

I Ke Āmio O Nā Wa'a

In the Wake of the Canoes - Building on Centuries of Knowledge

A Workshop on the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands: Information Needs for Conservation and Management

May 13 - 15, 2003 Radisson Prince Kūhiō Hotel, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Fact Sheet

PURPOSE:

Sponsored by NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program, the purpose of this meeting is to identify priority information needs for understanding and managing the marine waters and associated habitats and resources of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI)

OBJECTIVES:

- (1) Take steps towards assisting all parties involved in the conservation, management, protection, and study of resources in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands in drafting a regional action plan for priority information needs.
- (2) Build the foundation for establishing similar priorities to support the current and future management of NOAA's NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve.
- (3) Identify a specific set of recommendations on information needs associated with the characterization, monitoring, and research of the marine waters, habitats, and resources of the NWHI.
- (4) Draft associated strategies or actions across a broad set of disciplines and practices that includes hypothesis-driven science as well as native cultural traditions.

WORKSHOP PROCESS:

Participants will be presented with a list of topics or issues derived from existing materials on management priorities and suggestions from the workshop planning team. A "fact sheet" defining each topic will also be provided. Participants will be assigned to smaller "breakout" groups to identify and prioritize information needs and recommended strategies to acquire this information. The process will include deliberate consideration of a range of investigations or approaches to gathering information and assembling knowledge including conventional, hypothesis-driven science and Native Hawaiian traditions and practices.

A set of templates will be used to guide the discussions, to capture critical elements, and to ensure consistency among the breakout groups. A facilitator and a recorder will be assigned to each group in an effort to keep the process moving, and to help document the proceedings.

In partial support of this process, a team is also developing a summary database of the existing information on this region, including a mapping tool for illustrating where studies have been conducted. An interim product from this work will be available at the workshop.

PARTICIPANTS:

Over 100 investigators and subject experts will participate. Names and affiliations are posted on the web site.

STEERING COMMITTEE:

Charles Alexander	National Marine Sanctuaries Program
Randy Kosaki	NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve - National Marine Sanctuaries Program
Bill Gilmartin*	Hawai'i Wildlife Fund
Hans Van Tilburg	NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve - National Marine Sanctuaries Program
Rusty Brainard	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service - Honolulu Lab
Alan Everson	NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service - Pacific Islands Area Office
Greta Aeby	Hawai'i Dept. of Land and Natural Resources/Division of Aquatic Resources
Jarad Makaiau	Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council
Jim Maragos	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Linda Paul*	Hawai'i Audubon Society
Lu Eldredge	Bernice P. Bishop Museum
Carlos Andrade*	University of Hawai'i, Center for Hawaiian Studies
Richard Grigg	University of Hawai'i, School of Ocean and Earth Science Technology
Dave Raney*	Sierra Club

* - NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve - Reserve Advisory Committee Member



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