PROPOSED National Marine Sanctuary Designation for Papahānaumokuākea **Marine National Monument**



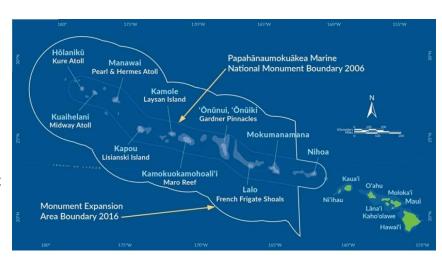






Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Papahānaumokuākea) encompasses 582,578 square miles of the Pacific Ocean.

Papahānaumokuākea has four co-trustees and seven co-managing agencies. The State of Hawai'i is a trustee with jurisdiction over the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine Refuge, Nihoa to Hōlanikū and surrounding 3 miles of waters (not including Kuaihelani). The Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) is a co-manager.



>>> Sanctuary Designation

In December 2020, Congress directed the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to initiate the sanctuary designation process, which does not change the status of the monument. Sanctuary designation would add conservation benefits by providing a supplemental regulatory framework and additional protections to safeguard living, cultural, and maritime heritage resources. Co-managers NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) and DAR are leading the sanctuary designation process of the marine areas of Papahānaumokuākea which will include a joint National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Hawaii Environmental Policy Act (HEPA) Environmental Impact Statement.

>>> Designation Timeline

Release **Public Draft Publish** Prepare **Comments Documents** Sanctuary **Public** Final Final and Provide Designation Scoping Designation Designation Preparation of Draft for a Public **Documents Documents** Comment **Documents Period** November 19, February 2022 -Target: Fall 2023 -Target: Fall 2023 2021 - January 1, Target: Fall 2024 Target: Fall 2024 Summer 2023 Fall 2024 2022 >>> Publication of **>>>** Review of public >>> Publication in the >>> Review and respond >>> Publication in the **)** Governor approval Notice of Intent comments State of Hawai'i to public comments State of Hawai'i's Environmental Environmental **>>>** Congressional >>> Preparation of final Environmental Notice and the Notice and the approval documents including documents including **Impact Statement** Federal Register Federal Register sanctuary rules, sanctuary rules, Preparation 30-day waiting **W** Issuance of Record management plan, >>> Public comment management plan, Notice period of Decision environmental impact meetings environmental impact statement, cultural statement, cultural >>> Public scoping 33) 45-day comment impact assessment, impact assessment, meetings period and other required and other required (in-person and documents documents virtual)

>>> Public Participation

ONMS and DAR will co-host public meetings after publication of the draft materials. For more information, visit papahanaumokuakea.gov.