



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
NOAA DKIRC
NOS/ONMS/PMNM
1845 Wasp Blvd, Building 176
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818

August 31, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR: John Armor,
Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

THROUGH: Kristina Kekuewa, Regional Director
Pacific Islands Region

FROM: Athline Clark, Superintendent
Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

SUBJECT: NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council
Letter regarding NWHI CRER transition to NWHI NMS

Background on Advisory Council Communication

On June 30th, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council (RAC) received a follow-up presentation from ONMS PMNM Superintendent Clark and Deputy Superintendent Roberts on the sanctuary designation process. It was recommended by a councilmember that the RAC request NOAA’s legal opinion to address their concerns and questions regarding the sanctuary designation process. Given that quorum was lost before the meeting adjourned, the council agreed to set another emergency meeting to vote on a letter which would be drafted by the Executive Committee stating the RAC’s concerns and questions.

At its emergency meeting on August 4, 2021, the RAC reviewed the draft letter. Suggested revisions were voted upon and approved unanimously by the Council. The letter was signed by Chair William Aila, Jr. on August 31, 2021.

Site Superintendent’s Position

I concur that this represents the RAC's position on this matter.

Signature of Transmittal of Information to ONMS Director

Acknowledges what has transpired:

John Armor
Director,
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

Date

