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July 26, 2019

Ms. Naniloa Pogline  
Vice-Chair, Hawai'i County GMAC

Dear Ms. Pogline:

Thank you for your letter of July 13, 2019, regarding your concerns about the closure by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) of hunting areas on Mauna Kea from July 7 through August 8, 2109.

As you note in your letter, DLNR Chairperson Suzanne Case stated that the closure of the hunting areas was for the purpose of public safety and security, and safety for the movement of heavy construction equipment related to the Thirty-Meter Telescope. We believe that the safety of everyone concerned is extremely important, and agree that a temporary closure of hunting areas is warranted at this time. It is understandable that any closure must be done with complete awareness of its impact and to always minimize its negative impacts.

Please be aware that in any event, the County of Hawai'i does not have jurisdiction over the closure area, which is on State land. I encourage you to contact your State Representative and State Senator to voice your concerns.

Thank you very much for taking the time to write to me.

Aloha,

Harry Kim  
MAYOR