



Timeline of Protections

PAPAĀNAUMOKUĀKEA Marine National Monument



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1900s 1910s 1920s 1930s 1940s 1950s 1960s 1970s 1980s 1990s 2000s 2010s



1903
In response to U.S. Navy reports that large numbers of seabirds were being slaughtered for feathers and eggs, President Theodore Roosevelt signs Executive Order No. 199A, placing Midway Atoll under control of the Navy.

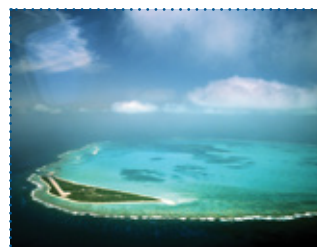
1909
President Theodore Roosevelt issues Executive Order No. 1019, creating the Hawaiian Islands Bird Reservation around islands from Nihoa to Kure Atoll to further protect these islands and their resources.



1940
President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs Presidential Proclamation No. 2416, changing the name of the Hawaiian Islands Bird Reservation to the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge - managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - and broadening refuge purposes to protect all wildlife.



1988
President Ronald Reagan signs legislation assigning stewardship responsibilities for Midway Atoll to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.



1993
The State of Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources designates Kure Atoll a State Seabird Sanctuary, now the Kure Atoll State Wildlife Sanctuary.

1996
President William Clinton issues Executive Order No. 13022, transferring Midway Atoll management responsibilities from the U.S. Navy to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

2000s

2000 and 2001
President William Clinton issues Executive Order No. 13158, directing the development of a plan to protect the NWHI coral reef ecosystem, and calls for public participation in the design of additional protection measures for the NWHI. As a result of public comments and negotiations between President Clinton and Congress, the 2000 Amendments to the National Marine Sanctuaries Act authorizes the creation of a NWHI Reserve. President Clinton issues Executive Orders No. 13178 and No. 13196 in December 2000 and January 2001, creating the NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, to include areas adjacent to state waters extending seaward to approximately 50 nautical miles.

2005
Hawai'i State Governor Linda Lingle signs regulations establishing the NWHI Marine Refuge, which includes all state waters extending three miles seaward from any coastline between and including Nihoa and Kure Atoll, but excluding Midway Atoll. This designation allows for the management and long-term conservation of marine resources within state waters.



2006
President George W. Bush signs Presidential Proclamation 8031, establishing the NWHI Marine National Monument with contiguous boundaries to include the NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, the Battle of Midway National Memorial, Kure Atoll Wildlife Sanctuary, and the Hawai'i State NWHI Marine Refuge. The monument designation promotes coordinated management of the unique resources within the NWHI region.

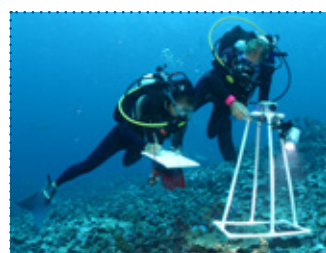
2008
The International Maritime Organization (IMO), a specialized agency of the United Nations, designates the Monument as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA). This designation allows for the implementation of a ship reporting system, called CORAL SHIPREP, requiring all transiting vessels with the intent to enter a U.S. port or place of a certain size to notify when entering and exiting Monument boundaries; other international transiting vessels are recommended by the IMO to avoid Monument waters or participate in the reporting system. The Monument is the second marine protected area in the United States to receive PSSA designation. It joins ten (now 14) other PSSAs worldwide, including the Florida Keys, the Great Barrier Reef and the Galapagos.



2010
Delegates to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) 34th World Heritage Convention in Brasilia, Brazil unanimously vote to inscribe the Monument as one of only 26 (now 32) mixed (natural and cultural) World Heritage Sites in the world.



2016
On Friday, August 26, 2016, President Barack Obama signs a proclamation expanding PMNM to 582,578 square miles (1,508,870 km²), nearly the size of the Gulf of Mexico, making it once again the biggest protected area - terrestrial or marine - on the planet.



1976
The tripartite agreement among the State of Hawai'i, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and NOAA Fisheries provides a framework for extensive ecological research in the NWHI beginning in 1976. From October 1976 to September 1981, the agencies, along with the University of Hawai'i Sea Grant Program, survey the islands, banks, reefs, shelves, seamounts and overlying waters within the 200-nautical mile Fishery Conservation Zone and amass data on the various marine and land inhabitants. Two major symposia covering the joint efforts are held at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa in 1979 and 1983. The proceedings of these symposia contain the results of more than 100 research projects.