNA KEA QUADRANGLE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maps</th>
<th>Place Names of the Summit Cones</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1884-91</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyons</td>
<td>Summit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kukahauula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Summit2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander</td>
<td>Poliahu2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waiau Waiau2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lilinoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925-26</td>
<td>Summit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey</td>
<td>Puhu Poliahu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lake Waiau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waiau Crater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>Puhu Kea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregory and Wentworth</td>
<td>Macrae Cone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Puhu Poliahu Cone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Goodrich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lake Puu Puu Puu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lilinoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Puhu Wekiu3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Geological Survey</td>
<td>Puhu Kea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hauoki3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Puhu Poliahu Poliahu2 Pohaku2 Kea3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lake Puu Puu Puu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lilinoe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maps</th>
<th>Place Names in the Summit Plateau Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1884-91</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyons</td>
<td>Keonehehee2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keanakakoi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Keonehehee2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander</td>
<td>Keanakakoi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925-26</td>
<td>Keonehehee2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey</td>
<td>Puhu Kookoolau Keanakakoi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>Keonehehee2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregory and Wentworth</td>
<td>Keanakakoi Keonehehee2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Puu Mahoe Puu Poepoe Puu Ala Puu Hoaka Puu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Makanaka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Keonehehee2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Geological Survey</td>
<td>Puhu Kookoolau Keanakakoi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Puu Mahoe Puu Poepoe Puu Ala Puu Hoaka Puu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Makanaka Puu Red Hill Papalekoki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keonehehee2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keanakakoi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Some place names and accompanying notes on this map appear to have been written at different times and/or by different people. These variations are in keeping with the map's title (i.e., Information Map) and time span given on the label, but they raise the possibility that names from different time periods were added.

2Names reported by Alexander to be "genuine native names" with the exception of Poliahu. He attached the name Poliahu to this "nameless peak" in honor of the "demigoddess" who appears in the "Legend of Laieikawai." In Alexander's table, the highest peak is listed as Kukahauula, although this name does not appear on his 1892 map (Preston 1895:596).

3Names given to L.W. Bryan "by the old Hawaiians in the early 1920's" (Schmitt 1974a).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keanakako'i</td>
<td>the adze-making cave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keonehehe'e</td>
<td>the sliding sand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Waiau</td>
<td>swirling water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papalekoki</td>
<td>no literal translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Ala</td>
<td>trail cone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Hau Kea</td>
<td>white snow peak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Hau'oki</td>
<td>frosty peak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Hoaka</td>
<td>crescent cone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Kea</td>
<td>white peak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Ko'oko'olau</td>
<td>beggar-tick hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Lilinoe</td>
<td>mists (see Myths and Legends)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Mahoe</td>
<td>twin cones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Makanaka</td>
<td>no literal translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Poepeoe</td>
<td>round cone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Pohaku</td>
<td>rocky peak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Poli'ahu</td>
<td>garment for the bosom (referring to snow)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(see Myths and Legends)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Waiau</td>
<td>swirling water peak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pu'u Wekiu</td>
<td>summit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SOURCES:** *Place Names of Hawaii* (Pukui, Elbert, and Mookini 1974) and the Department of Planning and Economic Development Memorandum on Official Names (Marks 1974b).

Note the descriptive nature of most names applied to cinder cones since 1925-26 as opposed to the more obscure or uncertain meanings of older place names.
MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 13, 1974

TO: Mr. E. H. Bryan, Jr.
   Dr. Samuel Elbert
   Mr. Richard Paglinawan
   Mr. Kazutaka Saiki
   Mr. Robert C. Schmitt
   Mr. J. O. Kilmartin
   Mr. Libert K. Landgraf
   Mr. L. W. Bryan
   Mr. Donald J. Orth
   Honorable Shunichi Kimura
   Mr. Sunao Kido

FROM: SHELLEY M. MARK

SUBJECT: Official names of cones on Mauna Kea

This is to inform you of my decision regarding the names of ten cones atop Mauna Kea. I am establishing these names for use on official maps, documents and signs of the State of Hawaii, in accordance with the authority delegated to me by Governor John A. Burns on December 1967.

A request for official action on these names was made by Mr. J. O. Kilmartin, formerly of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. The matter was carefully studied by the Advisory Committee on Geographic Names, which relied heavily on recommendations made by Mr. L. W. Bryan and Mr. Libert K. Landgraf, both of whom (like Mr. Kilmartin) are well acquainted with the area in question.

All ten cones are located at or near the top of Mauna Kea, the highest mountain in the State, in Kaohe ahupua'a, Hamakua district, Hawaii County. On State tax maps they appear in the Third Division, Zone 4, Section 4, Plat 15.

The ten names hereby approved are as follows:

Puu Ala: elev. 3,706 m. (12,160 ft.); 19°50'45" N., 155°26'47" W. The name means "trail cone."

Puu Hau Kea: elev. 4,097 m. (13,441 ft.); 19°49'00" N., 155°28'27" W. The name means "white snow peak". Variant: Goodrich Cone (after the Rev. Joseph Goodrich, first non-Hawaiian to reach the top of Mauna Kea, in 1823).

Puu Hau'oki: elev. 4,157 m. (13,640 ft.); 19°49'45" N., 155°28'30" W. Translated as "frosty peak". Variant: Macrae Cone, after James Macrae, a botanist who visited the summit in 1825.
Memorandum - Cones on Mauna Kea

March 13, 1974

Puu Hoaka: elev. 3,680 m. (12,075 ft.); 19°51'17" N., 155°26'25" W.
Translated as "crescent cone."

Puu Kea: elev. 4,190 m. (13,747 ft.); 19°49'43" N., 155°28'18" W.
Translated as "white peak."

Puu Mahoe: elev. 4,009 m. (13,154 ft.); 19°50'20" N., 155°27'50" W.
Translated as "twin cones."

Puu Poepoe: elev. 3,864 m. (12,679 ft.); 19°50'15" N., 155°26'57" W.
Translated as "round cone."

Puu Pohaku: elev. 4,019 m. (13,186 ft.); 19°49'37" N., 155°29'40" W.
Translated as "rocky peak." Variant: Douglas Cone, after David Douglas, the botanist who climbed Mauna Kea in 1834.

Puu Waiau: elev. 4,011 m. (13,160 ft.); 19°48'42" N., 155°28'57" W.
Translated as "swirling water peak."

Puu Wokiu: elev. 4,205 m. (13,796 ft.); 19°49' N., 155°28' W.
Translated as "summit." Variant: Kukahaula.

SMM/hn
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
Wednesday, December 16, 2009
9:30 a.m.
Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building
Office of Planning, 6th Floor Conference Room
235 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Review Names for the Anaehoomalu Quadrangle
3. Review Names for the Kalalua Quadrangle
4. Review and Discussion on the Kukahauula New Name Proposal
5. Old and New Business
6. Adjourn

If you require special assistance or auxiliary aids or services to participate in the meeting (i.e., sign language interpreter, wheelchair accessibility, or parking designated for the disabled), please contact Craig Tasaka at 587-2894, 48 hours prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made.
Ref. No. P-12861  

December 7, 2009

To: Members, Hawaii Board on Geographic Names

From: Craig Tasaka, Acting Chair

Subject: Meeting of the Hawaii Board on Geographic Names

A meeting of the Hawaii Board on Geographic Names will be held on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the 6th Floor Conference Room of the Leiopapa A Kamehameha Building (235 South Beretania Street).

Enclosed for your information and review is the meeting agenda, the spreadsheets for the Anaehoomalu and Kalalua Quadrangles and revised name application and draft board position on the Kukahauula proposal.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you will not be able to attend the meeting. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at 587-2894.

Enclosures
HAWAI‘I GEOGRAPHIC NAME APPLICATION

SEND APPLICATION TO:
State of Hawai‘i Board on Geographic Names
c/o Office of Planning, Department of Business,
Economic Development & Tourism
P. O. Box 2359
Honolulu, HI 96804

ACTION REQUESTED:
☐ Spelling Correction ☐ Name Form Change
☐ Controversial Name ☐ Name Change
☐ Obscure Hawaiian Name ☒ New Name

Recommended Name: Kukahau‘ula

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION: (Attach separate sheet(s) as necessary)

Island:
☐ Ni‘ihau ☐ Kauai ☐ O‘ahu ☐ Moloka‘i ☐ Maui ☐ Lāna‘i ☐ Kaho‘olawe ☒ Hawai‘i ☐ Other __________

Coordinates (Select ONE): If coordinates are not known, go to 'Feature Description'.
☐ Tax Map Key: Zone _____ Section _____ Plat _____ Parcel _____ Other ____________________

☐ Lat/Long (dd): Latitude __________ Longitude __________

☐ Lat/Long (dms): Latitude __________ Longitude __________

☐ UTM (NAD83): Northing 2193880 Easting 241180 Zone 5

Feature Description: Describe feature and include location in relation to existing named features, especially if 'Coordinates' are not provide.
The summit cluster of Mauna Kea is a distinct, unique geological and topographical feature composed of 3 cones (Pu‘u Hau‘oki, Pu‘u Kea, and Pu‘u Wékiu). Recognition of this differentiation (cone cluster) integrates historical and traditional place names with modern designations and usage.

SOURCE DOCUMENTATION: (Attach separate sheet(s) as necessary)

Source(s) using 'Recommended Name':

Source(s) for variant spellings of the 'Recommended Name' or variant names for the same feature. List the variant name as well as the source.

Documentation or personal knowledge on origin, spelling, and meaning of the recommended name or reason for change. If a new name, state basis for knowledge that feature is unnamed, reason for naming, and why the recommended name was chosen.

See original application and highlighted attachments.

CONTACT INFORMATION: (Attach separate sheet(s) as necessary)

Applicant(s): Identify 'Primary' contact with a *. *Paula Helfrich & Kanoe Suganuma Wilson
Students, Department of Anthropology
University of Hawai‘i Hilo

Primary Contact Address, Daytime Phone, email.
c/o Dr. Peter Mills, UHH Anthropology
441 Lani‘kaula St., Hilo, HI 96720
(808) 937-4417  helfrich.paula@gmail.com

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: 30 Nov 2008
Initial Meeting Date __________
Final Decision Date __________
The Hawai‘i Board on Geographic Names (HBGN) would like to endorse the attached application for a new name, Kūkahau‘ula, shown below in Figure 1. It is located near the summit of Maunakea and encompasses a cluster of four (4) pu‘u (hills/peaks), Pu‘u Hau‘oki, Pu‘u Kea, and Pu‘u Wēkiu and an un-named pu‘u that is the site for three (3) telescopes. According to the joint applicants, Paula Helfrich and Kanoe Suganuma Wilson who were students at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo Department of Anthropology when they began this application process and are now graduated, this summit area is a distinct, unique geological and topographical feature traditionally known as Kūkahau‘ula.

Figure 1. Planimetric view of Kukahau‘ula in the blue outlined area.
Their archival research reveals several map sources including,


The 1891 Lyons and Baldwin sources are included below as Figures 2 and 3, respectively.

Figure 2. Scan of a portion of the 1891 Hawai‘i Government Survey Map for Kaohe and Humuula. The image shows the name Kukahauula (a variant of the recommended spelling, Kūkahau‘ula) as the Mauna Kea Summit Cone.

Figure 3. Portion of Baldwin sketch of Mauna Kea from Pu‘uhuluhulu indicating the summit area as Puuokukahauula (a variant of the recommended spelling, Kūkahau‘ula).
Their other archival documentation include references in:


Perhaps the most convincing document they presented was a letter written in 1999 by Don Hibbard, the Administrator of the Hawai‘i State Historic Preservation Division at that time, to Dr. Robert A McLaren, the Interim Director for the Institute for Astronomy at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa at that time. The letter was in response to the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) to build four (4) to six (6) “outrigger” telescopes on Pu‘u Hau‘oki. It discusses the cultural significance of the area including a detailed presentation of the name Kūkahau‘ula as derived from stories, maps, and boundary testimonies. It also provides arguments for the location of the name being the group of cones near the summit, see Attachment 1 (especially page 2 last paragraph thru first paragraph page 5).

Lastly, According to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed TMT Observatory, the State Historic Preservation Officer has designated this area as a Traditional Cultural Property (TCP), specifically SPHD Site 21438. The Draft EIS further states, “ATCP is a property or a place eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places because of its association with cultural practices and beliefs that are (1) rooted in the history of a community, and (2) are important to maintaining the continuity of that community’s traditional beliefs and practices.” This Board understands that National recognition of this TCP is forthcoming.

Although this Board acknowledges the nesting of significant place names as a Hawaiian cultural practice, it recognizes that in this particular case the cluster of cones near the summit of Mauna Kea has always been known as Kūkahau‘ula to the people of Hawai‘i Island. Thus the HBGN joins the applicants in requesting the new name Kūkahau‘ula be officially recognized as the name for the area delineated in blue in Figures 1 and 4.
Figure 4 - Southwest perspective of Kūkahau'ula in blue outline.
Mauna Kea Summit name change:
Kūkahauʻula
We are recommending that the $4120^m$ contour line as the demarcation point for the name change (please refer to map). This area encompasses the three puu, Hauoki, Kea and Wekiu that are the features we are looking at renaming to the traditional name.
Kūkahauʻula

- According to the 1891 CJ Lyons' map the traditional name was Kūkahauʻula, therefore we propose using Kūkahauʻula (please refer to next slide).
AGENDA ITEM #7

Recommended name change is: Kūkahauʻula
Figure 3-1: Cultural Resources in the Maunakea Summit Region
HAWAII GEOGRAPHIC NAME APPLICATION

STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
C/O OFFICE OF PLANNING
DEPT. OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
P.O. BOX 2359
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Recommended Name:
Puu Kuka’au’ula

Island: Hawaii  Tax Map Key: Zone 4  Section 4  Plat 15  Parcel 09
Latitude: 21° 43’ 38” N  Longitude: 158° 11’ 20” W
Description of feature (give precise location in relation to existing named features, particularly if geographic coordinates are not supplied):
The summit cluster of Mauna Kea is a distinct, unique, geological and topographical feature composed of three cones (Puu Kea, Puu Weke, and Puu Hau Ori). Recognition of this differentiation (cones as cluster) integrates historical + traditional place names with modern designations + usage.

*TOP 2.1/18 - FER CONN/W/DAMM SHIDEKER ARE BOUNDARY CONTOUR LINE AT 15’ ET, IN CONSIDERATION OF KOPH ORALI’S MG-7 WORK

Various Names/Spelling:
- Pu’u Ku Kaha’ula
- Kau Kaua, L. Beckwith
- T. Taylor, E. Fernander
- Miller, D. Malu

Documentation or personal knowledge on origin, spelling and meaning of the recommended name or reason for change. If a new name, state basis for knowledge that feature is unnamed, reason for naming, and why the recommended name was chosen.

SEE ORIGINAL APPLICATION AND HIGHLIGHTED ATTACHMENTS

Submitted by:
Name: Kanoe Suganuma Wilson
Title: Anthropology, UH
Address: 441 Laniakea St., Hilo 96720
Phone Number (Day): 808 935-4447 (Dr. Mills)
e-mail address: kawilsonk@hawaii.edu, suganumaw@hawaii.edu
- Maunakea – ʻUmikoa Trail. This trail is not mentioned in early accounts, and it first appears on maps in the 1920s. The trail may well be an ancient trail, but the name appears to be modern and likely derived from the ʻUmikoa Ranch. Horseback trips to Maunakea from the ranch took place in the early 1900s and perhaps earlier. The trail enters the MKSR between Puʻu Mākanaka and Puʻu Hoaka on the northeastern slope, passes below and west of Puʻu Lilīnoe, and intersects the Humuʻula Trail near Lake Waiau.

- Waikiʻi – Waiau Trail leads up to Waiau from the west.

- Makahalau – Kemole – Waiau Trail leads to Waiau from the northwest.

None of these trails are near the proposed TMT Observatory or Access Way. Today the Maunakea – Humuʻula Trail essentially ends at the Maunakea Access Road near the Batch Plant Staging Area. From this point to the summit, people walk on the road until a trail leads to the summit from near the UH observatories. Some people park at the Batch Plant Staging Area to walk along the trail to Lake Waiau.

Traditional Cultural Properties and Proposed Historic District

Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) are designated by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); in Hawaiʻi the SHPO is the Director of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR), under which is the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD). A TCP is a property or a place that is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places because of its association with cultural practices and beliefs that are (1) rooted in the history of a community, and (2) are important to maintaining the continuity of that community’s traditional beliefs and practices. Three places on Maunakea have been identified by the SHPD as TCPs (Figure 3-1). These are:

- Kūkahauʻula, SHPD Site 21438. The designated TCP area includes the summit cinder cones, traditionally collectively referred to as Kūkahauʻula, but in recent times referred to separately as Puʻu Wēkiu, Puʻu Kea, and Puʻu Hauʻoki.

- Puʻu Lilīnoe, SHPD Site 21439. The designated TCP includes the entire Puʻu Lilīnoe cinder cone.

- Waiau, SHPD Site 21440. The designated TCP includes the entire Puʻu Waiau, including Lake Waiau. Waiau is located in the Ice Age NAR.

Other places on Maunakea have been identified as potentially eligible for TCP designation; however, only the three places listed above are the currently designated TCPs.

The Maunakea summit region has been proposed to be designed as a historic district. However, to date, no official application has been made; as such no review or determination has been made. The Maunakea summit region is not currently a historic district although it may be eligible and the CMP discusses it as such.
of the mana of the mountain and of Lake Waiau at its summit, Queen Emma went there to bathe in the water...  

A group of cinder cones make up the summit of Maunakea. Since the 1960s, these cinder cones have been referred to individually as Pu‘u Wēkū, Pu‘u Hau‘oki, and Pu‘u Kea; one of the cinder cones has not been given a modern name (the one on which Subaru and Keck sit). Up until about 1932, these cinder cones were collectively referred to as Pu‘u Kūkahau‘ula (Figure 3-1). Evidence suggests that the name Kūkahau‘ula referred to both a legendary figure and a character in traditional histories and genealogies, including references to Kūkahau‘ula as the husband of Liilinoe or as an ‘aumakua (family deity). Kūkahau‘ula is referred to as the pink-tinted snow god, and Kumu Pono reported (2005) that Kūkahau‘ula was “named for a form of the god Kū, where the piko of new-born children were taken to insure long life and safety.”

There are several myths concerning the goddesses Poli‘ahu and Liilinoe, both of which have pu‘u named for them on Maunakea (Figure 3-1). It has been claimed that Poli‘ahu was one of four snow goddesses “who embodied the mythical ideas of spirits carrying on eternal warfare between heat and cold, fire and frost, burning lava and stony ice.” According to several legends, Poli‘ahu was the rival of the fire-goddess, Pele. Poli‘ahu is said to be the first daughter of Kāne and continues to be commonly referred to as the beautiful snow goddess of Maunakea. Contrary to popular belief, however, Poli‘ahu’s name was attached to the present-day Pu‘u Poli‘ahu in 1892 by the surveyor W.D. Alexander, and not through Native Hawaiian traditions.

The goddess Liilinoe is commonly referred to as the “goddess of the mists and younger sister of the more famous Poli‘ahu.” The pu‘u named after this goddess (Figure 3-1) does appear to be related to use by Native Hawaiians and is considered the abode of the goddess. It has been claimed that Liilinoe was another of the four snow goddesses, together with Poli‘ahu. Liilinoe has also appeared as a person in genealogies and legends, including a reference to her as the “wife of Nu‘u, the ‘Noah’, of the discredited Hawa‘i Loa legend involving a great flood.” Liilinoe has also been referred to as “the woman of the mountains” and the ancestress of Pea, a kahuna of Umi’s time.

As described in the CMP, Waiau is also mentioned as a goddess in several legends. The pu‘u named for this goddess also appears to be related to use by Native Hawaiians and is considered the abode of the goddess. Waiau has been identified as another of the four snow goddesses, together with Poli‘ahu and Liilinoe. Puulani Kanaka‘ole Kanahele has described that the three pu‘u-Poli‘ahu, Liilinoe, and Waiau, are sister goddesses who are female forms of water, and that all three of the cinder cones or pu‘u are important religious sites. Lake Waiau, within Pu‘u Waiau, also appears within Hawaiian myth and is considered sacred by modern cultural practitioners.

McElidowney points out that while the myths and legends associated with the summit area do not figure prominently in traditional histories, those histories

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18 Westervelt, 1963:55.
19 Kumu Pono, 2005.
October 5, 2008

Members of the Board
Bureau of Geographic Names
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
PO Box 2359
Honolulu, Hawaii 95808

Email to: CTasaka@dbedt.hawaii.gov

Re: Request for name change to Pu’u Ku Kahau’ula
Cinder Cone region at the Summit of Mauna Kea
Board Meeting October 15, 2008

Honorable Chair and Members of the Board:

My name is Paula Helfrich and I have completed studies for an anthropology degree at UH-Hilo, and have commenced field research in Myanmar towards a Masters’ degree in Cultural Resource Management. My fellow UHH students, advisors, academic experts and cultural practitioners have worked towards the requested name change of the summit of Mauna Kea to its ancient and cultural name of Pu’u Ku Kahau’ula.

In 2002, during the course of the Summer Institute at Mauna Kea at Hawaii Community College, many students were struck by the lack of a comprehensive name list or interpretive usage for the Pu’u of the Mauna Kea District (attached; May 2002). In 2007, Dr. Holly MacEldowney provided our CRM classes, through Dr. Peter Mills, with expert advise concerning the status of the summit area and the Pu’u, as well as specific records on expert recommendations for the region (attached; June, 1999)

In part as a class exercise, but more importantly because of the need to call traditional places by their right names, members of the CRM class worked to develop a proposal for the Mauna Kea Summit Region as a Traditional and Cultural Property, and also to request the name change to Pu’u Ku Kahau’ula.

Community support for this endeavor has been very positive for many reasons, articulated in the attached letter (file date June, 1999) from Don Hibbard, SHPO. The research has been updated by several recent endeavors, but it is worth noting that the historical records have been proven, time and again, to point towards the traditional and cultural name of Pu’u Ku Kahau’ula for the cinder cone region at the highest elevation of Mauna Kea.

To summarize Dr. MacEldowney and Dr. Hibbard’s written statements and lectures, there are four prevailing reasons to support the designation of Pu’u Ku Kahau’ula for the cinder cone region currently designated as Pu’u Hau Oki, Pu’u Wekiu, and Pu’u Kea. They have cited an extensive bibliography in the attached letter.
1. There is substantial characterization of recorded traditions and legends to support the change. Almost all historic records note a single cultural and historic feature, based on the following:
   a. Ku Kahau’ula as an aumakua and demigod of fishermen.
   b. The legends of Ku Kahau’ula and Poliahu.
   c. The legends of Ku Kahau’ula and Lilinoe, and recollections of the Mahi family and others as potential lineal descendanats.

2. Placement and historical record of Ku Kahau’ula as a single geographic feature by recordation of hash marks, triangulations, artistic differentiation and descriptions:
   a. 1873 land boundary testimonies – definition of the highest peak of Mauna Kea.
   b. 1860 – WD Alexander, also 1892 date.
   c. 1884 – C.J. Lyons sketches, and 1891/2 Kaohi maps.
   d. 1891/92 – Preston, USCGS reports and maps, also Baldwin.
   e. Mid-1930s oral histories, personal recollections, conversations on Mana Road place names, trails, designation of pu’u as trail markers.

3. Place name attributions:
   a. Summit maps as a single cinder-cone region.
   b. Survey maps indicating triangulations; differentiation of place names written to the east of the geographical feature in different type.
   c. Late arrival of descriptive and/or commemorative names to “unnamed cones” starting ca. 1937
   d. 1974 adoption of descriptives (e.g., “frosty, white, summit peak”) without reference to cultural and/or historical traditions known at the time.

4. Archeological Data as a focal point
   As with many of the sites I am currently working on, sometimes what is NOT present is as telling as the remains of previous cultural practices. The summit cone region of Pu’u Ku Kahau’ula is devoid of any known archeological evidence. All shrines radiate outward from the base of the summit cluster with nothing on the summit itself. This would be reinforced by traditional knowledge and practices, and also by William Ellis’s 1823 journal describing the sacrosanct tradition of the “Abode of the Gods” as in many mountain cultures.

In closing, there is another tradition that bridges ancient and modern Hawaiian cultural values, and that is the importance of ancient place names. There are no songs written to honor Pu’u Wekii, Pu’u Hau Oki, or Pu’u Kea, which were short, pithy descriptives with no history. However, the Pele Legends, Poliahu, or Waiau, or Kanakaleonui will ring down through the years.

On behalf of the students and supporters of ancient and modern cultural resources management, we ask for your consideration of this important community-based request.
We hope it will inspire all practitioners and responsible participants to encourage more efforts to call our historic places by their proper names.

Thank you for your consideration.

Paula Z. Helfrich  
Yangon International School  
Thingangyun, Yangon, Myanmar  

Sittagu Ayudhana Theravada University  
Sagaing Hills, Sagaing, Myanmar  

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Helfrich.paula@gmail.com  
phelfrich@yis.edu.mm  
clipper@hilo808.net
HAWAII GEOGRAPHIC NAME APPLICATION

STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
C/O OFFICE OF PLANNING
DEPT. OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
P.O. BOX 2359
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Recommended Name: PUU KUKAHUULA
(Note: Diacriticals omitted per instructions)
Island: HAWAII Tax Map Key: Zone 4 Section 4 Plat 15 Parcel 09 Zone 5
Latitude: __________ Degrees __________ Minutes __________ Seconds North
Longitude: __________ Degrees __________ Minutes __________ Seconds West
Description of feature (give precise location in relation to existing named features, particularly if geographic coordinates are not supplied).
UTM: 219,3880 N / 241,180 E

SUMMIT CONE OF MAUNA KEA, ELEN. 13,796, HAWAII ISLAND.
PUU KUKAHUULA IS THE TRADITIONAL NAME PRIOR TO
1938. PRESENTLY SHOWN ON MAPS AS PUU HAU ORI, PUUKEA
AND PUU WIRIU (SUMMIT). CONFIRMED IN LAND BOUNDARY
TESTIMONY 1873 + NUMEROUS PUBLISHED SOURCES.

Published Map or Other Source Using
Recommended Name: 1884, 1892
WITSE, WALL (1928)

Variant Names/Spellings:

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<td>PUU KEA</td>
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Source:
DON HIBBARD LETTER 1899

Documentation or personal knowledge on origin, spelling and meaning of the recommended name or reason for change. If a new name, state basis for knowledge that feature is unnamed, reason for naming, and why the recommended name was chosen.

-KUMU PONO + ASSOC (2004) REFERENCE TO PLACE NAMES
- ATTACHED LETTER FROM SHPD DON HIBBARD 1999
- 1011-2112 300 0003 PM 07
- KANAMAU, S. RULING CHIEFS OF HAWAI'I

Submitted by:
Name: SKYLLAR ROSETT/PAPA HELE, B.A. CANDIDATE, ANTHROPOLOGY Date: 5-01-08
Address: 515 ALAMAENA, Hilo, HI 96720
Phone Number (Day): 898-1890
E-mail address (if any): clipper@hilo.808.net

UH Hilo
HAWAII GEOGRAPHIC NAME APPLICATION

STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
C/O OFFICE OF PLANNING
DEPT. OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
P.O. BOX 2359
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Recommended Name:
PUUKUKAHAVULA

Island: HAWAII Tax Map Key: Zone 4 Section 4 Plat 15 Parcel 04
Latitude: 21 Degrees 93 Minutes 88 Seconds North
Longitude: 24 Degrees 11 Minutes 30 Seconds West East
UTM 21Q 3380

Description of feature (give precise location in relation to existing named features, particularly if geographic coordinates are not supplied).

THE SUMMIT CLUSTER OF MAUNA KEA IS A DISTINCT, UNIQUE GEOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURE COMPOSED OF THREE CONES (PUU KEA, PUU WENIUIJ, PUU HAU ORI). RECOGNITION OF THIS DIFFERENTIATION (CONES AS CLUSTER) INTEGRATES HISTORICAL + TRADITIONAL PLACE NAMES WITH MODERN DESIGNATIONS + USAGE.

Variant Names/Spellings: PUU KU KAHAVULA

Source:
KAMAKAU, E./BECKWITH, M.
TAYLOR, E./FORD, A.
HUBBARD, C./MANY, K.

Published Map or Other Source Using Recommended Name:
1885 MAP SKETCH, 1873 LBT, 1892 SURVEY MAP ETC.

Documentation or personal knowledge on origin, spelling and meaning of the recommended name or reason for change. If a new name, state basis for knowledge that feature is unnamed, reason for naming, and why the recommended name was chosen.

SEE ORIGINAL APPLICATION AND HIGHLIGHTED ATTACHMENTS

Submitted by: KANOESUGANUMA WILSON
Name: PAULA HELFRICH Title: ANTHROPOLOGY, UH-H Date: NOV 30, 2008
Address: 441 LANIKAIWA ST., Hilo 96720
Phone Number (Day): 808 932-7417 (DR. MILLS)
e-mail address (if any): helfrich-paula@hawaii.edu, suganuma@hawaii.edu
HAWAII GEOGRAPHIC NAME APPLICATION

STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
C/O OFFICE OF PLANNING
DEPT. OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
P.O. BOX 2359
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

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<td>Name Change</td>
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Recommended Name: PUUKUKAHAVULA

Island: HAWAI'I  Tax Map Key: Zone 4  Section 4  Plat 15  Parcel 09
Latitude: 21 Degrees 45 Minutes 58 Seconds North
Longitude: 24 Degrees 11 Minutes 30 Seconds West

Description of feature (give precise location in relation to existing named features, particularly if geographic coordinates are not supplied):

THE SUMMIT CLUSTER OF MAUNA KEA IS A DISTINCT, UNIQUE GEOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURE COMPOSED OF THREE CONES (PU'U KEA, PUU WEKIU, AND PUU HAU ORI). RECOGNITION OF THIS DIFFERENTIATION (CONES VS. CLUSTER) INTEGRATES HISTORICAL AND TRADITIONAL PLACE NAMES WITH MODERN DESIGNATIONS." USAGE.

Published Map or Other Source Using Recommended Name:
1885 MAP SKETCH, 1873 LOT, 1892 SURVEY MAP ETC.

Variant Names/Spellings: PUU KU KAHAVULA
Source: KAMAKAU, S./BECKWITH, TAYLOR, E./FERNANDER,
HIBBARD, D./MALY, R.

Documentation or personal knowledge on origin, spelling and meaning of the recommended name or reason for change. If a new name, state basis for knowledge that feature is unnamed, reason for naming, and why the recommended name was chosen.

SEE ORIGINAL APPLICATION AND HIGHLIGHTED ATTACHMENTS

Submitted by: + KANOESUGANOMA WILSON
Name: PAULA HELFICH  Title: ANTHROPOLOGY, UH-HI  Date: NOV 30, 2008
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