

# PAPAHĀNAUMOKUĀKEA



**PRESS RELEASE**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## FOR CALENDARS AND INVITATION TO COVER

### **Papahānaumokuākea and Waikiki Aquarium Partner for Monk Seal Saturday on November 6th** First 200 Keiki Receive Limited Edition Monk Seal Plush Toy

To help bring attention to the plight of Hawaiian Monk Seals and to raise awareness of and appreciation for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve (NWHICRER), whose boundaries lie within the Monument, the Waikiki Aquarium hosts *Monk Seal Saturday* on Nov. 6, 2010 from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The first 200 keiki through the gate will receive a limited-edition plush stuffed monk seal after they participate in the “name the seal contest.” The winning entrant will receive a prize package including an annual family pass to the Waikiki Aquarium and books and art work from famed Hawaiian monk seal artist Patrick Ching. In addition staff from PMNM and the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS) will have a monk seal button-making activity, monk seal hats and tattoos available. Parents will be provided with information on both the Monument and the Sanctuary and on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NWHICRER. Families can also observe one of the twice daily feedings of the aquarium’s two resident endangered Hawaiian Monk Seals.

**WHAT:** *Monk Seal Saturday*

**WHEN:** Saturday, Nov. 6, 2010 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Waikiki Aquarium, 2777 Kalakaua Avenue, Honolulu  
(Normal Admission fees apply)

**WHY:** To educate young people and adults about the plight of the critically endangered Hawaiian Monk Seal and the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve

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There are fewer than 1100 critically endangered Hawaiian Monk Seals, and a majority of them live in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. Both the seals and the Monument have become symbols for the need for strong, lasting conservation and protection of this animal and the special place in which they live.

Papahānaumokuākea is cooperatively managed to ensure ecological integrity and achieve strong, long-term protection and perpetuation of Northwestern Hawaiian Island ecosystems, Native Hawaiian culture, and heritage resources for current and future generations. Three co-trustees – the Department of Commerce, Department of the Interior, and State of Hawai‘i – joined by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, protect this special place. Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument was inscribed as the first mixed (natural and cultural) UNESCO World Heritage Site in the United States in July 2010. For more information, please visit [www.papahanaumokuakea.gov](http://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov)