

Media Advisory
NOAA/DKIRC
NOS/ONMS/PMNM
1845 Wasp Blvd., Bldg. 176
Honolulu, HI 96818



Contact: Allison Ikeda
808-725-5818

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**NORTHWESTERN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM
RESERVE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD
July 28, 2016 IN HONOLULU**

The Reserve Advisory Council for NOAA's Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve (now part of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument) will meet on Thursday, July 28, 2016. The Reserve Advisory Council will discuss and receive updates on Monument activities and hear briefings on related efforts, including agency updates. The meeting will be held on O'ahu and is open to the public.

WHAT: NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council Meeting

WHEN: July 28, 2016, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: Pagoda Floating Restaurant & Catering, 1525 Rycroft Street, Honolulu, International Ballroom, First Floor
The meeting room is accessible by the public.
Paid parking is available in the Ross Dress for Less structure across Kanunu Street.

WHO: Twenty-four Advisory Council members representing broad stakeholder constituencies, including Native Hawaiian, research, conservation, commercial and recreational fishing, ocean-related tourism, education, and state and federal agencies. The Reserve Advisory Council is an advisory body to NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

A copy of the meeting agenda will be available before the meeting at <http://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/council/meeting.html> or by calling Allison Ikeda at 808-725-5818. The agenda for this regularly scheduled quarterly meeting does not include any action items relating to the proposed expansion of the Monument.

Established in 2000, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council provides advice and recommendations on managing and protecting the reserve. Serving in a volunteer capacity, the council members represent a variety of local user groups, as well as the general public.

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument is the single largest fully-protected conservation area under the U.S. flag, and one of the largest marine conservation areas in the world. It encompasses 139,797 square miles of the Pacific Ocean (362,073 square kilometers) - an area larger than all the country's national parks combined. Visit us at www.papahanaumokuakea.gov or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Papahanaumokuakea.

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Visit us at <http://www.noaa.gov> or on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/usnoaagov>.

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