

Volcanic hazards from Kīlauea eruptions

Volcanic hazards associated with Kīlauea's ongoing eruptions include, but are not limited to, the following:

East Rift Zone (Pu'u 'Ō'ō) vents and lava flow field

- Near-vent areas could erupt or collapse without warning, ejecting spatter and/or ash that can be carried downwind within the gas plume.
- Potentially-lethal concentrations of sulfur dioxide gas may be present within 1 km downwind of vent areas.
- Active lava flows within forested areas can produce methane blasts capable of propelling boulder-sized rocks and other debris into the air.
- All recently active lava flows are within Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park and adjacent State land managed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources or the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Summit (Halema'uma'u) vent

- Tephra, including volcanic ash and Pele's hair, can be carried several kilometers downwind of the summit vent within Halema'uma'u Crater.
- Potentially-lethal concentrations of sulfur dioxide can be present within 1 km (0.6 mi) downwind of the summit vent.
- Explosive eruptions in the summit lava lake can throw fragments of rock and molten lava up to 2 m (6.5 ft) in diameter on to the rim of Halema'uma'u Crater, an area that has been closed to the public since early 2008 due to volcanic hazards.

Additional general information about volcanic hazards:

USGS Volcano Hazards Program – “Types of Volcano Hazards”
<https://volcanoes.usgs.gov/hazards/index.php>