

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: Phyllis C. Greenberg

Affiliation: Private citizen; Project director, principal investor

Permit Category: Special Ocean Use

Proposed Activity Dates: May 10, 2012 through June 15, 2012

(Arrival and departure dates can be adjusted to coincide with USFWS supply plane schedule, for a total of two full weeks' time on Midway)

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Entry and return via regularly scheduled USFWS supply plane.

Proposed Locations: Midway Atoll NWR, including permitted access to portions of Sand, Eastern, and Spit Islands

Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit: 2

Estimated number of days in the Monument: 14

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...
... allow two experienced nature photographers to document Laysan and black-footed albatrosses during the period when juveniles are losing their down and growing feathers. Mrs. Greenberg has previously photographed albatrosses on Midway early in the courtship/nesting process (Feb. 1999) and when chicks are 4 to 6 weeks old (March 2011). She has a wealth of photographic material to produce a coffee table about Midway's albatrosses, but she is lacking this important part of the cycle when chicks are preparing to fledge. The proposed book will focus on Laysan and black-footed albatrosses, but will include mention of recent short-tailed albatross nesting success. It will also contain other material relevant to albatross lives, such as other seabirds, landscapes, and seascapes. All photographic access to wildlife and places within Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge will be subject to permit and refuge regulations. The result of this project would be to produce a book, that can be sold by Friends of Midway Atoll (FOMA) and will be a widely-distributed educational reference via print and e-book means.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would
... photograph and make notes while on Midway, in accordance with the attached book outline. We plan to consult on book content with representatives from Midway Atoll NWR and Friends of Midway Atoll (FOMA). Subject matter will include wildlife and vistas seen by typical visitors taking nature walks, traveling around developed areas via bicycle or golf cart, and participating in other approved activities.

If deemed appropriate by representatives from Midway Atoll NWR, we are also prepared to document the efforts of employees and volunteers doing seabird research, removing exotic invasive species, and otherwise protecting the natural resources of the refuge.

c.) This activity would help the Monument by ...
... creating an educational, photo-rich book to increase public awareness of albatross natural history. It will also make humans aware that their lifestyle choices can enhance albatross survival (ie, limiting use of plastic, proper recycling/disposal of plastic, insistence on sustainably-caught fish, and awareness of finite ocean resources). Since visitation to Midway Atoll is limited, this book would bring understanding about albatrosses to a much wider audience via print and especially via downloadable electronic-book formats, complying with the preserve's mandate to bring distance learning opportunities to a wider audience.

In the words of Senegalese conservationist Baba Dioum, "We will conserve only what we love, we will love only what we understand, and we understand only what we are taught." The proposed book will contain endearing and heart-warming photos of albatrosses that will convey how special they are to on-island and long-distance visitors. It will explain and promote the conservation efforts related to albatrosses that occur within Midway Atoll NWR and Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. As readers learn about these specific causes, they will also gain a more general understanding of Earth's wildlife and finite resources, encouraging them to support worldwide conservation efforts.

The book would also be an excellent way to support the July 19, 2010, Executive Order: Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes, which states in part that America's stewardship of its coasts and the ocean is intrinsically linked to environmental sustainability, human health and well-being, national prosperity, and international diplomacy.

The proposed book will also provide general information about Midway Atoll NWR and Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, informing a world-wide audience about these unique sites. Profits from book sales will enhance the ability of FOMA to fund vital projects and programs that support Midway Atoll NWR.

During the course of our previous book project (SOU Permit PMNM-2011-003), we shared digital photographic images of refuge personnel at work, wildlife, and tsunami recovery efforts. We also provided written research information relating to surviving WWII veterans of the Battle

of Midway. We are fully prepared to do so again under this permit, so our work may help document and promote USFWS functions on Midway Atoll NWR.

Other information or background: The principals involved in this proposal are experienced world travelers and well-known natural history photographers. Their foremost goals throughout this project are to protect the unique wildlife and natural resources of Midway Atoll NWR. At the same time, they will strive to interact with collaborating agency personnel and fellow travelers with patience and good will, providing a win-win experience for everyone involved.

Mrs. Greenberg and Mrs. Toops spent three weeks on Midway in March 2011, photographing and researching a forthcoming guidebook to visiting Midway Atoll, expected to be published in early 2012. They are happy to work cooperatively with personnel from Midway Atoll NWR and FOMA.

Phyllis Greenberg has professionally photographed nature, wildlife, and travel subjects for more than 40 years. Her images are marketed by the internationally-known stock agency Animals Animals. They have been widely published in nature and travel magazines, calendars, and books. Among her credits are cover photographs for National Geographic World and the New York Zoological Society, as well as images in National Wildlife Federation children's magazines, Birder's World, and the New York Times.

Connie Toops is an accomplished nature writer and photographer with 33 years of experience documenting natural history subjects. She is the author/principal photographer of nine nature books, including Hummingbirds: Jewels in Flight, Bluebirds Forever, Great Smoky Mountains, Florida Everglades, and National Seashores. One of Connie's essays appears in the popular Houghton Mifflin book, Good Birders Don't Wear White: 50 Tips from North America's Top Birders. She is a co-author of Peterson Field Guide/Bird Watcher's Digest Backyard Guide to Hummingbirds and Butterflies (Houghton Mifflin, 2011).

Connie's articles and photos have appeared in dozens of conservation-oriented magazines. Her stock photography has graced trade and textbooks, advertising, annual reports, calendars, cards, and museum exhibits. Connie is a contributing editor for Birder's World magazine, a frequent writer for Bird Watcher's Digest, and travels the country speaking on birding, wildlife gardening, and nature photography subjects. She is also a skilled naturalist. Before beginning her career in photojournalism, she worked at Colonial, Rocky Mountain, Shenandoah, Everglades, and Crater Lake National Parks. Connie received the first Outstanding Service Award from the North American Nature Photography Association and was a semi-finalist for the 1998 Humanitarian Photographer of the Year Award.