FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

25 October 2007

MONUMENT MANAGERS SEEK PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NATURAL RESOURCES SCIENCE PLAN

HONOLULU, HI. Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument managers are holding a public scoping meeting on 15 November 2007 to gather public input relating to developing a natural resources science plan for the monument. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and submit their comments.

WHAT: A public scoping meeting to obtain input on developing the Monument Natural Resources Science Plan. This plan will identify management needs, highlight priority thematic areas designed to meet these needs, and describe the current and proposed research projects housed under these themes. The plan will serve as a guide for conducting scientific research in the monument over the next 5 years and will supplement the monument’s management plan which is slated to be released in early 2008.

WHO: The Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument managers

WHEN: Thursday, 15 November 2007, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Japanese Cultural Center
2454 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
Validated parking available at JCC

Members of the public may also provide comment in writing to nwhicomments@noaa.gov or via fax to 808.397.2662 from 15-30 November 2007.

For further information on this event or to schedule an interview, please contact Keeley Belva at 808.294.0932 or Keeley.Belva@noaa.gov.

The Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument is managed jointly by three co-trustees — the Department of Commerce, Department of the Interior and the State of Hawai‘i — and represents a cooperative conservation approach to protecting the entire ecosystem. The monument area includes the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge/Battle of Midway National Memorial, the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, the Hawaii State Seabird Sanctuary at Kure Atoll, and Northwestern Hawaiian Islands State Marine Refuge. For additional information on the monument, please visit http://hawaiireef.noaa.gov or www.fws.gov/pacificislands.

# # #

PLEASE CONTACT

Keeley Belva
NOAA
808.294.0932

Barbara Maxfield
USFWS
808.792.9531

Kerry Irish
State–DLNR
808.721.6481