

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: Nainoa Thompson

Affiliation: Polynesian Voyaging Society

Permit Category: Native Hawaiian Practices

Proposed Activity Dates: July 1 - 30, 2012

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Vessel

Proposed Locations: Nihoa

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

Estimated number of days in the Monument: 3

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would...
allow apprentice navigators to practice the traditional Hawaiian/Polynesian skills of wayfinding (non-instrumental navigation), in preparation for an upcoming voyage around the world. The voyage is planned for 2013, and the apprentices need on-the-water training to prepare them for such an arduous endeavor. The main Hawaiian Islands are relatively too close to each other to practice long-range navigational skills; thus, we wish to conduct such training within the NWHI, specifically to Nihoa. We will not request permission to land or anchor at Nihoa.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would
sail to Nihoa on the double-hulled, 18-meter voyaging canoe Hokule'a, with an escort vessel, which is mandated on any voyage made by Hokule'a for the safety of both the iconic canoe and her crew.

c.) This activity would help the Monument by ...
meeting a priority within the Monument Management Plan, which includes an activity in support of regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes for wayfinding, navigational and cultural protocol training. We also note that wayfinding training and traditional voyaging were

components of Papahānaumokuākea's successful nomination as a natural and cultural World Heritage site. Having this living tradition continue should be a priority for managers of this Marine World Heritage site.

Other information or background: Hokule'a has made previous, successful voyages into the kupuna islands, before they were designated a Monument. This would be the first voyage Hokule'a would make into Papahānaumokuākea, and it would be a leg of Hokule'a's Statewide Sail, helping to provide a stronger awareness that the entire Hawaiian Archipelago is connected, sacred and worth protecting.