Hawai'i Volcanoes

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park Hawai`i



Park Unit

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park was established on August 1, 1916, the 15th National Park in a system that now numbers 401 areas. The park is located in the state of Hawai'i, on the southeastern part of the Island of Hawai'i, in the districts of Ka'ū and Puna. The Superintendent is Cindy Orlando. The park website is www.nps.gov/havo

Purpose

The mission of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park is to protect, conserve, and study the volcanic landscapes and associated natural and cultural resources and processes, and to facilitate safe public access to active volcanism, diverse geographic settings, and wilderness for public education and enjoyment.

Resources

In recognition of its outstanding values, Hawai'i Volcanoes has been designated an International Biosphere Reserve (1980) and a World Heritage Site (1987).

Geological

Hawai'i Volcanoes extends from sea level to 13,677' (4,169 meters) and encompasses the summits and rift zones of two of the world's most active volcanoes, Kīlauea and Mauna Loa. Kīlauea has been in nearly continuous eruption since 1983; Mauna Loa last erupted in 1984. Volcanic features found within the park include calderas, pit craters, cinder cones, spatter ramparts, fumaroles, solfataras, pāhoehoe and 'a'ā lava flows, tree molds, lava tubes, black sand beaches, and thermal areas.

Biological

The park's seven ecological zones (seacoast, lowland, mid-elevation woodland, rain forest, upland forest, subalpine, and alpine) harbor distinct plant and animal communities. The park provides refuge for many endangered species: honu 'ea (hawksbill turtle), nēnē (Hawaiian goose), 'ua'u (Hawaiian petrel), 'io (Hawaiian hawk) and ope'ape'a (Hawaiian hoary bat).

Cultural

The cultural heritage begins with the indigenous Hawaiians. Their connection to the land, both past and present, is found from the coastal cliffs to the summit craters of both volcanoes. The rich archeological record connects today's Hawaiians to their voyaging ancestors who made landfall on this island. The history of geological exploration and the protection of significant natural landscapes through the establishment of the park itself is found and shared with visitors by driving the roads, walking through historic districts, visiting historic buildings, and through the use of the park's archives and museum collections.

Statistics

Size 333,086 acres; 66 mi of paved roads; 155 mi of marked trails; 123,100 acres legislated

wilderness; 121,015 acres of eligible wilderness; 7,850 acres potential wilderness

143 employees (full-time equivalents) in 2014

Annual Visitation 1,583,209 recreational visits in 2013

Budget \$7,152,640 in appropriations after assessments for 2014

Other

Staffing

Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association

Agencies & Hawai'i Volcanoes Lodge Company, LLC

Kīlauea Military Camp, a Joint Services R

Kīlauea Military Camp, a Joint Services Recreation Center U.S. Geological Survey, Hawaiian Volcano Observatory

U.S. Geological Survey, Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center

U.S. Forest Service, Biological Quarantine Facility

Volcano Art Center

Congressional Delegation

2nd District: Senator Brian E. Schatz (D), Senator Mazie K. Hirono (D)

Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard (D)

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