

## **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:** Vincent A Collins

**Affiliation:** NOAA/NOS/ONMS/PMNM

**Permit Category:** Education

**Proposed Activity Dates:** 6/17/10 - 6/26/10

**Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane):** NOAA Ship Hi'ialakai

**Proposed Locations:** Nihoa, Mokumanamana, French Frigate Shoals

**Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit:** 20

**Estimated number of days in the Monument:** 10

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

a.) The proposed activity would...

Provide an opportunity for educators, cultural experts, scientists, and community leaders to visit Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Monument), habitats and wildlife, for the purpose of sharing their methods and expertise with each other and the experience with their students and communities. Through experiencing a coral reef and Pacific island ecosystem in its natural state these people will be empowered to effect change in their local communities by sharing their personal experience. Formal, informal, and traditional knowledge educators for this expedition will be selected from Hawai'i, and during the voyage will have ample opportunity to share the condition of marine resources in their home communities with other participants, and how they educate their students and communities about their local environments.

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

Choose several educators, cultural experts, scientists, and community leaders from Hawaii. These individuals would be selected with input from their local communities, and well qualified individuals will have a demonstrable track record of leadership within their local communities and professions. Participants chosen for this expedition will be expected to share their experience with their students, fellow educators, local communities, and peers, as well as initiate and/or support efforts for marine conservation and research in their communities.

Participants would meet on O'ahu for three days prior to departure for training in safety, how to have a minimal impact while visiting the Monument, and natural and cultural history of Papahānaumokuākea. This training would be conducted by Monument co-trustees as well as

expedition partners such as Waikiki Aquarium, Hanauama Bay, OHA, the Monument research community and others. Participants would also meet with previous members of education expeditions to Papahānaumokuākea and be introduced to the "Alaka'i" or Ambassadors to the Monument community of educators who will share their experience and welcome this new group into the growing community of researchers and educators with kuleana of stewardship for this special ocean region. The Alaka'i program was born out of the Midway Education Program Visioning session held in January of 2008, and is a program that envisions a hui of education and community leaders who have taken on the personal goal of spreading awareness of the NWHI while utilizing the lessons these "kupuna" islands have to teach us to enhance stewardship in our local communities.

While in the Monument activities conducted will include swimming and snorkeling at Nihoa, Mokumanamana and at French Frigate Shoals, possible shore access at Tern Island, Nihoa, and Mokumanamana, working with and learning from researchers with expertise in the NWHI, and learning from each other about marine and terrestrial conservation issues in the participant's respective regions. Participants would rotate between three western and cultural researcher pairs focusing around research currently undertaken in three areas: 1) 'Opihi (traditional cultural monitoring and observation and western scientific monitoring methods), 2) Shark tagging, tracking and cultural significance related to sites within Papahānaumokuākea and 3) Monitoring and mapping of Nihoa and Mokumanamana cultural sites.

Participants would be expected to write blogs of their experience, conduct interviews, communicate with media, collect imagery, and where possible interact with students and communities in their local areas. Tools for communication as well as training in use of these tools will be provided to participants.

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

Continuing to build upon the educational support base for Papahānaumokuākea and develop new ideas for integrating Western science, traditional knowledge and educational techniques.

**Other information or background:** The structure for this expedition will be similar to previous education focused expeditions conducted in 2005 and 2008 for which the applicant (Collins) was also the Chief Scientist. The primary difference is that this expedition will emphasize interdisciplinary approaches to learning and to sharing of information, with a tighter integration between Western science and Native Hawaiian methods of understanding and interpreting.