

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

October 10, 2025

Board of Land
and Natural Resources
Honolulu, Hawai‘i

Request for Authorization and Approval to Issue a Papahānaumokuākea Conservation and Management Permit to the Monument Management Board Agencies: the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services and Refuges; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and National Marine Fisheries Service (inclusive of the Hawaiian Monk Seal Research Program’s Activities); and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, for Access to State Waters to Conduct Conservation and Management Activities

and

Authorize General Conservation and Management Activities by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Divisions of Aquatic Resources & Forestry and Wildlife.

SUMMARY

The Papahānaumokuākea program hereby requests approval from the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) for issuance of a Papahānaumokuākea conservation and management permit to the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) Monument Management Board (MMB) agencies:

- the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Ecological Services;
- the USFWS Refuges;
- the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries;
- NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service; and
- the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA).

for access and authorization to continue general conservation and management activities under State jurisdiction in Papahānaumokuākea. The State of Hawai‘i, Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), also seeks authorization to participate under the joint MMB conservation and management permit to the extent any co-managing agency seeks or grants logistical or other support from the State of Hawai‘i for activities on Midway or other parts of Papahānaumokuākea not under the State’s jurisdiction.

Separately, the State of Hawai‘i, DLNR Divisions of Aquatic Resources (DAR) & Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) request authority and permission to conduct their own continuing conservation and management activities in Papahānaumokuākea areas under state jurisdiction.

Applicant representatives, for purposes of coordination and direction of MMB activities under this permit, include the Superintendent of the Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary for NOAA, the Superintendent for PMNM for USFWS, the Ka Pouhana (chief executive officer) of OHA, and the Administrator of DAR. The representatives will collaborate and coordinate on activities that support the management of PMNM.

BACKGROUND

The Board of Land and Natural Resources, through DAR and DOFAW, permits certain otherwise prohibited or regulated activities on or in its lands and waters, pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 187A-6, 183D-6, and 195D-4; Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR) § 13-60.5-5, 13-60.5-6, 13-126-9 and 13-126-10, and all other applicable laws and regulations.

This permit, as described below, would allow entry for general conservation and management activities to occur in PMNM, including the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) State Marine Refuge and the lands and waters (0-3 nautical miles) surrounding the following sites to the extent within the jurisdiction of the State of Hawai‘i:

- Nihoa
- Mokumanamana (Necker Island)
- Lalo (French Frigate Shoals)
- ‘Ōnūnui and ‘Ōnūiki (Gardner Pinnacles)
- Kamokuokamohoali‘i (Maro Reef)
- Kamole (Laysan Island)
- Kapou (Lisianski Island)
- Manawai (Pearl and Hermes Atoll)
- Kuaihelani (Midway Atoll)
- Hōlanikū (Kure Atoll)

The activities covered under this permit would occur from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

The proposed activities are a renewal of conservation and management work previously permitted and conducted in Papahānaumokuākea. This permit request is substantively the same as prior BLNR approved MMB Agencies’ permits to conduct general conservation and management activities under the direction of MMB agencies and representatives. A list of authorized conservation and management activities to be approved under this permit is drawn from permitted activities conducted in years past and included below.

PROPOSED OR INTENDED ACTIVITIES

The MMB agency applicants jointly propose to conduct coordinated management activities for the conservation and management of the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge¹, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve,

¹ Although Midway is not a part of the State of Hawai‘i, Midway is generally considered a central base of operations support, refueling station, or Monument port of call necessary to the MMB Agencies’ conservation and management mission and actions.

Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands State Marine Refuge, and Kure Atoll portions of the Hawai'i State Wildlife Sanctuary.

This submittal only addresses the facet of the joint permit for activities under State jurisdiction, but includes a request for approval for State (DLNR) personnel to conduct or assist in collaborative actions in other parts of Papahānaumokuākea with appropriate MMB agencies, as specified, and activities in which a State agency may continue to conduct conservation and management activities consistent with this permit.

Participation of personnel in each activity is often variable or tentative and frequently changes throughout the permitting periods depending on availability or new circumstances. Generally, staff, volunteers, cultural liaisons, or contractors necessary for the permitted activities may enter PMNM for conservation and management activities, and resident families of Midway Atoll may enter PMNM. Invited news media representatives may also enter PMNM to provide public information of conservation and management activities. All personnel will be identified, and information will be provided to the PMNM Permit Coordinators prior to each entry; this information is documented digitally on a shared spreadsheet. Additionally, pre-access permit and cultural briefings will be conducted for all new personnel entering PMNM and annually for all.

The applicants shall ensure that all personnel assigned to any conservation and management activity allowed under this permit are qualified to perform in the assigned role and are limited to the scope of their position and respective project, and shall comply with all other applicable laws, policies, protocols, permits, and regulations. In addition, the applicants will ensure that all management activities are communicated and coordinated on an ongoing and regular basis.

Applicants describe the scope of activities in their applications for general management/conservation as follows:

1. **Entrance:** Entrance into PMNM authorized to the permittees, their designated agency staff, contractors, Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge (MANWR) residents and families, news media and VIPs necessary for conservation and management activities described herein;
2. **Operations:** Activities to maintain and support field stations of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) and the State of Hawai'i Kure Atoll State Wildlife Sanctuary, necessary for meeting mission and purposes of refuges and PMNM in support of on-site management and resource conservation including, but not limited to, maintenance of PMNM facilities, field camp supply and support activities, entrance and maintenance of aircraft and operation of airfields, entrance and operation of vessels to support conservation and management activities, conducting personnel safety and health maintenance, on-site reviews and operational evaluations, and sustenance fishing conducted by MANWR residents within Midway Atoll Special Management Area;
3. **Resource Survey and Monitoring:** Activities to increase understanding of the distributions and abundances of organisms and their habitats and to improve ecosystem-based conservation and management decisions in PMNM. Such activities may include placement, installation and maintenance of scientific equipment, unmanned aerial and marine platform surveys, habitat mapping, non-lethal marking and tagging for population monitoring purposes, collection of biological, chemical, climatological, or geological data and samples

for long-term monitoring purposes, collection of voucher specimens that cannot be visually identified and/or may represent new species or geographic records, and physical surveys and sampling from landfills or other potentially hazardous sites;

4. **Natural Resource Protection, Restoration and Remediation:** Activities to protect, conserve, and maintain the native ecosystems and biological diversity of Papahānaumokuākea and to aid in the recovery of its threatened and endangered plants and animals and their habitat, including the reduction and mitigation of threats to Papahānaumokuākea resources from marine debris, contaminants, disease, and alien species. Such activities may include, wildlife disentanglement, injury assessment or mitigation measures in response to ship groundings or oil spills, restoration and translocation activities to augment populations of native species, invasive species removal using physical or chemical methods, activities necessary to locate and remove marine debris (land and ocean-based), and activities in response to an unusual mortality event (e.g., mass stranding or coral bleaching events).
5. **Cultural and Historical Resource Identification and Protection:** Activities to identify, document, interpret, preserve, and protect PMNM's cultural and historic resources. Such activities may include collection of post-contact artifacts in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), surveys of historic and culturally significant sites, activities necessary to return seized Monument resources to their natural environment in coordination with appropriate federal and/or state resource agencies, collection of non-living culturally significant natural materials acquired during Monument operations for use in cultural ceremonies and practices, and activities necessary to preserve and perpetuate Native Hawaiian culture and practices.
6. **Outreach and Education:** Activities to cultivate an informed and involved constituency that supports and enhances conservation of PMNM's resources and contributes to the Nation's science and cultural literacy. Such activities may include news media site visits, collecting information from PMNM field staff, photographing and filming natural and historic features of Papahānaumokuākea, and collection of debris and other non-living biological samples for education purposes.
7. **Hawaiian Monk Seal Conservation and Management:** Activities directed towards understanding the biology, ecology, and population dynamics of the Hawaiian monk seal and identifying factors that impact the survival and recovery of the species (including activities to mitigate shark predation).

The activities requested fulfill duties under coordinated interagency management of the PMNM ecosystems, prevent duplicate efforts, and promote efficiency. All of the above activities would be conducted by MMB agency employees, approved contractors, volunteers, or other Federal employees who must remain under the direction and administrative control of the applicants while in state jurisdiction in Papahānaumokuākea.

The NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, Hawaiian Monk Seal Research Program's (HMSRP) management and recovery activities are one of the many MMB programs integrated into this permit. HMSRP activities would be conducted by HMSRP trained personnel or other MMB agency staff trained by HMSRP.

Beginning in 2025, HMSRP is not requesting lethal shark removal activities in this permit but instead continuing non-lethal shark predation mitigation efforts at Lalo by translocating pups from islets of high predation risk to islets of low/zero predation (i.e., Tern Island). The HMSRP will continue to work with Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners (including kahu manō) to develop and test adaptive management activities to monitor, and, where necessary for the species' persistence, mitigate shark predation of Hawaiian monk seal pups at Lalo (French Frigate Shoals).

PROPOSED OR INTENDED ACTIVITIES BY HMSRP

NOAA NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC) HMSRP proposes to continue conservation and management activities for monitoring and recovery of the Hawaiian monk seal (*Neomonachus schauinslandi*) in Papahānaumokuākea. All activities described in this submittal are directed towards understanding the biology, ecology, and population dynamics of the Hawaiian monk seal and identifying factors that affect the survival and recovery of the species.

Proposed activities would be conducted by up to 25 individuals between January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026.

Everything proposed in this permit has been reviewed and approved in previous permits (most recently PMNM-2025-001). Trail cameras and all associated equipment will be retrieved before field staff leave at the end of the season.

Specific activities to be conducted by the program are listed in Attachment A – the permit application. General information about HMSRP is below.

Information on Monk Seal Research and Recovery Initiatives (provided by NOAA)

This is a brief summary of information relevant to monk seal research and recovery initiatives proposed here. More information can be found in the Recovery Plan for the Hawaiian Monk Seal ([available online](#)).

- The Hawaiian monk seal is an endangered species numbering approximately 1,600 individuals, 1,100 seals reside in the NWHI.
- The Hawaiian monk seal has been the focus of research and recovery activities for over 40 years. This has resulted in one of the most robust population datasets for a large mammal species allowing the HMSRP to develop and assess cutting edge recovery actions.
- These recovery activities have resulted in the fact that a minimum of 28% of Hawaiian monk seals alive today are here because they directly benefited from an action or are the offspring of a female seal that benefited.
- In PMNM, the key threats to the survival of the species include low birth rates combined with poor survival of juvenile Hawaiian monk seals to reproductive age. The majority of research activities are directed to understanding threats to the seals and mitigating those, particularly related to young female seals.
- All activities proposed here are permitted by the NOAA/NMFS MMPA/ESA

Research/Enhancement permit: #27552)(and associated NEPA documents etc.), and supported by the Recovery Plan for Hawaiian Monk Seals.

- This permit also supports efforts conducted by the State and Federal partners that are directed towards monk seal research and recovery.
- To maximize the benefit from the researchers limited time in this remote place, HMSRP will use a suite of methods to ensure that all areas are well-surveyed (including using technology to expand data collection, and requesting access to all monk seal haul-out areas).
- Unmanned aerial systems (UAS) will be used to conduct ecological surveys including surveying and monitoring monk seals, marine debris, and possibly other flora and fauna in the NWHI (as a by-product of habitat mapping or as requested by partners).
- UAS will be launched and recovered from land, NOAA ships, or small boats launched from those ships, and will be flown at altitude below 400 feet.
- UAS efforts will provide the ability to survey and map resources on the remote islands without (1) interference; (2) the potential for the introduction of invasive species; and (3) human disturbance to the natural resources. The UAS would increase the monitoring and surveying capacity in the Monument.
- While the researchers work to minimize human presence on Mokumanamana, trained biologists familiar with the island may traverse Mokumanamana, using paths delineated by archaeologists and cultural practitioners familiar with the island, in the event that all seal haul-out areas cannot be surveyed through boat-landings or UAS flights at haul-out sites.
- This permit is comprehensive and includes ALL monk seal recovery activities that occur in PMNM including surveys, health assessments, and a suite of seal-based interventions to enhance the survival of individual seals such as translocation, reuniting of separated mother-pup pairs, disentanglement from marine debris, and rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation/Translocation of Seals

Select monk seals taken into rehabilitation outside of PMNM waters and then released. Some seals will be held for a short time in shoreline pens while waiting for veterinarian assessment and possible pickup or to help them acclimate to the wild prior to release after translocation or rehabilitation. Seals that are captured and brought in for rehabilitation or transported as part of the translocation program will be housed with other monk seals. Monk seals will be released after rehabilitation or translocation. Comprehensive information on monk seal rehabilitation or translocation activities and protocols can be found under the researcher's NOAA/NMFS MMPA/ESA Research/Enhancement permit: #27552.

Sample and Data Analysis, Write-ups and Publication of Information

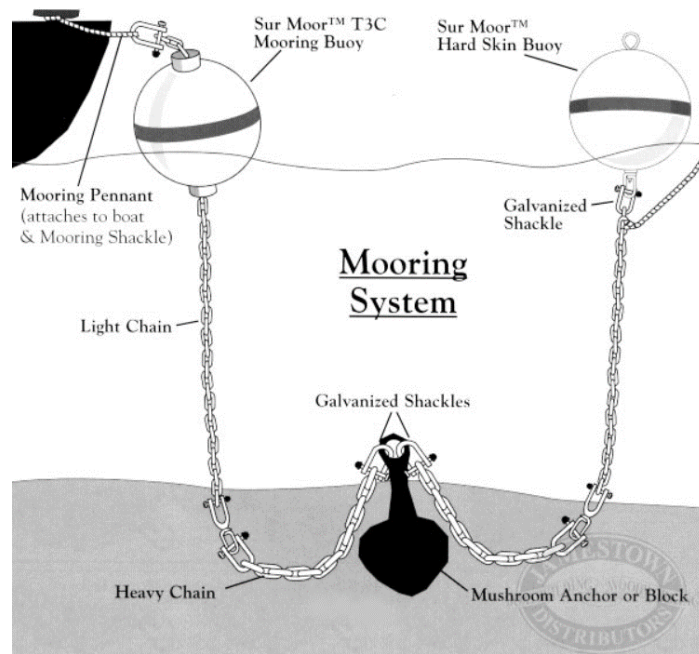
Population assessment data will be analyzed in 6 months (typically preliminary data will become available late winter/early spring of each year). Telemetry and UAS data will analyzed within 12 months.

Examples of Proposed Fixed Installations and Instrumentation to be Set in PMNM

Examples include, but may not be limited to the following:

A) HMSRP Proposes to install or maintain (if already installed):

- i. Temporary Installation polyvinyl tents for housing monk seal field teams at French Frigate Shoals, Laysan, Lisianski, Pearl and Hermes Reef and Kure. One tent at each site will also have a radio antenna extending upwards <10ft.
- ii. Trail Cameras and song meters at all islands. Nihoa, Mokumanamana, Lalo (French Frigate Shoals), Kamole (Laysan), Kapou (Lisianski), Manawai ((Pearl and Hermes Atoll), Midway (Kuaihelani), and Hōlanikū (Kure Atoll). Trail cameras are compact, self-contained systems that are programmed to take a certain number of pictures per day capturing the presence or absence of animals in specific locations. Sizes of trail camera systems including external solar panels will be no larger than 16" x 12" x 12". Weights of systems including solar panels will be no more than 5 lbs. These are used to monitor for threats to seals, such as entrapment (Tern Island) and male aggression. These cameras also help to fill in gaps in survey coverage.
- iii. Song meters are no larger than 7" x 4" x 4" and will be installed on a metal or PVC pole no greater than 5" tall. No solar panels are needed. Song meters are used to monitor various bird populations including passerines.
- iv. Cameras will be mounted via padded tripod or T-post, no more than 5' in height. Plastic or steel bird deterrent spikes will be added to the camera systems to deter birds from blocking the camera's view and excreting on solar panels.
- iv. Artificial decoys and Social attraction systems for seabirds and shorebirds such as decoys and audio playback systems may be temporarily installed at all islands.
- v. Temporary (season-long) mooring systems to anchor two small boats at Southeast Island, Pearl and Hermes Reef and Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals. These systems are recommended over traditional anchoring for leaving boats unattended for long intervals, i.e. overnight, in high surge areas. etc. In many cases, a mooring system is the safest way to leave a boat in the water to prevent it from breaking free and coming ashore, which will cause damage to the boat and shoreline environment.
- vi. Permanent and/or semi-permanent moorings use less scope than traditional anchoring which reduces the "footprint" on the bottom, risk of damage to the environment and risk of wildlife entanglement/entrapment. Appropriate moorings are comprised of a suitable anchor, a light chain, and surface float. A permanent or semi-permanent mooring may also be installed at Eastern Island, Midway Atoll, to moor small boats without use of the Eastern Island pier. Additional line will be attached to an anchor onshore at Southeast Island and to the pier at Tern Island to ensure the vessels cannot float away if the mooring system were to fail in inclement weather. These mooring systems will be deployed on sandy substrate directly off the north side of Southeast Island from the dock at Tern Island and off of the current pier at Eastern Island. The following image (credit to Jamestown Distribution) illustrates the type of system that would be temporarily installed if necessary.



ADHERANCE TO FINDINGS CRITERIA, BMPs, AND OTHER SAFETY PROTOCOLS

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

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

Monument Management Plan Strategies

The activities proposed by the applicants directly support the Monument Management Plan

(PMNM MMP Vol. 1, 2008), including but not limited to priority management needs 3.1: Understanding and Interpreting the NWHI; 3.2: Conserving Wildlife and Habitats; 3.3 Reducing Threats to Monument Resources; 3.5: Coordinating Conservation and Management Activities; and 3.6: Achieving Effective Monument Operations; TES-1: Support Activities that advance recovery of the Hawaiian monk seal for the life of the plan and; MD-1: Remove and prevent marine debris throughout the life of the plan.

Best Management Practices

To safeguard Papahānaumokuākea resources the applicants will abide by all PMNM Best Management Practices (BMPs) while conducting the aforementioned activities within PMNM.

To safeguard Monument resources the applicants will abide by all PMNM Best Management Practices (BMPs) while conducting the aforementioned activities within PMNM.

BMP Number	Title	Download
001	Marine Alien Species Inspection Standards for Maritime Vessels	PDF
002	Protocol for Acquiring Avian Blood Samples	PDF
003	Human Hazards to Seabirds Briefing	PDF
004	Best Management Practices for Boat Operations and Diving Activities	PDF
005	Protocols to Reduce Impact to the Laysan Finch	PDF
006	General Storage and Transport Protocols for Collected Samples	PDF
007	Best Management Practices for Terrestrial Biosecurity	PDF
008	Seabird Protocols Necessary for Conducting Trolling Research and Monitoring in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument	PDF
009	Best Practices for Minimizing the Impact of Artificial Light on Sea Turtles	PDF
010	Marine Wildlife Viewing Guidelines	PDF
011	Disease and Introduced Species Prevention Protocol for Permitted Activities in the Marine Environment, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Monument)	PDF
012	Precautions for Minimizing Human Impacts on Endangered Land Birds	PDF
015	Nonnative Species Inspection Requirements at Midway Atoll	PDF
016	Best Management Practices for Activities on Nihoa	PDF
017	Best Management Practices for Maritime Heritage Sites	PDF
018	Rodent Prevention and Inspection Standards for Permitted Vessels	PDF
019	Best Management Practices for Activities on Mokumanamana (Necker Island)	PDF
020	Best Management Practices to minimize the spread of nuisance alga	PDF

REVIEW PROCESS

The 2025 MMB Agencies' permit application was sent out for review and comment to all of the MMB agencies.

MMB Agency Reviewer Questions and Applicant Responses:

1. Questions

None.

2. Comments

NMFS: When a Hawaiian place name for an island/atoll is used for the first time in the permit, please ensure that the English name is also followed in parenthesis, to ensure they can be easily aligned with the project location check lists.

Additional reviews and permit history:

This submittal was sent to the Aha Moku for review ahead of the BLNR meeting.

Are there other relevant/necessary permits or environmental reviews that have or will be issued with regard to this project? (e.g., HRS chapters 183C, 343; MMPA, ESA) Yes ☒ No ☐

If so, please list or explain:

Environmental Compliance:

NEPA / HEPA: (check-one)

☒ Categorical Exclusion / Exempt Class:

NEPA Categorical Exclusion B9

HEPA Exemptions 4(P1)(8), 4(P1)(16), 5(P1)(1), 5(P1)(13), 5(P1)(14), 5(P1)(15), 3(P1)(24), 1(P1)(25), 1(P1)(4), 2(P1)(1), 1(P1)(9), 1(P1)(30), 8(P1)(5), 5(P1)(20), 5(P1)(7), 5(P1)(2), 1(P1)(1), 1(P1)(22), 5(P1)(12), 1(P1)(45), 4(P1)(15), 1(P1)(31), 1(P1)(35), and 4(P1)(3)

☐ EA

☒ EIS

Programmatic EIS for NOAA NMFS Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Actions (June 2014)

Other Consultations: (ESA/MMPA Section 7; NHPA Section 106, etc.)

- Applicants have previously consulted with DLNR's Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands (OCCL) regarding any land use compliance with HRS chapter 183C (Conservation District)
- NHPA Section 106 consultation completed for archipelagic wide operations (main and northwestern Hawaiian Islands) in November 2013.

- Take of Endangered and Threatened Species: USFWS-TE-702631; USFWS-TE-003483-33; USFWS-PMNM-1; USFWS-FWSPIO-17
- Federal Bird Banding Permit: USGS-22570; USGS-22613; USGS-09149
- Green Turtle Tagging Permit: USFWS-TE-739350-4
- Marine Mammal Permit (Monk Seal – Research): NOAA/NMFS MMPA/ESA Research/Enhancement permit: #27552
- Depredation Permit: USFWS-MB097755-0 (Cattle Egret Control)
- Communication systems (Broadcast/Receive Frequencies) at Midway are all licensed by FAA and FCC as appropriate. Contact refuge for additional information.
- The USFWS is the Operator of Record of Henderson Airfield (Sand Island, Midway Atoll) and maintains its Certification as required in 14 CFR Part 139 (Federal Code of Regulations). The airfield is a certified ETOPS (emergency designation) airfield and is maintained with funding by both FAA and the USFWS. This includes UHF-VHF radio systems, AWOS (automated weather) and NDB (Non-directional Beacon) systems. Contact refuge for additional information.
- Migratory Bird Permits: USFWS-MB016635-1; MB2852A-2 (STAMP Project); MB03761B-0 (Cultural Working Group)
- An evaluation of any additional supplemental consultations will occur for each MMB agency activity and be completed prior to the activity occurring (as necessary).

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

If so, please summarize past permits:

- Some or all of the collective applicants were granted permits the following permits in the past fourteen years for the purpose of managing the Monument: Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Management Activities - NWHICRER-2004-001, Kure Marine Debris Removal - DLNR-NWHI-06R010, DAR NWHI Ulua Fish Tagging Project - DLNR-NWHI-06R020, HINWR Management Activities 2006 - DLNR-NWHI-06R022, HINWR Management Activities 2006 - NWHIMNM-2006-019, HINWR Management Activities 2007 - DLNR-NWHI-07S001, HINWR Management Activities 2007 - NWHIMNM-2007-002, MANWR Management Activities 2007 - NWHIMNM-2007-005, Kure marine debris removal - DLNR-NWHI-07C001, Monument Management Activities - NWHIMNM-2007-001, Monument Management Activities - PMNM-2008-001, PMNM-2009-001, PMNM-2010-001, PMNM-2011-001, PMNM-2012-001, PMNM-2013-001, PMNM 2014-001, PMNM 2015-001, PMNM-2016-001, PMNM-2017-001, PMNM-2018-001, PMNM-2019-001, PMNM-2020-001, PMNM-2021-001, PMNM-2022-001, PMNM-2023-001, PMNM-2024-001, and PMNM-2025-001.

Have there been any a) violations: Yes ☐ No ☒
b) late/incomplete post-activity reports: Yes ☐ No ☒
involving any of the applicant agencies or personnel?

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

If yes, please explain.

STAFF OPINION

Department staff are of the opinion that the MMB Agencies' application for a conservation and management permit and covered personnel are justified under relevant laws and PMNM permit findings criteria a and should be allowed to enter state lands and waters in PMNM as indicated to conduct the activities as specified, subject to the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Conservation and Management Permit General Conditions, and the indicated special instructions, conditions, and protocols to be observed. Staff recommends that the BLNR approve the application as indicated below.

MONUMENT MANAGEMENT BOARD OPINION

The seven members of the Monument Management Board (MMB) were consulted and are of the opinion that the applicants have met permit procedures and criteria under the findings of Presidential Proclamation 8031, 71 Fed. Reg. 36,443 (2006) as required, and these general conservation and management activities may be conducted subject to completion of all compliance requirements recommended below. The MMB concurs with the special conditions recommended by DLNR staff.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Land and Natural Resources

- A. Approve the proposed MMB Agencies' Conservation and Management Permit according to application (Attachment A) and authorize and approve entry to State lands and waters of the PMNM for the MMB agencies represented by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, for such conservation and management activities to be conducted as listed in Attachment A with the following additional conditions:
 1. That the BLNR declare that the anticipated actions to be undertaken under this permit will have no significant effect on the environment and qualify for agency exemptions as listed above, however, any activities not already determined to be eligible for an agency exemption shall be addressed individually prior to beginning with the authority delegated by the BLNR to the Chairperson to approve and sign such determinations only for activities conducted under this permit. Declarations are subject to recordkeeping requirements of HRS chapter 343, and HAR chapter 11-200.
 2. That the permittee provide, as required under the PMNM permit general terms and conditions, a summary of their findings under this PMNM access, including but not limited to, any initial findings to the DLNR for use at educational institutions and

outreach events. Any unexpected results and anomalous encounters should be included in a report or future permit applications to the BLNR to allow proper evaluation of conservation and management efforts in future permitting decisions.

3. That all agencies and personnel covered under this Conservation and Management Permit shall abide by and obey all PMNM permit general conditions and protocols, unless otherwise specifically permitted, exempted, or excluded under the terms and conditions.
4. This permit is not to be used for nor does it authorize the sale of collected organisms or any commercial activity. Under this permit, the authorized activities must be for noncommercial purposes not involving the use or sale of any organism, by-products, or materials collected within PMNM for obtaining patent or intellectual property rights.
5. The permittee may not convey, transfer, or distribute, in any fashion (including, but not limited to, selling, trading, giving, or loaning) any coral, live rock, or organism collected under this permit without the express written permission of the MMB Agencies.
6. To prevent introduction of disease or the unintended transport of live organisms, the permittee must comply with the biosecurity BMPs.
7. Tenders and small vessels must be equipped with engines that meet EPA emissions requirements.
8. 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 with the exception of boats utilized in operations that are land-based for extended periods of time (i.e. Protected Species Division [PSD] / monk seal program field camps), which will be authorized to refuel in nearshore waters (within the State Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine Refuge) with the provision that the Protected Species Division (PSD) personnel will adhere to the following small boat refueling procedures at the Protected Species Division field camps:
 - a. For boats with 6 gallon tanks that can be removed from the boat (currently 2 tanks at Manawai and 1 tank at Lalo): Fuel tanks are filled on land using a hand pump from the 55 gallon gas drums directly into the boat gas tanks. Absorbent material and a spill kit are on hand at all times during fuel transfer in case of any spilling. The camps have reported that this procedure works out well with little opportunity for spilling or leaking because of the hand pump being used.
 - b. For larger boat gas tanks (>6 gallon, currently 1 tank at Lalo), portable jerry cans are filled as described above and used to fill the boat gas tank within the boat. Absorbent material is used for this transfer.
9. No fishing is allowed in State Waters except as authorized under State law for Native Hawaiian subsistence, traditional, and customary practices.

10. To mitigate risk of spreading nuisance algae within Papahānaumokuākea and the Main Hawaiian Islands, the permittee will follow the Best Management Practices to Minimize the Spread of nuisance algae (BMP #20); any activities which fall outside of BMP #20 are addressed in separate consultations with subject matter experts and prior to departure in a supplemental biosecurity plan.
- B. Authorize the DLNR DAR and DOFAW to continue general conservation and management activities within PMNM, including assisting other MMB Agencies in general conservation and management activities throughout PMNM under the lead of MMB Agencies, as indicated on Attachment A.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian J. Neilson, Administrator
Division of Aquatic Resources

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL



Dawn N. S. Chang, Chairperson
Board of Land and Natural Resources

Attachments:

- 1) Attachment A: MMB PMNM Permit Application

PRA Burden Statement

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with an information collection subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 unless the information collection has a currently valid OMB Control Number. The approved OMB Control Number for this information collection is 0648-0548. Without this approval, we could not conduct this information collection. Public reporting for this information collection is estimated to be approximately 5 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. All responses to this information collection are required to obtain services or benefits. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this information collection, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NOAA/Inouye Regional Center NOS/ONMS/PMNM, Attn: Permit Coordinator, nwhipermit@noaa.gov.

Privacy Act Statement

Authority: The collection of this information is authorized under 5 U.S.C. § 301 (Departmental regulations), 5 U.S.C. § 552a (Records maintained on individuals), 15 U.S.C. § 1512 (Powers and duties of Department), 54 U.S.C. § 320301 *et seq.* (*Antiquities Act*), 16 U.S.C § 1801 *et seq.* (*Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act*), 16 U.S.C. § 742f (*Powers of Secretaries of the Interior and Commerce*), 16 U.S.C. § 742l (*Enforcement authority for the protection of fish and wildlife resources*), 16 U.S.C. § 1431 *et seq.* (*National Marine Sanctuaries Act*), and 50 CFR 404 *et seq.* (Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument regulations).

Purpose: The collection of information such as names, addresses, contact information, professional qualifications, completed permit application form, and supporting project information is required in order for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument agency staff to review and render decisions on requests to conduct certain activities in the Monument and to inform management actions (e.g., emergency response and enforcement) or decision making in the Monument.

Routine Uses: Disclosure of this information is permitted under the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. § 552a), to be shared with the Department of Commerce staff for work-related purposes, and the Department of Interior and the State of Hawaii to ensure the permitting requirements and processes of all three entities are sufficiently coordinated and to ensure applicants for permits for Monument activities require only a single application and receive one, combined agency permit. Disclosure of this information is also subject to all of the published routine uses as identified in the Privacy Act System of Records Notices (SORNs) COMMERCE/DEPT-23, Information Collected Electronically in Connection with Department of Commerce Activities, Events, and Programs, NOAA-11, Contact Information for Members of the Public Requesting or Providing Information Related to NOAA's Mission, and NOAA-12, Marine Mammals, Endangered and Threatened Species, Permits and Authorizations Applicants.

Disclosure: Furnishing this information is voluntary; however, failure to provide complete and accurate information will prevent the review and rendering of a decision on the permit request.

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT Permit Application

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).

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.

Completed permit applications may be emailed to nwhipermmit@noaa.gov or mailed to:
NOAA/Inouye Regional Center
NOS/ONMS/PMNM/Attn: Permit Coordinator
1845 Wasp Blvd, Building 176
Honolulu, HI 96818

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

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:

Jared Underwood
Superintendent
Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

Brian Neilson
Division of Aquatic Resources Administrator
Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR)

Eric Roberts
Superintendent
Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Stacy Kealohalani Ferreira
Ka Pouhana (Chief Executive Officer)
Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)

Affiliation: Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) Monument Management Board (MMB) Representatives

Permit Category: Conservation and Management

Proposed Activity Dates: January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Both

Proposed Locations: This permit application encompasses all conservation and management activities that MMB agencies conduct throughout the entire PMNM.

Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit:
Variable, depending on activity type and location.

Estimated number of days in the Monument: There will be MMB staff in PMNM up to 365 days of the year. Numbers of personnel will fluctuate depending upon the season and the management activity undertaken at any one time. All personnel will be identified and information will be provided to the Monument Permit Coordinators prior to each entry.

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...

This Monument Conservation and Management Permit Application proposes activities that would allow the MMB agency staff and designees to conduct management activities for the conservation and management of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument including the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands State Marine Refuge, Kure Atoll State Wildlife Sanctuary, and Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would

To accomplish the conservation and management of this ecosystem the MMB would carry out authorized activities associated with the following:

1. General operations to support field activities, which includes field camp, vessel, and flight operations
2. Resource survey and monitoring, which includes evaluating status and trends of target species and habitats
3. Natural resource protection, restoration, and remediation, which includes but is not limited to predator and invasive species control, marine debris removal and wildlife disentanglement, and health response and translocation of wildlife.
4. Cultural and historic resource identification, evaluation, monitoring, access and protection
5. Education, and outreach, and partnerships

c.) This activity would help the Monument by ...

These activities would benefit PMNM by providing coordinated interagency management of Monument ecosystems, prevent duplicate efforts, and gain efficiencies.

Other information or background:

A conservation and management permit of this nature has been issued annually, pending a stringent review process, to the MMB agencies since 2008 for the purpose of conducting cooperative and effective management of PMNM resources. For example, the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center Marine Turtle Research Program has worked successfully within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge for over 40 seasons, resulting in great success for the species. Such collaborative work would benefit other PMNM programs.

Section A - Applicant Information

1. Applicant

Name (last, first, middle initial):

Underwood, Jared: Superintendent for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Roberts, Eric: Superintendent, Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Neilson, Brian: Division of Aquatic Resources Administrator State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources

Stacy Kealohalani Ferreira: Ka Pouhana (Chief Executive Officer) Office of Hawaiian Affairs

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

N/A

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

Underwood, Jared: Superintendent, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Ala Moana Blvd. Room 5-231, Honolulu, HI 96850

Roberts, Eric: Superintendent, Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. 1845 Wasp Blvd, Building 176, Honolulu, HI 96818

Neilson, Brian: Division of Aquatic Resources Administrator, State of Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources; 1151 Punchbowl St., Honolulu, HI 96813

Ferreira, Stacy Kealohalani: Office of Hawaiian Affairs, 560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200, Honolulu, Hawai‘i, 96817

Phone:

Jared Underwood: [REDACTED]

Eric Roberts: [REDACTED]

Brian Neilson: [REDACTED]

Stacy Kealohalani Ferreira: [REDACTED]

Fax:
Jared Underwood: [REDACTED]

Eric Roberts: [REDACTED]

Brian Neilson: [REDACTED]

Stacy Kealohalani Ferreira: [REDACTED]

Email:
Jared Underwood: [REDACTED]

Eric Roberts: [REDACTED]

Brian Neilson: [REDACTED]

Stacy Kealohalani Ferreira: [REDACTED]

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

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

Underwood, Jared: Superintendent for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument,
Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Roberts, Eric: Superintendent, Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary, National
Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Neilson, Brian: Division of Aquatic Resources Administrator State of Hawai'i Department of
Land and Natural Resources

Stacy Kealohalani Ferreira: Ka Pouhana (Chief Executive Officer) Office of Hawaiian Affairs

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, Research Diver; Jane Doe, Field Technician):

Variable. MMB designated staff, volunteers, cultural liaisons, or contractors necessary for the permitted activities may enter PMNM for conservation and management activities. Resident families of Midway Atoll may enter PMNM. Invited news media representatives may enter PMNM to provide not-for-profit public information of conservation and management activities. All personnel will be identified and information will be provided to the Monument Permit Coordinators prior to each entry.

The MMB shall ensure that all personnel assigned to any conservation and management activity allowed under this permit are qualified to perform in the assigned role and are limited to the scope of their position and respective project, and shall comply with all other applicable laws, policies, protocols, permits, and regulations. In addition, the MMB will ensure that all management activities are communicated and coordinated on an ongoing and regular basis.

To safeguard all the resources and ecological integrity of the Monument, early and ongoing coordination of interagency activities will occur between the action agency and interested Monument partners as soon as details of activities are identified via a shared tracking drive or similar type written documentation. The goal of early coordination is the commitment to identifying, incorporating, and customizing best management practices for specific activities. Additionally, pre-access cultural briefings will be conducted for all new personnel entering the Monument and annually for all.

Section B: Project Information

5a. Project location(s):

Ocean Based

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nihoa Island	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necker Island (Mokumanamana)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> French Frigate Shoals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gardner Pinnacles	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Midway Atoll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kure Atoll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other			

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

☒ Remaining ashore on any island or atoll (with the exception of Sand Island at Midway Atoll 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:

This permit application encompasses all conservation and management activities that the MMB may conduct throughout the entire PMNM

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:*

To safeguard the resources and ecological integrity of the Monument, early and ongoing coordination of interagency activities will occur between the action agency and interested Monument management partners as soon as details of activities are identified. For example, Monument partners will document all proposed activities on a shared tracking sheet and a joint calendar of projected activities to be covered under the manager's permit is kept and continually updated by agency staff. In addition, logistics planning and coordination meetings between all Monument Management Board (MMB) agencies may be implemented to further synchronize activities. The goal of early coordination is the commitment to identifying, incorporating, and customizing best management practices for specific activities prior to the activity occurring.

ENTRANCE

1. The MMB, their designated agency staff, volunteers, cultural liaisons, contractors, and Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge residents necessary for permitted activities may enter Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. All personnel must be identified and information provided to the Monument permit coordinators prior to each entry into the Monument. The MMB shall ensure that all personnel assigned to conduct conservation and management activities authorized under this permit are fully qualified to perform in the assigned role(s) and shall be limited to the scope of actions set forth in this permit and all other applicable policies, protocols, permits, and regulations. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)

OPERATIONS

2. Operating field stations of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) and the State of Hawai'i Kure Atoll State Wildlife Sanctuary, necessary for meeting mission and purposes

CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT

of refuges and the Monument in support of on-site management and resource conservation including but not limited to: (STATE) (FWS)

- a. Maintaining and repairing/replacing facilities, seawalls, piers and their components (e.g., carpentry, electrical, plumbing, welding, general construction); (STATE) (FWS)
 - b. Deconstruction and reconstruction of buildings, roads, and other facilities; (STATE) (FWS)
 - c. Maintaining airport and airstrips, including improvements such as runway lighting replacement, taxiway maintenance (including repaving, and painting/markings); (FWS)
 - d. Painting, including all preparation work such as scraping, washing, etc.; (STATE) (FWS) and
 - e. Lead-based paint soil remediation, including removing sand/soil from around many or all affecting buildings and proper on-site containment of this material. (STATE) (FWS)
3. Supporting and re-supplying field camps and field stations, including but not limited to, delivery and removal of supplies, equipment, people, waste, and/or assets necessary for operations. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 4. Operating vessels to provide access for conservation and management activities. Authorized vessel operations shall include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Operating, mooring and anchoring small boats; (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - b. Conducting maintenance, proficiency training and safety measures for authorized vessels; (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - c. Anchoring of the authorized vessels and small boats on sandy substrate only, and all anchors must be lowered into place; (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - d. Discharging gray water outside of all Special Preservation Areas and the Midway Atoll Special Management Area; (ALL MMB AGENCIES) and

- e. Discharging biodegradable solid waste associated with galley operations restricted to 3 nautical miles (ground to 1 inch in diameter) and 12 nautical miles (unground) outside of all Special Preservation Areas and the Midway Atoll Special Management Area. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
- 5. Possessing fishing gear to conduct sustenance fishing in accordance with applicable regulations. Sustenance fishing must only be done to supplement food stores as to not be construed as a recreational activity. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
- 6. Operating aircraft and airfields, including necessary maintenance and use of airfields and runways at Midway Atoll. (FWS)
- 7. Conducting on-site reviews and operational evaluations including, but not limited to: (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - a. On-site reviews by management and congressional personnel; (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - b. Agency site visits and meetings for management planning and programmatic assessments; (ALL MMB AGENCIES) and
 - c. On-site management and safety reviews to gauge implementation and effectiveness of Monument management and programs. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
- 8. Conducting personnel safety, fitness, and health maintenance including, but not limited to: (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - a. Biking, swimming, and jogging at Kure Atoll, Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals, and Midway Atoll; and (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - b. Conducting health and safety activities for all personnel, including but not limited to: site safety reviews, adverse weather and emergency response procedures, safety protocols, and continuation of operation plans. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)

RESOURCE SURVEY AND MONITORING

- 9. Swimming, snorkeling, and closed or open circuit SCUBA diving within any Special Preservation Area of the Midway Atoll Special Management Area, necessary to support conservation and management activities covered under this permit. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)

10. Touching coral, living or dead, necessary to support conservation and management activities covered under this permit. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
11. Attracting any living Monument resource, necessary to support conservation and management activities covered under this permit. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
12. Surveying and monitoring target species and habitats to evaluate trends and status for management purposes. Activities in direct support of management, monitoring, and characterization may include: (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - a. Placing scientific equipment or drilling into submerged and emergent lands in order to install scientific equipment, devices, markers, oceanographic instrument arrays, UAS, acoustic monitoring systems, remotely operated camera systems, song meters, and remote viewing camera systems on submerged or emergent lands, and performing necessary maintenance activities on such equipment; (NOAA) (STATE) (FWS)
 - b. Collecting climatological data and necessary scientific information from on-site equipment; (NOAA) (STATE) (FWS)
 - c. Photographing and filming (including UAS) as necessary to document Monument resources; (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - d. Non-lethal marking and tagging for monitoring purposes. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - e. Visual, non-invasive marking and tagging for monitoring purposes; (ALL MMB AGENCIES) and
 - f. Physical surveying of and sampling from landfills, storage tanks, contamination sites, or other potentially hazardous materials associated with current and former occupation and use of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI); (NOAA) (STATE) (FWS) and
 - g. Visual, acoustic, electronic (i.e. Conductivity-Temperature-Depth (CTD) casts) and/or uncrewed (aerial and marine) surveys in support of monitoring coral reefs, pelagic environments, and estimating the abundance, distribution, and/or presence of animals or plants in the NWHI. (NOAA) (STATE) (FWS)

13. Removing, moving, taking, harvesting, possessing, injuring, disturbing, or attempting to remove, move, take, harvest, possess, injure, or disturb biological, chemical, or geological samples for analysis in support of activities under approved management plans, restoration or recovery plans, and for base line inventory and monitoring of population trends and habitat conservation and management. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
14. Removing, moving, taking, harvesting, possessing, or attempting to remove, move, take, harvest, or possess a set number of any visually observable marine organism morphotype (except mammals) or terrestrial plant morphotype (including fungi), which cannot be visually identified or may represent a new geographic record or new species, with the set number based upon the per island/atoll abundance criteria below: (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - a. One (1) specimen can be taken, removed, or possessed if in abundance assessment cannot be ascertained, or less than ten (10) such specimens are present, cumulative during the course of the collection event per island and atoll; (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - b. Up to three (3) specimens can be taken, removed, or possessed if an abundance assessment of ten (10) or more such specimens is ascertained, cumulative during the course of the collection event per island or atoll; (ALL MMB AGENCIES) and
 - c. For clonal organisms that cannot be visually identified or may represent a new geographic record or new species, take shall be limited to no more than half the clonal organism visually observed. Up to three (3) clonal specimens of similar morphology can be taken, removed, or possessed if an abundance assessment of ten (10) or more of such specimens is ascertained, cumulative during the course of the collection event per island or atoll. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
15. Conducting habitat mapping for the production of accurate, high-resolution base maps with methods to include: (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - a. Data collecting to include optic, acoustic, and metal detector technologies, as well as land and dive operations, including the use of a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) and UAS, for ground truthing; (ALL MMB AGENCIES) and
 - b. Global Positioning System (GPS) mapping and Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) work. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)

NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION, RESTORATION, AND REMEDIATION

CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT

16. Conducting management actions necessary to understand and carry out protection, restoration, and remediation of species and habitats, such as carrying out existing species recovery and restoration plans (ALL MMB AGENCIES):
 - a. Conducting wildlife disentanglement, health response (including treatment and necropsy), and translocation activities according to existing species recovery plans; (NOAA) (STATE) (FWS);
 - b. Conducting population augmentation or reestablishment activities such as capture, translocation, reintroduction, and out-planting; (ALL MMB AGENCIES);
 - c. Conducting invasive species controls by mechanical, chemical and manual methods as needed; (ALL MMB AGENCIES);
 - d. Investigating and monitoring of contamination in abiotic or biotic resources. (NOAA) (STATE)(FWS);
17. Removing marine debris, including but not limited to, plastic pollution, trash, derelict fishing gear and other materials (land and ocean-based) that pose threats to Monument resources. Activities may include: (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - a. Disentangling wildlife from marine debris and other materials by authorized personnel; (NOAA) (STATE) (FWS).
 - b. Tracking debris via drifter buoys and UAS; (NOAA) (STATE) (FWS)
 - c. Monitoring of sites that have been cleared of debris for recovery rates and effects of removal; (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - d. Locating and removing debris and hazardous materials. This may be through interagency agreements, such as the Department of Defense (DOD) Innovative Readiness Training (IRT), Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS), or the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Programs. Efforts may include activities such as seafloor and island mapping, reconnaissance and removal of materials, and derelict vessel salvage and removal; (ALL MMB AGENCIES) and
 - e. Removal of sessile encrusting flora and fauna associated with marine debris. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)

18. Providing emergency response and damage assessment, mitigation, restoration, and monitoring post-response management. (ALL MMB AGENCIES) Activities may include:
 - a. Conducting damage assessment, mitigation, restoration, monitoring, and post-response management in coordination with appropriate federal and/or state resource agencies and, as appropriate, consistent with NOAA, FWS, and State of Hawai‘i Damage Assessment and Restoration regulations, policies, and procedures (e.g., oil spills, ship groundings, tsunami-generated marine debris, damage assessments, monitoring alien species, monitoring coral bleaching events, collection of bleached coral or alien species); (ALL MMB AGENCIES) and
 - b. Conducting activities in response to an unusual mortality event (including but not limited to threatened and endangered species, marine mammals, and migratory birds) mass stranding or other urgent species response. (NOAA) (STATE) (FWS)

CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION AND PROTECTION

19. Removing, moving, taking, harvesting, possessing, injuring, disturbing; or attempting to remove, move, take, harvest, possess, injure, or disturb post-contact artifacts as needed, subject to National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) consultation when applicable, for the purpose of identifying, documenting, interpreting, preserving, and protecting the Monument’s cultural and historic resources. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
20. Monitoring and surveying historic sites. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
21. Conducting or allowing for the preservation and conservation of artifacts subject to successful NHPA Section 106 consultation and appropriate approvals from other Federal agencies (e.g., U.S. Navy), when applicable. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
22. Non-commercial filming and photographic activities for the purposes of further documenting and capturing the history of the NWHI. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
23. Locating historic artifacts using passive side scan sonar, metal-detector, or (land-based) ground penetrating radar. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)

24. Returning of any previously collected samples to appropriate areas in Papahānaumokuākea with proper cultural and biological protocols and in coordination with appropriate federal and/or state resource agencies and community partners, including OHA and the Papahānaumokuākea Native Hawaiian Cultural Working Group, as appropriate. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
25. Recording of atmospheric, celestial, biological, and other environmental observations for the purpose of developing and understanding natural trends, changes and cycles. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
26. Conducting native Hawaiian cultural protocols and ceremonies in conjunction with access for conservation and management activities identified in this permit, including offering of culturally and biologically appropriate ho‘okupu including but not limited to: mele, oli, hula, pa‘akai, small amounts of pre-frozen wai (freshwater), lā‘ī (ti leaves), pre-frozen powdered awa/taproot) in accordance with Monument regulations and Best Management Practices, including those addressing potential biosecurity issues. All materials used or released into the Monument for cultural protocols and ceremonies must be identified prior to the action occurring and limited to the minimum amount necessary. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
27. Removing, moving, taking, harvesting, possessing, injuring, disturbing; or attempting to remove, move, take, harvest, possess, injure, or disturb non-living culturally significant materials to support item 26. All materials must be identified prior to the action occurring and limited to the minimum amount necessary. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
28. Maintaining, preserving, caring for, and perpetuating Native Hawaiian wahi kūpuna (cultural sites) and iwi kūpuna (ancestral bones) in accordance with proper cultural protocols and consultation per the NHPA, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, Archeological Resources Protection Act, American Indian Religious Freedom Act and applicable sections of the Hawai‘i State Constitution, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes and Hawai‘i Administrative Rules. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
29. Conducting activities necessary for maintaining and preserving historic sites on Midway Atoll. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

30. Gathering information and experiences from personnel within the Monument to develop agency web pages, Navigating Change projects, and other Monument educational outreach products. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)

31. Removing, moving, taking, harvesting, possessing, injuring, disturbing; or attempting to remove, move, take, harvest, possess, injure, or disturb non-living debris and biological samples and specimens such as albatross boluses and carcasses for educational and/or outreach projects. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
32. Conducting not-for-profit news media and VIP site visits to enhance public knowledge and understanding of Monument resources. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
33. Photographing and filming (including use of UAS) as necessary to document Monument resources; (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
34. Conducting environmental, cultural, and historical education programs throughout the Monument by designated agency staff and contractors. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)

HAWAIIAN MONK SEAL CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

35. Conducting the following population monitoring activities:
 - a. Conducting seal assessments by visually identifying animals, and marking and tagging animals; (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - b. Instrumenting seals including but not limited to mounted cameras and telemetry tags. (NOAA)
36. Operating Uncrewed Systems (UxS) to assist in monitoring and research activities. (NOAA)
37. Traversing Mokumanamana to conduct population assessment surveys only when full surveys cannot be completed by boat landing or UxS operations. (NOAA) (FWS)
38. Placing acoustic recording devices on submerged sandy substrate to capture underwater vocalizations of Hawaiian monk seals. (NOAA)
39. Installing scientific equipment (i.e., bluetooth tag signal receiving stations), cameras, and associated power sources (i.e., solar panels and batteries) and satellite internet devices on emergent lands to monitor entrapments and animal behavior. Performing necessary maintenance activities on such equipment. (NOAA)

- a. Installing scientific equipment (e.g., data loggers) underwater, either attached to existing infrastructure or on submerged sandy substrate to monitor environmental data (e.g., water temperature) around areas of shark predation on Hawaiian monk seal pups at Lalo. Retrieving, re-deploying and performing necessary maintenance activities on such equipment. (NOAA)
40. Disentangling monk seals from marine debris. (NOAA) (FWS)
41. Conducting health surveillance and response, including but not limited to cutting umbilical cords, anthelmintic treatments, lancing abscesses, administering antibiotics and vaccinations, responding to disease outbreaks, necropsy and collecting/archiving/transferring samples for further research and diagnostic collaboration. (NOAA)
42. Translocating Hawaiian monk seals, consisting of the following types:
- a. *Intra-atoll*: These translocations will include moving seals from areas of high risk where threats are imminent to safer areas and moving pups to promote maternal fostering when necessary. Field staff will perform these movements; greater resources (e.g., veterinary care) will not typically be necessary. (NOAA)
 - b. *Inter-atoll*: These translocations will include transport of weaned female pups from atolls/islands of low survival to those of higher survival. (NOAA)
 - c. *MHI-NWHI*: These translocations will include transport of main Hawaiian Island (MHI) seals that are considered a threat to themselves or humans because they have demonstrated a pattern of interacting with humans. (NOAA)
43. Reuniting nursing mothers and pups, when separated (includes instances of pup switches). (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
44. Mitigating male aggression towards pups and juveniles (individual and multiple male-based aggression), including utilizing all federally permitted techniques (including, but not limited to, poles, rocks, slingshots, and air horns). Mitigation tools shall be applied as appropriate for the given context (i.e., the intensity, severity and frequency of aggression and the location, with regard to other species in the area such as birds). Mitigation may include temporarily separating males from juveniles by placing either in temporary shorepens (see below). Mitigation also may include removal of the male(s) from the area by:

- a. Translocation to a location where no pups or juveniles will be harmed; (NOAA)
 - b. Placement in an appropriate, federally permitted facility that is agreeable and permitted to care for a male indefinitely; (NOAA)
 - c. Lethal removal: this type of removal will only be applied when the above two options are not feasible, possible or exhausted. Lethal removal of HMS has never been performed to-date, but this activity is included as a last resort if a situation arises where we cannot otherwise mitigate risks to the species. The preferred technique for euthanasia will be via injectable drugs and performed under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian. Sedatives may be combined with each other and with analgesics to achieve deep sedation and thus provide for the best welfare by minimizing stress, pain and anxiety. To eliminate the risk of secondary scavenger toxicity, any soft tissues not collected by necropsy sampling will be removed from the environment. Physical means (e.g., firearm) would be used only when chemical euthanasia is not possible, in order to ensure environmentally proper disposal. (NOAA)
45. Conducting captive care of compromised seals to administer veterinary care and/or food supplementation. Captive care may include the capture and transport of seals to shore-pens (in the NWHI) or facilities in the MHI. NWHI seals under care in the MHI may be returned to the NWHI when a licensed veterinarian deems them rehabilitated and transport is feasible. The seals will then be released to the NWHI site deemed most appropriate for their subsequent survival (determined on the basis of such factors as the intensity and severity of imminent threats to the seals and recent survival trends at each atoll/island). (NOAA)
46. Monitoring shark activity at French Frigate Shoals. Monitoring may include camping on islets with shark incidents on nursing pups and recording shark activity and shark-seal interactions via hand-held or mounted cameras. (NOAA)
47. Placing temporary shore pens at select NWHI breeding sites to facilitate monk seal recovery activities described here within (e.g., translocations, captive care, and male aggression mitigation). (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
48. Working with Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners (including kahu manō) to develop and test adaptive management activities to monitor, and, where necessary for the species' persistence, mitigate shark predation of Hawaiian monk seal pups at Lalo.

49. Erecting temporary polyvinyl tents for housing monk seal field teams at French Frigate Shoals, Laysan, Lisianski, Pearl and Hermes and Kure. One tent at each site may have a radio antenna extending upwards <10ft. (NOAA)

MATERIALS TRANSFER AND ASSISTANCE TO EXTERNAL PARTNERS

50. Provide access for external partners and/or permittees in conjunction with access for MMB conservation and management actions, when feasible, and done for the purpose of conducting cooperative and effective management of Monument resources. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
51. Conduct miscellaneous activities in support of external partners and/or permittees, when feasible, and done for the purpose of conducting cooperative and effective management of Monument resources. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
52. Transferring a set number of any visually observable marine organism morphotype (except mammals) or terrestrial plant morphotype (including fungi) which cannot be visually identified or may represent a new geographic record or new species, to partners for the purpose of identification, description and providing information to management, with the set number based upon the per island/atoll abundance criteria (See RESOURCE SURVEY AND MONITORING section above) (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
53. Collection and transfer of Monument materials (including culturally significant natural materials) in support of external partners and/or permittees when feasible, and done for the purpose of education, or conducting cooperative and effective management of Monument resources. This includes, but is not limited to, researchers, educators, museums, and cultural practitioners. Transfers shall be done according to one of the following categories, subject to all applicable permits and Monument Management Board (MMB) approved transfer documents: (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - a. Internal transfers. Transfers among the MMB agencies provided such material shall remain within the custody of the MMB. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - b. External transfers. Transfers outside of MMB agencies if authorized in writing for the purpose of cultivating, informing, or involving constituencies that support or enhance conservation and understanding of the natural, cultural, and historic resources of the Monument. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)
 - c. Loan Transfers. Loans of biological samples or specimens, which must be returned to the MMB with a specified time frame and are subject to conditions

stipulated in writing for the purpose of supporting educational or outreach projects that enhance conservation of the natural, cultural, and historic resources of the Monument. (ALL MMB AGENCIES)

No further disturbance of the cultural or natural resources of the Monument is allowed.

The MMB may monitor activities under the permit. Any member of the MMB or their designee may, for a period not to exceed 48 hours, verbally require temporary modification or cessation of activities identified in the permit if, in the opinion of the MMB member or designee, such action is necessary to limit effects on Monument resources beyond the intended scope of the permit, to protect governmental equipment, or to ensure the safety of personnel. Such action will be followed as soon as possible by MMB emergency consideration of the temporary permit modification or temporary permit cessation. If the MMB concurs with the temporary action taken by the MMB member or designee, the Co-Trustees may amend the permit with the necessary changes or withdraw it. A decision by the Co-Trustees to amend the permit or to allow the activity to continue unchanged will include the necessary findings that the activity and its effects satisfy Monument permit issuance criteria and do not risk the safety of governmental employees or damage to governmental equipment.

*Considering the purpose of the proposed activities, do you intend to film / photograph federally protected species beyond the protocols provided in PMNM Best Management Practices (<https://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/permit/bestmanagement.html>)? Yes ☐ No ☐

If so, please list the species you specifically intend to target.

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?

All conservation and management activities conducted by the MMB will be carried out with strict safeguards for the natural, cultural, and historic resources of the Monument as required by Presidential Proclamation 8031, and other applicable law and agency policies and standard operating procedures. An evaluation of additional permits (i.e. ESA, MMPA, MBTA, etc.) required and/or regulatory environmental consultations needed (i.e. ESA Section 7, MSA EFH, NHPA Section 106) will occur for each MMB activity and be obtained/completed prior to the activity occurring (as necessary). All agencies have field protocols and best management practices. These practices and procedures will minimize or eliminate disturbance to wildlife, flora, habitats, and cultural and historic resources. Long and short-term monitoring data is used to inform management and conservation actions to maintain the ecological, cultural and historic integrity of the Monument.

To safeguard all the resources and ecological integrity of the Monument, early and ongoing coordination of interagency activities will occur between the action agency and interested Monument partners as soon as details of activities are identified. For example, Monument partners will document proposed activities under a memo-to-file and a joint calendar of projected activities to be covered under the manager's permit is kept and continually updated by agency staff. In addition, logistics planning and coordination meetings between all MMB agencies may be implemented to further synchronize activities. The goal of early coordination is the commitment to identifying, incorporating, and customizing best management practices for specific activities.

Additionally, pre-access cultural briefings will be conducted for all new personnel entering the Monument and annually for all.

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 activities requested are directed by Presidential Proclamation 8031 and other state and federal laws, regulations, and policies. The MMB will manage the Monument's natural, historic and cultural resources, qualities, and ecological integrity in a way that will not diminish and will likely enhance them. Indirect, secondary, and cumulative effects of management activities are always considered. Activities will be in support of the Monument Management Plan (2008), including but not limited to priority management needs 3.1: Understanding and Interpreting the

NWHI; 3.2: Conserving Wildlife and Habitats; 3.3 Reducing Threats to Monument Resources; 3.5: Coordinating Conservation and Management Activities; and 3.6: Achieving Effective Monument Operations.

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.

On June 15, 2006, President George W. Bush established Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument by issuing Presidential Proclamation 8031 (Proclamation; 71 FR 36443, June 26, 2006) under the authority of the Antiquities Act (16 U.S.C. 431), with codifying regulations in 50 CFR Part 404. This Proclamation designated that the Monument would be managed by the Department of Commerce through NOAA, the Department of the Interior through FWS, and that the State of Hawai‘i’s jurisdiction in the region remained unchanged. Through the December 8, 2006 and the January 10, 2017 Memorandums of Agreement (MOA), NOAA, FWS, and the State of Hawai‘i through the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), became the agencies responsible for the conservation and management of the Monument. The MMB has been directed to provide unified conservation and management of the lands and waters of the Monument; therefore, there is no practicable alternative to conducting management activities inside the Monument.

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

The end value is to maintain all Monument resources and conduct adaptive management which will allow educated management decisions and provide for long-term protection of the Monument. By taking appropriate management actions – from monitoring to habitat enhancement and education – agencies will be able to anticipate needs, take appropriate action, and allow only activities that enhance the quality and integrity of the natural, historic and cultural resources of the Monument. Appropriate management actions prevent potential adverse impacts that include but are not limited to: invasive species outbreaks, overharvesting of natural resources; marine debris damage; avian disease outbreaks, and monk seal population declines.

In addition, the MMB will employ time-tested best management practices to minimize and mitigate adverse impacts.

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

All conservation and management activities conducted by the MMB are conducted in the shortest possible window to prevent or eliminate disturbance to the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the Monument.

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

The MMB and their representative management, biological, interpretive, law enforcement, administrative, and education and outreach staff possess high levels of expertise and knowledge of the ecosystem and locations within the Monument. These experts provide their knowledge and recommendations in all management decisions so that all impacts are minimized and mitigated if necessary

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.

The MMB has adequate financial resources available to conduct the proposed management activities. Federal funding is provided through congressional appropriation. State funding is provided through State of Hawai‘i funding processes.

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 methods and procedures used in the conservation and management activities by the MMB are appropriate to achieve the proposed activity's goals. All activities proposed are required for effective management of the Monument and are conducted in a way that minimizes impact as required by law. Management activities assist the MMB to protect the Monument natural, historic and cultural resources, qualities, and ecological integrity.

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

All vessels used by the MMB that are not stationed in the Monument will be outfitted with a functional NOAA Office of Law Enforcement type-approved Vessel Monitoring System as required by 50 CFR Part 404.5 and stated in the Proclamation.

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 that would make the issuance of a permit for the listed activities inappropriate.

8. Procedures/Methods:

The above activities will be conducted by employees, contractors, and volunteers under the direction and control of the MMB in accordance with Presidential Proclamation 8031 and all other applicable laws and regulations.

The MMB will abide by the following Best Management Practices, policies, and procedures, among others that may be developed, when operating in the Monument:

BMP Number	Title	Download
001	Marine Alien Species Inspection Standards for Maritime Vessels	PDF
002	Protocol for Acquiring Avian Blood Samples	PDF
003	Human Hazards to Seabirds Briefing	PDF
004	Best Management Practices for Boat Operations and Diving Activities	PDF
005	Protocols to Reduce Impact to the Laysan Finch	PDF
006	General Storage and Transport Protocols for Collected Samples	PDF
007	Best Management Practices for Terrestrial Biosecurity	PDF
008	Seabird Protocols Necessary for Conducting Trolling Research and Monitoring in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument	PDF
009	Best Practices for Minimizing the Impact of Artificial Light on Sea Turtles	PDF
010	Marine Wildlife Viewing Guidelines	PDF
011	Disease and Introduced Species Prevention Protocol for Permitted Activities in the Marine Environment, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Monument)	PDF
012	Precautions for Minimizing Human Impacts on Endangered Land Birds	PDF
015	Nonnative Species Inspection Requirements at Midway Atoll	PDF
016	Best Management Practices for Activities on Nihoa	PDF
017	Best Management Practices for Maritime Heritage Sites	PDF
018	Rodent Prevention and Inspection Standards for Permitted Vessels	PDF
019	Best Management Practices for Activities on Mokumanamana (Necker Island)	PDF
020	Best Management Practices to minimize the spread of nuisance alga	PDF

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):

See 'MATERIALS TRANSFER AND ASSISTANCE TO EXTERNAL PARTNERS' section above.

Answers to the following will be dependent on specific management activities, and will be reported on per activity to document and track actual collections.

Common name:

Scientific name:

& size of specimens:

Collection location:

☒ Whole Organism ☒ Partial Organism

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

Collections and specimens will be processed and archived according to agency protocols and Monument Best Management Practices. Some material may be provided for educational use or for museum vouchers and studies. Cultural materials may be provided to Hawaiian cultural practitioners when applicable, in coordination with appropriate federal and/or state resource agencies, including OHA. When practicable, and desirable, collections and specimens will be returned to the Monument at the location of collection.

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

Management activity dependent

• General site/location for collections:

Management activity dependent

- Is it an open or closed system? ☒ Open ☒ Closed

Management activity dependent

- Is there an outfall? ☒ Yes ☒ No

Management activity dependent

- Will these organisms be housed with other organisms? If so, what are the other organisms?

Management activity dependent

- Will organisms be released?

Management activity dependent

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

Collected samples and specimens will be transported out of the Monument by approved aircraft or vessel unless used for management within the Monument. Appropriate media for preservation will be used, and are incident or specimen specific.

11. Describe collaborative activities to share samples, reduce duplicative sampling, or duplicative research:

Collaborative activities are always a goal, and are incident specific. Collaboration opportunities will be sought out and will be entered into as opportunities present themselves. The MMB will work collaboratively to achieve the desired results, thus reducing duplicative sampling..

12. List all specialized gear and materials to be used in this activity:

All gear and materials necessary for the activities listed in Section B, Number 6 are either available on location or will be provided by the acting agency as necessary. All gear and materials will be selected and treated according to invasive species and disease prevention protocols.

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

All hazardous materials necessary for the activities listed in Section B, Number 6 are either available on location or will be provided by the acting agency as necessary. Hazardous materials on the islands will be used in amounts that will sustain an approved activity for an appropriate

time period. Inventory of hazardous materials will be conducted annually to reduce or minimize long term storage in order to reduce spills or accidents per OSHA standards. Unused and old hazardous materials brought into the Monument will be removed appropriately for disposal. All U.S. Department of Transportation safety measures will be followed for storage and transport of hazardous materials within the Monument.

14. Describe any fixed installations and instrumentation proposed to be set in the Monument:

Fixed installations and instrumentation will be used in marine and terrestrial survey, monitoring, and conservation activities such as:

- Placement, maintenance, testing, and removal of measuring devices and related equipment;
- Placement of weighted floats and/or lines affixed directly to the seabed for the purposes of grounding response, or benthic surveys;
- Setting of survey stakes;
- Coring the seabed to determine adequacy of the substrate for installation of moorings, and permanent monitoring stations;
- Installation and maintenance of moorings, boundary buoys, and permanent monitoring stations; and
- Placement of scientific equipment.

All installed hardware, including but not limited to instrumentation, survey stakes, moorings, buoys, and scientific equipment will be removed from the Monument upon completion of their respective projects.





15. Provide a time line for sample analysis, data analysis, write-up and publication of information:

Samples and data will be analyzed as quickly as possible if they are collected, and publication of resulting information will follow. All data or a summary description will be provided in the permit reports as required by the permit resulting from this application.

16. List all Applicant's publications directly related to the proposed project:

N/A

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.

	9/4/2025
Signature	Date
	
Signature	Date
	Sep 2, 2025
Signature	Date
	
Signature	Date

DID YOU INCLUDE THESE?

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