

NSF – CMMI Post Conference Field Trip

Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park

Friday, June 26, 2009

Focus: Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park

Be prepared and wear layers and light rain gear. Weather in the park continuously changes throughout the day. If you have, bring the following: sunscreen, water bottle, binoculars, and your camera in your day pack.

- 08:30 am Depart for University of Hawai`i at Hilo
- 08:45 am UH Hilo Campus Tour
- 09:30 am Depart for Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park

Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park

The largest and most southeastern island of the chain, Hawaii consists of five volcanoes. Kilauea, Mauna Loa and Hualalai have erupted in the past 200 years. Kohala and Mauna Kea have not seen volcanic activity for over 5,000 years. Lo`ihi, the youngest volcano of the Hawaiian Volcanic Chain, and part of the greater Big Island edifice, is still about 1,000 meters beneath the ocean's surface.

10:30 am Kilauea Visitors Center

View topographical maps of HVNP and see dramatic footage of active volcanoes

`Iliahi Trail & Steam Vents

This 1.5 mile loop hike extends through rain forest, past steam vents and contains breathtaking views of the Kilauea Caldera, Halema'auma'u Crater, and Mauna Loa. On this hike you will have a chance to view endemic rain forest, birds, insects, steam vents, and earth-cracks.

12:00 pm Picnic Lunch

Jaggar Museum

The museum is the fulfillment of a dream of Dr. Jaggar, a scientist who adopted the Kilauea region as his home in 1912 and devoted his life to the study of volcanoes. As early as 1916, he proposed creating a museum to help visitors understand how volcanoes work.

The Jaggar Museum contains numerous exhibits that explain the history and behavior of Hawaiian volcanoes.

Nahuku (Lava Tube)

This 400 year old lava tube is 600 feet long with ceilings between 10 and 30 feet. The trail takes you down into a pit crater lush with huge towering plants. As you descend, the trail becomes darker and wet with earthy smells. The trail winds around to the entrance of Thurston Lava Tube where you will walk through the tube itself, which is dimly lit with a short stair that will lead you back up to the trail.

- 03:15 pm Proceed back to Hilo
- 04:00 pm Drop off at Hilo Hawaiian Hotel

