

Oppose expansion of Papahānaumokuākea

Those advocating the expansion of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) champion the anti-U.S. fishing movement that inhibits the local production of seafood from our American, Hawaii-based fishing boats that fish in U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone waters out to 200 miles around Hawaii.

A well-funded international organization (Pew) lubricates this anti- fishing effort with a steady flow of money and publicity at every level. On the ground, this movement thrives on idealism and a lack of critical thinking to fuel the demise of one of the most successful and last remaining examples of “buy local.”

Hawaii’s 2050 sustainability plan calls for efforts to support our food security. The U.S.-Hawaiian wild-caught, sustainable and renewable pelagic seafood industry, managed based on science, is the largest contributor supporting our food security.

Let’s not throw out the baby with the bathwater. Do not support the expansion of the PMNM and the end of pelagic fishing by U.S. fishermen in U.S. waters.

Tony Costa

Hawaii Nearshore Fishermen