



- The scattering of cremated remains shall take place in areas away from public view and at a minimum of 100 yards where the public frequents including trails, roads, developed facility or body of water.
- Cremated remains must be pulverized so as not to be identifiable as human remains including bone fragments.

### III. DISCUSSION

In 2011 Kahu Kū Mauna discussed this CMP management action. Initially the office felt that this activity didn't need a permit, however, OMKM is reconsidering that we should require a permit to be consistent with DLNR. The reason being is that there are no physical boundaries that delineate managed lands from DLNR lands, including the Mauna Kea Forest Reserve and Mauna Kea Ice Age Natural Area Reserve, which are adjacent to the lands on Mauna Kea. Most individuals are unaware there are political boundaries, much less where these boundaries lie.

Under frequently asked questions in the DLNR website it says "[g]enerally speaking, no environmental permit is required for scattering cremated ashes on land, sea or from the air from the Department of Health, but this should be done discreetly and some distance away from the general public. Ashes may not be dispersed within a state forest reserve or water body." However, in discussion with DLNR, they issue permits for the scattering of ashes.

The policy for scattering cremated human remains at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park states "The remains to be scattered must have been cremated and pulverized. The scattering of remains by hand on the ground is to be performed at least 100 yards from any trail, road, developed facility, or body of water." Scattering must take place in such a manner and in such a location that the ashes will not be located and identifiable as human remains. No memorials, plaques, photos, etc. be left in the park."

OMKM feels the act of scattering ashes is a private matter. In addition, some might view this type of activity as offensive to their personal or cultural beliefs. The phrase "some distance" is vague and it might be helpful to provide guidelines, such as a minimum of 100 yards as required by Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. While it is understandable that people would want to leave something to memorialize where the ashes were scattered, such objects end up over time as rubbish and can be blown about the landscape. In addition, flowers and plants have the potential for introducing invasive species which OMKM is charged with preventing; and food articles may introduce invasive species and also attract vermin such as rats and mongoose which are threats to the native wildlife.