

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: Dill, Gary J.

Affiliation: NWHI Bottomfishing Hui, a nonprofit corporation formed in the State of Hawaii

Permit Category: Research

Proposed Activity Dates: June 1, 2010-June 15, 2011

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Vessel

Proposed Locations: Five underwater receiver sites in Federal waters at Nihoa Island, Twin Banks, Necker Island

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

Two

Estimated number of days in the Monument: Two trips, four days each; total eight days

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...

obtain detection data collected and stored in the Vemco VR3uwm receivers anchored at five sites in the above locations. The data will be brought back for analysis.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would

motor on the permitted vessel to two sites at Nihoa, one at each Twin Bank, and one at Necker. Upon arrival at a site an onboard interrogating unit will be used to communicate with the anchored receiver and direct it to uplink its stored data to the interrogator unit and associated computer onboard. After obtaining the data from the first site, we would proceed to the next, until all five receivers have been interrogated. At that time, we would depart the Monument.

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

providing the Co-Trustees, and others, with empirical data on the movement patterns, spawning habitats and population size of *Aprion virescens*, locally known as 'uku,' in Monument waters. The need for this research is reflected in the minimal amount of scientific study related to this fish, which plays an important role in many ecosystems as a top predator, and an increasingly important role as an Hawaiian food fish. Science-based management of this top predator

requires that we know whether it is site-attached to specific areas or, if not, how frequent and extensive are its movements.

Other information or background: This project is intended to complement and expand the scope of recent studies of top predator movements in the Monument (NOAA-NWHICRER permit #2005-010, NOAA-NWHIMNM permit #2006-012, PMNM-2007-031, PMNM-2008-027, PMNM-2009-037).