



Moana Pasifika Voyage

Moana is “the deep ocean” in many Polynesian languages. *Moana Pasifika* refers to the Pacific Ocean – the world’s biggest ocean – bigger than the world’s total land mass, it influences the global weather patterns and is bordered by 60% of the world’s economies. Hawaii is located in the middle of the Pacific Ocean and provides a unique opportunity to convene a new partnership for a sustainable Pacific Ocean. The Polynesian Voyaging Society and their flagship *vaka*, the *Hokule’a* is embarking on the *Malama Honua* worldwide voyage – sailing for a sustainable future. The *Moana Pasifika* voyage is a voyage for the Pacific Ocean and continues the mission for a sustainable Pacific Ocean and a sustainable planet.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) 2016 World Conservation Congress is in Honolulu, Hawai‘i. The Pacific Ocean Summit at the IUCN Congress is an opportunity to demonstrate what the Pacific can do to present tangible, achievable commitments to address climate change and ensure a sustainable Pacific Ocean in perpetuity.

The Pacific Ocean Summit will convene Pacific Island leaders, mayors and governors in and around the Pacific Rim and CEOs to make commitments for a sustainable planet by taking actions on our Pacific Ocean.

The Moana Pasifika Voyage is a voyage we must take together.

Why must we sail?

For the past millennia, the cultures of the Pacific have made their homes amongst islands only accessible through dedication and enduring courage to explore beyond the horizon across an open sea. In order to realize each journey into the distance, centuries of innovation and ingenuity were required, building a legacy of the greatest sailing vessels the world has ever witnessed. The Pacific Ocean served not only as a highway for the seafaring people of the Pacific, but a cradle for the emergence and growth of a diverse and distinct range of cultures and species, each protected and sheltered from all but the most daring voyagers.

Today our ocean is under threat. A warming climate is changing the behaviour of the ocean as we know it – rising sea levels, acidification and extreme weather provide severe challenges to life in and around the ocean. Over harvesting of ocean resources, pollution and plastics and destruction of ocean habitats are also destroying the ocean. Action for a sustainable Pacific Ocean is essential for a sustainable planet and it starts with the Pacific Ocean.

The Pacific Ocean—our ocean, our home—is under severe stress from the demands of global consumption and pollution...

The *Moana Pasifika* Voyage will serve as a reminder to the greater global community of the means by which travel—and in a greater context, the Pacific way of life—may be conducted cleanly and without further intrusion upon the ecosystem within which we reside. The *Moana Pasifika* Voyage brings the voice of our communities and the lessons from our traditions to help chart our course to carry us into a safer future.

MOANA



PASIFIKA

A VOYAGE FOR THE PACIFIC OCEAN

@THE IUCN WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS

HONOLULU, HAWAI‘I 2016

Moana Pasifika Voyage

A movement for a sustainable ocean

The *Moana Pasifika* will bring vaka representatives from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Aotearoa, Samoa, Tahiti and Tonga, with links to the Polynesian Voyaging Society of Hawai`i to sail with the *Ohana Wa`a* (Hawaiian Family of Canoes) around the islands of Hawai`i, carrying and promoting a strong Pacific movement for action on climate change and a sustainable Pacific Ocean that contributes to the *Hokulea's* Worldwide Voyage *Malama Honua* – a call for global sustainability.

The *Moana Pasifika* will also bring *Alingano Maisu* back to Hawai`i for the first time. *Alingano Maisu* is a *wa`a* gifted by the voyaging societies of Hawai`i to the traditional master navigator, Mau Piailug from Micronesia 15 years ago in appreciation for his passing on of traditional navigation skills to the people of Hawai`i. Bringing *Maisu* back will provide a powerful symbol of cultural solidarity to the large Micronesian community in Hawai`i. It will also serve as a reconnection with the voyaging families in Hawai`i who have trained in traditional wayfaring together over the past 40 years. The *Maisu* can also be a huge inspiration to the Micronesian communities in Hawai`i.

The *vaka* will then engage with the broader communities of Hawaii's neighbouring islands (O`ahu, Maui, Kaua`i, Hawai`i) through outreach of the *vaka* crew with schools, churches, communities, leaders and students, to facilitate mutual exchange on best practices with a focus on traditional ecological knowledge and biocultural conservation.

At both the Pacific Ocean Summit and the IUCN World Conservation Congress, we will demonstrate the importance of the entire continuous and interconnected ocean system centred in the Pacific to influence the commitments, agreements, activities, and policies that dictate the future protection of the world's largest ocean.

Coordination

The following partners have been formally approached to join IUCN Oceania on the *Moana Pasifika* Voyage and the Pacific Ocean Summit: *Ohana Wa`a*, Polynesian Voyaging Society, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Cook Islands Voyaging Society, Uto Ni Yalo Trust, Faafaite te Ao Maohi, Hawaiki Rising Voyaging Trust, Samoa Voyaging Society, Tonga Voyaging Society, Te Toki Voyaging Society and Te Matau a Māui Voyaging Trust.

The coordination of the voyage will be with *Ohana Wa`a* and the Polynesian Voyaging Society (Hawai`i hosting and facilitation) and Cook Islands Voyaging Society.

Voyaging Coordinator: Matua Tua Pittman. Voyaging Communications: Cecile Marten.

Next steps

Mid-August: The beginning of the Hawai`i voyage

1 September: Formal arrival in Honolulu for Pacific Ocean Summit at IUCN World Conservation Congress.



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HONOLULU, HAWAII 2016

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