

or injured. Funds recovered under 312 are used to restore, replace or acquire equivalent sanctuary resources. As part of the restoration process at the site of the M/V Wellwood grounding, NOAA and its authorized contractor will be placing reef modules and tremie concrete to rebuild the physical structure of the damaged coral reef. This activity will occur from April 15, 2002 through August 15, 2002.

Because divers, moorings, heavy construction materials and equipment (e.g., barges and cranes) and increased localized boat traffic will be present during the restoration activity, NOAA requests the public to avoid an area of approximately 0.58 acres where the restoration activity will occur. Five to seven, recreational mooring buoys will be removed from the work area and the nearby vicinity. The work area will be marked by construction buoys. The buoys will be set about 30 feet beyond the barge tie down locations, and create an area approximately 200 feet by 150 feet, with the longer axis oriented in a NE-SW direction, around the grounding site (25°0.67' N, 80°22.37' W). The intent is to provide an area for the conduct of these important restoration activities; protect the life and property of construction crews and Sanctuary users while heavy construction materials and equipment (e.g., barges and cranes) are in the area; protect moorings which will be used at the site of stabilize the barges; protect the surface air supply hoses of the divers and SCUBA crew who will be conducting the restoration activities; and ensure timely and successful completion of the restoration. The area that the public is requested to avoid is the minimum area necessary to moor the barges and includes buffer zones to moor support vessels and provide an extra margin for public safety during the restoration activities. The time period for which the public is requested to avoid the restoration site is the expected time necessary to complete the construction activities. If less or more time is needed, NOAA will so notify the public. During the spring of 2002, one-on-one contact was made with local dive operators, a public meeting was held to explain the restoration project and make the public aware of the area it would be requested to temporarily avoid. Additionally, NOAA issued press releases to the local newspapers and radio stations which have covered the restoration planning process and which have provided notice of NOAA's request for the public to avoid the restoration area.

### Locations and Boundaries of the Area the Public Is Requested To Avoid

The area which the public is requested to avoid is located approximately 6 nautical miles offshore the southeast portion of the Key Largo, Florida (centered near 25° 0.67' N, 80° 22.37' W). The total area is approximately 0.58 acres. The boundary of this area will be marked by construction buoys.

The area is bounded by the following coordinates:

Latitude	Longitude
A: 25°00' 37.96364"N	80°22' 14.60425"W
B: 25°00' 31.20173"N	80°22' 22.54159"W
C: 25°00' 45.20646"N	80°22' 22.02476"W
D: 25°00' 38.44445"N	80°22' 29.96212"W

Dated: July 16, 2002.

**Jamison S. Hawkins,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Public Scoping Period for the Proposed Designation of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary; Reopening of Comment Period

**AGENCY:** National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comment; re-opening of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is re-opening, until August 6, 2002, the period for submission of public comments on the proposed designation of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary.

**DATES:** Comments on the proposed designation must be received by close of business August 6, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be sent to NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, 6700 Kalaniana'ole Highway, #215, Honolulu, Hawaii 96825; faxed to (808) 3972662; or emailed to [nwhi@noaa.gov](mailto:nwhi@noaa.gov). Comments will be available for public review at the office address above.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Aulani Wilhelm, (808) 397-2657, [nwhi@noaa.gov](mailto:nwhi@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On December 4, 2000, Executive Order 13178 established the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, pursuant to the National Marine Sanctuaries Amendments Act of 2000. The Reserve extends approximately 1200 nautical miles long and 100 nautical miles wide. Pursuant to this Act and the Executive Order, NOAA initiated the process to designate the Reserve as a national marine sanctuary by issuing a notice of intent on January 19, 2001 (66 FR 5509). The public scoping period was announced on March 18, 2002 (67 FR 11996), with a closing date of May 3, 2002. The close of the public scoping period was extended to May 17, 2002 (67 FR 17673). Because of continuing public interest as indicated by the number of comments received during and after the comment period, NOAA is re-opening the comment period until August 6, 2002. Any comments that may have been received between May 17, 2002 and July 22, 2002, will be considered timely filed.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*, Pub. L. 106-513, (Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program).

Dated: July 16, 2002.

**Jamison S. Hawkins,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator, for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071602A]

#### Marine Mammals; File No. 1034-1685 and Permit No. 751-1614

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Receipt of application for a permit and application to amend a permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of marine mammals for purposes of scientific research: NMFS has received a permit application from Dr. Markus Horning, Department of Marine Biology, Texas A&M University, Galveston, TX 77551, to take California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*); and an application to amend Permit No. 751-1614 issued to the Ocean Alliance/ Whale Conservation Institute, 191