

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: Yukiko Aoyama

Affiliation: Tohoku University

Permit Category: Research

Proposed Activity Dates: Feb. 13-20, 2011

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Plane, as a field trip hosted by Pacific Seabird Group

Proposed Locations: Terrestrial habitat on Midway Atoll

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

1

Estimated number of days in the Monument: 8

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...

Capture survey of seabirds and plant sampling will be conducted for the research of adhesive seed dispersal by seabirds.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would

The applicant will capture seabirds, investigate seed adhesion to their bodies, collect a few feathers for genetic information and release. Any seeds detected on seabird bodies will be collected. Leaves of some common plant species will be collected by hand for genetic information. The applicant uses non-invasive and non-lethal techniques.

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

Seed dispersal by seabirds would play an important role on the establishment of the flora. Most importantly, seabirds should contribute expansion of alien plants. They will import alien plants to their breeding habitats as well as they will export these species to other places including highly preserved area. Assessing role of seabirds as seed dispersers is essential to manage alien plants for the Monument where a large number of seabirds breeds.

Other information or background: The applicant has enough skill to conduct proper field surveys including treating birds because the applicant has studied about interaction between birds and plants in the Ogasawara Islands, Japan and have plenty of experience with field surveys. The research targets only common species of birds and plants and consists primarily of non-leathal surveys. Captured seabirds will be released without harmed after investigation and minimal amount of partial sample of plants will be collected by hand.