

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
Agency Report to the Reserve Advisory Council
February 1, 2018 – June 22, 2018

Agency: NOAA/NOS/ONMS/PMNM
Presented by: Athline Clark, Superintendent
Date: July 19, 2018

Agency Accomplishments & Recent Activities

Agency Coordination

Strategic Planning Workshop for PMNM

On February 15 and 16, Donna Ching, founder of the Pacific Center for Collaboration, along with Jennifer Creed, Chief Development Officer for Hawaii Alliance for Nonprofit Organizations, led an Appreciative Inquiry Strategic Planning Workshop for PMNM Staff. The focus of the workshop was to support the alignment of strengths within the program to provide a more strategic approach to the work we do together. The group worked together to develop a collective mission statement for ONMS PMNM, shared core values and strategic priorities and goals. Contact: Athline.Clark@noaa.gov or Naomi.McIntosh@noaa.gov.

I Mōhāhā Ka ‘Ike – PMNM attends strategic gathering for Hawaiian language resource use

On February 23, the Institute of Hawaiian Language Research & Translation (IHLRT) held a strategic gathering entitled *I Mōhāhā Ka ‘Ike* to discuss ways that practitioners are collectively working to utilize the huge cache of historical Hawaiian language material that has become accessible over the last decade. Part of the repository includes content from nearly 100 different Hawaiian language newspapers and 100 years of Hawaiian Kingdom government records, which all in amounts to well over one million letter-size pages of text. This initiative is significant for PMNM because a large portion of primary material that includes information about the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands is found in the Hawaiian language repository. These resources, dated from the 1820s to the 1940s, can help enhance the interpretation of the Monument. Existing and potential partners steward portions of the repository and include institutions such as the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Kamehameha Schools, Hawaiian Historical Society, Mission House Museum and the Hawai‘i State Archives. There were 100 invited attendees including archivists, librarians, curriculum developers, educators, researchers, translators, cultural practitioners, managers, docents, administrators and other users and advocates of the Hawaiian language representing dozens of organizations, agencies and institutions. For more information, contact Kalani.Quiocho@noaa.gov.



Over 100 participants from around Hawai‘i gathered in Honolulu to chart the use of the Hawaiian language repository. (Credit: Kalani Quiocho/NOAA)

Ocean Witness: PMNM Native Hawaiian Program Specialist

In March, PMNM Native Hawaiian Program Specialist Kalani Quiocho was featured on the Ocean Witness website. Ocean Witness is a collection of real stories told by real people: men and women that are dedicated to the preservation of oceans. Kalani was approached by Ocean Witness to consider submitting his story during the 4th IUCN International Marine Protected Areas Congress in Chile in September 2017. For more information contact Kalani.Quiocho@noaa.gov.

Read Kalani’s story here: <https://oceanwitness.org/stories/ocean-witness-kalani/>.

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation announces grant for PMNM research

On April 26, the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) issued a joint press release announcing that its Papahānaumokuākea Research and Conservation Fund will award a \$900,000 grant to a collaborative team of researchers from PMNM partners the Bishop Museum and the University of Hawai‘i to conduct research in PMNM during the summer of 2018. The inaugural grant was made possible by NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, a donation from Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff and his wife Lynne, and with the strong support of U.S. Senator Brian Schatz (D-Hawai‘i). A joint media event is being planned for August 2018. For more information, contact Toni.Parras@noaa.gov.

Links

- Wire: <https://globenewswire.com/news-release/2018/04/26/1488531/0/en/Hawaii-Research-Team-is-Awarded-900-000-for-Exploration-of-Papah%C4%81naumoku%C4%81kea-to-Benefit-Future-Conservation-Efforts.html>
- Website: nfwf.org/whoweare/mediacenter/pr/Pages/hawaii-research-team-is-awarded-for-exploration-of-papahanaumokuakea-to-benefit-future-conservation-efforts-2018-0426.aspx
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FishandWildlife/posts/10156020756495743>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NFWFnews/status/989564972962336768>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6395332627682856961>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/BiCyMfkHowy/?hl=en&taken-by=nfwf>

PMNM hosts Native Hawaiian Plan Workshop

On April 27, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Papahānaumokuākea Program and PMNM ONMS convened the Papahānaumokuākea Native Hawaiian Cultural Working Group (CWG) for a workshop at NOAA’s Mokupāpapa Discovery Center in Hilo, Hawai‘i to receive feedback on the draft PMNM Native Hawaiian Plan. Over 30 participants attended, including staff from PMNM co-managing agencies. The PMNM Native Hawaiian Plan was developed through a process of extensive consultation with the Native Hawaiian community and is a distillation of traditional knowledge, values and concepts and nearly 10 years of work. The plan is an emerging model that elevates indigenous knowledge, empowers indigenous peoples and honors the significance of place. For more information, contact Kalani.Quiocho@noaa.gov.



Papahānaumokuākea Native Hawaiian Cultural Working Group and PMNM Co-managers at the Mokupāpapa Discovery Center. (Credit: Derek Watts/NOAA)

PMNM conducts service project at James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge

On May 4, multi-agency PMNM staff conducted a service learning project at James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge (JCNWR) as part of a follow up to the annual Permit Coordinators workshop. While there, the group collected marine debris on the adjacent beach, and also had time to view black-footed albatross, Tristram's storm petrel, and Bonin petrel chicks translocated from PMNM. The seabirds were translocated from their low-lying habitats in the Monument to JCNWR on O'ahu under a PMNM conservation and management permit to establish a colony safe from sea level rise. New nesting colonies of the chicks were established inside a predator fence to protect them from non-native predators. This was the fourth year in which protected seabirds were translocated to JCNWR. For more information, contact PMNM Policy and Permit Specialist Justin Rivera at Justin.Rivera@noaa.gov.



Left: PMNM staff from ONMS, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pose with marine debris they collected. Right: a protected black-footed albatross chick translocated from PMNM to O'ahu. (Credits: Nicole Evans/NOAA)

PMNM staff member selected for Pacific Resiliency Fellows Program Inaugural Class

On May 17, the Honolulu-based nonprofit Kupu announced the selection of its first Pacific Resiliency Fellows program cohort. PMNM Native Hawaiian Specialist Kalani Quiocho will be part of an inaugural class that includes 12 other conservation and sustainability professionals from Hawai'i, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Guam, Palau and Rapa Nui. The goal of the program is to build local capacity in smaller island areas by developing and empowering rising leaders and social entrepreneurs who are working to build more sustainable and resilient communities. For more

information, see <http://bigislandnow.com/2018/05/18/kupu-selects-pacific-resiliency-fellows-program-inaugural-class/> or contact Kalani.Quiocho@noaa.gov.

NOAA and NPS collaborate to inform public about Kīlauea eruption

Since May 15, NOAA's Mokuāpapa Discovery Center in Hilo has been helping to support the community affected by the lava flows and eruption at Kīlauea volcano along its Lower East Rift Zone by hosting Hawai'i Volcanoes (HAVO) National Park Service rangers and interpretive staff. While the current eruption is active, and explosive eruptions continue at the Kīlauea summit, HAVO is mostly closed to its nearly two million annual visitors. To lessen the impacts to park visitors and provide a venue to learn about the current eruption, MDC is hosting a pop-up park center, with daily ranger talks at 10 AM and 2 PM, on-site rangers throughout the day, and supporting some park programming. NOAA National Weather Service meteorologists from the Hilo Data Collection Office are also participating in the 10 AM briefing to provide information on ash fall, wind direction, and air quality hazards. Both HAVO and PMNM are UNESCO World Heritage Sites and interpret the natural and cultural features that represent the birth of Hawaiian islands in the southeastern part of the archipelago and their return to the sea far to the northwest. Now we can tell the whole story in one place while providing critical information to the public about the active flow and potential safety issues. For more information, visit <https://volcanoes.usgs.gov/volcanoes/kilauea/status.html> or contact Andy.Collins@noaa.gov.



Left: NOAA National Weather Service Meteorologist Deanna Marks and Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park Interpretive Ranger Benita Smolny provide a briefing on the current eruption and weather patterns that affect air quality and ash fallout. (Credit: Andy Collins/NOAA) Center: Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park Rangers Jami Beck and Diana Miller with PMNM Education Coordinator Andy Collins at Mokuāpapa Discovery Center in Hilo, Hawai'i. (Credit: Derek Watts/NOAA) Right: Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park Interpretive Ranger Keoni Kaholoaa gives the daily briefing on the Kīlauea and Lower East Rift Zone eruption to visitors and Hawai'i residents at Mokuāpapa Discovery Center in Hilo, Hawai'i. (Credit: Andy Collins/NOAA)

Constituency Building & Outreach

PMNM Participates in Polynesian Voyaging Society Events

NOAA's PMNM joined Polynesian Voyaging Society's *Mahalo Hawai'i Sail* at three locations in January, February, and April. The sail is to thank the people of Hawai'i by bringing Hōkūle'a home to communities throughout the islands and to share lessons learned from the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage. PMNM joined the legendary voyaging canoe while docked at Ko 'Olina Marina on the west-side of O'ahu, Rainbow Marina in Pearl Harbor, and Maunaloa Bay/Hawaii Kai Towne Center to host educational hands-on activities that engaged many local children (school groups ages K-12). PMNM staff conducted an educational map and spin-the-wheel game for hundreds of students, teachers and chaperones to learn about

the Monument and our efforts to mālama honua (care for our oceans and Island Earth). For more information, contact Naomi.McIntosh@noaa.gov.



Left: Hōkūleʻa docked at Rainbow Marina in Pearl Harbor. (Credit: Laura Trilles/Lynker) Right: PMNM staff from NOAA and USFWS teach high school students and teachers about the Monument. (Credit: Toni Parras/NOAA)



RAC member Judith Cuccio and PMNM staffer Kahi Fujii teach kids about the Monument. (Credits: Toni Parras/NOAA)

Civil Beat Reporters Talk Story about Voyage to Papahānaumokuākea

On February 13, Civil Beat reporter Nathan Eagle and videographer Alana Eagle presented at Surfjack Hotel & Swim Club on Waikiki Beach on their voyage to PMNM last year to publish a multimedia story about the Monument on Civil Beat. The article, entitled “The Last Wild Place,” which was published in December (<http://www.civilbeat.org/projects/the-last-wild-place/>), received 52,000 page views within the first two weeks of publication, was shared hundreds of times on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, and liked thousands of times. Nathan and Alana gave a behind-the-scenes account of their mission and answered questions from a crowd of approximately 50, including staff from co-managing agency USFWS. For more information, contact Toni.Parras@noaa.gov.



*Left: Nathan and Alana Eagle of Civil Beat talk story about their voyage to the Monument to a crowd in Waikiki.
Right: The reporters with PMNM Communications Manager Toni Parras. (Credits: Toni Parras/NOAA)*

PMNM Presents at 29th Annual Symposium on Maritime Archaeology

February 17-19 marked the dates for the 29th Annual Symposium on Maritime Archaeology and History of Hawai'i and the Pacific (MAHHI), held on the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa campus. PMNM's Kelly Gleason Keogh presented work conducted in 2017 investigating potential archaeological sites on Midway Atoll in a collaborative project with USFWS. This project utilized remote sensing and resulted in finding dozens of potential sites that require further investigation. MAHHI attracts many participants and hosts a wide range of talks on the topics of maritime archaeology. For more information, contact Kelly.Keogh@noaa.gov.

PMNM Presents to Myanmar Delegation

On February 20, Papahānaumokuākea NOAA Superintendent Athline Clark gave a presentation to a group of delegates from Myanmar (Burma) who were visiting on a U.S. State Department Leadership Exchange program. The 7-person Burmese delegation comprised of government officials and community stakeholders who were interested in Marine Protected Area management and how to incorporate indigenous culture and voices into management. For more information, contact Athline.Clark@noaa.gov.



PMNM NOAA Superintendent Athline Clark (center) with a group of delegates from Myanmar (Burma). (Credit: NOAA)

PMNM Story on Wisdom's Chick Picked up by Associated Press

On February 22, PMNM issued a press release announcing the hatching of Wisdom's chick once again. At 67, Wisdom, the world's oldest known breeding bird in the wild, became a mother once more. On February

6, approximately two months after Wisdom began incubating her egg, Wisdom and her mate Akeakami welcomed their newest chick to Midway Atoll. The story was picked up by Associated Press and went nation-wide. For more information, contact Toni.Parras@noaa.gov or visit <https://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/new-news/2018/02/22/wisdom2018/>.



Wisdom with her newly-hatched chick on Midway Atoll, February 2018. (Credit: Bob Peyton/USFWS)

ONMS Partners with Kokua Hawai'i Foundation and Make Yourself Foundation

On February 24, ONMS PMNM and HIHWNMS collaborated with Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation to provide an opportunity for people to participate in a beach cleanup and spot whales at Makapu'u Beach on O'ahu. ONMS staff organized a special shore-based whale watch during the Sanctuary Ocean Count at the beach cleanup site. Both organizations (ONMS and Kokua Hawai'i) also worked with Make Yourself Foundation and Incubus to provide a meet and greet with the rock band which is touring and performing in Hawai'i on March 13 and 14. Over 100 people participated, including students with Punahou School's JROTC, National Honors Society and Sustainable Living Club. For more information, contact Naomi.McIntosh@noaa.gov.



Participants of the beach cleanup. (Credits: Doorae Shin/Kōkua Hawai'i Foundation)

PMNM Participates in Bishop Museum's Fall in Love with Science Discovery Day Event

On March 18, PMNM hosted a booth at the Bishop Museum's Fall in Love with Science Discovery Day, part of a month-long science festival called Hi-Sci Festival. The annual event aims to highlight the work of Bishop Museum's Natural Science departments, as well as their community partners. PMNM staff engaged visitors in a marine life clay-making activity, interactive coral display, photo booth, and large map banner featuring PMNM's unique natural and cultural features. Held on the museum's Great Lawn, more than

5,000 visitors attended the event, with over one thousand stopping at the PMNM booth. For more information, contact Toni.Parras@noaa.gov.



Left: PMNM Policy & Evaluation Specialist Alyssa Miller engages guests in a coral activity. Right: A mother takes her child's picture at the PMNM photo booth. (Credits: Toni Parras/NOA)

PMNM participates in Mauka to Makai Earth Day event at the Waikiki Aquarium

On April 21, PMNM staff hosted a booth at the 11th annual Mauka to Makai Earth Day Environmental Expo held at the Waikiki Aquarium, which drew approximately 4,300 guests. The event featured family-friendly activities to promote the importance of keeping Hawaii clean and free of pollution, from the mountaintops to the ocean (Mauka to Makai). For more information, contact Naomi.McIntosh@noaa.gov.



Left: PMNM intern Jessica Lotts (left) and RAC member Judith Cuccio (right) engage with visitors at Waikiki Aquarium's Mauka to Makai event. Right: PMNM's "What will you do to help end plastic pollution" board gained scores of pledges, some of the most common being "No Single Use Plastics" and "Skip the Straw!" (Credits: Nicole Evans/NOAA)

NMSF Participates in International Year of the Reef (IYOR) Launch at State Capitol

On April 26, National Marine Sanctuary Foundation staff in Hawai'i participated in the Hawai'i state launch of 2018 International Year of the Reef held at the State Capitol. The event was organized with the support of Representative Cindy Evans, Senator Will Espero, Dr. Ruth Gates from the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology, "Chasing Coral" film, and the Hawai'i State Division of Aquatic Resources. The program included proclamations and remarks by special guests, as well as informational booths hosted by various conservation groups, including PMNM partners HIMB, NOAA Fisheries, Kokua Hawai'i Foundation, and Sustainable Coastlines, among others. Approximately 60 people attended, including various legislators and members of the public. A follow up event will be held later this year. For more information, contact Toni.Parras@noaa.gov.



Left: Visitors check out PMNM’s coral activity; Center: Kirsten Turner, field representative for Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, makes a speech on behalf of the congresswoman; Right: NMSF Hawai’i Communications Director Toni Parras (right) with Dr. Ruth Gates (middle, holding proclamation) and Kirsten Turner (left). (Credits: Toni Parras/NOAA)

PMNM Featured in Story on UNESCO World Heritage Sites

On May 3, the Washington Post published a story highlighting World Heritage sites in the United States. The story, titled, “World-Class Heritage, here in the U.S.,” includes a highlight of PMNM. For more information, contact Toni.Parras@noaa.gov or visit:

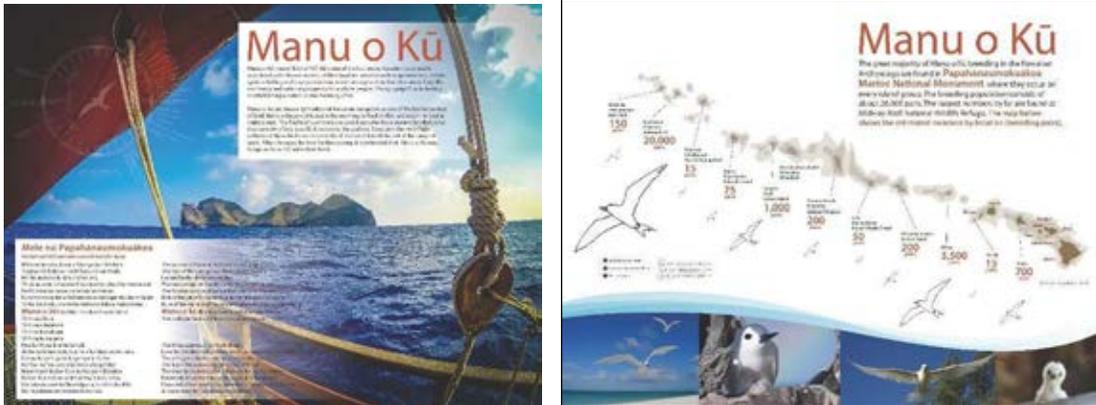
https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2018/lifestyle/travel/us-unescoguide/?utm_term=.d80e921cfda0

Papahānaumokuākea participates in Manu O Kū Festival

On May 12, PMNM participated in the third annual Manu O Kū Festival at the Honolulu Zoo, celebrating the manu o Kū (bird of Kū, a white tern), a beautiful and charismatic seabird. Traditionally, manu o Kū were relied on as wayfinders and guides to land by Hawaiian voyagers, and they continue to lead those who are preserving the ancient Polynesian ways and skills of navigation. While common in Papahānaumokuākea with an estimated 25,000 breeding pairs, the bird is rarer in the inhabited Main Hawaiian Islands. The bird began colonizing O’ahu in 1961 and today is one of the few native birds species to live and thrive in the city of Honolulu. Declared the official bird of Honolulu in 2007, the manu o Kū is recognized and protected by international treaty, federal law, and state law, and is named in a treaty between Japan and the United States, thereby serving as a symbol of international peace and goodwill. About 370 people visited the Papahānaumokuākea booth, which highlighted the cultural significance of the manu o Kū and the distribution of nesting birds across the Hawaiian archipelago. For more information, contact Kalani.Quiocho@noaa.gov or Kahi.Fujii@noaa.gov.



Visitors to PMNM’s booth learn about the manu o Kū (left) and play a “balance the manu o Kū egg on the branch” game (right). (Credits: Alyssa Miller/NOAA)



Displays feature the cultural significance of the manu o Kū (left) and the distribution of nesting birds across the Hawaiian archipelago (right). (Credits: Kalani Quiocho and Kahi Fujii, NOAA)

PMNM Participates in 7th Annual North Shore Ocean Fest at Turtle Bay Resort

On June 2, HIHWNMS and PMNM staff participated in North Shore Ocean Fest at Turtle Bay Resort, an annual event hosted by NOAA and the North Shore Ocean Education Coalition held every year since 2002 to honor “World Oceans Day.” PMNM staff hosted a booth with hands-on educational activities including a tabletop hidden picture coloring activity featuring the unique species of the Monument and a sea turtle photo booth. Thousands visited the event, with 219 people participating at the PMNM booth. For more information, contact Pua.Borges-Smith@noaa.gov.



PMNM Permit Specialist Pua Borges-Smith (left) and volunteer Jessica Lotts teach visitors about the unique species within PMNM using the hidden picture coloring sheet. (Credit: Toni Parras/NOAA)

PMNM Supports Outrigger Resort’s OZONE Day at Waikīkī Aquarium

On June 3, PMNM participated in Outrigger Resort’s fourth annual OZONE Day at Waikīkī Aquarium in celebration of World Oceans Month. OZONE is a global conservation initiative centered on protecting the health of coral reefs and the oceans surrounding the iconic beach destinations of Outrigger Resorts. Partner organizations included Outrigger Resorts, Waikīkī Aquarium, Sustainable Coastlines, Kokua Foundation, and Polynesian Voyaging Society, all of whom offered fun and educational interactive activities. 380 people visited and participated in PMNM activities, which included a tabletop hidden picture and coloring activity featuring unique species in PMNM, two photo booths, and interactive coral bleaching magnetic poster, and new Instagram frames featuring PMNM’s “Can You Say It” campaign. For more information, contact Toni.Parras@noaa.gov or Nicole.Evans@noaa.gov.



Visitors to Outrigger's OZONE Day at the Waikīkī Aquarium participate in PMNM's "Can You Say It" campaign, hidden picture coloring, and coral game. (Credits: Toni Parras/NOAA)

PMNM Superintendent Presents to World Bank

On Monday June 4, 2018, Superintendent Athline Clark was the lunch speaker at the World Bank. She presented to the Oceans Program on the challenges associated with Co-Management and engaging community to approximately 20 people in the room and more via webinar. For more information, contact AthlineClark@noaa.gov.

PMNM scientist makes guest appearance on Hawai'i Public Radio

On Friday, June 8, 2018, NOAA Deputy Superintendent Randy Kosaki appeared as a guest on Hawai'i Public Radio's morning show The Conversation to talk about discoveries in PMNM in promotion of a World Oceans Day event at the Waikīkī Aquarium featuring local artist Patrick Ching. For more information, contact Randall.Kosaki@noaa.gov.

Link: <http://hpr2.org/post/conversation-friday-june-8th-2018>



NOAA Deputy Superintendent for PMNM talks about the Monument on Hawai‘i Public Radio’s morning show “The Conversation.” (Credit: Toni Parras/NOAA)

PMNM participates in Waikiki Aquarium event featuring artist Patrick Ching

On June 10, PMNM participated in a special event featuring Hawaiian artist and songwriter Patrick Ching, who has created a song and coloring book to teach people about PMNM and how to say (and sing) the name Papahānaumokuākea. Activities included painting with Patrick, ukulele lessons, and a performance by local school children performing the Papahānaumokuākea song dressed in marine creature costumes of animals that live in the Monument. The PMNM booth featured a hidden picture coloring activity featuring the unique creatures of PMNM and “Can You Say It” photo frames, encouraging visitors and locals to say the name of the largest permanent protected area in the world. Approximately 300 people attended, including a reporter from local news station KITV. For more information, contact Toni.Parras@noaa.gov.

Links:

<http://www.khon2.com/news/local-news/wake-up-2day/waikiki-aquarium-celebrating-world-oceans-day-in-june/1218185432>

<http://www.kitv.com/story/38397205/world-oceans-day-lasting-an-entire-month-at-the-waikiki-aquarium>



Left: Patrick Ching poses in PMNM’s “Can You Say It” photo frame. (Credit: Marilyn Potter) Right: PMNM volunteers Jessica Lotts and Carissa Cabrera guide kids in the hidden picture coloring activity while KITV reporter films. (Credit: Any Collins/NOAA)

Thousands enjoy World Oceans Day festivities and premiere of ʻōlelo Hawai‘i Moana

On June 10, thousands gathered for the second annual World Oceans Day Celebration at Ko Olina Resort to celebrate ocean conservation efforts and educational outreach and awareness – and be the first to view

the ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i version of Walt Disney Animation Studio’s Moana. The World Oceans Day Celebration was a collaboration with Ko Olina Resort Association, Aulani, a Disney Resort & Spa, University of Hawai‘i Academy for Creative Media System, University of Hawai‘i-West O‘ahu, NOAA, Polynesian Voyaging Society, and other community partners. Festivities included ocean education and sustainability activities, live entertainment featuring Nā Hoku Hanohano-award winners Kalani Pe‘a and Kapena, and the Moana premiere. The global theme and focus for World Oceans Day 2018 was plastic pollution prevention and cleaning the ocean of marine litter. World Oceans Day at Ko Olina was a zero waste event, fulfilling a commitment to protecting Hawai‘i’s ocean and marine life and eliminating waste to landfills. For more information, contact Naomi.Mcintosh@noaa.gov.

Links:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/jfto73lizpkd1cj/FINALKO%20World%20Earth%20Day%202018%20Final%20REV2.mp4?dl=0>

<http://www.hawaii.newsnow.com/story/38090413/disneys-moana-to-make-its-worldwide-debut-in-olelo-hawaii>

<http://www.staradvertiser.com/2018/06/10/travel/hawaiis-backyard/world-oceans-day-celebrates-mans-connection-to-the-sea/>

[World premiere of the Hawaiian language version of Disney's film ...](#)

[Hawaiian Language Moana to Premiere at Aulani Resort](#)



Left: ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i Moana World Premiere Poster. (Credit: UH-West O‘ahu and Disney) PMNM staff celebrate World Oceans Day at Ko Olina. (Credit: Lormona Meredith/Polynesian Voyaging Society) Moana star and local celebrity Auli‘i Cravalho celebrates World Oceans Day with her fans. (Credit: UH-West O‘ahu)

PMNM Special Report wins Excellence Award

On June 14, the Honolulu Civil Beat announced that their special interactive feature on PMNM, entitled “[The Last Wild Place](#),” won a prestigious national award: first place in the Society for Features Journalism Excellence-In-Features Awards, out-competing both the Los Angeles Times and the Oregonian. In 2017, Civil Beat reporter Nathan Eagle and videographer Alana Eagle journeyed to the Monument and wrote what one judge calls “A gorgeous, lively, engaging, well-written, thorough and utterly fascinating look at a place most of us will never be able to go: the Northwestern Hawaii Islands. This multipart series uses every digital tool in the book – maps, video, music – to immerse readers and listeners in a remote and beautiful world.”

For more information, contact Toni.Parras@noaa.gov.

Link:

<http://www.civilbeat.org/2018/06/the-last-wild-place-wins-national-honors/>

Education

PMNM Staff Gives Science Presentation at Honolulu Community College

On January 31, PMNM scientist Randy Kosaki gave an invited presentation on PMNM's deep coral reef exploration to students, faculty, and staff at Honolulu Community College (HCC). The presentation, organized by HCC faculty's Sustainability Committee, was attended by about 80 people. For more information, contact Randall.Kosaki@noaa.gov.

PMNM Science Staff Participates in Elementary School Career Day

On February 21, PMNM scientist Randy Kosaki represented NOAA and the field of marine biology at a Career Day event at Ahuimanu Elementary School in Kāneʻohe on Oʻahu. Kosaki spoke to four successive classes of third through fifth graders about field research in Papahānaumokuākea. Research topics included protected species, deep coral reefs, and deep ocean exploration. For more information, contact Randall.Kosaki@noaa.gov.

PMNM Science Staff Participates in Google Hangout with Virginia Elementary School

On February 22, PMNM scientist Randy Kosaki participated in a Google Hangout presentation and discussion with five classes of fifth graders at Algonkian Elementary School in Sterling, Virginia. The students dissected albatross boluses from Midway Atoll and found squid beaks and plastic trash in their diets. For more information, contact Randall.Kosaki@noaa.gov.

PMNM hosts Kānehūnāmoku Voyaging Academy students

On March 20, PMNM staff hosted 15 students of the Kānehūnāmoku Voyaging Academy (KVA) Hālau Moana program and five of their instructors at NOAA's Daniel K. Inouye Regional Center. The KVA is a non-profit organization that aims to perpetuate traditional Hawaiian navigation and provides educational leadership opportunities primarily for Native Hawaiian students to advance in contemporary maritime careers. The KVA Hālau Holomoana program is a year-long commitment, consisting of 180 hours of instruction in traditional Hawaiian non-instrument navigation, maritime cultural knowledge, and canoe construction and maintenance, as well as basic entry skills for various maritime career pathways. The program usually culminates in a voyage to Papahānaumokuākea. The visit included a tour of the NOAA facilities, including the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, dive lockers, small boats and NOAA Ship *Hiʻialakai*. PMNM staff also presented their unique career paths and encouraged the students to strive for their goals and enjoy the journey. For more information, contact Kalani.Quiocho@noaa.gov.



*Kānehūnāmoku Voyaging Academy students tour NOAA Ship Hi'ialakai.
(Credit: Kānehūnāmoku Voyaging Academy)*

“Voices of Papahānaumokuākea”: PMNM Hawaiian Oral Histories Project

Throughout March, interviews were filmed for the ethnography video project entitled “Voices of Papahānaumokuākea: Hawaiian Oral Histories on Cultural Heritage in Large Scale Marine Protection” for the 2017 NOAA Preserve America Initiative Internal Funding Program. PMNM Native Hawaiian Program Specialist Kalani Quiocho led the interviews alongside Huliauapa‘a, a non-profit organization whose purpose is to educate and empower students, communities, and professionals to steward the wahi kūpuna (ancestral places) of Hawai‘i. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs, a co-manager and co-trustee of the PMNM, led the videography portion of the project. The interviews were conducted on March 9 and 12 on O‘ahu, and March 22 and 23 on the island of Hawai‘i. The interviews will be used to create an hour-long video and a number of short video clips that will be accessible through various media outlets and featured at various museums, aquariums and interpretive centers in Hawai‘i and elsewhere such as NOAA’s Mokuapāpapa Discovery Center and the NOAA Voices from the Fisheries website. For more information, visit http://preserveamerica.noaa.gov/pdfs/paig17_recip.pdf or contact Kalani.Quiocho@noaa.gov.



From left to right: PMNM Native Hawaiian Program Specialist Kalani Quiocho, Momi Wheeler of Huliauapa ‘a, NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Native Hawaiian Representative Pelika Andrade, Alice Silbanuz of OHA, Kepo ‘o Keli ‘ipa ‘akaua of Huliauapa ‘a, and Jason of OHA. (Credit: Office of Hawaiian Affairs)



Left: PMNM Native Hawaiian Cultural Working Group Chair Kekuewa Kikiloi being interviewed. Right: PMNM Administrative Officer Moani Pai, who has been with ONMS since 2002 when the area was known as the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, tells how it was. (Credits: Office of Hawaiian Affairs)

PMNM Seeks Hawaiian Language Collaboration with Hale Kuamo‘o

On March 24, Native Hawaiian Program Specialist Kalani Quiocho met with the staff of Hale Kuamo‘o to discuss possible collaborative projects for Native Hawaiian education and outreach. The State of Hawai‘i has two official languages: English and ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i. Hale Kuamo‘o is the Hawaiian Language Center within Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. Established by the Hawai‘i State Legislature in 1989, the center supports the Hawaiian language as the medium of communication in education, business, government and other contexts of both public and private sectors in Hawai‘i. The center’s various expertise include translations and product development such as Hawaiian language curriculum and other materials. For more information, contact Kalani.Quiocho@noaa.gov.

I ka wā ma mua, i ka wā ma hope: Telling stories to inspire the next generation

On April 28 and May 4, PMNM Native Hawaiian Program Specialist Kalani Quiocho gave a keynote speech for two separate youth science symposiums, at which he shared experiences from his life and lessons learned, and encouraged students to leverage the moment. On April 28, the Hawai‘i Meaningful Environmental Education for Teachers (HI-MEET) Symposium was held at the W.M. Keck Observatory in Waimea, Hawai‘i, hosted by the Kohala Center, an independent, community-based center that strives to turn research and ancestral knowledge into action so that communities in Hawai‘i and around the world can thrive-ecologically, economically, culturally, and socially. Over 50 teachers, students and their communities attended. On May 4, the ‘Imi Wai Ola (Searching for the Waters of Life) Student Science Conference was held at NOAA’s IRC in Honolulu, hosted by the Pacific American Foundation, a Native Hawaiian organization whose mission is to promote systemic change in the educational system to preserve and perpetuate traditional ways of knowing through culture-based education. Over 120 participants attended, including students between sixth grade and college level, who shared their research in a professional science conference setting. For more information, contact Kalani.Quiocho@noaa.gov.



Left: PMNM Native Hawaiian Program Specialist with staff of The Kohala Center and teachers of the HI-MEET program. Right: PMNM Native Hawaiian Program Specialist Kalani Quiocho shares his story to student science conference participants. (Credits: Jim Foley/NOAA)

PMNM staff present to Waiiau Elementary

On May 1, PMNM staff taught first graders at Waiiau Elementary about the cultural and scientific significance of PMNM. The lesson covered a wide variety of topics and focused on the many endangered and threatened species that depend on the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands for refuge. Students also learned about the different zones of the ocean and what it's like to work and do research in them. For more information, contact Pua.Borges-Smith@noaa.gov.



Left: PMNM Permit Specialist Pua Borges engages Waiiau Elementary students. (Credit: Keo Lopes/NOAA) Right: PMNM Field Logistics Technician Keo Lopes makes technical research diving look easy. (Credit: Pua Borges/NOAA)

PMNM Scientist Delivers 2018 Commencement Address at Honolulu Community College

On May 11, PMNM Deputy Superintendent Randy Kosaki delivered the commencement address at the 2018 graduation ceremony of Honolulu Community College (University of Hawai'i). The ceremony was held at sunset at the Waikiki Shell, an outdoor amphitheater in the shadow of Diamond Head Crater. Approximately 300 graduates and 1500 audience members were in attendance. For more information, contact Randall.Kosaki@noaa.gov.

PMNM scientist participates in Community College Career Day

On May 18, PMNM Deputy Superintendent Randy Kosaki participated in a Kapiolani Community College Student Networking Mixer. The primary goal of the mixer was to offer students a chance to interact with

science and engineering professionals for career advice, and to encourage soon-to-be graduates of the community college to transfer to four-year colleges and pursue a BA or BS in STEM topics. Approximately 35 community college students participated. For more information, contact Randall.Kosaki@noaa.gov.

PMNM staff holds annual SAND marine science camp

From May 31 to June 9, PMNM staff held the 5th annual Snorkeling Assessments and New Discoveries (SAND) program, a cooperative effort between NOAA's PMNM and NMFS offices. High school students from both O'ahu and Hawai'i Island participated in this year's camp at Ka'ūpūlehu on the Kona side of Hawai'i Island. Funded by a grant from the NMFS Pacific Island Regional Office, SAND teaches students basic coral reef survey techniques, 3D photogrammetry, ArcGIS, and basic GPS use while stressing safety with a CPR/First Aid course. This program was designed by PMNM's Keolohilani Lopes to act as a feeder program to the University of Hawaii's Marine Option Program to get more local students involved in Marine Science and stewardship of their oceans. For more information, contact Keolohilani.Lopes@noaa.gov.



Left: Students return from the morning swim. Center: PMNM's Dr. Randy Kosaki delivers an informative talk about research and career paths to marine science. (Credits: Keolohilani Lopes/NOAA) Right: Students collect biological marine data. (Credit: Anna Baker-Mikkelsen)

Mokupāpapa Discovery Center (MDC) Report for February 1 – June 22, 2018 (MCS-3.4; CBO-3.1; OEL-1.6) Mokupāpapa Discovery Center hosted 29,972 people during this time. Highlights include:

- In partnership with Kilauea Pottery, MDC hosted a series of monthly craft nights. The craft nights featured humpback whales as part of Whale Month, Basabe's butterflyfish (*Prognathodes basebei*), also known as the orange margin butterflyfish, a species from the mesophotic reef zone in PMNM, and the Hōkūle'a while learning more about the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage.
- During the week of March 12, for the Third Thursday by the Bay lecture, MDC hosted "Return to the Wild: an update on 'Alalā reintroduction efforts," during which Rachel Kingsley, Education and Outreach Associate for the 'Alalā Project with the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, presented efforts to establish a wild population of 'Alalā, the endemic and endangered Hawaiian crow, to 43 participants.
- MDC hosts [The Rama Exhibition: A Journey of Art and Soul for the Earth](#), an international traveling exhibit on endangered species. Painted over the course of five years by Rama the Elephant at the Oregon Zoo, and detailed over eleven years by Waimea eco-cultural and conservation artist Calley O'Neill, the paintings feature endangered and threatened wildlife from around the world with a focus on Hawaiian species and ecosystems. The Rama Exhibition premiered at the 2016 International Union for Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress in Honolulu, and

Mokupāpapa is very grateful to host this world-class exhibition in Hilo. The exhibit will remain at MDC through Earth Day (April 22).

- The internationally acclaimed Merrie Monarch Festival brought thousands of hula hālau (school) members and hula fans to Hilo this week. MDC again hosted the Contemporary Hawaiian Quilt Show, an Office of Hawaiian Affairs sponsored traditional and contemporary Haku Lei making workshop, and The Rama Exhibition (see above entry), allowing many new audiences at the Center and learn about PMNM.
- MDC proudly hosted Polynesian Voyaging Society Master Navigator and Captain Kālepa Babayan for this month's Third Thursday Lecture by the Bay. Captain/Navigator Babayan spoke to a crowd of 100 people about the Hōkūle'a's Worldwide Voyage and the many insights and connections he made during the various legs of the journey.
- On May 4, Jimmy Kralj, NOAA Sea Grant fellow to Senator Brian Schatz's office, visited MDC and toured the facility with PMNM Outreach and Education Coordinator Andy Collins and MDC Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator Virginia Branco. Jimmy was very impressed with the facility and the informative exhibits, as well as all the community programs at the facility. He was particularly interested in the marine debris exhibits.



*Top Row: OHA Haku Lei workshop participants show off their creations. (Credits: Andy Collins/NOAA)
Bottom Row: The Contemporary Hawaiian Quilt Show brought in hundreds of visitors, many new to MDC. (Credits: Justin Umholtz/NOAA)*



Left: Kālepa Babayan shares stories of the worldwide voyage. (Credits: Clayton Watkins/NOAA) Right: MDC staff and super volunteer Pat Richardson take a moment to pose with Kālepa Babayan after thanking him for his inspiring presentation. (Credit: Justin Umholtz/NOAA)



Left: Clayton Watkins talks about the worldwide voyage while visitors paint clay ornaments of a voyaging seascape during MDC Craft Night. (Credits: Andy Collins/NOAA) Right: Craft night whales ready to glaze. (Credits: Justin Umholtz/NOAA)

Research & Field Operations

Field Team Highlights

- From October 2017 through February 2018, PMNM's Field & Research Team have conducted bi-monthly dives on the Poseidon Se7en Closed Circuit Rebreathers (CCR). Divers also tested experimental sampling technology during these dives to ensure that divers are highly skilled in the methodology and that ship time in the Monument is used most efficiently. O'ahu-based operations such as this are conducted off PMNM's Class II vessel *Hihimanu*, which serves an excellent platform for technical diving operations.
- On May 11, PMNM's Field Team conducted Full Face Mask Training with NOAA Dive Center Trainer Zach Hileman. Training and masks will be used to increase the capacity of the PMNM Dive Unit, and will be used by the Resource Protection Program that conducts aquatic invasive species inspections on ships going to the Monument to reduce the risks of introductions.
- From February 5 to 16, PMNM's Vessel Operations Coordinator attended the NOAA Divemaster Course in Key West, FL. LTJG Terril Efird participated in the two-week class along with 10 other candidates from across NOAA. The prospective Divemasters received instruction in dive site

management, unit leadership and diver supervision. This training will allow LTJG Efird to supervise field operations by the PMNM dive team, NOAA's most cutting edge dive unit.

- During the week of March 5, NOAA Dive Medical Technician Stephen Matadobra held a workshop in American Samoa on hyperbaric chamber operations and dive emergency protocols. LBJ Medical Center currently has an operational monoplace chamber (a clinical treatment type of chamber that fits one patient and is used in hospitals) capable of treating both scuba divers suffering from decompression sickness as well as community members with a vast number of ailments, such as diabetic foot ulcers, a large problem in the islands.
- On May 19-22, PMNM's Field and Research Team provided logistic, boat and diving support to NOAA's Damage Assessment Remediation and Restoration Program (DARRP) in Hawai'i. DARRP Fishery Biologist Dr. Matthew Parry and the University of Hawai'i Mechanical Engineering students worked together to design, build and permit a coral growing platform to help with habitat restoration.

For more information, contact Jason.Leonard@noaa.gov.



Top Left: PMNM divers prep for a dive with the Poseidon Se7en Closed Circuit rebreathers. Top Right: PMNM divers during proficiency dives using the rebreathers. (Credits: Keo Lopes/NOAA) Bottom Left: NOAA Dive Center Trainer Zach Hileman goes over Full Face Masks with PMNM Field Team. Bottom Right: Technical Divemaster Candidate Steve Matadobra does pre-dive checks of closed-circuit rebreather divers before they splash. (Credits: Jason Leonard/NOAA)



Left: NOAA Divemaster Class 18-01 with NOAA Dive Center Staff. Right: LTJG Efird directs members of NOAA Diver Class 18-01 in proper backboarding and extraction techniques. (Credits: Greg McFall/NOAA)



Left: Steve (in center, with lei) with LBJ staff and hyperbaric chamber. Right: Steve (with cap) with IG staff and their dual lock hyperbaric chamber. (Credits: S. Matadobra/NOAA)



Left: Dr. Mathew Parry goes over mockup of coral nursery platform with PMNM Field Team. (Jason Leonard/NOAA) Right: PMNM divers secure top of platform to structure. (Atsuko Fukunaga/NOAA)

Scientists Publish New Record of a Novel Damsel fish from PMNM

On April 18, the journal *Marine Biodiversity Records* published a paper describing the first recorded observations of the Phoenix Islands damselfish, *Plectroglyphidodon phoenixensis*, at French Frigate Shoals (FFS) in PMNM. The damselfish, which is not present in Hawaiian waters and had never been recorded from PMNM, is known from coral reefs of the central Pacific and Johnston Atoll, 500 miles south of FFS. This underscores the important role of FFS in maintaining biodiversity in the Hawaiian Archipelago. Authors of the paper are PMNM deputy superintendent Randy Kosaki and Julia Hartl of One Ocean Diving and Research. The article, "First record of the Phoenix Islands damselfish,

Plectroglyphidodon phoenixensis (Schultz, 1943) from the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands,” is available at <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41200-018-0142-5>. For more information, contact Randall.Kosaki@noaa.gov.



*The first Phoenix Islands damselfish (*Plectroglyphidodon phoenixensis*) ever recorded from PMNM. 1 m depth, French Frigate Shoals. (Credit: Randy Kosaki/NOAA)*

PMNM Scientists Support QUEST Undergraduate Coral Reef Survey Course

On May 13-17, PMNM staff participated in the Quantitative Underwater Ecological Survey Techniques (QUEST) field course at Kealahou Bay in South Kona, Hawai‘i. This 3-credit field course is offered through the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo and teaches SCUBA-based coral reef ecological survey and statistical techniques. PMNM staff offered lectures on current transect-based research on shallow and mesophotic reefs in the NWHI, Native Hawaiian culture, and opportunities for internships on PMNM coral reef monitoring cruises. Three interns will be selected from the class to work as scientific divers on PMNM’s upcoming coral reef monitoring cruise later this summer. For more information, contact Randall.Kosaki@noaa.gov.



Left: QUEST student divers embark on their training. (Credit: Keo Lopes/NOAA) Right: QUEST student recipients of NOAA scholarships, including NOAA Hollings Scholars, NOAA EPP Scholars, and tuition waivers supported by NOAA funds. PMNM Deputy Superintendent Randy Kosaki is on far left. (Credit: Jeff Kuwabara, University of Hawai‘i Marine Option Program)

Calendar:

- July 24-26, 2018 - Hawai‘i Conservation Conference Honolulu, HI
- August 4, 2018 – Get into Your Sanctuary Day Mokuapāpapa Discovery Center Hilo, HI
- October 11, 2018 - RAC Meeting Honolulu, HI