

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: Dr. Pualani Kanaka'ole Kanahele

Affiliation: University of Hawaii at Hilo - Kipuka Native Hawaiian Student Center, Edith Kanaka'ole Foundation (EKF), Hawai'i Community College (HCC).

Permit Category: Native Hawaiian Practices

Proposed Activity Dates: September 15 - 25

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): 2 Vessels

Proposed Locations: Mokumanamana

Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit: 18 + 16 on the canoe.

Estimated number of days in the Monument: 10

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...

Mokumanamana provides a unique window into the relationship of the elementals to our ancestors and their need to profoundly acknowledge accurately, the concept of time and space in which they considered their universe. The island is in alignment with the boundary of the sun's northern trek called the Ala Polohiwa a Kāne or the time recognized as the summer solstice. Mokumanamana is naturally aligned with the reflection of the celestial alignment for the universal time on earth.

The two summer solstice and one winter solstice trips established the ancestral alignments with several of the manamana or uprights on the island. The necessity of this autumnal equinox trip is to establish the central focal celestial and terrestrial alignments of Ka Piko o Wākea with this island. There are postulations and hints to the central arrival of the sun on its movement. Clues of the equinoxal recordation are evident by many of the manamana investigated on Mokumanamana. We want to be able to observe and record these alignments with the rising and settings of the sun for the equinox cycle at this time of the year.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would

We would assign five groups of two people on each of the pu'u for the sunrise and the sunset. They would look at the shadows cast by the sun during the time when the sun enters into the celestial zone where a phenomenon called the "Ke'eke'e" will occur on the celestial dome. Ke'eke'e is the north south path the sun makes on both the rising and setting where refraction occurs. The researchers will record the shadows of the pivotal manamana (uprights) with the location of the sun just as it either exists or enters the ocean.

The type of rocks used for the manamana, the shape and condition of the rock, their placement on the paehumu (platform) and the east west movement of the sun are yet other levels of research necessary for the understanding of the function the sites. Taking note of the relationship made of the north-south and east-west alignments on this island is also an important key to one of the purposes of the manamana on the paehumu.

The location of the moon, stars and planets in the evening in alignment with a terrestrial features are also pertinent to the rediscovery of their possible function during this time of the year.

All of these discoveries will be compared to research collected in Hawaiian literature, both chant form, narrative and stories.

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

Explaining the function of the numerous amounts of paehumu and manamana on that particular island, its relationship to the rest of the Hawaiian archipelago and the Polynesian islands. It will always help Hawaiian cultural studies by examining the uprights on the main islands such as Hawai'i, Kaho'olawe, Maui and O'ahu. It provides the insight of the Native Hawaiian mind with his environment, especially celestial bodies of light. It is important to know that these basic practices continued despite migration, the idea that the island changes and the ocean changes but the celestial cycles remain the same. This was a way that Hawaiian were always consciously and methodically keeping track of the earth and its alignment with the sky.

Other information or background: There will be a total of 32 individuals participating. However, only 12 people will be embarking and accessing the island.