

PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA MARINE NATIONAL MONUMENT

2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Photo: Claire Fackler

Final Monument Management Plan Released

The Papahānaumoku kea Marine National Monument Management Plan and associated environmental documents were released on Dec. 23, 2008. The draft plan was available for a 90-day public comment period beginning in April 2008, during which monument staff held 10 public meetings in nine communities in Hawaii and one in Washington, D.C., to gather input on the plan. The completed plan contains information about the monument's resources, describes the management framework, and features 22 action plans consisting of strategies and activities to address specific priority management needs over the next 15 years. This plan was developed by the monument co-trustees (NOAA, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the state of Hawaii) in conjunction with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, to meet each of the agencies' planning requirements.



Photo: Paulo Maurin

Climate Change Workshop

In September 2008, approximately 40 coral biologists, marine managers and educators participated in a four-day workshop at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, situated at Moku o Lo'e in Kane'ohe Bay, Oahu. This workshop, sponsored by the Papahānaumoku kea Marine National Monument, NOAA's Coral Reef Watch and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, assembled participants from Palau, Kiribati, American Samoa, Samoa, Aotearoa (New Zealand) and Hawaii. The primary aims of the workshop were to provide participants with the latest tools and information on coral bleaching and ocean acidification and to expand their understanding of these important issues using indigenous knowledge. The participants went through curriculum modules covering topics such as addressing ecological impacts, coral resilience, and predicting and identifying coral bleaching events. Following the workshop, the participants could use their newly acquired skills to develop a local coral bleaching response plan for their community.



Photo: Paulo Maurin

Special Issue of *Current Journal* Dedicated to Northwestern Hawaiian Islands

The January/February 2008 issue of the National Marine Educators Association professional journal of marine education, *Current*, featured the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries – specifically, the Papahānaumoku kea Marine National Monument. The issue contained 10 articles written by experts – inside and outside the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries – that highlight the beauty, uniqueness, ecological diversity and cultural heritage that makes the Papahānaumoku kea Marine National Monument one of America's ocean treasures. The National Marine Educators Association brings together those interested in the study and enjoyment of the world of water and is affiliated with the National Science Teachers Association.

