
APPENDIX C
STATE AND FEDERAL
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Finding of No Significant Impact

Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Management Plan Midway Atoll and Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuges

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has completed the Monument Management Plan (MMP) and Environmental Assessment (EA) for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument which includes Midway Atoll and Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuges (Refuges). The MMP will guide management of the Refuges for the next 15 years. The MMP, EA, and supporting documents describe the Service's proposals for managing the Refuges and their effects on the human environment under 2 alternatives, including the no action alternative.

Decision

Following comprehensive review and analysis, the Service selected Alternative B for implementation because it is the alternative that best meets the following criteria:

- Achieves the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System.
- Achieves the purposes of the Refuges.
- Will be able to achieve the vision and goals for the Refuges.
- Maintains and restores the ecological integrity of the habitats and populations on the Refuges.
- Addresses the important issues identified during the scoping process.
- Addresses the legal mandates of the Service and the Refuges.
- Is consistent with the scientific principles of sound wildlife management and endangered species recovery.
- Facilitates priority public uses compatible with the Refuges' purposes and the Refuge System mission.

As described in detail in the MMP, EA, and supporting documents, implementing the selected alternative will have no significant impacts on any of the environmental resources identified with the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

Public Review

The planning process incorporated a variety of public involvement techniques in developing and reviewing the MMP. This included 10 public workshops, planning updates, numerous meetings with partners, elected officials, and neighbors, and public review and comment on the planning documents. The details of the Service's public involvement program are described in the MMP.

Conclusions

Based on review and evaluation of the information contained in the supporting references, I have determined that implementing Alternative B as the MMP for management of Midway Atoll and Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuges is not a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of section 102(2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Accordingly, the Service is not required to prepare an environmental impact statement.

This Finding of No Significant Impact and supporting references are on file at the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument - USFWS, 300 Ala Moana Blvd. Room 5-231, Honolulu, HI, 96850 and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Planning and Visitor Services, 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon, 97232. These documents can also be found on

the Internet at <http://papahānaumokuākea.gov>. These documents are available for public inspection. Interested and affected parties are being notified of our decision.

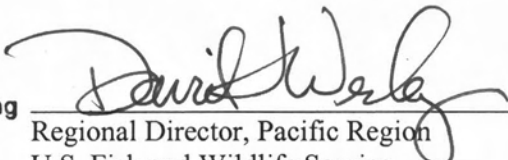
Supporting References

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. December 2008. *Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, Final Environmental Assessment.*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. December 2008. *Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Management Plan.*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. December 2008. *Statement of Compliance for Implementation of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Management Plan.*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. December 2008. *Appropriate Use Findings and Compatibility Determinations for Implementation of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Management Plan.*

Acting 
Regional Director, Pacific Region
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

12/12/08
Date



FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Environmental Assessment on the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Proposed Final Monument Management Plan

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) have completed a joint environmental assessment (EA) dated December 2008 with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources to evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with implementing the proposed final Monument Management Plan (MMP). The EA is the basis for NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries finding of no significant impact for implementing the proposed MMP.

NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216-6 (revised May 20, 1999) provides eleven criteria for determining the significance of the impacts of a proposed action. These criteria are discussed below with respect to the proposed action. Based on the analysis in the environmental assessment, the ONMS finds that:

1. Are there both beneficial and adverse impacts of the proposed action that when combined result in a net benefit?

The purpose of the proposed action, the implementation of the MMP, is to protect and manage the PMNM in a manner that satisfies legal mandates set forth in the Presidential Proclamation 8031 and priority management needs identified by the Co-Trustee agencies. The Proposed Action to implement the MMP would result in net beneficial effects to the Monument resources as compared to the No Action alternative. These beneficial impacts would not be significant. Implementation of the MMP would result in no significant negative effects, while only a few activities had short-term minor effects on resource areas.

The MMP will improve coordinated agency management and overall protection for the natural, historical and cultural resources of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. Beneficial effects of the Proposed Action on the ecosystem would result from improved planning and coordination of research, education, monitoring, and management actions by the Co-Trustees, compared to the No Action alternative. Although it is expected that plan implementation will result in overall beneficial effects to the human environment, these beneficial effects do not represent a significant impact. This is because the magnitude of benefits expected to result from plan implementation will be incrementally modest within the context of the essentially uninhabited pristine lands and waters of the Monument.

Short-term negative effects could occur when conducting activities that involve the restoration, enhancement or protection of organisms and ecosystems, or the rehabilitation of structures. These effects are inherently of short duration and are limited to the site where the activities occur. Affected resources are expected to return to predisturbance conditions shortly after activity ceases, so this does not constitute a significant effect. In addition, these negative



effects are minimized through the use of the best management practices and strict permit conditions placed on conducting limited human activities in the Monument. Therefore, while there may be short-term negative effects as a result of some activities, the long-term beneficial effects almost always offset the negative effects, and cumulatively the net effect of implementing the management plan is beneficial.

The Proposed Action's environmental effects are summarized in the EA in the following tables: natural resources, (Table 3.2.1), cultural and historic resources (Table 3.3.1), socioeconomic resources (Table 3.4.1) and other resources (water quality, transportation and communications, infrastructure and utilities (Table 3.5.1).

2. What is the degree to which public health or safety is affected by the proposed action?

The proposed action contains several action plans (Central Operations, Coordinated Field Operations) and documents (Midway Atoll Conceptual Site Plan, Midway Atoll Visitor Services Plan, Operational Protocols and Best Management Practices) that help provide consistent guidance and protocols for the conduct of human activities in a safe manner and that protects both humans and wildlife in the Monument. The proposed action would therefore have modest beneficial effects on public health and safety.

3. Are there unique characteristics of the geographic area in which the proposed action is to take place?

As one of the world's largest marine protected areas, the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument encompasses a vast area of the Pacific. Extending for a distance of roughly 1,200 statute miles by 115 statute miles, the Monument covers an area of approximately 140,000 square miles and includes a rich, varied, and unique natural, cultural, and historic legacy. The Monument includes the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, State of Hawai'i Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine Refuge, State Seabird Sanctuary at Kure Atoll, the Midway National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), the Hawaiian Islands NWR, and the Battle of Midway National Memorial.

The Monument supports a diverse and unique array of both marine and terrestrial flora and fauna. With a spectrum of bathymetry and topography ranging from abyssal basins at depths greater than 15,000 feet below sea level to rugged hillslopes and clifftops on Nihoa and Mokumanamana (Necker) islands at up to 903 feet above sea level, the Monument represents a complete cross section of a Pacific archipelagic ecosystem. Habitats contained within the Monument include deep pelagic basins, abyssal plains, submarine escarpments, deep and shallow coral reefs, shallow lagoons, littoral shores, dunes, and dry coastal grasslands and shrublands. Relatively high percentages of most taxonomic groups in the NWHI are found nowhere else on earth. The Monument supports over 14 million seabirds and contains habitat for 23 species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, including the Hawaiian monk seal, leatherback and hawksbill sea turtles, and the Laysan duck. In addition, this area has great cultural significance to Native Hawaiians and a connection to Polynesian culture worthy of protection and understanding, as noted in Presidential Proclamation 8031.

4. What is the degree to which effects on the human environment are likely to be highly controversial?

Presidential Proclamation 8031 designated the PMNM and established limits on access and regulated specific human activities. FWS and NOAA promulgated joint implementing regulations on August 29, 2006 (71 FR 51134, 50 CFR Part 404). The MMP protects and manages the PMNM in a manner that satisfies legal mandates set forth in the designation of the Monument and priority management needs identified by the Co-Trustee agencies. No additional regulations or restrictions beyond status quo were added by the management plan.

None of the effects of implementation of the MMP on the quality of the human environment are particularly controversial. However, several descriptions in the MMP and EA were improved and clarified in response to public comment. The MMP represents a collection of activities that when implemented will allow the Co-Trustees to coordinate their actions and provide a safe and environmentally friendly environment for the agencies and their partners to conduct resource protection, research, monitoring, education, enforcement and visitor service programs. Over 6,000 comments were received on the draft management plan; many of these comments were actually geared towards the protections listed in the Proclamation and the final rule, versus the activities proposed by the management plan or EA.

5. What is the degree to which effects are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks?

The proposed action involves implementing a management plan designed to protect sanctuary natural, historic and cultural resources. The proposed action is not highly uncertain and does not involve unique or unknown risks. However, the plan does identify the need to initiate several step-down planning efforts and envision eventual implementation of the Midway Atoll Conceptual Site Plan. If these activities are developed beyond the conceptual stage, they may require additional assessment under NEPA (such as a supplemental EA or an environmental impact statement), as well as HRS Chapter 343 compliance.

Furthermore, although all human activities and actions may not be known as this time, any and all future human activities in the Monument may only be allowed if granted a joint permit by the Monument Management Board. These permits are subject to further NEPA review, which would detail any unknown or specific risks of the project.

6. What is the degree to which the action establishes a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration?

The proposed MMP establishes a framework to allow resource managers to plan and execute current and future management activities in a manner that satisfies legal mandates set forth in the designation of the Monument and priority management needs identified by the Co-Trustee agencies. Any future management activities beyond the scope of this management plan or that could result in significant effects would undergo further NEPA and HRS Chapter 343 analysis on a case-by-case basis. The proposed action will help inform Monument managers about the conduct of human activities in the Monument, which will help contribute toward the understanding of existing impacts and the prevention of future impacts.

7. Does the proposed action have individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts?

Implementation of all the activities in the MMP will result in overall beneficial impacts to the Monument. While there are some activities that may individually result in minor impacts, there are no cumulatively significant adverse or beneficial impacts to natural, cultural, or historical impacts are anticipated as a result of the proposed action.

The Proposed Action's environmental effects are summarized in the EA in the following tables: natural resources, (Table 3.2.1), cultural and historic resources (Table 3.3.1), socioeconomic resources (Table 3.4.1) and other resources (water quality, transportation and communications, infrastructure and utilities (Table 3.5.1). The cumulative effects are summarized in Table 4-2 (Summary of Potential Contribution of the No Action and Proposed Action Alternatives to Cumulative Effects).

8. What is the degree to which the action adversely affects entities listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources?

The proposed action would not adversely affect areas listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, or cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural or historic places. Implementation of the proposed action would have beneficial impacts on archaeological, social, or cultural resources, as there are specific action plans to locate, identify and protect such resources and minimize human activities that could impact them.

9. What is the degree to which endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat as defined under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, are adversely affected?

The proposed action would beneficially affect endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat as defined under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. The "Threatened and Endangered Species Action Plan" (Section 3.2.1) provides specific activities aimed at helping coordinate the implementation of the recovery plans for threatened and endangered species such as the Hawaiian monk seal, green sea turtles, short-tailed albatross, Laysan duck, Laysan finch, Nihoa finch, Nihoa millerbird and other plants and invertebrates. Other action plans help to protect and, when appropriate, restore marine, coastal and terrestrial habitats.

10. Is a violation of Federal, state, or local law for environmental protection threatened?

The proposed action does not threaten a violation of federal, state, or local law requirements imposed for the protection of the environment. In fact, implementation of the MMP will help strengthen existing environmental protection laws in the Monument.

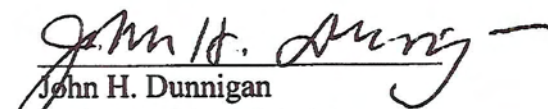
11. Will the proposed action result in the introduction or spread of a nonindigenous species?

The proposed action would not result in the introduction or spread of a nonindigenous species. The MMP contains an "Alien Species" Action Plan (Section 3.3.2) that will help identify, contain, remove and prevent alien or nonindigenous species from being established in the

Monument. Further, the Monument permit conditions require permittees to adhere to a “Disease and Introduced Species Prevention Protocol” and “Special Conditions and Rules for Moving Between Islands and Atolls” to reduce and prevent the spread of nonindigenous species.

FONSI Statement

In view of the analysis presented in this document, the Environmental Assessment on the Proposed Final Monument Management Plan for the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (dated December 2008), the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment with specific reference to the criteria contained in Section 6.01 of NAO 216-6, Environmental Review Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Accordingly, the preparation of an environmental impact statement for the proposed action of implementing the proposed final Monument Management Plan is not necessary.


John H. Dunnigan
Assistant Administrator

12/10/08
Date

State Evaluation and Notice of Expected Determination of No Significant Impact Under Hawai'i Administrative Rules, Section 11-200-12 for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Management Plan and Environmental Assessment.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is the proposing agency and accepting authority for the above project for the State of Hawai'i. DLNR has reviewed the comments received during the 30 day state public comment period which began on June 8, 2008. The corresponding 90 day federal public comment period began May 22, 2008 and ran through July 23, 2008. As a policy call, the State was willing to respond to and consider all public comment received during the 90-day period. The State of Hawai'i Environmental Council gives 13 criteria (in italics below) for defining significant project impacts (Hawai'i Administrative Rules, Section 11-200-12). These criteria are summarized in the Hawai'i Health Department's Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) guidebook. As discussed below, this project does not trigger any of the criteria for significance and thus, under State law, does not require preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS). Accordingly, the agency expects that a finding of no significant impact will be issued and published in the Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) Environmental Notice.

Description of Proposed Action

The proposed Monument Management Plan is the Monument Co-Trustee agencies' overall guiding framework for their mission to carry out seamless integrated management to ensure ecological integrity and achieve strong, long-term protection and perpetuation of Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) ecosystems, Native Hawaiian culture, and heritage resources for current and future generations. Management of the Monument is the responsibility of three Co-Trustees: the State of Hawai'i, through the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR); the U.S. Department of the Interior, through the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the Department of Commerce, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The Monument Management Plan was developed in part to carry out Presidential Proclamation 8031 (Establishment of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument, June 15, 2006) to develop a joint management plan for the Monument, an effort that the State of Hawai'i joined through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed by the Governor and the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior in December 2006. The EA was developed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 343 Environmental Impact Statement Law. The purpose of the EA is to inform the relevant State and Federal agencies and the public of the likely environmental consequences of the activities contained in the Monument Management Plan. It focuses on site specific issues within the boundaries of the Monument and the socioeconomic effects on the State of Hawai'i.

Findings

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) drafted a joint environmental assessment (dated December 2008) with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (Co-Trustee Agencies) to evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with implementing the final Monument Management Plan.

The environmental assessment is the basis for Department of Land and Natural Resources finding of no significant impact for implementing the final Monument Management Plan (MMP). Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI) documents prepared by NOAA and USFWS provide the rationale, from the perspective of Federal guidelines and regulations, for justifying the decision not to prepare an EIS. Federal and State criteria for significance are similar but not identical.

Based on the analysis in the environmental assessment, the DLNR finds that:

1. *The proposed actions do not involve an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resource.*

The MMMP will improve coordinated agency management and overall protection for the natural, historical and cultural resources of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. The beneficial effects of the proposed action on the PMNM will result from improved planning and coordination of research, education, monitoring, and management actions by the Co-Trustee agencies. The proposed action would not adversely affect or cause loss or destruction of significant cultural or historic places. The PMNM has great cultural significance to Native Hawaiians and a connection to Polynesian culture worthy of protection as is noted in Presidential Proclamation 8031 and in the Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) attached to this EA. Implementation of the proposed action would have beneficial impacts on archaeological, social, or cultural resources, as there are specific action plans to locate, identify and protect such resources and minimize human activities that could impact them. The proposed actions effects on natural resources are summarized in the EA in Table 3.2.1 (natural resources) and Table 3.3.1 (cultural and historic resources).

2. *The proposed actions will not curtail the range of beneficial uses of the environment.*

The proposed action, which is the implementation of the MMP, is to protect and manage the PMNM in a manner that satisfies both the legal mandates set forth in the Presidential Proclamation 8031 which established the Monument, all other legal authorities under State and federal law, and the priority management needs identified by the Co-Trustee agencies. Implementation of the management plan would result in an overall beneficial impact to the

PMNM and its resources and will not curtail the range of beneficial uses of the PMNM environment.

Short-term negative effects could occur when conducting activities that involve the restoration, enhancement or protection of organisms and ecosystems, or the rehabilitation of structures. These effects are inherently of short duration and are limited to the site where the activities occur. Affected resources are expected to return to pre-disturbance conditions after activities are completed. In addition, these negative effects are minimized through the use of the best management practices and strict permit conditions placed on conducting limited human activities in the Monument.

3. *The proposed actions will not conflict with the State's long-term environmental policies.*

The proposed actions will not conflict with the environmental policies set forth in Chapter 344, HRS, and other statutes and regulations, since the implementation of the MMP will not damage sensitive natural resources nor emit excessive noise or contaminants. Instead, it will improve and provide additional protection for the PMNM environment.

Within the Monument, the DLNR has stewardship responsibility for managing, administering, and exercising control over the coastal and submerged lands, ocean waters, and marine resources, around each of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, except at Midway Atoll under Title 12, Section 171.-3 Hawaii Revised Statutes. In 2005, Hawai'i Governor Linda Lingle established the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine Refuge (0 to 3 nautical miles) around all emergent lands, except Midway Atoll) under Sections 187A-5 and 188-53(a), Hawaii revised Statutes (implemented as ch. 60.5, Hawaii Administrative Rules). The State is the lead agency for management of the emergent lands at Kure Atoll, a State Wildlife Sanctuary. DLNR's Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) maintains full police powers, including the power of arrest, within all lands and waters within the State's jurisdiction. Unless otherwise authorized by law, it is unlawful for any person to enter the refuge without a permit except for freedom of navigation, innocent passage, interstate commerce, and activities related to national defense, enforcement, or foreign affairs and in response to emergencies.

4. *The proposed actions will not substantially adversely affect the economic and social welfare of the community.*

The Proposed Action would provide an integrated framework for Monument management among the Co-Trustees. While this coordination should save money, it is anticipated that activities needed to address priority management needs will never be fully funded. A few additional jobs would be generated as a result of the Proposed Action, such as facilities repair and construction at Midway. An integrated approach presented in the Monument Management Plan could result in increased funding for research and management.

The overall, the total level of funding would still be subject to annual budgetary process and would likely experience increases or decreases, depending on overall federal spending. The cost of implementing the Proposed Action is estimated to average \$23 million a year over 15 years, but because funding is subject to federal and State budget and appropriations and private donations, it is not possible to determine in advance what level of funding may be available in any given year, or over the life of the plan. Overall, the proposed alternative is not expected to have a significant effect on population, employment, industry, income or the broader Hawai'i economy. The proposed actions effects on socioeconomic resources are summarized in the EA in Table 3.4.1. (natural resources) and Table 3.3.1 (cultural and historic resources).

5. *The proposed actions will not substantially adversely affect the public health of the community.*

The MMP contains several action plans (Central Operations, Coordinated Field Operations) and documents (Midway Atoll Conceptual Site Plan, Midway Atoll Visitor Services Plan, Operational Protocols and Best Management Practices) that help provide consistent guidance and protocols for the conduct of human activities in a safe manner and that protects both humans and wildlife in the Monument. The proposed action will have beneficial effect on public health and safety.

6. *The proposed actions will not involve substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities.*

Table 3.5-1 in the EA summarizes the proposed actions effects on water quality, transportation and communications, infrastructure and utilities in the PMNM, including water quality, transportation, communications infrastructure and utilities. Minor negative effects are expected from increased demands on utilities but this would be offset by rehabilitation and replacement of existing infrastructure with more sustainable and efficient systems, having beneficial effects overall. Implementation of the proposed action will not induce permanent population growth beyond that which is necessary for effective Monument operations.

7. *The proposed actions will not involve a substantial degradation of environmental quality.*

The Proposed Action to implement the Monument Management Plan would result, overall, in beneficial effects or no effects on the environmental quality of the PMNM. Short-term negative effects could occur when animals or vegetation are being restored, protected, or enhanced. These effects are inherently of short duration and are limited to the site where the activities occur. Affected resources are expected to return to pre-disturbance conditions shortly after activity ceases, so this does not constitute a significant effect. In addition,

negative effects are minimized through the use of the best management practices described in Volume III, Appendix G of the MMP.

8. *The proposed actions will not have cumulative impacts or involve a commitment for larger actions.*

Implementation of all the activities in the MMP will result in overall beneficial impacts to the Monument. While there are some activities that may individually result in minor impacts, there are no cumulative significant adverse impacts to natural, cultural, or historical impacts are anticipated as a result of the proposed action. The cumulative effects are summarized in Table 4-2 (Summary of Potential Contribution of the No Action and Proposed Action Alternatives to Cumulative Effects).

The MMP allows resource managers to plan and execute current and future management activities in a manner that satisfies legal mandates set forth in the designation of the Monument and priority management needs identified by the Co-Trustee agencies. Any future management activities beyond the scope of this management plan or that could result in significant effects would undergo a NEPA and HRS Chapter 343 analysis on a case-by-case basis. The proposed action will help inform Monument managers about the conduct of human activities in the Monument, which will help contribute toward the understanding of existing impacts and the prevention of future impacts.

9. *The proposed actions will not affect a rare, threatened, or endangered species or its habitat.*

The proposed action would beneficially affect endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat as defined under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 and HRS §195D-4. The “Threatened and Endangered Species Action Plan” (Section 3.2.1) provides specific activities aimed at helping coordinate the implementation of the recovery plans for threatened and endangered species such as the Hawaiian monk seal, green sea turtles, short-tailed albatross, Laysan duck, Laysan finch, Nihoa finch, Nihoa millerbird and other plans and invertebrates. Other action plans are also considered and approaches integrated to help to protect and when appropriate restore marine, coastal and terrestrial habitats.

10. *The proposed actions will not substantially affect air or water quality or ambient noise levels.*

There will be no significant effect on air or water quality, or on ambient noise levels given the limited scale of the project and use of good management practices. Table 3.5-1 summarizes the effects of MMP implementation on other resources including water quality. The EA examined the impacts to water quality conditions that could be associated with marine, terrestrial and potable water resources; sources of marine pollution; vessel and aircraft activity; potable water supply protection; wastewater management; storm water

management; solid waste management; and management of fueling facilities in the PMNM. Implementation of the proposed action will could have a primarily beneficial water impact on water quality. Any negative impact on water quality or impact associated with change in ambient noise levels will be minimized through the use of the best management practices described in the EA and in Volume III, Appendix G of the MMP. There will be no impact on air quality.

11. *The proposed action will not have a substantial negative effect on those portions of the PMNM that may be located within an environmentally sensitive area.*

As is discussed in greater detail above the purpose of the proposed action is to protect and manage the PMNM in a manner that results in an overall beneficial impact to the PMNM and its resources. While short-term negative effects could occur when conducting activities that involve the restoration, enhancement or protection of organisms and ecosystems, or the rehabilitation of structures could occur, these effects are inherently of short duration and are limited to the site where the activities occur. Affected resources are expected to return to pre-disturbance conditions after activities are completed and the final overall effect of the activity will be an environmentally beneficial one. In addition, negative effects will be minimized through the use of the best management practices and strict permit conditions placed on conducting limited human activities in the Monument.

12. *The proposed actions will not substantially affect scenic vistas and view planes identified or State plans or studies.*

Any Monument related activity that may involve the construction of a permanent structure or the alteration of landscapes will not occur on state of Hawaii lands or on state lands covered by view plans or studies.

13. *The proposed project will not require substantial energy consumption.*

Activities occurring within the PMNM will not require consumption of substantial amounts of energy, and any energy that is expended will be directly related to monument operations. The affected area is not on a local power grid. Additionally, Co-Trustees will work together to develop alternative energy systems and waste reduction strategies including evaluating biodiesel fuel capacity or sustainable fuel types to meet future fuel requirements of aircraft, vessel, facilities and equipment that will be operating within the Monument.

