

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Aquatic Resources
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

July 28, 2017

Board of Land and Natural Resources
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Request for Authorization and Approval to Issue a Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Native Hawaiian Practices Permit to Mr. Nainoa Thompson, Polynesian Voyaging Society, for Access to State Waters to Conduct Sails for Navigators Using Non-Instrumental Navigation Activities

The Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) hereby submits a request for your authorization and approval for issuance of a Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Native Hawaiian practices permit to Mr. Nainoa Thompson, President, Polynesian Voyaging Society, pursuant to § 187A-6, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), Chapter 13-60.5, Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR), and all other applicable laws and regulations.

The Native Hawaiian practices permit, as described below, would allow entry and activities to occur in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, including the NWHI State Marine Refuge and the waters (0-3 nautical miles) surrounding the following sites:

- Nīhoa Island
- Mokumanamana (Necker)
- French Frigate Shoals

The activities covered under this permit would occur between August 15, 2017 and August 14, 2018.

INTENDED ACTIVITIES

Mr. Charles Nainoa Thompson is proposing to sail up to six (6) traditional Polynesian voyaging canoes with their respective escort vessels, including Hōkūle'a, Hikianalia and other canoes part of the 'ohana wa'a network in Hawaii, to PMNM as a way to continue to perpetuate traditional wayfinding and voyaging practices, and pay respect to and re-connect with Hawai'i's kupuna islands in a culturally appropriate and significant way. Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia have been sailing across the Earth's oceans to join and grow the global movement toward a more sustainable world. The Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage (WWV) began in 2013 with a Mālama Hawai'i sail across the Hawaiian archipelago, and will continue through 2018 with a new generation of navigators taking the helm and guiding Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia back to Polynesia after circumnavigating the globe, and again voyage around Hawai'i's home archipelago.

In addition, the applicant is proposing to conduct sustenance fishing activities in accordance with the Monument Management Board Sustenance Fishing Policy. Other activities include conducting the

same science projects that were carried out during the WWV that includes: deploying an acoustic recorder to record biological and anthropogenic sounds; surface water quality monitoring using a hand-held Hannah YSI sonde; and collecting micro-plastic and plankton samples.

Lastly, the Applicant intends to partake in cultural observations and protocol including the offering of ho'okupu (gifts of water, oli (chants), and pule (prayer)) in order to strengthen cultural connections to the place.

The activities proposed by the Applicant directly support the Monument Management Plan's (MMP) priority management needs through 3.1.2 – Native Hawaiian Culture and History Action Plan (Strategy NHCH-2: Conduct, support, and facilitate Native Hawaiian cultural access and research of the NWHI over the life of the plan). NHCH-2.6 states “[s]uch access needs may include, but not be limited to...regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes for wayfinding, navigational, and cultural protocol training”. The knowledge and experiences gained by perpetuating these practices is invaluable to the Hawaiian community and to the individuals who partake in them. The expedition would build upon previous research on the significance of traditional wayfinding which will also help cultural practitioners better understand the celestial, spiritual and cultural connections between Papahānaumokuākea and the Main Hawaiian islands.

The activities described above may require the following regulated activities to occur in State waters:

- ☒ Removing, moving, taking, harvesting, possessing, injuring, disturbing, or damaging any living or nonliving monument resource
- ☒ Anchoring a vessel
- ☒ Possessing fishing gear except when stowed and not available for immediate use during passage without interruption through the Monument
- ☒ Sustenance fishing (Federal waters only, outside of Special Preservation Areas, Ecological Reserves and Special Management Areas)
- ☒ Subsistence fishing (State waters only)
- ☒ Swimming, snorkeling, or closed or open circuit SCUBA diving within any Special Preservation Area or Midway Atoll Special Management Area

REVIEW PROCESS:

The permit application was sent out for review and comment to the following scientific and cultural entities: Hawai'i Division of Aquatic Resources, Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (NOAA/NOS), NOAA Pacific Islands Regional Office (NOAA-PIRO), United States Fish and Wildlife Service Hawaiian and Pacific Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA). In addition, the permit application has been posted on the Monument Web since March 20, 2017, giving the public an opportunity to comment. The application was posted within 40 days of its receipt, in accordance with the Monument's Public Notification Policy.

Comments received from the scientific community are summarized as follows:

QUESTIONS:

1. How is biosecurity being address (i.e. the potential to transport invasive species) into the Monument?

Prior to departure, PVS will ensure vessel hulls are clean and inspected by appropriate PMNM staff or affiliates. In addition, we will disinfect all fishing gear and dive/snorkel gear in a Clorox/water solution prior to departure for Nīhoa, and if appropriate during transit between islands within PMNM. The six wa'a proposed to sail to Nīhoa will not go on land at Nīhoa. If Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia go to other islands/atolls within PMNM at a later date, the crews aboard will follow all prescribed PMNM Best Management Practices and special quarantine protocols to eliminate potential biosecurity risks. Ho'okupu will not include soil, roots or any other type of natural matter that could cause the transport or spread of invasive species. Furthermore, ho'okupu will be offered from the wa'a, offshore of any island.

2. Will Hōkūle'a have the ability to disinfect snorkel gear between sites?

Yes.

3. Related to concerns about invasive species, what measures have been taken to inspect, clean and maintain the hull of both Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia (and Gershon II ?) during the WWV?

Since the start of the international portion of the Worldwide Voyage (May 2014), Hōkūle'a has been through 3 major drydocks – in New Zealand (March 2015), Cape Town (November 2015), and Virginia (November 2016) – where the hulls were completely cleaned and repainted. Similarly, Hikianalia has gone through 3 major drydocks – in New Zealand (March 2015) and Hawai'i (July 2016 and January 2017) – where hulls were completely cleaned and repainted. At every major port of call, crews ensure the hulls of both wa'a are clean to keep off any new growth. Hull cleanings occur when the departing crew is preparing to sail to a new port. Either the crew will get in the water and clean the hulls with brushes to take off new growth or, when necessary, Polynesian Voyaging Society has hired companies to conduct hull cleanings and provide a certificate of hull cleaning per the request/requirement of the port to which Hōkūle'a is sailing.

COMMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The crews of the voyaging canoes and escort vessels should anchor only in sandy substrate (unless in an emergency) and adhere to the Boating and Diving guidelines in place for the Monument.

Will do. Mahalo.

2. In the interest of safety, the applicant should provide the Point of Contact for the permit with a sailing plan that includes sailing date, total number of vessels, and other pertinent information that would provide useful in case a rescue effort or response would be required, and to provide this information prior to sailing. This information should be relayed to the United States Coast Guard in order to inform that service of the journey.

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Page 3 of 4 Permit App. #: PMNM-2017-011; Thompson NMFS can assist in forwarding the information by providing a contact or can pass on the information directly.

Thank you for the suggestion. All wa'a and escort vessels that end up going to Nīhoa will complete and submit an updated CIS form when sail dates & plans are set.

3. USFWS is very supportive of this application and looks forward to the Hōkūle'a returning to Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

Mahalo!

4. Great care should be taken for discharge in the Monument. Biodegradable discharge only please. Great care should be taken while snorkeling not to create damage.

Yes, we will be very careful about discharge. All solid, non-biodegradable waste will be held onboard. All biodegradable waste will be discharged in accordance with discharge regulations per 50 CFR Part 404 (Monument regulations) and the PMNM permit. We also will be very respectful and careful of the natural and cultural resources while snorkeling.

5. Ensure vessel hulls are properly cleaned before each entry and schedule inspections accordingly (Especially since they have been recently exposed to worldwide biota)

Yes, we will ensure all vessels going to Nīhoa have their hulls cleaned of all fouling and inspected prior to departure into the Monument. We are happy to coordinate with PMNM agencies to schedule hull inspections after hulls are clean. Depending on the departure date to Nīhoa, it may be necessary to conduct an inspection on an outer island, as the wa'a may not be in Honolulu prior to departure. Again, we are happy to coordinate with ONMS and other managing agencies to ensure inspections occur. Please provide us the contact information of the appropriate person to work with on this.

6. Ensure all discharges and/or collecting/fishing activities are compliant with current rules/regulations

Will do.

7. Ensure ho'okupu contain no biosecurity risk

Will do.

8. Ensure that all wa'a sailing with Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia to Nīhoa are aware of all protocols that must be adhered to prior to entering PMNM. Specifically, all vessels are required to have:

- a. A hull inspection (and be free of all biofouling on the hull);
- b. A rodent inspection (and be free of rodents prior to departure);
- c. NOAA OLE approved VMS unit installed and operational on all vessels (vessels with an escort can have one VMS unit on the escort only, but must stay within eyesight of each other at all times);
- d. All vessel captains must submit an updated and final Compliance Information Sheet to the Permit Coordinator POC prior to departure to PMNM;
- e. All participants onboard each vessel entering PMNM must receive a Permit & Cultural Briefing and sign an acknowledgment form prior to entry into PMNM;

f. Each vessel entering PMNM (regardless of whether it has an escort vessel) must provide notification of entering and exiting PMNM per conditions of the PMNM permit under which each vessel is authorized to access.

Yes, prior to entry to PMNM, all of the above (a-f) will be completed for and by each wa'a.

Comments received from the Native Hawaiian community are summarized as follows:

Cultural reviews support the acceptance of this application.

Comments received from the public are summarized as follows:

No comments were received from the public on this application.

Additional reviews and permit history:

Are there other relevant/necessary permits or environmental reviews that have or will be issued with regard to this project? (e.g. MMPA, ESA, EA) Yes ☒ No ☐
If so, please list or explain:

- Coordination and consultation pursuant to ESA Section 7 will occur prior to issuance of this permit. Consultations was initiated to analyze the effects of conducting cultural observations and protocol and fishing activities at Nīhoa Island on Hawaiian Monk Seals, Hawksbill Sea Turtles, Green Sea Turtles, and monk seal designated critical habitat. The outcome of this consultation may require the applicant to adhere to other NMFS-prescribed conditions.
- The Department has made an exemption determination for this permit in accordance chapter 343, HRS, and Chapter 11-200, HAR. See Attachment ("DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION FROM THE PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CHAPTER 343, HRS AND CHAPTER 11-200 HAR, FOR PAPAĀNAUMOKUĀKEA MARINE NATIONAL MONUMENT RESEARCH PERMIT TO MR. NAINOA THOMPSON, POLYNESIAN VOYAGING SOCIETY, FOR ACCESS TO STATE WATERS TO CONDUCT SAILS FOR NAVIGATORS USING NON-INSTRUMENTAL NAVIGATION ACTIVITIES UNDER PERMIT PMNM-2017-011")

Has Applicant been granted a permit from the State in the past? Yes ☐ No ☒

If so, please summarize past permits:

Have there been any a) violations: Yes ☐ No ☒
b) Late/incomplete post-activity reports: Yes ☐ No ☒

Are there any other relevant concerns from previous permits? Yes ☐ No ☒

STAFF OPINION:

PMNM staff is of the opinion that Applicant has properly demonstrated valid justifications for his application and should be allowed to enter the NWHI State waters and to conduct the activities therein as specified in the application with certain special instructions and conditions, which are in addition to the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Native Hawaiian Practices Permit General Conditions. All suggested special conditions have been vetted through the legal counsel of the Co-Trustee agencies (see Recommendation section).

MONUMENT MANAGEMENT BOARD OPINION:

The MMB is of the opinion that the Applicant has met the findings of Presidential Proclamation 8031 and this activity may be conducted subject to completion of all compliance requirements. The MMB concurs with the special conditions recommended by PMNM staff.

RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the attached proposed declaration of exemption prepared by the department after consultation with and advice of those having jurisdiction and expertise for the proposed permit actions:

1. That the Board declare that the actions which are anticipated to be undertaken under this permit will have little or no significant effect on the environment and is therefore exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.
2. Upon the finding and adoption of the department's analysis by the Board, that the Board delegate and authorize the Chairperson to sign the declaration of exemption for purposes of recordkeeping requirements of chapter 343, HRS, and chapter 11-200, HAR.
3. That the Board authorize and approve a Native Hawaiian Practices Permit to Mr. Nainoa Thompson, Polynesian Voyaging Society, with the following special conditions:
 - a. To prevent introduction of disease or the unintended transport of live organisms, the permittee must comply with the disease and transport protocol attached to this permit.
 - b. Tenders and small vessels must be equipped with engines that meet EPA emissions requirements.
 - c. Refueling of tenders and all small vessels must be done at the support ships and outside the confines of lagoons or near-shore waters in the State Marine Refuge.
 - d. No fishing is allowed in State Waters except as authorized under state law for subsistence, traditional, and customary practices by Native Hawaiians.

July 28, 2017

- e. If there is any Hawaiian monk seal or any other protected species in the area when performing any permitted activity shall cease until the animal(s) depart the area, except as permitted for specific management of that species.
- f. For all activities requiring landing on uninhabited islands an authorized staff escort trained for each particular inhabited island will be included on the landing team.

Respectfully submitted,



Maria Carnevale

State Co-Manager

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL

Suzanne Case
Chairperson

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
NATIVE HAWAIIAN PRACTICES Permit Application

NOTE: *This Permit Application (and associated Instructions) are to propose activities to be conducted in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The Co-Trustees are required to determine that issuing the requested permit is compatible with the findings of Presidential Proclamation 8031. Within this Application, provide all information that you believe will assist the Co-Trustees in determining how your proposed activities are compatible with the conservation and management of the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Monument).*

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Any or all of the information within this application may be posted to the Monument website informing the public on projects proposed to occur in the Monument.
- In addition to the permit application, the Applicant must either download the Monument Compliance Information Sheet from the Monument website OR request a hard copy from the Monument Permit Coordinator (contact information below). The Monument Compliance Information Sheet must be submitted to the Monument Permit Coordinator after initial application consultation.
- Issuance of a Monument permit is dependent upon the completion and review of the application and Compliance Information Sheet.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

Send Permit Applications to:
NOAA/Inouye Regional Center
NOS/ONMS/PMNM/Attn: Permit Coordinator
1845 Wasp Blvd, Building 176
Honolulu, HI 96818
nwhipermit@noaa.gov
PHONE: (808) 725-5800 FAX: (808) 455-3093

SUBMITTAL VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL IS PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED. FOR ADDITIONAL SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS, SEE THE LAST PAGE.

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Permit Application Cover Sheet

This Permit Application Cover Sheet is intended to provide summary information and status to the public on permit applications for activities proposed to be conducted in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. While a permit application has been received, it has not been fully reviewed nor approved by the Monument Management Board to date. The Monument permit process also ensures that all environmental reviews are conducted prior to the issuance of a Monument permit.

Summary Information

Applicant Name: Charles Nainoa Thompson

Affiliation: Polynesian Voyaging Society

Permit Category: Native Hawaiian Practices

Proposed Activity Dates: June 1, 2017 - May 30, 2018

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Vessel

Proposed Locations: Nihoa, Mokumanamana, French Frigate Shoals, Gardner Pinnacles, Maro Reef, Laysan Island, Lisianski Island, Pearl & Hermes Atoll, Midway Atoll, Kure Atoll

Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit:
38

Estimated number of days in the Monument: 30 days maximum (including weather buffer days)

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...
allow for Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia, Hawaii's Polynesian voyaging canoes, to sail to PMNM as a way for Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia to continue to perpetuate traditional wayfinding and voyaging practices, and pay respect to and re-connect with Hawai'i's kupuna islands in a culturally appropriate and significant way. Hokulea and Hikianalia have been sailing across the Earth's oceans to join and grow the global movement toward a more sustainable world. The Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage began in 2013 with a Mālama Hawai'i sail around our archipelago, and will continue through 2018 when our new generation of navigators take the helm and guide Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia back to Polynesia after circumnavigating the globe, and again voyage around our home archipelago.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would

sail into Papahānaumokuākea on two double-hulled voyaging canoes Hokulea and Hikianalia and one mono-hulled motorized escort vessel, Gershon II, to visit all the kupuna islands and pay respect and conduct culturally appropriate protocols to honor the place and our ancestors. The wa'a will be used as a platform to continue to train and test apprentice navigators and crew members to practice the traditional Hawaiian/Polynesian skills of wayfinding (non-instrumental navigation) and voyaging, while conducting the same science projects from her decks that we did throughout the worldwide voyage, including examining genetics, stomachs and size of fish caught by handline (which will also be eaten for sustenance only within the boundaries of Papahānaumokuākea); studying water quality, temperature and acidity; recording marine debris and plankton caught in nets; and noting related natural observations.

c.) This activity would help the Monument by ... meeting a priority within the Monument Management Plan, which includes an activity in support of regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes for wayfinding, navigational and cultural protocol training. We also note that wayfinding training and traditional voyaging were components of Papahānaumokuākea's successful nomination as a natural and cultural World Heritage site. Having this living tradition continue should be a priority for managers of this Marine World Heritage site. Our activity "Collaboration of Science and Culture: A multidisciplinary expedition to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands" is grounded in the vision, mission and goals of the 2008 PMNM Management Plan, and the vision and mission of the Polynesian Voyaging Society.

Furthermore, besides perpetuating integral components of Native Hawaiian culture (voyaging and wayfinding), the use of traditional canoes in the Monument offers an opportunity to maintain a level of cultural integrity that is appropriate for spiritual ceremonies in Papahānaumokuākea. The ability of crewmembers to perform cultural/spiritual protocol and honor their ancestors perpetuates a centuries-old link of Native Hawaiians to their ancestors, their ancestral knowledge and their Kūpuna Islands.

Other information or background:

Hikianalia successfully and safely voyaged into Papahānaumokuākea in September 2013, with 6 apprentice navigators and 4 pwo (master) traditional navigators on board, providing an exceptional experiential learning opportunity. Subsequently, Hikianalia again successfully voyaged into PMNM in 2015 in partnership with the Opihi Partnership, conducting science onboard the wa'a during the voyage. Both voyages have helped to provide a stronger awareness that the entire Hawaiian Archipelago is connected, sacred and worth protecting. It also helped to continue to draft the chart toward more regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes into this traditional voyaging area and toward more collaboration among multidisciplinary champions of the perpetuation of the natural and cultural resources of Hawai'i. For this reason, PVS is excited to continue to leverage expertise and resources from scientists, marine

managers, educators, and cultural practitioners to further integrate western science and Native Hawaiian ways of knowing.

Section A - Applicant Information

1. Applicant

Name (last, first, middle initial): Thompson, Charles N.

Title: President

1a. Intended field Principal Investigator (See instructions for more information):

Charles "Nainoa" Thompson

2. Mailing address (street/P.O. box, city, state, country, zip):

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

For students, major professor's name, telephone and email address: N/A

3. Affiliation (institution/agency/organization directly related to the proposed project):

Polynesian Voyaging Society

4. Additional persons to be covered by permit. List all personnel roles and names (if known at time of application) here (e.g. John Doe, Diver):

16 crew (maximum) for the double-hulled, Polynesian voyaging canoe Hikianalia, -- crew member names TBD on compliance information sheet

16 crew (maximum) for the double-hulled, Polynesian voyaging canoe Hōkūlea, -- crew member names TBD on compliance information sheet

6 crew (maximum) for the motor-sail vessel Gershon II -- crew members TBD on compliance information sheet.

Section B: Project Information

5a. Project location(s):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nihoa Island	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necker Island (Mokumanamana)	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> French Frigate Shoals	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gardner Pinnacles	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maro Reef			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laysan Island	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisianski Island, Neva Shoal	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pearl and Hermes Atoll	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Midway Atoll	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kure Atoll	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			

☐ Remaining ashore on any island or atoll (with the exception of Midway & Kure Atolls and Field Camp staff on other islands/atolls) between sunset and sunrise.

NOTE: There is a fee schedule for people visiting Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge via vessel and aircraft.

Location Description:

The intention in 2017 - 2018 is to navigate, using traditional methods throughout the entire PMNM and anchor (on sandy substrate only) where necessary to continue to train our crew members in voyaging and navigation skills, and within the voyaging values of taking care of our collective home for our present and future children. We will finalize our sail plans before our departure to make sure that all Monument consultations and requirements are met.

5b. Check all applicable regulated activities proposed to be conducted in the Monument:

- ☒ Removing, moving, taking, harvesting, possessing, injuring, disturbing, or damaging any living or nonliving Monument resource
- ☐ Drilling into, dredging, or otherwise altering the submerged lands other than by anchoring a vessel; or constructing, placing, or abandoning any structure, material, or other matter on the submerged lands
- ☒ Anchoring a vessel
- ☐ Deserting a vessel aground, at anchor, or adrift
- ☒ Discharging or depositing any material or matter into the Monument
- ☐ Touching coral, living or dead
- ☒ Possessing fishing gear except when stowed and not available for immediate use during passage without interruption through the Monument
- ☐ Attracting any living Monument resource
- ☒ Sustenance fishing (Federal waters only, outside of Special Preservation Areas, Ecological Reserves and Special Management Areas)

- ☒ Subsistence fishing (State waters only)
- ☒ Swimming, snorkeling, or closed or open circuit SCUBA diving within any Special Preservation Area or Midway Atoll Special Management Area

6. Purpose/Need/Scope *State purpose of proposed activities:*

Hōkūlea and Hikianalia have been sailing across the Earth's oceans to join and grow the global movement toward a more sustainable world. The Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage began in 2013 with a Mālama Hawai'i sail around our archipelago, and will continue through 2018 when our new generation of navigators take the helm and guide Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia back to Polynesia after circumnavigating the globe, and then again voyage around our home archipelago.

We are requesting permission to 'ikemaka iā PMNM in 2017 -- to voyage to these sacred places to honor the land and waters directly, eat from the waters that surround them, honor our ancestors that reside there, and place ourselves in the living genealogy of Hawai'i that includes Papahānaumokuākea. We hope to be reinvigorated physically and spiritually, to reconnect to our kūpuna through a piko of the Hawaiian world (Papahānaumokuākea), and to reaffirm our capability and need to journey around the world carrying the message of Mālama Honua.

While traveling around the world, the wa'a have visited a number of Marine Protected Areas (including Papahānaumokuākea) to highlight their importance and significance as safeholds for the future, so we would like to continue to honor and highlight Hawai'i's Papahānaumokuākea. Coupled with the important reasons stated above, the location of Nihoa provides excellent training to apprentice navigators to practice the traditional Hawaiian/Polynesian skills of wayfinding (non-instrumental navigation). The main Hawaiian Islands are too close to each other and have too many artificial lights at night for this type of long-range navigational experience.

The isles of Papahānaumokuākea have no artificial lighting to aid the apprentice navigator, and their small physical size and low-lying nature require astute observations of the sun, stars, swells, seabirds and other natural phenomena. The route from Kaua'i to Nihoa is the only one from the main Hawaiian Islands to another island in the archipelago where neither the launching point nor the target destination is visible for an extended period of time during the course of the voyage, thereby offering a close simulation of a long-distance voyage without the added dangers of testing endurance. It is also the only voyaging route that offers this simulation while being close enough to the main Hawaiian Islands to ensure safety and access to provisions. These characteristics make this route the ideal training platform for novice Hawaiian wayfinders.

Today, apprentice Hawaiian wayfinders can be considered qualified to attempt to navigate a canoe on long-distance, trans-Pacific sails after they have successfully guided a voyage from Kaua'i to Nihoa.

Papahānaumokuākea has also been named a World Heritage site for its natural and cultural significance. Our proposed activities will highlight and exemplify Papahānaumokuākea as an important place for the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian

cultural practices and a place that is essential in training apprentice navigators studying modern Hawaiian wayfinding aboard traditional double-hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoes.

In addition, nearshore subsistence gathering for algae, limited reef fishes, and possibly invertebrates that can be gathered while staying below the high tide mark will be done for Native Hawaiian protocol and subsistence purposes.

*Considering the purpose of the proposed activities, do you intend to film / photograph federally protected species? Yes ☐ No ☒

For a list of terrestrial species protected under the Endangered Species Act visit:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>

For a list of marine species protected under the Endangered Species Act visit:

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/esa/>

For information about species protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act visit:

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/laws/mmpa/>

7. Answer the Findings below by providing information that you believe will assist the Co-Trustees in determining how your proposed activities are compatible with the conservation and management of the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the Monument:

The Findings are as follows:

a. How can the activity be conducted with adequate safeguards for the cultural, natural and historic resources and ecological integrity of the Monument?

The double-hulled voyaging canoes Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia will continue to train their apprentice, non-instrument navigators and crew by voyaging to PMNM in 2017. In addition, the crew will pay respect and conduct culturally appropriate protocols at each island visited as well as throughout the voyage to continue to connect to place and stay grounded as a group and personally. The wa'a will be in Papahānaumokuākea for a maximum of 30 days which includes buffer days for weather and safety purposes. The wa'a and crew and escrot will not disturb any natural, cultural or historic resources. We seek to honor our ancestors and the high significance of these places by presenting ho'okupu in the form of oli (chants), pule (prayers), and spiritual gifts from the main Hawaiian Islands (such as awa and rain water and possibly a red fish offered as ho'okupu).

We may have a videographer and/or photographer on board as a crew member, but those videos and stills would only be used for educational and management purposes for and about the cultural, natural and historic resources of Papahānaumokuākea.

b. How will the activity be conducted in a manner compatible with the management direction of this proclamation, considering the extent to which the conduct of the activity may diminish or enhance Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity, any indirect, secondary, or cumulative effects of the activity, and the duration of such effects? The Monument Proclamation highlights the cultural significance of Papahānaumokuākea to Native Hawaiians, and the Proclamation itself authorizes access to the area via Native Hawaiian Practices Permits. The proposed activities are compatible with the management direction of the Proclamation and the Monument Management Plan, which has prioritized the support of regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes for wayfinding, navigation, and cultural protocol training.

As previously stated, the activities proposed herein will not impact the environment or historic resources in any negative way. All activities will be conducted in accordance with the Monument's BMPs. For safety purposes, each vessel will carry communications and first-aid equipment on board. The vessels will meet the strict requirements of this permitting process.

The proposed project's activities will enhance the public's and Papahānaumokuākea management's understanding of the living cultural significance of this place, its connection to Hawai'i's past and to the main Hawaiian Islands of today, and the abilities of our younger generation of traditional navigators. Also, as part of Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia's continuing Mālama Honua voyage, this leg to and from Papahānaumokuākea will enjoy positive publicity. PVS will be producing educational tools and information, connecting to communities across the archipelago also working to restore coastal habitats and cultural knowledge, and trying to reach K-12 and university students through partnerships with public, private and charter schools across Hawai'i, as well as the University of Hawai'i system and the myriad of schools outside of Hawai'i that have registered their interest and support via our website: www.hokulea.com.

Also, PVS's commitments directly relate to and are compatible with the management direction of the Monument: "With a legacy of ocean exploration as its foundation, the Polynesian Voyaging Society reaffirms our commitment to undertake voyages of discovery; respect and learn from our heritage and culture; and strengthen learning which integrates voyaging experiences into quality education. We are committed to nurturing communities and the leadership therein which values learning and sharing knowledge in order to foster living well on islands."

c. Is there a practicable alternative to conducting the activity within the Monument? If not, explain why your activities must be conducted in the Monument.

There is no practicable alternative to conducting the proposed activities within Papahānaumokuākea, especially at Nihoa and Mokumanamana. As traditional teachings show us, in order to truly experience and connect with a place, we must 'ikemaka (see, experience, visit firsthand) the place. As for navigation, Nihoa has no

artificial lighting to aid the apprentice navigator, and its small physical size and low-lying nature requires astute observations of the sun, stars, swells, seabirds and other natural elements. Today, apprentice Hawaiian wayfinders can be considered qualified to attempt to navigate a canoe on long-distance, trans-oceanic sails after they have successfully guided a voyage from Kaua'i to Nihoa.

d. How does the end value of the activity outweigh its adverse impacts on Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity?

While we do not think that there are any adverse impacts, the proposed activities provide beneficial impacts to Papahānaumokuākea, such as those explained above, and by highlighting (through example) the area as an important place for the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian cultural and spiritual practices and a place that is essential in training apprentice navigators studying modern Hawaiian wayfinding aboard traditional double-hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoes.

e. Explain how the duration of the activity is no longer than necessary to achieve its stated purpose.

The proposed activities would take place in the Monument for only the possible 30 days of sailing transit required to and from each island/atoll in PMNM. We are conservatively including a weather window to assure that we remain compliant with our permit if weather conditions beyond our control cause the need for more transit time.

f. Provide information demonstrating that you are qualified to conduct and complete the activity and mitigate any potential impacts resulting from its conduct.

Nainoa Thompson has extensive experience as a master navigator and teacher of Hawaiian wayfinding techniques. He has been inducted into Pwo (a sacred initiation ritual) as a master navigator, and was the first Native Hawaiian to practice the ancient art of wayfinding in six centuries. He has navigated both Hōkūle'a and Hawai'iloa (double-hulled voyaging canoes) from Hawai'i to other island nations throughout Polynesia, including the NWHI, without the aid of instruments – all with only positive educational impacts to natural, historic or cultural resources. He successfully led Hikiana's maiden voyage to Papahānaumokuākea in September 2013. Also on board will be at least one cultural practitioner trained in Native Hawaiian cultural protocol and several people who have worked for natural and cultural resource preservation and perpetuation in Hawai'i.

g. Provide information demonstrating that you have adequate financial resources available to conduct and complete the activity and mitigate any potential impacts resulting from its conduct. These training trips are an essential part of the Worldwide Voyage and therefore are funded by Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS), a cultural and educational not-for-profit organization, through various grants and public and private contributions. Per our operating budget for 2017, approved by our Board of Directors, we have enough funding for the Mālama Honua voyage through 2017, including the voyage to Papahānaumokuākea and back.

h. Explain how your methods and procedures are appropriate to achieve the proposed activity's goals in relation to their impacts to Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity.

The crews of Hōkūle'a, Hikianalia and Gershon II will follow all Monument BMPs, protocols and policies while operating in Papahānaumokuākea.

i. Has your vessel been outfitted with a mobile transceiver unit approved by OLE and complies with the requirements of Presidential Proclamation 8031?

The proposed voyage would comply with the requirements of Presidential Proclamation 8031: Hikianalia will be outfitted with a working NOAA-OLE type-approved VMS for the trip.

j. Demonstrate that there are no other factors that would make the issuance of a permit for the activity inappropriate.

There are no other factors which make the issuance of a permit for the proposed activities inappropriate.

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS FOR PROPOSED NATIVE HAWAIIAN PRACTICES

k. Explain how the activity is non-commercial and will not involve the sale of any organism or material collected.

The proposed activities will not result in any commercial use of any Monument resource.

l. Explain how the purpose and intent of the activity is appropriate and deemed necessary by traditional standards in the Native Hawaiian culture (pono), and demonstrate an understanding of, and background in, the traditional practice and its associated values and protocols.

Perpetuating the practice of traditional Hawaiian wayfinding is an essential component of the living Native Hawaiian culture and values. The route from Kaua'i to Nihoa is an imperative element in ensuring that the art and practice of traditional Hawaiian wayfinding is carried into the future by the younger generations of apprentice navigators and voyaging crewmembers. For both our ancestors and our future generations, we must make sure that our culture continues to thrive and is never allowed to move toward extinction again.

m. Explain how the activity benefits the resources of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and the Native Hawaiian community.

Besides perpetuating integral components of Native Hawaiian culture (voyaging and wayfinding), the use of traditional canoes in the Monument offers an opportunity to maintain a level of cultural integrity that is appropriate for spiritual ceremonies in Papahānaumokuākea. Equally, the ability of crewmembers to perform cultural/spiritual protocol and honor their ancestors perpetuates a centuries-old link of Native Hawaiians to their ancestors, their ancestral knowledge and their Kūpuna Islands: the NWHI.

n. Explain how the activity supports or advances the perpetuation of traditional knowledge and ancestral connections of Native Hawaiians to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

As previously stated, Papahānaumokuākea serves a critical role in three pertinent, significant and living, Native Hawaiian traditions: 'ikemaka, voyaging, and wayfinding. The voyaging route between Kaua'i and Nihoa is used today, as it has been for generations, as a major training and testing ground for novice navigators studying modern Hawaiian wayfinding aboard traditional, double-hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoes. The activities proposed in this permit application support the perpetuation of traditional Hawaiian wayfinding and voyaging, as they serve to train apprentice navigators and test their knowledge in an environment that is a close simulation of a long-distance voyage without the added dangers of testing endurance.

o. Will all Monument resources harvested in the Monument be consumed in the Monument? If not, explain why not.

We are requesting the ability to conduct Native Hawaiian sustenance fishing activities, fishing only in accordance with Monument regulations. All such catch will be consumed solely within Papahānaumokuākea.

8. Procedures/Methods:

The canoe will depart Kaua'i en-route to Lehua Island, with Nihoa as its initial landmark and then continue on to Mokumanamana and the rest of the islands and atolls up the PMNM archipelago. The sail plan will be attached to the Compliance Information Sheet and submitted to the Monument Permit Coordinator.

Five science projects will be conducted opportunistically along the sail plan for the WWV; (1) marine acoustics; (2) fish sampling; (3) plankton sampling; (4) marine debris sampling; and (5) water quality sampling. Brief descriptions of the projects and their purposes follow:

(1) Marine Acoustics: To better understand our oceans, a passive marine acoustic recorder will be used to record dolphin, whale, reef, and anthropogenic sounds throughout the worldwide voyage. These sounds can be analyzed to determine amounts and types of biological activity, species diversity, habitat health, and human impacts. We anticipate that whale and dolphin sounds recorded during the WWV will provide information about species distribution and occurrence in rarely studied areas. Comparing open ocean sounds to areas with boat or ship traffic will provide information about the amount and impact of anthropogenic sounds. Recordings will be made available for teachers and students.

(2) Fish Sampling: Subsistence fish caught by fisherman on Hikianalia for meals will be analysed by crew members by taking fin clip, stomach content samples and gonads. Fin clips will be preserved in dimethyl sulfoxide and used for DNA analysis to better understand the genetic makeup of global fish stocks. Stomach contents will be photographed and assist in our understanding of fish and marine food webs and the role humans play. Gonads will be sized and analyzed for a spawning study. We anticipate that the DNA analysis will identify regional stocks of management importance for the practice of trans-Pacific navigation, as well as for local fisheries. The stomach contents results will be compared with similar datasets in the region to

reveal trophic linkages among important fishery and non-fishery species, as well as to illuminate the impacts of human debris. Images of stomach contents and DNA results will be made available for teachers and students.

(3) Plankton Sampling: By better understanding meso-zooplankton, the base of the oceanic food web, we may better understand where fish and other resources come from and go to. Plankton and larvae will be collected by towing a small plankton net at low speed behind Hikianalia. Photographs of plankton will be taken and made available for teachers and students. After the photos are taken, the plankton will be put back in the ocean. The objectives are to investigate the changes in the diversity of the plankton community along the route of PVS's Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage as well as to educate the public about impacts of plastics, marine debris and climate change on the base of the food web.

(4) Marine debris sampling: Plastics have greatly improved our standard of living; however, they now make up the majority of debris in the ocean surface waters and pose a large threat to marine ecosystems. Micro plastics will be collected by towing a small net behind Hikianalia. Plastic debris will be preserved in dimethyl sulfoxide to better understand what microorganisms are colonizing on plastic fragments and whether or not these organisms have the potential to naturally degrade the plastic.

(5) Water quality sampling: A handheld Hannah YSI water quality meter will be used to record the salinity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and pH of surface waters that we travel through. These measurements are vital to our understanding of global oceans as the climate changes. Water quality data will be made publically available to students, teachers, and communities following the worldwide voyage.

NOTE: If land or marine archeological activities are involved, contact the Monument Permit Coordinator at the address on the general application form before proceeding.

9a. Collection of specimens - collecting activities (would apply to any activity): organisms or objects (List of species, if applicable, attach additional sheets if necessary):

Common name:

Unknown pelagic and reef fish species

Scientific name:

Unknown

Hawaiian name:

Unknown

& size of specimens:

Unknown

Collection location:

Unknown

☐ Whole Organism ☒ Partial Organism

9b. What will be done with the specimens after the project has ended?

After we provide the specimens to Eric Tongg for his data collection, they will be destroyed.

9c. Will the organisms be kept alive after collection? ☐ Yes ☒ No

• General site/location for collections:

Unknown

• Is it an open or closed system? ☐ Open ☐ Closed

• Is there an outfall? ☐ Yes ☐ No

• Will these organisms be housed with other organisms? If so, what are the other organisms?
No

• Will organisms be released?
No

10. If applicable, how will the collected samples or specimens be transported out of the Monument?

Any samples transported out of the Monument (please see the answers to Section 8 for descriptions of possible, but not targeted samples) would be preserved in small vials of dimethyl sulfoxide.

11. Describe any fixed or semi-permanent structures or installations, or cultural offerings you plan to leave in the Monument:

Cultural practitioners will only offer culturally and biologically appropriate ho'okupu in the Monument, after consultation with Monument management, such as oli (chant), wai (water) and pule (prayer).

12. List all specialized gear and materials to be used in the proposed activities:

Hook and handline for trolling and nearshore fishing

13. List all Hazardous Materials you propose to take to and use within the Monument:
N/A

14. Describe collaborative activities to share samples, cultural research and/or knowledge gained in the Monument:

PVS, as part of the larger 'Ohana Wa'a (family of voyaging canoes), is creating a long-term voyaging program in collaboration with various state, federal and private entities. This navigational test will be part of the voyaging program in that it will be a high level of voyaging training. Long-term plans include the development of curriculum around such a voyage at the undergraduate level, and much of the cultural and environmental knowledge gleaned from this voyage may be added to the existing Navigating Change program, of which PVS is a founding member. We will work with Monument staff to determine appropriate partnering mechanisms.

Also, since this voyage is part of the larger Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage, for which PVS has grants and partners to help create curriculum and educational outreach about cultural, environmental and sustainability issues, it is likely that we would try to incorporate this voyage into that messaging, especially as part of a larger message about the interconnectivity and relevance of all we have to learn from and protect throughout the Hawaiian Archipelago.

15a. Will you produce any publications, educational materials or other deliverables?

☒ Yes ☐ No

15b. Provide a time line for write-up and publication of information or production of materials:

If we do produce any educational materials based on this voyage, including potential undergraduate and K-12 curriculum, we will share it with the Monument, especially as the development of such material may well be done in collaboration with Monument staff. We do not have a timeline on the production of said curriculum or lesson plans, as they are being developed by our education partners, and we are focusing on the logistics of safety for our canoes and crews during the entirety of the Worldwide Voyage, conducted by two voyaging canoes and an escort boat, of which this voyage into Papahānaumokuākea is only a portion.

We will also be blogging during this voyage, and images and stories will be posted on www.hokulea.com as well as via social media. Furthermore, we will be sharing the results from PVS's scientific and observational inquiries through our website and related materials, all of which will be accessible to the public, thereby helping to enhance the concept of providing a window to Papahānaumokuākea for members of the public not permitted to experience this significant place on their own.

16. If applicable, list all Applicant's publications directly related to the proposed project:
Please visit our website -- www.hokulea.com -- for relevant photos, blogs and videos on Hikianalia to Papahānaumokuākea. All of the images taken in the Monument were

shared with the management of Papahānaumokuākea, as would be any taken under this permit.

With knowledge of the penalties for false or incomplete statements, as provided by 18 U.S.C. 1001, and for perjury, as provided by 18 U.S.C. 1621, I hereby certify to the best of my abilities under penalty of perjury of that the information I have provided on this application form is true and correct. I agree that the Co-Trustees may post this application in its entirety on the Internet. I understand that the Co-Trustees will consider deleting all information that I have identified as “confidential” prior to posting the application.

Signature

Date

**SEND ONE SIGNED APPLICATION VIA MAIL TO THE MONUMENT OFFICE
BELOW:**

NOAA/Inouye Regional Center
NOS/ONMS/PMNM/Attn: Permit Coordinator
1845 Wasp Blvd, Building 176
Honolulu, HI 96818
FAX: (808) 455-3093

DID YOU INCLUDE THESE?

- ☐ Applicant CV/Resume/Biography
- ☒ Intended field Principal Investigator CV/Resume/Biography
- ☒ Electronic and Hard Copy of Application with Signature
- ☐ Statement of information you wish to be kept confidential
- ☐ Material Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Materials

Request for Revision to Thompson/PVS permit application:

We respectfully request the following vessels be added to the Thompson application. PVS will require that each voyaging canoe have its own escort vessel, unless the said vessel can (1) sail to Nihoa and (2) have enough power to get back to Kauai without needing assistance.

Voyaging canoes that do not have engines or these capabilities will need an escort vessel with the following specs:

- Minimum 26' long
- 400 nm fuel range
- Capacity to tow a minimum of 150 miles

The following vessels are being requested to sail to Nihoa ONLY with Hokulea & Hikianalia as part of the Malama Honua Worldwide Voyage.

- 1) **Faafaite:** The Faafaite is a tipaerua va'a (double hulled traditional canoe) that is 73 ft long and 6.5 m wide with a proposed crew of 12 individuals. Its port of registry is CIYS – Avatiu and call sign, E5U2317. The vessel owner is the Tahiti voyaging society, Faafaite i te ao Maohi and the captain's name is Matahiarii Tapeta-Moanarua-Tutavae. The vessels flagship is Cook Islands. The vessel carries one tender vessel, a zodiac with a 15HP Yamaha engine and 1 -90L fuel tank (for the tender vessel only).
- 2) **Vaka Motu:** The Vaka Motu is a traditional double hulled Polynesian sailing vessel with one mast that is 50 ft long with a proposed crew of 8 individuals. Its flagship port is Cook Islands. The vessel owner is the Ocean Sustainability Research Limited of the Cook Islands and its captain is Peia Patai. The vessel operates on coconut oil and does not have a tender vessel onboard.
- 3) **Namahoe:** The Namahoe is a USA flag waa kaulua (double hulled traditional Hawaiian sailing vessel) docked in Nawiliwili Harbor on Kauai, owned and operated by Na Kalai Waa o Kauai. Total length of 72 feet, Na Kalai Waa o Kauai proposes a crew of 14 individuals.
- 4) **Mookiha o Piilani:** The Mookiha o Piilani is a USA flag waa kaulua (double hulled traditional Hawaiian sailing vessel), owned & operated by Hui o Waa Kaulua. Total length is 62.5 feet and 19 feet wide. Total crew capacity is 15 people max and is federally documented (#1260269). Its home port is Lahaina, Maui.

All activities currently listed in the permit application remain unchanged and no additional activities are being requested, beside the addition of the four vessels (and potentially an escort for each) listed above.

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Compliance Information Sheet

1. Updated list of personnel to be covered by permit. List all personnel names and their roles here (e.g. John Doe, Diver; Jane Doe, Field Technician, Jerry Doe, Medical Assistant): Charles Nainoa Thomspson, 16 crew TBD for voyaging canoe Hikianalia, and 16 crew TBD for voyaging canoe Hōkūle‘a.

2. Specific Site Location(s): (Attach copies of specific collection locations): TBD, but generally, the waters around Nihoa and Mokumanamana for navigational and voyaging purposes.

3. Other permits (list and attach documentation of all other related Federal or State permits): None

3a. For each of the permits listed, identify any permit violations or any permit that was suspended, amended, modified or revoked for cause. Explain the circumstances surrounding the violation or permit suspension, amendment, modification or revocation. N/A

4. Funding sources (Attach copies of your budget, specific to proposed activities under this permit and include funding sources. See instructions for more information): Funding is provided by federal and state grants, as well as from individual and corporate donations. Appended, please find proof of funding for this voyage from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

5. Time frame:

Activity start: late August 2017

Activity completion: late August 2018

Dates actively inside the Monument:

From: TBD Depends on the weather window, but would be for 7 days at most.

To: TBD

Describe any limiting factors in declaring specific dates of the proposed activity at the time of application: Weather and safety conditions are always priorities in determining the actual dates of sailing traditional voyaging canoes.

Personnel schedule in the Monument: TBD Will be the same as our crew list, as all volunteer personnel will be entering and exiting Papahānaumokuākea via the wa'a.

6. Indicate (with attached documentation) what insurance policies, bonding coverage, and/or financial resources are in place to pay for or reimburse the Monument trustees for the necessary search and rescue, evacuation, and/or removal of any or all persons covered by the permit from the Monument: All crew members will have DAN insurance as a requirement (which includes medical evacuation coverage), and the PVS office will have records of their individual health insurance on file. Please see attached proof of marine general liability insurance.

7. Check the appropriate box to indicate how personnel will enter the Monument:

- ☒ Vessel
☐ Aircraft

Provide Vessel and Aircraft information:

8. The certifications/inspections (below) must be completed prior to departure for vessels (and associated tenders) entering the Monument. Fill in scheduled date (attach documentation):

- ☐ Rodent free, Date: TBD
☐ Tender vessel, Date: N/A
☐ Ballast water, Date: N/A
☐ Gear/equipment, Date: TBD
☐ Hull inspection, Date: TBD

9. Vessel information (NOTE: if you are traveling aboard a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration vessel, skip this question):

Vessel name: Hikianalia and Hōkūle'a

Vessel owner: Polynesian Voyaging Society

Captain's name: TBD

IMO#:N/A

Vessel ID#: Hikianalia – 1681; Hōkūle'a – 571798

Flag: Hikianalia – Cook Islands; Hōkūle'a – USA

Vessel type: both are double-hulled voyaging canoes
Call sign: Hikianalia – E5U2592 and Hōkūle‘a – WDH4295
Embarkation port: Honolulu
Last port vessel will have been at prior to this embarkation: N/A
Length: Hikianalia is 72 feet long, and Hōkūle‘a is 62 feet long
Gross tonnage: Hikianalia is 30 tons, and Hōkūle‘a is 14.5 tons
Total ballast water capacity volume (m3): N/A
Total number of ballast water tanks on ship: 0
Total fuel capacity: N/A
Total number of fuel tanks on ship: N/A
Marine Sanitation Device: yes
Type: 3

Explain in detail how you will comply with the regulations regarding discharge in the Monument. Describe in detail. If applicable, attach schematics of the vessel's discharge and treatment systems: We will not discharge in the Monument

Other fuel/hazardous materials to be carried on board and amounts: Propane for cooking on each wa‘a: four 5-gallon tanks on each wa‘a.

Provide proof of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Law Enforcement-approved Vessel Monitoring System (VMS). Provide the name and contact information of the contractor responsible for installing the VMS system. Also describe VMS unit name and type: Faria Watchdog 750

VMS Email:
Inmarsat ID#:

* Individuals MUST ENSURE that a type-approved VMS unit is installed and that its automatic position reports are being properly received by the NOAA OLE system prior to the issuance of a permit. To make sure your VMS is properly configured for the NOAA OLE system, please contact NOAA OLE at (808) 725-6110 or (808) 725-6100.

* PERMITS WILL NOT BE ISSUED TO INDIVIDUALS ENTERING THE MONUMENT VIA VESSEL UNTIL NOAA OLE HAS CONTACTED THE MONUMENT PERMIT COORDINATOR WITH A ‘POSITIVE CHECK’ READING.

10. Tender information:

On what workboats (tenders) will personnel, gear and materials be transported within the Monument? List the number of tenders/skiffs aboard and specific types of motors: The only dinghies currently on board Hōkūle‘a and Hikianalia are zodiac inflatables, powered by oars.

Additional Information for Land Based Operations

11. Proposed movement of personnel, gear, materials, and, if applicable, samples:

N/A

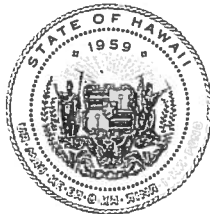
12. Room and board requirements on island: N/A

13. Work space needs: N/A

DID YOU INCLUDE THESE?

- ☐ Map(s) or GPS point(s) of Project Location(s), if applicable
- ☐ Funding Proposal(s)
- ☒ Funding and Award Documentation, if already received
- ☒ Documentation of Insurance, if already received
- ☐ Documentation of Inspections
- ☐ Documentation of all required Federal and State Permits or applications for permits

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

July 28, 2017

TO: Division of Aquatic Resources File

THROUGH: Suzanne Case, Chairperson

FROM: Maria Carnevale
Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

SUBJECT:

DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION FROM THE PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CHAPTER 343, HRS AND CHAPTER 11-200 HAR, FOR
PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA MARINE NATIONAL MONUMENT NATIVE HAWAIIAN PRACTICES PERMIT
TO MR. NAINOA THOMPSON, POLYNESIAN VOYAGING SOCIETY, FOR ACCESS TO STATE WATERS
TO CONDUCT SAILS USING NON-INSTRUMENTAL NAVIGATION UNDER PERMIT PMNM-2017-011

The following permitted activities are found to be exempted from preparation of an environmental assessment under the authority of Chapter 343, HRS and Chapter 11-200, HAR:

Project Title:

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Native Hawaiian Practices Permit to Mr. Nainoa Thompson, Polynesian Voyaging Society, for Access to State Waters to Conduct Sails Using Non-Instrumental Navigation

Permit Number: PMNM-2017-011

Project Description:

Mr. Charles Nainoa Thompson is proposing to sail up to six (6) traditional Polynesian voyaging canoes with their respective escort vessels, including Hōkūle'a, Hikianalia and other canoes part of the 'ohana wa'a network in Hawaii, to PMNM as a way to continue to perpetuate traditional wayfinding and voyaging practices, and pay respect to and re-connect with Hawai'i's kupuna islands in a culturally appropriate and significant way. Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia have been sailing across the Earth's oceans to join and grow the global movement toward a more sustainable world. The Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage (WWV) began in 2013 with a Mālama Hawai'i sail across the Hawaiian archipelago, and will continue through 2018 with a new generation of navigators taking the helm and guiding Hōkūle'a and Hikianalia back to Polynesia after circumnavigating the globe, and again voyage around Hawai'i's home archipelago.

SUZANNE CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

W. ROY HARDY
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

In addition, the applicant is proposing to conduct sustenance fishing activities in accordance with the Monument Management Board Sustenance Fishing Policy. Other activities include conducting the same science projects that were carried out during the WWV that includes: deploying an acoustic recorder to record biological and anthropogenic sounds; surface water quality monitoring using a hand-held Hannah YSI sonde; and collecting micro-plastic and plankton samples.

Lastly, the Applicant intends to partake in cultural observations and protocol including the offering of ho'okupu (gifts of water, oli (chants), and pule (prayer)) in order to strengthen cultural connections to the place.

The activities proposed by the Applicant directly support the Monument Management Plan's (MMP) priority management needs through 3.1.2 – Native Hawaiian Culture and History Action Plan (Strategy NHCH-2: Conduct, support, and facilitate Native Hawaiian cultural access and research of the NWHI over the life of the plan). NHCH-2.6 states “[s]uch access needs may include, but not be limited to...regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes for wayfinding, navigational, and cultural protocol training”. The knowledge and experiences gained by perpetuating these practices is invaluable to the Hawaiian community and to the individuals who partake in them. The expedition would build upon previous research on the significance of traditional wayfinding which will also help cultural practitioners better understand the celestial, spiritual and cultural connections between Papahānaumokuākea and the Main Hawaiian islands.

Consulted Parties:

The permit application was sent out for review and comment to the following scientific and cultural entities: Hawai'i Division of Aquatic Resources, Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (NOAA/NOS), NOAA Pacific Islands Regional Office (NOAA-PIRO), United States Fish and Wildlife Service Hawaiian and Pacific Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex Office, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA). In addition, the permit application has been posted on the Monument Web site since April 15, 2015, giving the public an opportunity to comment. The application was posted within 40 days of its receipt, in accordance with the Monument's Public Notification Policy.

Exemption Determination:

After reviewing HAR § 11-200-(8), including the criteria used to determine significance under HAR § 11-200-12, DLNR has concluded that the activities under this permit would have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and that issuance of the permit is categorically exempt from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment based on the following analysis:

1. All activities associated with this permit, including the activities involved with training apprentice navigators using non-instrumental navigation, have been evaluated as a single action. As a preliminary matter, multiple or phased actions, such as when a group of actions are part of a larger undertaking, or when an individual project is precedent to or represents a commitment to a larger project, must be grouped together and evaluated as a single action. HAR § 11-200-7. This permit does not involve an activity that is precedent to a later activity.

2. The Exemption Class for Scientific Research with no Serious or Major Environmental Disturbance Appears to Apply. Chapter 343, HRS, and section 11-200-8, HAR, provide for a list of classes of actions exempt from environmental assessment requirements. HAR §11-200-8.A.5.

exempts the class of actions which involve “basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities, which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.” Additionally, Exemption Class #5, Exempt Item #2 includes game and non-game wildlife surveys, photographing, recording, sampling, and collection in the field. This exemption class has been interpreted to include various modes of transportation to reach field areas necessary to carry out such activities. DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES, EXEMPTION LIST FOR THE DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE (June 12, 2008).

The proposed training sails for apprentice navigators using non-instrumental navigation activities here appear to fall squarely under the exemption class identified under HAR § 11-200-8.A.5., and are succinctly described under the former Fish and Game Division exemption list published in 1976. As discussed below, no significant disturbance to any environmental resource is anticipated in the training of apprentice navigators in both the water and on land activities. Thus, so long as the below considerations are met, an exemption class should include the action now contemplated.

3. Cumulative Impacts of Actions in the Same Place and Impacts with Respect to the Potentially Particularly Sensitive Environment Will Not be Significant. Even where a categorical exemption appears to include a proposed action, the action cannot be declared exempt if “the cumulative impact of planned successive actions in the same place, over time, is significant, or when an action that is normally insignificant in its impact on the environment may be significant in a particularly sensitive environment.” HAR § 11-200-8.B. To gauge whether a significant impact or effect is probable, an exempting agency must consider every phase of a proposed action, any expected primary and secondary consequences, the long-term and short-term effects of the action, the overall and cumulative effect of the action, and the sum effects of an action on the quality of the environment. HAR § 11-200-12. Examples of actions which commonly have a significant effect on the environment are listed under HAR § 11-200-12. Based on previous sails and the overall minimum amount of activity that occurs with the vast PMNM, it is not anticipated that any cumulative impacts will be resultant from this activity.

4. Overall Impacts will Probably be Minimal and Insignificant.

Again, any foreseeable impacts from the proposed activity will probably be minimal, and further mitigated by general and specific conditions attached to the permit. Specifically, all activities covered by this permit will be carried out with strict safeguards for the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the Monument as required by Presidential Proclamation 8031, other applicable law and agency policies and standard operating procedures.

Overall, significant cumulative impacts are not anticipated as a result of this activity, and numerous safeguards further ensure that the potentially sensitive environment of the project area will not be significantly affected. All activities will be conducted in a manner compatible with the management direction of the Monument Proclamation in that the activities do not diminish monument resources, qualities, and ecological integrity, or have any indirect, secondary, cultural, or cumulative effects. The joint permit review process did not reveal any anticipated indirect or cumulative impacts, nor did it raise any cultural concerns, that would occur as a result of these activities.

Conclusion. Upon consideration of the permit to be approved by the Board of Land and Natural Resources, the potential effects of the above listed project as provided by Chapter 343, HRS and Chapter 11-200 HAR, have been determined to be of probable minimal or no significant effect on the environment and exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.

Suzanne Case
Chairperson, Board of Land and Natural Resources

Date