Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

NATIVE HAWAIIAN PRACTICES Permit Application

NOTE: ***This Permit Application (and associated Instructions) are to propose activities to be conducted in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The Co-Trustees are required to determine that issuing the requested permit is compatible with the findings of Presidential Proclamation 8031. Within this Application, provide all information that you believe will assist the Co-Trustees in determining how your proposed activities are compatible with the conservation and management of the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Monument).***

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Any or all of the information within this application may be posted to the Monument website informing the public on projects proposed to occur in the Monument.
- In addition to the permit application, the Applicant must either download the Monument Compliance Information Sheet from the Monument website OR request a hard copy from the Monument Permit Coordinator (contact information below). The Monument Compliance Information Sheet must be submitted to the Monument Permit Coordinator after initial application consultation.
- Issuance of a Monument permit is dependent upon the completion and review of the application and Compliance Information Sheet.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

Send Permit Applications to:
NOAA/Inouye Regional Center
NOS/ONMS/PMNM/Attn: Permit Coordinator
1845 Wasp Blvd, Building 176
Honolulu, HI 96818
nwhipermit@noaa.gov
PHONE: (808) 725-5800 FAX: (808) 455-3093

<u>SUBMITTAL VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL IS PREFERRED BUT NOT REQUIRED. FOR ADDITIONAL SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS, SEE THE LAST PAGE.</u>

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
Permit Application Cover Sheet

This Permit Application Cover Sheet is intended to provide summary information and status to the public on permit applications for activities proposed to be conducted in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. While a permit application has been received, it has not been fully reviewed nor approved by the Monument Management Board to date. The Monument permit process also ensures that all environmental reviews are conducted prior to the issuance of a Monument permit.

Summary Information

Applicant Name: Charles Nainoa Thompson
Affiliation: Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS)

Permit Category: Native Hawaiian Practices
Proposed Activity Dates: March 2020 – March 2021
Proposed Method of Entry (Vessel/Plane): Vessel
Proposed Locations: Nihoa, Mokumanamana, Lalo

Estimated number of individuals (including Applicant) to be covered under this permit: 38
Estimated number of days in the Monument: 20 days

Description of proposed activities: (complete these sentences):

a.) The proposed activity would…
allow for Hōkūleʻa and Hikianalia, Hawaii's Polynesian voyaging canoes, to sail to PMNM as a way for Hōkūleʻa and Hikianalia to continue to perpetuate traditional wayfinding and voyaging practices, and pay respect to and re-connect with Hawai'i's kupuna islands in a culturally appropriate and significant way. The Northwest Hawaiian Islands are a known and valuable location important to the honing of voyaging practices. This activity would ensure new training navigators are given an opportunity to practice their skills in an area relatively close to the main Hawaiian islands.

b.) To accomplish this activity we would ….
sail into Papahānaumokuākea on two double-hulled voyaging canoes Hōkūleʻa and Hikianalia and one escort vessel (TBD), or combination thereof, to Nihoa, Mokumanamana, and Lalo. The wa'a will be used as a platform to continue to train and test apprentice navigators and crew members to practice the traditional Hawaiian/Polynesian skills of wayfinding (non-instrumental navigation) and voyaging. The crew will also continue to examine the gut content and size of fish caught by handline, continuing this practice from the 2013-2018 Worldwide Voyage (sustenance and subsistence fishing is being requested). The escort vessel (TBD) provides safety support for the waʻa in the event of an emergency or other unforeseen circumstances that may require immediate return to the main Hawaiian islands.

c.) This activity would help the Monument by …

meeting a priority within the Monument Management Plan, which includes an activity in support of regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes for wayfinding, navigational and cultural protocol training. We also note that wayfinding training and traditional voyaging were components of Papahanaumokuakea's successful nomination as a natural and cultural World Heritage site. Having this living tradition continue should be a priority for managers of this Marine World Heritage site.

Furthermore, besides perpetuating integral components of Native Hawaiian culture (voyaging and wayfinding), the use of traditional canoes in the Monument offers an opportunity to maintain a level of cultural integrity that is appropriate for spiritual ceremonies in Papahānaumokuākea . The ability of crewmembers to perform cultural/spiritual protocol and honor their ancestors perpetuates a centuries-old link of Native Hawaiians to their ancestors, their ancestral knowledge and the Kūpuna Islands.

Other information or background:
Hikianalia successfully and safely voyaged into Papahānaumokuākea in September 2013, with 6 apprentice navigators and 4 pwo (master) traditional navigators on board, providing an exceptional experiential learning opportunity. Subsequently, Hikianalia again successfully voyaged into PMNM in 2015 in collaboration with the 'Opihi Partnership, conducting science onboard the wa'a during the voyage. Both voyages have helped to provide a stronger awareness that the entire Hawaiian Archipelago is connected, sacred and worth protecting. It also helped to continue to draft the chart toward more regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes into this traditional voyaging area and toward more collaboration among multidisciplenary champions of the perpetuation of the natural and cultural resources of Hawai'i. For this reason, PVS is excited to continue to leverage expertise and resources from scientists, marine managers, educators, and cultural practitioners to further integrate western science and Native Hawaiian ways of knowing.

Section A - Applicant Information

1. Applicant

Name (last, first, middle initial): Thompson, Charles N.

Title: President

1a. Intended field Principal Investigator (See instructions for more information):
Charles "Nainoa" Thompson

2. Mailing address (street/P.O. box, city, state, country, zip): [redacted]

For students, major professor's name, telephone and email address:

3. Affiliation (institution/agency/organization directly related to the proposed project):
Polynesian Voyaging Society

4. Additional persons to be covered by permit. List all personnel roles and names (if known at time of application) here (e.g. John Doe, Diver):
16 crew (maximum) for the double-hulled, Polynesian voyaging canoe Hikianalia, crew member names TBD on compliance information sheet

16 crew (maximum) for the double-hulled, Polynesian voyaging canoe Hōkūle'a, -- crew member names TBD on compliance information sheet

6 crew (maximum) for a TBD escort vessel, if needed-- crew members TBD on compliance information sheet.

Section B: Project Information

5a. Project location(s):

		Ocean Based	
☒ Nihoa Island	☐ Land-based	☒ Shallow water	☒ Deep water
☒ Necker Island (Mokumanamana)	☐ Land-based	☒ Shallow water	☒ Deep water
☒ French Frigate Shoals	☐ Land-based	☒ Shallow water	☒ Deep water
☐ Gardner Pinnacles	☐ Land-based	☐ Shallow water	☐ Deep water
☐ Maro Reef			
☐ Laysan Island	☐ Land-based	☐ Shallow water	☐ Deep water
☐ Lisianski Island, Neva Shoal	☐ Land-based	☐ Shallow water	☐ Deep water
☐ Pearl and Hermes Atoll	☐ Land-based	☐ Shallow water	☐ Deep water
☐ Midway Atoll	☐ Land-based	☐ Shallow water	☐ Deep water
☐ Kure Atoll	☐ Land-based	☐ Shallow water	☐ Deep water
☐ Other			

NOTE: Shallow water is defined by water less than 100 meters in depth.

☐ Remaining ashore on any island or atoll (with the exception of Sand Island at Midway Atoll and field camp staff on other islands/atolls) between sunset and sunrise.

NOTE: There is a fee schedule for people visiting Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge via vessel and aircraft.

Location Description:
The intention of this trip is to navigate, using traditional methods to continue to train our crew members in voyaging and navigation skills, and within the voyaging values of taking care of our collective home for our present and future children. We will finalize our sail plans before our departure to make sure that all Monument consultations and requirements are met.

East Island at Lalo was assessed for sea-level rise research under PMNM-2018-018, it is being requested to do a post assessment of the island due to its changing nature.

5b. Check all applicable regulated activities proposed to be conducted in the Monument:

☒ Removing, moving, taking, harvesting, possessing, injuring, disturbing, or damaging any living or nonliving Monument resource
☐ Drilling into, dredging, or otherwise altering the submerged lands other than by anchoring a vessel; or constructing, placing, or abandoning any structure, material, or other matter on the submerged lands
☒ Anchoring a vessel
☐ Deserting a vessel aground, at anchor, or adrift
☒ Discharging or depositing any material or matter into the Monument
☐ Touching coral, living or dead
☒ Possessing fishing gear except when stowed and not available for immediate use during passage without interruption through the Monument
☒ Attracting any living Monument resource
☒ Sustenance fishing (Federal waters only, outside of Special Preservation Areas, Ecological Reserves and Special Management Areas)

☒ Subsistence fishing (State waters only)

☒ Swimming, snorkeling, or closed or open circuit SCUBA diving within any Special Preservation Area or Midway Atoll Special Management Area

6. Purpose/Need/Scope ***State purpose of proposed activities:***

The Polynesian Voyaging Society is preparing and planning an around-the-Pacific voyage in the coming years. In order to train the requisite crew, navigators, and captains for this endeavor, training within the Hawaiian Archipelago is necessary. Utilizing the islands within Papahānaumokuākea gives crew, especially navigators, an opportunity to navigate to islands small in stature with no light polution. They must utilize and understand ancestral knowledge in their observations of the sun, stars, swells, seabirds and other natural phenomena. The routes from Kaua'i to Nihoa and beyond provide for open ocean sailing not normally experienced in the Hawaiian archipelago – the launching point nor the target destination are visible for an extended period of time during the course of the voyage, thereby offering a close simulation of a long-distance voyage without the added dangers of testing endurance. It is also the only voyaging route that offers this simulation while being close enough to the main Hawaiian Islands to ensure safety and access to provisions. These characteristics make this route the ideal training platform for novice Hawaiian wayfinders.

Today, apprentice Hawaiian wayfinders can be considered qualified to attempt to navigate a canoe on long-distance, trans-Pacific sails after they have successfully guided a voyage from Kaua'i to Nihoa.

*Considering the purpose of the proposed activities, do you intend to film / photograph federally protected species? Yes ☐ No ☒

If so, please list the species you specifically intend to target.

For a list of terrestrial species protected under the Endangered Species Act visit:
http://www.fws.gov/endangered/
For a list of marine species protected under the Endangered Species Act visit:
http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/esa/
For information about species protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act visit:
http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/laws/mmpa/

7. Answer the Findings below by providing information that you believe will assist the Co-Trustees in determining how your proposed activities are compatible with the conservation and management of the natural, historic, and cultural resources of the Monument:

The Findings are as follows:

a. How can the activity be conducted with adequate safeguards for the cultural, natural and historic resources and ecological integrity of the Monument?

The crew will pay respect and conduct culturally appropriate protocols at each island visited as well as throughout the voyage to continue to connect to place. The wa'a and crew will not disturb any natural, cultural or historic resources. We seek to honor our ancestors and the high significance of these places by presenting Ho'okupu in the form of oli (chants), pule (prayers), and spiritual gifts from the main

Hawaiian Islands (such as 'awa and rain water and possibly a red fish offered as ho'okupu). All ho'okupu will follow any quarantine protocols established by the Monument.

b. How will the activity be conducted in a manner compatible with the management direction of this proclamation, considering the extent to which the conduct of the activity may diminish or enhance Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity, any indirect, secondary, or cumulative effects of the activity, and the duration of such effects?

a. The Monument Proclamation highlights the cultural significance of Papahānaumokuākea to Native Hawaiians, and the Proclamation itself authorizes access to the area via Native Hawaiian Practices Permits. The proposed activities are compatible with the management direction of the Proclamation and the Monument Management Plan, which has prioritized the support of regular access for Polynesian voyaging canoes for wayfinding, navigation, and cultural protocol training.

As previously stated, the activities proposed herein will not impact the environment or historic resources in any negative way. All activities will be conducted in accordance with the Monument's BMPs. For safety purposes, each vessel will carry communications and first-aid equipment on board. The vessels will meet the strict requirements of this permitting process.

The proposed project's activities will enhance the public's and Papahānaumokuākea management's understanding of the living cultural significance of this place, its connection to Hawai'i's past and to the main Hawaiian Islands of today, and the abilities of our younger generation of traditional navigators.

Also, PVS's commitments directly relate to and are compatible with the management direction of the Monument: "With a legacy of ocean exploration as its foundation, the Polynesian Voyaging Society reaffirms our commitment to undertake voyages of discovery; respect and learn from our heritage and culture; and strengthen learning which integrates voyaging experiences into quality education. We are committed to nurturing communities and the leadership therein which values learning and sharing knowledge in order to foster living well on islands."

c. Is there a practicable alternative to conducting the activity within the Monument? If not, explain why your activities must be conducted in the Monument.

There is no practicable alternative to conducting the proposed activities within Papahanaumokuakea, especially at Nihoa and Mokumanamana. As traditional teachings show us, in order to truly experience and connect with a place, we must 'ikemaka (see, experience, visit firsthand) the place. As for navigation, Nihoa has no

artificial lighting to aid the apprentice navigator, and its small physical size and low-lying nature requires astute observations of the sun, stars, swells, seabirds and other natural elements. Today, apprentice Hawaiian wayfinders can be considered qualified to attempt to navigate a canoe on long-distance, trans-oceanic sails after they have successfully guided a voyage from Kaua'i to Nihoa.

d. How does the end value of the activity outweigh its adverse impacts on Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity?

While we do not think that there are any adverse impacts, the proposed activities provide beneficial impacts to Papahānaumokuākea, such as those explained above, and by highlighting (through example) the area as an important place for the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian cultural and spiritual practices and a place that is essential in training apprentice navigators studying modern Hawaiian wayfinding aboard traditional double-hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoes.

e. Explain how the duration of the activity is no longer than necessary to achieve its stated purpose.

The proposed activities would take place in the Monument for only the possible 30 days of sailing transit required to and from each island/atoll in PMNM. We are conservatively including a weather window to assure that we remain compliant with our permit if weather conditions beyond our control cause the need for more transit time. We will update the Monument on specific travel dates/times.

f. Provide information demonstrating that you are qualified to conduct and complete the activity and mitigate any potential impacts resulting from its conduct.

Nainoa Thompson has extensive experience as a master navigator and teacher of Hawaiian wayfinding techniques. He has been inducted into Pwo (a sacred initiation ritual) as a master navigator and was the first Native Hawaiian to practice the ancient art of wayfinding in six centuries. He has navigated both Hōkūle'a and Hawai'iloa (double-hulled voyaging canoes) from Hawai'i to other island nations throughout Polynesia, including the NWHI, without the aid of instruments - all with only positive educational impacts to natural, historic or cultural resources. He successfully led Hikianalia's maiden voyage to Papahanaumokuakea in September 2013. Also on board will be at least one cultural practitioner trained in Native Hawaiian cultural protocol and several people who have worked for natural and cultural resource preservation and perpetuation in Hawai'i.

g. Provide information demonstrating that you have adequate financial resources available to conduct and complete the activity and mitigate any potential impacts resulting from its conduct.

These training trips are essential for the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS), a cultural and educational not-for-profit organization, through various grants and public and private contributions.

h. Explain how your methods and procedures are appropriate to achieve the proposed activity's goals in relation to their impacts to Monument cultural, natural and historic resources, qualities, and ecological integrity.

The crew of all vessels will be trained in sailing a wa'a kaulua, as well as take part in protocol trainings specific to Papahānaumokuākea. The crew will also attend the required cultural and permit briefings to learn of the history and resources within PMNM.

i. Has your vessel been outfitted with a mobile transceiver unit approved by OLE and complies with the requirements of Presidential Proclamation 8031?

The proposed voyage would comply with the requirements of Presidential Proclamation 8031: Any vessel will be outfitted with a working NOAA-OLE type-approved VMS for the trip.

j. Demonstrate that there are no other factors that would make the issuance of a permit for the activity inappropriate.

There are no other factors that would make issuing this permit inappropriate.

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS FOR PROPOSED NATIVE HAWAIIAN PRACTICES

k. Explain how the activity is non-commercial and will not involve the sale of any organism or material collected.

The proposed activities will not result in any commercial use of any Monument resource. The wa'a are registered as recreational vessels and operated by volunteer un-paid crew.

l. Explain how the purpose and intent of the activity is appropriate and deemed necessary by traditional standards in the Native Hawaiian culture (pono), and demonstrate an understanding of, and background in, the traditional practice and its associated values and protocols.

Perpetuating the practice of traditional Hawaiian wayfinding is an essential component of the living Native Hawaiian culture and values. The route from Kaua'i to Nihoa is an imperative element in ensuring that the art and practice of traditional Hawaiian wayfinding is carried into the future by the younger generations of apprentice navigators and voyaging crewmembers.

m. Explain how the activity benefits the resources of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and the Native Hawaiian community.

Besides perpetuating integral components of Native Hawaiian culture (voyaging and wayfinding), the use of traditional canoes in the Monument offers an opportunity to maintain a level of cultural integrity that is appropriate for spiritual ceremonies in Papahānaumokuākea. Equally, the ability of crewmembers to perform cultural/spiritual protocol and honor their ancestors perpetuates a centuries-old link of Native Hawaiians to their ancestors, their ancestral knowledge and the Kūpuna Islands: the NWHI.

n. Explain how the activity supports or advances the perpetuation of traditional knowledge and ancestral connections of Native Hawaiians to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

As previously stated, Papahānaumokuākea serves a critical role in three pertinent, significant and living, Native Hawaiian traditions: 'ikemaka, voyaging, and wayfinding. The voyaging route between Kaua'i and Nihoa is used today, as it has been for generations, as a major training and testing ground for novice navigators studying modern Hawaiian wayfinding aboard traditional, double-hulled Hawaiian voyaging canoes. The activities proposed in this permit application support the perpetuation of traditional Hawaiian wayfinding and voyaging, as they serve to train apprentice navigators and test their knowledge in an environment that is a close simulation of a long-distance voyage without the added dangers of testing endurance.

o. Will all Monument resources harvested in the Monument be consumed in the Monument? If not, explain why not.

Yes they will.

8. Procedures/Methods:

Voyaging: Pending funding and logistics one or more PVS vessels (Hōkūle'a, Hikianalia, TBD escort vessel) may enter the Monument. Before leaving O'ahu, an updated CIS form will be submitted with the preferred sail plan and confirmed vessels that will be traveling. The canoe(s) will depart Kaua'i en-route to Lehua Island, with Nihoa as its initial landmark. Crew will utilize traditional wayfinding and navigation while on their voyage. Once at Nihoa, the crew will spend a day for cultural protocols at the island. If the vessels subsequently continue to Mokumanamana, the vessel will anchor for the day in the lee of the island to do cultural protocol and for planning the return sail to the main Hawaiian Islands. If the weather and schedule permits, a sail to Lalo (French Frigate Shoals) is requested. The ship will enter from the southwestern portion of the atoll and anchor near La Perouse Pinnacle in sandy substrate.

While at each island, crew will snorkel in the vicinity of the vessel to do presence/absence fish surveys. All legs of the voyage, are weather pending, which may either prolong or inhibit a stay at an island. A finalized sailplan including final crew list, which canoe will go, and if there will be an escort vessel, will be attached to the Compliance Information Sheet and submitted to the Monument Permit Coordinator prior to entry. All vessels will comply with Monument Best Management Practices.

Sustenance and subsistence fishing is request for this access. Up to 4 handlines with contemporary lures (ceramic heads/metal hooks) and/or traditional lures (shell/bone) will be utilized while trolling en-route to island destinations. Any fishing will be done opportunistically, not targeting any specific pelagic or nearshore species. However, any State regulations including pono fishing practices recommended by the CWG or community fishermen will be followed. All Monument BMPs will be adhered to in the instance of seabird interactions, marine mammals, and/or any ESA listed species. Data will be collected on all fish caught for size, gut content, gender, and spawning cycles. Pliers and a dehooker will be onboard to assist with quick removal of hooks from any catch. All fish will

be consumed in the Monument, and only what is necessary to feed the crew for the day will be caught.

NOTE: If land or marine archeological activities are involved, contact the Monument Permit Coordinator at the address on the general application form before proceeding.

9a. Collection of specimens - collecting activities (would apply to any activity): organisms or objects (List of species, if applicable, attach additional sheets if necessary):

Common name:
Fishing done opportunistically, no specific fish will be targeted, and fishing will only occur to feed the crew for the day, if necessary.

Scientific name:

Hawaiian name:

& size of specimens:

Collection location:

☒ Whole Organism ☐ Partial Organism

9b. What will be done with the specimens after the project has ended?
All fish will be consumed in the Monument

9c. Will the organisms be kept alive after collection? ☐ Yes ☒ No

• General site/location for collections:

• Is it an open or closed system? ☐ Open ☐ Closed

• Is there an outfall? ☐ Yes ☐ No

• Will these organisms be housed with other organisms? If so, what are the other organisms?

• Will organisms be released?

10. If applicable, how will the collected samples or specimens be transported out of the Monument?
All fish will be consumed in the Monument.

11. Describe any fixed or semi-permanent structures or installations, or cultural offerings you plan to leave in the Monument:
Cultural practitioners will only offer culturally and biologically appropriate ho'okupu in the Monument following any BMPs. This includes oli (chant), wai (water), 'awa, pa'akai, and pule (prayer).

12. List all specialized gear and materials to be used in the proposed activities:
Fishing gear includes: handlines, lures, monofilament line, pliers/dehooker, and other fishing related materials.
13. List all Hazardous Materials you propose to take to and use within the Monument:

14. Describe collaborative activities to share samples, cultural research and/or knowledge gained in the Monument:
PVS, as part of the larger 'Ohana Wa'a (family of voyaging canoes), is creating a long-term voyaging program in collaboration with various state, federal and private entities. This navigational test will be part of the voyaging program in that it will be a high level of voyaging training. Long-term plans include the development of curriculum around such a voyage at the undergraduate level, and much of the cultural and environmental knowledge gleaned from this voyage may be added to the existing Navigating Change program, of which PVS is a founding member. We will work with Monument staff to determine appropriate partnering mechanisms.

15a. Will you produce any publications, educational materials or other deliverables?
☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

15b. Provide a time line for write-up and publication of information or production of materials:
If we do produce any educational materials based on this voyage, including potential undergraduate and K-12curriculum, we will share it with the Monument, especially as the development of such material may well be done in collaboration with Monument staff. We do not have a timeline on the production of said curriculum or lesson plans, as they are being developed by our education partners, and we are focusing on the logistics of safety for our canoes and crew.

We will also be blogging during this voyage, and images and stories will be posted on www.hokulea.com as well as via social media. Thereby helping to enhance the concept of providing a window to Papahānaumokuākea for members of the public not permitted to experience this significant place on their own.

16. If applicable, list all Applicant's publications directly related to the proposed project:

Please visit our website -- www.hokulea.com -- for relevant photos, blogs and videos on the recent trips of Hikianalia to Papahānaumokuākea. All of the images taken in the Monument were shared with the management of Papahānaumokuākea, as would be any taken under this access request.

With knowledge of the penalties for false or incomplete statements, as provided by 18 U.S.C. 1001, and for perjury, as provided by 18 U.S.C. 1621, I hereby certify to the best of my abilities under penalty of perjury of that the information I have provided on this application form is true and correct. I agree that the Co-Trustees may post this application in its entirety on the Internet. I understand that the Co-Trustees will consider deleting all information that I have identified as "confidential" prior to posting the application.

Nainoa Thompson 2-28-20

Signature Date

SEND ONE SIGNED APPLICATION VIA MAIL TO THE MONUMENT OFFICE BELOW:

NOAA/Inouye Regional Center
NOS/ONMS/PMNM/Attn: Permit Coordinator
1845 Wasp Blvd, Building 176
Honolulu, HI 96818
FAX: (808) 455-3093

DID YOU INCLUDE THESE?

- ☐ Applicant CV/Resume/Biography
- ☐ Intended field Principal Investigator CV/Resume/Biography
- ☐ Electronic and Hard Copy of Application with Signature
- ☐ Statement of information you wish to be kept confidential
- ☐ Material Safety Data Sheets for Hazardous Materials