



‘ŌLELO NO‘EAU

E lauhoe mai na
wa‘a; i ke kā, i ka
hoe; i ka hoe, i ke kā;
pae aku i ka ‘āina.*

*Everybody paddle
the canoes together;
bail and paddle,
paddle and bail, and
the shore is reached.*

In light of World Ocean Day, we uplift this ‘ōlelo no‘eau as a powerful reminder of honoring the power of collective contributions to support healthy and thriving relationships between people and nature. Finding a way to work together to coordinate paddling and bailing is part of the learning accompanying the journey together. Everyone plays a role to creating a better world for many generations to come.



Images: NOAA

Mokupāpapa Reopening - Bigger and Better

After over two years of closure and pent up demand we are welcoming visitors back to [Mokupāpapa Discovery Center](#). As a community center for downtown Hilo, the partners are celebrating the reopening of this vibrant hub of activity.

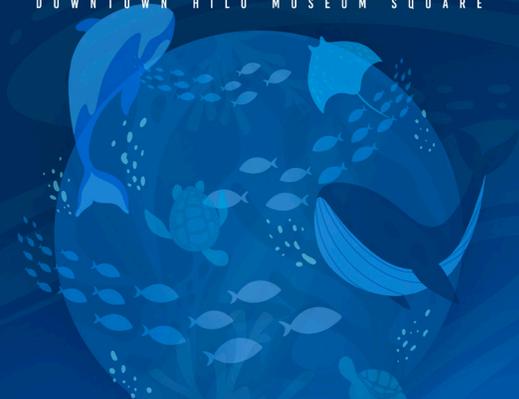
In the last two years, through virtual opportunities, we successfully developed new national and international audiences for our popular monthly webinars, created new curriculum, held teacher workshops, and worked on partnerships while the center was closed. We are actively getting the facility ready to greet visitors once again.

A new area of the second floor has been constructed in partnership with Dr. John Burns (Road To The Sea Foundation), the University of Hawai‘i, Hilo MEGA (Multi-Scale Environmental Graphics Analysis) Lab. This area will provide a view into the life of a technology focused conservation researcher, and highlight the fascinating tools his lab have developed to understand how

reef dynamics change over time, and virtual paths to explore the underwater world. This new MEGA Lab area will allow visitors to interact with researchers in person, and will replace the wonderful Calley O’Neil RAMA Art Exhibit graciously on loan to us since 2017.

We will also open the Kenyan K. Beals Community Robotics Center, developed in partnership with the Hawai‘i Science and Technology Museum as a training area for students preparing for robotics competitions. Hawai‘i Island has some of the highest ranking robotics teams in the United States, and we are honored to help support this upcoming career pathway. We are also working on a few new exhibits for the center, including a sea turtle/honu exhibit that will be spread across the entire Center, and a deep-sea, kai lipo, immersive exhibit to showcase the latest deep sea exploration in Papahānaumokuākea and beyond that will be completed in the future. We hope you can come visit us in Hilo when you are on the island.





WORLD OCEAN DAY

KALAKAUA PARK, HILO, SATURDAY JUNE 11, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
KEIKI ACTIVITIES, CANOE CARVING, INFORMATIONAL BOOTHS & MORE!

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PRESENTED BY THE DOWNTOWN HILO MUSEUM SQUARE:
EAST HAWAII CULTURAL CENTER • HAWAII SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY MUSEUM • MOKUPĀPAPA DISCOVERY CENTER • PACIFIC TSUNAMI MUSEUM



Museum Square Partnership in Hilo

The closure of interpretive facilities in Hilo over the last two years created an opportunity for us to meet and discuss how we can be more supportive of each other and create a culture of exploration and discovery in Downtown Hilo. Four of the museums in downtown Hilo developed a Museum Square Partnership to promote visitation, co-host events and enhance the visitor experience in a revitalized Hilo Bayfront community. The four organizations are the Pacific Tsunami Museum, Hawai'i Science and Technology Museum, East Hawai'i Cultural Center, and our own Mokuapāpapa Discovery Center. All locations are within a few minutes walking distance of each other and form a rough square interpretive trail for visitors to follow while exploring the Hilo Bayfront and its many unique merchants and eateries.

The Museum Square Partnership will have its inaugural event this June to celebrate World Ocean

Day, with activities and live entertainment at all four locations, and in Kalakaua Park across from the East Hawai'i Cultural Center. The event is Saturday, June 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m..

"Earth, Sea, Sky: Creating Connections" Educational Program Launched



Image: Janice Wei/NPS

PMNM in concert with our partners launched a new virtual huaka'i (field trip) program in April in a multi-year long educational partnership between Mokuapāpapa Discovery Center, the Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo 'Imiloa Astronomy Center. Through participation in field trips with each organization, virtually or in person, students learn how interconnected and interdependent life is in the Hawaiian archipelago, as well as how we can mālama 'āina, care for the world around us. Students are grounded in traditional Hawaiian knowledge systems and practices and exposed to a diverse range of scientific research and local citizen science projects. In addition, students are introduced to promising career pathways that emphasize connection to the earth, sea, and

sky around them. Strengthening partnerships through collaborative programming expands our ability to connect students to ONMS/PMNM and our mission while developing local talent for organizational succession planning. Request a field trip [here](#) or contact Malia.Evans@noaa.gov for more information.



Image: Mark Sullivan/NOAA

Third Thursday Mokuapāpapa Webinars continue

Every third Thursday of the month, Mokuapāpapa presents informative and innovative presentations on research, new discoveries, and conservation and management success stories.

An upcoming highlight will be a [presentation](#) by John Armor, director of NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries on June 16, 2022. He will be discussing the 50th anniversary of the National Marine Sanctuary System. Check the [website](#) for more information about more Third Thursday webinars to be held at noon on July 21, August 18, September 22, and October 20. Stay tuned for more dates as we get closer to the holidays.

Celebrating Anniversaries

On June 15, 2006, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument was designated by President George Bush, creating the largest marine conservation area on Earth at the time. A year later, it was given its Hawaiian name, Papahānaumokuākea. Papahānaumoku is a mother figure personified by the earth and Wākea is a father figure personified in the expansive sky; the two are honored

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Because the monument represents one of the best examples of both the world's cultural as well as natural heritage, it has the distinction of being named the only mixed World Heritage site within the United States.

August 26 marks the sixth anniversary of expansion of Papahānaumokuākea by

October milestones

In 2022, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Marine Sanctuary System. On October 23, 1972, a new era of ocean conservation was born by creating a system of national marine sanctuaries. Since then, the National Marine Sanctuary System has grown into a nationwide network of 15 national marine sanctuaries and two marine national monuments that conserve more than 620,000 square miles of spectacular ocean and Great

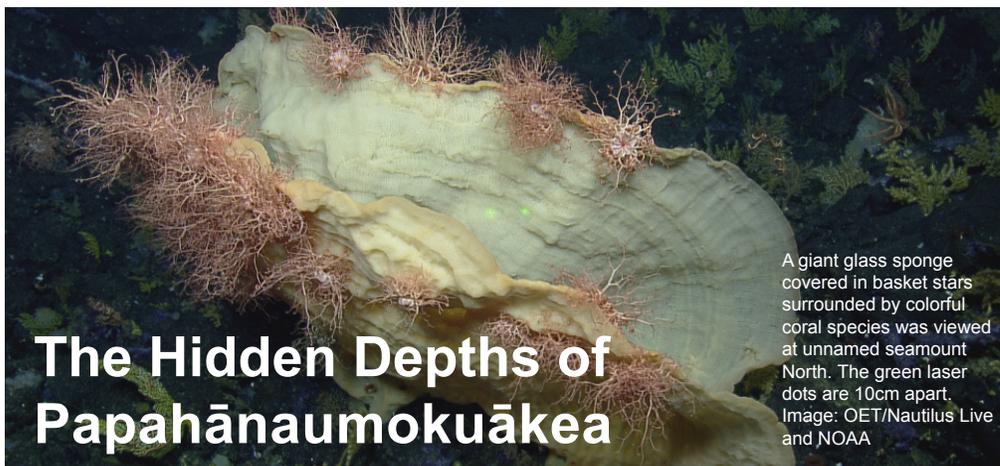
and highly recognized ancestors of Native Hawaiian people. This June 15, we celebrate the sixteenth anniversary of Monument designation.

On July 30, we celebrate twelve years since Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument was inscribed as a mixed World Heritage site by the United Nations

Presidential proclamation. Previously the largest contiguous fully-protected conservation area in the United States at 139,797 square miles, the expanded boundaries made it one of the largest protected areas on the planet at 582,578 square miles, nearly the size of the Gulf of Mexico.

Lakes waters, an area nearly the size of Alaska.

Rounding out October's celebrations will be 50 years of UNESCO's World Heritage Convention, established in 1972 to safeguard exceptional heritage sites like Papahānaumokuākea. **Happy Anniversary!**



The Hidden Depths of Papahānaumokuākea

A giant glass sponge covered in basket stars surrounded by colorful coral species was viewed at unnamed seamount North. The green laser dots are 10cm apart. Image: OET/Nautilus Live and NOAA

While the islands, coral atolls and reefs of Papahānaumokuākea teem with life, very little is known about the deep ocean ecosystems that make up a vast majority of the monument. NOAA partner Ocean Exploration Trust (OET) and the

Exploration Vessel (E/V) *Nautilus* just shed a little more light on the rich diversity of deep sea corals, sponges, and other marine life that cluster in dense "gardens" along ancient underwater volcanoes like the Lili'uokalani Ridge, located in the far northwestern edge of the expanded boundary area.

A worldwide audience joined the OET Corps of Explorers via NautilusLive.org as the E/V *Nautilus* mapped and explored seamounts and guyots at depths of 2000-3000+ meters as part of [NA138 - Lu'uaeahikiikēkumu Expedition](#). The webpage describes the scientific goals of the expedition and hosts a gallery of images, video highlights, and blogs.

As part of the monument's ongoing collaboration with OET, some content and live school interactions are available in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian). There will be ongoing deep ocean exploration within PMNM and the Pacific over the next few years. To learn more about deep ocean exploration throughout the national marine sanctuary system, visit DeepOceaneducation.org.

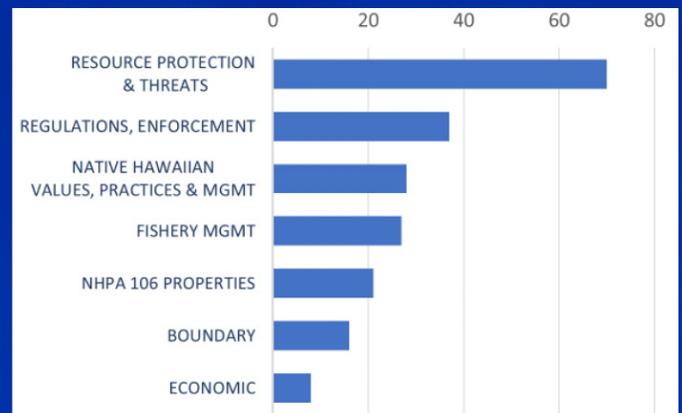
National Marine Sanctuary Designation for Papahānaumokuākea

Native Hawaiian kūpuna (esteemed elders) have strongly advocated for the long-term lasting protection of Papahānaumokuākea from the beginning and instilled the vision and values that set the course for a collective journey caring for this sacred place. Weaving together the past, present, and future, their legacy is foundational to guiding Native Hawaiian engagement in the active protection and management of Papahānaumokuākea.

In moving forward with sanctuary designation, our goal is to continue to honor their legacy and vision towards ensuring the permanency of lasting protection of this place for future generations. Sanctuary designation will provide another layer of protection to continue honoring this place and will not diminish any existing protections.

There are many opportunities for public involvement in the process for sanctuary designation. Public meetings were held in December, 2021, co-hosted by NOAA and the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources. A combined total of

eighty-two written and oral comments were received. Public comments spanned a broad range of information, issues of concern, and recommendations. The majority of comments were in support of moving forward with the Sanctuary designation process. A summary of the range of comments is provided below.



Public comments received through the process will inform the design of a draft sanctuary management plan, proposed sanctuary regulations, and terms of designation. These designation documents are being written, and will be released for public review in 2023.

Find out more about national marine sanctuary designation for Papahānaumokuākea on the [Monument website](#).

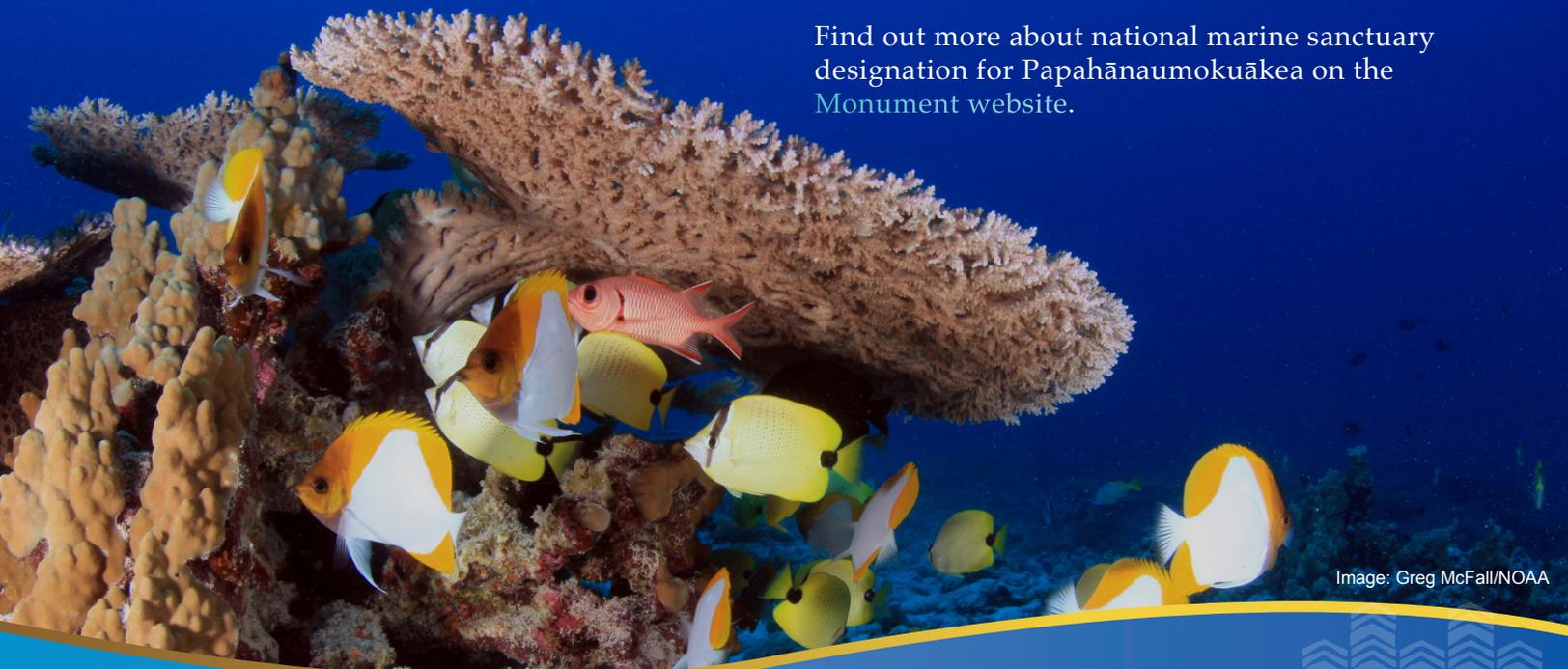


Image: Greg McFall/NOAA

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Papahānaumokuākea is co-managed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State of Hawai'i, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs. This newsletter highlights some of the initiatives of the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and partners.