National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park

P.O. Box 52
Hawaii National Park
Hawai`i 96718

Mardie Lane, Park Ranger
808.985.6018

Hawai`i Volcanoes News Release

September 14, 2009

Hike and Help Restore Kipuka‘akihi

On September 26, October 18, November 15, and December 19, 2009 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, join park rangers at the park’s Kahuku Unit for a hike through Kipuka‘akihi.

The kipuka is an isolated refuge of rare plants in a remnant old-growth forest—a window into the past and a vision for forest restoration efforts in the future.

The hike is a challenging 1½ miles. Participants should be ready to scramble over fallen trees, rough lava rock, and slippery wet terrain.

A view into and a walk through Kipuka‘akihi

There will be opportunities to help protect this rain forest by removing kahili ginger and other invasive, non-native plants.

Sturdy hiking shoes are a must. Weather can be sunny, cool, or rainy. Wear long pants, sunscreen, and a hat and bring rain gear, garden gloves, a day pack, mosquito repellent, lunch, and adequate water for a three-hour hike.

Due to the fragile nature of the kipuka, the program is limited to twenty people and pre-registration is required. To sign up, call 985-6011.

Those registered for the free program will meet at 10:00 am at Kahuku’s entrance gate located on the mauka (mountain) side of Hwy-11, between the 70 and 71 mile markers.

Before arriving at Kahuku, it’s important that participants help reduce the spread of weeds by removing plant seeds clinging to boots, backpacks and other gear and washing away any weeds and seeds stuck to their vehicle.