



# 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. William Sword  
Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council  
1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Sword:

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 16, 2023 to December 15, 2023.

## ***Marianas Trench MNM:***

- The new MTMAC intergovernmental advisory council members have been appointed. Designated Federal Officer duties for the MTMAC have been transferred from Toni Mizerek to Sean Macduff. Sean Macduff is coordinating date selection for an initial virtual meeting. The MTMAC has been asked to review the current management plan document for feedback to the monument managers.

Term 3 MTMAC members are:

Rich Salas – CNMI  
Frank Rabauliman – CNMI  
Floyd Masga – CNMI  
Maile Norman – USCG  
Gregory Huffman – US Navy

## ***Pacific Remote Islands MNM:***

- The vessel Nautilus is mapping the seafloor in the Jarvis Island Monument Unit through mid-December 2023.
- The Vessel Offshore Surveyor is in the Howland and Baker Monument Units until early December 2023 searching the ocean floor to document historical artifacts.
- The vessel Antea is sampling zooplankton and micronekton and measuring ocean conditions in the Jarvis Island, Baker Island, and Howland Island Monument Units to determine influence on tuna resources. The research will take place through the end of November 2023.

- For the safety of vessels and the resources within the PRIMNM, Refuge Office of Law Enforcement made four educational contacts for the month of October 2023 with vessels that traveled by “innocent passage” closer than 12 nautical miles to Howland Island, Jarvis Island, and Palmyra Atoll.

***Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration:***

- WSFR completed the FAD ESA and EFH consultation with NMFS last week. Some of the conservation recommendations were 1) to increase reporting and communication amongst the territories on FAD losses by FAD type and other environmental conditions to better assess which FAD types last the longest and 2) increase outreach to fisherman related to reporting vandalism and lost FADs.

Sincerely,

Brian Peck  
USFWS WesPac Council Representative  
Superintendent/Manager  
Rose Atoll Marine National Monument  
and National Wildlife Refuge