Informational Presentation on the Request to Expand the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

May 2016

Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council
NWHI Fisheries Management contd.

2005 (Sept.)- Gov. Linda Lingle approves regulations banning fishing in state waters in NWHI

2006 (June)- President Bush established the NWHI monument (later renamed as Papahanaumokuakea MNM)
- closed bottomfish fishery within 5 years
- prohibited all other commercial and recreational fishing (sustenance fishing allowed)
- Prohibited subsistence fishing;
- Permits required for Native Hawaiian traditional activities but not allowed to bring fish and other resources home to family and communities
Overlay of Potential Expansion Footprint on the US Mainland

Potential Monument Expansion = 20% of the area of the Continental US
Key Reasons Opposing the Expansion

- Lack of scientific and conservation justification; low threats; existing comprehensive management regulations and enforcement; no biomass spillover to main Hawaiian Islands; and no climate change buffer or added resiliency.

- Negative socio-economic impacts to Hawaii fisheries, seafood markets, seafood consumers.

- Marine Monuments have only been established in US Pacific Islands Region. 28% of US EEZ in the region is no-take while no other region has closed 1% of their US waters.
Average depth of the proposed expansion area

~5,000 meters (3 miles)

Threat to benthic resources = NONE

96.1% of 50-200nm expansion area is deeper than 4,000 m (2.5 miles)
Albatrosses

- Laysan and black-footed albatross populations are stable or increasing
  - Laysan-~1 million breeding pairs; Black-footed breeding pairs=~68,000
- Extensive range beyond NWHI and US EEZ encompassing most of the North Pacific (Japan to Canada/Mexico)
- Most effective seabird conservation is fisheries mitigation and requiring Hawaii longline mitigation measures on foreign fleets


Humpback Whales

- Hawaii population recovered and proposed for ESA delisting
- Federal protection will continue under MMPA
- Rarely (<1/yr) interacts with HI longline fishery

False Killer Whales

- NWHI population within existing monument boundary
- No observed interactions of NWHI-FKW in HILL
- FKW mitigation measures implemented in Hawaii longline fishery

Source: Baird et al. 2013
Tunas and other pelagics

- Highly migratory species managed domestically and internationally
- HMS stocks range hundreds to thousands of miles
- Larval and adult biomass spill-over is not relevant as larval drift is demonstrated to move from the southeast to northwest
- The MHI will not receive any “subsidy” from the NWHI

- Skipjack = above MSY biomass
- Yellowfin= above MSY biomass
- Albacore = above MSY biomass
- Bigeye = at MSY biomass
- Swordfish= above MSY biomass

30-yr size trend for 18 species of tuna and tuna-like species, billfish, sharks in the Hawaii longline fishery

Size of fish are stable/fishing not impacting spawning success
NEGATIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS TO HAWAII FISHERIES
## 2014 Hawaii Food Crops
(million $, farmgate or dockside)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>$ million</th>
<th>Kept in Hawaii</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Wild Fish Landings</td>
<td>110.0</td>
<td>80-90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>64.9</td>
<td>24%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugarcane</td>
<td>54.3</td>
<td>&lt;5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Macadamia Nuts</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Algae</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bananas</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Papayas</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milk</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lettuce</td>
<td>7.6</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taro</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Port of Honolulu (2014)

32\textsuperscript{nd} in the US in landed fish volume (29 million lbs)

7\textsuperscript{th} in the US in landed fish value ($110 million)

"We do more with less"

Potential Impact to Hawaii Small-scale Fisheries

• The proposed expansion could subsume important fishing grounds to the people of Kauai (Middle Bank, NOAA weather buoy, Niihau)

• These areas produce about 1 million pounds of tunas, billfish, bottomfish, small pelagics and reef fish worth between $3 million and $5 million annually

• Middle Bank is an important bottomfish fishing area, producing high quality fresh bottomfish for the Hawaii seafood market worth $80,000- $160,000 annually
  – Approximately 10% of the MHI bottomfish total annual landed value from Middle Bank
Impacts to Consumers, Markets, State

- $10 million annually in landed value of fish from US EEZ around the NWHI; $30 million annually in Hawaii’s retail markets
- Fresh, iced, local fish replaced by frozen, gas-treated imports
- Poorer quality fish due to longer trips
- Hawaii fisheries support thousands of direct and indirect jobs: vessel captains, crew, fish auction buyers, seafood wholesalers, ice and bait suppliers, vessel repair services, fork lift drivers, delivery drivers, fish cutters, chefs, and food servers
- Increased seafood trade deficit and reliance on illegal, unreported, unregulated and slave labor fisheries
Foreign Longline Vessels Compete with Hawaii Longline Vessels

Taiwan = 1337  Japan = 361  China = 353  Korea = 113

Map Showing Taiwan Longline Fishing Effort-2014
UNFUNDED AREA EXPANSION
Large, Regulated Commercial Fishing Areas of the U.S. EEZ, Western Pacific Region

Marine National Monuments and Sanctuaries
- Existing Marine National Monuments/Sanctuaries
- Closed to all commercial fishing

Bottomfish Restrictions
- Bottomfish/Groundfish fishing prohibited
- Vessels ≥ 40 ft (opening pending)
- Vessels ≥ 50 ft

Pelagic Restrictions
- Longline fishing prohibited
- Vessel ≥ 50 ft

Longline Deep-Set Closure
Trigger: 2 false killer whale serious injury or mortality determinations within the Hawaii EEZ, for the calendar year

Map by: Rebecca Walker, WPRFMC
New United Nations Convention Forming and Focused on High Seas MPAs

The Pew Charitable Trusts
Research & Analysis
Marine Protected Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction

March 15, 2016 | Protecting Ocean Life on the High Seas

SHARE  

WORLD OCEANS

71% of Earth is covered by ocean
64% of the ocean is considered the high seas / international waters
45% of the Earth's surface is covered by the high seas

Source: National Geographic
http://theceanarenow
Erosion of Hawaiian Rights

- The State shall protect all rights customarily and traditionally exercised for subsistence, cultural, and religious purposes for Native Hawaiians (Article XII, Sec 7 of the State Constitution)

- Ceded lands (submerged lands) are to be held in trust for Native Hawaiians and the general public (Article 12, Section 4 of State Constitution)

- Existing monument (0 – 50 miles) prohibits free access to traditional fisheries and gathering resources by requiring federal permits.

- Native Hawaiian traditional fishing has been precluded as bringing fish and other resources back to their families and communities is prohibited

- Monument Expansion:
  - Would further prohibit Hawaiian traditional and cultural access and practices
  - Would expand Federal control over Hawaii’s resources and cultural heritage