

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT Permit Application

NOTE: *This Permit Application (and associated Instructions) is to propose activities to be conducted in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The Co-Trustees are required to determine that issuing the requested permit is compatible with the findings of Presidential Proclamation 8031. Within this Application, provide all information that you believe will assist the Co-Trustees in determining how your proposed activities are compatible with the conservation and management of the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Monument).*

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Any or all of the information within this application may be posted to the Monument website informing the public on projects proposed to occur in the Monument.
- In addition to the permit application, the Applicant must either download the Monument Compliance Information Sheet from the Monument website OR request a hard copy from the Monument Permit Coordinator (contact information below). The Monument Compliance Information Sheet must be submitted to the Monument Permit Coordinator after initial application consultation.
- Issuance of a Monument permit is dependent upon the completion and review of the application and Compliance Information Sheet.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

Send Permit Applications to:

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Permit Coordinator

6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy. # 300

Honolulu, HI 96825

nwhipermit@noaa.gov

PHONE: (808) 397-2660 FAX: (808) 397-2662

SUBMITTAL VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL IS PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED. FOR ADDITIONAL SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS, SEE THE LAST PAGE.

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: CDR Anita L. Lopez, NOAA - Commanding Officer, NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette

Affiliation: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Permit Category: Conservation and Management

Proposed Activity Dates: 4/1/10 – 11/30/10

Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Vessel

Proposed Locations: Nihoa Island, Necker Island, French Frigate Shoals, Gardner Pinnacles, Maro Reef, Laysan Island, Lisianski Island, Neva Shoal, Pearl and Hermes Atoll, Midway Atoll, Kure Atoll

Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit: 24

Estimated number of days in the Monument: 100

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

- a.) The proposed activity would... operate the Oscar Elton Sette, a 224' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) research vessel within the boundaries of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The mission of this vessel is to provide an at sea research support platform for NOAA research activities. Research scientists aboard the vessel will work under separate permits.
- b.) To accomplish this activity we would transport and support research scientists traveling within the Monument.
- c.) This activity would help the Monument by ... providing a data collection platform for scientists to conduct research and conservation management activities in order to preserve and sustain the scientific and cultural significance of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands.

Other information or background:

Section A - Applicant Information

1. Applicant

Name (last, first, middle initial): Lopez, Anita L.

Title: Commanding Officer, NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette

1a. Intended field Principal Investigator (See instructions for more information):

N/A

2. Mailing address (street/P.O. box, city, state, country, zip): NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette,

[REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

For students, major professor's name, telephone and email address: N/A

3. Affiliation (institution/agency/organization directly related to the proposed project):

U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

4. Additional persons to be covered by permit. List all personnel roles and names (if known at time of application) here (e.g. John Doe, Research Diver; Jane Doe, Field Technician):

Officers and crew of NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette (see attachment #1)

Section B: Project Information

5a. Project location(s):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nihoa Island	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necker Island (Mokumanamana)	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> French Frigate Shoals	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gardner Pinnacles	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maro Reef			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laysan Island	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisianski Island, Neva Shoal	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pearl and Hermes Atoll	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Midway Atoll	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kure Atoll	<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shallow water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deep water
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			

Ocean Based

NOTE: There is a fee schedule for people visiting Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge via vessel and aircraft.

Location Description:

General operations throughout the Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument

5b. Check all applicable regulated activities proposed to be conducted in the Monument:

- Removing, moving, taking, harvesting, possessing, injuring, disturbing, or damaging any living or nonliving Monument resource
- Drilling into, dredging, or otherwise altering the submerged lands other than by anchoring a vessel; or constructing, placing, or abandoning any structure, material, or other matter on the submerged lands
- Anchoring a vessel
- Deserting a vessel aground, at anchor, or adrift
- Discharging or depositing any material or matter into the Monument
- Touching coral, living or dead
- Possessing fishing gear except when stowed and not available for immediate use during passage without interruption through the Monument
- Attracting any living Monument resource
- Sustenance fishing (Federal waters only, outside of Special Preservation Areas, Ecological Reserves and Special Management Areas)
- Subsistence fishing (State waters only)
- Swimming, snorkeling, or closed or open circuit SCUBA diving within any Special Preservation Area or Midway Atoll Special Management Area

6 Purpose/Need/Scope *State purpose of proposed activities:*

The purpose of the ship's activities are to provide an at sea research platform to support small boat, diver, and educational activities in support of approved Monument permit activities including but not limited to protected species research.

7. Answer the Findings below by providing information that you believe will assist the Co-Trustees in determining how your proposed activities are compatible with the conservation and management of the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the Monument:

The Findings are as follows:

a. How can the activity be conducted with adequate safeguards for the cultural, natural and historic resources and ecological integrity of the Monument?

NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette is dedicated to studying and protecting the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, and to carry out NOAA's mission of understanding the Earth's environment and managing marine resources to meet our nation's economic, social, and environmental needs. Activities conducted aboard the ship will be respectful of the natural, historical and cultural resources of the Monument.

b. How will the activity be conducted in a manner compatible with the management direction of this proclamation, considering the extent to which the conduct of the activity may diminish or enhance Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity, any indirect, secondary, or cumulative effects of the activity, and the duration of such effects?

All operations conducted on the NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette will be activities permitted by the co-trustees of the Monument. All operations will be compatible with the conservation and management goals of the Monument, NOAA, USF&WS, and the State of Hawaii.

c. Is there a practicable alternative to conducting the activity within the Monument? If not, explain why your activities must be conducted in the Monument.

The vessel is an at sea research platform to transport scientists and scientific gear to locations throughout the Monument. Without this safe mode of transportation, research and conservation and management activities would be significantly limited or would not occur at all. The ship's mission also supports and fosters critical partnerships between multiple government agencies, both state and federal. Without NOAA's support, USFWS and the Hawaii DLNR would have to locate other sources of logistical support for their research camps.

d. How does the end value of the activity outweigh its adverse impacts on Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity?

The NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette will conduct marine debris removal support missions within the Monument. Last year the ship supported activities including the removal of over 20 tons of debris out of the Monument. These activities support the sustainability of the natural and cultural significance of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

e. Explain how the duration of the activity is no longer than necessary to achieve its stated purpose.

Federal funding for protected resources within the Agency is very limited especially given the current economic crisis. The allocation of project time has been minimized to sustain critical operations only. For example, work within the Monument to support Monk Seal Research is one of the Agencies top priorities and is only supported at a level to sustain minimum operations which includes transit time between the islands, personnel transfers, and equipment movements.

f. Provide information demonstrating that you are qualified to conduct and complete the activity and mitigate any potential impacts resulting from its conduct.

The officers and crew of the Oscar Elton Sette have operated in accordance with a conservation & management permit Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument since early 2007. This permit is a renewal application.

g. Provide information demonstrating that you have adequate financial resources available to conduct and complete the activity and mitigate any potential impacts resulting from its conduct.

The federal government is self insured.

h. Explain how your methods and procedures are appropriate to achieve the proposed activity's goals in relation to their impacts to Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity.

Annually the ship invites a member of the Monument staff to brief the crew on the historical and cultural significance of the Monument. Additional literature and briefing materials are available on the ship throughout the year. Each crewmember is required to read and sign the permit abiding by the conditions set forth within the document. The crew honors and respects the cultural, spiritual, and historical significance of Papahānaumokuākea.

i. Has your vessel has been outfitted with a mobile transceiver unit approved by OLE and complies with the requirements of Presidential Proclamation 8031?

Yes, the ship is equipped with a Sailor TT 3606 XP, Thrane and Thrane.
VMS Email: 436900545@c.xantic.net
Inmarsat ID#: 436900545

j. Demonstrate that there are no other factors that would make the issuance of a permit for the activity inappropriate.

All methods and procedures will be performed with the safety and welfare of personnel, the protection of Monument's natural and cultural resources, and the accomplishment of mission objectives as top priorities. Ship's personnel will abide by the NOAA documents: "Marine Wildlife Viewing Guidelines", the "Disease and Introduction Species Prevention Protocol for Permitted Activities in the Marine Environment Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument". All crewmembers aboard the vessel are required to read and sign the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Conservation & Management permit legally abiding by all permit conditions.

8. Procedures/Methods:

The ship will transit to the monument from Pearl Harbor, operate within the monument with various research operations, including small boat operations, diving, oceanographic data collection, and supporting authorized USF&WS or State of Hawaii land based operations.

Crew activities will include small boat operations, SCUBA, snorkling, and swimming as necessary for vessel maintenance, emergency operations, proficiency, or support of vessel and research activities. The primary operations will be small boat operations during day light hours for purposes of transporting scientists to and from islands within the Monument, conducting operations in support of marine debris removal, and other research activities.

NOTE: If land or marine archeological activities are involved, contact the Monument Permit Coordinator at the address on the general application form before proceeding, as a customized application will be needed. For more information, contact the Monument office on the first page of this application.

9a. Collection of specimens - collecting activities (would apply to any activity): organisms or objects (List of species, if applicable, attach additional sheets if necessary):

Common name:

Scientific name:

& size of specimens:

Collection location:

Whole Organism Partial Organism

9b. What will be done with the specimens after the project has ended?

9c. Will the organisms be kept alive after collection? Yes No

• General site/location for collections:

• Is it an open or closed system? Open Closed

• Is there an outfall? Yes No

• Will these organisms be housed with other organisms? If so, what are the other organisms?

• Will organisms be released?

10. If applicable, how will the collected samples or specimens be transported out of the Monument?

N/A

11. Describe collaborative activities to share samples, reduce duplicative sampling, or duplicative research:

N/A

12. List all specialized gear and materials to be used in this activity:

NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette carries three launches at all times, these are:
18' Fast Rescue Boat-AMBAR Marine with twin 60 hp Mercury Mariner outboard engines.
16' Achilles - inflatable boat with a single 50 hp Yamaha outboard engine
15' SAFEBaot - RHIB with a single 100 hp Yamaha outboard engine
SCUBA gear
Sustenance fishing will be with hand lines from the vessel.

13. List all Hazardous Materials you propose to take to and use within the Monument:

The ship carries Hazardous Materials for use only aboard the vessel.
See attached list #3

14. Describe any fixed installations and instrumentation proposed to be set in the Monument:

N/A

15. Provide a time line for sample analysis, data analysis, write-up and publication of information:

N/A

16. List all Applicant's publications directly related to the proposed project:

N/A

With knowledge of the penalties for false or incomplete statements, as provided by 18 U.S.C. 1001, and for perjury, as provided by 18 U.S.C. 1621, I hereby certify to the best of my abilities under penalty of perjury of that the information I have provided on this application form is true and correct. I agree that the Co-Trustees may post this application in its entirety on the Internet. I understand that the Co-Trustees will consider deleting all information that I have identified as “confidential” prior to posting the application.

Signature

Date

**SEND ONE SIGNED APPLICATION VIA MAIL TO THE MONUMENT OFFICE
BELOW:**

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Permit Coordinator
6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy. # 300
Honolulu, HI 96825
FAX: (808) 397-2662

DID YOU INCLUDE THESE?

- Applicant CV/Resume/Biography
- Intended field Principal Investigator CV/Resume/Biography
- Electronic and Hard Copy of Application with Signature
- Statement of information you wish to be kept confidential
- Material Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Materials