

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: Simon Nash

Affiliation: Series Producer, Parthenon Entertainment Ltd (film is being made for Animal Planet)

Permit Category: Special Ocean Use

Proposed Activity Dates: June-July 2012

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Plane

Proposed Locations: Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge

Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit: 2-3

Estimated number of days in the Monument: 14

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...
be to film a top quality High Definition wildlife television documentary, using observational filming techniques, that portrays the wildlife of a NorthWest Hawaiian Island as a whole and sets it in a cultural and historic context. This would be an essential part of a film that celebrates the beauty and diversity of the archipelago and highlights the fragility and challenges of life in the Hawaiian island chain.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would
bring a small, very experienced, wildlife film crew to film key animals within the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge. Whilst the majority of our filming would be land-based, where possible we would also aim to film in shallow water using boat support and snorkelling. Much of the filming would be opportunistic and, where appropriate, conducted under supervision. Our general objectives would be to film Hawaiian Monk Seals, Green Sea Turtles, Spinner Dolphins, a rich variety of seabirds (including Laysan Albatross, Black-footed Albatross, Great Frigate Birds, Tern spp. and Tropicbird spp.), marine life and any opportunistic animals that are encountered during our filming period, including sharks. Our primary locations would be Sand Island, Eastern Island, within the lagoon and on shallow reefs.

c.) This activity would help the Monument by ... helping the Monument to fulfil its stated goal of bringing the place to the people. The programme we are aiming to produce will have an educational narrative that includes the environmental challenges that the wildlife of the islands faces. In addition, by profiling the natural history of Midway as a whole, we believe that the film's subject matter will be accessible to a wide general audience and compliment other educational programmes about the Monument which may have a more specific, single issue or one key species focus. The completed film will be transmitted by Animal Planet in the USA and internationally and distributed globally by Parthenon Entertainment Ltd, so we expect that the film will reach a worldwide general audience that may be difficult to reach in other ways. In addition, Animal Planet expect to compliment the main programme with short, behind-the-scenes and science-based stories on their website that can give more depth to issues facing the wildlife of the Monument.

Other information or background: