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## Hawai'i Volcanoes News Release

September 12, 2008

### Connect with Kahuku by Satellite



On Saturday, October 11, 2008 from 9 am to noon, park rangers will host "Kahuku Connections: Finding your way with GPS."

The program offers an opportunity to explore Hawai'i Volcanoes' newest land addition while learning to use Global Positioning System (GPS). GPS instruments will be provided to participants to use during the tour.

Way-finding by satellite-based navigation is a skill that many find of benefit in their hiking endeavors.

"We will hike on Mauna Loa, among the lava flows that built the most massive volcano on Earth." said Park Ranger BG Horvat, program coordinator. "We'll see grasslands dotted with pockets of rare, endemic Hawaiian plants".

The program is limited to 32 people and pre-registration is required. To register, call 985-6172 and leave a message that includes a contact phone number and the names of each participant in your group; no more than four in a group.

Participants should be able to hike at least two miles over rugged uneven terrain. They should wear sturdy shoes, long pants, sunscreen, and a hat and bring water, snacks, and a rainjacket. Planned activities are suitable for those 12 years of age and older.

Car-pooling is highly recommended and 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 registered for the program. No late-comers or walk-ins will be allowed.

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