

## **Third Announcement for the Third Scientific Symposium on Resource Investigations in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands**

This is the third announcement for the Third Scientific Symposium on Resource Investigations in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI), which will be held in **Honolulu, Hawaii** from **November 2-4, 2004**. The NWHI ecosystem is home to a variety of spatially structured communities connected by both explicit and implicit pathways. Research to assess NWHI resources was initiated in the late 1970s as part of a Tripartite Cooperative Agreement between the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources. This initial agreement was then expanded to a Quadripartite Agreement to include the University of Hawaii Sea Grant Program. This agreement was concluded in the early 1980s, but not before two symposiums were convened to exchange research results and ideas. Since the last symposium significant changes in NWHI resources have occurred prompting sweeping management changes and the development and implementation of discrete research initiatives. Many of these initiatives target single species (i.e. monk seals) or functional groups (i.e. lobsters). More recently, multidisciplinary research programs have been implemented. This symposium will provide a forum for the review and synthesis of recent scientific developments in ecological, biological, oceanographic, and resource assessment research in the NWHI, as well as a mechanism for identifying knowledge gaps and delineating future research needs. Topics at the symposium will include marine turtles, seabirds, marine mammals, invertebrate and vertebrate resources, fisheries, oceanography, habitat requirements, socio-economics, management strategies and assessment methodologies, including ecological and foraging models.

Additional specifics concerning contributed papers and posters and the nature of the proceedings will be posted in the coming weeks.

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

<b>March 01, 2004:</b>	Announcement of abstract acceptance
<b>July 15, 2004:</b>	Announcement of scientific program
<b>November 01, 2004:</b>	Papers for the proceedings to be submitted at the symposium

Further details on the symposium will be forthcoming and posted at the symposium web site, go to: <http://www.wpcouncil.org/nwhisymposium.htm>

We look forward to your participation in the symposium and welcoming you to Hawaii in November 2004. If you are interested in receiving more information on the symposium, please leave your contact information with:

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