



# Proclamation

*In Recognition of*

## The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

**WHEREAS**, June 15, 2016 marks the ten-year anniversary of the establishment of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, an occasion that serves as an important reminder of our state's commitment to work cooperatively with the federal government toward the long-term conservation and protection of the resources of the northwestern Hawaiian islands for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, the area is biologically, historically, spiritually and culturally significant because of a marine environment that comprises nearly 70% of the coral reefs within the United States and in the northern end contains the highest rates of endemic sea life in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the lands within Papahānaumokuākea support the largest seabird rookery on the planet, are the *only* home for four endangered land birds, and serve as an important pupping and nesting habitat for both endangered Hawaiian monk seals and Hawaiian green sea turtles; and

**WHEREAS**, these waters are considered some of the healthiest ocean environments on the planet and continue to serve as navigational pathways connecting our chain of islands for a variety of purpose, and are also considered historic because of the Battle of Midway during World War II and still includes Japanese and U.S. crash sites; and

**WHEREAS**, this region represents Pō, the area where Native Hawaiians believe all life originated and to which ancestral spirits return after death; the Monument also sits close to the Tropic of Cancer, known in Hawaiian as Ke Ala Polohiwa a Kāne, the westward pathway for ancestral spirits; and it crosses the island of Mokumanamana which contains the highest concentration of ceremonial sites in our archipelago; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2010 the Monument was internationally recognized as a mixed (Cultural *and* Natural) World Heritage site by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) for its outstanding universal cultural and natural value, and remains the only "mixed" World Heritage site in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, *together* in the spirit of cooperative conservation, the state Department of Land and Natural Resources and Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and the federal National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, use an innovative resource management approach to mālama the Monument by employing adaptive and coordinated management strategies to build resiliency in response to global challenges such as a changing climate, and integrating traditional ecological knowledge with western science to enhance the overall understanding of the Monument's natural, cultural and historic resources to honor this *‘āina momona* (place of abundance);

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor, of the State of Hawai'i,** do hereby proclaim June 15, 2016 as

## "PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA MARINE NATIONAL MONUMENT DAY"

and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to recognize the ten-year anniversary of the establishment of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument and to celebrate and honor the partnership of state and federal leadership that protects this treasured *pu'uhonua* (place of refuge).

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this fifteenth day of June 2016.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i