

**Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument**  
Native Hawaiian Practices Permit Application

***NOTE: This Permit Application (and associated Instructions) are 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:** Charles N. Thompson

**Affiliation:** President/Chairman of the Board, Polynesian Voyaging Society

**Permit Category:** Native Hawaiian Practices

**Proposed Activity Dates:** April – December 2009

**Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane):** Vessel

**Proposed Locations:** Nihoa Island

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

20

**Estimated number of days in the Monument:** 3 days at a time, no more than 4 trips a year

**Description of proposed activities:** (complete these sentences):

The proposed activity would...

The primary objective of this particular activity is to allow apprentice navigators to practice the traditional Hawaiian/Polynesian skills of wayfinding (non-instrumental navigation), in preparation for an upcoming voyage around the world. The voyage is planned for 2011, and the apprentices need on-the-water training to prepare them for such an arduous endeavor. The Main Hawaiian Islands are relatively too close to practice long-range navigational skills, thus we wish to conduct such training within the NWHI, specifically to Nihoa Island. We will not request permission to land at Nihoa Island.

To accomplish this activity we would ....

To accomplish this activity we would sail to Nihoa Island via the 18 meter double-hulled voyaging canoe Hōkūle‘a. Hōkūle‘a will be accompanied by the escort vessel KAMA HELE that will follow closely behind the canoe at all times for safety and communication purposes.

This activity would help the Monument by ...

The Monument Management Plan prioritizes supporting regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes for wayfinding, navigational, and cultural protocol training. Our proposed activities will highlight Papahānaumokuākea as an important place for the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian

cultural practices and a place that is essential in training apprentice navigators studying modern Hawaiian wayfinding aboard traditional double-hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoes.

**Other information or background:**

## **Section A - Applicant Information**

### **1. Applicant**

Name (last, first, middle initial): Thompson, Charles N.

Title: President/Chairman of the Board

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

Charles N. (“Nainoa”) Thompson

#### **2. Mailing address (street/P.O. box, city, state, country, zip):**

[REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

For students, major professor’s name, telephone and email address:

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

Polynesian Voyaging Society

#### **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, Diver):**

14 crew (maximum) for double hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoe Hōkūle‘a

6 crew (maximum) for escort vessel KAMA HELE

Crew TBN in compliance information sheet

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

Note: We will finalize our sail plans well before each departure to make sure that all Monument consultations and requirements are met.

**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 primary objective of this particular activity is to allow apprentice navigators to practice the traditional Hawaiian/Polynesian skills of wayfinding (non-instrumental navigation), in preparation for an upcoming voyage by Hōkūle‘a – a Polynesian voyaging canoe – around the world. The worldwide voyage will begin in 2011, and the apprentices require on-the-water training to prepare them for such an arduous endeavor. The main Hawaiian Islands are relatively too close to practice long-range navigational skills; thus we wish to conduct such training within the NWHI, specifically to Nihoa Island.

Nihoa has no artificial lighting to aid the apprentice navigator, and the island’s small physical size and low-lying nature require astute observations of the sun, stars, swells, seabirds and other natural phenomena. The route from Kaua‘i to Nihoa is the only one from the main Hawaiian Islands to another island in the archipelago where neither the launching point nor the target destination is visible for an extended period of time during the course of the voyage, thereby offering a close simulation of a long-distance voyage without the added dangers of testing endurance. It is also the only voyaging route that offers this simulation while being close enough to the main Hawaiian Islands to ensure safety and access to provisions. These characteristics make this route the ideal training platform for novice Hawaiian wayfinders.

Today, apprentice Hawaiian wayfinders can be considered qualified to attempt to navigate a canoe on long-distance, trans-Pacific sails after they have successfully guided a voyage from Kaua‘i to Nihoa.

Papahānaumokuākea has also been nominated for World Heritage status as a mixed natural and cultural site. Our proposed activities will highlight Papahānaumokuākea as an important place for the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian cultural practices and a place that is essential in training apprentice navigators studying modern Hawaiian wayfinding aboard traditional double-hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoes.

## **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?

The double-hulled voyaging canoe Hōkūle‘a will train its apprentice non-instrument navigators by voyaging to Nihoa Island and may circumnavigate the island to view the cultural sites on the Island before leaving the Monument. The Hōkūle‘a crew and accompanying escort vessel (a maximum of 20 people total) will be in Papahānaumokuākea for a maximum of two days at a

time (only two days will be needed for the voyage to and from Nihoa), with no more than four trips a year, and will not disturb and natural, cultural or historic resources. We seek to honor our ancestors by presenting ho‘okupu in the form of oli (chants), pule (prayers), and spiritual gifts from the main Hawaiian Islands.

We may have a videographer and/or photographer on board as a crew member, but those videos and stills would only be used for educational and management purposes for and about the cultural, natural and historic resources of Papahānaumokuākea. Also, Hōkūle‘a crew would accommodate one Monument staff member to travel with the group to serve as an escort while in Papahānaumokuākea to assure preservation of these precious resources.

- 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?

The Monument Proclamation highlights the cultural significance of Papahānaumokuākea to Native Hawaiians, and the Proclamation itself authorizes access to the area via Native Hawaiian Practices Permits. The proposed activities are compatible with the management direction of the Proclamation and the Monument Management Plan, which has prioritized the support of regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes for wayfinding, navigational, and cultural protocol training.

As previously stated, the activities proposed herein do not impact the environment in any way. All activities will be conducted in accordance with the Monument’s BMPs and under direct supervision of Monument staff. For safety purposes, Hōkūle‘a must travel with an escort vessel (KAMA HELE) which will carry communications and first-aid equipment on board. Kama Hele is a 13.72-meter sloop, custom designed to safely escort Hōkūle‘a (it can tow the canoe if emergency dictates).

Also, our mission directly relates to and is compatible with the management direction of the Monument:

With a legacy of ocean exploration as its foundation, the Polynesian Voyaging Society reaffirms our commitment to undertake voyages of discovery; respect and learn from our heritage and culture; and strengthen learning which integrates voyaging experiences into quality education. We are committed to nurturing communities and the leadership therein which values learning and sharing knowledge in order to foster living well on islands.

- 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.

There is no practicable alternative to conducting the proposed activities within Papahānaumokuākea, specifically at Nihoa Island. Nihoa has no artificial lighting to aid the apprentice navigator, and the island's small physical size and low-lying nature require astute observations of the sun, stars, swells, and seabirds. Today, apprentice Hawaiian wayfinders can be considered qualified to attempt to navigate a canoe on long-distance, trans-Pacific sails after they have successfully guided a voyage from Kaua'i to Nihoa.

- 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 proposed activities provide beneficial impacts to Papahānaumokuākea by highlighting the area as an important place for the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian cultural practices and a place that is essential in training apprentice navigators studying modern Hawaiian wayfinding aboard traditional double-hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoes.

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

The proposed activities would take place in the Monument for the two days required for the sighting of Nihoa and return to Kaua'i, with the potential for four voyages a year.

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

Nainoa Thompson has extensive experience as a master navigator and teacher of Hawaiian wayfinding techniques. He has been inducted into Pwo (a sacred initiation ritual) as a master navigator, and was the first Native Hawaiian to practice the ancient art of wayfinding in six centuries. He has navigated both Hōkūle'a and Hawai'iloa (double-hulled voyaging canoes) from Hawai'i to other island nations throughout Polynesia, including the NWHI, without the aid of instruments – all with only positive educational impacts to natural, historic or cultural resources.

- 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.

These training trips are an essential part of preparation for the upcoming around-the-world sail in 2011 and therefore, are funded by Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS), a scientific and academic not-for-profit organization, through various grants and public and private contributions.

- 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.

The crew of Hōkūle‘a and KAMA HELE will follow all Monument BMPs, protocols and policies while operating in Papahānaumokuākea. Hōkūle‘a will also have KAMA HELE as a support vessel that will accompany the voyaging canoe for the duration of her trip from Kaua‘i to Nihoa.

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

These proposed voyages would comply with the requirements of Presidential Proclamation 8031: The KAMA HELE will be outfitted with a working NOAA-OLE type-approved VMS for the trip. The KAMA HELE stays approximately 1 to 2 miles behind the Hōkūle‘a at all times so that the canoe is always in sight, but assuring that the support vessel will not impede or impact upon the traditional navigation techniques being employed by the crewmembers of Hōkūle‘a.

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

There are no other factors which make the issuance of a permit for the proposed activities inappropriate.

#### ADDITIONAL FINDINGS FOR PROPOSED NATIVE HAWAIIAN PRACTICES

- k. Explain how the activity is non-commercial and will not involve the sale of any organism or material collected.

The proposed activities will not result in any commercial use of any Monument resource.

- l. Explain how the purpose and intent of the activity is appropriate and deemed necessary by traditional standards in the Native Hawaiian culture (pono), and demonstrate an understanding of, and background in, the traditional practice and its associated values and protocols.

Perpetuating the practice of traditional Hawaiian wayfinding is an essential component of Native Hawaiian culture and values. The route from Kaua‘i to Nihoa is an imperative component in ensuring that the art and practice of traditional Hawaiian wayfinding carries into the future by the younger generations of apprentice navigators and voyaging crewmembers.

- m. Explain how the activity benefits the resources of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and the Native Hawaiian community.

Besides perpetuating integral components of Native Hawaiian culture (voyaging and wayfinding), the use of traditional canoes in the Monument offers an opportunity to maintain a level of cultural integrity that is appropriate for religious ceremonies in Papahānaumokuākea. Equally, the ability of crewmembers to perform cultural protocol and honor their ancestors

perpetuates a centuries-old link of Native Hawaiians to their ancestors, their ancestral knowledge and their Kūpuna Islands: the NWHI.

- n. Explain how the activity supports or advances the perpetuation of traditional knowledge and ancestral connections of Native Hawaiians to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

As previously stated, Papahānaumokuākea serves a critical role in two pertinent, significant and living, Native Hawaiian traditions: voyaging and wayfinding. The voyaging route between Kaua‘i and Nihoa is used today, as it has been for generations, as a major training and testing ground for novice navigators studying modern Hawaiian wayfinding aboard traditional, double-hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoes. The activities proposed in this permit application support the perpetuation of traditional Hawaiian wayfinding and voyaging, as they serve to train apprentice navigators and test their knowledge in an environment that is a close simulation of a long-distance voyage without the added dangers of testing endurance.

- o. Will all Monument resources harvested in the Monument be consumed in the Monument? If not, explain why not.

We are requesting to conduct sustenance fishing activities in accordance with Monument regulations. All such catch will be consumed in Papahānaumokuākea.

### **8. Procedures/Methods:**

The canoe will depart Kaua‘i en-route to Lehua Island, with Nihoa as its final destination. The sail plan will be attached to the Compliance Information Sheet and submitted to the Monument Permit Coordinator. Once at Nihoa, Hōkūle‘a and its support vessel, Kama Hele, may circumnavigate the island before returning to Kaua‘i.

**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): N/A**

Common name:

Scientific name:

Hawaiian name:

# & size of specimens:

Collection location:

Whole Organism  Partial Organism

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

N/A

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

N/A

• General site/location for collections:

N/A

• Is it an open or closed system?  Open  Closed

N/A

• Is there an outfall?  Yes  No

N/A

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

N/A

• Will organisms be released?

N/A

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

N/A

**11. Describe any fixed or semi-permanent structures or installations, or cultural offerings you plan to leave in the Monument:**

Cultural practitioners will only offer culturally and biologically appropriate ho‘okupu in the Monument, after consultation with Monument management, inclusive of oli (chant) and pule (prayer).

**12. List all specialized gear and materials to be used in the proposed activities:**

N/A

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

N/A

**14. Describe collaborative activities to share samples, cultural research and/or knowledge gained in the Monument:**

PVS, as part of the larger Ohana Wa‘a (family of voyaging canoes), is creating a long-term voyaging program in collaboration with various state, federal and private entities. This navigational test will be part of the voyaging program in that it will be a high level of voyaging training. Long-term plans include the development of curriculum around such a voyage at the undergraduate level, and much of the cultural and environmental knowledge gleaned from this voyage may be added to the existing Navigating Change program, of which PVS is a founding member. We will work with Monument staff to determine appropriate partnering mechanisms.

**15a. Will you produce any publications, educational materials or other deliverables?**

Yes  No

If we do produce any educational materials, including potential undergraduate and K-12 curriculum, we will share it with the Monument, especially as the development of such material may well be done in collaboration with Monument staff.

**15b. Provide a time line for write-up and publication of information or production of materials:**

To be determined; please see above.

**16. If applicable, 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.

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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