

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: Joseph Van Os

Affiliation: Director, Joseph Van Os Photo Safaris, Inc

Permit Category: Special Ocean Use

Proposed Activity Dates: March 23 - 30, 2009 and March 30 - April 6, 2009

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Charter aircraft from Honolulu

Proposed Locations: Midway Atoll (Sand and Eastern Islands)

Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit: 32 individuals total (16 individuals per week of activity). Joseph Van Os would lead during the first week. W. Perry Conway would lead during the second week. Additional names and details to be submitted at a later date.

Estimated number of days in the Monument: 8 days (7 overnights) per each week of activity

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...
...bring groups of serious amateur photographers to Sand and Eastern (1/2 day boat tour, if operating) Islands with an expert photographer/naturalist leader to document the wildlife, cultural and historic features that are accessible under the conditions of this permit.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would
...provide supervision, photographic instruction, natural history interpretation to the guests in the field.

c.) This activity would help the Monument by ...
...promoting public awareness of the importance of the Monument, its history and wildlife. Many of our proposed guests regularly provide free and informative photographic presentations to nature and civic groups and camera clubs throughout the country (and the world in some cases). On Midway, our guided tours will provide our guests interpretation of the biological importance of the atoll and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

Other information or background: Joe Van Os has been director of Joseph Van Os Photo Safaris for three decades. For 10 years he was an employee of the National Audubon Society working both as an interpretive naturalist and as a researcher on a Gulf of Maine seabird recovery team. Joe has been the education director at the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences (formerly Manomet Bird Observatory) in Manomet, Massachusetts. Joe taught high school biology and natural history after graduating with a BA from Rutgers University in New Jersey. He holds a Master's degree in science teaching (emphasizing ornithology) from Antioch University (New Hampshire). Joe would be the photographer/naturalist leader for the week of March 23 - 30, 2009.....W. Perry Conway is best described as a conservation educator with a camera. For over 30 years, he has devoted his technical, emotional and artistic energy to creating photographic images which make a visual statement about the value of wildlife and wild places. Perry believes attitudes direct actions. Attitudes can be formed by viewing images which have a purpose to assist viewers in forming positive attitudes about the wild world around us. As creator of the Aerie Nature Series, Perry leads educational programs about the natural world and our human relationship with it. He has given wildlife and conservation programs to over 2 million students, educators and members of the general public. Perry has a Bachelor's degree in Biology and a Master's degree in Education. Perry would be the photographer/naturalist leader for the week of March 30 - April 6, 2009.....Our travelers to Midway Atoll are amateur photographers -- the majority are retired and pursue wildlife photography as an avocation and have a strong interest in natural history.