

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

25 October 2007

## MONUMENT MANAGERS SEEK PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NATURAL RESOURCES SCIENCE PLAN

**HONOLULU, HI.** Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument managers are holding a public scoping meeting on 15 November 2007 to gather public input relating to developing a natural resources science plan for the monument. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and submit their comments.

- WHAT: A public scoping meeting to obtain input on developing the Monument Natural Resources Science Plan. This plan will identify management needs, highlight priority thematic areas designed to meet these needs, and describe the current and proposed research projects housed under these themes. The plan will serve as a guide for conducing scientific research in the monument over the next 5 years and will supplement the monument's management plan which is slated to be released in early 2008.
- WHO: The Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument managers
- WHEN: Thursday, 15 November 2007, 6:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
- WHERE: Japanese Cultural Center 2454 S. Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96822 Validated parking available at JCC

Members of the public may also provide comment in writing to <u>nwhicomments@noaa.gov</u> or via fax to 808.397.2662 from 15-30 November 2007.

For further information on this event or to schedule an interview, please contact Keeley Belva at 808.294.0932 or Keeley.Belva@noaa.gov.

The Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument is managed jointly by three co-trustees — the Department of Commerce, Department of the Interior and the State of Hawai'i — and represents a cooperative conservation approach to protecting the entire ecosystem. The monument area includes the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge/Battle of Midway National Memorial, the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, the Hawai'i State Seabird Sanctuary at Kure Atoll, and Northwestern Hawaiian Islands State Marine Refuge. For additional information on the monument, please visit http://hawaiireef.noaa.gov or www.fws.gov/pacificislands.

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## PLEASE CONTACT







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