

Coral Reefs, the 6th Extinction, and You

Challenges faced by corals in Hawai'i, and life everywhere

by Michael Field, Senior Marine Geologist

- **Five major episodes of biological extinction have occurred on Earth during geologic time – what caused these extinctions and why are they relevant today?**
- **Scientists are concerned that life on Earth may be facing a 6th major extinction, severely limiting the biodiversity of animals and plants – why is this important to us?**
- **Coral reefs, one of the most diverse and important ecosystems on the planet, are thriving in many places but are threatened in many others – a harbinger of things to come?**
- **If there is indeed a growing wave of extinction, what can you as an individual do to help shape the future?**

Directions to U.S. Geological Survey

The USGS Menlo Park Science Center is located at 345 Middlefield Road in Menlo Park

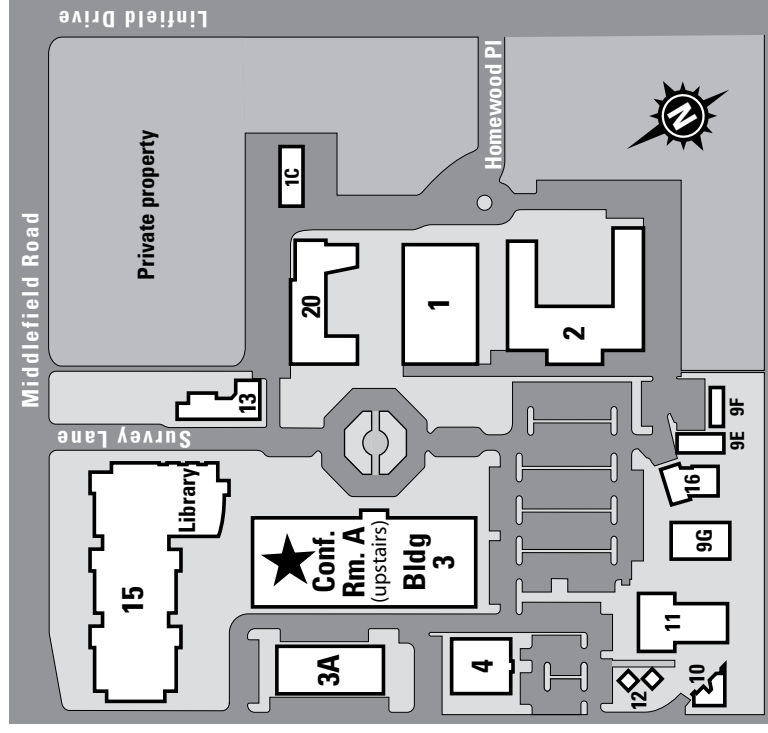
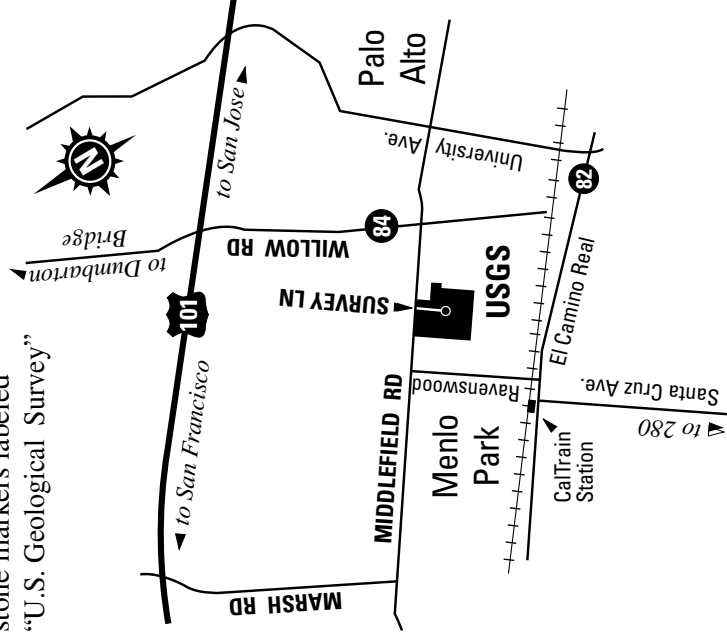
From San Francisco

- Exit highway 101 at Marsh Road, Atherton
- Go west to the T-junction with Middlefield Rd.
- Turn left (south)

From San Jose

- Exit highway 101 at Willow Road, Menlo Park
- Go west to Middlefield Rd.
- Turn right (north)

Enter the USGS campus at Survey Lane with large stone markers labeled “U.S. Geological Survey”



Special Assistance - Please contact us at least two weeks in advance of an event to request assistance. Special needs will be accommodated whenever possible. (650-329-5136)

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