

***NORTHWESTERN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS  
CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM RESERVE ADVISORY COUNCIL***

**February 9, 2012, 9am- 5pm**  
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES

Advisory Council Members: Tim Johns (State of Hawai'i); Louis "Buzzy" Agard (Native Hawaiian Elder); Don Schug (Research); Bill Gilmartin (Research); Kem Lowry (Citizen-At-Large); Rick Gaffney (Recreational Fishing); Jessica Wooley (Conservation); Tom Edgerton (US, Fish and Wildlife); Eric Roberts (US Coast Guard); Samantha Brooke (NMFS for Mike Tosatto); Janice Fukawa (U.S. Navy for Becky Hommon); Malia Chow (Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS)); Maria Carnevale (State of Hawai'i); 'Aulani Wilhelm (Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve (NWHI CRER)); teleconference: Tammy Harp (Native Hawaiian); teleconference: Joshua DeMello (WPFMC for Kitty Simonds);

*Absent:* Linda Paul (Conservation); Gail Grabowsky (Education); Cindy Hunter (Research); Laura Thompson (Conservation); Bobby Gomes (Commercial Fishing); Kitty Simonds (Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC)); Philip Taylor (National Science Foundation); Mike Tosatto (National Marine Fisheries (NMFS)); Take Tomson (NOAA – OLE)

[NWHI CRER Staff]: David Swatland, Andy Collins, Wesley Byers

[US, Fish and Wildlife Service]: Dan Polhemus

[Members of the Public]: Barb Mayer (Public); Judith Tarpley (Public); Kristen Stahl-Johnson (Public); Pelika Bertelmann (NHCWG)

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

1. Receive updates on Monument activities and reports on related efforts.
2. Receive briefings on major initiatives (Big Ocean, Pacific Regional Center), 2011 field season cruises (Mesophotic, RAMP and Intertidal Monitoring), Japan tsunami marine debris, and several other Monument projects.
3. Working session to discuss/fine tune Monument Alliance Charter

I. CALL TO ORDER (JOHNS)

Chair Tim Johns called the meeting to order  
Opening Protocol – [NWHI CRER Staff]: Nai'a Lewis  
Introductions  
Mr. Johns reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

II. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS AND STATUS (JOHNS)

### III. TOPIC A: MONUMENT CO-TRUSTEE/MGT. AGENCY UPDATES (EDGERTON, CARNEVALE, WILHELM, ROBERTS)

**Edgerton:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/National Wildlife Refuge System: Agency Accomplishments and Recent Activities: Habitat Restoration and Alien Species:

1) Refuge staff and volunteers on Midway continue habitat restoration with management of non-native plants including *Verbesina encelioides* and out-planting native plants including bunch grass (*Eragrostis variabilis*). Emergency Response: In November, models predicted that portions of the debris field generated by the March 2011 tsunami from Japan could reach Midway by mid-December. Refuge staff worked with the Environmental Protection Agency, NOAA, US Coast Guard, the State of Hawai‘i, and others to ensure that resources and an action plan are in place to help mitigate the impacts of the debris. At this writing, no significant increase in the amount or types of debris washing up was evident at Midway. Refuge staff continued monthly monitoring of Marine debris plots. Refuge Operations Infrastructure: Northwest Demolition and Environmental finished the first phase of lead-based paint remediation activities and left Midway on the November 10th flight. They were also able to abate lead-based paint. Refuge, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, and Regional Office staffs are working with the Space Missile Defense Command on their permit application to install of equipment to support the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization’s Infrasound Project. DBSI began painting the visitor center. Research and Monitoring: Threatened and Endangered Species: Short Tailed Albatross: In October, preparations began to welcome short-tailed albatrosses back to Eastern Island at Midway. The nesting where a pair raised a chick last season (despite storms and a March tsunami) was sprayed for invasive plants and weeds were pulled to prep the site for the hopeful return of this couple. The adult male arrived on Eastern Island on November 1, joined by the sub-adult female on November 9. She was seen later that day incubating a freshly laid egg. Midway welcomed the 2nd Short Tailed Albatross chick to be born outside of Japan on January 13. Nihoa Millerbird: In November, the Nihoa millerbird translocation effort managed 46 resights of 21 individuals. Unfortunately, much of the excitement around the birds’ initial breeding behavior subsided as two known and three probable nests in incubation were lost to predation, the likely culprit Laysan finch. In January there were 19 resights of 17 individuals. The highlight was the reappearance of a millerbird that had not been seen for 64 days. The birds recently were becoming more active and vocal, a hopeful sign of a promising breeding season. Cattle egrets are still on Tern Island. They are not nesting, but this is the longest period they have ever stayed. We are working on obtaining a depredation permit from Midway. A team of 17 volunteers were on Midway December 15 to January 12 to census all of the Laysan and black-footed albatross nests. The count was 388,017 pairs of Laysan and 25,210 pairs of black-footed. Counts were lower this year compared to last, potentially due to some pairs taking a year off after near record nesting last year and tsunami induced habitat change on Eastern Island. Artist Robert Wyland and oceanographer Dr. Sylvia Earle visited Midway January 5-12. The purpose of the trip was to observe the positive efforts to restore and protect the natural systems on Midway and incorporate them into global communications regarding preservation and the health of the planet. Wyland and Earle hope that the restoration seen at Midway will inspire change around the world. They will use the footage shot while on the Refuge for a documentary called “Offshore Islands: Hawaii’s Hope Spots”. As a gift to the Refuge, Wyland, with help from Earle, painted Laysan albatrosses, a Hawaiian monk seal, a green sea turtle, and algae on the east facing wall of Charlie Barracks. Presidential Management Fellow, Leanne Veldhuis has been

working on a cost-sharing report that we do among agencies within the Monument.

**Gilmartin**(question): Is that available for viewing? **Edgerton**: Yes, we can share that with you. FWS and Defense Base Services, Inc. had a retirement celebration for Manager John Hanna on Saturday 11/26. Refuge Manager Sue Schulmeister presented Mr. Hanna a plaque of appreciation on behalf of the Service and words of gratitude from past and current refuge managers of Midway Atoll NWR and the FWS Monument Superintendent. **Agard**(question): Do you still have anyone visiting out there? **Edgerton**: We do, in fact our visitor season begins next week. **Edgerton**(continues): FWS has initiated a Wilderness Review Process for the Pacific Island complex of National Wildlife Refuges which includes the two refuges on the Monument. The public comment period has been extended to the end of February. **Johns**: We have until 2/29 to respond, so we will take that as a potential action for the RAC to comment.

**Carnevale**: State DAR/DoFAW Update: Personnel: DAR interim DAR Administrator – DLNR First Deputy Guy H. Kaulukukui. Monument Research Coordinator - position currently vacant since Cori Kane's departure 12/30/11. The new hire, Michelle Philips will start in the next few weeks on 2/21/12. Monument Co-Manager - Dani Carter is finishing up her maternity leave in mid-February. She has decided not to return to her position. DAR has approval to fill this vacancy and this announcement should be posting by the end of this week. DLNR: DOFAW and DAR proposed Reorganization announced by Chairperson, William Aila, this past November. DAR and DOFAW would be integrated as one division within DLNR. Details currently being worked out, committees will be formed by members of both divisions to provide input. Requested approvals from DHRD and State Legislature planned for next year/session- nothing finalized until then. Permits/Research/ICC: 3 permits to Land Board since October 2011. Research Coordinator attended fall spatial ecology field course in Friday Harbor, WA and presented PMNM fish endemism data at Western Society of Naturalist Conference in Nov. 2011. Convened Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC) Nov 21, 2011 with a major focus on JTMD. Kure winter field camp 2nd winter camp initiated for Kure Atoll. Major efforts: Year-round habitat restoration. Seabird monitoring – winter nest counts. Monk seal monitoring. Kure Objectives broken down: A 3rd Short-tailed Albatross. 1st observed Jan 23 with intermediate plumage. This 7-year old fledged from Tsubamezaki Torishima in 2005. All three birds were observed at the west end of the runway. Carcass of short eared owl found Nov 1: Identified by Peter Pile by photo, carcass needed to confirm, Bristle thigh curlew and northern harrier in flight together, a record high of 44 curlews observed in a single count in December. Harlequin duck seen in Nov, and bathing in lagoon. Leach's storm-petrel carcass found on beach. Tagged (K3CG), a weaned pup: unknown birth site, tagged and first sighted on Nov 29, 1st HMS born in Hawaiian Archipelago at Kure on Jan 6<sup>th</sup>, Mom - KY32: she was born in 1998 at Kure. This is her first known pup and the 2nd winter camp at Kure. Kure Marine Debris Efforts. The winter field team collected 1,090 lbs. of marine debris. Collected rough cut lumber debris and used the lumber for water tank stands. Monitored beaches for drift cards released by Nikolai A. Maximenko in Nov. 2011 as part of his JTMD modeling research. Scanned lagoon for large marine debris pieces. Kure Terrestrial Management Habitat Restoration: 80 acres of golden crownbeard removed, 3,056 heliotrope trees were controlled, Over 6,000 heliotropes were pulled, Mapped 9 new restoration areas: 13 acres. Nursery: 5,144 plants potted this season. Questions: maria.a.carnevale@hawaii.gov **Johns**(question): What is the rationale for the consolidation? **Carnevale**: They used to be one division and so it just more realigning towards priorities.

**Wilhelm**, NOAA: NOAA ONMS Update: Agency Coordination: partnership with Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park yields new NWHI interpretive signs; posted at the bottom of Chain of Craters Road in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park; created to provide visitors at the park with information on the geology, ecology and cultural history of Papahānaumokuākea. Constituency Building and Outreach: Monument showcased at APEC Science Engineering Expo (SEE-IT); the SEE-IT project is aimed at encouraging Hawai'i's youth to pursue careers in the fields of science and technology; exhibit featured NOAA observational data from the Pacific region's oceans, coasts, and atmosphere; exhibit featured thematic modules displaying NOAA sensors and platforms used to observe, collect, and transfer data to scientists, planners, and decision makers. Recent Outreach Events (O'ahu): presentation to Students at the University of Hawai'i; Dr. Sylvia Earle, Wyland, and photographer Susan Middleton to Midway Atoll; 'Aulani Wilhelm keynote speaker at Punahou's Luke Center for Public Service; science night at Kailua Intermediate School; PMNM public presentation opens gallery display of NWHI Photographs. Mokupāpapa Outreach Events: on Friday, November 5, the annual Black and White Night event was held in Hilo, bringing a total of 1,178 visitors into MDC; Third Thursday presentations- Scott Godwin, Resource Protection Specialist, presented on Marine Invertebrates: Topics in Marine Aliens Species and Biodiversity; in the calendar year 2011, 57,114 people visited the MDC, including 2,540 students ranging from pre-school through college level; this brings the total number of visitors to MDC since its opening in May 2003 to 485,000 people, an impressive accomplishment for a facility with only four permanent staff. Education: first "Navigating My Course" Science and Conservation Career Workshop for Young Women at Ka'ena Point a Success; over the course of three days, 11 young women from schools across O'ahu had the opportunity to have a hands on, placed based learning experience led by six women actively working in conservation and science in Hawai'i; the three day course included native plant restoration, albatross banding and bolus examination, and celestial navigation and traditional wayfinding; hands on learning during a hike to Ka'ena point- students identified plants and limu, observed albatross and participated in banding a Laysan albatross. Students from Leilehua High School Participate in NOAA's Adopt a Drifter Program: in partnership with Waikiki Aquarium and the Republic of the Marshall Islands; NOAA invites a school, aquarium, museum, or other educational institution from the U.S. to partner with a school or educational institution abroad to mutually adopt a drifting buoy. Research and Field Operations: Japan Tsunami Marine Debris: Monument staff have teamed up with NOAA's Marine Debris Program to plan and execute the first Japan Tsunami Marine Debris (JTMD) Workshop in Honolulu on January 19, 2012; brought together over 70 people from 40 federal, state, local, academic, and industry organizations. Discovery of Nantucket Whaling Ship Two Brothers recognized as one of 2011's Top 10 Archaeological Discoveries: the discovery of the Nantucket whaling ship Two Brothers Monument research and field teams lead by ONMS/PMNM Maritime Heritage Coordinator Kelly Gleason was featured as one of 2011 Top 10 archaeological discoveries in the Jan/Feb 2012 edition of Archaeology magazine. Native Hawaiian: Papahānaumokuākea Nature/Culture Integration Featured at Seminar in Mo'orea, French Polynesia: Keoni Kuoha, Native Hawaiian Program Specialist, was invited and sponsored by the French environmental research institute CRIOBE to participate in the seminar entitled "Traditional Knowledge & Practices of Biodiversity in the Pacific," in Mo'orea, French Polynesia. Presented current fieldwork and evolving conceptual frameworks that support the management of the Papahānaumokuākea

Marine National Monument, through the integration of Native Hawaiian science perspectives and practices into the broader arenas of science and resource management. Strategic Initiatives: Papahānaumokuākea Staff Lead Big Ocean Think Tank in Auckland, NZ: On December 1-5, 2011 ‘Aulani Wilhelm, Nai‘a Lewis and Daniel Wagner lead the Big Ocean Think Tank in Auckland, New Zealand, held in conjunction with the International Congress of Concerned Biologists (ICCB) meeting. Following the think tank, PMNM representatives met with delegates of both the Phoenix Islands Protected Area and the Cook Islands Marine Park on December 5, 2011. These sister-site meetings served to strengthen organizational bonds and to share expertise and management experiences.

**Roberts**, US Coast Guard: The following is a summary of U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Marine Protected Species (MPS) activities in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) from October 1, 2011 to January 31, 2012. During this reporting period, Air Station Barbers Point flew three dedicated law enforcement patrols of the PMNM via a C-130 aircraft. These flights occurred in October, December, and January, respectively. Additionally, the December and January patrols covered two days each as the C-130 was allowed to remain overnight at Midway Atoll, thus improving crew readiness and increasing the area the aircraft was able to patrol. In January, an Air Station Barbers Point C-130 aircraft flew Hawaiian monk seal KE-18 from Midway Atoll to Honolulu. This transport is particularly interesting because we were able to accomplish it as a secondary mission to a medical evacuation of a crew member off a merchant vessel. In addition to the operational activities listed above, District Fourteen enforcement staff participated in several MPS related meetings. Most notable were the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council, the PMNM Interagency Coordination Committee, and the Japan Tsunami Marine Debris Workshop.

#### IV. TOPIC B: BIG OCEAN AND 2011 INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CONCERNED BIOLOGISTS (ICCB) IN NEW ZEALAND (KOSAKI)

**Kosaki**: Big Ocean, Marine Conservation Think Tank, Auckland, NZ, December 2011: We identified individuals that will help locate and synthesize relevant data for each site. In particular, scientific information which is highly relevant to the management of a site such as habitat characterization and mapping, connectivity (through movement of animals and larvae, as well as physical connectivity with surrounding areas). This past December, several staff members in our office met with managers and scientists representing other large-scale marine protected areas in New Zealand. These meetings were held in conjunction with the International Conference on Conservation Biology, one of the largest gatherings of the conservation community. We met with people from other large scale marine protected areas, in a think tank, which was a three day workshop, with the goal of establishing the framework for a shared research agenda for Big Ocean. Big Ocean is a network of managers and scientists of the world’s largest marine protected areas (MPAs). The network was formally established in this very room in December of 2010. The overall goal of the Big Ocean network is to improve the effectiveness of managing marine protected areas. In order to achieve this goal, Big Ocean strives to share information, expertise and resources. In other words, Big Ocean seeks to facilitate management efforts via sharing of intellectual and other resources. The Big Ocean network is currently composed of six established marine protected areas that are all characterized by being >100,000 square miles in size. These include the (1) Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority established in 1975, (2) PMNM first established as the NWHICRER in 2000 and then as the Monument in 2006, (3) the Phoenix

Islands Protected area established in 2008, (4) the Mariana Trench Marine National Monument established in 2009, (5) the Chagos Marine Protected Area created in 2010, and its most recent addition of 2010 (6) the Motu Motiro Hiwa Park. These six currently established sites are all of enormous geographic size, and collectively encompass an ocean area that is roughly the same size as the Mediterranean Ocean, or about 1.5 times the size of the Gulf of Mexico. So these are really enormous geographic areas of very large-scale. One result of their large geographic scale, is that their effective management often requires partnerships between numerous agencies with overlapping goals, and this is something that we are all accustomed here at PMNM, where we have seven agencies actively involved in the management of the monument. Another result of this large geographic scale is that advanced technologies are required to properly monitor and survey these marine protected areas. You cannot send out snorkelers on kayaks to survey an area like PMNM, and we need to make use of advanced technologies such as satellites, ROV and autonomous vehicles to survey these areas. Yes another direct consequence of their large geographic size is that these large marine protected areas encompass relatively pristine and untouched ecosystems. Their ecosystems are frequently dominated by large apex predators, which are uncommon to absent in most other areas where large human populations are present. Being surrounded by dozens of sharks is not uncommon for people diving in the PMNM. These are pristine ecosystems that are dominated by large predators and are fundamentally different from ecosystems that have been heavily impacted by humans. Natural laboratories: as a result of their pristine condition, these sites offer very interesting opportunities to conduct research, because they serve as natural laboratories. Think Tank purpose: develop a shared research agenda for large-scale MPAs; locate available information; synthesize information to identify knowledge gaps and research needs; improve manager's access to information; share resources. Driving Questions: What makes our sites unique? How much do our sites, individually and collectively contribute to the greater good of the ocean? How much do our sites depend on what's taking place outside the MPA boundary? What does a site contribute to the welfare of people? What are the management lessons learned for other sites? Outcomes: Identified individuals to locate and synthesize data; habitat characterization/mapping; connectivity; temporal trends/monitoring; outlined methods to disseminate this information (within network and to broader audiences): science paper on benefits of large scale MPAs, general audience paper on MPA benefits, updated listserv and website, list of experts; we outlined methods to disseminate this information, both within our network as well as to broader audiences; we have also updated the listserv and website for Big Ocean to facilitate communication within the network. Furthermore, we have compiled a list of experts for each particular site, so that if someone wants to work on a particular topic they can look up who has done something similar in another region. Finally, we shared information about the lessons learned in managing large scale MPAs, and this is really one of the most important accomplishments of the Big Ocean network to date. I mentioned that the Big Ocean network is composed of six established MPAs. When you look at these dates here in parentheses, you can see that these sites vary tremendously in their longevity as managed areas ranging from the Great Barrier Reef which has been in existence for almost forty years, to Motu Motiro Hiwa which has yet to celebrate its second anniversary. And this is the real value of Big Ocean, as it allows sites that have been managed for a long time, to share their stories of success as well as shortcomings to newer sites.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT – No one from the public volunteered to comment.

#### VI. TOPIC C: JAPAN TSUNAMI MARINE DEBRIS UPDATE (GODWIN)

**Godwin:** PMNM Resource Protection Specialist, Japan Tsunami Marine Debris: information and updates: Acknowledgements: we = NOAA MD Program + PMNM, UH-IPRC, NOAA-NESDIS, USCG District 14, State of Hawai‘i, Dept. of Defense and EPA Region IX. Overview brief background: what we know (and don’t): JTMD: early debris, debris on March 11 and 12 off the Sendai coast, patches; MDP sought info from a number of resources - e.g., Navy aerial photos from SAR missions; initial debris dispersion was dense in places; from the air some of the debris looked like debris mats; it is likely quite a bit of the debris sank near shore; over time the debris dispersed. NASA/NESDIS collaboration on satellite detection of marine debris; NASA provided images, NESDIS did the analysis. Trend: Early on a number of possible marine debris fields were detected. By April 14, possible marine debris field could no longer be detected. Marine Debris Movement: Ocean currents and winds; marine debris movement is due to ocean currents and winds; characteristics of the particular debris item will affect how it behaves with these currents and winds. Trajectories: NOAA OSCURS model. Two models were run to provide estimated trajectories for marine debris: OSCURS and UH, International Pacific Research Center (Nikolai Maximenko and Jan Hafner). Generally, the models agreed over the overall trajectories and timeline. There is a high uncertainty predicting currents and wind months or years in advance. The model output should be viewed as very rough estimates. NOAA has run OSCURS (Ocean Surface Current Simulator), a numeric model for ocean surface currents, to predict the movement of marine debris generated by the Japan tsunami over five years. Models do not consider: does not take into consideration debris degradation and effects of waves, severe weather, and storms. Track of debris after the 11th March 2011 tsunami in Japan is plotted on daily basis. The SCUD diagnostic model of surface currents is employed to track tracers released from the NE coast of Japan on 11 March 2011. The total number of tracers released is 678,305 and they are initially distributed along the NE coast of Japan and weighted relative to the population. The plot dated 11 March 2011 shows the initial distribution of tracers along the coast. Then the tracers are carried by SCUD currents and their location is plotted for each day. JTMD: What we know: debris is dispersed and not in large concentrations or fields. Likely quite a lot of debris sank near shore off Japan coast. Computer models: predicted trajectories of simulated debris, no real-time tracking of JTMD, very difficult to predict an exact date and location, degradation? Effect of severe weather events, storms and waves? JTMD: What we know. Computer models’ predictions: Northwestern Hawaiian Islands as early as this winter (Jan/Feb 2012), West Coast and Alaska in 2013 and circle back to Hawai‘i (main Hawaiian Islands) in 2014 to 2016, little/possibly no debris movement south of ~15° N. Radioactivity above normal? - highly unlikely. Measured sighting: normal. JTMD: What we don’t know: how much remains still floating? - unknown, no current accurate, verifiable estimate 5-20 million tons figure = unsubstantiated; 25 million tons in total disaster debris (Japan Ministry of the Environment), types of debris? – relatively unknown, difficult to determine if definitely JTMD, STS Pallada: “Radioactivity level – normal, we’ve measured it with the Geiger counter...we also sighted a TV set, fridge and a couple of other home appliances...wooden boards, plastic bottles, buoys from fishing nets (small and big ones), an object resembling wash basin, drums, boots, other wastes”; shipping company: plastic covers, black drums, wooden boxes; debris field or patches? - no. JTMD: What we’re doing: info/data collection, communication and outreach, response planning. JTMD: What we’re doing: info/data collection:

At-sea: call for “significant sightings” of marine debris in the North Pacific Ocean; report to [disasterdebris@noaa.gov](mailto:disasterdebris@noaa.gov), NOAA OMAO’s Pacific fleet, NWS’ Voluntary Observing Ship Program, PIRO Observer Program/Hawai‘i long liners, high resolution RADARSAT and multispectral satellite imagery – Eagle Vision and NGA, at-sea and aerial sightings. Shoreline: NOAA Marine Debris Program Shoreline Monitoring Guide and data sheet - [md.monitoring@noaa.gov](mailto:md.monitoring@noaa.gov), Tern Island, Midway Atoll, and Kure Atoll, shoreline sightings report to [disasterdebris@noaa.gov](mailto:disasterdebris@noaa.gov). Aerial observation: USCG Enforcement Flights, allowing observers. Sightings and Reports: Home port: Fukushima, JAPAN, 25-30 ft vessel, no human activity, broken mooring line. Satellite requests with OSCURS. Satellite requests with at-sea sightings and aerial observation efforts. JTMD: Alaska and W. Coast sightings. Definitely from Japan tsunami? - possible, but unlikely. Looking into 1) debris identification and 2) source identification w/ partners in US and Japan. JTMD: What we’re doing: communications, MARAD advisory issued (23 September 2011), NOAA-EPA newsletter - subscribe online, media, digital, and social media, meetings and briefings with partners, stakeholders, presentations, web page <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/info/japanfaqs.html>. Response planning: Japan Tsunami Marine Debris Assessment and Response Framework: guiding document, for all US regions of potential impact, current focus = Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, Subject Matter Expert (SME) groups – national and regional, information and knowledge and response plans. Japan Tsunami Marine Debris Assessment and Response Framework: National SME Groups: modeling and at-sea data gathering, shoreline data gathering, emergency response and policy, health and human safety, socioeconomic, outreach, education, media and shipping/ transportation/navigation. Hawai‘i. SME Groups: natural resources, shoreline and nearshore, regional modeling, cultural and outreach, education, media. January workshop: 19 January 2012, Honolulu, information and updates, response planning (contingency plans) with regional SME groups, focus = NWHI, but applicable to MHI 80 participants; 40 agencies and orgs. For more information: [www.marinedebris.noaa.gov](http://www.marinedebris.noaa.gov) and [www.epa.gov/region9/marine-debris](http://www.epa.gov/region9/marine-debris). **Schug**(question): Where do you see this issue in terms of public interest two years from now? **Godwin**: The NOAA Marine Debris program spends all of their time keeping the marine debris issue alive. **Swatland**: It is one of the three critical threats to the Monument.

## VII. TOPIC G: REEF ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING CRUISE (GODWIN)

**Godwin**: Overview: 28 sea days (July 23-August 21), 21 science staff, 819 SCUBA dives by 16 divers. Projects: reef assessment and monitoring for 2011, surveys of fish and coral disease, retrieval of ecological acoustic recorders, carbonate chemistry study, bioerosion study and microbiological source tracking. Accomplishments: Ecological Acoustic Recorder (EAR), University of Hawai‘i HIMB Project, three EAR’s retrieved: 1. Nihoa 2. Lisianski Island 3. French Frigate Shoals. Carbonate chemistry project: Hawai‘i Pacific University Project - 118 CTD Casts. Bioerosion study: microbiological source tracking, University of Hawai‘i HIMB Projects: 25 bioerosion blocks installed at three islands, flow dynamics studies at three islands and MST samples at Gardner Pinnacles. Surveys of Fish and Coral Disease: total disease surveys=24 sites, total fish surveys=21. Reef Assessment and Monitoring: 149 RAMP sites surveyed, 64 coral sites, 85 fish sites, RAMP initial findings, no indications of coral reef damage due to March 2011 Tsunami, no early indicators of bleaching, persistence of native algae bloom at PHR, one potentially new marine alien tunicate record at GAR and first record of range expansion of alien feather duster worm at MID. **Polhemus**(question): When does the cruise go back up this year? **Godwin**: In August.

## LUNCH

### VIII. TOPIC D: NOAA PACIFIC REGIONAL CENTER (PRC) (GALLAGHER)

**Gallagher:** NOAA Pacific Regional Center Overview “A World Class Facility Serving the Pacific”: Multi-phase project that including restoration of historic facilities and new construction; 315,000 square feet of laboratory and offices for 780 staff; \$331M capital investment partially funded by stimulus bill; consolidates twelve NOAA offices into one facility; marine storage warehouse and life support systems for marine life; port warehouse and pier facilities for NOAA vessels; Environmentally-Efficient Design LEED Gold Standard; large 80-person dive center; 24/7 Operation of Tsunami Warning Center-essential building design criteria. auditorium, cafeteria, fitness rooms, conference facilities. Mission effectiveness, operational efficiency, cost avoidance , increased collaboration, expanded partnerships, historical preservation, public education and outreach, lowers carbon footprint with 40-50% less energy use, maximizes use of natural lighting systems, incorporates photo voltaic and solar thermal energy, utilizes natural ventilation with constant fresh air supply, provides leading edge passive ventilation system, re-use of existing buildings and materials along with bio based and high recycle materials, incorporated rain water capture and gray water systems, utilizes native plant species to restore and preserve the site, thermal engine - cooled air sinks – hot air rises – Continuous Flow. Relocation begins June 2013, relocation completed October 2013. Base access for guests to support operations, maintaining cost and schedule, workforce relocation and transition. Developing new partnerships arrangement. **Polhemus**(question): What will be stored in the marine storage facility? **Gallagher:** For the most part all of the supplies and logistic materials for the research cruises. **Roberts**(question): When will the marine pools be operational? **Gallagher:** We are close, probably beginning to mid-March.

### IX. TOPIC E: 2011 MESOPHOTIC RESEARCH CRUISE (KOSAKI)

**Kosaki:** NWHI Mesophotic Coral Ecosystem Cruise, September 2011: helium-oxygen-nitrogen gas mix allows dives to 250 feet; highest level of endemism recorded in any marine ecosystem on earth; underscores the importance of the protected status created by the NWHICRER 10 years ago; USFWS biologist Dr. Jim Maragos found 17 new records of corals for the NWHI and 10 probable new species. Trimix Gas Components: nitrogen: pros - cheap, non-toxic; cons - causes narcosis, bends; oxygen: pros - essential for life; cons - toxic at high concentrations and during long exposures; helium: pros - no narcosis, non-toxic; cons - expensive, causes, bends Best gas mix varies with depth: shallow dives (30m): high O2, low N2; deep dives (60-100m) - low O2, low N2, helium; Ascent and decompression: as high O2 as possible to minimize N2, He. Hyperbaric oxygen toxicity: causes: high concentrations of oxygen free radicals, breathing high O2 mixes at depth. Symptoms: dizziness, disorientation/confusion, nausea, convulsion. Prevention: minimize concentration of O2 in breathing mix, minimize time exposure to rich O2 mixes. NOAA dive incident investigation: No operational infractions of dive regulations were noted. All risk management and pre-dive planning were completed in accordance with NOAA procedures. All required dive-worn equipment was present, properly configured, and fully functional. The root cause of the incident was an unexpected physiological episode (oxygen toxicity). The emergency response to this incident was handled professionally by the ship crew, divers, and medical personnel. NWHI Endemism: globally significant. 2009-2011 mesophotic surveys have documented the highest level of endemism known from any marine ecosystem. Fish Biodiversity by Island/Reef: significant increases in known biodiversity have result from

2009-2011 mesophotic surveys. The number of fish species recorded at each island increased by 4-49% (mean increase: 27% per island). Summary: globally significant levels of endemism (>90%) exist in NWHI MCEs; numerous new records, range extensions, and new species significantly increase the known biodiversity of these coral reefs; rates of discovery in MCEs suggest that much remains to be learned; technical diving is not free of risks. Access to more advanced technologies (CCRs) will lower O2 exposures, shorten decompression times, and result in safer dive operations; come to the Waikiki Aquarium tonight and see the NWHI exhibit.

#### X. TOPIC F: INTERTIDAL MONITORING CRUISE (JOHNSON)

**Johnson:** Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, 2011 Intertidal Monitoring Cruise 1-14 October 2011. History and overview: similar to the twilight zone, intertidal – subtidal zone in PMNM is largely uncharacterized. “Describe intertidal zone community structure and habitat types to establish baselines” ranked critical in the PMNM Science Plan. Also meets PMNM vision, mission and G&O (Goals 1 – 6) in Monument Management Plan. Marine Conservation and Science MCS-1: “Continue and enhance research, characterization and monitoring of marine ecosystems for the life of the plan as appropriate.” Native Hawaiian Culture and History NHCH-2: “Conduct, support, and facilitate Native Hawaiian cultural access and research of the NWHI over the life of the plan.” Pre-cruise: expert group worked to combine western / traditional research techniques as applicable to the intertidal - subtidal zones. Two permits received: (research and Native Hawaiian) that were drafted by the group and clearly expressed no line between natural and cultural resources. Preparation involved briefing by Kekuewa Kikiloi and pre-access briefing by permit coordinators. This trip used new methodologies (expanded transects and fish / tide pool surveys) and combined Native Hawaiian perspectives with traditional research methods. 13 Days - FFS, MNM, NIH aboard SEARCHER – 15 personnel including crew. 2011 objectives: collection of observational data to start a “database” (clouds, rain, wind, sunrise / sunset, moon, swells, currents, spawning, animal interactions, limu spp.etc.). Comprehensive surveys of intertidal - subtidal zone: transects measured from highest marine organism (typically pipipi kolea (*Littoraria pintado*) to 3 meters below ocean surface Collections of marine invertebrates in intertidal zone (‘opihi, ha‘uke‘uke, limu, a‘ama, ina, etc. for genetic analysis). Baseline fish and limu species lists. Individual tide pool monitoring activities. Additional projects: transport of communications equipment to Tern Island, FFS, collection of *Hyposmocoma* moth larvae (Daniel Rubinoff, current PMNM permit). Monitoring Team. Transects. Fish Surveys and Collections. Observations: some observations consistently noted on the data sheet: lack of fresh water = lack of edible limu typically found in the MHI (exception – limu kala). Ha‘uke‘uke (helmet urchin) spawning. FFS intertidal markedly more fragile than MNM and NIH and very different than MHI intertidal. ‘Iwa in the morning. Lots of rainbows with red as predominate color. Aia I ka opua ke ola: he ola nui, he ola laula, he ola hohonu, he ola ki’eki’e – “Life is in the clouds: great life, broad life, deep life, elevated life” The reader of omens knows by their shape and color whether clouds promise rain and prosperity, or warn of disaster. Challenges: SSW swell first 5 days, North swell for the rest of the trip wound up washing out Mokumanamana and made work extremely challenging. Initial accomplishments: data collected for an estimated 60-80 intertidal - subtidal transects; comprehensive data recorded for 13 straight days capturing the groups’ weather observations and discussions about cloud and wind types and relation to ‘ōlelo no‘eau; tide pool observations and measurements for over 20 pools for all three island / atoll areas; Limu (algae) species lists for all islands; shoreline / fish species lists for Nihoa and FFS. *Hyposmocoma* moths collected, roughly

20 live cases, 6 emergencies. Outreach: media release and availability resulted in project exposure in newspaper and on two evening news shows. Web feature with reflections and pictures: [www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/news/opihi\\_cruise2011.html](http://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/news/opihi_cruise2011.html) News Links: [www.kitv.com/news/29489462/detail.html](http://www.kitv.com/news/29489462/detail.html); [www.khon2.com/news/local/story/Researchers-take-population-count-of-species/4yM1p8Peb0uA6RqLgV71BA.csp](http://www.khon2.com/news/local/story/Researchers-take-population-count-of-species/4yM1p8Peb0uA6RqLgV71BA.csp) **Gilmartin**(question): What do you attribute the thinner ‘opihi shells to? **Johnson**: Perhaps because of being in more protected areas from surf the shells are thinner.

#### XI. TOPIC I: EVALUATION STRATEGY (COURTNEY/MILLER/LOWRY)

**Miller**: Evaluation Action Plan (12/08): Implement a comprehensive evaluation process; EV-1.1: Prepare comprehensive evaluation strategy; EV-1.2: Conduct annual evaluations; EV-1.3: Conduct 5 year comprehensive evaluation and State of the Monument Report; EV-1.4: Conduct Management Plan Review (MPR). The Evaluation Strategy provides a process to gather information to create knowledge about how we are doing collectively to manage the monument. It consists of three key components. Tracking plan implementation – summative evaluation component-tracks the status of activities in the management plan. This component is concerned with understanding what activities in the management plan are being implemented, what activities are being modified or added, and what associated accomplishments are seen. Evaluating the Effectiveness of Management Plans – formative evaluation component – is concerned with how effective the implemented strategies and activities are in achieving desired outcomes for each of the 22 Action Plans. 3. Adapting management for increased effectiveness – this component builds on the learning and conclusions emerging from the first two components, allowing us to adapt our management ongoing. The operational approach for each component is structured around evaluation questions, indicators, and data sources and tools. Evaluation questions help focus the objectives of the evaluation. Indicators articulate measures of outputs and impacts. Potential data sources include the tools, evaluation approaches, methods and reporting systems developed to support evaluation. Evaluation rollout activities: EV-1.2: Conduct annual evaluations; EV-1.3: Conduct 5 yr. comprehensive review and State of Monument Report; EV-1.4: Conduct Management Plan Review (MPR). In November 2011 we developed an Evaluation Strategy rollout schedule which describes how each of these activities will be implemented. The handout provides a detailed description, but the abbreviated version is as follows: It’s a Phased Rollout - began December 2011 and continues over next two years. Phase 1: Which began November 2011 entails designing an online reporting tool and evaluation templates, and collecting data retroactively for a 2011 annual management effectiveness review. Phase 2: We begin conducting 2012 annual reporting, using the online tool (1st quarter reporting begins in March). Phase 3: We conduct a 5 year MMP review, incorporating information and reporting from Phases 1 and 2 as well as other information gathered as part of the implementation of the Evaluation Strategy. This phase begins mid-2012 and continues throughout 2013. The online tool is being developed by DIG. Program leads/delegates input data on a quarterly basis. Tool captures implementation status of Action Plans by project; and associated achievements and products. Next slide shows the full array of inputs: quarterly project tracking; POC; project#/year; project title; project description; start date: month/year; estimated completion; date: month/year; quarterly report; progress; not started (why); on-schedule; delayed (why); completed; cancelled (why); accomplishments (bulleted list); associated products (attached); quarterly activity reports; activity tracking report (generated); list of projects and accomplishments; progress status; associated products; semi-annual report

template; Does actual progress match the intended progress?; What planned activities are not being implemented and why?; What problems/ issues are associated with implementation, if any?; What activities are being conducted that were not planned and why?; A semi Annual Report Template - provides supplemental information on implementation. Annual Report Template: To what extent are strategies working toward achieving desired outcomes of each action plan?; What are lessons learned?; What changes have occurred and what are emerging issues or concerns?; What new actions, projects or modifications are needed to improve management effectiveness?; Other evaluation questions specific to the Action Plan?; In the 4th quarter we perform an Annual Action Plan Effectiveness Review using a template. See example (template handout); for each of the 22 Action plans a template is filled in by program lead and attached to online report. The template includes these questions: other questions specific to the Action plan may be added. Here's a quick example: For each Action plan, program leads start by reviewing the desired outcome stated in the AP, and compiling a list of annual achievements associated with each Strategy in the AP. To better identify what success looks like and useful indicators for reporting on success, we use logic models. Logic models are a great tool for identifying evaluation questions and indicators. They are basically 'if—then' statements. This partial results chain for Marine Debris shows how the implementation of specific management strategies is believed to logically lead to desired results. The strategies include 1) Ocean user education and outreach on MD prevention, reduction. Management 2) Employing new methods to improve detection and removal of MD. 3) Promoting use of low-cost options for ship waste storage and port disposal as alternatives to ocean dumping. Here, the intermediate results lead to the reduction of a threat =Reduced amount and distribution of solid waste at sea which in turn leads to successful conservation of specified management targets= coastal and marine species, habitats, and human health and safety. So from this we could develop indicators specific to the intermediate and final results that we could use in our evaluation. Here are some evaluation questions, indicators, and possible data sources and tools derived from a results chain created for MD. This process can be repeated periodically to help drill down on the meaning of management effectiveness. At present: the online reporting tool is in final stages of development; data collection for 2011 annual review is in progress, using the effectiveness review templates. So far, feedback has been positive. Next steps: complete remaining annual evaluation reviews by Action Plan for 2011. Develop Evaluation Summary Report for 2011. Initiate Phase 2 for 2012 Evaluation and Reporting (trainings and online reporting). Develop process, milestones, and timeline for Management Plan review and update. **Schug**(question): How do the results feed into a process of adaptation and change? **Courtney**: We are hoping the information would then be used by the program leads as they are doing their annual planning.

## XII. TOPIC H: MARITIME HERITAGE UPDATE (GLEASON)

**Gleason**: Maritime Heritage Update: Nantucket Whaleship Two Brothers, Lost at French Frigate Shoals in 1823, Discovered in 2008, Identified in 2011. PMNM led a coordinated media release in February of 2011 announcing the identification of the Two Brothers shipwreck site at French Frigate Shoals on the 188<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the wrecking event. The widespread interest that this story received exceeded all expectations, beginning with a cover story in the New York Times. This compelling seafaring story helped to place this World Heritage Site/Papahānaumokuākea into the public's eye once again and educate about this place and the management efforts. Continued Two Brothers outreach: with an amazing facility and staff extremely passionate and well versed not just about whaling, but specifically about the Essex and Captain Pollard's story,

the Nantucket Whaling Museum is an excellent location to open the planned “Lost on a Reef” traveling exhibit. Nantucket Harbor: underwater archaeology family activity day at the Whaling Museum.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT – No one from the public volunteered to comment

XIV. TOPIC J: NATIVE HAWAIIAN CULTURAL WORKING GROUP (BERTELMANN)

**Bertelmann:** Update: here are some bullets of topics covered during the previous meeting: we meet quarterly and our last meeting was January 20<sup>th</sup>; report on Big Ocean and Think Tank from one of the working group members; Native Hawaiian Research Plan update: setting up venues across the island chain to start in March and meeting with native Hawaiian communities to guide future research plans; shark culling experience with Leighton Tseu; Mokumanamana research with Kalei Nu‘uhiwa; nomenclature sub-committee work – formally starting a conversation on looking at naming geography and different species, such as Nihoa Millerbird and new corals; also a sub-committee on permits: ask them if they were interested in reviewing permits; and discussion of the Wildlife Designation. FWS is revamping their visitor center on Midway and we are offering our input. **Gilmartin**(question): What is the process of looking at evaluating permits? **Bertelmann:** We look through and if we have any concerns we contact Heidi and she will bring it to the table for us. We talked to Lasha to make sure we get a summary of what kind of permits are going in so we know from the beginning.

XV. TOPIC K: PERMIT COORDINATOR’S UPDATE (SALBOSA)

**Salbosa:** Update on PMNM Permitting Program: 37 permits issued in CY 2011: 7 conservation and management; 4 education; 3 Native Hawaiian practices; 18 research; 5 special ocean use. Permitting and data integration teams are currently compiling permittee summary reports. 2011 Permitted Activities Report is underway and targeted for release April/May. Permitting program section on the PMNM website is currently being updated with substantial new material to be added. Summary of active PMNM permit: 31 permits currently active: 2 conservation and management; 4 education; 1 Native Hawaiian practices; 15 research; 8 special ocean use. For more information, please visit the Resource Protection section of the PMNM website: <http://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/resource/welcome.html> **Gilmartin**(question): Can you give some examples of special ocean use? **Salbosa:** Yes, commercial activities such as eco-tour groups or historical tour groups visiting Midway Atoll special management area. **Harp**(question): Could Pelika Bertelmann brief us on the Friends group if there is time? **Johns:** Yes, if there is time.

XVI. TOPIC L: DATA ONLINE TOOLS (GRAHAM)

**Graham:** Web based tools and data, PMNM Spatial Bibliography: Web-based tool available to the public. 2,365 articles (journal, grey literature, datasets, permitted activities data); 4,092 distinct species references. Searchable by location, species, topic, title, author, etc. Restrict searches by location(s). The spatial bibliography is our flagship online tool. Designed for use by researchers, educators, students and the public, it provides bibliographic references from keyword and location searches. Primarily contains biological research sources, but expanding quickly to include physical (chem, geo, etc) and cultural sources as well. Spatial references distribution – NWHI. Other Pacific location references. References include other Pacific locations. Criteria is first and foremost NWHI, but articles that also reference other locations or

are so specific to our areas of interest (eg coral bleaching) are included as well. Boundary maps: data publicly available in standard formats with metadata. Maps of PMNM boundaries (management zones, vessel reporting area, atba's, PMNM boundary) are available to the public in multiple formats (kml, arcgis, csv), providing a base layer of geographic data that can be used for visualizations and exploration from your computer. Vessel reporting area: data instantly importable to any number of geographic analysis tools including ESRI Arc tools, google earth and maps, worldwind, openmap, etc. Boundary maps provide a starting point for analyses such as vessel transits from the vessel reporting system. Benthic maps: benthic and habitat maps from NOAA Center for Coastal Monitoring and Assessment. Nihoa. Mokumanamana. French Frigate Shoals. Gardner Pinnacles. Maro Reef; Laysan Island; Lisianski Island; Pearl and Hermes Atoll; Midway Atoll; Kure Atoll. Links to and information about the NWHI benthic and habitat maps from CCMA. New multicultural and lidar data: partnership with NOAA Pacific Services Center. Review/approval phase. Approved data should be received this quarter. New lidar and multispectral data will allow for development of new and enhancement of old benthic and terrestrial maps for habitat mapping, threat assessment, education & outreach, plus really pretty pictures. Tsunami debris monitoring: data from NOAA OSCURS model embedded in Google Maps to assist in designing response alternatives to tsunami debris field. Featured in NOAA/NOS/Marine Debris program outreach videos. [www.pnmnims.org](http://www.pnmnims.org) Online permitting application: Testing and remediation phase. Other tools under construction. Data manager – central data and metadata repository that provides the basis for search and data discovery. Evaluation and tracking tool – web-based tool for Management Plan review and project tracking. Coral bleaching portal [papahanaumokuakea.gov](http://papahanaumokuakea.gov) library management tool CRED RAMP data tool. Vessel data collection system. Data manager tool. **Gilmartin**(question): Was the spatial bibliography based on work from at the Bishop Museum? **Wilhelm**: The base started with the Bishop Museum. **Harp**(question): Are the main Hawaiian islands on the benthic maps? **Graham**: If you go to the main NOAA website you can find benthic and habitat maps of the mains. Many are in high resolution.

## XVII. FURTHER DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL RAC ACTIONS RELATED TO THE DAY'S AGENDA

**Johns**: Reviews Action Items from the previous meeting. **Bvers**: We have extended the deadline to apply for vacant seats. Please share the application with your contacts. **Wilhelm**: We need applicants, so please encourage them to apply.

**MOTION**: A motion was made by Tim Johns to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**MOTION**: A motion was made by Bill Gilmartin to approve a final draft version of a support letter for a Discovery Center on Kauai. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**Lowry**: We have an Evaluation Working Group, but haven't met recently. I have met with Alyssa and Kitty, but I think it might be useful to review portions of the evaluation that would be of interest and present at the next RAC meeting. **Schug**: It would be helpful to me if you identified portions of the evaluation that would be the most useful to have the RAC give input.

**Lowry**: I'll do that before the next meeting. **Johns**(question): Would there be a more formal third party review of the evaluation? **Lowry**: There are a variety of ways that this could be done

in an efficient and thoughtful way. **Wilhelm**: My feeling is that this could be a good opportunity for staff and council members to work closely together. We could replace the next meeting turn it into a day workshop. Kem could share his perspective and the three of you come together to come up with the best way to approach the evaluation process. I think it is a very appropriate role for the RAC to be involved in this process. I would look forward to our staff working closely together again with council members and engage all the co-trustees in this process. **Lowry**: I can make some proposals and work with Alyssa and Kitty to have some options to choose from. **Johns**: We will ask for a briefing from the PMNM Friends group for the next meeting.

Announcements & Adjourn

**NORTHWESTERN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS  
CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM RESERVE ADVISORY COUNCIL  
February 10, 2012, 9am- 1pm  
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries**

Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES

Advisory Council Members: Tim Johns (State of Hawai‘i); Louis “Buzzy” Agard (Native Hawaiian Elder); Don Schug (Research); Bill Gilmartin (Research); Kem Lowry (Citizen-At-Large); Rick Gaffney (Recreational Fishing); Jessica Wooley (Conservation); Eric Roberts (US Coast Guard); Samantha Brooke (NMFS for Mike Tosatto); Janice Fukawa (U.S. Navy for Becky Hommon); Malia Chow (Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS)); Maria Carnevale (State of Hawai‘i); ‘Aulani Wilhelm (Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve (NWHI CRER)); teleconference: Tammy Harp (Native Hawaiian); teleconference: Joshua DeMello (WPFMC for Kitty Simonds);

Absent: Linda Paul (Conservation); Gail Grabowsky (Education); Cindy Hunter (Research); Laura Thompson (Conservation); Bobby Gomes (Commercial Fishing); Kitty Simonds (Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC)); Philip Taylor (National Science Foundation); Mike Tosatto (National Marine Fisheries (NMFS)); Take Tomson (NOAA – OLE); Tom Edgerton (US, Fish and Wildlife)

[NWHI CRER Staff]: David Swatland, Andy Collins, Wesley Byers

[HIHW NMS Staff]: Joseph Paulin

[Members of the Public]: Barb Mayer (Public); Judith Tarpley (Public); Kristen Stahl-Johnson (Public); Marti Townsend (KAHEA)

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

1. Receive updates on Monument activities and reports on related efforts.
2. Receive briefings on major initiatives (Big Ocean, Pacific Regional Center), 2011 field season cruises (Mesophotic, RAMP and Intertidal Monitoring), Japan tsunami marine debris, and several other Monument projects.
3. Working session to discuss/fine tune Monument Alliance Charter

## DAY TWO

### XVIII. CALL TO ORDER (JOHNS)

**Johns:** Called the meeting to order. **Harp:** Request that Oli Mahalo Gratitude Chant be played: [http://kapalama.ksbe.edu/elementary/mele/oli\\_mahalo/olimahalo.php](http://kapalama.ksbe.edu/elementary/mele/oli_mahalo/olimahalo.php)

**Schug:** Thanks to everyone involved in organizing the event yesterday evening at the NWHI exhibit at Waikiki Aquarium.

### XX. TOPIC M: MONUMENT ALLIANCE DEVELOPMENT (SWATLAND)

**Swatland:** We are the same state as we were at the previous meeting. We are going back to the NOAA lawyer and have them work with FWS and DOI. Today's activities with the FACA compliant Alliance are very important.

### XXI. TOPIC N: CHARTER FOR THE ALLIANCE WORKING GROUP (GILMARTIN/COLLINS)

**Collins:** Draft of the Alliance Charter for the FACA compliant Monument Alliance body that was worked on by the Monument Alliance Charter Working Group. Over the course of several meetings we developed the Charter, starting with the RAC Charter as a basis and added other elements that meet the guidelines of charters for FACA compliant advisory bodies. One discussion we had at length was making sure we addressed conflict of interest. We have asked the group to come back with broader revisions today. **Johns:** Reviews potential action items for today. **Harp:** Shared the aloha spirit law with the group:

[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/vol101\\_ch0001-0042f/hrs0005/hrs\\_0005-0007\\_0005.htm](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/vol101_ch0001-0042f/hrs0005/hrs_0005-0007_0005.htm) **Johns:** Reviews the letter regarding the wilderness designation.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Tim Johns to approve a draft letter regarding proposed Wilderness Designations in Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**Johns:** Do we want to take action or draft a letter to ask 'Aulani to make sure all the co-trustees keep the RAC well informed on issues such as taking plants and animals out of the Monument?

**Swatland:** We need to develop some guidelines on communicating with the RAC and we will come back with those at the next meeting. **Johns:** Okay, we will review those and see if we endorse them. **Collins:** (reviews draft charter by section) **Johns:** Want to make sure that we include the Vision and Mission in the beginning of the charter. **Schug:** There is a table in the Management Plan, maybe we can include that table in there after the introduction. **Collins:** (reviews objectives and roles section) **Johns:** Please take a look at the language regarding consensus. Also, for our successors, please make sure that minority opinions are noted for example on votes and on general consensus. **Collins:** (reviews members and officers section)

**Johns:** Come back to the RAC at the next meeting on a set of actionable items to discuss. **Gaffney:** Maritime heritage is so important. I want to make sure it is represented. **Townsend:** The broader we can define the Battle of Midway seat the more likely we would be able to fill that seat. **Johns**(question): Would Maritime Heritage be covered under science? **Collins:** Yes, it could be. **Johns:** We should be okay then if it is covered under science. **Collins:** We will take a

look at the section on quorum. **Johns**: Please number these bullets so we can reference them better. **Collins**: (continues reviewing members and officers) **Paulin**: Reviews the system of filling vacant seats on Sanctuary Advisory Councils. **Collins**: (reviews administration section) **Paulin**: Reviews sub-committees and working groups on Sanctuary Advisory Councils. **Gaffney**: Is it possible to keep RAC information on the spatial bibliography? **Swatland**: I believe that would be possible.

## XXII. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Stahl-Johnson**: Make a short comment on the discussion of Maritime Heritage. I think it is really important to include Maritime Heritage in the Charter. It needs to be one of the main components to bring to the rest of the world.

## XXIII. FURTHER DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL RAC ACTIONS RELATED TO THE DAY'S AGENDA

**Johns**: Reviews potential dates for the rest of the year. **Gilmartin**: Hopefully we can finalize the Charter at the next meeting. **Johns**: Thank you everyone meeting adjourned.