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MEDIA ADVISORY
June 14, 2012

NOAA to Demonstrate Unmanned Aircraft System for Ocean Monitoring
Media Invited Dockside Prior to Deployment

NOAA will conduct a demonstration project, June 18-21, of the PUMA Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) for use in ocean monitoring and environmental research. The at-sea demonstration off O'ahu will allow NOAA researchers, managers and partners to observe the UAS in operation so they can better understand its capabilities and explore its potential to enhance management of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

If successful, this type of technology could be used in other large-scale remote MPAs worldwide. Possible applications include marine wildlife surveys for sea turtles, monk seals and seabirds as well as surveys to locate and identify marine debris.

On Monday, June 18, members of the media are invited dockside to observe equipment being prepared and loaded for the demonstration. NOAA representatives will describe how the UAS operates, outline the demonstration project and be available for interviews.

- What: Dockside preparation for the NOAA demonstration of a PUMA Unmanned Aircraft System
- When: Monday, June 18, 10:00 a.m.
- Where: P&R Water Taxi
123 Ahui Street, Honolulu Harbor
- Who: Todd Jacobs, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and NOAA UAS Oceanic & Atmospheric Research (OAR) Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Program
David Swatland, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
Carey Morishige, NOAA Marine Debris Program
- Visuals: PUMA Unmanned Aircraft System, buoys and decoys that will be deployed at sea in NOAA demonstration
- B Roll: B roll of UAS in flight over water available

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and our other [social media channels](#).

On the Web:

NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/>
NOAA UAS: <http://uas.noaa.gov/>
NOAA Marine Debris Program: <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/>

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