



MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
COMMITTEE
56th session
Agenda item 8

MEPC 56/INF.2
5 April 2007
ENGLISH ONLY

**IDENTIFICATION AND PROTECTION OF SPECIAL AREAS
AND PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE SEA AREAS**

**Designation of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument
as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area**

Submitted by the United States

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document is submitted in support of the United States proposal to designate the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (North-western Hawaiian Islands or NWHI) as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) (MEPC 56/8). It provides references and other information considered by the United States in developing its PSSA proposal.

Action to be taken: Paragraph 3

Related documents: Resolutions A.982(24), A.885(21) and A.720(17); MEPC 56/8; MSC XLIII/16/1; NAV 38/3/2; NAV XXIII/13 and NAV XXI/4/6

1 In document MEPC 56/8, the United States proposes the designation of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (North-western Hawaiian Islands or NWHI) as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) to protect the recognized attributes of this fragile and integrated coral reef ecosystem from damage by international shipping activities. The burden on international shipping by the proposed PSSA and its associated protective measures is minimal while the objectives for establishing it – increased maritime safety, protection of the fragile environment, preservation of cultural resources and areas of cultural importance significant to Native Hawaiians, and facilitation of the ability to respond to developing maritime emergencies – are significantly furthered.

2 The annexes to this document provide references and other information considered by the United States in developing its PSSA proposal. Annex 1 is a list of select vessel incidents in the vicinity of the North-western Hawaiian Islands from 1970-2006. Annex 2 is a select bibliography of materials that support the proposal: Part A of annex 2 sets forth materials in support of section 3 and the proposal in general and Part B sets forth materials in support of section 4.

Action Requested of the Committee

3 The Committee is invited to note the information provided in this paper and consider it when considering the United States proposal to designate the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area.

ANNEX 1

**SELECT VESSEL INCIDENTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE NWHI
FROM 1970-2006**

| Vessel | Date | Location | Vessel Size & Type | Impacts |
|---|----------|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| Kaiyo Maru (Japanese) | 2/7/70 | Laysan | 110 ft., 115 g.t. fishing vessel | Parts still on island. |
| Houei Maru (Japanese) | 1976 | Kure Atoll | 300 g.t. trawler | 17 crewmembers lost. Parts still on atoll. |
| Good Friends | 12/13/76 | Pearl and Hermes Atoll | 51 ft. sailing boat | Unidentified |
| Irenes Challenge (United States) | 1/17/77 | Approx. 50 mi. N. of Lisianski | 640 ft. tank vessel | 10.4 million gallons oil spilled. |
| Hawaiian Patriot (United States) | 2/24/77 | Approx. 125 miles S. of French Frigate Shoals | Tank vessel | Vessel burned and sank; total amount oil spilled and left onboard combined: 31.2 million gallons. |
| Santa Ines | 3/10/80 | French Frigate Shoals | 80 ft. steel hull | Unidentified |
| Anangel Liberty (Greek) | 4/27/80 | French Frigate Shoals | 538 ft., 13,633 g.t. freighter | 2200 lbs. kaolin clay dumped in order to free ship from reef. Damage to coral communities occurred. |
| Keola (United States) | 1/18/81 | Little Gin Island, French Frigate Shoals | Fishing vessel | Unidentified |
| Carolyn K (United States) | 2/5/85 | 1.5 mi S. of Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals | Fishing vessel | 200 gallons diesel fuel spilled. |
| OMI Yukon (United States) | 10/28/86 | 300 mi. SE of Midway Atoll | Oil tanker | Vessel burned and sank. |
| Mimi (United States) | 6/26/89 | Pearl and Hermes Atoll | 35 ft. fishing vessel | Salvage effort failed, vessel broke up on reef. |
| Paradise Queen II (United States) | 10/16/98 | Kure Atoll | 80 ft. fishing vessel | 4,000 gallons diesel fuel spilled. |
| Swordman I (United States) | 6/5/2000 | Pearl and Hermes Atoll | 77 ft. longliner | \$1.5 million response and removal cost. |
| Casitas (United States) | 7/2/2005 | Pearl and Hermes Atoll | 145 ft. research vessel | \$5 million response and removal cost. |

ANNEX 2

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Part A

Select Bibliography of Materials for Section 3 and Proposal in General

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Part B

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