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## Hawai'i Volcanoes News Release

November 14, 2007

### **Be Part of Kahuku's Forest Recovery**



Chaydeen Crivello helps plant pilo

On Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, volunteers are invited to lend a hand to restore the land in Kahuku.

Participants are needed to help plant 400 native seedlings in a fenced enclosure protected from grazing animals. The event will mark the start of the second year of planting within this enclosure.

"This is an an incredible opportunity to see Kahuku and learn about the park's forest restoration program," said Sierra McDaniel, park horticulturist.

Volunteers will plant 'olapa, pilo, kawa'u, alani, naio, kolea, popolo ku mai, ho'awa, and 'akala. All these species play a critical role in providing shelter and food for native birds and insects. Many also have cultural significance as they provided Hawaiians with wood for canoes, house posts, and anvils for beating kapa.

Participants should be able to hike at least one mile over rough uneven terrain. They should wear sturdy shoes, long pants, sunscreen, and a hat, and bring lunch, water, and rainjacket.

The program is limited to 14 people and pre-registration is required. To register, call Susan Dale at 985-6195 and leave a message that includes a contact name and phone number.

Carpooling and 4-wheel drive vehicles are highly recommended. It is important that participants thoroughly check and clean their vehicles beforehand to make sure they are not transporting Coqui frogs and non-native plant seeds into Kahuku.

The entrance to the Kahuku Unit is located in Ka'u between mile markers 70 and 71 on Highway 11. The gate will open Saturday morning between 8:15 and 8:45 a.m. to allow entrance to those pre-registered for the program. No late-comers or walk-ins will be allowed.

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