

Native Hawaiian Permission and Release Protocol for ROV Deep Dives in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument

This ceremony is specifically for ROV deep dives for the purpose of gathering kinolau (meaning ‘many forms,’ referring to plants or animals) for obtaining knowledge. This ceremony is the minimum reciprocation allowed.

1. The permission verse must be done by the individuals gathering the material themselves;
NO PROCTOR ALLOWED.
2. The permission verse also must be done by the individuals working with the kinolau.
3. The release chant (the “thank you”) must be done when leaving the BY EVERYONE.

Asking for permission – done in a Kawele or talking style, therefore does not need to be Chanted but you can if you wish. At the least it is done twice.

E Kanaloahaunawele

Composed by Huihui Kanahale-Mossman

E Kanaloahaunawele
o ke kai uli a palaoa
I na ‘apana li‘ili‘i na‘u
i homai ai i ka ‘ike a ka hohonu
i pa‘a ka makawalu a Kanaloa
Ola ke au a Kanaloa

*Kanaloa the foundational element
of the dark blue place of the Sperm Whale
a small piece for me
so that I can receive the knowledge of the deep
in order to confirm the diversity of Kanaloa
Life to the water of Kanaloa*

Release – a sort of thank you but you don’t actually say thank you. You must release and break yourself away from this endeavor and move on to the next task. Do this as many times as you need to. When you feel you released yourselves then you can stop. DONE BY EVERYONE.

Mai lalo ka moana o‘o

Composed by Huihui Kanahale-Mossman

Mai lalo ka moana o‘o
Hanau ka uko‘a, ‘ako i ke ‘akamai
Lana i ke kai o Mokupapapapa
Ola ke au a Kanaloa

*From the bottom where the ocean is mottled
the polyps come forth that I may gather the intelligence
To that which floats on the surface of Mokupapapa
Long live the waters of Kanaloa*

Additional information

In the mythology of old Hawaii, Kanaloa was the god of the ocean, a healer god, and the close companion of Kane, the god of creation. In the traditions of ancient Hawai'i, Kanaloa is symbolized by the squid or by the octopus.

Mokupapapa refers to the northwesternmost atoll in the Hawaiian archipelago, also known as Kure Atoll.