

PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA



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Nominations Sought for Papahānaumokuākea Educators' Workshop on Midway Atoll

Educators and conservation leaders have an opportunity to more intimately understand Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument's wildlife and cultural resources through a workshop being offered on O'ahu and Midway Atoll in 2010. Nominations to attend the workshop are being sought from now through January 4, 2010.

This workshop is designed to create a greater understanding of the Monument and to inspire community environmental stewardship at a grassroots level. The program, Papahānaumokuākea 'Ahahui Alaka'i, which was offered for the first time in 2009, will take place June 12-22, 2010.

The first three days will be spent on O'ahu preparing, learning natural and cultural history, and meeting with past participants. The remaining seven days will be spent on remote Midway Atoll within the Monument, located 1,250 miles northwest of Honolulu. Participants will need to provide their own transportation to O'ahu as well as lodging and meals during the three days in Honolulu. At Midway Atoll transportation, lodging, and food costs will be covered by the workshop.

The Papahānaumokuākea 'Ahahui Alaka'i program is accepting nominations from educators in formal and informal settings, community leaders, and people in positions that support community change and stewardship. Up to 12 people will be chosen to participate. Both U.S and international nominees are welcome. Participants will be chosen based on their written nominations, their letters of support, and their capacity to fulfill the program's need for a strong variety of skills and abilities. In addition, potential participants are asked to submit a draft plan for an environmental stewardship project that will be modified throughout the workshop and implemented in their communities.

More information about the workshop is available at <http://papahanaumokuakea.gov> or by contacting linda.schubert@noaa.gov Nominations must be postmarked by January 4, 2010. Questions about the workshop can be addressed by contacting Linda Schubert at linda.schubert@noaa.gov or (808) 933-8181.

Papahānaumokuākea is cooperatively managed to ensure ecological integrity and achieve strong, long-term protection and perpetuation of Northwestern Hawaiian Island ecosystems, Native Hawaiian culture, and heritage resources for current and future generations. Three co-trustees – the Department of Commerce, Department of the Interior, and State of Hawai'i – joined by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, protect this special place, which is now being considered for inscription as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. For more information, please visit www.papahanaumokuakea.gov

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