



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
 Pacific Islands Refuges and Monuments Office  
 300 Ala Moana Blvd Room 5-231  
 PO Box 50167  
 Honolulu, Hawaii 96850



Mr. Archie Taotasi Soliai, Chair  
 Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council  
 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400  
 Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Soliai:

The Pacific Islands Refuges and Monuments Office (PIRAMO), and on behalf of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration, Ecological Services, and Migratory Bird Programs, would like to report to you and the rest of the Council the following activities related to USFWS managed lands and waters in the Western and Central Pacific Region from September 15 to November 15, 2021.

- ***Marianas Trench MNM:***
  - The **Mariana Trench Monument Advisory Council (MTMAC)** agency representatives' nomination package is currently with the Department's White House Liaison for vetting the nominees as of 8/25/21.
- ***Pacific Remote Islands MNM:***
  - Matthew Owens, Sustainability Director for TriMarine Management Company LLC has been selected as the new **Commercial Fishing Representative for the PRIMNM Community Group**. With over 15 years of experience in the seafood industry in the Pacific we look forward to his participation in the group as we move forward with the Monument Management Planning process.
- ***Papahānaumokuākea MNM:***
  - NOAA has released a **Notice of Intent to designate PMNM as a National Marine Sanctuary**. NOAA, FWS and the state are cooperators on a sanctuary designation with NOAA as the lead.
- ***Ecological Services, Aquatic Ecosystems Conservation (AEC) Team:***
  - AEC is working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Research and Development Center and Kewalo Marine Laboratory to **study the effects of dredged sediment on corals**. Laboratory experiments were completed to test coral's response to different sediment doses. Additionally, changes of turbidity

associated with dredging at the mouth of Honolulu Harbor are being measured, along with potential impacts to adjacent reefs.

- AEC is leading a multi-agency (Bishop Museum, University of Hawaii, Old Dominion University, and Papahānaumokuākea MNM) research project to **study the mesophotic coral ecosystems of American Samoa**. This research will document fish abundance and reproductive characteristics of key fish species. We will also investigate coral demographics and bleaching resilience along with an in-depth effort to document the biodiversity across taxa and depth. The project has largely been on hold due to travel restrictions from COVID-19. A coral predictive distribution model has been completed and additional work will begin in winter of 2022.
- ***Marine National Monument Staff Contacts*** – listed are all MNM staff and their email information:
  - Ric Lopez. **PIRAMO Supervisor/Administrator**.  
Email: [ricardo\\_lopez@fws.gov](mailto:ricardo_lopez@fws.gov)
  - Susan White has been hired as the **PIRAMO Deputy Supervisor/Administrator**. She is returning to Hawaii and the Pacific after 4 years and is very familiar with issues here.  
Email: [susan\\_white@fws.gov](mailto:susan_white@fws.gov)
  - Jared Underwood. **Papahānaumokuākea MNM Superintendent**.  
Email: [jared\\_underwood@fws.gov](mailto:jared_underwood@fws.gov)
  - Amanda Boyd. **Papahānaumokuākea MNM Deputy Superintendent**.  
Email: [amanda\\_j\\_boyd@fws.gov](mailto:amanda_j_boyd@fws.gov)
  - Tammy Summers. **Marianas Trench MNM Superintendent**.  
Email: [tammy\\_summers@fws.gov](mailto:tammy_summers@fws.gov)
  - Kate Toniolo. **Pacific Remote Islands MNM Superintendent**.  
Email: [kate\\_toniolo@fws.gov](mailto:kate_toniolo@fws.gov)
  - Stefan Kropidlowski. **Pacific Remote Islands MNM Deputy Superintendent**.  
Email: [stefan\\_kropidlowski@fws.gov](mailto:stefan_kropidlowski@fws.gov)
  - Brian Peck. **Rose Atoll MNM Superintendent**.  
Email: [brian\\_peck@fws.gov](mailto:brian_peck@fws.gov)

Sincerely,

Brian Peck  
 Superintendent/Manager  
 Rose Atoll Marine National Monument  
 and National Wildlife Refuge