



Hawai'i Volcanoes NEWS RELEASE

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Five Miles of Hilina Pali Road Closed to Protect Hawaiian Goose

'Tis the season, the nene nesting season that is, and to help protect the geese, Superintendent Cindy Orlando announced the closure of Hilina Pali Road at the Mauna Iki Trailhead to cars, hikers, and bicyclists until further notice.

Dogs are not allowed at any time on Hilina Pali Road or at Kulanaokuaiki Campground.

"When disturbed, nene--especially those with goslings--often flee, relocating to areas where there is less food and more predators", said park wildlife biologist Kathleen Misajon.



The first four miles of Hilina Pali Road remain open, allowing visitors access to Kulanaokuaiki Campground and Mauna Iki Trailhead. Backcountry hikers will be allowed access to trailheads at the end of Hilina Pali Road after registering and at the Kilauea Visitor Center. Coastal trails and campsites are also accessible from Mau Loa o Mauna Ulu and Pu`u Loa trailheads on Chain of Craters Road and from the Ka`u Desert trailheads on Crater Rim Drive and Highway-11.

"The past two nesting seasons have been our most successful, said Misajon. At last count, Hawai'i Volcanoes is home to nearly 200 nene.