

**State of Hawai`i**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**Division of State Parks**  
**Honolulu, Hawai`i**

October 24, 2014

Board of Land and Natural Resources  
State of Hawai`i  
Honolulu, Hawai`i

**SUBJECT:** Request for Approval of the Design of a New Warning Sign, and the Placement of Act 82, SLH 03, Warning and Management Signs at Identified Locations of Ka`ena Point State Park Reserve, Mokuleia Section, and Adjacent Land, Oahu.

**Background Information on Act 82, SLH 03, Warning Signs:**

Act 82, Session Laws of Hawai`i 2003, relating to Public Land Liability, established a process for installing and maintaining warning signs on improved public lands, and provides the State and Counties with protection from liability for damages caused by the dangerous natural conditions that are identified through the signage. Pursuant to Act 82, SLH 03, the Board is to review and approve of the design and placement of these types of signs. The Board, following the recommendations of a Risk Assessment Working Group (RAWG) reviewed and approved the sign design as dictated by Chapter 13-8, Hawai`i Administrative Rules (HAR). All subsequent sign placement at park and trail locations under the Department and County jurisdiction are submitted for review by the RAWG and approved by the Board.

**Sign Placement Criteria: Pursuant to Chapter 13-8, HAR, the following guidelines have been used for determination of the placement of signage:**

§ 13-8-9 Public use and exposure. (a) Traffic patterns and managed access points of people accessing the improved public lands shall be considered when placing signs. (b) The type, frequency, and location of incidents or potential public exposure relating to specific dangerous natural conditions when known on the improved public lands shall be considered when placing signs.

§ 13-8-10 Placement. Sign(s) shall be placed at or near access points; i.e., along vehicle and pedestrian traffic corridors in clearly visible locations placed as close as possible to the potentially dangerous natural conditions on improved public lands and at managed and designated entrances where the signs will be seen as users enter improved public lands. View sheds, aesthetics, and feasibility of installation shall be considered in the placement of the signs. Signs shall be installed with consideration for the average adult line-of-sight, but outside of the general path of travel to avoid physical contact with the signs. Signs may be attached to posts or by any other method of installation depending on the nature of the location and terrain.

On February 8, 2013, the Board of Land and Natural Resources approved the placement of Act 82, SLH 03 Warning and Management Signs at Ka'ena Point, Oahu (Exhibit A). This action was taken following an injury related to falling rock there, and resulted in the closure of the area. The area has been popular with rock climbing enthusiasts for decades and is the only geologic area with suitable rock faces that are stable enough for recreational rock climbing activities.

Following the closure, the Department coordinated with the Office of the Attorney General to develop signage which would convey the hazards which could be encountered if access were to be allowed. The potential hazards are falling rocks from the area known as the "Mokuleia Climbing Wall," loose rocks on the talus slope leading to the wall, and an access route which is not marked or maintained by the State. (Exhibit B)

There is a small relatively level ledge below the wall where people can observe climbers, or deploy a belay line for climbers who are actively climbing the wall. The proposed sign warns that there is no safe area to watch climbers, and advises wearing a helmet. The falling rock pictogram from the current rock fall sign is used. The sign also includes a warning of loose rocks, which has a new pictogram showing a hiker going up a slope with loose rocks, and an additional warning that the area and path are not maintained.

The proposal is to remove the signs approved on February 8, 2013 and replace them with the attached new proposed warning sign as well as the "Warning Falling Rocks" signs. The Department proposes to post the Entrance Falling Rock signs at two locations labeled Location 1 and Location 2, which are the main route to the climbing wall, and a secondary route. We propose to post the site specific Falling Rocks sign at one location along the main route, beyond any possible secondary route connection (Location 3), and as close as possible to the climbing wall, (Location 4). See Exhibit C for locations. All four locations will have the new proposed warning sign.

Staff has circulated the subject sign design and locations to the RAWG and there were no recommendations for revisions. Division of State Parks is now requesting Board approval for the design of the new sign and placement of Act 82 warning and management signs at Ka'ena Point State Park Reserve and adjacent State land, Oahu.

This will supersede the Board approval for sign posting of February 8, 2013.

For the Board's information, but not part of the Act 82 process, an additional sign which is a general warning sign related to rock climbing will be posted at Locations 3 and 4. A mock-up of that sign is attached as Exhibit D.

If these signs are approved and then posted, the Mokuleia Climbing Wall will no longer be closed.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approves the design of the new sign (Exhibit B) and placement of warning signs at Ka'ena Point State Park Reserve, Mokuleia Section, and adjacent land as shown on Exhibit C.

Respectfully submitted,



DANIEL S. QUINN  
State Parks Administrator

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:**



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
Chairperson

**Attachments:**

- Exhibit A: February 8, 2013 BLNR Submittal, Item E-3
- Exhibit B: New design for WARNING Hazardous Path and Rock Wall Sign.
- Exhibit C: Maps/Legend
- Exhibit D: Rock Climbing Warning Sign

State of Hawaii  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 8, 2013

Board of Land and Natural Resources  
State of Hawaii  
Honolulu, Hawaii

SUBJECT: Request for Approval of the Placement of Act 82, SLH 03, Warning and Management Signs at Identified Locations of Kaena Point State Park Reserve, Mokuleia Section, and Adjacent Land, Oahu.

**Background Information on Act 82, SLH 03, Warning Signs:**

Act 82, 2003 Session Laws Hawaii, relating to Public Land Liability, established a process for installing and maintaining warning signs on improved public lands, and provides the State and Counties with protection from liability for damages caused by the dangerous natural conditions that are identified through the signage. Pursuant to Act 82, the board is to review and approve of the design and placement of these types of signs. The Board, following the recommendations of a Risk Assessment Working Group (RAWG) reviewed and approved the sign design as dictated by Chapter 13-8, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR). All subsequent sign placement at park and trail locations under the Department and County jurisdiction are submitted for review by the RAWG and approved by the Board.

Sign Placement Criteria: Pursuant to Chapter 13-8, HAR, the following guidelines have been used for determination of the placement of signage:

§13-8-9 Public use and exposure. (a) Traffic patterns and managed access points of people accessing the improved public lands shall be considered when placing signs. (b) The type, frequency, and location of incidents or potential public exposure relating to specific dangerous natural conditions when known on the improved public lands shall be considered when placing signs.

§ 13-8-10 Placement. Sign(s) shall be placed at or near access points; i.e., along vehicle and pedestrian traffic corridors in clearly visible locations placed as close as possible to the potentially dangerous natural conditions on improved public lands and at managed and

Approved by the Board of  
Land and Natural Resources  
at its meeting held on

ITEM E-3

FEB 8 2013

designated entrances where the signs will be seen as users enter improved public lands. View sheds, aesthetics, and feasibility of installation shall be considered in the placement of the signs. Signs shall be installed with consideration for the average adult line-of-sight but outside of the general path of travel to avoid physical contact with the signs. Signs may be attached to posts or by any other method of installation depending on the nature of the location and terrain.

The Division of State Parks (DSP) has circulated the subject sign locations to the RAWG and there were no recommendations for revisions. DSP is now requesting Board approval for the placement of Act 82 warning and management signs at Kaena Point State Park Reserve and adjacent State land, Oahu.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources has posted signs at the access to and location of what is referred to as the "Climbing Wall" at Mokuleia. The trail accessing the site passes through the Kaena Point State Park Reserve, Mokuleia Section. The "Climbing Wall" is located on adjacent State land identified as TMK Parcel 6-9-001:004. A recent serious injury relating to falling rock occurred there, followed by closure of the area. The Department is exploring mitigation measures but in the interim is requesting approval for the Danger Falling Rock warning signs and Notice Area Closed management signs. The sign locations are at the road where the trail begins, along the trail, and at the "Climbing Wall" location as indicated on Exhibit A.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approves the placement of warning signs at Kaena Point State Park Reserve, Mokuleia Section, and adjacent land as shown on Exhibit A.

Respectfully submitted,



DANIEL S. QUINN  
State Parks Administrator

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:**



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR., Chairperson

**Attachments:**

Exhibit A: Legend, Map, and Photos depicting placement of signs at Mokuleia, Oahu

**DLNR Division: State Parks, Land**

**Island: Oahu**

**Site/State Park: Kaena Point State Park Reserve,  
Mokuleia Section and adjacent unencumbered parcel**

**Exposure to Natural Conditions: Falling Rocks**

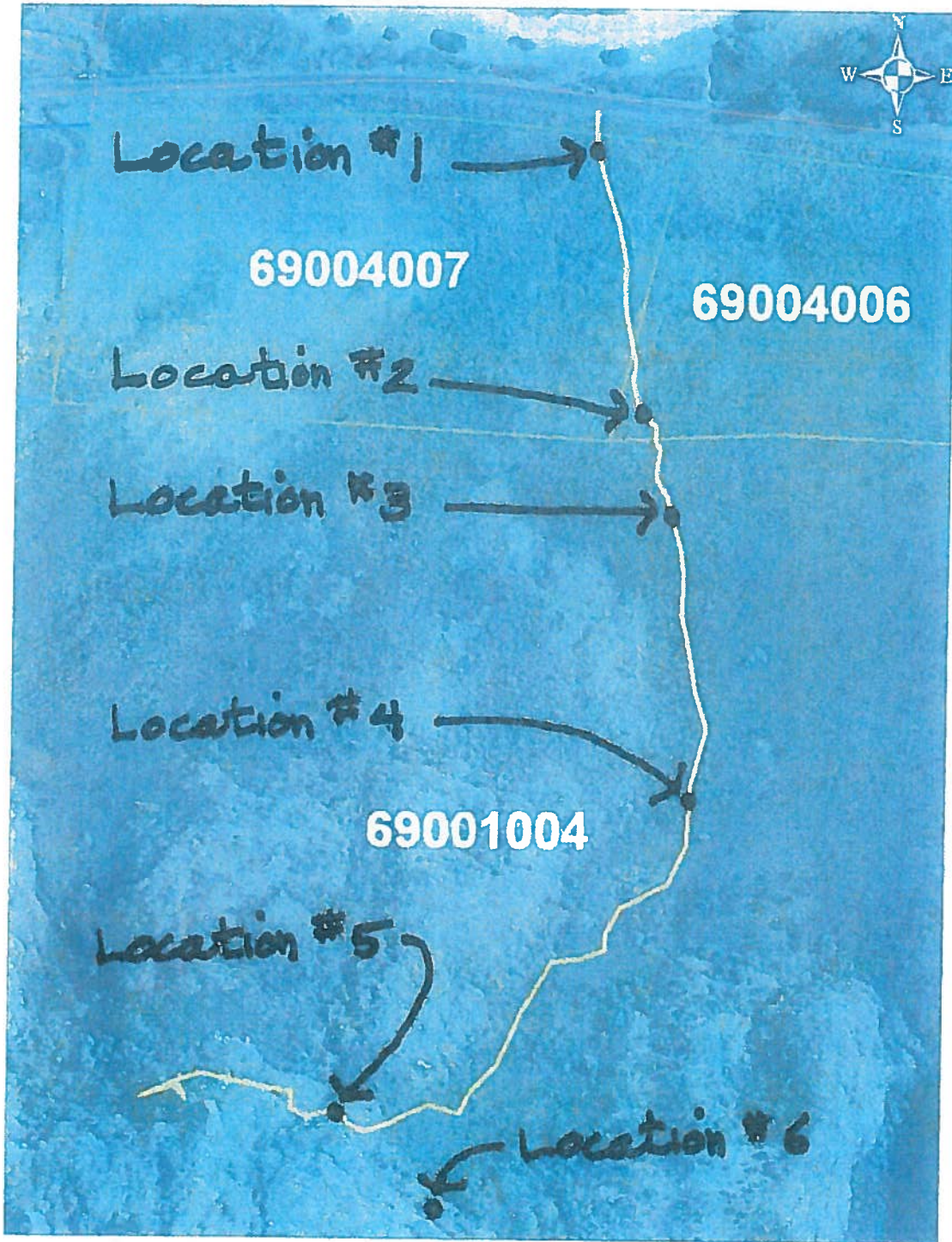
**Site Specific Hazard Signs:**

|                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Station 1</b> | <b>Danger Falling Rocks (DFRS)</b> |
| <b>Station 2</b> | <b>Danger Falling Rocks (DFRS)</b> |
| <b>Station 3</b> | <b>Danger Falling Rocks (DFRS)</b> |
| <b>Station 4</b> | <b>Danger Falling Rocks (DFRS)</b> |

**Management Signs:**

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Station 1</b> | <b>Notice Area Closed (NACS)</b> |
| <b>Station 2</b> | <b>Notice Area Closed (NACS)</b> |
| <b>Station 3</b> | <b>Notice Area Closed (NACS)</b> |
| <b>Station 4</b> | <b>Notice Area Closed (NACS)</b> |

# Mokuleia



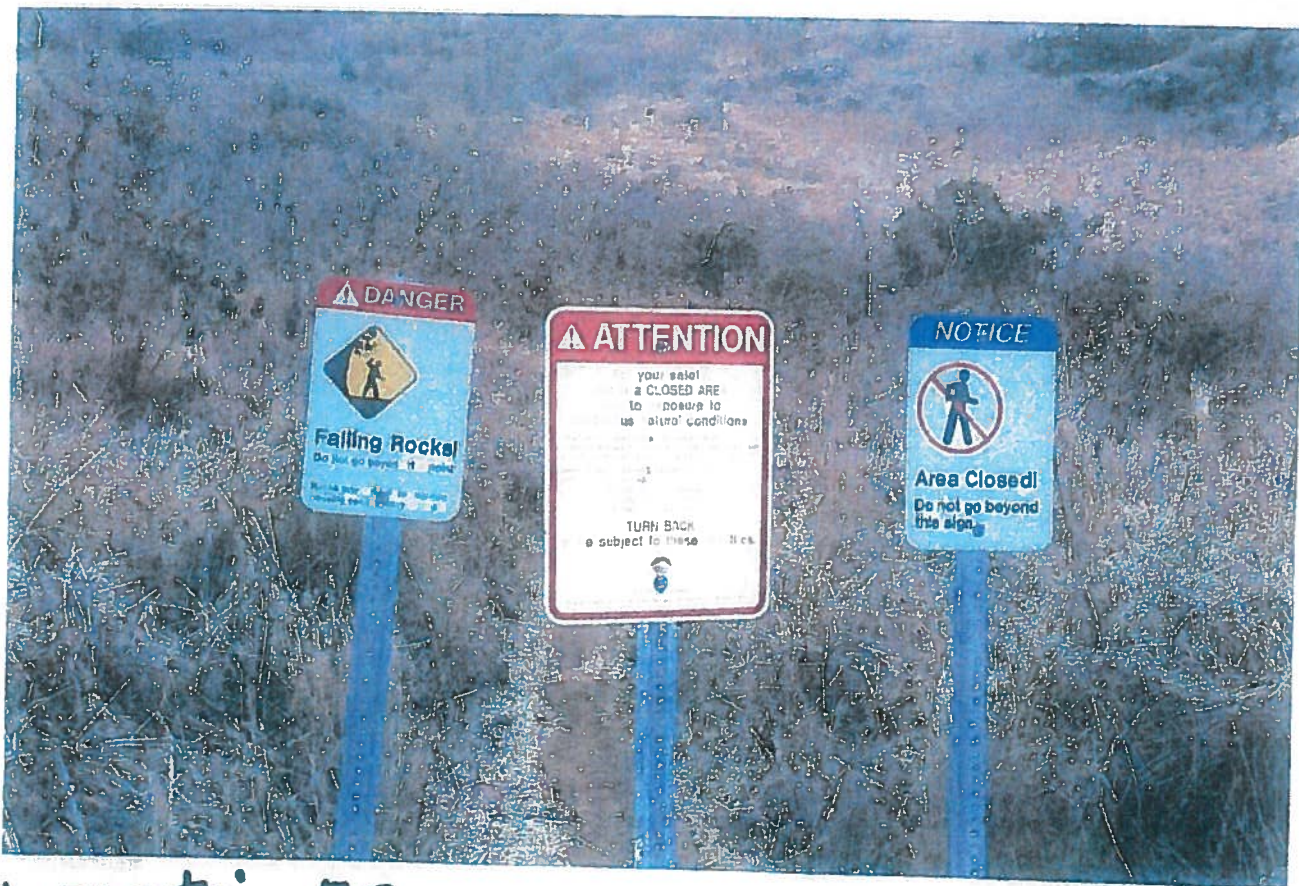
240 120 0 240 Feet

Department of Land and Natural Resources





Location # 1



Location # 2



MOKULEIA

Location # 6



Location # 3



Location # 5 Close up



Location # 4





# WARNING

## Hazardous path and rock wall - Risk of serious injury or death



Rocks may fall without warning – there is no safe area to watch climbers.

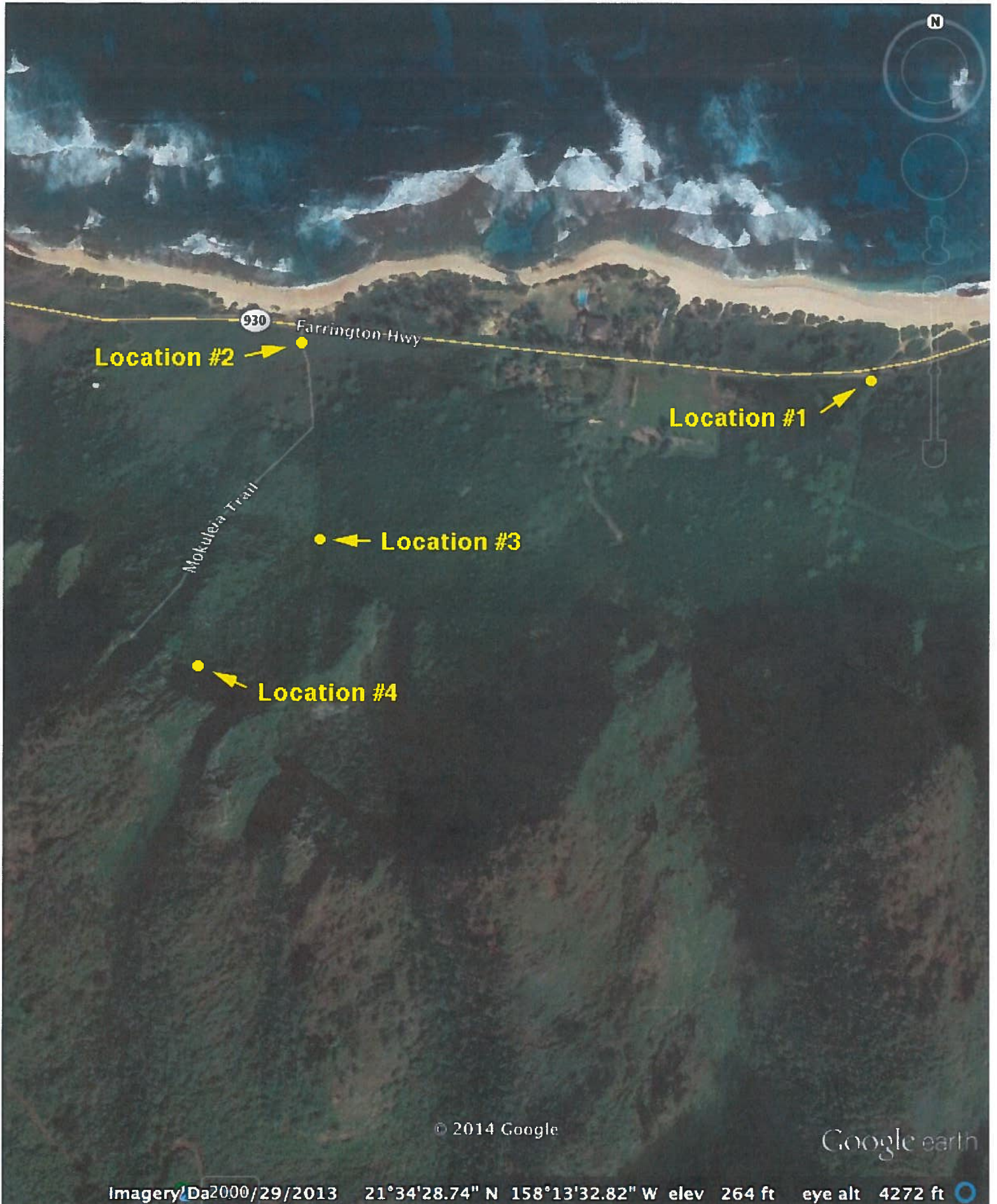
Wear a helmet when on or near the rock wall.



Rough path over loose rocks – requires strenuous climbing.



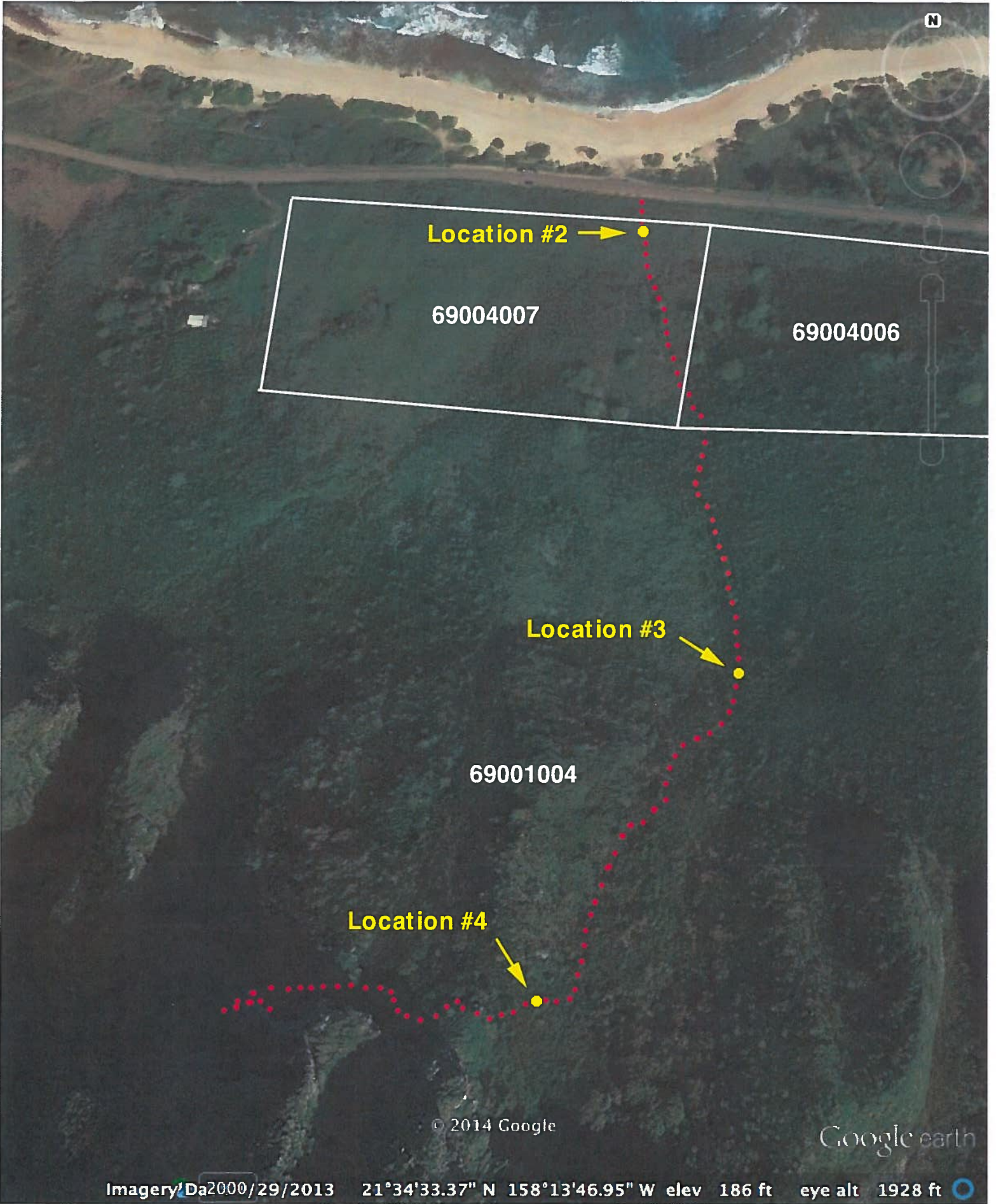
Area and path are not marked or maintained.  
Proceed at your own risk.



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Google earth

Imagery/Da2000/29/2013 21°34'28.74" N 158°13'32.82" W elev 264 ft eye alt 4272 ft



**Location #2** → ●

69004007

69004006

**Location #3** → ●

69001004

**Location #4** → ●

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Google earth

Imagery Da2000/29/2013 21°34'33.37" N 158°13'46.95" W elev 186 ft eye alt 1928 ft

**DLNR Division: State Parks, Land**

**Island: Oahu**

**Site/State Parks: Kaena Point State Park Reserve,**

**Mokuleia Section and adjacent unencumbered parcel**

**Exposure to Natural Conditions: Falling Rocks / Loose Rocks**

- Location 1 - Warning Falling Rocks Entrance (WFRE)  
Warning Falling / Loose Rocks (WFLR)
- Location 2 - Warning Falling Rocks Entrance (WFRE)  
Warning Falling / Loose Rocks (WFLR)
- Location 3 - Warning Falling Rocks Site (WFRS)  
Warning Falling / Loose Rocks (WFLR)  
Warning / Rock Climbing (WRC)
- Location 4 - Warning Falling Rocks Site (WFRS)  
Warning Falling / Loose Rocks (WFLR)  
Warning / Rock Climbing (WRC)



**WARNING**

**Rock Climbing is a High Risk Activity - even for those who are properly equipped, trained and experienced.**

**Proceed at Your Own Risk.**