Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

National Historic Preservation Act: Introduction to Section 106 Review

Consideration of Historic Properties within the Sanctuary Designation Process

PMNM Sanctuary Designation

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is initiating the process to consider designating marine areas of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) as a national marine sanctuary. This does not change the existing monument; rather, creating a sanctuary would add conservation benefits to the marine areas of PMNM by providing a more stable framework and additional protections that safeguard resources.

The monument is home to a variety of archaeological, cultural, and historical resources, many of which are significant and may also be eligible for recognition as National Register “historic properties”. NOAA will coordinate its review responsibilities under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) during the sanctuary designation process and is soliciting public and stakeholder input to meet these compliance requirements.

The NHPA Section 106 Process

The National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to consider possible effects from their proposed actions to these properties through the Section 106 review process. Agencies are directed to:

- conduct a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties;
- determine whether identified properties are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places;
- assess the effects of the undertaking on any eligible or listed historic properties identified;
- avoid or mitigate any adverse effects when possible.

Consultation with individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the proposed sanctuary designation will be key to the Section 106 process. Those with demonstrated interest include families with ancestral connection to the monument, Native Hawaiian Organizations, cultural practitioners, fishers, the Office of Hawaiian

National Historic Preservation Act
Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA 54 USC 306108) requires that Federal agencies take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) an opportunity to comment on projects. The agency is required to review background information, coordinate with the SHPO, seek information from knowledgeable consulting parties, and solicit public input in its assessment of potential impacts to historic properties.

papahanaumokuakea.gov/sanctuary-designation
Affairs, the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology, Naval History and Heritage Command, PMNM Cultural Working Group, and many others. In addition, public input regarding historic properties and any potential impacts and mitigations to be considered is also encouraged. Comments may be submitted to, and more information is available from: pmnm.section106@noaa.gov or Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Attn: Section 106 Review NOAA/Daniel K. Inouye Regional Center 1845 Wasp Blvd, Building 176 Honolulu, HI 96818

**Section 106 Review Guidance**
Guidance for this process is provided by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), including: Consultation with Native Hawaiian Organizations in the Section 106 Review Process: a handbook (2011); and NEPA and NHPA, a Handbook for Integrating NEPA and Section 106 (2013). The Section 106 process will be coordinated with other reviews.

**Identifying Historic Properties**
Resources considered during the Section 106 review must be determined to be eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Specific criteria for listing is available at: www.achp.gov

**Area of Potential Effect**
Properties for consideration must be within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) or proposed boundaries of the federal undertaking. For Section 106 review purposes, this APE is based on the existing marine portions of the monument (above).

**Notice to the SHPO and ACHP**
Following the assessment of historic properties, effects, and possible mitigation measures, NOAA will provide all consulting parties summary documentation, and the final determination will then be provided to the SHPO and ACHP for review.

Gun mount from the WWII Japanese aircraft carrier *Kaga*, lost in the deep ocean during the 1942 Battle for Midway. Photo: NOAA

Graphic depicting Pō (night or formless creation) and Ao (day or action), reflecting the spiritual significance of the monument area. Photo: PMNM

Nihoa, an important waypoint for *Hōkūleʻa* and traditional navigation throughout the monument. Photo: Polynesian Voyaging Society

papahanaumokuakea.gov/sanctuary-designation