



March 14, 2020

Aloha ‘āina kākou,

Out of concern for the safety of our kūpuna and camp kia‘i, and to do our part to help curb the proliferation of COVID-19, Pu‘uhonua o Pu‘uhuluhulu is requesting that our supporters and allies refrain from visiting the camp until the crisis has passed this critical stage. We are halting all visits by coordinated groups such as schools, conferences, clubs and organizations from coming to the pu‘uhonua until further notice. Kūpuna and those with a higher risk of respiratory illness are especially asked to stay home.

We ask that ‘ohana, individuals and small groups use discretion and commit to best practices in sanitation and sickness prevention while on the mauna. As much as it goes against our instincts, those at the pu‘uhonua should refrain from honi and hugs and physical contact with each other. The camp remains under the watch and care of the Mauna Medic and Healers Hui under the direction of Dr. Kalama Nīheu.

If you are planning a visit, please plan on going DOWN the mountain in the evening as there are currently no overnight accommodations for visitors. Please also be prepared for the possibility that the camp may need to request that **all** visits stop if the threat of the virus continues to escalate. For more information about visits to the pu‘uhonua, please contact Noe Noe Wong-Wilson, noenoe@hilo.net or Pua Case, puamk@gmail.com.

Finally, we want everyone to rest assured that we have made these decisions to reduce visitors with an understanding that there is no imminent threat of construction at this time. Should that time come, we will notify you all immediately. We remain committed to stop the TMT project on Maunakea and continue to work with our supporters and allies at the legislature, in Japan, Canada, U.S. and elsewhere toward this end.

Be well, take care of one another, and kū kia‘i mauna always. E ola ka lāhui Hawai‘i.

Me ke aloha,
The Pu‘uhuluhulu ‘ohana