The Monument

The Monument (Monument) located in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) is a Cooperating Agency on the development of the MMP and EA. workforce include all federal lands and resources and are developed in accordance with the Monument Management Planning Process and Management Framework.

The Monument is approximately 100 nautical miles wide and extends approximately 1,200 miles around coral islands, seamounts, banks, and shoals. The area includes the:

- Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve,
- Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge/Battle of Midway National Memorial,
- Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge,
- Hawaii State Seabird Sanctuary at Kure Atoll, and
- State of Hawai\’i’s Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine Refuge.

The Monument, including the NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, included within the Monument, and has primary responsibility for managing the marine areas of the Monument, in consultation with FWS.

Refuge areas within the Monument, including the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, the Battle of Midway National Memorial, and the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, are managed by FWS.

The State maintains responsibility for managing state lands and waters within the Monument, including the NWHI State Marine Refuge and State Seabird Sanctuary at Kure Atoll.

Public Outreach and the MMP’s Relationship to Previous Plans

As directed by Proclamation 8031, the Co-Trustees modified NOAA’s Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Proposed National Marine Sanctuary Draft Management Plan (available at http://www.hawaiireef.noaa.gov), as appropriate, to create the Draft MMP. The MMP also builds upon the Interim Monument Planning Process, and a total of 6,282 comments were received on FWS’s Draft Interim Monument Planning Process.

Comments and issues raised during these planning efforts are subject to decision by the Co-Trustees were considered during development of the Draft MMP. A summary of public involvement and the issues raised during scoping are included in the Draft MMP.

Management Planning Process and MMP Framework

The Draft EA of the MMP was developed in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.
Increase understanding of the distributions, abundances and functional linkages of marine organisms and their habitats to improve ecosystem-based management decisions in the Monument.

Native Hawaiian Culture and History: Increase understanding and appreciation of Native Hawaiian histories and cultural practices related to the Monument and effectively manage cultural resources for their cultural, educational, and scientific values.

Historic Resources: Identify, document, preserve, protect, stabilize, and where appropriate, reuse, recover, and interpret historic resources associated with Midway Atoll and other areas within the Monument.

Maritime Heritage Action Plan: Identify, interpret, and protect maritime heritage resources in the Monument.

Threatened and Endangered Species: Protect marine mammals and aid in the recovery of threatened and endangered plants and animals within the Monument.

Migratory Birds: Conserve migratory bird populations and habitats within the Monument.

Habitat Management and Conservation: Protect and maintain all the native ecosystems and biological diversity of the Monument.

Marine Debris: Reduce the adverse effects of marine debris to Monument resources and reduce the amount of debris entering the North Pacific Ocean.

Alien Species: Detect, control, eradicate where possible, and prevent the introduction of alien species into the Monument.

Maritime Transportation and Aviation: Investigate, identify, and reduce potential threats to the Monument from maritime and aviation traffic.

Emergency Response: Minimize damage to Monument resources through coordinated emergency response and assessment.

Permitting: Implement an effective and integrated permit program for the Monument that manages, minimizes, and prevents negative human impacts by allowing access only for those activities consistent with Presidential Proclamation 8031 and the implementing regulations of the Monument.

Enforcement: Achieve compliance with all regulations within the Monument.

Midway Atoll Visitor Services: Offer opportunities for visitors to discover, enjoy, appreciate, protect, and honor the unique natural, cultural, and historic resources of the Monument.

Agency Coordination: Successfully collaborate with government partners to achieve publicly supported, coordinated management in the Monument.

Constituency Building and Outreach: Cultivate an informed, involved constituency that supports and enhances conservation of the natural, cultural, and historic resources of the Monument.

Native Hawaiian Community Involvement: Engage the Native Hawaiian community in active and meaningful involvement in the Monument management.

Ocean Ecosystems Literacy: Cultivate an ocean ecosystems stewardship ethic, contribute to the Nation’s science and cultural literacy, and create a new generation of conservation leaders through formal environmental education.

Central Operations: Conduct effective and well-planned operations with appropriate human resources and adequate physical infrastructure in the main Hawaiian Islands to support management of the Monument.

Information Management: Consolidate and make accessible relevant information to meet educational, management, and research needs for the Monument.

Coordinated Field Operations: Coordinate field activities and provide adequate infrastructure to ensure safe and efficient operations while avoiding impacts to the ecosystems in the Monument.

Evaluation: Determine the degree to which management actions are achieving the goals of the Monument.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from formal public review, it cannot be guaranteed that we will be able to do so.

Public Meetings

We will hold a statewide series of meetings where you will have opportunities to ask questions about the MMP and provide formal comments. Except for the Washington, D.C., meeting, each meeting will include two sessions—Session 1 will be an informal “talk story” session, and Session 2 will be a more formal meeting where you may present comments. Session times will be the same on each date, Session...
Next Step

After the comment period ends for the Draft MMP and EA, we will analyze the comments and address them in the final MMP.

Dated: April 8, 2008.

David J. Wesley,
Acting Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

Daniel J. Basta,
Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Silver Spring, Maryland.

[FR Doc. E8–8362 Filed 4–22–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–65–P

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<th>Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>June 9, 2008</td>
<td>Wai'anae Parks and Recreation Complex, 85–601 Farrington Highway, Wai'anae, O'ahu.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>June 11, 2008</td>
<td>Auditorium, Main Interior Building, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>June 12, 2008</td>
<td>Maui Arts and Cultural Center, One Cameron Way, Kahului, Maui.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>June 13, 2008</td>
<td>Lāna'i High and Elementary School, 555 Frasier Avenue, Lāna'i City, Lāna'i.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>June 16, 2008</td>
<td>Kūlanā 'Oiwi Hālau, 610 Maunaloa Hwy., Kaunakakai, Moloka'i.</td>
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<td>June 17, 2008</td>
<td>He'eia State Park, 46–465 Kamehameha Highway, Kāne'ohe, O'ahu.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>June 18, 2008</td>
<td>King Kamehameha Hotel, 75–5660 Palani Road, Kailua-Kona, Kona, Hawai'i.</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>June 19, 2008</td>
<td>Mokupāpapa Discovery Center, 308 Kamehameha Ave., Suite 109, Hilo, Hawai'i.</td>
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<td>June 23, 2008</td>
<td>Hilton Kaua'i Beach Resort, 4331 Kauai Beach Drive, Līhu'e, Kaua'i.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>June 24, 2008</td>
<td>Japanese Cultural Center, 2454 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, O'ahu.</td>
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**


**Issuance of Permits**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance of permits for endangered species and marine mammals.

**SUMMARY:** The following permits were issued.

**ADDRESSES:** Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax 703/358–2281.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358–2104.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that on the dates below, as authorized by the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 {et seq.}), and/or the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 {et seq.}), the Fish and Wildlife Service issued the requested permits subject to certain conditions set forth therein. For each permit for an endangered species, the Service found that (1) the application was filed in good faith, (2) the granted permit would not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species, and (3) the granted permit would be consistent with the purposes and policy set forth in Section 2 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

**Endangered Species**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Permit no.</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Receipt of application Federal Register notice</th>
<th>Permit issuance date</th>
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<tr>
<td>168186</td>
<td>Saint Louis Zoo</td>
<td>72 FR 73349; December 27, 2007</td>
<td>March 13, 2008.</td>
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**Endangered Marine Mammals**

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<th>Permit issuance date</th>
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