Kaleomanuiwa Wong

Andy Collins/NOAA

# Permit Information

PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA
Marine National Monument

Greg McFall/NOAA

## How do I obtain a permit to access the Monument?

Applications and instructions can be downloaded from the Monument website at www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/permits.

## When should I apply?

Processing takes an estimated four months for review, public comment and approval. Please check the application deadlines to ensure that you are within the appropriate timeframe for your proposed activity. Permit applications received after the deadline dates are not guaranteed to be processed in time for your activity.

| Deadline | For Activities Commencing |
|---|---|
| **February 1** | June 1 – August 31 |
| **May 1** | September 1 – December 31 |
| **September 1** | January 1 – May 31 |

## How are permit applications evaluated?

Applications are evaluated based on the requirements of the Presidential Proclamation 8031. All applications must meet 10 specific criteria. Additional permitting criteria are required for Native Hawaiian Practices, Special Ocean Use, and Recreation permit applications.

For more information about Papahānaumokuākea, Presidential Proclamation 8031, permitting criteria, Monument access or for hard copies of applications and instructions, please contact a Monument permit coordinator or visit www.papahanaumokuakea.gov.

**www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/access**

## Contact Information

NOAA/Inouye Regional Center
NOS/ONMS/PMNM/Attn: Permit Coordinator
1845 Wasp Blvd, Building 176
Honolulu, HI 96818
**Phone** (808) 725-5800
**Fax** (808) 455-3093
**E-mail** nwhipermit@noaa.gov

OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA
Marine National Monument

## What is Papahānaumokuākea?

The Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument is the single largest conservation area under the U.S. flag and one of the largest marine conservation areas in the world. Covering 139,797 square miles of the Pacific Ocean (362,073 square kilometers), it is larger than all the country's national parks combined. The Monument encompasses the land and sea areas of the Northwestern Hawaiian Archipelago and was expressly established by Presidential Proclamation 8031 to protect an exceptional array of natural and cultural resources. The Monument has a unique co-management structure with three Co-Trustees (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the State of Hawai'i) who work together to achieve the Monument's vision and mission.

Wayne Levin

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NOAA

# What types of activities can be permitted?

## What activities in the Monument require a permit?

All activities in Papahānaumokuākea, with limited exceptions (law enforcement, emergency response, military, and passage without interruption), require a permit.

## Are there any activities that are not allowed in the Monument?

The following activities are prohibited within Papahānaumokuākea:

- Exploring for, developing, or producing oil, gas, or minerals within the Monument;
- Using or attempting to use poisons, electrical charges, or explosives in the collection or harvest of a Monument resource;
- Introducing or otherwise releasing an introduced species from within or into the Monument; and
- Anchoring on or having a vessel anchored on any living or dead coral with an anchor, anchor chain, or anchor rope.

All activities within PMNM are either prohibited, exempted or regulated. Regulated activities must be permitted based on a list of criteria, defined in Proclamation 8031. There are six categories of permitted activities: Research, Special Ocean Use, Recreation, Education, Native Hawaiian Practice, and Conservation and Management.

## Research

Activities that further the understanding of Monument resources and qualities through research.

- Biological and ecosystem assessment and monitoring
- Connectivity studies

## Education

Activities that further the educational value of the Monument.

- Ocean exploration and education
- Distance learning curriculum development and implementation

## Conservation and Management

Activities that assist in the conservation and management of the Monument.

- Marine debris removal & alien invasive species monitoring
- Marine heritage conservation and management
- Refuge operations and management
- Vessel operations

## Native Hawaiian Practices

Activities that allow for Native Hawaiian practices.

- Non-instrumental navigation training aboard traditional Polynesian voyaging wa'a
- Native Hawaiian cultural research, observation, and practices

## Special Ocean Use

Activities that allow a special ocean use and generate revenue for one or more associated parties.

- Documentary activities on wildlife, cultural and historic features
- Eco-tourism and history focused travel tours

## Recreation

Activities that allow recreational activities within the Midway Atoll Special Management Area.

- Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Services Program

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