

**Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument**  
SPECIAL OCEAN USE Permit Application

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

**ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

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

**INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**

Send Permit Applications to:

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Permit Coordinator

6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy. # 300

Honolulu, HI 96825

nwhipermit@noaa.gov

PHONE: (808) 397-2660      FAX: (808) 397-2662

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

## **Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Permit Application Cover Sheet**

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

### **Summary Information**

**Applicant Name:** Brian Skerry

**Affiliation:** National Geographic magazine

**Permit Category:** Special Ocean Use

**Proposed Activity Dates:** June 10, 2014 - July 10, 2014

**Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane):** Vessel To Be Determined

**Proposed Locations:** Shallow water habitat (<100m) around French Frigate Shoals

**Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit:** 4

**Estimated number of days in the Monument:** 30

**Description of proposed activities:** (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...

This project would document photographically the behavior of tiger sharks (*Galeocerdo cuvier*) predateding on albatross fledglings and document the on going research of these sharks in this location by Dr. Carl Meyer with the University of Hawaii, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. Dr. Meyer is a past Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument permit grantee and has submitted a new application for 2014. The photographs will be published in an upcoming story in National Geographic magazine about tiger sharks.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would ....

Photograph shark predation from small boats and from a scaffold platform constructed in shallow water. If possible, land based photography of the predation would also be done, with permission and under the supervision of managing authorities. Photography of the shark science (tagging) will be done from small boats. The majority of all photography will be conducted above water, however some in water photography may be done as well.

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

A feature story in National Geographic magazine will help the monument by illustrating the value of protecting this exceptional habitat. The predation behavior of tiger sharks in this location has not been documented elsewhere, thus making the monument an unique ecosystem. Through this story, in print, tablet form and on the NGM website, tens of millions of readers will learn about the life cycle of these animals and the latest science being conducted to better understand and protect them as well as how healthy shark populations are vital to the health of the ocean and our planet. The photographs produced will also be shared with researchers for scientific publications and to Monument managers for education and conservation efforts.

**Other information or background:**

This project has minimal impact on monument resources.