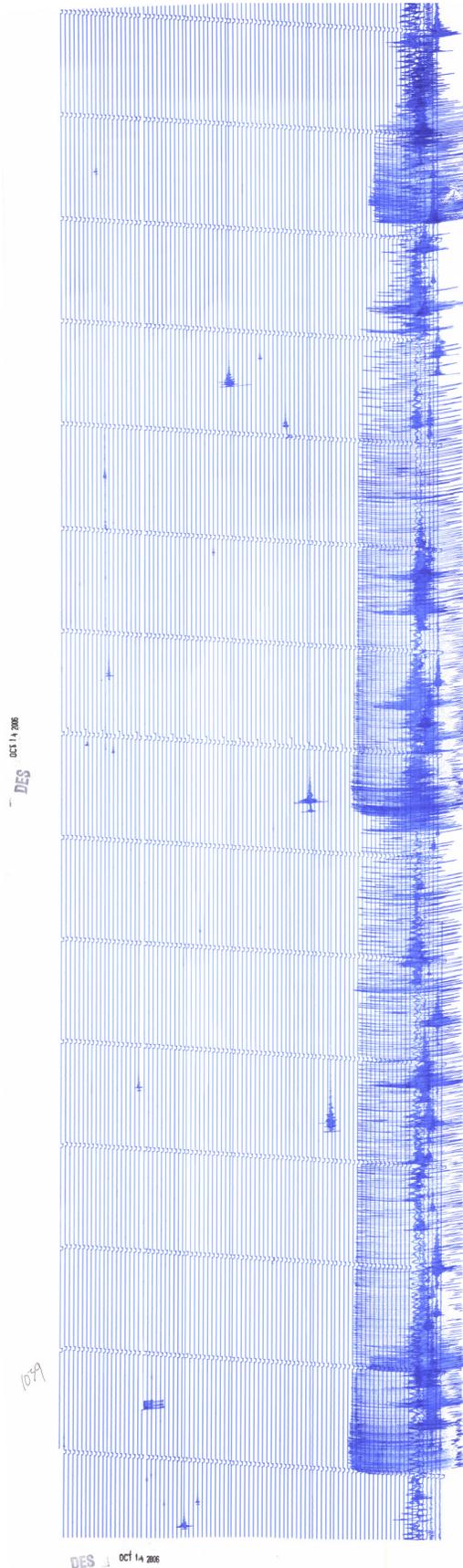


# Selected Images of the Effects of the October 15, 2006, Kīholo Bay-Māhukona, Hawai‘i, Earthquakes and Recovery Efforts



Data Series 506

COVER: Aerial view of the extensive Kohala Ditch trail system, sections of which have been completely filled with debris from rock slides. The trail, once used by residents to transport goods in and out of the valley by mule, zigzags up the walls of the East Branch of Honokāne Nui Valley (North Kohala District, north Hawai'i, 20.19675°N, 155.71975°W; view to the southeast). USGS photo by E.L. Harp, November 8, 2006.



Twenty-four-hour-long seismograph record (15 minutes per rotation) shows the trace of the October 15, 2006, Kiholo Bay and Māhukona earthquakes, South Kohala District, northwest Hawai'i. The *M*6.7, 39-km-deep Kiholo Bay earthquake (19.878°N, 155.935°W) occurred at 7:07 a.m., HST, and the *M*6.0, 9-km-deep Māhukona earthquake, 28 km north-northwest of Kiholo Bay (20.129°N, 155.983°W), occurred 6 minutes, 24 seconds later, at 7:14 a.m., HST. The onset of the Kiholo Bay earthquake is at the minute mark to the left, and the onset of the Māhukona earthquake is at the center of the record. The trace of a large aftershock can be seen to the right. Numerous smaller aftershocks occurred after the larger quakes.

DES OCT 14 2006

DES OCT 14 2006

# **Selected Images of the Effects of the October 15, 2006, Kīholo Bay-Māhukona, Hawai‘i, Earthquakes and Recovery Efforts**

By Taeko Jane Takahashi, Nancy A. Ikeda, Paul G. Okubo, Maurice K. Sako, David C. Dow, Anna M. Priester, and Nolan A. Steiner

Data Series 506

**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**U.S. Geological Survey**

**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
KEN SALAZAR, Secretary

**U.S. Geological Survey**  
Marcia K. McNutt, Director

**U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, Virginia: 2011**

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# Photographs

(see linked files at [http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/506/ds-506\\_photographs/](http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/506/ds-506_photographs/))

Site No.	Site Location
1.	Laupāhoehoe Gulch, Laupāhoehoe, Highway 19, North Hilo District
2.	Kawāili Bridge, Pa'auilo, Highway 19, Hāmākua District
3.	St. Joseph Catholic Church, Pa'auilo, Highway 19, Hāmākua District
4.	Pa'auilo Hongwanji Mission and Cemetery, Pa'auilo, Highway 19, Hāmākua District
5.	Shingon-shu Pa'auilo Kongoji, Pa'auilo, Highway 19, Hāmākua District
6.	Kalōpā Cemetery, Kalōpā Highway 19, Hāmākua District
7.	Kalōpā Mauka ("Sand Gulch") Road, Kalōpā, Highway 19, Hāmākua District
8.	Honoka'a High School, Honoka'a, Highway 19, Hāmākua District
9.	Hale Ho'ōla Hāmākua, Honoka'a, Highway 19, Hāmākua District
10.	Waipi'o Valley, Hāmākua District
11.	Coastline, 'Āinahou debris fan, Hāmākua District
12.	Waimanu Valley, Hāmākua District
13.	Coastline, Laupāhoehoe Iki to Laupāhoehoe Nui debris fans, Hāmākua District
14.	Coastline, Laupāhoehoe Nui debris fan to Honopue Valley, Hāmākua District
15.	Honopue Valley, Hāmākua District
16.	Honoke'a Valley, Hāmākua-North Kohala District boundary
17.	Coastline, Honopue Valley to 'Āko'ako'a Point, Hāmākua and North Kohala Districts
18.	Honokāne Nui Valley, North Kohala District
19.	Pololū Valley and Pololū Valley Lookout, North Kohala District
19A.	Pololū Valley
19B.	Pololū Valley Lookout, Niuli'i, Highway 270
20.	Kēōkea Park Road intersection to Waikani Gulch bridge, Makapala, Highway 270, North Kohala District
21.	Kēōkea Beach Park, Makapala, Highway 270, North Kohala District
21A.	Kēōkea Beach
21B.	Kēōkea Beach Park gazebo
21C.	Kēōkea Beach Park pavilion
22.	Makapala Chapel, Makapala, Highway 270, North Kohala District
23.	Pūwā'i'ole Gulch, Makapala, Highway 270, North Kohala District
24.	Kalāhikiola Congregational Church, Kapa'au, Highway 270, North Kohala District
25.	Lapakahi State Historical Park, Māhukona, Highway 270, North Kohala District
26.	Honokoa Bridge, Māhukona, Highway 270, South Kohala District
27.	Honokoa Gulch culvert, Māhukona, Highway 270, South Kohala District
28.	North Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor, Kawaihae, Highway 270, South Kohala District
29.	Kawaihae Pier, Kawaihae, Highway 270, South Kohala District
30.	Pu'ukoholā Heiau National Historic Site, Kawaihae, Highway 270, South Kohala District
31.	Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway road cut, Puakō, Highway 19, South Kohala District
32.	Moku'aikaua Church, Kailua-Kona, Highway 11, North Kona District
33.	Hulihe'e Palace, Kailua-Kona, Highway 11, North Kona District
34.	Hōlualoa Catholic Cemetery, Hōlualoa, Highway 180, North Kona District
35.	Kona Community Hospital, Kealakekua, Highway 11, South Kona District
36.	Kealakekua Bay, Kealakekua, Highway 11, South Kona District

# Seismic Overview of the Earthquakes

By Paul G. Okubo

Early on the morning of October 15, 2006, two moderate earthquakes—the largest in decades—struck the Island of Hawai‘i. The first of these, which occurred at 7:07 a.m., HST (1707 UTC), was a magnitude (*M*)6.7 earthquake, centered beneath Kīholo Bay on the northwestern coast of the island (19.878°N, 155.935°W), at a depth of 39 km. The second earthquake, which struck 6 minutes, 24 seconds later, at 7:14 a.m., HST (1714 UTC), was located 28 km to the north-northwest of Kīholo Bay (20.129°N, 155.983°W), centered at a depth of 19 km. This *M*6.0 earthquake has since been referred to as the Māhukona earthquake. Losses from the combined effects of these earthquakes are estimated to be \$200 million—the most costly events, by far, in Hawai‘i’s earthquake history.

Figure 1 shows the epicenters of these earthquakes and the first few days of aftershocks from October 2006, as posted on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Hawaiian Volcano Observatory’s earthquakes page on the World Wide Web (<http://tux.wr.usgs.gov>). To date, the largest aftershock was a *M*5.0 earthquake that occurred on November 23, 2007. The aftershock sequence from the Kīholo Bay earthquake continued through 2008. Analysis of earthquake locations and source mechanisms suggests that the *M*6.7 Kīholo Bay mainshock ruptured a deep fault plane that extends west-northwest from the coastline beneath the bay and dips to the south (Yamada and others, 2008). Stress modeling of the response of a lithospheric plate due to volcanic loading shows the Kīholo Bay and Māhukona earthquakes to be consistent with downward flexing of a layered lithospheric plate (McGovern, 2007).

Since 1973, the USGS has operated accelerographs in Hawai‘i to record strong ground motions of potential engineering interest. Some of these instruments were upgraded in 1999 from their original photographic film-based recording systems, to telemeter digital strong-motion recordings. Following the earthquakes, the upgraded stations automatically transmitted their recordings to the USGS National Strong Motion Data Center in Menlo Park, California, operated by the USGS National Strong Motion Project (NSMP). Records from instruments still using photographic film were retrieved by NSMP personnel in the weeks following the October earthquakes and subsequently were developed and digitized for data reduction and analysis. At the same time, some stations were upgraded with units capable of onsite digitization. Since the October 2006 earthquakes, all USGS NSMP

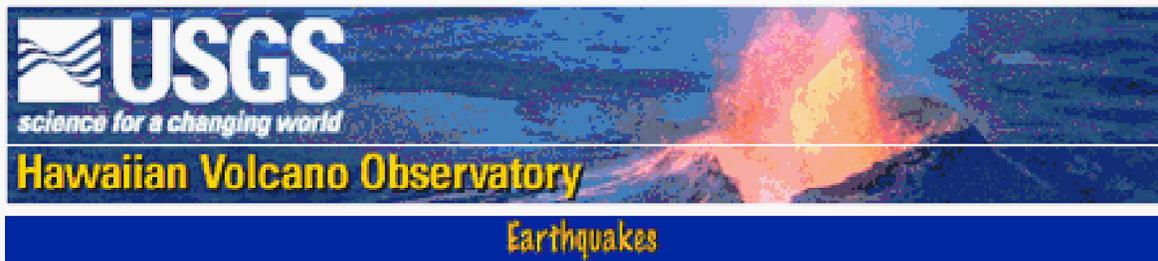
instruments in Hawai‘i have been upgraded with digital recorders and connected by using modems and telephone circuits to automatically transmit their records to the NSMP Data Center (E. Anjal, written commun., 2007).

The strongest ground accelerations from the October 15 earthquakes were recorded at stations on the northwestern part of the Island of Hawai‘i (fig. 2 and table 1). The distribution of peak ground accelerations, as presented in figure 2, reflects the effect of local site conditions at the recording-instrument locations and the amplitude of seismic waves at that distance from the hypocenter. In Hawai‘i, site amplifications of seismic ground motion have been closely linked to the presence of volcanic ash deposits (Munson and Thurber, 1997). Although not the closest station to the Kīholo Bay earthquake, the accelerograph at the Waimea Fire Station, underlain by volcanic ash deposits, recorded the highest peak accelerations in the entire data set. The effects of site conditions are also seen at sites in Hilo, where data reflect relative amplification of recorded peak accelerations, depending upon whether the stations are located on volcanic ash or on hard rock.

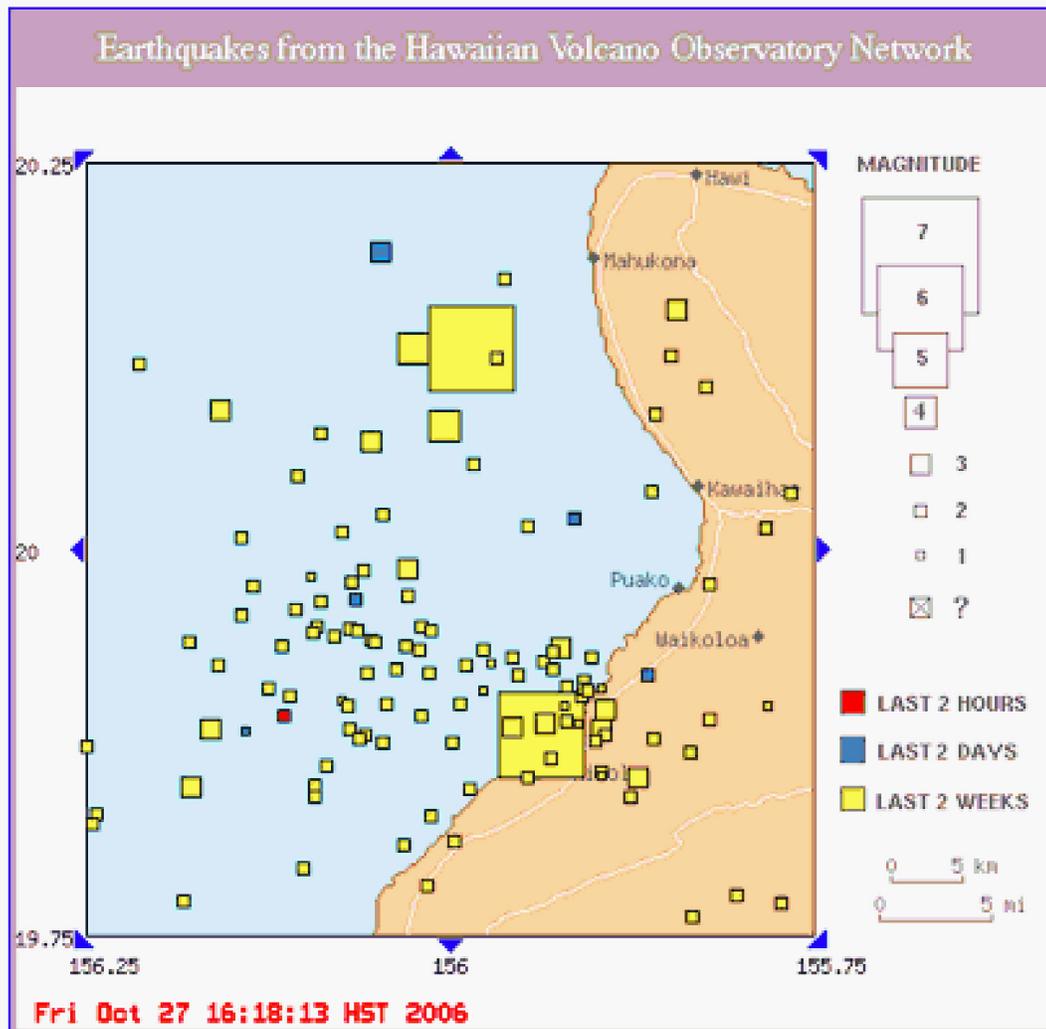
Although infrequent, damage and other effects of moderate and larger earthquakes in Hawai‘i have been recorded for nearly 200 years. The effects of some 59 moderate and larger earthquakes (magnitudes 6 and above) have been recorded since written accounts of earthquake damage were first kept in Hawai‘i in 1823 (Wyss and Koyanagi, 1992). The largest earthquake ever recorded in Hawai‘i occurred on April 2, 1868; its magnitude was estimated to be 7.9. The October 15, 2006, earthquake was the largest to occur in Hawai‘i in 23 years (fig. 3).

Using information submitted on the Internet by the general public, the USGS has developed a means of collecting and posting reports of earthquakes as USGS Community Internet Intensity Maps (CIIM) (Wald and others, 1999). If an earthquake is felt, individuals may file reports on the effects of the quake at <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/eqcenter/dyfi>. Contributors reply to a list of standard questions used to determine earthquake intensity. Reports are then compiled and presented in maps, according to postal zip code and Community Decimal Intensity (CDI) per zip code. The intensities displayed on the maps represent average Modified Mercalli Intensity (Wood and Neumann, 1931; Richter, 1958) for these communities or zip codes (see appendix; see linked file [http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/506/ds506\\_appendix\\_a.txt](http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/506/ds506_appendix_a.txt))

Figure 4 shows the CIIM posted after the October 15, 2006, Kīholo Bay earthquake, which was felt across the entire State of Hawaii. The strongest individual earthquake effects



## Recent Earthquakes in Hawai'i



There are 125 earthquakes on this map.

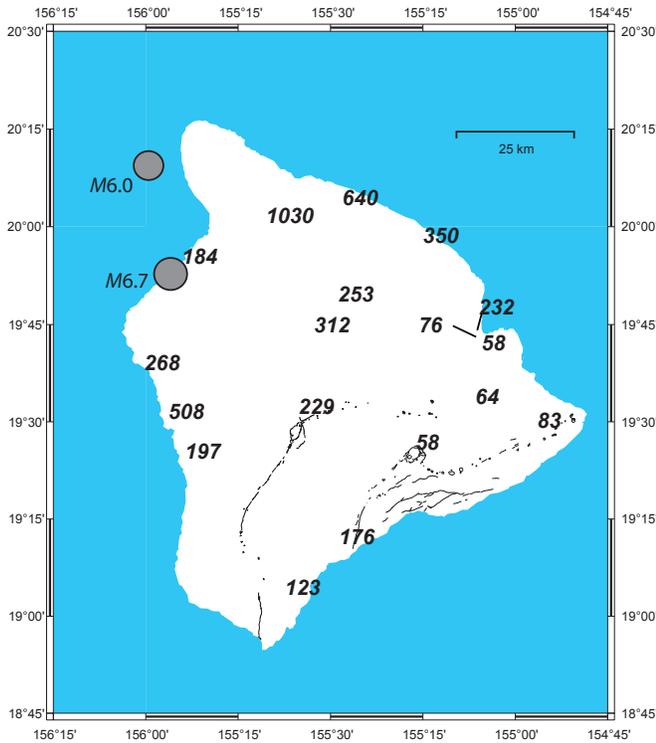
[Click on an earthquake on the above map for more information.](#)

[Did you feel it? - Report an Earthquake](#)

• Try to reload this page if you do not have the most current map.

**Figure 1.** U.S. Geological Survey, Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, October 27, 2006, Web page of recent earthquakes showing the October 15, 2006, Kiholo Bay and Māhukona, Hawai'i, earthquakes.

Peak horizontal ground accelerations recorded from 15-OCT-2006 M6.7 Kiholo Bay earthquake accelerations shown in units of cm/s/s



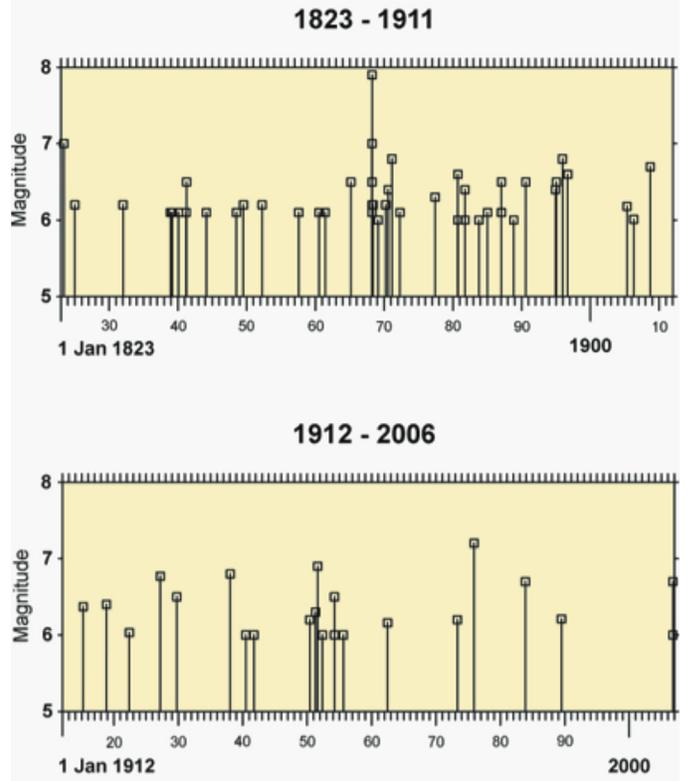
**Figure 2.** Map showing peak horizontal accelerations recorded during the October 15, 2006, M6.7 Kiholo Bay, Hawai‘i, earthquake. Data are from the U.S. Geological Survey National Strong Motion Project ([http://nsmg.wr.usgs.gov/data\\_sets/20061015\\_1707.html](http://nsmg.wr.usgs.gov/data_sets/20061015_1707.html)).

were reported as CDI IX, from the Kohala, Hāmākua, and Kona Districts on the northern and western parts of the Island of Hawai‘i. The close timing and proximity of the Kiholo Bay mainshock and the subsequent Māhukona earthquake did not allow for a clear separation between reports of the effects of the two earthquakes, and a CIIM for the M6.0 Māhukona earthquake was not produced.

In the earthquakes’ aftermaths, the County of Hawaii received many requests from homeowners for assessments of earthquake-generated building damage. In response to these requests, the Hawaii County Department of Public Works adopted the ATC-20 rapid evaluation procedure (Applied Technology Council, 2005). Nearly 2,000 homes were damaged, and 10 destroyed, by the effects of the earthquakes. Inspectors and engineers from the Hawaii County Department of Public Works coordinated and directed teams of engineers comprised of volunteer engineers (many flown in from other Hawaiian islands) to conduct the ATC-20 evaluations in a timely manner.

Figure 5 is the deaggregated CIIM, which shows the variability of reported earthquake effects across the county.

Frequency of Magnitude  $\geq 6.0$  Earthquakes



**Figure 3.** Earthquakes in Hawai‘i of magnitude 6 or greater, 1823–present, adapted from figure 51 of Wyss and Koyanagi, 1992, Isoseismal maps, macroseismic epicenters, and estimated magnitudes of historic earthquakes in the Hawaiian Islands, U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 2006.

The pattern of individual earthquake reports is somewhat reflective of the home damage assessments resulting from the ATC-20 inspections.

Of the nearly 1,700 homes inspected, approximately 1,000 were evaluated during the first week after the mainshock. Sixty-seven of the 1,000 homes were determined to be unsafe to enter or occupy and received the ATC-20 red-tag designation. Another 227 homes received the ATC-20 yellow-tag designation allowing restricted entry, occupancy, and lawful use. The remaining homes were considered safe to occupy. The ATC-20 evaluations clearly reflected particular vulnerability of wooden homes with single-wall construction to strong shaking as a result of earthquakes. Figure 6 is a map, provided by the County of Hawaii, showing locations of the red- and yellow-tagged homes.

Following the 2006 earthquakes, the Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) responded quickly and dispatched teams to the affected areas. In addition to disaster relief and recovery, FEMA enabled detailed voluntary inspections and assessments of residential damage and, subsequently, prescribed retrofits

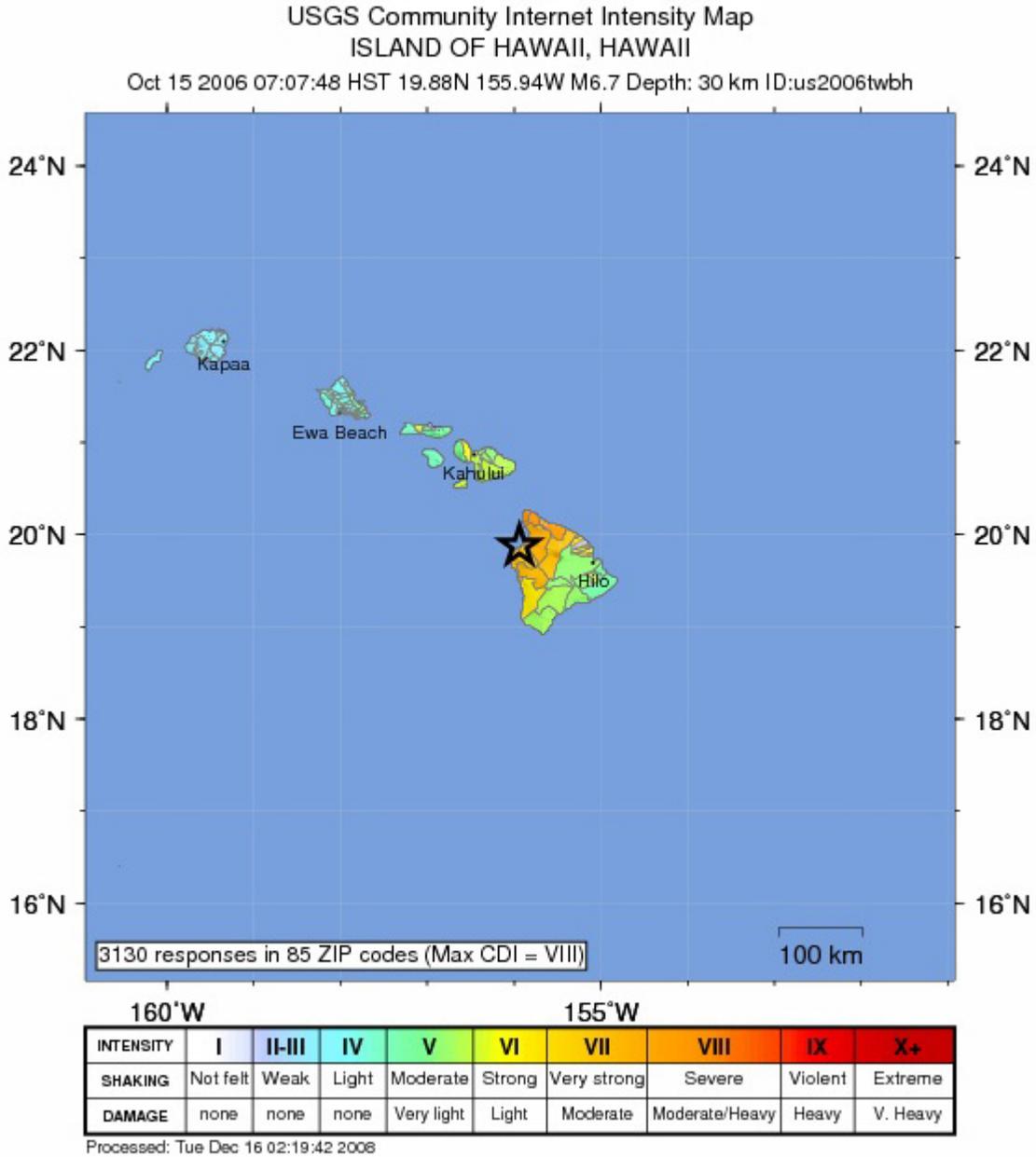
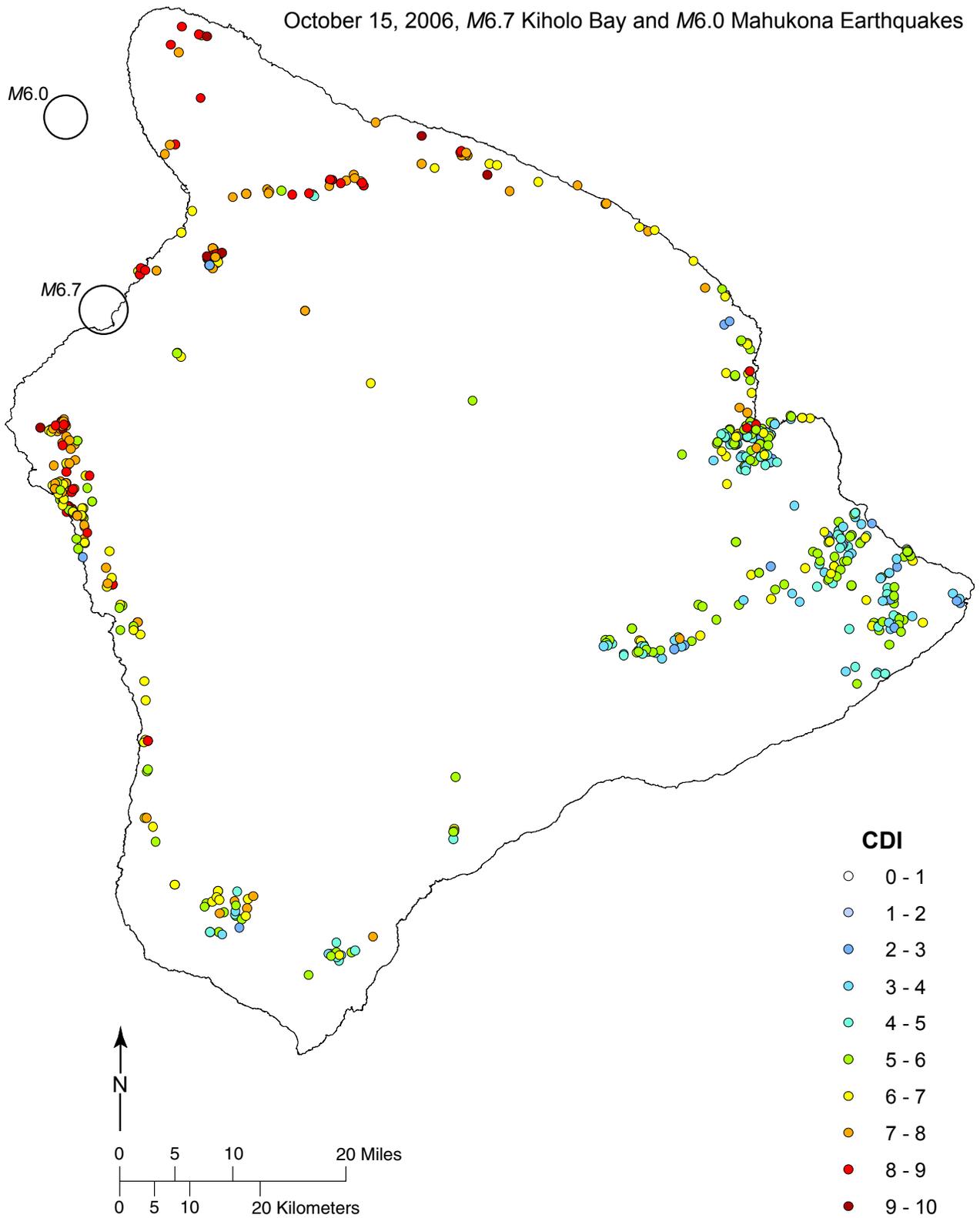


Figure 4. U.S. Geological Survey Community Internet Intensity Map for the October 15, 2006, M6.7 Kiholo Bay, Hawai'i earthquake.

to harden structures against the impact of earthquakes. The agency has supported technical efforts to better understand observed earthquake effects and to promote mitigation against future damaging earthquakes in the State of Hawaii.

A geotechnical project was initiated on the Island of Hawai'i to help interpret the patterns of strong ground shaking and ground failure following the earthquakes. Using a truck-based controlled seismic source, surveys of seismic wave speeds were done at locations of NSMP strong-motion recorders and the State of Hawaii's Kawaihae Harbor port facility. In addition to the basic geotechnical data, the results of these surveys will be incorporated into updated calculations of probabilistic seismic hazards in Hawai'i.

Although the vast majority of earthquakes in the State of Hawaii are closely related to the active volcanism associated with the southeastern part of the Island of Hawai'i, the October 2006 Kiholo Bay and Māhukona earthquakes clearly suggest the devastating potential of deeper lithospheric earthquakes. Large earthquakes thought to be nearly *M*7 have struck near the islands of Lāna'i (1871) and Maui (1938). It is thought that these, like the 2006 earthquakes, were deep lithospheric flexure earthquakes (Wyss and Koyanagi, 1992; Klein and others, 2001). Thus, it is important to recognize the potential seismic hazard posed by such earthquakes beneath the older Hawaiian Islands. The data and observations afforded by the 2006 earthquakes promise to improve probabilistic seismic hazards modeling in Hawai'i.



**Figure 5.** Individually computed Community Decimal Intensities, CDI, compiled from reports posted to the U.S. Geological Survey's Community Internet Intensity Maps Web site after the *M*6.7 Kīholo Bay and *M*6.0 Māhukona earthquakes of October 15, 2006. No attempts were made to discriminate between reports from one or the other earthquake because the events occurred within minutes of each other.

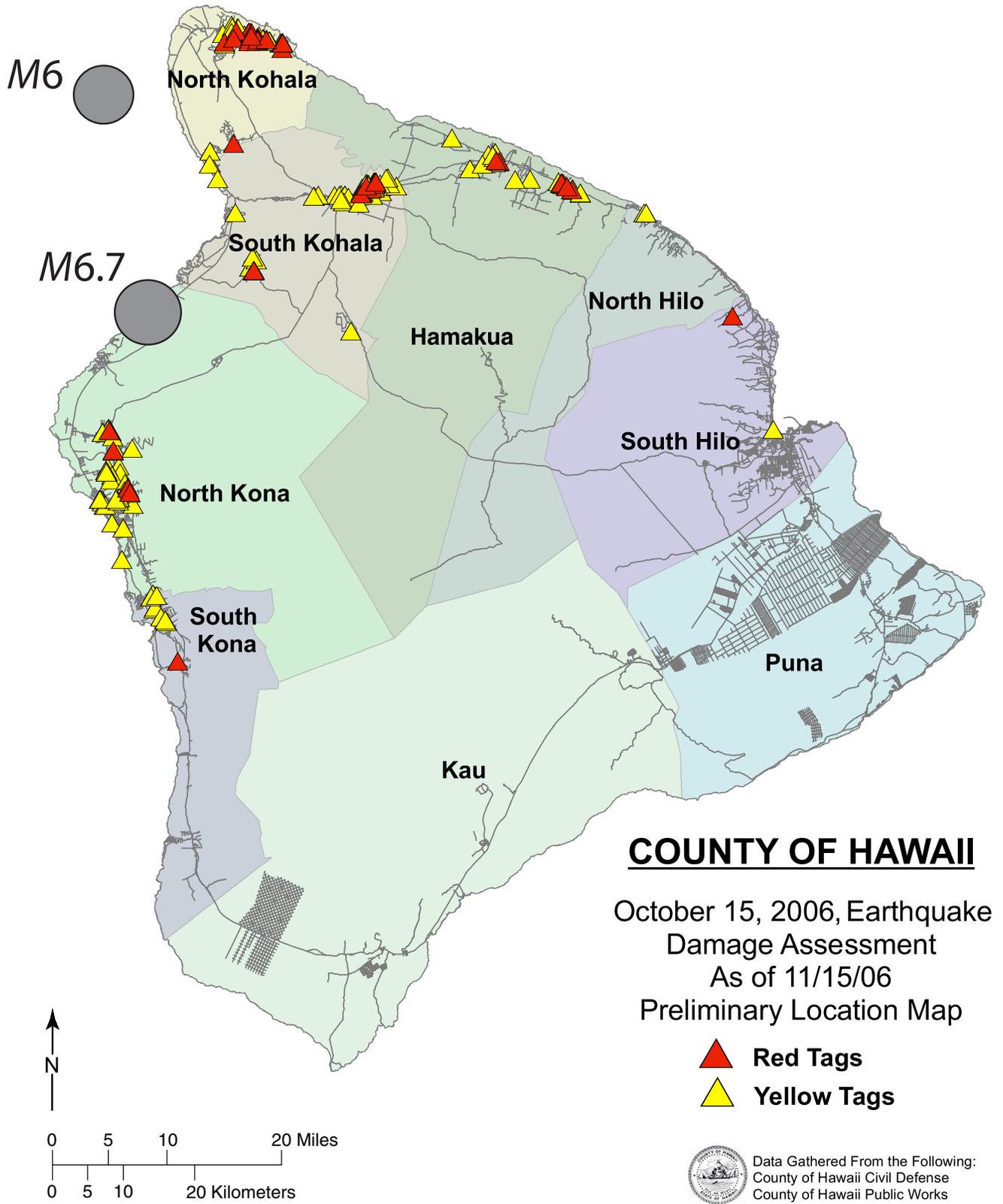


Figure 6. Map showing locations of homes in Hawaii County assigned red and yellow tags following ATC-20 post-earthquake assessments.

# Overview of Selected Sites

By Taeko Jane Takahashi

The effects of the October 15, 2006, Kīholo Bay-Māhukona earthquakes are shown in images taken from the coastal route along the northern half of the Island of Hawai‘i, where damage was the most concentrated. The direction of presentation is counter-clockwise, from Pa‘aui on the eastern or windward (Hāmākua) side to Kealakekua Bay on the western or leeward (Kona) side. A list of sites, their locations, coordinates, and distance from the epicenter at Kīholo Bay are given in table 1. A Google Earth map (fig. 7) and a topographic map (fig. 8) pinpoint the 36 sites where damage was documented and digital images were compiled for this collection.

The selection of sites was based on access, where photographing was not a problem, such as parks and roadways, or where permission to photograph was granted, such as

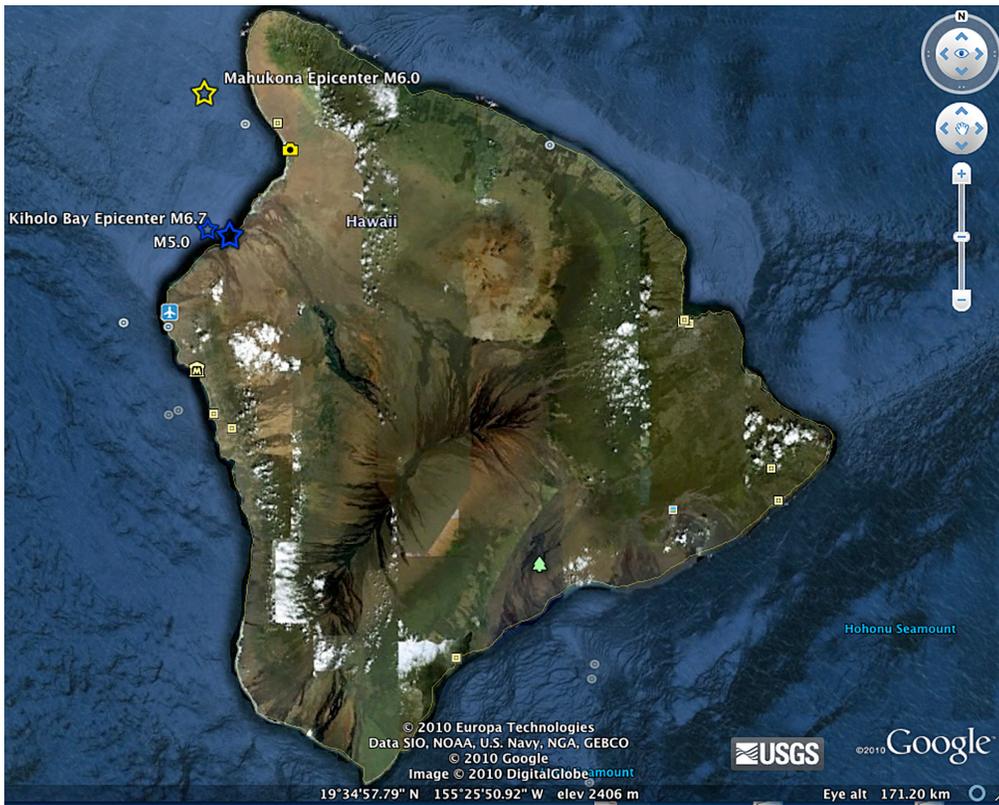
churches, museums, and schools. Areas of restricted access or those that were hazardous to photograph, such as dams and cliffs, and sites that were on private property, such as businesses and residences, were not included.

The photographs constitute a partial record of the damage and, where pertinent, recovery and restoration at selected sites. With limited person resources, around-the-island coverage in the days immediately following the earthquakes was not feasible; however, owing to the lengthy process of recovery, and delays prior to the start of repair work at many of the sites, photo documentation could continue long after the event occurred.

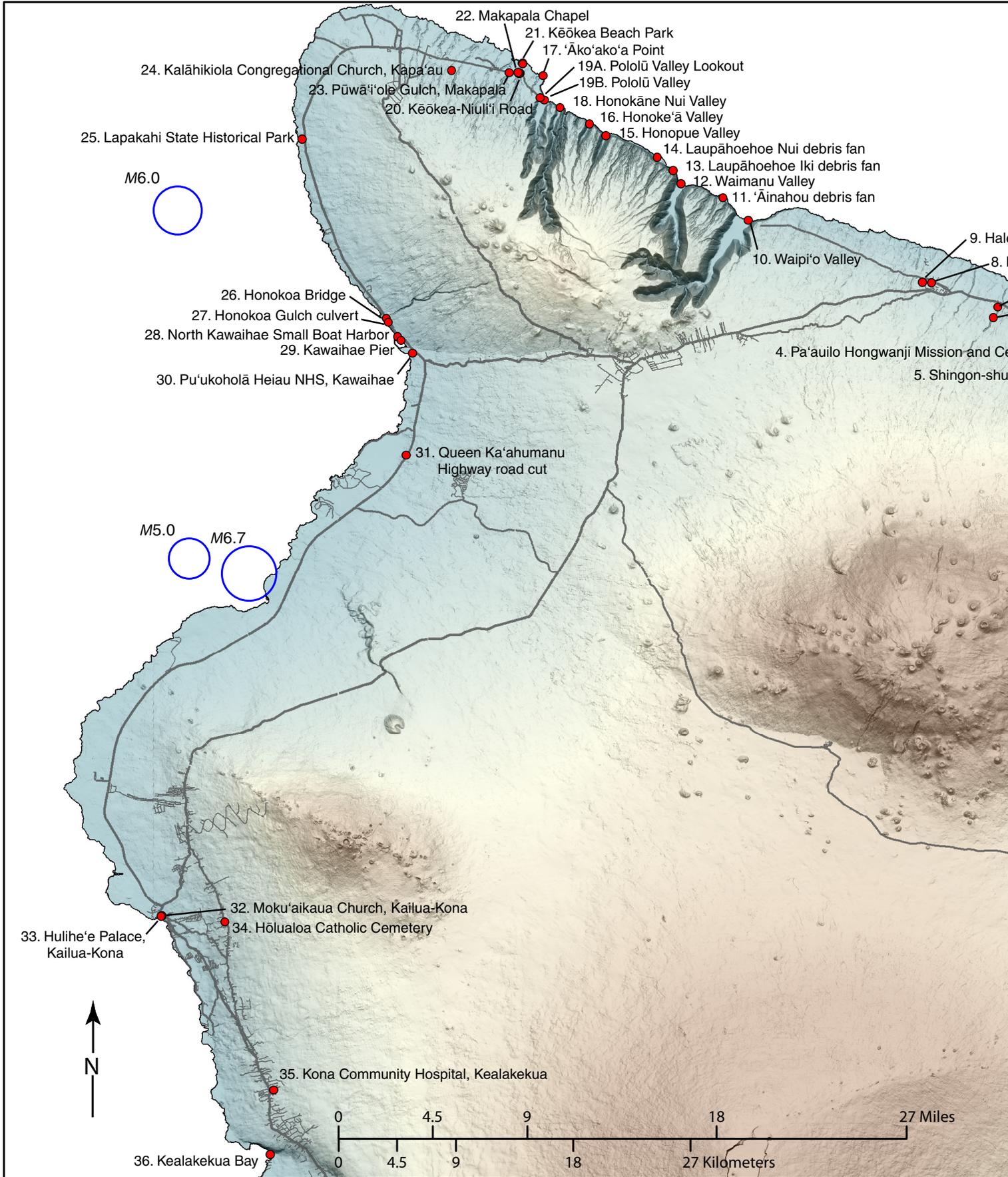
The types of damage photographed include natural and manmade effects, both major and minor, showing evidence of the direction and result of movement in concrete bridges

and buildings, cemeteries and churches, mortared and stacked stone walls, roadways, embankments, cliffs, and slopes that altered the face of the Island of Hawai‘i. In order to provide a visual understanding of the extent or nature of the damage, photographs selected include broad overviews, mid-range perspectives, and close-ups of the sites.

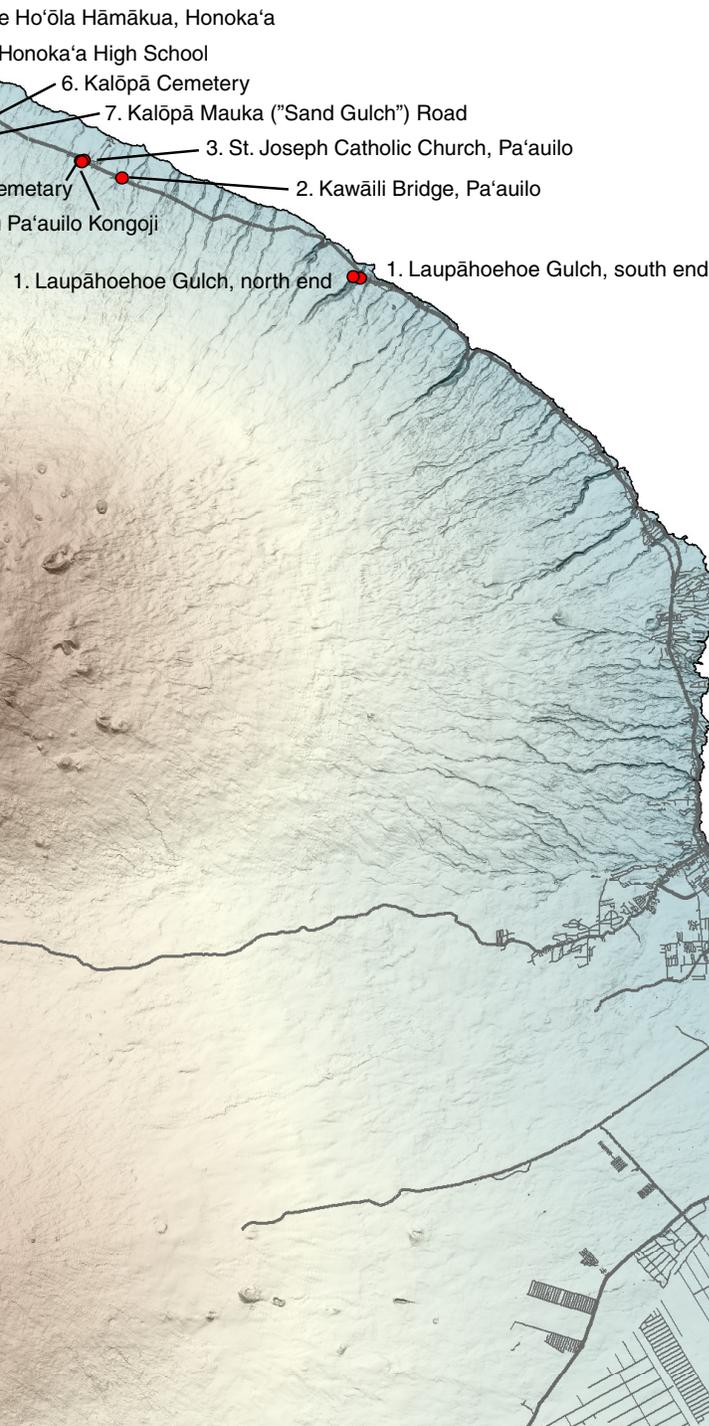
The images are in the public domain and may be used without permission. The USGS, however, does not assume responsibility for any modifications that change the nature, intent, or color rendition of the original photographs. The purpose of the photographs was to represent the events as naturally as possible, including the grays of weathered basaltic rocks, the brownish-greens of vegetation, and the deep blues of Hawai‘i’s skies—all colored by the light (often filtered through passing rain clouds) that shines variably down on Hawai‘i.



**Figure 7.** Site locations on Google Earth map, from site 1, Pa‘aui to the northeast, to site 36, Kealakekua Bay to the southwest, going counter-clockwise around the northern half of the Island of Hawai‘i. The earthquake epicenters and geographic features mentioned in the text are identified, and figures 2, 5, and 6 from the Seismic Overview section of this report have been adapted and overlain on the map.



## Overview Map of Selected Sites, October 15, 2006, Kīholo Bay and Māhukona Earthquakes, Island of Hawai'i



### Selected Sites, October 15, 2006, Kīholo Bay and Māhukona Earthquakes, Island of Hawai'i

1. Laupāhoehoe Gulch, north and south end
2. Kawāili Bridge, Pa'auilo
3. St. Joseph Catholic Church, Pa'auilo
4. Pa'auilo Hongwanji Mission and Cemetery
5. Shingon-shu Pa'auilo Kongoji
6. Kalōpā Cemetery
7. Kalōpā Mauka ("Sand Gulch") Road
8. Honoka'a High School
9. Hale Ho'ōla Hāmākua, Honoka'a
10. Waipi'o Valley
11. 'Āinahou debris fan
12. Waimanu Valley
13. Laupāhoehoe Iki
14. Laupāhoehoe Nui
15. Honopue Valley
16. Honoke'ā Valley
17. 'Āko'ako'a Point
18. Honokāne Nui Valley
- 19A. Pololū Valley
- 19B. Pololū Valley Lookout
20. Kēōkea Park-Niuli'i Road
21. Kēōkea Beach Park
22. Makapala Chapel
23. Pūwā'ī'ole Gulch, Makapala
24. Kalāhikiola Congregational Church, Kapa'au
25. Lapakahi State Historical Park
26. Honokoa Bridge
27. Honokoa Gulch culvert
28. North Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor
29. Kawaihae Pier
30. Pu'ukoholā Heiau NHS, Kawaihae
31. Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway road cut
32. Moku'aikaua Church, Kailua-Kona
33. Hulihe'e Palace, Kailua-Kona
34. Hōlualoa Catholic Cemetery
35. Kona Community Hospital, Kealakekua
36. Kealakekua Bay

**Figure 8.** Locations of selected sites on topographic map, from site 1, Pa'auilo to the northeast, to site 36, Kealakekua Bay to the southwest, going counter-clockwise around the northern half of the Island of Hawai'i.

## 10 Overview of Selected Sites

**Table 1.** Site locations, with coordinates and distances from the Kiholo Bay epicenter, Island of Hawai'i.

Site No.	Site Location	Hwy	Mile Post	Actual Mileage	Latitude (°N)	Longitude (°W)	Epicenter distance (km)	Epicenter distance (mi)
1	Laupāhoehoe Gulch, Laupāhoehoe, North Hilo District							
	Laupāhoehoe Gulch, south end	19	26	26.3	19.98716	155.24615	73.0	45.4
	Laupāhoehoe Gulch, north end	19	26	26.6	19.98808	155.24930	72.7	45.2
2	Kawāili Bridge, Pa'auilo, Hāmākua District	19	35	35.2	20.03334	155.35542	63.0	39.1
3	St. Joseph Catholic Church, Pa'auilo, Hāmākua District	19	36	36.4	20.04143	155.37260	61.5	38.2
4	Pa'auilo Hongwanji Mission and Cemetery, Pa'auilo, Hāmākua District	19	36	36.4	20.04117	155.37417	61.4	38.1
5	Shingon-shu Pa'auilo Kongoji, Pa'auilo, Hāmākua District	19	36	36.4	20.04069	155.37344	61.4	38.2
6	Kalōpā Cemetery, Kalōpā, Hāmākua District	19	39	39.8	20.05916	155.41804	57.7	35.8
7	Kalōpā Mauka ("Sand Gulch") Road, Kalōpā, Hāmākua District	19	39	39.8	20.05226	155.42113	57.1	35.5
8	Honoka'a High School, Honoka'a, Hāmākua District	19	43	43.0	20.07607	155.46380	53.9	33.5
9	Hale Ho'ōla Hāmākua, Honoka'a, Hāmākua District	19	43	43.6	20.07651	155.47020	53.4	33.2
10	Waipi'o Valley, Hāmākua District	N/A			20.11922	155.59030	42.2	26.2
11	Coastline, 'Āinahou debris fan, Hāmākua District	N/A			20.13467	155.60764	44.5	27.7
12	Waimanu Valley, Hāmākua District	N/A			20.14441	155.63672	43.0	26.7
13	Coastline, Laupāhoehoe Iki to Laupāhoehoe Nui debris fans, Hāmākua District	N/A			20.16265	155.65286	43.2	26.9
	Laupāhoehoe Iki debris fan	N/A			20.15363	155.64204	43.3	26.9
	Laupāhoehoe Nui debris fan	N/A			20.16265	155.65286	43.2	26.9
14	Coastline, Laupāhoehoe Nui debris fan to Honopue Valley, Hāmākua District							
	Laupāhoehoe Nui debris fan	N/A			20.16265	155.65286	43.2	26.9
	Honopue Valley	N/A			20.17780	155.68818	42.1	26.2
15	Honopue Valley, Hāmākua District	N/A			20.17780	155.68818	42.1	26.2
16	Honoke'ā Valley, Hāmākua-North Kohala District boundary	N/A			20.18563	155.69951	42.1	26.2
17	Coastline, Honopue Valley to 'Āko'ako'a Point, Hāmākua and North Kohala Districts							
	Honopue Valley, Hāmākua District	N/A			20.17780	155.68818	42.1	26.2
	'Āko'ako'a Point, North Kohala District	N/A			20.19234	155.71646	41.7	25.9
18	Honokāne Nui Valley North Kohala District	N/A			20.19675	155.71975	42.0	26.1
19	Pololū Valley and Pololū Valley Lookout, North Kohala District							
	19A Pololū Valley	N/A			20.20370	155.73111	42.0	26.1
	19B Pololū Valley Lookout, Niuli'i-Hāwī Road	270	29	29.0	20.20357	155.73375	41.9	26.0
20	Kēōkeke Park Road intersection to Waikani Gulch bridge, Makapala, North Kohala District	270	27	27.2	20.22029	155.74826	42.8	26.6
	Kēōkeke Park Road intersection	270	27	27.3	20.22064	155.74698	42.9	26.6
	Waikani Gulch one-lane bridge, Makapala	270	27	27.2	20.22029	155.74826	42.8	26.5
21	Kēōkeke Beach Park, Makapala, North Kohala District							
	21A Kēōkeke Beach	270	27	27.3	20.22747	155.74579	43.6	27.1
	21B Kēōkeke Beach Park gazebo	270	27	27.3	20.22782	155.74540	43.6	27.1
	21C Kēōkeke Beach Park pavilion	270	27	27.3	20.22697	155.74559	43.6	27.1
22	Makapala Chapel, Makapala, North Kohala District	270	27	27.1	20.22133	155.74883	42.8	26.6
23	Pūwā'i'ole Gulch, Makapala, North Kohala District	270	26	26.6	20.22104	155.75501	42.5	26.4
24	Kalāhikiola Congregational Church, Kapa'au, North Kohala District	270	23	23.9	20.22261	155.79454	41.0	25.5
25	Lapakahi State Historical Park, Māhukona, North Kohala District	270	13	13.9	20.17535	155.89753	33.3	20.7
26	Honokoa Bridge, Māhukona, South Kohala District	270	4	4.5	20.05158	155.83952	21.7	13.5
27	Honokoa Gulch culvert, Māhukona, South Kohala District	270	4	4.3	20.04896	155.83803	21.5	13.4
28	North Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor, Kawaihae, South Kohala District	270	3	3.4	20.03887	155.83148	20.9	13.0
29	Kawaihae Pier, Kawaihae, South Kohala District	270	3	3.4	20.03642	155.82916	20.8	12.9
30	Pu'ukoholā Heiau National Historic Site, Kawaihae, South Kohala District	270	2	2.3	20.02761	155.82148	20.4	12.7
31	Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway road cut, Puakō, South Kohala District	19	71	71.6	19.95728	155.82577	14.4	9.0
32	Moku'aikaua Church, Kailua-Kona, North Kona District	11	119	119.6	19.63964	155.99389	27.2	16.9
33	Hulihe'e Palace, Kailua-Kona, North Kona District	11	119	119.6	19.63929	155.99453	27.3	16.9
34	Hōlualoa Catholic Cemetery, Hōlualoa, North Kona District	180	5	5.0	19.63539	155.95062	27.0	16.8
35	Kona Community Hospital, Kealakekua, South Kona District	11	112	112.1	19.51957	155.91712	39.9	24.8
36	Kealakekua Bay, Kealakekua, South Kona District	11	105	105.8	19.47510	155.91961	44.8	27.9

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Commission on Water Resources Management

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Marissa Bondaug, Harbors Division, Kawaihae Harbor

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USGS, Hawaiian Volcano Observatory Staff—cont  
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# Glossary of Hawaiian Words and Place Names

Definitions of words in this section have been taken primarily from <http://www.wehewehe.org>, the online Hawaiian dictionaries. Where place names were not listed in the dictionaries, literal meanings of the words that make up the names are given to shed light on their etymology. Words defined are listed alphabetically in bold type and their definitions given in italics. For place names, features that are important in this work (that is, bay, gulch, point, stream, valley, town) and their general compass direction are included. More specific locations are provided in the captions.

As in all languages, Hawaiian words have many connotative meanings that enhance their literal definitions. Delving into the connotations of place names is invaluable in understanding the nature of place in Hawaiian geology, history, and culture.

Words in the Hawaiian language (‘ōlelo Hawai‘i) are pronounced, for the most part, as in pronouncing Spanish, Italian, or Japanese. The glottal stop, or ‘okina (‘), between vowels or at the beginning of a word indicates that the glottis is closed when pronouncing the word, as in “accord” for ‘a, “echo” for ‘e, “if” for ‘i, “oh-oh” for ‘o, and “ooze” for ‘u. The macron, or kahakō, over a vowel, indicates that the sound is extended, as in “ahhh” for ā, “ehhh” for ē, “eee” (as in Lee) for ī, “o” (as in singing “O holy night”) for ō, and “uuu” (as in Lou) for ū.

## List of words used:

**‘a‘ā** Lava with a clinkery, spinose, jagged surface.

**ahupua‘a** Land division, usually extending from the uplands to the sea, marked, in ancient times, by a heap (ahu) of stones upon which an image of a pig (pua‘a) was lain as a marker of a tax payment to the chief.

**‘Āinahou** *New land.* Large debris fan north of Waipi‘o Valley and south of Waimanu Valley, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**‘Āko‘ako‘a** *Coral, coral head.* Point in Niuli‘i, north of Pololū Valley, North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**‘Akoni Pule** Highway 270, dedicated in July 1973, named after the Hawai‘i State legislator who helped obtain Federal and State funds to construct a safer access to Hāwī and Kapa‘au (towns in the North Kohala District) than through the narrow, winding, Kohala Mountain Road [Wikipedia, 2011].

**Alakahi** *One-way.* Stream and waterfall in the right branch of upper Waipi‘o Valley, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Ali‘i** *Chief, royal.* Coastal street from Keauhou Bay to Kailua Bay in Kailua-Kona, North Kona District, west Hawai‘i.

**Āpau** *All, entirely.* Debris fan north of Laupāhoehoe Nui and south of Honopue Valley, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**‘Āwini** *Sharp, bold, forward.* Ahupua‘a, gulch, and trail (extending from the northern mouth of Pololū Valley and ending at the Kohala Ditch Trail northwest of Honoke‘ā Valley), North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**hale** *House, building, hall.*

**Hāmākua** *Long corner.* Forest reserve, ditch, ditch trail, district of central and northeast Hawai‘i.

**Hāpuna** *Spring.* Beach, State Recreation Area, bay, and ahupua‘a, South Kohala District, northwest Hawai‘i.

**haukapila** *Hospital.*

**Hauola** *Dew of life.* Road in Pa‘auilo, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Hāwī** Meaning unknown. Literally, **hā**, *to breathe, four, fourth note in the musical scale*; **wī**, *the sound of wind, of gnashing teeth, a high, shrill sound.* Village and land section, north Kohala District, north Hawai‘i. (Situated at the northernmost tip of the island, Hāwī is known for the high winds that blow through the region and bend its trees.)

**heiau** Hawaiian place of worship, from earth terraces to stone platforms and enclosures. Different types of heiau:

**heiau ho‘ōla** heiau for treating the sick.

**heiau ho‘oulu ‘ai** heiau for offering first fruit to insure a bountiful harvest.

**heiau ho‘oulu i‘a** heiau for offering fish to insure good fishing.

**heiau ho‘oulu ua** heiau for offerings to ensure rain.

**heiau ma‘o** small, temporary heiau covered with tapa dyed green (ma‘o) for the ho‘oulu ‘ai ceremony.

**heiau po‘o kanaka** heiau for offering human sacrifices.

**heiau waikaua** heiau for offerings to insure success in war.

**Hi‘ilawe** *Lift and carry.* The highest untterraced waterfall in Hawai‘i and one of the highest in the world, with a total height of about 442 m (~1,450 ft), in Waipi‘o Valley, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i (Hi‘ilawe Falls data from USGS topo sheet, Kukuiahae quad, Island of Hawaii).

**Hikiau** *A luakini* (a heiau where human sacrifices were made) of Kamehameha I at Kealakekua Bay, South Kona District, southwest Hawai‘i.

**Hōlualoa** *Long sled course.* Village, bay, and land section, North Kona District, northwest Hawai‘i.

**Honoka‘a** *Cavern, sea cave.* Bay, town, landing, ahupua‘a, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Honokāne Iki** Meaning unknown. Literally, **hono**, *valley*; **kane**, *male, or (capitalized) name of Hawaiian god*; **iki**, *little*. Valley, stream, and ahupua‘a, North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Honokāne Nui** Meaning unknown. Literally, **hono**, *valley*; **kane**, *male, or (capitalized) name of Hawaiian god*; **nui**, *big*. Valley and stream, Kohala Mountains, North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Honoke‘ā** *Volcanic rock place*. Valley and stream, North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Honokoia** *Bay of brave warriors*. Derived from **hono**, *bay, gulch*; **koa**, *fearless, martial*. Gulch and bridge, South Kohala District, northwest Hawai‘i.

**Honopue** Meaning unknown. Literally, **hono**, *the brow of a cliff, a joining, as of mountains*; **pue**, *huddled, crouched*. Valley, stream, and land section, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**ho‘ōla** *Life*. **Hale Ho‘ōla**, *house of life*, name of hospital in Honoka‘a, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Hulihe‘e** *Turn [and] flee*. Palace at Kailua-Kona, built in 1838 by Governor Kuakini, restored by the Daughters of Hawai‘i in 1927 as a museum of Hawaiian artifacts, North Kona District, northwest Hawai‘i.

**iki** Small, little.

**‘ilima** *Sida* (especially *Sida fallax*), a shrub of the mallow family, indigenous to drier regions of the tropical Pacific, bearing yellow, orange, or dull-red paper-thin flowers, often strung into leis (it takes about 500 blossoms to make a lei).

**‘iolo** *Name of a legendary rat*. Mountain, stream, and ahupua‘a, Kohala Mountains; name of road leading to Kalāhikiola Congregational Church in Kapa‘au, North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Ka‘ahumanu** *Bird (feather) cloak*. Queen, name of Kamehameha I’s favorite wife; Highway 19, coastal highway of South Kohala and North Kona Districts, northwest Hawai‘i.

**Ka‘awaloa** *The distant kava* (referring to runners, who went to Puna or Waipi‘o to get kava for chiefs). Site of the monument to Captain Cook at Kealakekua Bay, South Kona District, southwest Hawai‘i.

**Ka‘āpahu** *The truncation*. Literally, **ka**, *to strike*; **‘āpahu**, *to cut squarely off, a piece cut off at right angles*. Road in Kalōpā, also known as Sand Gulch Road, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Kalāhikiola** *The sun, bringing life; the day, bringing salvation*. Congregational church, mountain, and ahupua‘a in Kapa‘au, North Kohala District, north Hawai‘i.

**Kalākaua** King David Kalākaua, who reigned from 1836 to 1891, often referred to as the “Merrie Monarch” for his love of learning and culture. He is author of *The Legends and Myths of Hawai‘i*.

**Kālani‘ai** Meaning unknown. Literally, **kālani**, *gallon*; **‘ai**, *food*. Road in Kalōpā, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Kalōpā** *The tenant farmer*. Town, gulch, State Recreation Area, land section, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Kamehameha** *The lonely one*. Kamehameha I, the first king of Hawai‘i, credited with unifying the islands.

**kāne** *Male, man, husband*; when capitalized, name of one of the four primary Hawaiian gods.

**Kapa‘au** *The elevated portion of a heiau*. Land section, town east of Hāwī, North Kohala District, north-northeast Hawai‘i.

**Kawaihae** *The water of wrath* (of people who fought for water from a pool in this arid region). Land section, bay, road, town, Hāmākua District, northwest Hawai‘i.

**Kawāili** Meaning unknown. Bridge in Pa‘auilo, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Kealakekua** *The pathway of the gods, who took a shortcut by sliding down the cliff, thereby leaving an imprint*. Bay (where Captain Cook was killed), trail, village, marine preserve, State Historical and Underwater Parks, and land section, southwest Hawai‘i.

**Ke‘ei** Meaning unknown. Lagoon, village, coastal area adjacent to, and south of, Kealakekua Bay, South Kona District, southwest Hawai‘i.

**Kēōkea** *The sound of white [water]*. Beach park and bay, North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**koa** *Acacia koa*, a large endemic tree of the legume family with a smooth, gray bark and gnarly branches, bearing clusters of small white flowers that adorn the canopy, and bipinnate leaflets that mature into leathery, crescent-shaped leaves. Its wood was prized earlier in the making of canoes, paddles, surfboards, and calabashes, and is now used in making furniture, ‘ukuleles (a small stringed instrument shaped like a guitar), bowls, and cooking implements and cutting boards.

**Kohala** *Cherished land*. District famous for the āpa‘apa‘a (name given to a strong Kohala wind), forest reserve, ditch, trail, mountains, north Hawai‘i.

**Kona** *Leeward*. Leeward district of Hawai‘i; northwest and southwest Hawai‘i.

**Kuakini** *Innumerable*. Highway, Kailua-Kona, Hawai‘i, named after John Adams Kuakini, a governor of the island (1820–1844) and acting governor of O‘ahu (1831–1834), who was in charge of building Hulihe‘e Palace in 1838 and Moku‘aikaua Church in 1823 and rebuilding it in 1836.

**Kūkai‘au** *Current appearing*. Village, gulch, and land section south of Pa‘auilo, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Kūka‘ilimoku** Name of war god.

**kukui** *Aleurites moluccana*, the candlenut tree, a member of the spurge family, the kernels of whose oily nuts were used as lights in ancient times and used today to make **‘inamona**, a relish. The polished and drilled nuts are also strung into leis, as are its flowers and silvery leaves. The soft wood was used

in canoe-making, its nut coats and roots to make black dye, and gum from its bark for painting tapa cloth. An important resource for the Hawaiian people, kukui has a broad distribution throughout Hawai‘i. From the air, it can be distinguished from other large forest trees in the valleys of northeast Hawai‘i by its silvery sage-green canopy.

**lānai** *Porch, veranda, shed of a house.*

**Lapakahi** *Single ridge.* Restored Hawaiian coastal village site, State Historical Park, ahupua‘a, North Kohala District, northwest Hawai‘i.

**lau hala** *Leaf of the pandanus* (screw pine family), native to Hawaii and other Pacific islands, Australia, and southern Asia. Leaves from the many varieties of this tree were used in ancient times for sails, thatching, and garments. **Lau** (*leaf*) **hala** (*pandanus*) continues to be an important source of material for weaving floor coverings and place mats, baskets, hats, fans, and ornaments. The fruit of the hala is still used today as brushes for dying fabric and in lei-making.

**Laupāhoehoe** *Smooth lava flat.* Land sections, stream, point, village, beach park, ancient surfing area, North Hilo District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Laupāhoehoe Iki** *Little, smooth lava flat.* Debris fan, now heavily vegetated, at the base of the sea cliffs adjacent to, and north of, Waimanu Valley, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Laupāhoehoe Nui** *Large, smooth lava flat.* Larger of the two debris fans (the other being Laupāhoehoe Iki), now heavily vegetated, at the base of the sea cliffs adjacent to, and north of, Laupāhoehoe Iki, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**lehua** See **‘ōhi‘a lehua**.

**lei** *Garland, wreath, necklace of flowers leaves, shells, feathers, seeds, beads, paper, or candy, given as an expression of affection, celebration, or respect.*

**lele** *Sacrificial altar or stand at a heiau.*

**lo‘i** *Irrigated terrace, especially for taro, but also for rice.*

**lua** *Hole, pit, crater; toilet.*

**Māhukona** *Leeward steam.* Beach park, harbor, village, North Kohala District, northwest Hawai‘i.

**Mailekini** Many maile vines (*Alyxia olivaeformis*; endemic twining shrub with shiny, fragrant leaves used in leis). Ancient heiau at Pu‘ukoholā National Historical Site, south of Kawaihae, South Kohala District, northwest Hawai‘i.

**Makapala** *Sore beginning to heal.* Village and land section, North Kohala District, north-northeast Hawai‘i.

**Māmalahoa** *Paddle fragments* (after Kamehameha was struck on the head while his foot was caught in a crevice; probably named after the law of the splintered paddle, which guaranteed safety on the highway to all). Belt road, Island of Hawai‘i.

**makai** *Ocean; towards the ocean.*

**māmane** *Sophora chrysophylla*, a high-altitude endemic tree of the legume family, bearing bright yellow flowers and

winged seed pods (flowers and seeds were food for native birds), whose hard wood was prized for digging sticks, house and fence posts and beams, and **papa hōlua** (sled) runners; also the name of the endemic bird that feeds on the nectar and seeds of the tree. Main street through Honoka‘a town, off Māmalahoa Highway, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**mauka** *Inland.*

**Moku‘aikaua** Name derived from the forested crown lands, about two miles east of Donkey Mill, that yielded the wood for the church on Ali‘i Drive, Kailua-Kona, North Kohala District, west Hawai‘i.

**Mokupuku** *Contracted island.* Islet, off-shore Pololū Valley to the north and Honokāne Nui Valley to the south, North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Muliwai** *River.* Trail, ahupua‘a between Waimanu and Waipi‘o valleys, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Napo‘opo‘o** *The holes.* The place is so named because people in the bay in canoes saw people on-shore peering at them through holes (doors) in their grass huts. Village in Hōnaunau, South Kona District, west Hawai‘i.

**Niuli‘i** *Small coconut.* Village north of Pololū Valley, ahupua‘a and stream, North Kohala District, north-northeast Hawai‘i.

**nui** *Big, large, great, important, the greater part.*

**Nunulu** *growl* [probably referring to the sound of the infamous winds of the Kohala region]. Ahupua‘a in Kapa‘au, North Kohala District, north-northeast Hawai‘i.

**‘ōhi‘a** See **‘ōhi‘a lehua**.

**‘ōhi‘a lehua** *Metrosideros polymorpha*, hardwood tree and blossom of the myrtle family with showy blossoms made up of clusters of red-to-yellow stamens. The tree grows from sea level to more than 2,500 m (8,000 ft), the timberline on Mauna Loa, reaching a height of more than 25 m (80 ft) in wet rain forests. Its dark, dense wood is prized for house posts and flooring, spears, poi-pounding boards, and other uses where durability is of the essence.

**‘oloke‘a** *Scaffolding; ladder made of sticks tied horizontally to the vertical poles.*

**Pa‘auilo** Meaning unknown. Village, gulch, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**pāhoehoe** *Smooth, sometimes ropy, basaltic lava.*

**Pakalana** *Michelia alba* DC., *Michelia longifolia* Bl, white champak tree or blossom of the tree native to Java. The fragrant flowers are used in making leis [Neal, 1965]. Street in Honoka‘a, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**pali** *Cliff; steep hill.*

**Paokalani** Meaning unknown. Literally, **pao**, *cave, to scoop out, as of the action of the sea on the coast*; **kalani**, *gallon*. Islet, off-shore Pololū Valley to the north and Honokāne Nui Valley to the south, North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Papalele** *Leaping flats.* Street and gulch in Kalōpā, land section, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Pololū** *Long spear.* Valley, overlook, North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Puakea** *White blossom; pale, as sunset clouds; to spread, as fog; color of a buckskin horse.* Ranch, land section, point, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Puakō** *Sugar-cane blossom.* Village, bay, point, road, petroglyph field, South Kohala District, northwest Hawai‘i.

**Pu‘ukoholā** *Hill of the whale.* National historic site; heiau constructed by Kamehameha I for his war god Kūka‘ilimoku, near Kawaihae, northwest Hawai‘i. Another meaning, spelled **Pu‘ukohola**, is given in *Kamehameha and His Warrior Kekūhaupi‘o*: **Pu‘u**, desire, need (for death); **kohola**, reef flats; **kai kohola**, lagoon—hence, death in the lagoon (of the heiau) to those who do harm to the land and its people [Desha, translated by Frazier, 2000].

**Pūwā‘i‘ole** Meaning unknown. Literally, **pūwā**, to shine, reflect brightly; **‘i**, to say, great; **‘ole**, not, nothingness. Gulch in Makapala, North Kohala District, north-northeast Hawai‘i.

**Waiakala‘e** *Water of the clearness.* Falls, stream, and gulch in Pololū Valley, North Kohala District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Waihīlau** *Many trickling waters (as on a cliff face).* Stream, Waimanu Valley, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Wai‘ilikahi** *Water with a single surface.* Falls and stream, Waimanu Valley, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Waikani** Meaning unknown. Literally, **wai**, water; **kani**, sound. Gulch near Kēōkea Road, Akoni Pule Highway, North Kohala District, north-northeast Hawai‘i.

**Wailoa** *Long water.* Stream, Waipi‘o Valley, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Waimanu** *Bird water.* Valley, bay, stream, trail, land section, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

**Waipahi** Meaning unknown. Literally, **wai**, water; **stream**; **pahi**, knife. Stream, south of Honokane Iki Valley and north of Honoke‘ā Valley, North Kohala District, north-northeast Hawai‘i.

**Waipi‘o** *Curved water.* Valley, bay, gulch, stream, land section, Hāmākua District, northeast Hawai‘i.

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