

From: [Morton, Sean A.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: FW: Designating national monuments
Date: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 4:56:31 PM
Attachments:

Sean Morton
Council on Environmental Quality
Washington, D.C. 20503
Office: 202-456-9726
Cell: 202-384-7312

From: Savelieff, Ludmilla L.
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 8:52 AM
To: Pearce, Hardy L.; Morton, Sean A.; Weiss, Michael I.
Cc: Hellmer, Kristen A.; Scheve, Christopher S.
Subject: FW: Designating national monuments

From: Anderson Jr, William D. [mailto:AndersonWD@cofc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2008 7:26 PM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Subject: Designating national monuments

Mr. James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Connaughton:

This is to strongly support the designation of eight US territories and possessions in the central Pacific Ocean as fully protected national

monuments. I urge full protection of those islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake) out to 200 nautical miles.

Those islands are extremely important for the conservation of coral reefs and their associated biota, particularly in view of the facts that

1. They include almost four times as many shallow-water reef-building coral species as do the Florida Keys;
2. They are home to hundreds of fish species, dozens of seabird species, and a huge number of invertebrate species, including many found nowhere else;
3. They are sanctuaries for large migrating fishes and endangered and threatened species such as green and hawksbill sea turtles, giant clams, and marine mammals; and
4. They are used by millions of seabirds (including tropicbirds, boobies, frigatebirds, terns, noddies, petrels, shearwaters, and albatrosses) as critical stopover points, breeding areas, and feeding grounds.

At a time—**NOW**—when the protection of all natural resources is so critically important, it would be a feather in the cap of the current administration to leave these islands in a protected state in perpetuity.

Yours very truly,

William D. Anderson, Jr.

Grice Marine Biological Laboratory
205 Fort Johnson
Charleston, South Carolina 29412-9110

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From: [Morton, Sean A.](#)
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Subject: FW: national monuments
Date: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 4:55:05 PM
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Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 3:11 PM
To: Weiss, Michael I.; Morton, Sean A.; Pearce, Hardy L.; Boling, Edward A.
Cc: Hellmer, Kristen A.; Scheve, Christopher S.; Pasko, Michael R.; Lazaroff, Mark A.
Subject: FW: national monuments

-----Original Message-----

From: John Avise [<mailto:javise@uci.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 11:05 AM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Subject: national monuments

Dr. James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20503

Dear Dr. Connaughton,

This letter is in strong support of President Bush's consideration to designate eight remote U.S. territories and possessions in the central Pacific Ocean as fully protected national monuments. These areas encompass nearly four times as much shallow-water reef-building coral species as the Florida Keys, and they are home to hundreds of fish species, dozens of seabird species, and countless invertebrates, including many found nowhere else. The territories also provide important sanctuaries for migrating fishes, threatened and endangered species of marine turtles, marine mammals, and others. Furthermore, millions of seabirds use these areas as critical stopover points on their migrational journeys, and also as breeding areas and feeding grounds. These include

tropicbirds, boobies, frigatebirds, terns, noddies, petrels, shearwaters, and albatrosses. During my 40-year career, I have conducted genetic research on many of these species, and thus I feel unusually well qualified to make these comments and recommendations.

Designating and then protecting these remote areas as national monuments will be a wonderful accomplishment and legacy for this administration, and an important step in the ongoing effort to improve the global environment for ourselves and for future generations.

Sincerely yours,

John C. Avise
Distinguished Professor of Ecology and Evolution University of California Irvine, CA.,
92797

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To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: FW: Scientific support for central Pacific protection
Date: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 4:56:45 PM
Attachments: [Greg-mlml sig & logo.gif](#)

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Subject: FW: Scientific support for central Pacific protection

From: Gregor Cailliet [<mailto:cailliet@mlml.calstate.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2008 7:48 PM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Subject: Scientific support for central Pacific protection

To: James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20503

Re: Scientific support for central Pacific protection

Dear Mr. Connaughton:

I understand that on August 25th, President Bush directed the Departments of Defense, Interior, and Commerce, and the Council on Environmental Quality to advise him on the prospect of protecting these central Pacific areas. I also understand that the President has asked for public comments in regards to designating these areas.

I am writing as a Professor of Ichthyology and Marine Ecology in the California State University system urging you to recommend to President Bush that he designate eight remote US territories and possessions in the central Pacific Ocean as fully protected national monuments.

I encourage full protection of the entire exclusive economic zone (out to 200 nautical miles) of these remote US territories and possessions in the central Pacific Ocean, including Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake. These areas deserve full protection for their significance as some of the last remaining relatively intact coral reef ecosystems, their diverse fish and invertebrate communities, the habitat they provide for millions of seabirds, and the sanctuary they offer many threatened and endangered species.

I study marine fishes, many groups of which occupy the habitats in the proposed areas for conservation and protection. While I do not directly study those habitats and fishes, I do know that these areas encompass nearly four times as many shallow-water reef-building coral species as the Florida Keys. I also am aware that they are home and habitats to hundreds of fish species and many taxa of invertebrates, sea birds, reptiles, and some mammals. I understand that some of these are unique in that they only live in that region.

I am also aware that these areas are habitat (even perhaps sanctuaries) for large migrating fishes and endangered and threatened species such as green and hawksbill sea turtles, giant clams, and marine mammals. They use these islands as critical stopover points, breeding areas and feeding grounds.

As a scientist, I strongly urge you to recommend that President Bush

permanently protect these essential habitats in the central Pacific.

Sincerely yours,

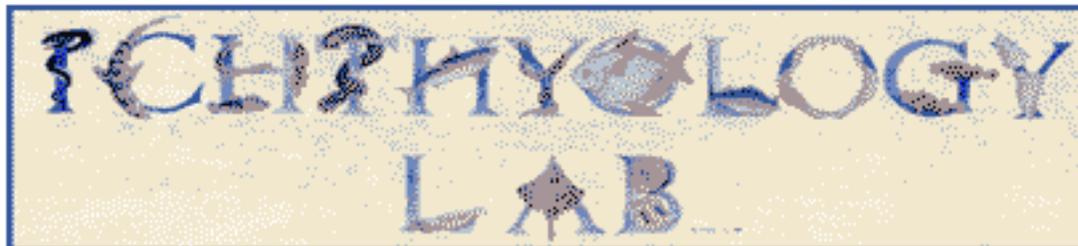
Gregor M. Cailliet

From:

Gregor M. Cailliet, Professor
Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
8272 Moss Landing Road
Moss Landing, California 95039-9619
<http://www.mlml.calstate.edu>

&

Program Director
Pacific Shark Research Center
<http://psrc.mlml.calstate.edu/>
(831) 771-4432; Fax (831) 632-4403
CAILLIET@MLML.CALSTATE.EDU



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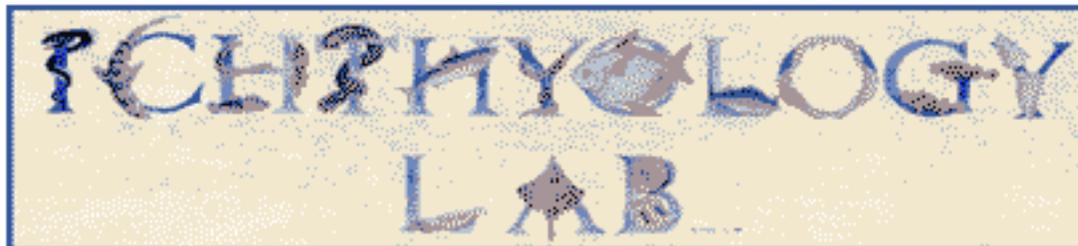
Gregor M. Cailliet

From:

Gregor M. Cailliet, Professor
Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
8272 Moss Landing Road
Moss Landing, California 95039-9619
<http://www.mlml.calstate.edu>

&

Program Director
Pacific Shark Research Center
<http://psrc.mlml.calstate.edu/>
(831) 771-4432; Fax (831) 632-4403
CAILLIET@MLML.CALSTATE.EDU



From: [Bryan Jones](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Students on Saipan ask your help to protect ... our Oceans & Marine life
Date: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 5:50:19 AM
Attachments: [IMG_4967.jpg](#)
[ATT655411.txt](#)
[IMG_368.jpg](#)
[ATT655412.txt](#)
[IMG_556.jpg](#)
[ATT655413.txt](#)
[DSC_280.jpg](#)
[ATT655414.txt](#)

Dear Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality,

Please come help us protect our ... Oceans and Marine life ...
by creating the "MARIANA TRENCH MARINE MONUMENT"

We all look forward to you visiting our Island ... Saipan CNMI ..

Hafa Adai

Mr. Jones Class
room c-201
Marianas High School
Saipan MP 96950

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Mr. Jones Class
room c-201
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Saipan MP 96950

From: [Les Kaufman](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Public comment expressing strong support for new no-take marine reserves in the US-Pacific
Date: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 10:13:10 PM
Attachments:

Gentlewomen/men:

I am writing to express my strongest support for the creation of new marine reserves in the areas of the Pacific currently under consideration for marine protected area status. By marine reserves, I mean areas in which extraction (e.g. fishing, mining, etc.) and other forms of gross habitat and biological disturbance are not permitted. These are also known as no-take reserves.

Following on the declaration of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument encompassing the Northwest Hawaiian Islands, this administration has the opportunity to leave behind a legacy of marine protection unprecedented in American history, and approximated in world history only by the Phoenix Islands and Great Barrier Reef marine protected areas.

In addition to the symbolic value of declaring an area as of special concern, however, these proposed MPA's should be placed under as complete a protective umbrella as possible. That would mean no commercial or recreational fishing, no mineral extraction, and no major construction or development except as may be compatible with conservation of natural ecosystems (e.g. ecotourism). This would serve the interests of both the economic and spiritual well-being of the current residents of island states within these waters, as well as of all future generations, and is likely to yield tangible returns greatly in excess of anything that could be produced through resource extraction.

The institution of full marine reserve status would be a much more significant gesture than the general declaration of marine national monument or sanctuary designation. If the Administration wishes to do something truly bold and lasting, and to set an example for the world by putting a significant portion of the world in trust for our descendants, this is the way to go.

Sincerely,

Les Kaufman
Professor of Biology
Associate Director
Boston University Marine Program
and
Senior PI
Marine Management Area Science
Conservation International

“I know the human being and fish can coexist peacefully.”

George W. Bush

Saginaw, Michigan; September 29, 2000

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George W. Bush

Saginaw, Michigan; September 29, 2000

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Michelle Lord [MLord@cookcountyassessor.com]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 9:50 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: marine protection

I'm emailing in favor of protecting as much land and water as possible seeing how they are constantly raped by man for profit!! We need something done pronto!!

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: FW: Support for Central Pacific Protection
Date: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 4:55:29 PM
Attachments:

From: Savelieff, Ludmilla L.
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 3:12 PM
To: Weiss, Michael I.; Morton, Sean A.; Pearce, Hardy L.; Boling, Edward A.
Cc: Hellmer, Kristen A.; Scheve, Christopher S.; Lazaroff, Mark A.; Pasko, Michael R.
Subject: FW: Support for Central Pacific Protection

From: Scott Shaffer [mailto:shaffer@biology.ucsc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 1:00 PM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Subject: Support for Central Pacific Protection

<!--[endif]-->Dear Chairman Connaughton,
I urge you, your Council on Environmental Quality, and the President, to take swift action in protecting the Central Pacific Islands under US sovereignty. Much like the President's action on the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, these Central Pacific Islands deserve the same protection as a valuable natural resource. I have personally conducted research on the seabirds at Palmyra Atoll (May 2007) and it is an amazing place. I also have a long standing research program on seabirds in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands. These islands are biodiversity hotspots that should be conserved for the following reasons:

These areas encompass nearly four times as many shallow-water reef-building coral species as the Florida Keys

Home to hundreds of fish species, dozens of seabird species, and an untold number of invertebrate species, including many found nowhere else.

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Scott Shaffer

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Dr. Scott A. Shaffer
Institute of Marine Sciences &
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
University of California Santa Cruz
100 Shaffer Road
Santa Cruz, CA 95060-5730
Tel: +1 831 459 1291
Fax: +1 831 459 3383
Email: shaffer@biology.ucsc.edu

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Tel: +1 831 459 1291
Fax: +1 831 459 3383
Email: shaffer@biology.ucsc.edu

From: [Savelieff, Ludmilla L.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Tiari, Logan; Boling, Edward A.;](#)
CC: [Hellmer, Kristen A.; Scheve, Christopher S.; Lazaroff, Mark A.; Pasko, Michael R.;](#)
Subject: FW: [Fwd: Marine Reserves]
Date: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 5:09:06 PM
Attachments:

-----Original Message-----

From: jweis@andromeda.rutgers.edu [<mailto:jweis@andromeda.rutgers.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 3:42 PM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Subject: [Fwd: Marine Reserves]

Dear Chairman,

I am writing to urge you to urge President Bush to extend protection to waters around remote US possessions in the central Pacific Ocean, including Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake. These areas have many more shallow-water reef-building coral species as the Florida Keys and deserve full protection. They are among the last remaining relatively intact coral reef ecosystems in US waters harboring diverse fish and invertebrate communities. They are home for hundreds of fish species, dozens of seabird species, and unknown numbers of invertebrate species, including many found nowhere else. They serve as sanctuaries for large migrating fishes and endangered species such as green and hawksbill sea turtles, giant clams, and various marine mammals.

Millions of seabirds use these areas as critical stopover points, breeding areas and feeding grounds, including tropicbirds, boobies, frigatebirds, terns, noddies, petrels, shearwaters and albatrosses. These areas provide sanctuary for many threatened and endangered species. It is particularly important to set aside and protect these areas, particularly in view of the extensive environmental problems being experienced by many other marine areas (including many coral reefs) due to pollution, habitat loss, climate change, and overfishing.

Sincerely,

Judith S. Weis, Professor (Marine Biology) Dept. of Biological Sciences Rutgers
University Newark NJ 07102

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To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Tiari, Logan; Boling, Edward A.;](#)
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Millions of seabirds use these areas as critical stopover points, breeding areas and feeding grounds, including tropicbirds, boobies, frigatebirds, terns, noddies, petrels, shearwaters and albatrosses. These areas provide sanctuary for many threatened and endangered species. It is particularly important to set aside and protect these areas, particularly in view of the extensive environmental problems being experienced by many other marine areas (including many coral reefs) due to pollution, habitat loss, climate change, and overfishing.

Sincerely,

Judith S. Weis, Professor (Marine Biology) Dept. of Biological Sciences Rutgers
University Newark NJ 07102

From: [Enrique Dela Cruz](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marine Monument for the U. S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Date: Saturday, October 11, 2008 6:59:00 PM
Attachments:

Gentlemen:

My name is Enrique Tamaoki Dela Cruz. I am sixty-years old and born on the island of Saipan in 1948.

The establishment of the Marine Monument here would greatly enhance our dimishing fish population and would continue to put food on the table for our future children and their children to come.

Therefore, I'm in total support for the establishment of the proposed Marine Monument for the Northern Mariana Islands and I urged President Bush to approve the Marine Monument without hesitation.

Sincerely,

Enrique T. Dela Cruz
Northern Marianas Descent

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To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
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Sincerely,

Enrique T. Dela Cruz
Northern Marianas Descent

From: nabstery@wildmail.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Designate Marine Monument in Central and Western Pacific
Date: Friday, October 10, 2008 2:19:14 PM
Attachments:

Chairman James Connaughton
Council on Environmental Quality

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

I urge the Administration to use its authority to protect priceless - and uninhabited - federal islands, reefs, shoals and their surrounding undersea ecosystems in the U.S. waters of the Central and Western Pacific. Please designate these areas as fully protected, no-take marine national monuments. The areas that should be protected include the waters around the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Rose Atoll in American Samoa and the U.S. Central Pacific Islands.

Our oceans are in trouble. You will undoubtedly face immense pressure to allow a host of activities including commercial and recreational fishing, deep sea mining and other threats that are pushing our oceans to the brink of collapse. It is from exactly these same threats that these remote and now-unspoiled waters of the U.S. Pacific need to be protected. The overall health of the marine environment depends on setting aside extraordinary areas like these to conserve the resources we have and to allow our oceans to replenish themselves.

It is crucial that this Administration minimize human impacts on these significant areas and protect them for future generations. Please advise the President to designate this handful of valuable and critically important sites in U.S. waters around the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa and the Central Pacific as no-extraction marine national

monuments.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
James Hibbard
587 Gifford St. Unit 8, Apt 6
Falmouth, MA 02540

cc:
LiAnna Davis

From: nabstery@wildmail.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
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James Hibbard
587 Gifford St. Unit 8, Apt 6
Falmouth, MA 02540

cc:
LiAnna Davis

From: FreakJonnyK@hotmail.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Designate Marine Monument in Central and Western Pacific
Date: Friday, October 10, 2008 2:19:15 PM
Attachments:

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Sincerely,
Jonathan Knowles
Park Edge
Alton GU34 4LB

cc:
LiAnna Davis

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Jonathan Knowles
Park Edge
Alton GU34 4LB

cc:
LiAnna Davis

From: KRAMPEPAUL@aol.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Pacific Marine Conservation Assessment
Date: Friday, October 10, 2008 6:18:09 PM
Attachments: [LtrtoJConnaughtonreMarineReserves.pdf](#)

Dear James L. Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality:

Subject: PRESS RELEASE - Federal Partners Announce Series of Open Houses on Potential Marine Conservation Areas - Request for Information.

I am writing to you on behalf of the American Tunaboat Association (ATA). The ATA represents the U.S. tuna purse seine fleet, which operates primarily in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO). I have written to you previously on this matter, but I am including in this message additional information for your consideration. Our vessels catch tuna that are highly migratory and roam throughout the Pacific Ocean. Our fleet catches the great majority of light meat tuna caught by U.S. flag fishing vessels operating in these areas and is the largest supplier of tuna to the US canneries located in American Samoa.

It is our understanding that the Departments of Commerce, Interior and Defense as well as the Council on Environmental Quality have begun a review of potential "marine conservation management areas." We strongly hope that our fleet's concerns are taken into consideration during this review since this area is where most of our vessels operate. Areas of special concern include Jarvis Island, Howland Island, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll. Johnson Atoll and Wake Island are not areas that our vessels operate in.

The United States has a fishing treaty called the South Pacific Tuna Treaty (Treaty) with 16 Pacific island countries that gives our fleet access to a

defined Treaty area. For 20 years this agreement has served as a model of cooperation among the U.S. and the other 16 signatories to this Treaty. We have worked closely with our State Department and NOAA for over 20 years to maximize our access to the Treaty area. U.S. restrictions of its own fleets to this area would send a very bad signal to the Pacific island parties from an access standpoint. The areas I mention represent a significant amount of our total catch. These areas have always been closed to foreign fishing fleets. The reported considered actions would exclusively harm U.S. fishing operations.

The U.S. has worked for many years to finalize a management organization that would provide effective conservation and management of the WCPO. As a member the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), the US government has been working hard to support the actions of the WCPFC to manage the area as a whole and not to have piecemeal management on a country by country basis. Taking unilateral individual actions in the name of conservation and management would only further support fracturing a unified approach to manage stocks in this area.

As mentioned above, tuna are wide-ranging highly migratory species. They are not “residents” of these areas. Tuna caught in these areas are essentially “in transit.” Closing the waters in the areas mentioned above to our fishing vessels would have no significant positive impact on the conservation of tuna stocks in the area.

When conservation of certain areas is discussed, the topic often involves the subject of wanting to preserve the coral atolls of an area. Please understand that our vessels do not fish near the bottom of the ocean. The last thing our vessels would want would be to come into contact with coral formations as it would cause damage to our fishing gear. Our vessels do not land crew on these islands, or use the beach

areas. Purse seining has no negative impact on seabird mortalities.

I understand that the areas being considered for closure are considered pristine and thus there is a desire to maintain this condition in the area. Our vessels have operated for over 30 years in the area being considered for conservation measures. Previously, our fleet access in these areas was limited to 50 fishing vessels. Later, we voluntarily agreed to reduce the maximum number vessels to 40 vessels. This voluntary reduction and vessel number limit is a matter of U.S. law. It is very important to note that while our vessels have continually operated in these areas, they are still considered to be pristine in nature. This is proof that our vessels operate in these areas without causing harm to the environment or fish stocks in the area.

Monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) of the involved areas is not easy or inexpensive. By allowing our vessels to operate in the area, we have been able to provide important assistance in the MCS efforts that are required for the area. We closely communicate with the U.S. Coast Guard and NMFS officials in the reporting of illegal fishing activity by foreign fleets in these areas. Exclusion of our vessels would significantly diminish U.S. eyes and ears supporting the surveillance of these areas.

I am also sending you with this message a copy of the letter that John Connelly of the National Fisheries Institute dated May 28, 2008. We also hope that serious consideration is being given to the contents of his letter. We support the contents of his letter.

Please use your best efforts to ensure that those involved in the decision process give serious consideration to the contents of our letter including our plea that the EEZs of Jarvis Island, Howland Island, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll not be closed to fishing by U. S. flag purse seine vessels.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Krampe

New **MapQuest Local** shows what's happening at your destination. Dining, Movies, Events, News & more. [Try it out!](#)

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Paul Krampe

New **MapQuest Local** shows what's happening at your destination. Dining, Movies, Events, News & more. [Try it out!](#)

From: TinaRhea@comcast.net
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Pacific Ocean Conservation
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 1:11:49 PM
Attachments:

Chairman James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

Great idea, creating the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in Hawai'i. But now that we may be setting aside three other big areas of the Pacific Ocean for protection, it is important that they too be designated as no-take marine monuments.

It's important to keep these areas no-take. Please don't cave in on allowing commercial and recreational fishing, deep sea mining, and other threats that are pushing our oceans to the brink of collapse.

The overall health of the marine environment depends on setting aside extraordinary areas like these to conserve the resources we have and to allow our oceans to replenish themselves. It is crucial that this administration minimizes human impacts on these significant areas in the Pacific. Please advise the President to grant full marine monument designations to all of the proposed sites and to protect our oceans for us and for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tina Rhea
3-E Ridge Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

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From: [Savelieff, Ludmilla L.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Tiari, Logan; Marcelli, Nicholas G.; Lazaroff, Mark A.; Pasko, Michael R.; Scheve, Christopher S.; Hellmer, Kristen A.;](#)
CC:
Subject: FW: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific
Date: Friday, October 10, 2008 9:16:51 AM
Attachments:

-----Original Message-----

From: Peter Sanderson [<mailto:petekona@sonic.net>]

Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 12:04 AM

To: Chairman Connaughton

Subject: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific

I am writing to support the creation of fully protected marine national monuments in the Pacific. The islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival.

Designating

these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will create a lasting Blue Legacy for unique and threatened natural and cultural resources of the Pacific.

I sincerely urge you to grant full protection--not status quo, multiple use, management to these remarkable places, and thank you for your ocean conservation efforts.

From: [Savelieff, Ludmilla L.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Tiari, Logan; Marcelli, Nicholas G.; Lazaroff, Mark A.; Pasko, Michael R.; Scheve, Christopher S.; Hellmer, Kristen A.;](#)
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From: [Dave Bucher](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: in favor of Northern Marianas Pew Monument
Date: Sunday, October 12, 2008 5:36:12 PM
Attachments:

I would like to express my support for the proposed Pew Monument for the northern most area of the Northern Marianas Islands. As a resident of the Saipan, I seen the need to preserve our natural resources for current and subsequent generations to study and enjoy.

Thank you,

Dave Bucher
Saipan

Explore the seven wonders of the world [Learn more!](#)

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From: [Savelieff, Ludmilla L.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Tiari, Logan; Marcelli, Nicholas G.;](#)
CC: [Pasko, Michael R.; Lazaroff, Mark A.; Hellmer, Kristen A.;](#)
[Scheve, Christopher S.;](#)
Subject: FW: Northwestern Hawaiian Islands
Date: Sunday, October 12, 2008 6:11:38 PM
Attachments:

From: Ikaika Pestana [mailto:i.pestana@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 11, 2008 8:42 PM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Subject: Northwestern Hawaiian Islands

I hear that the multiple uses such as commercial fishing and mineral extraction are being considered for the NWHI and other important places that need protection like Johnston atoll. I am writing to show my support for these ecosystems that need our full protection from any type of human intervention or exploitation. Please do not allow these fragile ecosystems to be harmed further by human use.

Aloha,
Ikaika Pestana

From: [Savelieff, Ludmilla L.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Tiari, Logan; Marcelli, Nicholas G.;](#)
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Aloha,
Ikaika Pestana

From: [Ruth L. Tighe](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Open Houses/requests for comments on potential marine conservation areas
Date: Monday, October 13, 2008 10:01:34 PM
Attachments:

James Connaughton, Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

October 14, 2008

Dear Sir,

re: Open Houses/request for comments on potential marine conservation areas

I am a long-time resident of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, having arrived there at the age of nearly 50 in December of 1980. In the 28 years since, I have noticed a distinct decline in the quality of our lagoon - not only in its cleanliness, but also in the number and variety of fish visible when SCUBA diving and/or snorkeling.

The causes are mostly man-made: illegal fishing, over-fishing, fish-poisoning, off-shore and on-shore pollution, run-off, etc.

Thanks largely to my older daughter who is a marine biologist, I have become aware of the threats facing the ocean not only in the CNMI but around the world, and have, consequently, become an ardent believer in the need for and value of conservation as a prime means of restoring the health of the marine environment, the richness and fecundity of marine life, the bio-diversity of its eco-systems.

I therefore fully, heartily, enthusiastically, endorse and support the proposal to establish a marine conservation area in the waters surrounding our northern-most islands to protect and preserve this near-pristine environment.

Furthermore, I would strongly recommend that the protection be in the form of the

establishment of a "no-take-zone," rather than some less stringent measure. The condition of our oceans are too critical. Half-hearted steps are not enough.

Moreover, I would urge that the protection be provided in the form of a Presidential designation under the Antiquities Act, so as to expedite the process as well as avoiding the risk of Congressional pork-barrel additions.

Thank-you for providing me with the opportunity to comment. Should you wish further information, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

(s)Ruth L. Tighe
670-322-3639
P.O. Box 5684
Saipan, MP 96950

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(s)Ruth L. Tighe
670-322-3639
P.O. Box 5684
Saipan, MP 96950

From: calpepper@softcom.net
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Regarding Pacific Marine Conservation Assessment
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 11:57:37 AM
Attachments:

Chairman James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

The creation of the Papahânaumokuâkea Marine National Monument in Hawai'i by President Bush shaped a new global paradigm for the protection of the marine environment. Now that the President is considering setting aside three vast, remote corners of the Pacific Ocean for protection, it is important that they too be designated as no-take marine monuments.

I have real concerns that due to special interest pressure President Bush could allow a host of activities including commercial and recreational fishing, deep sea mining, and other threats that are pushing our oceans to the brink of collapse.

The overall health of the marine environment depends on setting aside extraordinary areas like these to conserve the resources we have and to allow our oceans to replenish themselves. It is crucial that this administration minimizes human impacts on these significant areas in the Pacific. Please advise the President to grant full marine monument designations to all of the proposed sites and to protect our oceans for us and for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Carole Garrett
351 Cimmaron Circle
folsom, CA 95630

From: calpepper@softcom.net
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Regarding Pacific Marine Conservation Assessment
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 11:57:37 AM
Attachments:

Chairman James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

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Carole Garrett
351 Cimmaron Circle
folsom, CA 95630

From: jungledoug@yahoo.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Pacific Marine Ocean Planetary Health
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 12:01:55 PM
Attachments:

Chairman James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

The oceans are in worse shape than the land on our planet but we don't see it so ignore it. Please support the creation of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in Hawaii by President Bush shaped a new global paradigm for the protection of the marine environment. Now that the President is considering setting aside three vast, remote corners of the Pacific Ocean for protection, it is important that they too be designated as no-take marine monuments.

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Doug Gordon
3099 Washington
San Francisco, CA 94115

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Sincerely,
Doug Gordon
3099 Washington
San Francisco, CA 94115

From: carroll.harris@gmail.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY of the Pacific Marine
Conservation Assessment
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 12:44:45 PM
Attachments:

Chairman James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

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Carroll Harris
615 South 42nd Street
Boulder, CO 80305

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Carroll Harris
615 South 42nd Street
Boulder, CO 80305

From: lkoehl@snet.net
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Please Protect the Pacific Marine Conservation Assessment
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 12:06:38 PM
Attachments:

Chairman James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Lisa Koehl
26 Mason Hill Road
Brooklyn, CT 06234

From: lkoehl@snet.net
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Please Protect the Pacific Marine Conservation Assessment
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 12:06:38 PM
Attachments:

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Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
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Washington, DC 20503

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Sincerely,
Lisa Koehl
26 Mason Hill Road
Brooklyn, CT 06234

From: janemack@itecnmi.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Saipan Resident-Pacific Marine Conservation Assessment
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 6:44:46 PM
Attachments:

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

The U.S. has set a wonderful example in the creation of the Papahânaumokuâkea Marine National Monument in Hawaii. Now that the President is considering setting aside three vast, remote corners of the Pacific Ocean for protection, it is important that they too be designated as no-take marine national monuments, with the highest protection affordable by law.

I sincerely hope that President Bush will not allow weakening of the protections available to the new monuments as a concession to other non-conservation interests. To do so may assuage some short-term desire to continue to avail ourselves of limited resources in the oceans, but the middle- and long-term consequences would be dire.

The overall health of the marine environment depends on setting aside extraordinary areas like these--the Marianas Trench, Rose Atoll, the Palmyra Islands-- to conserve the resources we have and to allow our oceans to replenish themselves. It is crucial that this administration minimizes human impacts on these significant areas in the Pacific.

Please advise the President to grant full marine monument designations to all of the proposed sites and to protect our oceans for us and for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jane Mack

<http://saipanwriter.blogspot.com>

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Sincerely,

Jane Mack

<http://saipanwriter.blogspot.com>

From: [Minichino, Cate J.](#)
To: [Marcelli, Nicholas G.;](#)
CC:
Subject: FW: Pacific Marine Conservation Assessment
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 6:08:10 PM
Attachments:

From: Mike Racine [mailto:mikera@centurytel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 5:39 PM
To: Eng, Stephanie L.
Subject: Pacific Marine Conservation Assessment

Jim,

We met at a DEMA show several years ago. You will not remember me, but I remember you.

I understand President Bush is considering the creation of three new national monuments in the Pacific Ocean. I applaud the notion. Marine conservation will be one lasting legacy that he leaves. The new areas, in combination with Papahānaumokuākea, will vault us to worldwide leadership in marine conservation - where we should be.

I strongly urge you to advise the President that these new monuments be designated as no-take, no-extraction marine monuments. There is plenty of resource extraction in other ocean areas. Set aside these pristine areas as a 'bank'. Do not allow fishing or mineral extraction. Protect them now. Protect them for the future.

Thanks.

Mike Racine
President, Washington Scuba Alliance
6758 Cascade Ave SE
Snoqualmie, WA 98065
425.830.9545

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425.830.9545

From: [Savelieff, Ludmilla L.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Tiari, Logan; Marcelli, Nicholas G.;](#)
CC: [Lazaroff, Mark A.; Pasko, Michael R.; Scheve, Christopher S.;](#)
[Hellmer, Kristen A.;](#)
Subject: FW: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific
Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2008 9:31:25 AM
Attachments:

From: Anne Springall [mailto:annespringall@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 7:33 PM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Subject: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific

The devastation in the oceans of the world is a travesty. There is little we can do for much of the oceans, but we can act now to make a difference in the Pacific. It's the least we can do considering the the vast plastic cesspool that we've allowed in the area between Hawaii and the US Pacific Northwest.

Therefore, I am writing to support the creation of fully protected marine national monuments in the Pacific. The islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will create a lasting Blue Legacy for unique and threatened natural and cultural resources of the Pacific. I sincerely urge you to grant full protection--not status quo, multiple use, management to these remarkable places, and thank you for your ocean conservation efforts.

Anne Springall
Oklahoma City, OK
(former resident of Hawaii and mother of a part-Hawaiian current island resident)

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To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Tiari, Logan; Marcelli, Nicholas G.;](#)
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Oklahoma City, OK
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Testimony on Pacific Marine Conservation Assessment

From: Charlie Ota [charleso@COCHawaii.org]

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

I attended the public hearing conducted at the McCoy Pavilion, Honolulu, Hawaii on 16 Oct from 1830-2100 and offer the following comments:

I am in support of the proposed designation of protected marine areas in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (including the Mariana Trench), the waters surrounding Johnston Atoll, Howland, Baker, and Jarvis Islands, Kingman Reef, Palmyra Atoll, and Wake Island; and waters surrounding Rose Atoll, *provided that such designation does not conflict with the cultural practices and survival needs of the peoples of the respective area and the protective measures do not limit the US Department of Defense from carrying out the mission of the various branches of the military stationed or operating within the Pacific.*

Of particular concern are the US Navy, Air, Army, and Marine Corps forces to be based at Guam, Okinawa, South Korea, Alaska, and Hawaii in providing for the security and defense of the Asia Pacific region and the US homeland. We are especially mindful of providing for the training needs of forces to be based on Guam, particularly the 8,000 Marines that are to be relocated from Okinawa to Guam.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments on this important proposal.



Charles Ota

Vice President of Military Affairs

1132 Bishop Street, Suite 402

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Ph. 808-545-4300 x 320

Fax 808-545-4369

www.cochawaii.org

charles@cochawaii.org

The Voice of Business in Hawaii

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charles@cochawaii.org

The Voice of Business in Hawaii

From: [E Barbara Klemm](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Supporting Protection of Ocean Areas of Pacific
Date: Saturday, October 18, 2008 4:35:04 PM
Attachments:

October 17, 2008

TO: Council on Environmental Quality

FR: E. Barbara Klemm

RE: Establish Protected Ocean Area in
Northern Marianas, American Samoa and Central Pacific Islands

I am writing this to urge you to establish fully protected ocean areas in the Northern Marianas, American Samoa and Central Pacific Islands. Particular areas of concern are Palmyra, Kingman, Johnston, Jarvis, Wake, Howland and Baker, Rose Atoll in the American Samoa, and the Northern Marianas. Such protection should be akin to that now given to the NorthWestern Hawaiian Islands.

Protection is necessary to preserve ocean coral and ocean wilderness areas not only for future human generations but also to assure healthy biodiversity and environmental health of our Pacific Ocean.

Although I write this to you as a private citizen, my credentials include having more than 25 years experience as a marine science educator. As a diver and snorkeler, I have witnessed firsthand the degradation to coral and marine ecosystems over the past 40 years. I have been to some of these still-pristine places and was able to compare for myself the coral reefs in the NorthWestern Hawaiian Islands with the main Hawaiian islands. My firsthand observations showed me what research has documented: that the coral reef ecosystems of the Main Islands are degraded and under duress, and that even the coral reef ecosystems of our remote NWHI are threatened. However, we can—and must—act to protect our remaining healthy ocean environments and to preserve our ocean wealth and heritage.

I urge you to take such action **now** to protect these other Pacific Ocean areas.
Should you have questions, please contact me at

Dr. E. Barbara Klemm
227 Uilama St
Kailua, HI 96734
klemm@hawaii.edu

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227 Uilama St
Kailua, HI 96734
klemm@hawaii.edu

From: [oscar camacho](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject:
Date: Monday, October 20, 2008 12:34:07 AM
Attachments:

Imagine a kind hand coming our way embracing our own proclamation for the protection of our seas and lands;
Imagine the echoes of our shouts reverberating for eternity and joined with others shouting same;
Imagine our children thankful for our simple deed;
Imagine the world thankful for our gift to it;
Imagine our ancestors now pleased;
Imagine yourself content to have done something good.
And all it took was for you to agree.
Be thankful this MTMM free.

If it was not for PEW and all those who pushed for this we would never have known what value we have over our seas-isn't this a better claim than to be told we have none and be discontent? why are we so afraid? is it not better to tame it for our good? count me in as one who supports this proposal for a monument. and

Thank you,

oscar c camacho

Connect to the next generation of MSN Messenger [Get it now!](#)

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oscar c camacho

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From: [Kevin Carey](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Support of White House directive to allow recreational fishing
Date: Monday, October 20, 2008 6:25:06 PM
Attachments:

Chairman Connaughton:

Thank You for your consideration

My friends and I have tens of thousands of dollars invested and a substantial investment in time related to the Pacific Ocean Recreational Fishery. It is already getting difficult to keep up with the regulations but those of us with a passion for it get it done.

I oppose the arbitrary exclusion of recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean. I do support sustainable fishing as directed by Executive Order 12962.

I am opposed to any arbitrary Presidential or Agency ban on recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean. An arbitrary ban would be directly contrary to Executive Order 12962, which states that recreational fishing "shall be managed as a sustainable activity" under any federal law. I am a member of the Coastal Conservation Association, and I take great pride in conserving our marine resources.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely, Kevin Carey

Kevin Carey
2550 Greentree Rd
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

From: [Kevin Carey](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
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Kevin Carey
2550 Greentree Rd
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

From: janemack@itecnmi.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Marianas Trench Marine National Monument
Date: Monday, October 20, 2008 10:24:36 PM
Attachments:

Thank you to all who listened to public comments from the community on Saipan. The October 20, 2008 public meeting here was a huge success, with lots of people in attendance and many diverse views expressed.

I am in support of the proposal for President Bush to designate a marine national monument in the waters of the CNMI. I have lived here for almost 24 years and have seen the degradation of our near shore marine environment first-hand.

Although the marine eco-systems in the far north are presently in excellent health, it is only a matter of time before the pressures for marine resources compel exploitation of these more remote areas. With the advancements in technology that we already have, no part of the ocean is safe from over-fishing or destruction. After people around the world ruin other places, they will turn to more pristine environments.

In fact, we have already seen foreign commercial fishing vessels in our northern waters.

I would encourage the U.S. to live up to international conventions and the U.S. promises to use a "precautionary" approach in marine conservation. We don't want to wait until harm has been done before we start preserving and conserving these very unique and precious marine eco-systems found in the waters around the CNMI.

I would like President Bush to declare a marine national monument in the EEZ around Uracas, Maug and Asuncion and give this area the highest protection possible. The islands themselves have received special CNMI Constitutional protection

because of their historical, cultural and scientific/environmental value. The waters around them are even more valuable and historically significant to the indigenous Pacific Island cultures here, who are tied to the ocean.

At present, we are not using the resources of these waters and providing them the highest protection would cause little to no economic harm to the CNMI, but would ensure that our future generations know what marine life in the Marianas has been like in the past, and help keep our love of the ocean alive.

The Marianas Trench itself, deep ocean, extends south beyond the limits of the 3 northernmost islands. Because it is the deepest place on Earth, it also has unique significance geologically, environmentally, and culturally. I would like this area given protection as well.

In all areas, subsistence fishing should be allowed, but the definition of this should be very clear-people can fish and eat immediately what they take, but not sell or store their catch or harvest. Cultural access to all marine monument areas should also be allowed. Non-destructive tourism should also be allowed. All use, however, should require a "permit" in advance, preferably from one source.

I would prefer no-take zones that prohibit all extraction and harvesting activities and for such zones to be as large as possible (and preferably the entire monument area); but I also recognize the possibility of providing for different use zones. At the very least, however, the healthy coral structures around the 3 northernmost islands should be preserved and designated as "no take" zones. Mining, if allowed at all, should be limited to areas where it can be accomplished with the least amount of environmental damage possible.

I would hope that the CNMI could be a co-manager with the US of any designated marine monument. The CNMI's initial advisory board should not include (for at least 5 years) those who vocally opposed the monument's creation. Nor should any federal agency be allowed to corrupt the Monument's regulatory process with misinformation or political influence.

Thank you, again, for your efforts to focus attention on the marine environment of the Central and Western Pacific, for learning first-hand about some of our beautiful environmental sites, and for listening to our wishes and concerns.

Sincerely,

Jane Mack

<http://saipanwriter.blogspot.com>

From: janemack@itecnmi.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marianas Trench Marine National Monument
Date: Monday, October 20, 2008 10:24:36 PM
Attachments:

Thank you to all who listened to public comments from the community on Saipan. The October 20, 2008 public meeting here was a huge success, with lots of people in attendance and many diverse views expressed.

I am in support of the proposal for President Bush to designate a marine national monument in the waters of the CNMI. I have lived here for almost 24 years and have seen the degradation of our near shore marine environment first-hand.

Although the marine eco-systems in the far north are presently in excellent health, it is only a matter of time before the pressures for marine resources compel exploitation of these more remote areas. With the advancements in technology that we already have, no part of the ocean is safe from over-fishing or destruction. After people around the world ruin other places, they will turn to more pristine environments.

In fact, we have already seen foreign commercial fishing vessels in our northern waters.

I would encourage the U.S. to live up to international conventions and the U.S. promises to use a "precautionary" approach in marine conservation. We don't want to wait until harm has been done before we start preserving and conserving these very unique and precious marine eco-systems found in the waters around the CNMI.

I would like President Bush to declare a marine national monument in the EEZ around Uracas, Maug and Asuncion and give this area the highest protection possible. The islands themselves have received special CNMI Constitutional protection

because of their historical, cultural and scientific/environmental value. The waters around them are even more valuable and historically significant to the indigenous Pacific Island cultures here, who are tied to the ocean.

At present, we are not using the resources of these waters and providing them the highest protection would cause little to no economic harm to the CNMI, but would ensure that our future generations know what marine life in the Marianas has been like in the past, and help keep our love of the ocean alive.

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From: [Brad Wurfel](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Marine Reserves
Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2008 2:14:02 PM
Attachments:

Chairman Connaughton:

I am writing to share my concern about the possibility of a marine reserve system that excludes recreational angling in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Oregon.

I believe everyone agrees that we have a problem with certain marine fish stocks in the coastal Pacific Northwest. Everyone appreciates the NOAA is working to manage those fisheries for sustainable harvest.

But it's also fairly clear that, while habitat is a key issue and marine reserves might be a worthwhile idea to help certain stocks rebound, the biggest reason those stocks are suffering is because commercial harvest gear depleted the populations even as it decimated their habitat.

A protected area could be a worthwhile effort. But one that prohibits recreational angling will not dramatically impact stocks -- it will just provide one more example of how commercial resource interests have created a problem in the environment, and resource managers are designing a fix on the backs of the recreational public.

The general public doesn't understand this issue or care that much about it. But recreational anglers spend their time outdoors. We pay for the privilege, and we see the end results of fish and wildlife management every year. The rise in recent years of sporting groups concerned about resource management should be a flare in the air about our level of commitment to making sure there are fish and wildlife to be enjoyed in the years ahead.

I strongly urge the employment of sound science in this process. Not the kind that was used to delist coastal coho. Not the kind that was used to create roadless areas in the federal forests. Not the kind that was used to safeguard owls here in the Pacific Northwest. Rather, the kind that is based on what is really known about the resources we're all trying to protect. As our salmon populations struggle and our rockfish populations hover around closure levels each year, it would seem that it's more important

than ever.

I am a member of the Coastal Conservation Association, and I take great pride in conserving our marine resources. They also wanted me to mention that, in addition to being a bad idea from a management perspective, an arbitrary ban on recreational harvest in a marine reserve would be directly contrary to Executive Order 12962, which states that recreational fishing "shall be managed as a sustainable activity" under any federal law.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Brad Wurfel
22849 SW Kathy St
Sherwood, OR 97140

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To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
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From: [Judy Amesbury](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: potential marine conservation management area in the Marianas
Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2008 10:05:45 PM
Attachments:

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Judith R. Amesbury. I have lived in Guam for 34 years. I'm an archaeologist with Micronesian Archaeological Research Services, Inc. in Guam.

My specialty within the field of archaeology is the analysis of faunal remains. That means the animal remains that we dig up. The animal remains on islands are sea shells and fish bones. I've written reports on the archaeological and historical data concerning fishing in the Marianas.

I am opposed to the President establishing a marine monument or other marine conservation management area in the Marianas. This appears to be a political decision rather than a science-based decision. President Bush does not have a good record when it comes to the environment, so I think he would like to sign this Executive Order before he leaves office, just to make his record look better.

I agree with our Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo that this is not the way to go about managing marine resources. There are other means of managing the resources already in place, such as the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

As far as the science goes, we know that there are fishermen who fish for bottomfish on the three northernmost islands of the Marianas. But their average annual catches are way below the Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY). So there is no need for more regulation.

I am not an indigenous Chamorro person, but I want the voice of the indigenous people to be heard. I understand that the CNMI governor, legislators, and mayors are opposed to the establishment of a marine monument. I hope the U.S. government is listening.

Finally, I want to say something about the U.S. military build-up in the Marianas. We all know that there are both advantages and disadvantages for the people of the Marianas. We are hoping that the military build-up will improve the economy, but it will also cost us a lot.

Large parts of Guam are controlled by the military, which affects fishing and all other activities as well. The U.S. military leases more than 50% of Tinian and all of Farallon de Medinilla, which is used for bombing practice. The U.S. military also has plans to use Pagan and Sarigan.

I'm opposed to the federal government taking control of any more area within the Marianas. The federal government already controls too much of the Mariana Archipelago.

Sincerely,

Judith R. Amesbury
Archaeologist
Micronesia Archaeological Research Services, Inc.

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From: [Layne & May Dupriest](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: public comment on the potential marine conservation
managment areas for the marianas Islands!
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 1:05:19 AM
Attachments:

SHOULD THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES ESTABLISH SUCH
AREAS IN THE MARIANAS ISLANDS?
MY OPINION IS NO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

MY CONCERNS ARE : I am an avid fisherman and the waters specifically the banks south of guam are the only areas I fish as they are very productive in that I can always count on catching fish regularly, other areas around the island of guam are very deep and in general devoid of structure so do not hold much fish most of the year ,if you were to close this area down there is no other areas close to guam that I could go to ,we are isolated out here and can not trailer are vessels to an other area like you can on the mainland , I have children that as they grow older in a few years I will like to take out to these southern banks(Galvez bank,baby bank ,stu bank, santa rosa reef,and white tuna banks), so they can experience the excellent fishing there ,Mr. President you are an avid fisherman as is you Father just imagine if someone were to close areas that your Father took you to fish and there was no other place to go , please do not close these areas southern banks(galves bank ,baby bank, stu bank,santa rosa reef, white tuna banks)that straddle the Marianas trench as it would be devastating to us local fisherman please make sure that future guam fisherman and there children can continue fishing this pristine fishing area , believe me there is no visual effects that fishing is harming this area in any way! I have lived and fished in guam for 18 years and am originally from San Diego were I was born and raised and fished there as well .

If you wish to call Me regarding this issue please don't hesitate to call or e-mail!

Layne C. Dupriest date: 10-22-08
P.O. 27210 GMF, Guam 96921
phone# (671)734-4708

From: [Layne & May Dupriest](#)
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From: [Layne & May Dupriest](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: public comment on the potential marine conservation management areas for the marianas islands!!
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 7:40:04 AM
Attachments:

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My opinion is NO!!!!!!!!!!

My concerns are : Do not do that to such beautiful places!The fish can go to one certain spot and get over crowded.They will slowly become extinked in other places.The fishermen/ fisherwomen in guam might not have any place to fish.So,the places that sell fish have hardly any fresh fish.Fish are very healthy.You should not shut down the area were we fish!!!That's my concern!

Date:Oct 22,08

Adrianna Leilani Dupriest 8 years old guam resident

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CC: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
Subject: Help!
Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2008 7:44:35 PM
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Home	Politics/ CNMI: DEBATE RAGES OVER MONUMENT PLAN
Islands Business	But Bush yet to designate it
Fiji Islands Business	Haidee V. Eugenio
Latest News	A proposal to establish a United States national marine
Features	monument in the three northernmost islands of the
Gallery	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) has
Archives	been drawing opposing views from the community.
Subscribe	While the proposal has polarized the CNMI—a 14-island
About Us	United States territory in the Western Pacific—it nevertheless
Contact Us	facilitates discussions about balancing environmental, cultural,
Business	political and economic considerations.
Participate	<p>On one end of the spectrum are those who tout showcasing the northern islands' beauty, protecting and conserving natural resources, worldwide recognition of the CNMI as an environmental leader, global media attention, and economic benefits of about US\$333 million over the next several years should the area about the size of the state of Arizona be declared as a US national monument.</p> <p>On the other end are those who consider such designation as tantamount to taking away the rights of the CNMI to have control over its own marine resources and would result in a complete ban on fishing and mining, which conflicts with the commonwealth's plan to establish its own fishing and mining industries.</p> <p>Critics also say the proposal offers a protectionist/ preservationist approach, instead of sustainable use approach. At the center of the proposal by the \$4 billion-plus non-profit and non-governmental organization Pew Charitable Trusts are the uninhabited islands of Uracas or Farallon de Pajaros, Maug and Asuncion.</p> <p>The proposed area covers 115,000 square miles and located about 300 miles from CNMI's capital and most populated island of Saipan.</p> <p>Pew Charitable Trusts is lobbying the designation of the area as the "Mariana Trench Marine National Monument," similar to the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, formerly</p>

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the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument, created by Bush on June 15, 2006.

US President George Bush has yet to consider designating the 200-mile exclusive economic zone surrounding the three islands as a national monument.

Several features attracted Pew's interest in the CNMI, including its location. It sits along the Marianas Trench, the deepest place on the globe and demonstrably one of the wonders of the natural world.

To-date, there has been only a minor amount of legal fishing in the three islands proposed; they are healthy and relatively free from pollution and other direct human impacts.

The organization says the areas involved are important enough for CNMI residents that the Commonwealth Constitution designated them as nature reserves. Pew Charitable Trusts also understands that "it is a dream for all Chamorros and Carolinians to someday visit the northern waters and there is local interest in protecting them for future generations as part of your cultural heritage".

Opposition

CNMI Governor Benigno R. Fitial is among those opposed to the proposal. He had written to President Bush to "refrain from designating any portion of the CNMI as a marine monument, marine sanctuary, or national park".

He said in his view, such a designation would "greatly reduce or eliminate the ability of the CNMI government to carefully balance cultural, environmental and economic considerations in the region in an open and inclusive manner."

In his letter to the US president, the governor pointed out that his opposition to the proposal is shared by both the CNMI Senate and House of Representatives which adopted a resolution urging Bush against declaring the three islands as a marine sanctuary.

But lawmakers, through the Senate Joint Resolution 16-4, are not entirely closing the doors on the proposal.

They say they do not support the proposal "at this time and feel that a study, discussion and deliberation (are) necessary before any further action is taken" or "until such time as the people of the CNMI have had adequate opportunity to consider and give input on the issue".

Fitial was first introduced to the proposal in December 2007 when Pew Charitable Trusts wrote him a letter asking his support for the designation of a national monument around Uracas, Maug, and Asuncion, an area he says is "already designated by founders as a nature preserve under the CNMI constitution."

John Gourley, an environmental consultant and biologist, says the monument proposal is being forced on CNMI residents.

"Permanently giving away extraction rights to over one-third of

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our EEZ is a very important issue where the affected communities—the people of CNMI—should be allowed to discuss according to their timetable, not Pew’s,” says Gourley, who is amongst the most vocal critics of the Pew Charitable Trusts proposal.

Just like the governor and other critics of the proposal, Gourley believes the designation of the marine monument will stop recreational and commercial fishing, as well as any attempt at oil, gas, and mineral extraction.

Angelo Villagomez, CNMI coordinator of Pew Environment Group, says waters around the northernmost islands have not provided a penny of economic benefit to CNMI to-date.

“If there were commercially valuable stocks of fish in those waters, someone over the past few decades would have started a viable fishery,” he told ISLANDS BUSINESS.

He adds that mining, while a speculative possibility, suffers from two flaws: commercial deep-sea mining is not currently being done anywhere in the world and the proposed monument is in federal, not CNMI, waters.

There are also those who oppose the marine monument proposal just because they are suspicious of anything that has to do with the federal government, according to Villagomez.

Because of a measure recently signed by Bush, the federal government will take control of CNMI immigration as early as June 2009.

“That attitude means it doesn’t matter whether or not a proposal is beneficial.

For those opposed to working with the federal government, even a terrific opportunity will be attacked,” Villagomez says.

Political agenda? Gourley says his opposition is also partly because he believes the true intention of the proposal is to further the political agendas of the Pew Charitable Trusts and Bush.

“The proposed Pew monument is really all about US mainland politics, not conservation and not the CNMI.

This is the underlying reason why Pew is pushing so hard for CNMI to make a decision before President Bush leaves office in January 2009,” he told ISLANDS BUSINESS.

But Pete A. Tenorio, CNMI’s representative to Washington, DC, called on the community to look at the merits of the marine monument proposal instead of focusing on the group behind it.

“We need to stop focusing on Pew and seriously start talking among ourselves about what resources we have and how best to economically utilize as well as protect them for us now living and for future generations,” he said in a statement.

Nevertheless, Tenorio backs continued dialogue with the federal government on Pew’s proposal. He said he had been assured by the President’s Council on Environmental Quality that Bush

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would only create a national monument if the people of the commonwealth asked him to do so.

Tenorio, who is contesting to be CNMI's first delegate to the US Congress, added that heritage protection and economic exploitation are compatible given the right policies.

Northern Islands Mayor Valentin I. Taisakan, in a June 6 letter to Bush, asked him to delay for six years any proposal to establish a national marine monument in the CNMI.

From: [Daniel A. ridlon](#)
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CC: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
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Home	Politics/ CNMI: DEBATE RAGES OVER MONUMENT PLAN
Islands Business	But Bush yet to designate it
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Latest News	A proposal to establish a United States national marine
Features	monument in the three northernmost islands of the
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Participate	On one end of the spectrum are those who tout showcasing the

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On the other end are those who consider such designation as tantamount to taking away the rights of the CNMI to have control over its own marine resources and would result in a complete ban on fishing and mining, which conflicts with the commonwealth's plan to establish its own fishing and mining industries.

Critics also say the proposal offers a protectionist/preservationist approach, instead of sustainable use approach. At the center of the proposal by the \$4 billion-plus non-profit and non-governmental organization Pew Charitable Trusts are the uninhabited islands of Uracas or Farallon de Pajaros, Maug and Asuncion.

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the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument, created by Bush on June 15, 2006.

US President George Bush has yet to consider designating the 200-mile exclusive economic zone surrounding the three islands as a national monument.

Several features attracted Pew's interest in the CNMI, including its location. It sits along the Marianas Trench, the deepest place on the globe and demonstrably one of the wonders of the natural world.

To-date, there has been only a minor amount of legal fishing in the three islands proposed; they are healthy and relatively free from pollution and other direct human impacts.

The organization says the areas involved are important enough for CNMI residents that the Commonwealth Constitution designated them as nature reserves. Pew Charitable Trusts also understands that "it is a dream for all Chamorros and Carolinians to someday visit the northern waters and there is local interest in protecting them for future generations as part of your cultural heritage".

Opposition

CNMI Governor Benigno R. Fitial is among those opposed to the proposal. He had written to President Bush to "refrain from designating any portion of the CNMI as a marine monument, marine sanctuary, or national park".

He said in his view, such a designation would "greatly reduce or eliminate the ability of the CNMI government to carefully balance cultural, environmental and economic considerations in the region in an open and inclusive manner."

In his letter to the US president, the governor pointed out that his opposition to the proposal is shared by both the CNMI Senate and House of Representatives which adopted a resolution urging Bush against declaring the three islands as a marine sanctuary.

But lawmakers, through the Senate Joint Resolution 16-4, are not entirely closing the doors on the proposal.

They say they do not support the proposal "at this time and feel that a study, discussion and deliberation (are) necessary before any further action is taken" or "until such time as the people of the CNMI have had adequate opportunity to consider and give input on the issue".

Fitial was first introduced to the proposal in December 2007 when Pew Charitable Trusts wrote him a letter asking his support for the designation of a national monument around Uracas, Maug, and Asuncion, an area he says is "already designated by founders as a nature preserve under the CNMI constitution."

John Gourley, an environmental consultant and biologist, says the monument proposal is being forced on CNMI residents.

"Permanently giving away extraction rights to over one-third of

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our EEZ is a very important issue where the affected communities—the people of CNMI—should be allowed to discuss according to their timetable, not Pew’s,” says Gourley, who is amongst the most vocal critics of the Pew Charitable Trusts proposal.

Just like the governor and other critics of the proposal, Gourley believes the designation of the marine monument will stop recreational and commercial fishing, as well as any attempt at oil, gas, and mineral extraction.

Angelo Villagomez, CNMI coordinator of Pew Environment Group, says waters around the northernmost islands have not provided a penny of economic benefit to CNMI to-date.

“If there were commercially valuable stocks of fish in those waters, someone over the past few decades would have started a viable fishery,” he told ISLANDS BUSINESS.

He adds that mining, while a speculative possibility, suffers from two flaws: commercial deep-sea mining is not currently being done anywhere in the world and the proposed monument is in federal, not CNMI, waters.

There are also those who oppose the marine monument proposal just because they are suspicious of anything that has to do with the federal government, according to Villagomez.

Because of a measure recently signed by Bush, the federal government will take control of CNMI immigration as early as June 2009.

“That attitude means it doesn’t matter whether or not a proposal is beneficial.

For those opposed to working with the federal government, even a terrific opportunity will be attacked,” Villagomez says.

Political agenda? Gourley says his opposition is also partly because he believes the true intention of the proposal is to further the political agendas of the Pew Charitable Trusts and Bush.

“The proposed Pew monument is really all about US mainland politics, not conservation and not the CNMI.

This is the underlying reason why Pew is pushing so hard for CNMI to make a decision before President Bush leaves office in January 2009,” he told ISLANDS BUSINESS.

But Pete A. Tenorio, CNMI’s representative to Washington, DC, called on the community to look at the merits of the marine monument proposal instead of focusing on the group behind it.

“We need to stop focusing on Pew and seriously start talking among ourselves about what resources we have and how best to economically utilize as well as protect them for us now living and for future generations,” he said in a statement.

Nevertheless, Tenorio backs continued dialogue with the federal government on Pew’s proposal. He said he had been assured by the President’s Council on Environmental Quality that Bush

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would only create a national monument if the people of the commonwealth asked him to do so.

Tenorio, who is contesting to be CNMI's first delegate to the US Congress, added that heritage protection and economic exploitation are compatible given the right policies.

Northern Islands Mayor Valentin I. Taisakan, in a June 6 letter to Bush, asked him to delay for six years any proposal to establish a national marine monument in the CNMI.

From: [tim rains](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: pew monument
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 2:22:47 AM
Attachments:

Ok what are we supposed to do to support our families if you pass this ignorant bill?? Why don't you people go after the real problems that plague our fisheries? Oh I forgot they put all that extra money in your pockets and we don't..AHH now it all makes sense...damn bureaucrats....Concerned fisherman in GUAM LEAVE US ALONE

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From: Daniel A. ridlon
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Stop The Monument!
Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2008 7:41:12 PM
Attachments:

Please cease and desist with the proposal to designate the northern CNMI and Mariana Trench as a monument. There are already conservation method in place and enforced. If there needs to be further "protection" it should be done with the involvment of the local people and it's government, not with the The **Antiquities Act** of 1906. The White House "promised" that if there was any hint of controversey that it would stop. The leaders of CNMI have spoken with many letters and now so have I.

Sincerely
Daniel Ridlon
202 Trankilo St.
Tamuning, GU 96931

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Sincerely
Daniel Ridlon
202 Trankilo St.
Tamuning, GU 96931

From: [Chamorro Tribe](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC: governor@mail.gov.gu; guamtodc@mail.house.gov;
president@whitehouse.gov; vice-president@whitehouse.gov;
sf.nancy@mail.house.gov; webteam@ios.doi.gov;
Subject: Western Pacific Ocean
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 9:25:04 AM
Attachments:

To: The Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality

Dear Sir,

I have just recently had the opportunity to read the Memorandum from the President, dated August 25, 2008, regarding Potential Marine Conservation Management Areas. As a Native Inhabitant of the Island of Guam, I find this proposed action to be quite disturbing, insulting, and the heinous action of a Hippocratic, tyrannical, imperial government. For over a century the Chamorro People of Guam have been maligned and subjugated by the government of the United States of America.

Under the Administration of the United States we were:

Abandoned prior to the Japanese invasion of Dec. 8, 1941,

Suffered every form of human depravity from the hands of the Japanese for three years,

Subjected to 30 days and nights of aerial and naval bombardment, encompassing the entire island without regard for our lives, resulting in the loss of more Chamorro lives from the re-occupation of our island by the U.S. military than the loss of life incurred during three years of Japanese savagery, and a complete decimation of our ecology,

Denied any form of reparation for the inhuman atrocities committed against us,

Had a third of our island stolen from us by the U.S. military,

Legally restricted from speaking our language in public,

Subjected to gamma radiation fall out from the atomic tests conducted in the Bikini Atoll,

Subjugated under an Organic Act (48 U.S.C. Chapt. 8a) form of governance without our input or consent,

Subjected to land based and aerial spraying of dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) island wide for over two decades resulting in the complete decimation of our indigenous birds and killing my people slowly with cancer,

Exposed to all of the Vietnam war era defoliants to include agent orange and the rest of the rainbow agents during the testing of those chemicals on our island prior to their deployment in Vietnam,

Introduced to numerous invasive species of flora and fauna to include destructive insects, reptiles, and people.

All this and more under the United States policy of Benevolent Assimilation in regards to our island and our people. Now, through this proposed action, you people want us to believe that your trying to protect our resources?? Based upon the history of deceit and abuse we have endured from the United States military it is far more conceivable for us to believe that this is just another smoke screen to take more from us, like our traditional fishing grounds, so that the United States may finally succeed in the genocide of the Chamorro People of Guam and be free to turn our island into the military installation they so desire.

There have been no studies conducted to scientifically justify this action.

Enactment of this action without the full consent of the Chamorro People who are the Native Inhabitants of this Archipelago and thus the rightful owners of these waters and resources would be a clear violation of the Charter of the United Nations, of which the United States is a signature, and would thus be a violation of the United States Constitution.

I pray that you and the Council you lead will have the courage and the moral fortitude to do what is right, proper, and constitutional.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Schacher
Chairman, Chamorro Tribe

From: [Chamorro Tribe](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC: governor@mail.gov.gu; guamtodc@mail.house.gov;
president@whitehouse.gov; vice-president@whitehouse.gov;
sf.nancy@mail.house.gov; webteam@ios.doi.gov;
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Chairman, Chamorro Tribe

From: [Jonathan Watson](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marine conservation management areas for the Maianas Islands
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 2:26:55 PM
Attachments:

I do not support the establishment of such areas near or surrounding the Marianas Islands.

The current 200 mile economic zone allows for adequate protection at this time. To implement further conservation management areas would only serve to restrict our local resources and economy.

Jonathan Watson
PO Box 4856
Hagatna, Guam
96932

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Michael Bell [mbell97014@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 2:53 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Recreational Fishing and Conservation Designations in the Pacific

Michael Bell
617 Santa Fe Ct
Perris, CA 92570-3435

October 24, 2008

CEQ Chairman
Assessment c/o Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20503

Dear CEQ Chairman:

I am a recreational angler, and take great pride in conserving our marine resources. I am therefore opposed to any executive branch or federal agency ban on recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean without sound scientific evidence. Regulated recreational fishing does not harm this area. To the contrary, recreational fishing generates significant economic benefit to areas in which it occurs. Any ban would be directly contrary to Executive Order 12962, which states that recreational fishing "shall be managed as a sustainable activity" under any federal law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Bell
9519431022

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Bell
9519431022

From: [Dunbar, Stephen \(LLU\)](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject:
Date: Thursday, October 23, 2008 12:27:01 PM
Attachments:

Dear Mr. James Connaughton, Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality,

I am writing to you to urge President Bush to fully protect the area to 200 nautical miles of the remote US territories and possessions in the central Pacific Ocean, including Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake. These areas deserve full protection for their significance as some of the last remaining relatively intact coral reef ecosystems, their diverse fish and invertebrate communities, the habitat they provide for millions of seabirds, and the sanctuary they offer many threatened and endangered species.

The areas are home to dozens of seabird species, hundreds of fish species, and an unknown number of invertebrate species, including many found nowhere else. The central Pacific Islands are among the world's last relatively intact coral reef ecosystems. These areas contain nearly four times as many shallow-water reef-building coral species as the Florida Keys. Millions of seabirds use these areas as critical stopover points, breeding areas and feeding grounds. These include tropicbirds, boobies, frigatebirds, terns, noddies, petrels, shearwaters and albatrosses.

As a sea turtle specialist, I know that five species of sea turtle have been documented as present in the eight proposed islands and surrounding waters: green (*Chelonia mydas*), hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*), loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), and olive ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*). Green and hawksbill turtles forage and nest in the US Pacific islands, and loggerheads, leatherbacks and olive ridleys forage and/or migrate through US Pacific waters islands, and Kingman Reef. The EEZs of the waters surrounding the eight proposed islands also are important migration paths for all sea turtle species in the region. The surrounding waters are particularly important to the migration of the critically endangered leatherback sea turtle. MCBI obtained from NOAA and mapped satellite tag tracking data for 24 leatherbacks (attachment). Considering the extremely low population of leatherback sea turtles globally (90% or greater in decline in the Pacific), and the miniscule percentage that are successfully tagged, the fact these turtles have been tracked navigating US waters demonstrates that these EEZs form part of an

important migration route between Indonesia and California and deserve strict protection.

As you are well aware, several of the islands have also played an important role in exploration, aviation and military history.

Thank you for listening to the voices of the people you represent.
Sincerely,

Stephen G. Dunbar, PhD
President,
Protective Turtle Ecology Center for Training, Outreach and Research, Inc.
(ProTECTOR)
Loma Linda University,
Loma Linda, CA 92350
Phone: (909) 558-1000, Ext. 48903
<http://www.turtleprotector.org/>

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Phone: (909) 558-1000, Ext. 48903
<http://www.turtleprotector.org/>

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Neri Blas [nbmktg@ite.net]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 3:07 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Oppositionion to Monument in Marianas Trench and CNMI and Guam

----- Original Message -----

From: [Lourdes Concepcion](#)
To: nbmktg@ite.net
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 2:59 AM

I am totally against this idea, please include me in your list as a person from guam that is opposing this crazy bill or whatever the president's intentions are!!!

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From: [Savelieff, Ludmilla L.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Boling, Edward A.; Tiari, Logan; Marcelli, Nicholas G.;](#)
CC: [Pasko, Michael R.; Lazaroff, Mark A.; Scheve, Christopher S.; Hellmer, Kristen A.;](#)
Subject: FW: Western Pacific Island protection
Date: Thursday, October 23, 2008 8:08:39 AM
Attachments:

-----Original Message-----

From: Gail Mackiernan [<mailto:katahdinss@comcast.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 3:53 PM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Subject: Western Pacific Island protection

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

I am writing to support President Bush's proposal to extend protection to certain western Pacific islands and their surrounding waters. As a marine scientist (now retired, former research director for the University of Maryland Sea Grant College Program) I am well aware of the importance of these areas for both aquatic and terrestrial resources.

In March of this year I and several others participated in a cruise from New Zealand to Japan, the primary goal was to observe and record seabirds but we also did surveys of land birds in both Melanesia and Micronesia, including the northern Marianas Islands. These data were sent to Dr. Douglas Pratt of NC State Museum, and are being incorporated into a paper [Pratt et al 2008 in prep.]

One of the more significant issues is that many of the birds, other land organisms and some plants on these islands are endemic, and are not found elsewhere. Thus they are particularly vulnerable to extinction. Many are threatened by invasive species and habitat loss, the case of Guam land birds being the most noteworthy. These islands are also major stop-over areas for migrating shorebirds, including Pacific Golden Plover and Whimbrel.

Invasive species also threaten the many important seabird nesting areas While on our

cruise we observed several rare species such as Heinroth's Shearwater, spectacular numbers of White and Sooty Terns, and both Noddies.

Preservation of nesting islands and the major offshore foraging areas (which may be scores or even 100s of miles from the rookeries) are both necessary.

These islands are unique natural, cultural and historic treasures and should receive the highest level of protection.

Thank you,

(Dr.) Gail B. Mackiernan
Silver Spring, MD 20904

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(Dr.) Gail B. Mackiernan
Silver Spring, MD 20904

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Jeannette Moore [eldo68@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 4:02 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Recreational Fishing

Dear Sir,

As a U.S. citizen who enjoys fishing recreationally, I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the White House or fishery management agencies or councils to prohibit recreational fishing in marine protected areas, including areas designated as or within Marine National Monuments, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environment Group. As you know the President just recently issued an Executive Memo and an Executive Order making clear that recreational fishing should be sustained in marine protected areas.

The recreational fishing constituency of the U.S. is comprised of millions of individuals who value marine resources and interact with them responsibly -

- recreational fishing is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks;
- recreational fishing is proven to be manageable in a pro-conservation sustainable manner;
- recreational fishing provides thousands of jobs to individuals in coastal areas, including in the Pacific islands and beyond;
- recreational fishing can continue in areas closed to commercial fishing gear, which is responsible for overfishing of species in conjunction with traditional and effective fisheries management tools such as bag limits, size limits, seasons and restrictions of destructive gear types; and
- those of us not responsible for overfishing should not be penalized for the acts of others using gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management.

Sincerely,

Jeannette Moore

Jeannette Moore
Broker
JM Properties
Telephone: 904-814-2600
E-mail: JM@BnBs4Sale.com
Fax: 904-827-9939

10/27/2008



WARNER ANGLE HALLAM JACKSON & FORMANEK PLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

3550 N. CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 1500
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012
(602) 264-7101
(602) 234-0419 FAX
www.warnerangle.com

CHARLES R. HALLAM
LARRY C. SCHAFER
JEROME K. ELWELL
JACK D. KLAUSNER
JAMES VALLETTA
ERIK C. BERGSTROM
TRACEY VAN WICKLER
ALISON K. SHEA
ROBERT C. MAYSEY
SARAH E. PRICE

STEPHEN E. JACKSON
DEAN J. FORMANEK
JOHN A. BURIC
CHRIS R. BANISZEWSKI
JOEL H. HOFFMAN
J. BRENT WELKER
BOBBY O. THRASHER, JR.
MATTHEW J. PIERCE
ZACHARY L. LAPRADE
PHILLIP B. VISNANSKY

October 23, 2008

Via E-mail oceans@ceq.eop.gov;

CGutierrez@doc.gov and bill.brennan@noaa.gov

OF COUNSEL
JERRY L. ANGLE TED F. WARNER
PETER D. AMBELANG CATHERINE CONNER

Dear Sir:

As a U.S. citizen and taxpayer who enjoys fishing recreationally, I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the White House or fishery management agencies or councils to prohibit recreational fishing in marine protected areas, including areas designated as or within Marine National Monuments, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environment Group. As you know the President just recently issued an Executive Memo and an Executive Order making clear that recreational fishing should be sustained in marine protected areas.

The recreational fishing constituency of the U.S. is comprised of millions of individuals like myself who value marine resources and interact with them responsibly. It is not even a theory worth considering that enacting such a law would have any effect on reducing the degradation of fishing stocks. Recreational fishing is proven to be manageable in a pro-conservation sustainable manner as evidenced by numerous foreign countries such as Panama, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic and Guatemala. Recreational fishing provides thousands of jobs to individuals in coastal areas, including in the Pacific islands and beyond. Recreational fishing can continue in areas closed to commercial fishing gear, which is the sole only cause of overfishing of species in conjunction with traditional and effective fisheries management tools such as bag limits, size limits, seasons and restrictions of destructive gear types and catch and release rules in certain areas. Those of us not responsible for overfishing should not be penalized for the acts of others using gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management.

Sincerely,



James Valletta



WARNER ANGLE HALLAM JACKSON & FORMANEK PLC

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October 23, 2008

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Sincerely,



James Valletta

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Mike Andrew [trailrat_05@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 8:03 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Pacific Conservation

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

Please register my firm support of your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever. The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean

resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection - rather than the status quo "multiple use" management - to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mike Andrew
Eddy
Carlsbad, NM 88220

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 8:03 PM
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Oct 24, 2008

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Sincerely,

Mr. Mike Andrew
Eddy
Carlsbad, NM 88220

October 24, 2008

The Honorable James L. Connaughton
White House Council on Environmental Quality
730 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Via Email: oceans@ceq.eop.gov

Dear Chairman Connaughton:

We appreciate the opportunity you have afforded us to discuss ocean management in this Administration, especially as it relates to recreational fishing. Regarding Pacific Ocean designations, we now have before us the first designation discussion since the President's Executive Order of September 26, 2008 (EO #13474).

As deliberations about the Pacific Ocean designations within the Administration continue, the undersigned groups support the spirit and intent of Executive Order 13474. By stating that recreational fishing should be managed as a sustainable activity in federal waters and on federal lands, the President recognized the conservation and economic contributions of the recreational fishing community, as well as the overall positive environmental and social benefits associated with responsible, regulated angling. The closure to recreational fishing of large areas of the Pacific Ocean is unwarranted by the science, undermines the recent executive order on recreational fishing, further erodes the economy, and sends the wrong message to 60 million recreational anglers.

As you know, members of the recreational fishing community recently were able to attend a science briefing on the health of marine waters and attendant resources adjacent to a number of areas in the Pacific. In general these areas are off Guam, the Northern Marianas, American Samoa and a series of atolls throughout the Central and Western Pacific. Each of the areas has corals in varied states of health. In the briefing we were told that the three factors impacting coral reefs are: climate change, pollution/sedimentation, and fishing.

We agree that the coral reefs are being impacted by climate change and that some of the areas identified for potential closure have almost pristine reefs. Coral reefs are by themselves an important part of the ecosystem and provide a valuable habitat for related reef fish species. Dealing with climate change, the primary cause of reef decline, will take a global effort, which by its very nature will require interaction of concerns over both the world's economy and environment. The final solution may be years in coming. The other two cited causes of coral decline, pollution/sedimentation and fishing, are less well understood, especially with regard to scientific documentation of the impacts of recreational angling. We continue to ask for the evidence in support of the government assertion that well-managed recreational angling is in fact a causal factor.

In regards to fish stocks, we learned that the only significant commercial fishery is the international tuna fleet. There are local fisheries of varying effort, but we understand that there is little if any overfishing occurring in the region. However, the scientists pointed out there are localized stock

depletions in areas closer to population centers. Further, we understand that there is some management of the commercial fishery by way of permits, but the subsistence and recreational fisheries are largely unmanaged. In other words, there are no license requirements or catch statistics compiled on these sectors. Of course the bonefish fishery at Palmyra, being intensively managed, is the exception.

Executive Order 13474 directs the executive branch to sustain recreational fishing when designating marine protected areas. The order specifically refers to the authorities now being considered for use in the Pacific. Our understanding of the order is that where the executive branch wishes to exclude recreational fishing from an area, it will do so only where there is a good scientifically-based reason. In the case of the Central and Western Pacific, the only reason we were given at the briefing for a possible fishing closure was that fishing was the only activity in the near-term which could be controlled, and the best way to control it was to prevent it. Clearly, this is contrary to the intent of the Executive Order.

The areas being discussed can be separated into three distinct categories: areas where commercial, subsistence and recreational fishing already exist under some form of territorial or Federal authority; areas adjacent to these areas which are currently not being fished because of their remoteness; and lastly, areas so remote that little fishing of any type is taking place. Excluding recreational fishing in places where it already exists has a direct present and future negative impact on the economies of the territories and is a decision which is best left to local governments. Excluding recreational fishing from areas adjacent to the areas now being fished is unnecessary and is a decision best left to local authorities and the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council. These areas can be easily managed and, at least with respect to the impact of recreational fishing, the environmental footprint can be controlled to ensure that management objectives are achieved. In other federal waters where recreational fishing is popular, measures allowing only certain fishing techniques, equipment and regulated-take are proven management measures. The management authorities in the territories and the Federal government can find a way to allow recreational activity in these areas without simply banning it.

As to the atolls, there appears to be some difference in the existing authority and human interaction. There are some of these where no fishing – commercial, recreational or subsistence – is occurring. There are others where a vibrant and well-managed recreational fishery is occurring with no apparent impact on the corals.

We believe the principles of the Executive Order ought to be a clear guide to the Administration's actions in these areas. First any closures ought to be based on a scientific necessity. The area closed should be as small as possible to meet that objective. The area closure should be reviewed periodically to determine whether a continued closure of the area is warranted. If the area is closed for some scientific purpose there ought to be a transparent and robust scientific program to allow the public to know why the area continues to be closed and progress being made on solving the problem.

We believe one of the goals of the Executive Order with respect to any closed area is not to close it in perpetuity, but to develop a program where the objectives of the closure can be met and a responsibly-managed recreational fishery can be sustained. Using the Antiquities Act to

permanently exclude recreational fishing circumvents the existing laws that implement management decisions based on real-time resource inputs and conditions.

We also want you to be aware of the message conveyed to American anglers by the implementation of no-fishing zones. Recreational fishermen are this nation's first conservationists. On the whole they care about the environment and they will accept almost any form of management, including no-fishing areas, as long as the management is intended to promote the health of the nation's fishery resources. The establishment of huge no-fishing zones, without scientific basis, runs counter to this ethic. Preventing all recreational fishing in areas as an interim strategy to postpone the impact of climate change will not be accepted by the recreational fishing community as a necessary, reasonable, or effective management measure. Sustaining a recreational fishery by giving anglers the opportunity to fish these areas today and in the future is a much better course.

We could not close without a discussion of the impact of a no-fishing zone designation on the economy. The effects of fuel prices and a credit crisis are having a disproportionate impact on the American angler and boater. Telling this community there is yet another part of the world where you cannot fish will not be well-received. Anglers by necessity live on hope. There are scores of places in the world where they may never go, but there are very few where they would not like to go someday. Simply closing those areas is not a positive message and will hurt this sector of the economy.

In conclusion, as designations in the Pacific are made, we expect the Executive Order 13474 to be the guiding force regarding decisions on the management of recreational fishing. Sustaining well-managed recreational fisheries in these areas is consistent with the Executive Order and compatible with the conservation of coral reef ecosystems.

Sincerely,

Mike Nussman, President and CEO
American Sportfishing Association

Jeff Angers, President
Center for Coastal Conservation

David Cummins, President
Coastal Conservation Association

Jeff Crane, President
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

Rob Kramer, President
International Game Fish Association

Thom Dammrich, President
National Marine Manufacturers Association

Phil Morlock, Director of Environmental Affairs
Shimano American Corp.

Ellen Peel, President
The Billfish Foundation

cc: The Honorable Carlos M. Gutierrez, Secretary of Commerce
The Honorable Robert Gates, Secretary of Defense
The Honorable Dirk Kempthorne, Secretary of the Interior
Mr. Barry Jackson, Senior Advisor to the President

October 24, 2008

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Phil Morlock, Director of Environmental Affairs
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The Billfish Foundation

cc: The Honorable Carlos M. Gutierrez, Secretary of Commerce
The Honorable Robert Gates, Secretary of Defense
The Honorable Dirk Kempthorne, Secretary of the Interior
Mr. Barry Jackson, Senior Advisor to the President

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: abz4805@aol.com
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:14 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: We support two new national marine monuments

President George Bush

Dear President Bush,

We are very excited with your leadership on oceans and for considering increased conservation of two of the most spectacular and pristine marine areas -- the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench.

These areas are unique gems worthy of national attention and discovery, thus we urge not to delay to say "YES" to designate them as marine national monuments.

We further support FULL protection for these ecosystems, meaning preventing extractive and damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing.

These areas include the most pristine coral reef ecosystems on earth and are teeming with wildlife including seabirds, sea turtles and large fishes.

Full protection within the exclusive economic zone will make these island oases and coral reefs more resilient to environmental damage, so they can persist for generations to come.

This is critical for conservation and would cement your ocean legacy and work on ocean conservation.

Please act quickly to establish these new marine monuments, all of us will be forever thankful with you.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Victoria A. Azpuru
12810 Suffolk Chase Ln.
Houston, TX 770877-372

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Emily Bachhuber [ebachhuber@shopnbc.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:04 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Pacific Marine Conservation Support

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to

effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Ms. Emily Bachhuber
301 Oak Grove St Apt 210
Minneapolis, MN 55403-4013

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Allen Ball [aball@theballgroupinc.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 4:16 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Closing of areas to recreational fishing

Dear Sir,

As a U.S. citizen who enjoys fishing recreationally, I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the White House or fishery management agencies or councils to prohibit recreational fishing in marine protected areas, including areas designated as or within Marine National Monuments, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environment Group. As you know the President just recently issued an Executive Memo and an Executive Order making clear that recreational fishing should be sustained in marine protected areas.

The recreational fishing constituency of the U.S. is comprised of millions of individuals who value marine resources and interact with them responsibly -

- recreational fishing is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks;

- recreational fishing is proven to be manageable in a pro-conservation sustainable manner;

- recreational fishing provides thousands of jobs to individuals in coastal areas, including in the Pacific islands and beyond;

- recreational fishing can continue in areas closed to commercial fishing gear, which is responsible for overfishing of species in conjunction with traditional and effective fisheries management tools such as bag limits, size limits, seasons and restrictions of destructive gear types; and

- those of us not responsible for overfishing should not be penalized for the acts of others using gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management.

Sincerely,

Allen Ball

2845 Hancock Creek Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33411
561-758-0008 Cell

10/27/2008

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: kesvirit@klington.org
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 4:18 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Support two new national marine monuments

President George Bush

Dear President Bush,

Thank you for your leadership on oceans and for considering increased conservation of two of the most spectacular and pristine marine areas -- the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench.

These areas are unique gems worthy of national attention and discovery, and I urge you to designate them as marine national monuments.

I further support FULL protection for these ecosystems, meaning preventing extractive and damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing.

These areas include the most pristine coral reef ecosystems on earth and are teeming with wildlife including seabirds, sea turtles and large fishes.

Full protection within the exclusive economic zone will make these island oases and coral reefs more resilient to environmental damage, so they can persist for generations to come.

This is critical for conservation and would cement your ocean legacy and work on ocean conservation.

Please act quickly to establish these new marine monuments.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Mikail Barron
110 Arrow Ln.
Felton, CA 95018

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Jeffery Biss [jeff@marco-inc.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:04 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Protect the marine environment

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I write to strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to

effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jeffery Biss
392 Jefferson Ave
Elgin, IL 60120-3845

From: [Neri Blas](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Fw: Letter in opposition
Date: Friday, October 24, 2008 12:53:54 AM
Attachments: [Guam fishing preservation.pdf](#)

----- Original Message -----

From: [Carlos Diaz](#)

To: '[Neri Blas](#)'

Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 12:52 PM

Subject: RE: Letter in opposition

Carlos U. Diaz
Micronesian Appraisal Associates
194 Chalan San Antonio
Suite 202
Tamuning, Guam 96913-3508
(671) 646-0234 ext. 109
(671) 483-2868
(671) 646-0233 (fax)
carlos.diaz@valuepacific.net

-----Original Message-----

From: Neri Blas [mailto:nbmktg@ite.net]

Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 12:05 PM

To: Eva

Subject: Fw: Letter in opposition

----- Original Message -----

Dear GAR membership,

I am sending you this email to enlist your support for this letter campaign in an attempt to stop President Bush from declaring Monuments (no-take preserve / refuge) in the CNMI and

Guam.

These proposed monuments in our area, is the "Blue Legacy" that President Bush is trying to create for himself before he leaves office and probably has nothing to do about the life in the ocean.

Some of you who keep abreast of the current situations particularly on Guam, might think this is nothing to worry about since it would only affect the CNMI, but you are mistaken. The proposal is for a monument on the northern most islands of the Marianas, **and another in the Marianas Trench.**

For your information the Challenger Deep, or should I say the deepest point of the Marianas Trench is about 180 miles off Guam, but the Trench begins 60 miles off the SW coast of Guam. In Hawaii, the monument was established with a 100 mile zone from the monument, and In the CNMI they are proposing a 200 mile zone area of protection.

For Guam even if they were to propose a 50 mile zone, it would include all of the most productive fishing banks (sea mounts) to include Galvez Banks, Santa Rosa Reef, White Tuna Banks and Stu Banks. This would be the end of our consumption of our locally caught fish, and the fishermen who bring them for us.

Should this proposal be signed by the President, don't be surprised for we will all soon be consuming fish pre-packaged and enhanced then sold to us from China, and other nations who totally disregard all proper health, safety and environmental practices. With all the current problems with Chinese products, i.e. lead in toys and chemicals in milk products, we know very well what serious health consequences buying fish from them may bring us.

Yet with all this said, we on Guam and the CNMI are expected to just look at our fish while the US Government licenses purse seiners to rape the sea life around us at a million dollars a boat with all the financial proceeds for the United States government.

Also, for your information, one fishing voyage of only one purse seiner is the equivalent of probably a dozen years of catch of all the local fishermen in Guam and the CNMI, yet they insist through this monument that they are only protecting the ocean for us, and for our own good!

For those of you who are not aware, we currently have preserves on Guam, that currently are successful, and we have and other laws that prevent massive taking of fish. But these laws that are currently in place to protect us from purse seiners and long liners from fishing within our 200 mile EEZ is not enforced by the Federal Government. By the time the US Coast Guard is dispatched the offending fishing ships have picked up their illegal catch and flee into

international waters with our fish.

Your help is greatly needed for all our sakes. There is so little time left, for the President with the powers of the Antiquity's Act, and the Magnuson-Stevens Act can immediately sign this document with out the approval of Congress, the Senate, or anyone else. Most importantly, only an act of Congress can reverse this proposed travesty of injustice for our people.

Pls help by reading this letter and signing it. You can fax it to the Fisherman's Co-Op @ (671) 477-2986 , or scan and email back to me @ nbmktg@ite.net. I will then forward it through the proper channels of the Federal Government or I will send it via the office of our Washington Delegate, Madeline Bordallo. She is our voice and our ally in Washington, against those proposing this law. **Pls pass this along to all your contacts to continue this chain of support.** Thank you.

Sincerely,

Neri Blas

From: [Neri Blas](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Fw: Letter in opposition
Date: Friday, October 24, 2008 12:53:54 AM
Attachments: [Guam fishing preservation.pdf](#)

----- Original Message -----

From: [Carlos Diaz](#)

To: '[Neri Blas](#)'

Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 12:52 PM

Subject: RE: Letter in opposition

Carlos U. Diaz
Micronesian Appraisal Associates
194 Chalan San Antonio
Suite 202
Tamuning, Guam 96913-3508
(671) 646-0234 ext. 109
(671) 483-2868
(671) 646-0233 (fax)
carlos.diaz@valuepacific.net

-----Original Message-----

From: Neri Blas [mailto:nbmktg@ite.net]

Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 12:05 PM

To: Eva

Subject: Fw: Letter in opposition

----- Original Message -----

Dear GAR membership,

I am sending you this email to enlist your support for this letter campaign in an attempt to stop President Bush from declaring Monuments (no-take preserve / refuge) in the CNMI and

Guam.

These proposed monuments in our area, is the "Blue Legacy" that President Bush is trying to create for himself before he leaves office and probably has nothing to do about the life in the ocean.

Some of you who keep abreast of the current situations particularly on Guam, might think this is nothing to worry about since it would only affect the CNMI, but you are mistaken. The proposal is for a monument on the northern most islands of the Marianas, **and another in the Marianas Trench.**

For your information the Challenger Deep, or should I say the deepest point of the Marianas Trench is about 180 miles off Guam, but the Trench begins 60 miles off the SW coast of Guam. In Hawaii, the monument was established with a 100 mile zone from the monument, and In the CNMI they are proposing a 200 mile zone area of protection.

For Guam even if they were to propose a 50 mile zone, it would include all of the most productive fishing banks (sea mounts) to include Galvez Banks, Santa Rosa Reef, White Tuna Banks and Stu Banks. This would be the end of our consumption of our locally caught fish, and the fishermen who bring them for us.

Should this proposal be signed by the President, don't be surprised for we will all soon be consuming fish pre-packaged and enhanced then sold to us from China, and other nations who totally disregard all proper health, safety and environmental practices. With all the current problems with Chinese products, i.e. lead in toys and chemicals in milk products, we know very well what serious health consequences buying fish from them may bring us.

Yet with all this said, we on Guam and the CNMI are expected to just look at our fish while the US Government licenses purse seiners to rape the sea life around us at a million dollars a boat with all the financial proceeds for the United States government.

Also, for your information, one fishing voyage of only one purse seiner is the equivalent of probably a dozen years of catch of all the local fishermen in Guam and the CNMI, yet they insist through this monument that they are only protecting the ocean for us, and for our own good!

For those of you who are not aware, we currently have preserves on Guam, that currently are successful, and we have and other laws that prevent massive taking of fish. But these laws that are currently in place to protect us from purse seiners and long liners from fishing within our 200 mile EEZ is not enforced by the Federal Government. By the time the US Coast Guard is dispatched the offending fishing ships have picked up their illegal catch and flee into

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Your help is greatly needed for all our sakes. There is so little time left, for the President with the powers of the Antiquity's Act, and the Magnuson-Stevens Act can immediately sign this document with out the approval of Congress, the Senate, or anyone else. Most importantly, only an act of Congress can reverse this proposed travesty of injustice for our people.

Pls help by reading this letter and signing it. You can fax it to the Fisherman's Co-Op @ (671) 477-2986 , or scan and email back to me @ nbmktg@ite.net. I will then forward it through the proper channels of the Federal Government or I will send it via the office of our Washington Delegate, Madeline Bordallo. She is our voice and our ally in Washington, against those proposing this law. **Pls pass this along to all your contacts to continue this chain of support.** Thank you.

Sincerely,

Neri Blas

Dear Sir/Madame,

I vehemently oppose any efforts to try to persuade the President or federal entities to establish Marine Protected Areas, Marine Conservation Areas or a Marine National Monuments in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of the Marianas to include islands under existing CNMI Government protection, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environmental Group.

As a citizen of the United States, I support fishermen in the Marianas, to include Guam and the CNMI. They continually promote sustainable fishing practices that provide for the nutritional needs of their families, as well the rest in the island community,

The President in the past issued an Executive Memo that recognizes the views of territorial governments, local governments and interested parties which have all demonstrated strong opposition to any form arbitrary Presidential designation.

...Further, *“The White House will not consider any proposed project that hints of controversy”* (letter dated 30 April 2008). *The fishing constituency and the people of the Marianas are comprised of a number of Pacific Islander cultures living side by side with other mainstream Americans who collectively practice sustainable fishing.*

Let it be known to the President that:

The Marianas Fishing Community is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks or the destruction of critical marine habitat;

The Marianas Fishing Community has historically (nearly 4,000 years) proven to be excellent stewards of the ocean whereby the harvest is primarily consumed by the community;

The Marianas Fishing Community continues to provide sustenance to residents of our islands without the need to implement industrialized harvesting methods.

The Marianas Fishing Community should be allowed to continue to fish in the waters of the Marianas with traditional or modern effective fisheries management tools.

The Marianas Fishing Community wholeheartedly supports the existing management regime as established by the U.S. Congress under the **Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.**

The Marianas Fishing Community recognizes that **the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council** for several decades has banned the use of the Trawl Nets, Gill Nets and most recently Purse Seine.

The WPRFMC also established large closed areas whereby larger (50') scale fishing vessels are prohibited from entering; thus protecting seamounts from industrialize resource extraction to include anchoring which adversely impacts the marine habitat.

In closing, **the Marianas Fishing Community** *is not responsible* for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

Sincerely,

Carol C. Hendrix, Huddleston, VA

Print Name

MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
GUAM

427 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-5301
(202) 225-1188
FAX: (202) 226-0341

DISTRICT OFFICE:
120 FATHER DUENAS AVENUE
SUITE 107
HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96910
(671) 477-4272
FAX: (671) 477-2587

<http://www.house.gov/bordallo>



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

CHAIRWOMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES,
WILDLIFE AND OCEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSULAR AFFAIRS

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWERS
AND EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

October 24, 2008

The Honorable James L. Connaughton
Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you in Guam to discuss the proposed marine monument sites, including the Northern Mariana Islands and the Mariana Trench. Fishing and marine recreation are an important part of the culture and economy in Guam and many of my constituents depend upon the ocean waters to make a living. Tourism related to fishing and ocean recreation is one the main attractions that brings thousands of visitors to Guam each month.

Because of that fact, Guam is dedicated to careful stewardship of our marine resources. We have taken many steps to preserve the aquatic resources in and around Guam and to ensure that fishing industries comply with rules and regulations that are in place to sustain a healthy marine resource. I view retention of local flexibility to manage our marine resources in a way that balances the protections needed for sustainable marine resources with a thriving economy as an important sovereignty issue.

As such, I am opposed to the use of the Antiquities Act to create one or more marine national monuments in the CNMI and the Mariana Trench in an expedited fashion that involves little input from stakeholders and local communities. Moreover, the lack of detail regarding the President's proposals is even more reason for requiring additional input from stakeholders. I believe the process in place under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, which involves formal public consultation of stakeholders, is a far better process that could be used to assess the merits of these proposals. This process would help affected individuals better understand the details of the proposal and develop alternatives that would meet Administration and community goals. I also believe that fisheries should be managed through the Magnuson-Stevens Act process and the regional fishery management councils. At this time, it is not clear that the proposals being considered by the Administration would ensure utilization of the fishery management councils.

The Honorable James L. Connaughton
Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality
October 24, 2008
Page Two

In short, where local conservation efforts have proven to be successful, I believe we should employ existing administrative processes that provide a proper role for ongoing local involvement in the management of our precious marine resources. I am extremely concerned that the process that is being employed now, in the last weeks of the Bush Administration, does not provide for adequate public input, let alone adequate Congressional oversight.

We must work together to protect our ocean resources. I urge your support and leadership with the federal agencies to work closer in partnership with the local communities to develop proposals that satisfy more stakeholders concerns.

Sincerely,


MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
Member of Congress

MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
GUAM

427 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
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(202) 225-1188
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Sincerely,


MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
Member of Congress

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Walt Bowen [wbowen@triad.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 6:54 PM
To: bill.brennan@noaa.gov; CGutierrez@doc.gov; FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Fishing regulations comments

Dear Sir,

As a U.S. citizen who enjoys fishing recreationally, I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the White House or fishery management agencies or councils to prohibit recreational fishing in marine protected areas, including areas designated as or within Marine National Monuments, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environment Group. As you know the President just recently issued an Executive Memo and an Executive Order making clear that recreational fishing should be sustained in marine protected areas.

The recreational fishing constituency of the U.S. is comprised of millions of individuals who value marine resources and interact with them responsibly -

-recreational fishing is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks;

-recreational fishing is proven to be manageable in a pro-conservation sustainable manner;

-recreational fishing provides thousands of jobs to individuals in coastal areas, including in the Pacific islands and beyond;

-recreational fishing can continue in areas closed to commercial fishing gear, which is responsible for overfishing of species in conjunction with traditional and effective fisheries management tools such as bag limits, size limits, seasons and restrictions of destructive gear types; and

- those of us not responsible for overfishing should not be penalized for the acts of others using gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management.

Sincerely,

Walt Bowen

10/27/2008

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Diane Buhler [diane.buhler@calibre.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:05 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: The Right Action, the right time is now!

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I write to strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to

effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Ms. Diane Buhler
PO Box 876
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-0876

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Cait Cassee [yippee@freeland.net]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:02 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: A Legacy of Hope for the Pacific

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I write to strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Cait Cassee
1951 Brainers Rd
Freeland, WA 98249-9513

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Kathy Yuknavage and Ted Parker [parknavage@pticom.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 9:45 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Cc: cfsayon@hotmail.com; francastro@pticom.com; Allen.Tom@noaa.gov; bill.millhouser@noaa.gov; 'Kathy Chaston'; jeff.schorr@pticom.com
Subject: MINA Letter of Support / Thank you

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I too would like to thank you for taking time to meet with us on Wednesday. Unfortunately, as was mentioned might occur... I was handed a letter on Friday by the CRM Director, Dr. John Joyner, informing me that a new contract was not being offered to me by the Commonwealth Government. I was not being "terminated", but not being offered a new contract "as an administrative matter not considered to be for cause".

I hope other CNMI government employees will not be similarly affected by their personal stance in favor of the Marianas Trench monument. I stand by my decision. I truly hope that we can make the monument a reality. In life, most things of value come at a cost. A job is a small price to pay to ensure our future generations will still be able to enjoy a rich natural heritage and the Mariana's bountiful ocean legacy.

Sincerely,
Kathy Yuknavage
Mariana Islands Nature Alliance (MINA) Board member

-----Original Message-----

From: mina@minapacific.org [mailto:mina@minapacific.org]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 4:05 PM
To: oceans@ceq.eop.gov
Cc: cfsayon@hotmail.com; francastro@pticom.com; parknavage@pticom.com
Subject: MINA Letter of Support / Thank you

Jim Connaughton, Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality

Dear Chairman Connaughton:

Once again, we would like to thank you for taking the time to meet with us three members from the Board of Director of the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance (MINA). For your convenience, I have attached a PDF copy of our letter presented to you at our meeting.

We look forward to hearing from your office and we are happy to assist in making the Marianas Trench Monument a reality.

Sincerely

Fran Castro
Kathy Yuknavage
Chuck Sayon
Board Members

P.O. Box 506645
Saipan, MP 96950
mina@minapacific.org
www.minapacific.org

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Kathy Yuknavage and Ted Parker [parknavage@pticom.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 9:45 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Cc: cfsayon@hotmail.com; francastro@pticom.com; Allen.Tom@noaa.gov; bill.millhouser@noaa.gov; 'Kathy Chaston'; jeff.schorr@pticom.com
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Sincerely,
Kathy Yuknavage
Mariana Islands Nature Alliance (MINA) Board member

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We look forward to hearing from your office and we are happy to assist in making the Marianas Trench Monument a reality.

Sincerely

Fran Castro
Kathy Yuknavage
Chuck Sayon
Board Members

P.O. Box 506645
Saipan, MP 96950
mina@minapacific.org
www.minapacific.org

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: CLARKBETH45@aol.com
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 4:37 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: (no subject)

Dear Sir,

As a U.S. citizen who enjoys fishing recreationally, I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the White House or fishery management agencies or councils to prohibit recreational fishing in marine protected areas, including areas designated as or within Marine National Monuments, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environment Group. As you know the President just recently issued an Executive Memo and an Executive Order making clear that recreational fishing should be sustained in marine protected areas.

The recreational fishing constituency of the U.S. is comprised of millions of individuals who value marine resources and interact with them responsibly -

- recreational fishing is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks;
- recreational fishing is proven to be manageable in a pro-conservation sustainable manner;
- recreational fishing provides thousands of jobs to individuals in coastal areas, including in the Pacific islands and beyond;
- recreational fishing can continue in areas closed to commercial fishing gear, which is responsible for overfishing of species in conjunction with traditional and effective fisheries management tools such as bag limits, size limits, seasons and restrictions of destructive gear types; and
- those of us not responsible for overfishing should not be penalized for the acts of others using gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management.

Sincerely,
<Your Name Here>BETH CLARK

Play online games for FREE at Games.com! All of your favorites, no registration required and great graphics – [check it out!](#)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Clare Cleveland [claremb@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:02 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please protect U.S. Pacific Ocean

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I write to strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to

effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Ms. Clare Cleveland
720 Baker St Apt I
San Francisco, CA 94115-4331

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Deborah Cohen [deborah.cohen@umsl.edu]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:02 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Pushing for Pacific Marine Conservation

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I am writing in support of your vision for protection of marine areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The islands and

surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

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Sincerely,

Dr. Deborah Cohen
3943 Fairview Ave
Saint Louis, MO 63116-3709

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Jody Cosson [jodyedit@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:04 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Make Pacific Marine Conservation a Priority

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I write to strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

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Sincerely,

Ms. Jody Cosson
125 Lupin Cir
New Braunfels, TX 78132-3560

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Michelangelo von Dassow [mvondass@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:05 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Protecting the Pacific Ocean

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

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Sincerely,

Dr. Michelangelo von Dassow
1453 Barnesdale St Apt 2R
Pittsburgh, PA 15217-1354

From: [Kevin Degler](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Recreational fishing must be continued
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 7:22:49 PM
Attachments:

Please sir,
Hear our plea about NOT restricting the average sport fisherman from fishing in marine protected areas. The world is swirling down a drain and now you want to restrict the average guys means of relaxation and feeding his family. The government has proven it can regulate without eliminating sport fishing. regulations are getting to be a bit much, but it is better than a ban.

Here in Alaska I witness commercial fishing THROW AWAY more fish than all the sportsmen combined and catch. Ban that type of fishing before the oceans are depleted.

Please allow us to fish in all US waters.

Thank you
Kevin Degler
Anchorage, Alaska
907-351-9695

From: [Kevin Degler](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Recreational fishing must be continued
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 7:22:49 PM
Attachments:

Please sir,
Hear our plea about NOT restricting the average sport fisherman from fishing in marine protected areas. The world is swirling down a drain and now you want to restrict the average guys means of relaxation and feeding his family. The government has proven it can regulate without eliminating sport fishing. regulations are getting to be a bit much, but it is better than a ban.

Here in Alaska I witness commercial fishing THROW AWAY more fish than all the sportsmen combined and catch. Ban that type of fishing before the oceans are depleted.

Please allow us to fish in all US waters.

Thank you
Kevin Degler
Anchorage, Alaska
907-351-9695

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Nancy Despault [trkman@cs.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:05 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Important Recreational Fishing Issue at the White House

Chairman Connaughton:

I oppose the arbitrary exclusion of recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean.

I am opposed to any arbitrary Presidential or Agency ban on recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean. An arbitrary ban would be directly contrary to Executive Order 12962, which states that recreational fishing "shall be managed as a sustainable activity" under any federal law. I am a member of the Coastal Conservation Association, and I take great pride in conserving our marine resources.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely, Nancy Despault

Nancy Despault
5802 Seip Rd
Georgetown, OH 45121

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Don Donat [dmd3@cox.net]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:00 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Recreational Fishing and Conservation Designations in the Pacific

Don Donat
980 Park Drive
Escondido, CA 92029-5720

October 24, 2008

CEQ Chairman
Assessment c/o Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20503

Dear CEQ Chairman:

I am a recreational angler, and take great pride in conserving our marine resources. I am therefore opposed to any executive branch or federal agency ban on recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean without sound scientific evidence. Regulated recreational fishing does not harm this area. To the contrary, recreational fishing generates significant economic benefit to areas in which it occurs. Any ban would be directly contrary to Executive Order 12962, which states that recreational fishing "shall be managed as a sustainable activity" under any federal law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Don Donat

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Mercy Drake [drakemee@wellsfargo.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:02 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Protect our oceans

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I write to strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to

effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Ms. Mercy Drake
320 E McKellips Rd Lot 165
Mesa, AZ 85201-2153

From: [Monaeka Flores](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marine Protected Areas, Marine Conservation Areas or a Marine National Monuments in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of the Marianas
Date: Friday, October 24, 2008 2:29:28 AM
Attachments:

October 24, 2008

Dear Sir,

I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the President or federal entities to establish Marine Protected Areas, Marine Conservation Areas or a Marine National Monuments in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of the Marianas to include islands under existing CNMI Government protection, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environmental Group.

As you know the President issued an Executive Memo that recognizes the views of territorial governments, local governments and interested parties, which have all demonstrated strong opposition to any form of arbitrary Presidential designation. Further, "The White House will not consider any proposed project that hints of controversy" (letter dated 30 April 2008). The fishing constituency and the people of the Marianas are comprised of a number of Pacific Islander cultures living side by side with other mainstream Americans who collectively practice sustainable fishing.

The Marianas Fishing Community is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks or the destruction of critical marine habitat;

The Marianas Fishing Community has historically (nearly 4,000 years) proven to be excellent stewards of the ocean whereby the harvest is primarily consumed by the community;

The Marianas Fishing Community continues to provide sustenance to residents of our islands without the need to implement industrialized harvesting methods.

The Marianas Fishing Community should be allowed to continue to fish in the waters of the Marianas with traditional or modern effective fisheries management tools.

The Marianas Fishing Community wholeheartedly supports the existing management regime as established by the U.S. Congress under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The Marianas Fishing Community recognizes that the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council for several decades has banned the use of the Trawl Nets, Gill Nets and most recently Purse Seine. The WPRFMC also established large closed areas whereby larger (50') scale fishing vessels are prohibited from entering; thus protecting seamounts from industrialize resource extraction to include anchoring which adversely impacts the marine habitat.

In closing, the Marianas Fishing Community is not responsible for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

Sincerely,
Monaeka Flores

From: [Monaeka Flores](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marine Protected Areas, Marine Conservation Areas or a Marine National Monuments in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of the Marianas
Date: Friday, October 24, 2008 2:29:28 AM
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October 24, 2008

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In closing, the Marianas Fishing Community is not responsible for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

Sincerely,
Monaeka Flores

From: [michael genereux](mailto:michael.genereux)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Guam fishing
Date: Friday, October 24, 2008 8:02:09 AM
Attachments:

My name is Michael Genereux and I have been fishing my whole life on Guam. I am all for different types of conservation because with technology now adays the fish don't stand a chance. I do not however think that making a monument in an area where we get a large amount of our fish is right. It is hard enough to catch the left overs of long liners and expecially purseiners but if you take away some of our prime fishing areas we will all be forced to buy fish in a can.

I am all for you utilizing the trench any way you can just don't stop us from fishing near it. More specifically the sea mounds south of Guam are the only areas we are concerned about. Thank you. Michael Genereux.

Discover the new Windows Vista [Learn more!](#)

From: [michael genereux](mailto:michael.genereux)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Guam fishing
Date: Friday, October 24, 2008 8:02:09 AM
Attachments:

My name is Michael Genereux and I have been fishing my whole life on Guam. I am all for different types of conservation because with technology now adays the fish don't stand a chance. I do not however think that making a monument in an area where we get a large amount of our fish is right. It is hard enough to catch the left overs of long liners and expecially purseiners but if you take away some of our prime fishing areas we will all be forced to buy fish in a can.

I am all for you utilizing the trench any way you can just don't stop us from fishing near it. More specifically the sea mounds south of Guam are the only areas we are concerned about. Thank you. Michael Genereux.

Discover the new Windows Vista [Learn more!](#)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Gary Girard [gjdgirard@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 4:31 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Important Recreational Fishing Issue at the White House

Chairman Connaughton:

I oppose the arbitrary exclusion of recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean.

I am opposed to any arbitrary Presidential or Agency ban on recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean. An arbitrary ban would be directly contrary to Executive Order 12962, which states that recreational fishing "shall be managed as a sustainable activity" under any federal law. I am a member of the Coastal Conservation Association, and I take great pride in conserving our marine resources.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely, Gary Girard

Gary Girard
9509 NW 21st Ave
Vancouver, WA 98665

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Nancy Gladfelter [syncomng@optonline.net]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:05 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Pacific Marine Conservation- more national monuments - yes

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to

effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nancy Gladfelter
1869 Mountain Top Rd
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-2348

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Greg Harrison [gregharrison@remax.net]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:35 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Pacific Marine Protection

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

Thank you for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mr. Greg Harrison
954 S Orlando Ave
Winter Park, FL 32789-4849

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Mark Heald [mheald@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:03 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Support Pacific Marine Conservation Areas

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I write to strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to

effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

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The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mark Heald
PO Box 284
Pleasant Hill, TN 38578-0284

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: mudd4blood@aol.com
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 4:30 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: opposition to fishing ban

Dear Sir,

As a U.S. citizen who enjoys fishing recreationally, I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the White House or fishery management agencies or councils to prohibit recreational fishing in marine protected areas, including areas designated as or within Marine National Monuments, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environment Group. As you know the President just recently issued an Executive Memo and an Executive Order making clear that recreational fishing should be sustained in marine protected areas.

The recreational fishing constituency of the U.S. is comprised of millions of individuals who value marine resources and interact with them responsibly -

- recreational fishing is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks;
- recreational fishing is proven to be manageable in a pro-conservation sustainable manner;
- recreational fishing provides thousands of jobs to individuals in coastal areas, including in the Pacific islands and beyond;
- recreational fishing can continue in areas closed to commercial fishing gear, which is responsible for overfishing of species in conjunction with traditional and effective fisheries management tools such as bag limits, size limits, seasons and restrictions of destructive gear types; and
- those of us not responsible for overfishing should not be penalized for the acts of others using gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management.

Sincerely,

Jacob Taylor Hood

McCain or Obama? Stay updated on coverage of the Presidential race while you browse - [Download Now!](#)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of joanne johnson [jrjohnson555@comline.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 6:02 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: protected marine areas

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

President Bush has only a short time left to do at least one good thing for the environment. We write to strongly support your bold vision for

the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mrs. joanne johnson
2279 mariposa west
apt p
laguna woods, CA 92637

Dear Sir,

As a U.S. citizen who fishes to provide for the nutritional needs of my family, as well as, my island community, *I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the President or federal entities to establish Marine Protected Areas, Marine Conservation Areas or a Marine National Monuments in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of the Marianas to include islands under existing CNMI Government protection, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environmental Group.*

As you know the President issued an Executive Memo that recognizes the views of territorial governments, local governments and interested parties which have all demonstrated strong opposition to any form arbitrary Presidential designation. Further, *“The White House will not consider any proposed project that hints of controversy”* (letter dated 30 April 2008). *The fishing constituency and the people of the Marianas are comprised of a number of Pacific Islander cultures living side by side with other mainstream Americans who collectively practice sustainable fishing.*

The Marianas Fishing Community is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks or the destruction of critical marine habitat;

The Marianas Fishing Community has historically (nearly 4,000 years) proven to be excellent stewards of the ocean whereby the harvest is primarily consumed by the community;

The Marianas Fishing Community continues to provide sustenance to residents of our islands without the need to implement industrialized harvesting methods.

The Marianas Fishing Community should be allowed to continue fish in the waters of the Marianas with traditional or modern effective fisheries management tools.

The Marianas Fishing Community wholeheartedly supports the existing management regime as established by the U.S. Congress under the **Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act**.

The Marianas Fishing Community recognizes that **the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council** for several decades has banned the use of the Trawl Nets, Gill Nets and most recently Purse Seine. **The WPRFMC** also established large closed areas whereby larger (50') scale fishing vessels are prohibited from entering; thus protecting seamounts from industrialize resource extraction to include anchoring which adversely impacts the marine habitat.

In closing, **the Marianas Fishing Community** *is not responsible* for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

Sincerely,

PETER KAUTZ

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Lovoy, Tim (US - Los Angeles) [tlovoy@DELOITTE.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:07 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Fishing Closures

Dear Sir,

As a U.S. citizen who enjoys fishing recreationally, I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the White House or fishery management agencies or councils to prohibit recreational fishing in marine protected areas, including areas designated as or within Marine National Monuments, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environment Group. As you know the President just recently issued an Executive Memo and an Executive Order making clear that recreational fishing should be sustained in marine protected areas.

The recreational fishing constituency of the U.S. is comprised of millions of individuals who value marine resources and interact with them responsibly -

- recreational fishing is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks;
- recreational fishing is proven to be manageable in a pro-conservation sustainable manner;
- recreational fishing provides thousands of jobs to individuals in coastal areas, including in the Pacific islands and beyond;
- recreational fishing can continue in areas closed to commercial fishing gear, which is responsible for overfishing of species in conjunction with traditional and effective fisheries management tools such as bag limits, size limits, seasons and restrictions of destructive gear types; and
- those of us not responsible for overfishing should not be penalized for the acts of others using gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management.

Sincerely,

Tim Lovoy

Partner

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Tel: (213) 688-6543

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10/27/2008

strictly prohibited. [v.E.1]



James L. Connaughton
Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

← OCT 24 2008

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the President's request to Executive Branch agencies to identify areas in the Pacific Ocean for potential designation as marine protected areas. I am writing as Chairman of the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council, a Federal advisory committee that advises the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on nationally significant recreational boating, angling and aquatic resource conservation issues.

In a letter dated June 6, 2008, (see enclosure) the Council wrote to Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne expressing concern about the potential negative effects of "no-take" areas on conservation, as well the lack of a consistent policy for considering such areas for special protection as marine protected areas, reserves or monuments. As noted in that correspondence, the continued decline in access to public fishery resources has the potential to lead to declines in boating and angling participation, and as a result, the loss of funds for conservation programs such as the Sport Fish Restoration Program. That program, managed by the Service, allocates hundreds of millions of dollars annually to conservation in all 50 states and is arguably one of the most successful aquatic resource conservation programs in the United States. The establishment of "no-take" zones over large areas of publicly managed waters carries with it serious potential to limit public access and participation.

My June 6 letter notes that a policy for the establishment of marine protection areas should consider many factors and must provide for a truly effective public input process. We commend you and the Administration for taking the opportunity to seek feedback from the public as you move forward in identifying areas in the Pacific Ocean for special protection status. However, the Council remains concerned that a clear policy for establishing such areas, one that includes substantial opportunity for public input, is not in place. Moreover, an abbreviated process for establishing special protection areas has the potential to set precedent for how future Administrations will handle similar efforts, to the detriment of boating and angling and, perhaps, funding for aquatic resource conservation.

CHAIRMAN

Ryck Lydecker
Assistant Vice President for
Government Affairs
BoatU.S.

VICE CHAIRMAN

Douglass Boyd
Board Member
Coastal Conservation Association

MEMBERS

James Anderson
Executive Advisor
Northwest Indian Fisheries
Commission

Terry Boyd
Past President
States Organization for Boating Access

Jeffrey Crane
President
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

Thomas J. Dammrich
President
National Marine Manufacturers
Association

Kenneth Haddad
Executive Director
Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation
Commission

Betty Huskins
Senior Vice President
Advantage West Economic
Development Group

John L. Morris
Founder
Bass Pro Shops

Michael Nussman
President & CEO
American Sportfishing Association

James Range
Government Affairs Advocate
American Fly Fishing Trade Association

Geoffrey Ratte
National Sales Manager
Water Gremlin Company

Tom Ricks
General Manager and Vice-President
BASS/ESPN Outdoors

John Sprague
Past President
Marine Industries Association
of Florida

Curtis Taylor
Chief, Wildlife Resources Section
West Virginia Division of Natural
Resources

William Taylor
Professor & Chair
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
Michigan State University

Corky Pugh, ex officio
President
Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies

H. Dale Hall, ex officio
Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS-3103-AEA
Arlington, VA 22203
P 703.358.2336 F 703.358.2548

I appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments on behalf of the Council and would be delighted to discuss these matters with you at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryck Lydecker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ryck Lydecker
Chairman
Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council

Enclosure

Cc: SFBPC members
Elizabeth Stevens

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: demetrios manthous [dmanthous@dmcos.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 4:16 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Protect Recreational Fishing in the Central Pacific

demetrios manthous
3 wenlock cir
easton, MA 02356-2658

October 24, 2008

CEQ Chairman
Assessment c/o Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place
Washington, DC 20503

Dear CEQ Chairman:

I am a recreational angler, and take great pride in conserving our marine resources. I am therefore opposed to any executive branch or federal agency ban on recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean without sound scientific evidence. Regulated recreational fishing does not harm this area. To the contrary, recreational fishing generates significant economic benefit to areas in which it occurs. Any ban would be directly contrary to Executive Order 12962, which states that recreational fishing "shall be managed as a sustainable activity" under any federal law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

demetrios manthous
5082388411

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Michelle MariDavis [mishmari@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:05 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Pacific Marine Conservation

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

Being a diver in the PHILIPPINES, I have come to notice the changes in the ocean secondary to dynamite fishing and lack of concern for our environment. I believe the US can uphold more stringent rules for its citizens and visitors and I am writing to strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Ms. Michelle MariDavis
2221 Lincoln Way
San Francisco, CA 94122-1626

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Gian Andrea Morresi [gmorresi@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 11:33 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: An historic opportunity

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I most strongly support the creation of marine protected areas in the US waters of the Pacific Ocean. The islands and their surrounding seas are some of the most fragile, yet most biologically diverse, areas in the world.

Please protect these treasures for future generations.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Gian Andrea Morresi
2625 Park Ave Unit 15T
Bridgeport, CT 06604-1335

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Gian Andrea Morresi [gmorresi@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 11:33 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: An historic opportunity

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

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Please protect these treasures for future generations.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Gian Andrea Morresi
2625 Park Ave Unit 15T
Bridgeport, CT 06604-1335

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Luther Myrvold [lmyrvold@kuentos.guam.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 1:55 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Conservation Areas - Marianas Island urged by the Pew Environmental Group

Dear Sir/Madame,

Date: __October 24, 2008_____

I vehemently oppose any efforts to try to persuade the President or federal entities to establish Marine Protected Areas, Marine Conservation Areas or a Marine National Monuments in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of the Marianas to include islands under existing CNMI Government protection, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environmental Group.

As a citizen of the United States, I support fishermen in the Marianas, to include Guam and the CNMI. They continually promote sustainable fishing practices that provide for the nutritional needs of their families, as well the rest in the island community,

The President in the past issued an Executive Memo that recognizes the views of territorial governments, local governments and interested parties which have all demonstrated strong opposition to any form arbitrary Presidential designation.

...Further, "The White House will not consider any proposed project that hints of controversy" (letter dated 30 April 2008). *The fishing constituency and the people of the Marianas are comprised of a number of Pacific Islander cultures living side by side with other mainstream Americans who collectively practice sustainable fishing.*

-

Let it be known to the President that:

The Marianas Fishing Community is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks or the destruction of critical marine habitat;

The Marianas Fishing Community has historically (nearly 4,000 years) proven to be excellent stewards of the ocean whereby the harvest is primarily consumed by the community;

The Marianas Fishing Community continues to provide sustenance to residents of our islands without the need to implement industrialized harvesting methods.

The Marianas Fishing Community should be allowed to continue to fish in the waters of the Marianas with traditional or modern effective fisheries management tools.

The Marianas Fishing Community wholeheartedly supports the existing management regime as established by the U.S. Congress under the **Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.**

The Marianas Fishing Community recognizes that **the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council** for several decades has banned the use of the Trawl Nets, Gill Nets and most recently Purse Seine.

The WPRFMC also established large closed areas whereby larger (50') scale fishing vessels are prohibited from entering; thus protecting seamounts from industrialize resource extraction to include anchoring which adversely impacts the marine habitat.

In closing, **the Marianas Fishing Community** *is not responsible* for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

Sincerely, Luther A. Myrvold, Yona, Guam



Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Luther Myrvold [lmyrvold@kuentos.guam.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 1:55 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Conservation Areas - Marianas Island urged by the Pew Environmental Group

Dear Sir/Madame,

Date: __October 24, 2008_____

I vehemently oppose any efforts to try to persuade the President or federal entities to establish Marine Protected Areas, Marine Conservation Areas or a Marine National Monuments in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of the Marianas to include islands under existing CNMI Government protection, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environmental Group.

As a citizen of the United States, I support fishermen in the Marianas, to include Guam and the CNMI. They continually promote sustainable fishing practices that provide for the nutritional needs of their families, as well the rest in the island community,

The President in the past issued an Executive Memo that recognizes the views of territorial governments, local governments and interested parties which have all demonstrated strong opposition to any form arbitrary Presidential designation.

...Further, "The White House will not consider any proposed project that hints of controversy" (letter dated 30 April 2008). *The fishing constituency and the people of the Marianas are comprised of a number of Pacific Islander cultures living side by side with other mainstream Americans who collectively practice sustainable fishing.*

-

Let it be known to the President that:

The Marianas Fishing Community is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks or the destruction of critical marine habitat;

The Marianas Fishing Community has historically (nearly 4,000 years) proven to be excellent stewards of the ocean whereby the harvest is primarily consumed by the community;

The Marianas Fishing Community continues to provide sustenance to residents of our islands without the need to implement industrialized harvesting methods.

The Marianas Fishing Community should be allowed to continue to fish in the waters of the Marianas with traditional or modern effective fisheries management tools.

The Marianas Fishing Community wholeheartedly supports the existing management regime as established by the U.S. Congress under the **Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.**

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In closing, **the Marianas Fishing Community** *is not responsible* for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

Sincerely, Luther A. Myrvold, Yona, Guam



Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Sean O'Neil [seanoneil@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:34 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Pacific Conservation

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

Please register my firm support of your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever. The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean

resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection - rather than the status quo "multiple use" management - to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mr. Sean O'Neil
Eddy
Carlsbad, NM 88220

From: n2caves@earthlink.net
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: please support!
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 8:41:54 PM
Attachments:

President George Bush

Dear President Bush,

These places deserve additional protection!

Sincerely,
gregg oelker
3285 Crestford Dr.
Altadena, CA 91001

From: n2caves@earthlink.net
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: please support!
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 8:41:54 PM
Attachments:

President George Bush

Dear President Bush,

These places deserve additional protection!

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3285 Crestford Dr.
Altadena, CA 91001

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: MICHAEL PEARCE [mpearce@nc.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 6:56 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: recreational fishing

It is the longliners that are depleting marlin and game fish stocks worldwide. We need to stop them from slaughtering game fish in protected breeding grounds and anywhere else these fish congregate. The recreational fisherman practices tag and release. Recreational fishing provides jobs and income in a big way. These commercial fishing people don't care if they make these fish extinct. They kill millions a year with their nets. They have no rules or regulations to abide by. Please vote for any legislation that would stop this or our children will never see a blue marlin white marlin swordfish or sailfish. They will be a thing of the past.
Sincerely, Michael Pearce. NC resident.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: MICHAEL PEARCE [mpearce@nc.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 6:56 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: recreational fishing

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Sincerely, Michael Pearce. NC resident.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Dean Plant [deangplant@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 3:11 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: MPA

Dear Sir,

As a U.S. citizen and small business owner who enjoys fishing recreationally and who's income is derived from the recreational fishing industry, I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the White House or fishery management agencies or councils to prohibit recreational fishing in marine protected areas, including areas designated as or within Marine National Monuments, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environment Group. As you know the President just recently issued an Executive Memo and an Executive Order making clear that recreational fishing should be sustained in marine protected areas.

The recreational fishing constituency of the U.S. is comprised of millions of individuals who value marine resources and interact with them responsibly -

- recreational fishing is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks;

- recreational fishing is proven to be manageable in a pro-conservation sustainable manner;

- recreational fishing provides thousands of jobs to individuals in coastal areas, including in the Pacific islands and beyond;

- recreational fishing can continue in areas closed to commercial fishing gear, which is responsible for overfishing of species in conjunction with traditional and effective fisheries management tools such as bag limits, size limits, seasons and restrictions of destructive gear types; and

- those of us not responsible for overfishing should not be penalized for the acts of others using gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management.

Sincerely,

Dean G. Plant
President
Anglers Center, Inc.
419 Old Newport Blvd
Newport Beach, CA 92663 U.S.A.
949 642 6662
949 642 4510 fax

10/27/2008

877 254 3183 Toll Free in the U.S.
Dean@AnglersCenter.com

From: stan@music4themoment.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: protect marine life
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 4:49:54 PM
Attachments:

President George Bush

Dear President Bush,

Please use your position to help to truly protect the ocean.

Sincerely,
Stanley Stewart Sawyer
PO Box 281
De Water Gap, PA 18327-0281

From: stan@music4themoment.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: protect marine life
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 4:49:54 PM
Attachments:

President George Bush

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Sincerely,
Stanley Stewart Sawyer
PO Box 281
De Water Gap, PA 18327-0281

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Jo-Ann Sramek [m21o9z@webtv.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 5:33 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please Protect U.S. Pacific Waters

Oct 25, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

As a member of the Ocean Conservancy, I am writing to support your vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. However, the islands and

surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival.

They need full protection from all destructive activities or these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

Our nation and the whole world will benefit greatly from your

leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources.

I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage.

Thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts and for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jo-Ann Sramek
4882 Woodridge Dr
Hermantown, MN 55811-3914

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Cathy Wilson [czshredd@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 7:02 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please Protect the Oceans

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

The oceans are important to me personally. I feel at peace whenever I'm

within hearing range of the surf and within smelling range of the salty sea air. Even though I live in Las Vegas, in four hours I could be walking on a beach. I want to make sure the creatures living in the ocean are protected.

The welfare of the oceans benefit the rest of the world, too. We must continue to do our part to protect the parts of the ocean that we are responsible for. Please do everything you can to protect our ocean by creating this large marine conservation area that I've heard about.

Sincerely,

Ms. Cathy Wilson
3521 W Arby Ave
Las Vegas, NV 89118-5201

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Cathy Wilson [czshredd@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 7:02 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please Protect the Oceans

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

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Sincerely,

Ms. Cathy Wilson
3521 W Arby Ave
Las Vegas, NV 89118-5201

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: binknator@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 4:07 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Support 2 new National Marine Monuments

President George Bush

Dear President Bush,

Thank you for your leadership on oceans and for considering increased conservation of two of the most spectacular and pristine marine areas -- the *Central Pacific Islands* (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the *Mariana Trench.*

These areas are unique & worthy of national attention and discovery, and I urge you to designate them as marine national monuments.

I further support FULL protection for these ecosystems, means preventing extractive and damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing.

These areas include the most pristine coral reef ecosystems on earth and are teeming with wildlife including seabirds, sea turtles and large fishes.

Full protection within the exclusive economic zone will make these island oases and coral reefs more resilient to environmental damage, so they can persist for generations to come.

It is critical for conservation and would cement your ocean legacy and work on ocean conservation.

Please act to establish these new marine monuments.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Sandra Wong
15 Tynan Way
Portola Valley, CA 94028

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: James Wong [jcccw1@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 4:21 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Important Recreational Fishing Issue at the White House

Chairman Connaughton:

I oppose the arbitrary exclusion of recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean.

I am opposed to any arbitrary Presidential or Agency ban on recreational fishing in the Pacific Ocean. An arbitrary ban would be directly contrary to Executive Order 12962, which states that recreational fishing "shall be managed as a sustainable activity" under any federal law. I am a member of the Coastal Conservation Association, and I take great pride in conserving our marine resources.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

James Wong
12385 SW 158th Ave
Beaverton, OR 97007

October 24, 2008

To whom it may concern:

The following are specific comments by members of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council regarding Marine Conservation Areas in the Western Pacific Region (these and related documents are attached for inclusion as part of the public record):

1. A meaningful public comment period is necessary to truly ascertain public opinions – the recent public “assessments” with no specific proposals made it impossible to give meaningful comments on actions that are likely to have significant impacts on the residents of American Samoa, CNMI, Guam and Hawaii. Island residents should be provided the opportunity to comment on a fully developed proposal and implementing regulations prior to any decision making.
2. “Misstatements” by the Pew Foundation and others must be publicly corrected to allow meaningful comments- numerous Pew documents, fliers, letters to the editor, university studies and other media have been distributed throughout the Mariana Archipelago and elsewhere claiming to assess the benefits of implementing President Bush’s “legacy”. These include the economic contribution of 8,000 new tourists to CNMI each year, \$330 million in assorted revenues, 25 local hires for federal positions, 3 new Coast Guard cutters, a spillover of increased biomass into open areas, significant research investments, continued and unrestricted access by indigenous islanders, a new university education program, protection of the world’s most diverse marine ecosystem, worldwide acclaim, and the identification of new methods to save the world’s coral reefs. The public has also been told that CNMI would regain authority over its submerged lands, would own and be able to sell or lease marine drilling and oil rights, would have legal authority to make management decisions regarding closed areas, and would be given a chance to review and approve the final proposal prior to its implementation. Given the administration’s repeated public avowals that no specific closed areas or management scenarios have been formulated to date, these statements can only be oral hyperbole designed to gain public acceptance with no foundation or fact. Unless the administration can document their veracity, it must clearly and publicly refute them so as to allow the public to comment on the proposal (or lack of proposal) actually at hand. To fail to do so means that decision-makers will rely on uninformed comments which have been heavily influenced by NGOs and special interest groups.
3. The federal government’s role in and support for the Pew Foundation’s publication entitled “The Deepest Ocean on Earth” (see attached) claiming to provide the scientific basis for creating marine conservation areas must be publicly clarified - because this publication includes numerous NOAA photos and relies

heavily on apparently personal statements by NOAA scientists it appears to be (and has been cited as) a federal publication in support of the closures. In fact it misrepresents much of the current scientific knowledge about these areas and contains numerous factual errors as well as subjective opinions by scientists who were unlikely to have been authorized to represent NOAA or the administration.

4. The existing comment timeline is too short and should be extended—providing only six days for the public to comment after the public meetings in the Marianas is highly restrictive and clearly not designed to allow full consideration of the conditions and desires of the island residents most likely to be directly affected.

5. The existing decision timeline is too short and should be extended
– the administration’s commitment to making a decision prior to the end of its term is again indicative of a process that is not designed to allow full consideration of the impacts on the island residents most likely to be directly affected.

6. The Antiquities Act should not be used as it circumvents the NEPA process – the administration acknowledged using the Antiquities Act to establish the NWHI monument because the NEPA process was taking “too long”. NEPA requires agencies to gather and consider all available information on the human environment and to consider a range of alternatives and their likely impacts on the environment prior to making a final decision. It also mandates opportunities for meaningful public comments on any proposed action (and its analyses) and provides a public record of responses to those comments.

7. Ocean resources are especially important to Pacific islanders and their practices, needs and comments should be given paramount importance – closing off or restricting fishing in up to one third of the CNMI as well as an unspecified area around Rose Atoll will deprive the residents of the Mariana and American Samoa archipelagos of marine resources upon which they have depended for millennial. Given the limited land areas available ocean resources are especially important to Pacific islanders, and they are carefully utilized so as to ensure that they are there for future generations.

8. Areas under discussion represent important cultural resources and compelling reasons for their federalization should be provided prior to any final decision – Rose Atoll is the location of the signing of the Deed of Cession and is very culturally important to the people of American Samoa. Similarly the northernmost islands of the Mariana Archipelago are considered to be held in trust for future generations of Chamorros and Carolinians.

9. The autonomy of the indigenous residents should be given paramount importance by decision-makers. These islands are the ancestral homes of Samoans, Chamorros, Carolinians and Hawaiians and it is their knowledge and care that have kept their marine areas in pristine condition. To unnecessarily remove them from any substantive role in the management of these marine resources, or to restrict their access to those resources, would deny them their heritage and the continued expression of their traditional practices and cultural values.
10. The negative experiences of Native Hawaiians regarding the establishment, implementation and management of the NWHI monument should be considered and avoided - although much has been made of the role of Native Hawaiians in establishing and managing the NWHI, with the exception of a few favored individuals, their participation has been non-substantive. Even the widely touted "cultural access" to the NWHI is available to anyone using "Native Hawaiian practices". There is no preferential access for Native Hawaiians and few have been able to obtain permits or visit these important ancestral islands (see attached letter).
11. Due to conflicting objectives and jurisdictions, multi-agency management has proven difficult and any such approach should either be avoided or be explicit in the designation of the objectives, jurisdictions and roles of each agency - Rose Atoll is already managed by the Departments of Interior and Commerce, and the American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources and the PRIA are managed by both Interior and Commerce. Similarly the NWHI monument is managed by Interior, Commerce and the State of Hawaii. In no case has the management been smooth and wholly satisfactory to the agencies or the public (including fishermen and NGOs).
12. The current perception that the Mariana archipelago, American Samoa and the PRIA are being considered largely because of their lack of voting representation in the Congress must be addressed - island residents are well aware that similar closures in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico were dropped from consideration following vocal input from U.S. senators for these areas and believe that their lack of representation has left them most vulnerable to ongoing unilateral initiatives from Washington D.C. . As a result there is a feeling that these areas continue to be regarded as colonies of the United States which are attended to only when they have something to offer, but whose needs and desires for equal treatment are ignored.
13. New funds for the effective enforcement of closed areas around inhabited islands is essential to any meaningful proposal which would restrict access - island residents have an excellent record of voluntary compliance with existing local and federal fishing regulations and are expected to respect any new restrictions.

However foreign fishing vessels are already known to fish illegally in U.S. waters around the Mariana Archipelago. To restrict access by local residents without ensuring that foreign fishing vessels are also kept out would only harm local communities while making a mockery of any claims to the conservation or protection of these areas.

14. The administration must acknowledge that the Mariana Trench is at its shallowest in the northernmost part of CNMI - "protecting" the deepest part of the ocean has been widely touted as a benefit of creating a marine conservation area in the CNMI but this is not the case. This perception must be corrected in order to allow meaningful public comments.
15. The administration must acknowledge and respect the well-documented and wide opposition to marine conservation areas around CNMI that has been expressed by village mayors, the legislature, and the governor - in its first presentation the administration's representatives assured the public that no new initiatives would take place without the agreement of the local government, however despite clear statements against new measures the administration continues to send emissaries to CNMI and Guam to plead its case and to hear from "the people". If CNMI's government is not to be seen as representing its people, a local referendum should be held to accurately gauge where the majority opinion lies.
16. The factual and scientific basis of the necessity of marine conservation areas to conserve or protect any specific areas must be well-documented and provided to the public and decision-makers - The northern islands of the CNMI are already designated and managed by CNMI as sanctuary and fishing in the waters around
CNMI
is already monitored and managed by the federal government using science-based and precautionary regulations approved by the Secretary of Commerce as follows: No-take marine protected areas around Rose Atoll in American Samoa as well as around Kingman Reef, Jarvis Island, Howland Island, and Baker Island; case-by-case reviews and permits for all fishing of coral reef associated species for which there is little available information; a limit on the number and size of longline fishing vessels permitted to fish around American Samoa; requirements for all longline and small-boat pelagic fishermen to carry and use gear to safely release sea turtles should they be accidentally hooked or entangled; a mandatory protected species workshop that all longline vessel owners and operators must attend annually; a moratorium on the harvest of gold coral; prohibitions on fishing for bottomfish using vessels large than 40 feet in length around Guam; and federal permitting and reporting requirements for pelagic, bottomfish and crustacean fishing around the PRIA. In addition, proposed rules have been published by NOAA that would: close areas to bottomfish fishing around CNMI by vessels greater than 40 feet in length; implement federal permitting and reporting requirements for all CNMI-based commercial bottomfishing vessels; and implement federal permitting and reporting requirements for

all vessels targeting deep-water shrimp or pelagic squid in U.S. EEZ waters of the Western Pacific Region. Additional recommendations that have been processed by NOAA would prohibit longline fishing within 30 miles of CNMI (it is already prohibited within 20 miles of Guam) and prohibit pelagic purse seine fishing in all U.S. EEZ waters around the Marianas Archipelago and within 75 miles of American Samoa. In addition, the region managed by the WPRFMC has had fewer stocks determined to be overfished (one) or subject to overfishing (two) than any other region in the country.

17. There is no evidence of overfishing, degradation of marine habitat or threats to protected species or seabirds in these areas so this is cannot be a basis for further limiting fishing within them. The Pew foundation and others have also expressed concern over potential threats from global climate change and ocean acidification but the idea that closing these areas would protect them from such impacts is bizarre and needs to be rethought.

18. The anticipated costs of implementing new marine conservation areas must be provided to decision makers and the public - at a minimum effective implementation will require significant new outlays for monitoring and enforcement and a fully implemented program is likely to include many other costs. Both the public and decision makers must be informed as to these costs before any meaningful comments or well reasoned decisions can be made. This is especially important in our current gloomy economic environment which requires that any potential new expenditure be carefully examined before being undertaken.

19. The existing Council process and associated federal fishing regulations must be described to the public and decision makers - much of the public discussion by the Pew foundation as well as the administration fails to acknowledge or describe the existing management process under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, leaving the impression that these areas are unmanaged and unmonitored. As described in the act, this is a highly transparent and science-based process that explicitly includes Pacific islanders in the decision making process, that provides multiple opportunities for public review and comment, and that provides the final authority for the approval of recommended fishing regulations to the Secretary of Commerce.

20. The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (which has authority over the offshore resources around the Marianas

Archipelago, American Samoa and the PRIA) has a policy for the establishment and management of MPAs which should be acknowledged and respected – this policy includes the Council in development and consideration of new marine protected areas and requires explicit consideration of the requirements, rights and privileges of the region's native peoples and their traditional fishing practices.

21. The extent and impact of domestic fishing that occurs in potential marine conservation areas, as well as anticipated restrictions to this fishing, must be described in public and to decision makers – existing regulations allow limited fishing around the Mariana Archipelago, American Samoa and the PRIA. This fishing has been well documented by NOAA and provides much needed jobs, local economic production, tax revenues and, perhaps most importantly, sustainable fishery products that have been harvested using environmentally friendly fishing technology. The loss of these benefits must be quantified and described to the public and decision makers in order to allow informed comments and decision making.
22. A complete and objective analysis of the specific environmental, social and economic impacts (both positive and negative) for directly affected communities should be conducted and made available prior to any decision making – to fail to assess both the costs and benefits before committing to such a major initiative would be irresponsible and indicative of political decision making that seeks to project a positive portrayal without regard to the actual results.
23. If areas around CNMI are to be closed to fishing, the residents and fishing community in particular should be compensated – although people in the continental U.S. may find pleasure in the thought that these areas are being “protected” , the cost of losing access to these marine resources would largely be borne by the residents and fishermen of CNMI. These groups have little access to alternative resources and should be justly compensated for this permanent loss on an ongoing basis.
24. No new closed areas or area restrictions should be implemented in the Western Pacific Region – existing management measures and processes are effectively protecting and conserving the marine environment and the implementation of costly (or underfunded) new initiatives is unnecessary. If any funds are available to protect this area, they should be immediately applied to improving the enforcement of the U.S. EEZ boundaries against incursions by illegal foreign fishing vessels.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Jo Ellen Young [joellen@youngcanine.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:05 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine national monuments

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I write to strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to

effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jo Ellen Young
10752 Garfield Ave
Culver City, CA 90230-4113

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Eric Andersen [ericmj@dataex.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:44 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: newe Marine National Monuments

Please support the Marina Trench and Central Pacific Islands marine monuments. You will be making a great contribution to two invaluable and endangered marine treasures.

Thank you.

Eric Andersen
419 Pheasant Run
Kaukauna WI 55130
ericmj@dataex.com

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Eric Andersen [ericmj@dataex.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:44 AM
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Thank you.

Eric Andersen
419 Pheasant Run
Kaukauna WI 55130
ericmj@dataex.com

From: [Tucker Bailey](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marine National Monument
Date: Saturday, October 25, 2008 4:51:42 PM
Attachments:

Dear President Bus

I am in total support of designating two new areas (the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench) for a Marine National Monument! Please make it so.

Sincerely,

Bill Bailey

PO Box 280

Belews Creek, NC 27009

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Sue Bentz [jbentz@san.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:52 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: National Marine Monuments

President Bush,

Please designate as National Marine Monuments the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench. This is so important for further generations. Thank you.

From The Bentz Family

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Sue Bentz [jbentz@san.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:52 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: National Marine Monuments

President Bush,

Please designate as National Marine Monuments the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench. This is so important for further generations. Thank you.

From The Bentz Family

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Anna Bergalis [birdanna2@bellsouth.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 10:59 PM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Save what is left of the oceans . Anna Bergalis

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Anna Bergalis [birdanna2@bellsouth.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 10:59 PM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Save what is left of the oceans . Anna Bergalis

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Tim Brainerd [timbrainerd@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:34 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Thank you...protection for two marine areas

Dear President Bush,
Thank you for taking the lead on adding protection to the two marine areas in the Pacific. Add this to your legacy file!
Tim Brainerd
3 Sylvester Road
Natick, MA 01760

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Tracy Brophy [mizbrophy@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:01 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: New national marine monuments-SUPPORT

Dear Sir,

I heartily applaud your consideration toward creating two new marine reserves as monuments. I am very much in support of full protection in these areas from fishing, mining, or other type of damaging disruption. Please move forward with all haste for this wonderful endeavor! I thank you for these efforts wholeheartedly!

Sincerely, Tracy Brophy

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Colleen Burke [colleenburke@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 5:40 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: YES! to the two new marine monuments

Dear President Bush:

I understand you are considering whether to designate two of the most spectacular and pristine marine areas—the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench—as national marine monuments.

Together, the new reserves would make up the largest protected area on Earth—larger than Alaska and Texas combined. They would protect largely uninhabited island oases in the Pacific Ocean with millions of seabirds, rare sea turtles and fish.

I urge you to designate them as marine national monuments and further support FULL protection for these ecosystems, meaning preventing extractive and damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing. Full protection within the exclusive economic zone will make these island oases and coral reefs more resilient to environmental damage, so they can persist for generations to come.

This is critical for conservation and would cement your ocean legacy and work on ocean conservation.

Thank you for acting quickly to establish these new marine monuments.

Sincere regards,

Colleen Burke

2155 Harrison Blvd

Valparaiso, IN 46385

colleenburke@yahoo.com

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2155 Harrison Blvd

Valparaiso, IN 46385

colleenburke@yahoo.com

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Kim Clark [kimclark172001@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:44 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: I support the new Marine Monument Protection action

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Cohen, Deborah [Deborah.Cohen@umsl.edu]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:22 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please increase conservation of the central Pacific Island

Dear President Bush,

I would like to thank you for considering increased conservation of two of the most spectacular and pristine marine areas -- the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench. These areas are unique gems worthy of national attention and discovery, and I urge you to designate them as marine national monuments.

I further support FULL protection for these ecosystems, meaning preventing extractive and damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing. These areas include the most pristine coral reef ecosystems on earth and are teeming with wildlife including seabirds, sea turtles and large fishes. Full protection within the exclusive economic zone will make these island oases and coral reefs more resilient to environmental damage, so they can persist for generations to come. This is critical for conservation and would cement your ocean legacy and work on ocean conservation. Please act quickly to establish these new marine monuments.

Thank you.

Deborah Cohen

Deborah Cohen, Ph.D.

History and Institute for Women's and Gender Studies
University of Missouri -St. Louis
1 University Boulevard
Saint Louis, MO 63121
314.516.5735

deborah.cohen@umsl.edu
<http://www.umsl.edu/~umslhistory/faculty/cohen.html>

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deborah.cohen@umsl.edu
<http://www.umsl.edu/~umslhistory/faculty/cohen.html>

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: ctrue [cttrue@rr.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:27 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Subject: Central Pacific islands and Mariana Trench Marine Monuments

To the executive branch,

Please go ahead and create the Marine sanctuaries at the Central Pacific Islands and the mariana Trench. We must protect the oceans and the marine life. As the fish populations plummet (pollack) we must stop the trawling and the over fishing and protect against pollution. Creating the marine monuments as you have proposed would help heal the fish populations.

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Thank you.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Alatheia Daniels [windsong@mtnhome.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 10:58 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: National Monuments - Marine

Dear President Bush,

In these crazy times as the two candidates run for the office you've held for eight years, I want to thank you for considering increased conservation of the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench. I do sincerely hope you will designate them as marine national monuments and that those ecosystems will be offered full protection from mining, drilling, and fishing. It would be a very positive effort that you would be remembered by.

Again, thank you.

Janet Daniels
P.O. Box 1494
Mountain Home, AR 72654

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Mountain Home, AR 72654

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: debra dunlop [debradunlop@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 10:11 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Reserves

Thank you for your proposal to protect two Pacific Ocean marine reserves. It is vital to protect our beautiful oceans.

Thank you.
Debra Dunlop

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: gail [gaillee@sanbrunocable.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 10:37 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: marine protection

The marine environment supports life on earth, the coral reefs are oceans incubators, without a healthy marine ecosystem, other systems will begin to fail. We must support marine sanctuaries with historic preservation status. Please do all that is necessary to ensure future support of our marine ecosystems.

Gail

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Jane Goebel [birder665@optonline.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 1:25 PM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Please protect the marine areas. The world will credit you for your action. Jane Goebel

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Jane Goebel [birder665@optonline.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 1:25 PM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Please protect the marine areas. The world will credit you for your action. Jane Goebel

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: HelenGolde@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:37 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please designate marine monuments in the Pacific

The marine life in these areas needs protection. The areas need to be kept in the proper condition to breed new life and nurture it for proper natural balance. Please do what is necessary to make this possible. Thank you, Helen A. Goldenberg, 7739 Southampton Terr, Apt. G 107, Tamarac FL 33321.

Play online games for FREE at Games.com! All of your favorites, no registration required and great graphics – [check it out!](#)

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From: [Marcia Hamilton](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC: [Kitty Simonds;](#)
Subject: WPRFMC Council member comments on Pacific MCAs
Date: Friday, October 24, 2008 11:25:27 PM
Attachments: [PEW Deepest Ocean glossy.pdf](#)
[Aha Kiole comments on MCAs.pdf](#)
[WPRFMC Council member comments.doc](#)

October 24, 2008

To whom it may concern:

The following are specific comments by members of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council regarding Marine Conservation Areas in the Western Pacific Region (these and related documents are attached for inclusion as part of the public record):

1. A meaningful public comment period is necessary to truly ascertain public opinions – the recent public “assessments” with no specific proposals made it impossible to give meaningful comments on actions that are likely to have significant impacts on the residents of American Samoa, CNMI, Guam and Hawaii. Island residents should be provided the opportunity to comment on a fully developed proposal and implementing regulations prior to any decision making.
2. “Misstatements” by the Pew Foundation and others must be publicly corrected to allow meaningful comments- numerous Pew documents, fliers, letters to the editor, university studies and other media have been distributed throughout the Mariana Archipelago and elsewhere claiming to assess the benefits of implementing President Bush’s “legacy”. These include the economic contribution of 8,000 new tourists to CNMI each year, \$330 million in assorted revenues, 25 local hires for federal positions, 3 new Coast Guard cutters, a spillover of increased biomass into open areas, significant research investments, continued and unrestricted access by indigenous islanders, a new university education

program, protection of the world's most diverse marine ecosystem, worldwide acclaim, and the identification of new methods to save the world's coral reefs. The public has also been told that CNMI would regain authority over its submerged lands, would own and be able to sell or lease marine drilling and oil rights, would have legal authority to make management decisions regarding closed areas, and would be given a chance to review and approve the final proposal prior to its implementation. Given the administration's repeated public avowals that no specific closed areas or management scenarios have been formulated to date, these statements can only be oral hyperbole designed to gain public acceptance with no foundation or fact. Unless the administration can document their veracity, it must clearly and publicly refute them so as to allow the public to comment on the proposal (or lack of proposal) actually at hand. To fail to do so means that decision-makers will rely on uninformed comments which have been heavily influenced by NGOs and special interest groups.

3. The federal government's role in and support for the Pew Foundation's publication entitled "The Deepest Ocean on Earth" (see attached) claiming to provide the scientific basis for creating marine conservation areas must be publicly clarified - because this publication includes numerous NOAA photos and relies heavily on apparently personal statements by NOAA scientists it appears to be (and has been cited as) a federal publication in support of the closures. In fact it misrepresents much of the current scientific knowledge about these areas and contains numerous factual errors as well as subjective opinions by scientists who were unlikely to have been authorized to represent NOAA or the administration.
4. The existing comment timeline is too short and should be extended—providing only six days for the public to comment after the public meetings in the Marianas is highly restrictive and clearly not designed to allow full consideration of the conditions and desires of the island residents most likely to be directly affected.
5. The existing decision timeline is too short and should be extended – the administration's commitment to making a decision prior to the end of its term is again indicative of a process that is not designed to allow full consideration of the impacts on the island residents most likely to be directly affected.

6. The Antiquities Act should not be used as it circumvents the NEPA process – the administration acknowledged using the Antiquities Act to establish the NWHI monument because the NEPA process was taking “too long”. NEPA requires agencies to gather and consider all available information on the human environment and to consider a range of alternatives and their likely impacts on the environment prior to making a final decision. It also mandates opportunities for meaningful public comments on any proposed action (and its analyses) and provides a public record of responses to those comments.
7. Ocean resources are especially important to Pacific islanders and their practices, needs and comments should be given paramount importance – closing off or restricting fishing in up to one third of the CNMI as well as an unspecified area around Rose Atoll will deprive the residents of the Mariana and American Samoa archipelagos of marine resources upon which they have depended for millennial. Given the limited land areas available ocean resources are especially important to Pacific islanders, and they are carefully utilized so as to ensure that they are there for future generations.
8. Areas under discussion represent important cultural resources and compelling reasons for their federalization should be provided prior to any final decision – Rose Atoll is the location of the signing of the Deed of Cession and is very culturally important to the people of American Samoa. Similarly the northernmost islands of the Mariana Archipelago are considered to be held in trust for future generations of Chamorros and Carolinians.
9. The autonomy of the indigenous residents should be given paramount importance by decision-makers. These islands are the ancestral homes of Samoans, Chamorros, Carolinians and Hawaiians and it is their knowledge and care that have kept their marine areas in pristine condition. To unnecessarily remove them from any substantive role in the management of these marine resources, or to restrict their access to those resources, would deny them their heritage and the continued expression of their traditional practices and cultural values.
10. The negative experiences of Native Hawaiians regarding the

establishment, implementation and management of the NWHI monument should be considered and avoided – although much has been made of the role of Native Hawaiians in establishing and managing the NWHI, with the exception of a few favored individuals, their participation has been non-substantive. Even the widely touted “cultural access” to the NWHI is available to anyone using “Native Hawaiian practices”. There is no preferential access for Native Hawaiians and few have been able to obtain permits or visit these important ancestral islands (see attached letter).

11. Due to conflicting objectives and jurisdictions, multi-agency management has proven difficult and any such approach should either be avoided or be explicit in the designation of the objectives, jurisdictions and roles of each agency – Rose Atoll is already managed by the Departments of Interior and Commerce, and the American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources and the PRIA are managed by both Interior and Commerce. Similarly the NWHI monument is managed by Interior, Commerce and the State of Hawaii. In no case has the management been smooth and wholly satisfactory to the agencies or the public (including fishermen and NGOs).
12. The current perception that the Mariana archipelago, American Samoa and the PRIA are being considered largely because of their lack of voting representation in the Congress must be addressed – island residents are well aware that similar closures in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico were dropped from consideration following vocal input from U.S. senators for these areas and believe that their lack of representation has left them most vulnerable to ongoing unilateral initiatives from Washington D.C. . As a result there is a feeling that these areas continue to be regarded as colonies of the United States which are attended to only when they have something to offer, but whose needs and desires for equal treatment are ignored.
13. New funds for the effective enforcement of closed areas around inhabited islands is essential to any meaningful proposal which would restrict access – island residents have an excellent record of voluntary compliance with existing local and federal fishing regulations and are expected to respect any new restrictions. However foreign fishing vessels are already known to fish illegally in U.S. waters around the Mariana Archipelago. To

restrict access by local residents without ensuring that foreign fishing vessels are also kept out would only harm local communities while making a mockery of any claims to the conservation or protection of these areas.

14. The administration must acknowledge that the Mariana Trench is at its shallowest in the northernmost part of CNMI – “protecting” the deepest part of the ocean has been widely touted as a benefit of creating a marine conservation area in the CNMI but this is not the case. This perception must be corrected in order to allow meaningful public comments.
15. The administration must acknowledge and respect the well-documented and wide opposition to marine conservation areas around CNMI that has been expressed by village mayors, the legislature, and the governor – in its first presentation the administration’s representatives assured the public that no new initiatives would take place without the agreement of the local government, however despite clear statements against new measures the administration continues to send emissaries to CNMI and Guam to plead its case and to hear from “the people”. If CNMI’s government is not to be seen as representing its people, a local referendum should be held to accurately gauge where the majority opinion lies.
16. The factual and scientific basis of the necessity of marine conservation areas to conserve or protect any specific areas must be well-documented and provided to the public and decision-makers - The northern islands of the CNMI are already designated and managed by CNMI as sanctuary and fishing in the waters around CNMI is already monitored and managed by the federal government using science-based and precautionary regulations approved by the Secretary of Commerce as follows: No-take marine protected areas around Rose Atoll in American Samoa as well as around Kingman Reef, Jarvis Island, Howland Island, and Baker Island; case-by-case reviews and permits for all fishing of coral reef associated species for which there is little available information; a limit on the number and size of longline fishing vessels permitted to fish around American Samoa; requirements for all longline and small-boat pelagic fishermen to carry and use gear to safely release sea turtles should they be accidentally hooked or entangled; a mandatory protected species workshop that

all longline vessel owners and operators must attend annually; a moratorium on the harvest of gold coral; prohibitions on fishing for bottomfish using vessels large than 40 feet in length around Guam; and federal permitting and reporting requirements for pelagic, bottomfish and crustacean fishing around the PRIA. In addition, proposed rules have been published by NOAA that would: close areas to bottomfish fishing around CNMI by vessels greater than 40 feet in length; implement federal permitting and reporting requirements for all CNMI-based commercial bottomfishing vessels; and implement federal permitting and reporting requirements for all vessels targeting deep-water shrimp or pelagic squid in U.S. EEZ waters of the Western Pacific Region. Additional recommendations that have been processed by NOAA would prohibit longline fishing within 30 miles of CNMI (it is already prohibited within 20 miles of Guam) and prohibit pelagic purse seine fishing in all U.S. EEZ waters around the Marianas Archipelago and within 75 miles of American Samoa. In addition, the region managed by the WPRFMC has had fewer stocks determined to be overfished (one) or subject to overfishing (two) than any other region in the country.

17. There is no evidence of overfishing, degradation of marine habitat or threats to protected species or seabirds in these areas so this is cannot be a basis for further limiting fishing within them. The Pew foundation and others have also expressed concern over potential threats from global climate change and ocean acidification but the idea that closing these areas would protect them from such impacts is bizarre and needs to be rethought.
18. The anticipated costs of implementing new marine conservation areas must be provided to decision makers and the public – at a minimum effective implementation will require significant new outlays for monitoring and enforcement and a fully implemented program is likely to include many other costs. Both the public and decision makers must be informed as to these costs before any meaningful comments or well reasoned decisions can be made. This is especially important in our current gloomy economic environment which requires that any potential new expenditure be carefully examined before being undertaken.
19. The existing Council process and associated federal fishing regulations must be described to the public and decision makers – much of the public discussion by the Pew foundation as well as the

administration fails to acknowledge or describe the existing management process under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, leaving the impression that these areas are unmanaged and unmonitored. As described in the act, this is a highly transparent and science-based process that explicitly includes Pacific islanders in the decision making process, that provides multiple opportunities for public review and comment, and that provides the final authority for the approval of recommended fishing regulations to the Secretary of Commerce.

20. The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (which has authority over the offshore resources around the Marianas Archipelago, American Samoa and the PRIA) has a policy for the establishment and management of MPAs which should be acknowledged and respected – this policy includes the Council in development and consideration of new marine protected areas and requires explicit consideration of the requirements, rights and privileges of the region’s native peoples and their traditional fishing practices.
21. The extent and impact of domestic fishing that occurs in potential marine conservation areas, as well as anticipated restrictions to this fishing, must be described in public and to decision makers – existing regulations allow limited fishing around the Mariana Archipelago, American Samoa and the PRIA. This fishing has been well documented by NOAA and provides much needed jobs, local economic production, tax revenues and, perhaps most importantly, sustainable fishery products that have been harvested using environmentally friendly fishing technology. The loss of these benefits must be quantified and described to the public and decision makers in order to allow informed comments and decision making.
22. A complete and objective analysis of the specific environmental, social and economic impacts (both positive and negative) for directly affected communities should be conducted and made available prior to any decision making – to fail to assess both the costs and benefits before committing to such a major initiative would be irresponsible and indicative of political decision making that seeks to project a positive portrayal without regard to the actual results.

23. If areas around CNMI are to be closed to fishing, the residents and fishing community in particular should be compensated – although people in the continental U.S. may find pleasure in the thought that these areas are being “protected” , the cost of losing access to these marine resources would largely be borne by the residents and fishermen of CNMI. These groups have little access to alternative resources and should be justly compensated for this permanent loss on an ongoing basis.
24. No new closed areas or area restrictions should be implemented in the Western Pacific Region – existing management measures and processes are effectively protecting and conserving the marine environment and the implementation of costly (or underfunded) new initiatives is unnecessary. If any funds are available to protect this area, they should be immediately applied to improving the enforcement of the U.S. EEZ boundaries against incursions by illegal foreign fishing vessels.

October 13, 2008

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

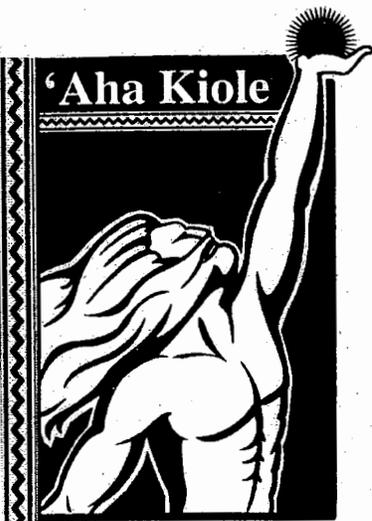
Dear President Bush,

On behalf of the Aha Kiole Advisory Committee, of the State of Hawaii, we strongly oppose the establishment of a national marine monument in the three islands north of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The Aha Kiole Advisory Committee was created when the Hawaii State Legislature unanimously passed Senate Bill 1853, a Bill that created the Aha Moku System – a natural resource ecosystem management process in Hawai'i that integrates empirical knowledge into current land and ocean-use policies. This Act was written by almost 100 Native Hawaiian ocean and land resource practitioners representing the forty (40) traditional land districts in the State of Hawaii. It encompasses all of the main Hawaiian Islands. Governor Lingle signed this Bill into law in June 2007, thus creating Act 212.

The Native Hawaiian communities have followed the progress of the Pew Foundation's attempts to establish another national marine monument in CNMI with anger, trepidation, and despair. These strong and passionate emotions are universally felt by Hawaiians whenever the word "Papahānaumokuākea" is mentioned. This is the name your administration picked for our islands. When you created the national marine monument of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands, it was done without the participation of the Native Hawaiian people. Except for a handful of people, Hawaiians did not know that the Pew Foundation was planning to take three-fourths of Hawaiian lands and make it into a monument. Hawaiians found out by reading the newspaper after the fact – just like everyone else. But, Hawaiians are not "everyone else" – they are the indigenous people of Hawaii and this monument was considered a "taking" by the Bush Administration.

We ask that you not compound your grave mistake with Hawaii by creating another monument in CNMI against the wishes of their people. The indigenous people of the Northern Marianas need protection for their heritage. All of the elected officials of the Mariana's, including Governor Ben Fitial, Senate President Peter Reyes, Speaker of the House Arnold Palacios and all four mayors of the CNMI emphatically said "NO" to the establishment of this monument. As leaders elected by the people to represent them, why will you not listen to them?



**'Aha Kiole Advisory
Committee Members:**

Ilei Beniamina
Niihau
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Sharon Pomroy
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Timothy Bailey
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Hugh Lovell
Hawaii
Phone: 808 885 5569
Pih52@yahoo.com

For more information:
www.ahakiole.com
ahakiole@gmail.com

The actions of the Pew Foundation reflected by the actions of your Administration show that there is no consideration for the indigenous people of CNMI – any more than there was any consideration for the Native Hawaiians. Native people do not have a voice with you or your administration.

Have you even realized that your actions have taken away a huge part of the Hawaiian culture and heritage, and now will take an integral part of the CNMI culture away from the native people – with no hope of ever getting this part of their heritage back? Another pacific island culture forever changed by the actions of a different culture too far away to even understand the ramifications of their actions.

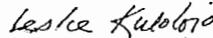
The trust of the Hawaiian people in you and your administration, as well in the Republican Party has been irrevocably broken by the taking of the Northwest Hawaiian Islands. You are breaking the trust of the native people of the Northern Marianas.

We urge you, President Bush, to please listen to the people of CNMI – as you never listened to the Native Hawaiians. We will forever mourn the loss of our north western islands. Please do not inflict this heartbreak and rage on another pacific culture.

Respectfully yours,



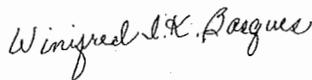
Vanda Hanakahi, Chair
Kiolo, Moloka'i



Les Kulolio, Vice-Chair
Kiolo, Kahoolawe



Timothy Bailey
Kiolo, Maui



Winifred Basques
Kiolo, Lana'i



Hugh Lovell
Kiolo, Hawai'i



Charles Kapua
Kiolo, O'ahu



Sharon Pomroy
Kiolo, Kaua'i



Ilei Beniamina
Kiolo, Ni'ihau

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: robert harrow [ramana333@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 12:14 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine designation

Please, President Bush, please designate the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench as national marine monuments... thank you so much, Robert Hannon

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Kathleen Hartman [kathleen.hartman@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 8:05 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Oceans and Ocean Life Forever

Oct 25, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I was thrilled to read about your plan to create protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. These one-of-a-kind areas deserve full protection and I applaud your plans.

My family is planning on visiting the HAwaiian Islands for the first time ever for my Mother's 70th birthday in 2010. I know that with federal protection, we will have a chance to view the beauty of these areas in their full splendor.

However, these areas face many threats and only your leadership and full support will ensure their protection.

Thank you for putting "conserve" back into conservatism.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kathleen Hartman
4801 Inwood Ln
Indianapolis, IN 46250-2292

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Indianapolis, IN 46250-2292

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: pele46@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 6:17 PM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Thank you in advance for preserving some of our marine treasures. -- Carolyn Hawk

McCain or Obama? Stay updated on coverage of the Presidential race while you browse - [Download Now!](#)

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To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

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McCain or Obama? Stay updated on coverage of the Presidential race while you browse - [Download Now!](#)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Suzi Hokonson [suzihokonson@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:47 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Protect marine national monuments

Please protect the Marine National Monuments. Suzi Hokonson

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Suzi Hokonson [suzihokonson@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:47 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Protect marine national monuments

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Lee M. Holmes [lholmes@guamcell.net]
Sent: Sunday, October 26, 2008 8:54 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marianas Trench

Dear President Bush:

Please Do Not Prohibit Local American Citizens From Recreational And Commercial Fishing In The Marianas Trench Or The Waters Around Guam And The Commonwealth Of The Northern Mariana Islands.

Archeologists Estimate These Waters Have Been Traditional Fishing Grounds For Some 4,000 Years.

Sincerely Yours,

Lee M. Holmes

508 West O'Brien Drive
Hagatna, GU 96910-4926

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Sincerely Yours,

Lee M. Holmes

508 West O'Brien Drive
Hagatna, GU 96910-4926

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Lois Hutson [keeper123@embarqmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:41 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: sigh

You have been such a disappointment regarding anything environmentalcould you please just this once do one good thing before you leave office.

Thank You
Lois Hutson

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Thank You
Lois Hutson

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: MARCIAINGRAM@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:55 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine reserves

I urge you to protect the Marine preserves which provides a haven for wildlife.

Marcia Ingram 209 Pineridge Lane, McAllen, TX. 78503

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To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
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Marcia Ingram 209 Pineridge Lane, McAllen, TX. 78503

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: WENDY JOHNSON [tuiey@earthlink.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:59 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Subject: save our oceans

please do something positive for a change!

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: WENDY JOHNSON [tuiey@earthlink.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:59 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Subject: save our oceans

please do something positive for a change!

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: susan [s_kalan@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:25 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: support of marine monuments

I do urgently support your designation of the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench as two ecosystems which need complete protection and which need to be forever placed into permanently conserved areas. Please designate them as international marine monuments so that they will be preserved and protected for future generations.

Thank you,
Susan A. Kalan

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: susan [s_kalan@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:25 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: support of marine monuments

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Thank you,
Susan A. Kalan

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: DANIELKEBIR1@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 5:48 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: marine monuments

i support two new marine monuments danielkebir1@aol.com

Play online games for FREE at Games.com! All of your favorites, no registration required and great graphics – [check it out!](#)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Maria Kellner [mkellner@ssjrochester.org]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:11 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: New Marine monuments

Dear President Bush, I applaud you on your intent to establish two new Marine Monuments. These are very important marine areas to preserve for the future. I also urge you to include forbidding drilling, fishing and other extractions, so these areas will be truly kept as they are in their pristine state. We do not want any human activity to destroy any part.

Thank you for your awareness of preserving our natural heritage and doing something far-reaching about it.

Sincerely, Maria Kellner

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:11 PM
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Thank you for your awareness of preserving our natural heritage and doing something far-reaching about it.

Sincerely, Maria Kellner

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: David Kellogg [babadawv@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 12:30 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Preserve

Dear President Dubya:

Here's an opportunity to leave something positive as a legacy from your administration. I, for one, hope you have the foresight, courage and integrity to vote in favor of this initiative.

PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MARINE PRESERVE IN THE PACIFIC, TO INCLUDE THE PACIFIC ISLANDS AND THE MARIANA TRENCH.

Thank you for your consideration.

Most Sincerely,

David Kellogg

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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David Kellogg

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of John Kesich [kesich@npacc.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 5:33 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: New Pacific Marine National Monuments, please

Oct 25, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I wholeheartedly support your the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mr. John Kesich
628 Bailey Creek Rd
Millerton, PA 16936-9578

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of John Kesich [kesich@npacc.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 5:33 AM
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Oct 25, 2008

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722 Jackson Place, NW
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Sincerely,

Mr. John Kesich
628 Bailey Creek Rd
Millerton, PA 16936-9578

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Patricia Kincaid [pkcaid@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 8:20 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Monuments

Dear President Bush,

Thank you for preserving marine habitat in the Hawaiian Islands.

Now it's time to preserve marine monuments in the central Pacific and Mariana Trench. Our oceans are in trouble, and with preservation, perhaps we can hold off the inevitable death of our oceans.

Patricia M Kincaid
456 W 21st Ave
Eugene, OR 97405

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Eugene, OR 97405

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Blue Koehl
[[koehl@snet.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 2:34 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: PLEASE Protect U.S. Pacific Waters!!!

Oct 25, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I am taking this opportunity to write to fully support your wonderful vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

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Sincerely,

Mr. Blue Koehl
26 Mason Hill Rd
Brooklyn, CT 06234-1617

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Alison Leary [ali_baba62@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 12:49 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Protection for the central pacific islands

Dear President Bush.

I support full protection for the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench. Please designate them as national monuments that will forever be preserved undisturbed by human activity. Let these areas remain pristine to be forever enjoyed for us and future generations.

Let this be part of your legacy as President...a protector of these unique and precious ocean habitats.

Thank you for your consideration.

Alison Leary
192 Chapel street
Newton, Ma 02458

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Dazegoneby@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 26, 2008 1:52 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Support for two new national marine monuments

Please designate two of the most spectacular and pristine marine areas—the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench—as national marine monuments.

Together, the new reserves would make up the largest protected area on Earth—larger than Alaska and Texas combined.

They would protect largely uninhabited island oases in the Pacific Ocean with millions of seabirds, rare sea turtles and fish.

Donna Leslie-Dennis
4747 Matney
Long Beach, CA 908076

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Long Beach, CA 908076

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Jim L Lightcap [jnlighcap@juno.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 1:49 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: 10/25/08

President Bush

You can leave a lasting legacy to your presidency if you DO designate the Marianna Trench and the Central Pacific Islands as MARINE MONUMENT.....My husband and I feel sure you will do that.....it would be a wonderful move for the history of your presidency.

Thank you, Jim and Norma Lightcap
Republicans of Arizona

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Republicans of Arizona

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Vicky Linsalata [vickylin@austin.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, October 26, 2008 9:14 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Monuments protection

Dear Sir,

I hope you will provide protected status to the Marine Monuments area.

Our fragile ocean environments are on the verge of collapse and we need to do everything we can to help preserve them.

Sincerely, Vicky Linsalata

Vicky Linsalata
Vickylin@Austin.rr.com
(512) 402-9700
9800 La Jolla Rd.
Austin, Texas 78733

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Vicky Linsalata
Vickylin@Austin.rr.com
(512) 402-9700
9800 La Jolla Rd.
Austin, Texas 78733

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Jean Mangin [jemangin@optonline.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 1:30 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: monuments

I support two new marine national monuments.

Jean E. Mangino
jemangin@optonline.net
338 West Maple AV
bound Brook, NJ 08805

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Stella Martinez [stellamarie_m@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, October 26, 2008 12:47 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Guam's Fishermen

To Whom it may concern,

My father and I are very concerned. I'd like to express my thoughts and feelings regarding this situation and the impact it will have on our livelihood. First off, my dad and I do seasonal fishing which only last during the months of october thru december, due to the low tides which in Chamorro is called sulo' fishing. it has become a tradition and is finally being passed on to me now that I am 25 and female.. which is hard to come by in the fishing community. But i love it ! and what more I love to spend time with my father which is a bonding experience that is rare nowadays. If this banning were to take place it would truly diminish family ties within our culture and lifestyle. We fish to eat and as tradtion has it... we make sure to preserve what we have , so that we may have it in the future ... we are not out to deplete our resources like other people may think we do. we do it to sustain our way of life, even if its only seasonal. Please let them know that we islanders are very much aware of maintaining our oceans and are very much against banning in our waters of an island community!

Sincerely,
Stella Martinez

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Sincerely,
Stella Martinez

Discover the new Windows Vista

<http://search.msn.com/results.aspx?q=windows+vista&mkt=en-US&form=QBRE>

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: mblueoystercult@aim.com
Sent: Sunday, October 26, 2008 1:56 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: marine protection

For the sake of our future generations please protect the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench. It will be a lasting achievement.

Thank you.

McCain or Obama? Stay updated on coverage of the Presidential race while you browse - [Download Now!](#)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Thank you.

McCain or Obama? Stay updated on coverage of the Presidential race while you browse - [Download Now!](#)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Tammy Meigs [tammymeigs@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:44 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Dear Sir,

As a U.S. citizen who fishes to provide for the nutritional needs of my family, as well as, my island community, I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the President or federal entities to establish Marine Protected Areas, Marine Conservation Areas or a Marine National Monuments in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of the Marianas to include islands under existing CNMI Government protection, as being strongly urged by the Pew Environmental Group.

As you know the President issued an Executive Memo that recognizes the views of territorial governments, local governments and interested parties which have all demonstrated strong opposition to any form of arbitrary Presidential designation. Further, "The White House will not consider any proposed project that hints of controversy" (letter dated 30 April 2008). The fishing constituency and the people of the Marianas are comprised of a number of Pacific Islander cultures living side by side with other mainstream Americans who collectively practice sustainable fishing.

The Marianas Fishing Community is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks or the destruction of critical marine habitat;

The Marianas Fishing Community has historically (nearly 4,000 years) proven to be excellent stewards of the ocean whereby the harvest is primarily consumed by the community;

The Marianas Fishing Community continues to provide sustenance to residents of our islands without the need to implement industrialized harvesting methods.

The Marianas Fishing Community should be allowed to continue to fish in the waters of the Marianas with traditional or modern effective fisheries management tools.

The Marianas Fishing Community wholeheartedly supports the existing management regime as established by the U.S. Congress under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The Marianas Fishing Community recognizes that the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council for several decades has banned the use of the Trawl Nets, Gill Nets and most recently Purse Seine. The WPRFMC also established large closed areas whereby larger (50') scale fishing vessels are prohibited from entering; thus protecting seamounts from industrialize resource extraction to include anchoring which adversely impacts the marine habitat.

In closing, the Marianas Fishing Community is not responsible for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

Sincerely,

Tammy Meigs

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: ctrue [ctrue@rr.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:27 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Subject: Central Pacific islands and Mariana Trench Marine Monuments

To the executive branch,

Please go ahead and create the Marine sanctuaries at the Central Pacific Islands and the mariana Trench. We must protect the oceans and the marine life. As the fish populations plummet (pollack) we must stop the trawling and the over fishing and protect against pollution. Creating the marine monuments as you have proposed would help heal the fish populations.

Thank you.

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Thank you.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: jeff@valuepricedmeds.com
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 12:22 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Conservation Assessment

Chairman James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

The creation of the Papahânaumokuâkea Marine National Monument in Hawai'i by President Bush shaped a new global paradigm for the protection of the marine environment. Now that the President is considering setting aside three vast, remote corners of the Pacific Ocean for protection, it is important that they too be designated as no-take marine monuments.

I have real concerns that due to special interest pressure President Bush could allow a host of activities including commercial and recreational fishing, deep sea mining, and other threats that are pushing our oceans to the brink of collapse.

The overall health of the marine environment depends on setting aside extraordinary areas like these to conserve the resources we have and to allow our oceans to replenish themselves. It is crucial that this administration minimizes human impacts on these significant areas in the Pacific. Please advise the President to grant full marine monument designations to all of the proposed sites and to protect our oceans for us and for future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jeff Mikeska
1387 Sycamore canyon Rd
Santa Barbara, CA 93121

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Anthony B. Montapert [amontapert@roadrunner.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 3:59 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: marine national monuments

President Bush,

I urge you to designate the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Marina Trench as national marine monuments.

Sincerely,
Anthony Montapert

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Sincerely,
Anthony Montapert

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Douglas Montgomery [dmon707@mac.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 12:04 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please protect marine ecosystems

Oct 25, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I write to support your plan for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The islands and

surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mr. Douglas Montgomery
707 Haight Street Apt 2
707 Haight St
San Francisco, CA 94117-3348

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Davemult@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:51 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please act to protest the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench

Dear President Bush,

Thank you for your leadership on oceans and for considering increased conservation of two of the most spectacular and pristine marine areas -- the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench.

These areas are unique gems worthy of national attention and discovery, and I urge you to designate them as marine national monuments.

I further support FULL protection for these ecosystems, meaning preventing extractive and damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing.

These areas include the most pristine coral reef ecosystems on earth and are teeming with wildlife including seabirds, sea turtles and large fishes.

Full protection within the exclusive economic zone will make these island oases and coral reefs more resilient to environmental damage, so they can persist for generations to come.

This is critical for conservation and would cement your ocean legacy and work on ocean conservation.

Please act quickly to establish these new marine monuments.

Thank you.

David S. Nichols
5107 NE Couch Street
Portland, OR 97213

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: T N [todniel@att.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:29 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Support the Marine monuments!

This is a cause of survival of our planet. Please vote in favor of creating the marine monuments!
Todd Nielsen
5820 Hazeltine
Van Nuys, CA 91401

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: T N [todniel@att.net]
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5820 Hazeltine
Van Nuys, CA 91401

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: oscar [executive@cda.gov.mp]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:18 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: supporting the monument proposal

Several years ago my wife and I came across pictures of slaughtered greenback sea turtles taken from one of the islands up north; we gave those pictures to someone we thought would be able to do something. Nothing was ever done. My wife worked for the Emergency Management Office for several years and during those times of her employment she was able to travel up north to the different islands. She would tell me how the Governor's Office staff and her superiors would harvest not just bats or coconut crabs but also fish and would somehow figure how to bypass inspections by responsible office personnel by landing the helicopter first in an undisclosed landing site in Saipan, unload the cargo and then land at the designated official landing site. This practice was rampant during the 1990's. As of late, we have not heard of any similar incidents but it does not mean that it does not happen. When these kinds of incidents are heard it is almost impossible to report them since there is not one to report to but to the same people who did the crime. The reason for my writing this is that there has to be some kind of checks and balance placed in the management of the so-called protected area. The areas up north, especially the three northern most islands are protect but still subjected to abuse by even the protectors. This is one reason why the proposed arrangement is most welcomed.

Totally unrelated but needs to be stated is that President Bush should consider it eventful and appropriate that it was close to the waters up north where his father, the jet pilot during WWII, crashed; he should strongly consider this as an honor to his father. This should have some historical significance. No other president has ever visited our islands and again only his father has done this...this again is quite significant for us and should so for him.

Thank you,

oscar c camacho

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Alex Oshiro [DJRacer-X@webtv.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:14 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Protect the Earth

Please do what you can to help protect & preserve the earth's natural resources & help to curb plastic pollution in our oceans. Thank you.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: rpanzer@juno.com
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 3:57 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Natural marine monuments

DEAR Mr .Bush,
HAVING BEEN ACROSS THE PACIFIC several times during WW-II and visited these islands, I really do appreciate them, and urge you to take any steps you can to preserve them for the future.
Thank you for you kind cooperation..... Dr. Richard E. Panzer

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: rpanzer@juno.com
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 3:57 PM
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Thank you for you kind cooperation..... Dr. Richard E. Panzer

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Doug & Jan Parker [highdesertmtn@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 3:36 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: We support two new marine national monuments

Dear President Bush-thank you for considering two new marine conservation areas-the Central Pacific Islands, and the Marianas Trench. These areas are unique ecosystems worthy of protection and research. We urge you to grant them FULL protection for these areas, which would exclude ALL extractive activities, including mining, fishing and drilling.

Full protection will mean that these unique, teeming reefs and ecosystems will be preserved for generations to come, thus also ensuring your legacy of protecting precious ocean areas.

Please act quickly to designate these areas as marine national monuments.

Thank you,

Doug & Jan Parker

Cortez, CO

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Donna Pedroza [donnageorge2@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 12:35 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: We must be good stewarts of the Earth

Please do the right thing and help save our oceans.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Donna Pedroza [donnageorge2@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 12:35 PM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Subject: We must be good stewarts of the Earth

Please do the right thing and help save our oceans.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: James J. Provenzano [jjpro@cleanairnow.us]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 1:42 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please Protect Marine Resources

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you for your leadership in marine protection.

I urge you to follow through on your consideration for increased conservation and protection for the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench as Marine National Monuments.

This will be an everlasting legacy that our children will thank you for.

Best,

James

James J. Provenzano, C.Ph., *"The Hydrogen Age, Empowering a Clean-Energy Future"*

President, Clean Air Now

www.cleanairnow.us

jjpro@cleanairnow.us

310.472.8633

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President, Clean Air Now

www.cleanairnow.us

jjpro@cleanairnow.us

310.472.8633

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Richard Quick [getrichquick_98@yahoo.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:53 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Dear CEQ Administrator,

I am writing to encourage you to take whatever it takes to establish the marine areas known as the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench as national monuments and to urge the president to take that action soon.

With the number of species, especially marine species, in decline, this sort of action will help to slow and perhaps even reverse that process.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Quick

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Richard Quick [getrichquick_98@yahoo.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:53 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Dear CEQ Administrator,

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Sincerely,

Richard R. Quick

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Galadr12@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 6:54 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Support of two new marine monuments

Dear President Bush,

I fully support the increased conservation of the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench. I urge you to designate them as marine national monuments. I believe these two areas are worthy of FULL protection which means preventing extractive and damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

April Quigley
3600 Lake Earl Drive
Crescent City, CA 95531
galadr12@aol.com

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(<http://pr.atwola.com/promoclk/100000075x1211202682x1200689022/aol?redir=http://www.games.com?ncid=emlcntusgame00000001>)

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Yoshaany Rahm [yyrahm@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 4:07 PM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

I encourage you to protect these wonderful Central Pacific Island oases, to keep them pristine & serve as a reminder to all humanity how protection of such places is so important. Thank you, Yoshaany Rahm.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Yoshaany Rahm [yyrahm@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 4:07 PM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of John Kesich [kesich@npacc.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 5:33 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: New Pacific Marine National Monuments, please

Oct 25, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I wholeheartedly support your the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mr. John Kesich
628 Bailey Creek Rd
Millerton, PA 16936-9578

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Gail Reissen [gailreiss@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 3:50 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: 2 new national marine monuments

I support the naming of these 2 areas as National Marine Monuments
gail Reissen

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: FR. RENE Robert [frene44@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 7:54 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Protection

I support historic marine protection!

Rene Robert
Saint Augustine, FL

Sent from my iPhone

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: FR. RENE Robert [frene44@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 7:54 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Protection

I support historic marine protection!

Rene Robert
Saint Augustine, FL

Sent from my iPhone

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Michael A. Roberts [maroberts@acadia.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 10:50 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine National Monuments for Paific Waters

Dear President Bush:

Your leadership on marine preservation is one positive bright spot in your legacy, and a decision to increase conservation for two spectacular marine areas -- the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench -- will help consolidate this record.

PLEASE designate them as marine national monuments, in this case with FULL protection as ECOSYSTEMS, preventing extractive and exploitative activities, including mining, drilling, and fishing.

DOING SO WILL CREATE A LEGACY THAT TRULY LASTS!

Thank you.

Michael and Amy Roberts
367 Village Road
Steuben, Maine 04680

From: [DJ S](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; guahan_sablan2005@hotmail.com;](#)
CC:
Subject: national monument
Date: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:21:17 PM
Attachments:

I have read the information concerning the planned national monument here in the Marianas. I have also researched the effects such a designation has had within the Hawaiian territorial waters; and I must conclude that I do not support the plan to declare parts of the surrounding waters of the Marianas Islands as a "national monument." Doing so would more then likely cause several things.

First of all, the local fishing industry would be ruined to the point where it will no longer exist at all; making hundreds of fishermen jobless and their families looking for other means of earning money and putting food on their tables. Second; fishing has been an integral part of the culture of the Chamoru people both in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas and Guam. For thousands of years fishermen plowed the waters to bring what the sea had to offer back to feed their families. Now all of a sudden, without the benefit of more time or more oppurtunities for the local people to have their say, it looks like millenia of traditions and culture will be swept aside.

Declaring the surrounding waters a national monument is not fair to the peoples of this island chain. Through wars and natural disasters, fishing has remained one of the few sources our people have had for food. If that source is closed off, then our already financially burdened people will have to pay for more just to have fish imported from other places. That does not make any sense at all considering we are islands surrounded by fish. I

ask respectfully that the plan be shelved and that the people be allowed to fish in their own waters without the restrictions such an idea like a "national monument" will bring.

Thank you

Derek Sablan
Guam

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Frances Sanders [sandershouston@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 3:35 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: FullProtected Status Needed for Pacific Ocean Habitats

Oct 25, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I strongly support your vision to give full protected status to areas of ocean in the Pacific. This is a hugely important legacy for now and for future generations

Multiple Use Management won't do the job of conservation and protection

that is required. It is urgent to act now with full protected status to protect our coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. I am so excited that the Bush Administration is prepared to save these crucial marine habitat areas They need our full protection now, before it is too late.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Frances Sanders
2301 Addison Rd
Houston, TX 77030-1127

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Frances Sanders [sandershouston@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 3:35 PM
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Oct 25, 2008

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Sincerely,

Mrs. Frances Sanders
2301 Addison Rd
Houston, TX 77030-1127

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Alisha N. Seaton [alishaseaton@alishaseaton.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 8:50 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Protect Marine Treasures

PLEASE!!! SET ASIDE AREAS FOR MARINE MONUMENTS. I support the setting aside the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench as National Marine Monuments. I urge the passing of legislation to bring this to reality as soon as possible. Thank you. Chris Seaton

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Alisha N. Seaton [alishaseaton@alishaseaton.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 8:50 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Protect Marine Treasures

PLEASE!!! SET ASIDE AREAS FOR MARINE MONUMENTS. I support the setting aside the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench as National Marine Monuments. I urge the passing of legislation to bring this to reality as soon as possible. Thank you. Chris Seaton

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Stephen Sleeper [waloug@worldnet.att.net]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:56 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Subject: Marine Monuments

I support two new marine monuments, the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench.. These ecosystems must have FULL protection from anything that even hints of possible damage to them. Thank you.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Guambat Stew [guambatstew@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 7:32 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Bush legacy monument

I register complaint to any regulation that denies access to local fishermen provided they do not adopt nor are fronts for large commercial fishing enterprise. Do no restrict them to "traditional" methods that are unsafe and inconsistent with current practices.

<http://guambatstew.blogspot.com/2008/10/monumental-disaster-in-making.html>

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: TLStrauss@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 3:56 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Yes for saving 2 marine monuments!

Dear President Bush,

I understand you are considering the protection of 2 invaluable global and national treasures -- the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench. I urge you to use your leadership, in these last months of your presidency, to preserve and protect these pristine natural wonders as part of your legacy.

We know well, by now, that what is lost in the world of nature, cannot be reclaimed. Please act quickly to provide FULL protection for these marine treasures, and protect the habitat for so many species of plants and animals that our children, and our children's children might know them in the future.

Thank you so much.
Sincerely,
Terry Strauss

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(<http://pr.atwola.com/promoclk/100000075x1211202682x1200689022/aol?redir=http://www.games.com?ncid=emlcntusgame00000001>)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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(<http://pr.atwola.com/promoclk/100000075x1211202682x1200689022/aol?redir=http://www.games.com?ncid=emlcntusgame00000001>)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: deborah sweet [sweetdulce44@yahoo.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 2:56 PM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Subject: marine parks

dear president bush, please designate the two marine areas, central pacific islands and the marianan trench as national monuments. do the right thing as your time in office comes to a close, and be counted as doing something positive for the planet and the environment and the people. debi sweet

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: deborah sweet [sweetdulce44@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 2:56 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Bill Toner [wtoner@twcny.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:58 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: I support two new marine monuments

It is imperative that you designate the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench as National Marine Monuments! William Toner, McGraw, NY.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Bill Toner [wtoner@twcny.rr.com]
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University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology

P.O. Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kāne'ohe, Hawai'i 96744-1346

Telephone: (808) 236-7471 • Facsimile: (808) 236-7443

October 25, 2008

Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality,
722 Jackson Place, NW,
Washington, D.C. 20503

RE: PACIFIC MARINE CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT COMMENT

Dear Chairman,

We, the undersigned researchers and educators at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, wish to register our written testimony regarding the proposed Pacific Marine Conservation Areas. We agree completely that the proposed areas (Johnston Atoll, Howland, Baker and Jarvis Islands, Kingman Reef, Palmyra Atoll, Wake Island, Rose Atoll, and the Mariana Trench) are natural treasures worthy of improved conservation and management efforts. We applaud the current movement to solidify and expand the protections already in place for these areas, but we have a number of concerns that we believe need to be considered in this process.

First, scientific research has provided the justification for why these locations are unique, and continued appropriate research, monitoring and education efforts are an essential component of ecosystem management for any protected location.

Second, there needs to be a commitment by agencies tasked with this responsibility and adequate funding to support the necessary research, monitoring, education and enforcement or any proclamation will simply result in paper parks. Designation without infrastructure could result in a negative, rather than positive, effect on the regions because additional recognition is likely to draw public attention to the areas and may increase visitation and impacts.

Finally, there needs to be a realization that a new process will take time to develop and implement. Without a management structure and permit process firmly in place, the current long-term research and monitoring, which has resulted in recognition of these special areas, will be shut down. We strongly recommend that any existing process be left in place until such time that a suitable replacement is available.

If you have any questions or wish further input from us, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are pleased to have this opportunity to voice our opinion on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jo-Ann Leong
Robert Toonen
Brian Bowen
Malia Rivera
Ruth Gates
Paul Jokiel
Ku'ulei Rodgers
Michael Stat

Carl Meyer
Matthew Craig
Carlie Wiener
Derek Skillings
Jon Puritz
Erik Franklin
Matthew Dunlap
Anuschka Faucci

Jeff Eble
Toby Daly-Engel
Michelle Gaither
Tonatiuh Trejo
Matt Iacchei
Greg Concepcion
Mark Heckman
Zoltan Szabo



University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology

P.O. Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kāne'ohe, Hawai'i 96744-1346

Telephone: (808) 236-7471 • Facsimile: (808) 236-7443

October 25, 2008

Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality,
722 Jackson Place, NW,
Washington, D.C. 20503

RE: PACIFIC MARINE CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT COMMENT

Dear Chairman,

We, the undersigned researchers and educators at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, wish to register our written testimony regarding the proposed Pacific Marine Conservation Areas. We agree completely that the proposed areas (Johnston Atoll, Howland, Baker and Jarvis Islands, Kingman Reef, Palmyra Atoll, Wake Island, Rose Atoll, and the Mariana Trench) are natural treasures worthy of improved conservation and management efforts. We applaud the current movement to solidify and expand the protections already in place for these areas, but we have a number of concerns that we believe need to be considered in this process.

First, scientific research has provided the justification for why these locations are unique, and continued appropriate research, monitoring and education efforts are an essential component of ecosystem management for any protected location.

Second, there needs to be a commitment by agencies tasked with this responsibility and adequate funding to support the necessary research, monitoring, education and enforcement or any proclamation will simply result in paper parks. Designation without infrastructure could result in a negative, rather than positive, effect on the regions because additional recognition is likely to draw public attention to the areas and may increase visitation and impacts.

Finally, there needs to be a realization that a new process will take time to develop and implement. Without a management structure and permit process firmly in place, the current long-term research and monitoring, which has resulted in recognition of these special areas, will be shut down. We strongly recommend that any existing process be left in place until such time that a suitable replacement is available.

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Jeff Eble
Toby Daly-Engel
Michelle Gaither
Tonatiuh Trejo
Matt Iacchei
Greg Concepcion
Mark Heckman
Zoltan Szabo

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of John Kesich [kesich@npacc.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 5:33 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: New Pacific Marine National Monuments, please

Oct 25, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I wholeheartedly support your the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mr. John Kesich
628 Bailey Creek Rd
Millerton, PA 16936-9578

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Terra Sivertsen [erratay@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 1:19 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Two Marine National Monuments

President Bush,

As I'm sure you are aware, ocean fisheries are rapidly declining to the point where they are described as failing. Countless research projects have attested to the success rate of designating marine sanctuaries in replenishing fish populations. Therefore it is imperative that you designate the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench as national marine monuments. So much is at stake and it would be criminal not to do what is in your power.

Sincerely,

Terra Virsilas

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Sincerely,

Terra Virsilas

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Mary K Wakeman [mkwakeman@triad.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 11:01 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Monuments

Dear President Bush,

Please do designate the two marine areas, Cebtral Pacific Islands and Mariana Trench, as Marine Monuments.

Thank you,
Mary K. Wakeman

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: jonathan [soccerdude4891@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 12:58 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: SAVE THE OCEANS

To whom it may concern:

President Bush is considering whether to designate two of the most spectacular and pristine marine areas—the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench—as national marine monuments.

Together, the new reserves would make up the largest protected area on Earth—larger than Alaska and Texas combined.

They would protect largely uninhabited island oases in the Pacific Ocean with millions of seabirds, rare sea turtles and fish.

Please save our oceans.

Thank you for your time.

Weisman

When your life is on the go—take your life with you. [Try Windows Mobile® today](#)

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Please save our oceans.

Thank you for your time.

Weisman

When your life is on the go—take your life with you. [Try Windows Mobile® today](#)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Stewart E Wiggers [wiggers@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 4:18 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Create Marine Monuments in the Pacific

Greetings...

Please create those islands in the Pacific as Marine Monuments.

Thanks,
Stewart Wiggers

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Stewart E Wiggers [wiggers@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 4:18 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Create Marine Monuments in the Pacific

Greetings...

Please create those islands in the Pacific as Marine Monuments.

Thanks,
Stewart Wiggers

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: winkforhomes@cox.net
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 12:48 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please protect marine treasures

Please support two new national monuments.
Thank you.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Lynell [nelliesnest@suddenlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:42 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Support of 2 new monuments

Please support the 2 new marine national mounments, President Bush, and at least leave, one good thing for your legacy.

Thank you,
Lynell Withers
Russellville, AR

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Margaret Wood [mwoodxmn@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 8:34 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Conservation

Oct 25, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I am writing in support of the creation of marine protected areas in

the U.S. waters of the Pacific. The islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral

reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique areas and thank you for your ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Margaret Wood
213 Jennifer Ct
Suffolk, VA 23434-2076

From: Jayverse@aol.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Ocean monuments for us
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 10:05:04 PM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush

You have the opportunity of saving a lot of ocean wildlife and birds from destructive exploitation by signing onto the two Pacific marine monuments.

Please do so.

Jay Albrecht

Play online games for FREE at Games.com! All of your favorites, no registration required and great graphics – [check it out!](#)

From: chartogham@aol.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Preserving pristine marine areas.
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 1:02:02 PM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush:

Thank-you for considering making two marine monuments. You will dramatically improve the oceans by enacting this legislation to protect marine life of all form and structure. I feel you will do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Charlotte M. Arnold

McCain or Obama? Stay updated on coverage of the Presidential race while you browse - [Download Now!](#)

From: [Quan Banh](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marine Monuments
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 6:59:01 PM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush,

Please considered designating two of the most spectacular and pristine marine areas -- the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench -- as national marine monuments.

Quan Banh
620 Center St.
Prentice, WI 54556

From: [trimyway](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: (no subject)
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 5:31:32 PM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush:

Please support the two marine sanctuaries for the future of our children and helping to create a balance in the oceans.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Fred & Darla Brodsky

5223 Royal lane

Dallas, Texas 75229

From: [Norman Bunker](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Support for two new national marine monuments Marine Monument designations
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 3:36:21 PM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush,

Thank you for considering designation of the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench as marine monuments. They are all worthy of such designation, representing some of the few pristine examples of tropical marine ecosystems still left in a seriously troubled ocean.

Timing is critical and I urge you to take this action with the greatest possible haste.

Thank you.

Norman C. Bunker

Please!!! Recycle, reuse, reduce, rethink.

From: [Colleen Butterfield](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Marine national Monuments
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 1:49:49 PM
Attachments:

Please dedicate the two new Marine National Monuments in the Pacific. This is such a rare and dear area, that we must preserve the natural integrity. I have seven wonderful grandchildren, and I hope that the world remains, somewhat, pristine for them to see and appreciate, as I have done for 76 years.

Thanks for your attention.

Sincerely,

Colleen Butterfield
1538 Country Forest Ct.
Grapevine, Texas 76051
817-481-7170

Dr. Frank A. Camacho
P.O. Box 3390
Hagatna, GU 96932
Phone: 671-734-3048

October 18, 2008

Council for Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Greetings and Hafa adai,

I am writing to express my opposition to the creation of a Northern Mariana Islands and Mariana Trench monument. As a scientist and a native of both the Northern Marianas and Guam, I believe that a monument in these waters would fall short of meeting adequate conservation goals while infringing on the rights and sovereignty of the indigenous people of the CNMI.

A recent report from the Pew Charitable Trusts explicitly advocated the creation of a monument in the NMI and presented several conservation outcomes that could be expected from its establishment. Unfortunately, the benefits of preserving marine habitat in the NMI are partly contingent on understanding the connectivity of marine populations from these islands with the rest of the Marianas. It is not clear, for example, to what extent these islands are closed systems or whether they serve as “sources” or “sinks” for coral and invertebrate larvae and marine fish. If they function as a sink, then conserving them would not guarantee the sustainability of the ecosystems within the monument and would also do little to improve coral reef ecosystems across the rest of the archipelago.

A second issue of concern is access to the islands for scientific monitoring and exploration. Such access is necessary for regional scientists to be able to determine the health of fish stocks and to continue basic research on the ecology of marine systems in the Mariana Islands. The Northwest Hawaiian Islands monument provides a historical precedent regarding scientific access. In the most recent draft monument management plan (DMMP), concessions were made for potential research projects that can improve our scientific understanding of the monument in the NWHI. Similar concessions must be included in the management plan for any marine conservation area in the Marianas.

A third, and perhaps more sensitive issue, is whether a monument in the Mariana Islands is fair and equitable for the indigenous people of these islands. While the Pew Charitable Trusts has commissioned an economic study of the purported benefits of a monument in the NMI, the social impact of restricting access to these waters remains uncertain and hasn't been properly studied. This is perhaps the most disturbing aspect of the monument

proposal as there is a sense among members of the indigenous population in the CNMI that these waters are their cultural birthright. Keep in mind that (1) the creation of a monument by executive order is exceptionally difficult to reverse through an act of Congress and that (2) the people of the CNMI lack full congressional representation. The fundamental question, therefore, is this: While the United States may have legal jurisdiction over these waters, does it have the moral grounds to impose an act of such perpetuity against a people who have not reached consensus on the disposition of these waters and who lack the congressional representation to change the course of their destiny?

The sum of these concerns is that significantly more time is needed to gather the ecological and social scientific information necessary to make a decision on the fate of these islands. Furthermore, the economic costs of establishing and monitoring the monument should also be considered. Most importantly, there must be a referendum in which the people of the CNMI have a distinct, calculable voice in expressing their views on this matter. Simply put, I see no reason to rush to make a hasty decision about this resource without sound, scientific rationale and without careful consideration of the social and cultural impacts of such a mandate.

In closing, I must mention that as an ecologist I have found myself in the extremely awkward position of speaking out against what some would believe to be conserving a unique ecosystem. But I would argue that if the issue is protection and management of marine resources, then I don't see how the CNMI government, in partnership with federal agencies, isn't already implementing scientifically-based rationale for effective marine resource management. As an example, the banning of gill-net fishing and SCUBA spearfishing in the CNMI was not without debate. But in the end, it was decided at a local rather than federal level. This is the model that has historically worked best when designing management options for Pacific Islands.

Lastly, the creation of a monument in these waters may be an absolute success or an abysmal failure, given our lack of understanding of the ecology of this system. History will judge just how scientifically prudent and equitable the creation of a monument in the Marianas Islands was, especially when alternate and more threatened areas were available for designation instead.

Sincerely,

Frank A. Camacho, Ph.D

From: [Kay Campbell](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Protect our Oceans
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 9:41:10 AM
Attachments:

The Bush Administration's track record on environmental issues is one of the worst for an administration who should be taking positive action to save the environment. This includes protecting the oceans. Even though man is supposedly the most intelligent creature, we have the ability to destroy everything in sight and have taken that path with our care of the earth. The most intelligent and lasting move the Bush Administration could take is protecting our water, land, and its creatures.

Kay Campbell

From: [Lester L. Carlson, Jr.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: OPPOSED TO MARIANAS TRENCH MONUMENT
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 10:13:27 PM
Attachments:

To Whom It May Concern:

I am opposed to the establishment of a Marianas Trench Monument as I firmly believe that Guam and the Northern Marianas Islands local fishing industry will be greatly harmed by this action. Please do not allow this to happen. Thank you.

Lester Carlson

From: [gie clark](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: marianas trench monument
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 10:40:47 AM
Attachments:

to whom it may concern,

my name is gie clark.

i have lived in guam for more than 15 years.

i've been lucky enough to be able to fish the waters around guam and the northern marianas.

i was a charter fishing captain for 6 years here.

now i just fish for substance and pleasure.

there's nothing like eating fresh fish that you caught yourself.

it's also satisfying to give some to people who are not fortunate enough to be able to catch their own. the population here is comprised of many different races, and just about everyone loves the variety of the local catch. this results in the fish being consumed in so many different ways. i always love sampleing new recipies.

guams fishing fleet is comprised mostly of boats less than 30 feet.

i think 99% of the fish caught around guam is consumed in guam.

because of weather, seas and fuel prices i don't believe any of guams fishing locations are being over fished.

i believe the monument is a good idea. however please consider keeping the no fishing boundries at least 60 nautical miles off guams coast.

i think this will keep not only the fisherman but

the residents of guam and the federal government itself happy.

thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion on this matter.

rgrds. gie clark



Caribbean Conservation Corporation
3775 Bonnybridge Place
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 750-1561; E-mail: marydele@cccturtle.org
www.cccturtle.org

October 26, 2008

James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Connaughton,

The Caribbean Conservation Corporation (CCC) applauds the proposal by the Bush Administration to recognize, protect and improve the conservation of globally significant and biologically rich areas of the Central and Western Pacific under U.S. jurisdiction by executive order or action. Designation of marine protected areas in a broad swath of the Pacific that includes Howland, Baker, Jarvis, Rose Atoll, Palmyra, Wake Island, Kingman Reef, and Johnston Atoll will safeguard the region's incredible marine habitats and a spectacular array of species, including invertebrates, fish, marine mammals, sea turtles and birds. Much of this area is pristine and incredibly bio-diverse. Although some islands have a checkered history of use, all are immensely valuable for global conservation and science. With full protection, they will serve as living laboratories for scientific research and for tracking global and oceanic changes in climate.

CCC is the world's oldest conservation and science organization dedicated entirely to sea turtles. The particular focus of our comments are therefore the four species of endangered and threatened sea turtles – greens, hawksbills, loggerheads and leatherbacks – found in the waters of the Central and Western Pacific. Sea turtles are unique components of the region's rich biodiversity and have figured prominently in its history and lore. For millennia the people of the Pacific valued turtles for aesthetic, religious and economic reasons, but human populations have exacted their toll as traditional taboos that limited capture and killing have broken down. As recently as 50 years ago nesting and foraging green and hawksbill turtles were relatively abundant in much of the Pacific, and many thousands of loggerheads and leatherbacks moved through the region from foraging and developmental habitat in the Eastern Pacific to nesting beaches in the West.

Today populations of all four species are much reduced and in need of more focused conservation. For nesting populations of green and hawksbill turtles, it is difficult to assess numbers in the Central and Western Pacific because these islands are not regularly surveyed. Hawksbills nests are also difficult to find under the best of circumstances. In recent years green turtles have nested at Palmyra and Rose Atoll and were reported from Jarvis in the first half of the 20th Century. Today resident green turtles are found at Wake Island and Palmyra Atoll in some numbers, with sightings now less frequent around Howland, Baker, Jarvis, and Kingman Reef. Leatherbacks and loggerheads still forage in and migrate through the Central and Western Pacific, but their numbers also have

declined in recent decades. The Pacific Recovery Plan for Leatherbacks published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service identifies incidental capture in fisheries around Wake, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Jarvis, Howland, Baker, and Midway as a primary threat to the Pacific leatherback. As the most migratory of the marine turtles, leatherbacks are especially at risk from U.S. longline fisheries based in Hawaii and American Samoa; these fisheries threaten loggerheads and green turtles as well.

By conferring protected area designation on its unincorporated territories in the Central and Western Pacific, the United States will make a major contribution to sea turtle conservation and help to avert their regional extinction. Whatever the status of these species today, conservation on the scale proposed by designating these protected areas will provide a critical benefit. In the last several decades, sea turtle scientists have learned an invaluable lesson: even remnant populations respond positively to protection and conservation.

The enforcement scheme selected for this group of islands must be uncomplicated and straightforward to avoid the mistakes of the three-pronged approach to protection and regulation taken in the Northwest Hawaiian islands. Existing international agreements in the region, such as the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention, also should be considered to ensure they complement the protections afforded to these islands. Lastly, enforcement and restrictions for all fishing boats are clearly needed as trespass by fishing crews has been identified as a major ongoing problem on all these islands.

CCC urges the Administration to extend the greatest possible protection to these areas, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service having jurisdiction out to 12 miles with protection in the water extended to 200 miles. **We recommend that these islands be used only for scientific research and thus oppose all other forms of multiple use, including military use, commercial and recreational fishing, and tourism.**

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Marydele Donnelly
Director of International Policy

From: [Malcolm Dow](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Please Protect Marine Treasures
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 9:56:32 AM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush:

I have just been informed that you are considering increased conservation of the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench. I write to urge you to designate these areas as national marine monuments.

Thank you.

Malcolm Dow

Malcolm McLaren Dow, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus

Northwestern University

4247 N. Paulina St

Chicago Illinois 60613

T:+1-773-281-5674

E: mmd383@northwestern.edu

From: [Kathleen Dwyer](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Protect the oceans!
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 11:23:20 AM
Attachments:

It is of vital importance that we expand the protection of the oceans and the vital resources they contain. I urge you to create and expand marine monuments.

Thank you!

Kathleen Dwyer, Ph.D.

From: [Kelly Fitzpatrick](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Please Reject the Marianas Trench Monument
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 8:45:37 PM
Attachments:

It appears the Federal Government is about to unwittingly subvert it's relationship with the people of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas. I am a veteran living happily among these incredibly patriotic Americans. Their culture, pride and identity all come from the ocean. To greatly restrict their access to these fishing grounds would be a tragedy for all concerned.

Kelly Fitzpatrick
182 Cruz Hgts
Ipan Talofof, Guam 96915

From: [mimi_gronlund](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: fishing in waters around Guam
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 10:47:42 AM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush:

Please do not prohibit local American citizens from fishing in the waters surrounding Guam and the northern Mariana Islands. These waters have been fished for thousands of years by local fishermen in small boats and have not resulted in over-fishing.

Sincerely, Mimi Gronlund

October 26, 2008

Mr. James L. Connaughton
Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton:

I write to submit The Nature Conservancy's views on the potential designations of additional marine managed areas in the Pacific Ocean. Of the areas currently under consideration, The Conservancy's primary interest is in enhanced conservation management for Palmyra Atoll and Kingman Reef.

As stated in our letter of April 18, 2008, the Conservancy recognizes that meaningful conservation can only be achieved through science-based approaches crafted with broad participation to develop the right strategies for the right places. We appreciate the Administration's efforts to engage interested parties by requesting public comments and engaging the public in open house discussions, and hope that these will provide adequate opportunity for the broad engagement that is necessary for successful conservation.

The areas in the Pacific currently under assessment for designation and enhanced management provide nesting, over-wintering, and critical foraging grounds for millions of sea and shore birds; endangered sea turtles; hundreds of fish, migratory pelagic, and mammal species; and some of the most pristine coral reefs on earth. The coral reefs in the Central Pacific Islands support more than five times the number of species as the Florida Keys and three times the species of the main Hawaiian Islands. These areas would broadly benefit from enhanced protection and additional resources for management. Our specific comments are limited to additional protections around Palmyra Atoll and Kingman Reef National Wildlife Refuges and The Conservancy's privately owned and managed nature reserve at Palmyra Atoll.

Palmyra Atoll and Kingman Reef National Wildlife Refuges

The Conservancy purchased Palmyra for \$30 million in 2000, and sold portions of the Atoll to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for \$9.6 million in 2001. The Conservancy is now a co-owner and manager with the FWS at Palmyra, and a member of the Palmyra Atoll Research Consortium (PARC), which is conducting scientific research at Palmyra to broadly benefit island and marine conservation globally. The Conservancy continues to invest more than \$1 million annually to co-manage the Atoll with FWS and operate the research station with PARC.

Palmyra and Kingman support a higher diversity of coral and other cnidarian species (sea anemones, soft corals, jellyfish, etc) than any other atoll or reef island in the central Pacific. Fish species diversity at Palmyra is one of the highest in the region, and the biomass of top predators is greater than on the Great Barrier Reef or in Papahānaumokuākea National Monument.

Many nationally and internationally threatened, endangered, and depleted species thrive at Palmyra and Kingman National Wildlife Refuges, including pearl oysters, giant clams, reef sharks, groupers, Napoleon (aka Humphead) wrasse, bumphead parrotfish, and dolphins. Significant numbers of threatened green turtles and endangered hawksbill turtles forage at both atolls. Large schools of rare melon-headed whales

reside off both atolls, and a possibly new species of beaked whale was recently described from two specimens stranded at Palmyra and one at Christmas Island.

Terrestrially, Palmyra supports significant numbers of coconut crabs, whose numbers have been reduced throughout the Pacific due to human consumption and habitat conversion, and one of the best remaining examples of *Pisonia grandis* forest in the Pacific, where it has been largely lost due to habitat conversion. Palmyra also supports 11 nesting seabird species, including the second largest Red-footed Booby colony in the world. Migrating shorebirds use Palmyra as wintering grounds, including the Golden Plover, Wandering Tattler, Ruddy Turnstone, and between 5-10% of the world's known population of Bristle-thighed Curlews, a species listed as "Vulnerable" on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Red List.

Principles for Effective Management

Given the important biodiversity values in this area and established partnerships, we support increased management that will:

- 1) **Provide additional funding and conservation management to Palmyra Atoll and Kingman Reef.** Effective management that results in long-term benefits to these areas requires additional funding and staffing resources. The National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) are understaffed, and additional resources are needed to bring active conservation management to terrestrial and marine resources at Palmyra and Kingman NWRs.

With a minimum of \$500,000 annually, the FWS could begin basic conservation management at Palmyra, including addressing a scale insect that is devastating the rare and fragile *Pisonia* forest, improving seabird nesting habitat through invasive plant removal, and collaborating on monitoring the natural resources of Palmyra and Kingman NWRs. With additional funding, the FWS could begin working with The Nature Conservancy and Island Conservation to remove invasive rats from Palmyra Atoll, propagating and outplanting additional native plant species, monitoring and protecting migratory pelagic and mammal species, and enforcing regulations within the Refuge boundaries.

- 2) **Manage use and access at Palmyra and Kingman National Wildlife Refuges according to a precautionary approach that avoids degradation of ecosystem functions and relationships between species.** The primary management objective of these near-pristine areas is to maintain the intact ecological structure and functions for their biodiversity and scientific values. The Conservancy believes that under strict management guidelines, research and small scale visitor use such as recreational fishing, snorkeling, diving, and other nature recreation, can be managed at Palmyra consistent with this objective. These uses are currently allowed under the Compatibility Determinations for Palmyra Atoll and have proven to be consistent with the long-term protection of the Atoll.
- 3) **Link Palmyra and Kingman National Wildlife Refuges under one management framework.** A recent paper published by a founding PARC member, The Scripps Institution of Oceanography, titled *Baselines and Degradation of Coral Reefs in the Northern Line Islands* (Sandin et al. 2008), found that, unlike areas with even limited human populations, the waters surrounding the largely uninhabited atolls of Palmyra and Kingman are dominated by top level predators such as sharks and jacks.

A 2006 study conducted by Stevenson et al. of PARC founding member Stanford University, Hopkins Marine Station, titled *High apex predator biomass on remote Pacific islands* found that "On coral reefs in Palmyra—a central Pacific atoll with limited fishing pressure—total fish biomass was 428% and 299% greater than on reefs in nearby Christmas and Fanning Islands. Large apex

predators, groupers, sharks, snappers, and jacks larger than 50 cm in length, accounted for 56% of total fish biomass in Palmyra on average, but only 7 and 3% on Christmas and Fanning" islands which have populations of 8,000 and 3,000 people respectively. They also found that "In the absence of intense fishing pressure, Palmyra and some of the NWHI have the greatest apex predator biomass among the 28 Pacific reefs surveyed . . ."

As the studies above clearly demonstrate, one of the things that makes these areas so unique is that they are intact, with all trophic levels fully represented -- including apex predators, which are most vulnerable to overfishing and have been largely removed from unprotected systems around the world. Researchers believe that these predator species are travelling between Palmyra and Kingman, and thus the corridor between the atolls is important for maintaining this natural predator dominated system. If it is not protected, we run the risk of significantly altering the system by depleting these keystone species.

The FWS currently manages the resources at Palmyra and Kingman NWRs out to 12 nautical miles. The total distance between the Refuge units is 38 miles. Given the significant conservation values of both areas and the biological linkages between them, we recommend closing the gap between Palmyra and Kingman NWRs with a single refuge boundary that links and encircles them under FWS management.

- 4) **Provide enhanced protection for marine resources beyond 12 nautical miles.** Again, *the primary management objective for Palmyra and Kingman is to maintain the intact ecological structure and functions of these near-pristine areas for their biodiversity and scientific values.*

Sandin et al. concluded that at Palmyra and Kingman, where there has been no significant level of human activity or commercial extraction, ". . . protection from overfishing and pollution appears to increase the resilience of reef ecosystems to the effects of global warming."

Stevenson et al found that "total fish biomass decreased along a gradient of increasing fishing pressure," and that "high biomass of herbivores at Palmyra and the NWHI may be a direct result of reduced fishing at all trophic levels." They concluded that "Coral reefs lacking a history of intense exploitation set new baselines for evaluating human impacts and provide insights into the ecological function of these ecosystems. Understanding the influence of apex predators on the structure and dynamics of healthy coral reefs and devising strategies for protecting and re-building depleted predator populations are critically important research and conservation priorities."

There are no commercial extractive activities currently allowed within the Refuge boundaries. And, because the area is so remote, commercial activities outside the Refuge boundaries appear to be very limited. However, as global marine resources decline, pressure to move commercial extractive activities to more remote locations may increase, and the scale of extraction necessary for commercial viability in such locations may be greater than can be sustained. Taking a precautionary approach now around Palmyra and Kingman is not likely to have any significant impact on current commercial ventures. However, it will help to ensure that these areas maintain their natural predator dominated trophic structures, adapt more readily to increases in temperature, carbon dioxide and sea levels associated with global warming, and provide the scientific baseline necessary for understanding and managing human impacts on coral reef systems worldwide.

The Conservancy supports working through the National Marine Sanctuary Program process and other Interior and NOAA authorities to establish appropriate protections and management plans beyond the 12 mile Refuge boundary. These processes should allow for broad and continuing public engagement and be based on the best available science and the precautionary principle to determine

the appropriate levels of protection and management of marine resources. Additional funding for NOAA, DOI, and other relevant agencies to carry out this analysis and manage the process will be essential.

- 5) **Clarify federal agency jurisdictions in the area so that they are complementary.** An integrated management framework is important for the long-term success of any network of marine managed areas. Efforts to enhance management in this area should seek to minimize additional bureaucracy and confusing agency jurisdictions. The Conservancy believes that the FWS should maintain sole jurisdiction within the proposed expanded Refuge boundaries of Palmyra and Kingman NWRs. Any additional designations beyond these Refuge boundaries should include clear resource management objectives, agency responsibilities, enforcement requirements, and management funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your consideration of our views during this designation review process. The Nature Conservancy has invested substantial funding and other resources into conservation and research at Palmyra Atoll, and we remain a committed partner in the effort to protect and understand the incredible resources in this very special place. If we can provide any additional information, please feel free to contact me at (401) 874-6872 or lhale@tnc.org, or Emily Woglom at (703) 841-5374 or ewoglom@tnc.org.

Sincerely,



Lynne Zeitlin Hale
Director, Global Marine Team

From: [Norma Kaefer](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Oceans
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 10:47:38 AM
Attachments:

It is hoped that you protect these areas in the ocean in every way possible and not let these pristine areas become polluted.
This could be considered a legacy.
Norma Kafer, Ph.D.

From: [Christina Laktas](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Support for Marianas Trench Monument
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 10:30:40 PM
Attachments:

Dear Mr. Connaughton,

I live in Wichita, Kansas but traveled to Saipan to volunteer with the Friends of the Mariana Trench Monument. I traveled half way around the world, because I believe the proposed monument is a unique opportunity to preserve a pristine part of the planet while providing various education and economic opportunities to our island neighbors. I was in Saipan for a total of six weeks, and during your visit Mr. Connaughton. Thank you for taking extra time out of your busy schedule to start a dialouge with local residents and elected officials. I believe your conversations helped clear up many misconceptions pertaining to the monument. Also, you inspired opposite sides to engage in insightful conversations.

I believe the monument will greatly benefit the Marianas Islands especially the youth. This monument will open so many doors that are now closed. One day hopefully, the leaders of tomorrow in Saipan will be able to stay on island to gain a quality education or work in a thriving tourism related business.

I believe the proposed monument is a win-win for the globe as well as the Marianas Islands. If approved, please provide it with the highest protection possible to truely protect the marine environment and ensure maximum benefits for the CNMI.

Biba the monument!
Christina Miller
Wichita, Kansas

You live life beyond your PC. So now Windows goes beyond your PC. [See how](#)

From: [Cathy Lewis](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: need to protect
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 4:30:56 PM
Attachments:

To Whom It May Concern,

It is very important to protect our oceans and the coral reefs that protect our islands.

Our society needs to focus on historic sites that we pass down through the generations.

Please consider how lucky we are to still have clean waters to protect and do what you can

to continue to protect them, Cathy Lewis

From: [Sylvia L. Martinez](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: marine monuments
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 9:03:43 PM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush,

I support the designaation of two of the most spectacular and pristine marine areas -- the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench -- as national marine monuments.

They would protect largely uninhabited island oases in the Pacific Ocean with millions of seabirds, rare sea turtles and fish.

I urge you to protect these marine treasures for posterity.

Thank you. --Sylvia L. Martinez

From: [Janet McCullough](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: comment in favor of proposed Mariana Trench Marine Monument
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 7:37:03 PM
Attachments:

This is to express our support of the designation of the Marianas as a national marine monument site. We would strongly recommend a comanagement arrangement with the CNMI government.

Please support a strong local movement which approves this designation.

Thank you.

Janet McCullough
Tony Stearns
Saipan, MP

From: [Bill Murphy](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Central pacific Islands and Mariana Trench national marine monuments
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 1:39:16 PM
Attachments: [ATT57462.gif](#)

I explore you to protect two pristine marine areas, the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench, by designating them national marine monuments.

I support FULL protection for these ecosystems, meaning preventing extractive and damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing.

These areas include the most pristine coral reef ecosystems on earth and are teeming with wildlife including seabirds, sea turtles and large fishes. They deserve protection.

Thanks you for your consideration.

William Murphy FCAS, MAAA

Principal and Consulting Actuary

bill.murphy@milliman.com
www.milliman.com

One Pennsylvania Plaza
38th Floor
New York, NY 10119
USA

Tel 1 646 473 3000
Fax 1 646 473 3457



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opinions upon which reliance may be made by the addressee or any other party, and it should be considered to be a work in progress.

From: [Linda Polniazek](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Pacific Marine Conservation
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 4:07:05 PM
Attachments:

Oct 26, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

did you know that 2 species of fish are discovered a day? well in the

future that static might be false, if you don't consider protecting the coral reefs in the pacific. The ocean is such a diverse place, that needs to be treasured, so generations to come can enjoy its uniqueness and beauty.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Linda Polniazek
2504 Resnick Dr
Round Rock, TX 78681-2229

From: [Amber Powers](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marianas Trench Monument
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 4:58:32 PM
Attachments:

To Whom It May concern:

I am greatly disturbed that there is discussion of an imperialistic move to "confiscate" the fishing grounds of the Marianas peoples without their consent. The people of the Marianas Islands are not over fishing their own non-coastal water regions. They do not have the means to do so. If the United States government would like to ban purse seiners and long liners from the area the Marianas inhabitants would be much obliged. However the people of the Marianas islands are not interested in handing over their cultural inheritance of fishing in the waters surrounding their islands to feed their families and find a way to make an honest subsistence living. Locally registered small vessels should be allowed to fish local waters without federal government interference as they have for thousands of years. The people of the Marianas Islands are against the Marianas Trench Monument if it means that they will be cruelly punished(prohibited from fishing their own waters) for the wrong-doings of foreign vessels. I hope that you will consider this plea for cessation of the Marianas Trench Monument the way that it is currently slated.

Concerned citizen of Guam,
Amber Powers
1(671)483-1978

From: [Carlos Quinata](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marianas Trench National Monument
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 4:46:49 PM
Attachments:

Dear Council on Environmental Quality,

I am concerned about the recent discovery that the southern banks of Guam will be included in the "National Monument". I have made my living fishing the southern banks of Guam for the past 12 years. Currently I am a boat captain for a fishing charter business out of the southern end of Guam and I utilize these fishing grounds to support myself, boost tourism, provide tax monies to the local economy, and **feed my family**. It is important to everyone on Guam that we be able to continue our non-invasive hook and line fishing practices in the waters surrounding our island. The Chamorros have been a fishing people for at least the past 3,000 years. That is longer than the United States has existed. Please do not take our natural resources away from us without our consent. The people of Guam want to keep our sustainable fishing practices alive in the waters surrounding our island. I hope that you will take action to prevent President Bush from taking away our God-given right to responsibly fish our surrounding waters.

Sincerely,
Carlos Quinata
Heritage Boat Charters
1(671)727-7873
www.fishguam.com

From: d2r2@uguam.uog.edu
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Guam Fishermen and Guam's Fresh Fish
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 6:56:43 AM
Attachments:

Council on Environmental Quality: The purpose of this message is to ask you to protect the fishing livelihood of Guam's fishing community. This is a small group of men, probably a dozen or two full-time fishermen, whose lives and families depend on them to fish some of the same areas that are proposed for inclusion in the protected area. They will be unable to support themselves with the proposed restrictions. I urge you to revise the proposal so that it does not adversely affect these honest, hardworking men, and that the product of their labor will continue to be available for the population on Guam who value having fresh fish, caught by Americans, that hasn't been frozen on a factory ship, and that doesn't come from Japan in a can.

Daniel L. Robertson
103 S.Paulino Heights
Ipan Talofof, Guam 96915-3732
(671) 789-5975

October 26, 2008

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington DC, 20500

Re: Proposed Marianas Trench Marine National Monument

Dear President Bush,

I am writing again to reiterate my strong support for the designation and possible creation of a Marianas Trench Marine National Monument in the northernmost part of the Mariana Archipelago, specifically the islands and waters surrounding Farallon de Pajaros (or Uracas), Maug, and Asuncion. These three remote islands together with eleven other islands, as you are aware make the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Sadly, now in the 16th CNMI Legislature there are only three of us that are proponents to your “once in a lifetime” fantastic idea endorsed by Global Ocean Legacy, champions of pursuing global marine conservation and protection. I am deeply concerned that this window of opportunity for the Commonwealth people en masse may be imperiled as a result of its leader’s opposition. I am hopeful however, that you will not be swayed to abandon such a monumental designation. I am certain that with continual dialogue with your assessment representatives and the leaders of the CNMI, an agreement beneficial to all concerned would be ultimately reached. Dissemination of accurate information and better understanding of the broad range of options inclusive of a co-management agreement is pivotal in the dialogue.

From the onset, I was convinced that the designation of a Marine National Monument in the northernmost islands is most appropriate considering the fact that the people of the Commonwealth have already designated and enforce marine conservation in many of our habitat islands. Additionally, it is in our Constitution that the islands of Maug, Uracas, Asuncion and Guguan shall be maintained as uninhabited places and used only for the preservation and protection of natural resources, including but not limited to bird, wildlife and plant species. Hence, the establishment of a Marine National Monument in coordination with the federal government would solidify our marine and land conservation efforts and enhance preservation and protection.

Mr. President, prior to becoming an elected official, I worked primarily in the private sector for over two and ½ decades in a management capacity and have seen our economy prosper for many years. However, for several years since 9/11 we have been in a recession and our economy has been in a collapsed state for a multitude of reasons. The creation of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument would rekindle and jump start our ailing economy to great proportions.

The potential economic benefits for our islands is so enormous and unlimited and we cannot afford to let this opportunity “slip through the cracks” while the leaders of the CNMI are still trying to decide what to do. Our people must take action now and grasp this historical opportunity.

Our island’s major industry is tourism. We can imagine what this designation when realized would do to our tourism industry. We do not need to be economist to see the positive ripple effects it would generate throughout our islands.

Mr. President, thank you for having the foresight to conserve and protect more of the world’s fragile ocean and marine resources, and in the process, considering the northernmost part of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands as a possible designation. We are very fortunate that you have sent Mr. James Connaughton and his team of experts to assess the possibility and report back to you.

I close by asking you to seriously consider designating the northernmost islands of the CNMI a Marianas Trench Marine National Monument for preservation and protection for today’s generation and more generations to come.

Respectfully,

Representative Edward Tudela Salas
16th Commonwealth Legislature.

October 26, 2008

Dear President Bush,

I am writing in support of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument that has been proposed. I am for the monument; because of all the benefits it could bring to our island of Saipan, the people of our island, and the CNMI. For Saipan it would bring more tourists that would visit the island more often, and tell others about the island and its ocean greatness that was not known of to the whole world before. In my science book it states that the Marianas Trench is near Guam, I would like to see that the world knows of the Marianas Trench through Saipan.

This monument would put Saipan on the map. This to me would be another benefit of a "monument". With the monument would come a visitor's center where all the findings of the Marianas Trench could be placed in there to be viewed by our locals and the tourists that would visit our island. Imagine what could be down there, there could be a variety of different types of fish that haven't been discovered yet down there. Who knows, there could even be transformers or a cure for cancer down there =D

And so I ask that you please consider this monument as something that you will do before you finish your term in office this year. Thank you for reading my letter.

Sincerely,

Edward Angelo Salas

From: [PCol Adolf SGAMBELLURI](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: OPPOSITION TO RESTRICT FISHING PLAN FOR
PROPOSE NATIONAL MARINE MONUMENT IN THE
MARIANAS TRENCH
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 12:05:04 PM
Attachments:

DEAR PRESIDENT G.W. BUSH:

**THE PURPOSE OF THIS MISSIVE IS TO SUBMIT OPPOSITION TO
THE SUBJECT.**

**MR. PRESIDENT, PLEASE DO NOT PROHIBIT THE LOCAL
AMERICAN CITIZENS FROM**

**RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL FISHING IN THE MARIANAS
TRENCH OF THE WATERS**

**AROUND GUAM, U.S. TERRITORY, AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF
THE NORTHERN MARIANAS**

ISLANDS.

**THESE WATERS HAVE BEEN TRADITIONAL FISHING GROUNDS
FOR SOME 4,000 YEARS FOR**

OUR LOCAL INHABITANTS, ACCORDING TO ARCHEOLOGISTS.

SINCERELY,

**/S/ ADOLF P. SGAMBELLURI
/S/ ROSIE LG SGAMBELLURI**

--

Adolf and Rosie Sgambelluri

Semper Fidelis

olyman@gmail.com

Hafa Adai from Guam

671-472-7673

From: shnnnwlbirt@aol.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: monuments
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 8:50:23 PM
Attachments:

Please support the national marine monuments.
Thanks,Robert Shannon

McCain or Obama? Stay updated on coverage of the Presidential race while you browse - [Download Now!](#)

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: pungco@ite.net
Sent: Sunday, October 26, 2008 11:52 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Cc: rufina.mendiola@guamcc.edu; josephine.rojas@guamcc.edu;
josephine.arceo@guamcc.edu; apolline.sannicolas@guamcc.edu;
munabarnes@hotmail.com; judiguthertz@pticom.com; senjim@ite.net; senbenp@guam.net
Subject: Testimonu put i Marianas Trench

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

Mañana si Yu'us yan Hafa Adai,

Kumatatayi hamyo sa ti maolek hâfa un chocho'gue' giya hita guini giya i Marianas. I aire-mâmi, i tano-mâmi, i tasi-mâmi yan todû hâfa guaha guini giya Marianas i lina'la-ta i kuttura- ta. Hâfa na un ki puno' i kutturan i manChamorros? Maolek i cho'guen-miyu sa pon protehi i hanom-mâmi yan i lugat-mâmi lao eskuesa esti sa pon chule' i tasen- mâmi. Ti un hahasso' na i peskadot-mâmi manu'usa i peskan-ñiha po ma sapotti i familian- ñiha. Ma fa'nana'gue' lokkue i famagu'on-ta, i taotao-ta, yan hayi malago' po ma tungo' put i kuttura-ta. Hâfa na un ki puno' i kutturan i manChamorros? Hâfa mas pon chogue' giya hita? Ti sina ham manbota i Prisidente. Ya po sangani ham si Prisidente Bush na po pribi ham ni tasen-mâmi? Eskuesa esti sa pon chule' i tasen- mâmi! Hagas ha gi tutuhon anai manmatto i Amerikanos guini sigi ma sangani hit hafa para ta cho'gue guini gi lugat-ta. Son-miyu na dikiki i tano Marianas hafa siha po cho'gue? Teritoriu i Islan Guahan, ti impotanti i sangan- ñiha? Lo malefa hao na anai mandanña todû i Marianas mâs sendangkolu hit! Mâs metgot hit! Mâs âgang hit! Hu hahasso' i sangan si Senot Babauta "anai manhita todus, siempre mas metgot i nasion taotao-ta..." I taotao sanhiyong unicita un adai ti hami. Sa guiya siha ma chuchule' hafa ti yo'-ñiha gi tasen- mâmi. Guiya siha man gai interisao gi lugat-mâmi.

Hasso esti sa manonohge hit gi i sangan-mâmi:

INIFRESI (tinige' as Doktora Bernadita Camacho-Dungca): Ginen i mâs takhilo' gi hinasso-ku, I mâs takhalom gi kurason-hu, Yan I mâs figo' na nina' siña-hu, Hu ufresen maisa yu' para bai prutehi yan hu difendi I HINENGGE, I KOTTURA, I LENGQUAHI, I AIRE, I HANOM yan I TANO' CHAMORU ni' inrensiâ-ku direchu ginen as Yu'os Tâta, Este hu afitma gi hilo' Bipblia yan i Bandera- hu, I Banderan Guahan.

PRINIMETI (tinige' as Carmen Songsong Taimano): Manhula' yu'

fiet gi papa' i bandera-hu Notte Marianas na bai hu cho'gue todû I ninasiñâ-hu para bai hu prutehi yan hu difendi I HINENGGE, I KOTTURA, I LENGQUAHI, I AIRE, I HANOM yan I TANO' ni' irensiâ-ku direcho ginen as Yu'os Tâta para todû i hinirasion Chamorro pâ'go yan para todû i tiempo.

Hunggan U.S. Siudadanu yu', lo bai sangani hafa bai sangani giya hamyo todû giya i gobietnon Amerikanos mungga na'fanababa- hit! Taotao hit ti ga'ga' hit! Guaha yo'-ta sintimento-mâmi.

Hita hit todus giya Marianas ta difendi I HINENGGE, I KOTTURA, I LENGQUAHI, I AIRE, I HANOM yan I TANO' CHAMORU... para todû i hinirasion Chamorro pâ'go yan para todû i tiempo! Esta malefa hamyo hâfa i saina-ta ma cho'gue para hamyo todû gueno gi i Geran Chapanes yan i Amerikanos! Meggai man matai sa ma difendi i banderan i Amerikanos yan i banderan i Chamorros!

Asta pago man mamatai para i banderan i Amerikanos gi Gera.

Esta malefa hamyo lokkue na anai un chule' i tano-ta taya i saina-ta ma sangan gi hamyo sa manhahasso' i saina-ta i

Amerikanos. Munga chumule' i tasen-mâmi i Marianas Trench!

Sa senimpotanti para i peskadot-mâmi po ma sapotti i familian- ñiha. Senimpotanti na ta manafa'nana'gue' lokkue i famagu'on- ta yan i taotao-ta put i kuttura-ta. I Kutturan Chamorro giya Marianas I HINENGGE, I KOTTURA, I LENGQUAHI, I AIRE, I HANOM yan I TANO' i lina'la-ta. Ti siña hit lina'la sin esti siha.

Si Yu'os Ma'âsi yan hu senagradesi ni atension-miyu put esti testimonu.

Na Asentâdu i Ha'âni!
Senseramente,
Si Rose

Rose Marie Laguana Siguenza

Gof unicita hit na ta FA'NÂ'GUE, NA' METGOT, NA'FÂMTA' i Kutturán Chamorro-mâmi! Anai ta abiba i Kutturán Chamorro-mâmi gi gima-ta, gi checho-ta, yan todú' gi hinanao-ta mo'na... un na'adilanto i Kutturán Chamorro- mâmi anai ma fino hit Chamorro kada diha! I Kutturán Chamorro-mâmi i na'la-ta! BIBA CHAMORRO!

We MUST TEACH, STRENGTHEN, PRODUCE our Chamorro Culture! By promoting our Chamorro Culture in our homes, our work, and in everything we do... we strengthen our Chamorro Culture when we speak Chamorro every day! Our Chamorro Culture gives us life... BIBA CHAMORRO!

"Tâya siña manâhi hao i alibio-mu lao hâgu..." - "Nothing can bring you peace but yourself...." Ralph Waldo Emerson

From: [Ann Silliman](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Bush Plan to Restrict Fishing in the Mariana Islands
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 3:34:33 PM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush:

Please Do Not Prohibit The Local American Citizens From Recreational And Commercial Fishing In The Marianas Trench Or The Waters Around Guam And The Commonwealth Of The Northern Mariana Islands.

Archeologists Estimate These Waters Have Been Traditional Fishing Grounds For Some 4,000 Years.

Sincerely Yours,

Ann Silliman

From: [jon spar](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Support for two marine national monuments
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 8:10:52 PM
Attachments:

Dear W. Bush

Your consideration for establishing the Central Pacific Islands and Mariana Trench as national monuments is a great start and I would hope is acted upon quickly and with urgency. I also want to see complete protection of the environment and ecosystems with prohibition on any extractive activities including mining, drilling, or fishing. The qualities of the undamaged and relatively pristine coral reef ecosystems and the abundance of wildlife should be maintained for future generations. Any damage sustained by any abusive economic activity such as fishing or extractive industries would be compounded by the greater stresses of global climate change and would make it more difficult for the preservation intact ecosystems.

I hope you can see to do the right thing and get this done as quickly as possible.

Sincerely, Jon Spar, MD

Make the switch to the world's best email. Get Yahoo! Mail! <http://au.yahoo.com/y7mail>

October 26, 2008

Via email: oceans@ceq.eop.gov

Assessment
c/o Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Council Members,

As a resident of Guam and one of the indigenous Chamorus of Guam and the Marianas Islands, I strongly oppose any efforts to try to persuade the President or federal entities to establish Marine Protected Areas, Marine Conservation Areas, Marine Conservation Management Areas, or a Marine National Monument in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of Guam and the Marianas Islands, to include the Marianas Trench and islands under the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands government protection, as is currently being strongly urged by the Pew Environmental Group; as may be recommended in response to the President's memorandum of August 25, 2008, to be established pursuant to Executive Order of the President of the United States or pursuant to the Antiquities Act.

As you know the President issued a memorandum on August 25, 2008, directing the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Chairman of the Council On Environmental Quality to assess the views of territorial governments, local governments on the advisability of increased action by the United States or the federal government over specific areas of the Pacific.

A. Establishment of a Marine Conservation Management Area while allowing military activity on the scale currently being conducted has no preservation or conservation benefit to the people of the Marianas, the United States, or the world, and will only further subject these rare resources to exploitation by the military and impedes the conservation efforts of residents and governments of the region.

Development of a Preserve or Conservation Management Area will restrict the indigenous people of the Marianas access to the natural, cultural, and economic resources surrounding their islands, yet the President in his memorandum states that the establishment of these areas will not restrict in any way the U.S. military in its operations in the same area, which currently includes an unprecedented military buildup of personnel, docking of nuclear ships and submarines, active firing ranges, training exercises, and supporting equipment and personnel on the island and waters of Guam and potentially on other islands of the Marianas. This massive buildup of military activity, personnel, and dependents during peacetime is the largest ever in the history of the United States and is slated to be in full force by 2012. (The Environmental Impact

Statement is currently being conducted on this buildup of military and support activities, and is scheduled to be completed in Spring of 2009.)

In addition to current and proposed massive military activity, Guam and the Marianas Islands continue to be subjected to contaminated military dump sites which have not been cleaned since WWII, continue to suffer as downwinders the higher incidences of cancer and other effects of radiation from nuclear bombing of the Marshall Islands, and continue to be subject to environmental damage and illness as a result of the washing of nuclear-contaminated ships on Guam. Environmental policy for this region should include prohibiting damage from current and planned military activities and remedying the effects of past military activity.

B. The Establishment of a Monument or Conservation by Executive Order denies the government and people of Guam from meaningful input in the further taking of their lands and waters by the United States.

The President in his memorandum of August 2008 directed all agencies to consider cultural, environmental, economic, and multiple use implications of any measures, and to assess the views of the territorial and local governments and other interested parties, of the advisability of providing additional protection and management of historic or scientific interest at these islands, coral reefs, geologic features and surrounding marine waters. *However*, although the Marianas Trench lies within 60 miles from Guam and the northern Marianas Islands lie within the same archipelago as Guam, none of the agencies directed to respond—including the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Interior, Secretary of Commerce, and Chairman of the Council of Environmental Quality-- have solicited the input of the people of Guam or the government of Guam. Only the head of the Guam Fisherman's Co-op has called a meeting on the proposed actions and invited a representative of the Council of Environmental Quality to attend. This representative expressed to those in attendance that there was no project to explain, but that he was only there to make a list of interests or existing activities that the people in attendance thought should be excluded from or made an exception for in the establishment of a preserve in the area, for example, local fishing activities. The process denies the opportunity of the people of Guam and the Marianas Islands to adequately comment or to even be notified of the proposed conservation areas, and in effect robs them on the eve of a presidential election from having input into this matter.

C. In addition to the negative impact on fishing and access to other natural resources by the people living on Guam and the other Marianas Islands, restriction of these waters and islands would be a clear violation of the rights of the indigenous inhabitants of Guam, the Chamorros, as outlined in the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

While the President and federal agencies tout the importance of the objects of historic and scientific interest in the areas “under the jurisdiction of the United States”, including the exceptional and diverse collection of marine life and habitat in the marine waters around the northern Mariana Islands and the Marianas Trench, the proposed action will prevent *increased* or *new* access by the people of Guam and the Marianas to these energy and mineral resources, and prevent new or increased scientific study of the area except with

permission of the United States. This will also restrict energy, fishing, tourism and other economic benefits for the island economies from access to these areas.

Aside from a blanket exception to U.S. military activity, the President's memo directs that the agencies make a recommendation on the compatibility of a conservation area with *sustaining* access to (1) recreational and commercial fishing; (2) energy and mineral resources; and (3) opportunities for scientific study. Thus, the representative from Council on Environmental Quality only solicited a list of the current interests in the area from the people at the Fisherman's Co-op meeting.

Chamorros have a right to use and benefit of the natural resources of the region and in order to sustain their unique and indigenous culture must have continued stewardship of any commercial, scientific, or other exploration or use of the resources in this region.

D. Further taking of land and waters of Guam without consent is directly contrary to the right of the people of Guam to self determination and to be assisted in this regard by the colonial government of the United States.

I object to the establishment of any restrictive area on this water or land by the United States government as an impediment to and a violation of the right to self determination of the Chamorros, who remain on the United Nations list of 16 remaining non-self governing territories in the world. This further taking of the resources of Guam mirrors the taking of the land on Guam by the military and requires consent of the people of Guam. Guam has not yet had the opportunity, resources, or political status to study or develop the resources in the region, and this further restriction of the energy, fishing, tourism and other economic benefits for the island economies from access to these areas directly interferes with their ability to be self governing.

E. The Marianas Fishing Community *is not responsible* for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

The fishing constituency and the people of the Marianas are comprised of a number of Pacific Islander cultures living side by side with other mainstream Americans who collectively practice sustainable fishing.

The Marianas Fishing Community is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks or the destruction of critical marine habitat;

The Marianas Fishing Community has historically (nearly 4,000 years) proven to be excellent stewards of the ocean whereby the harvest is primarily consumed by the community;

The Marianas Fishing Community continues to provide sustenance to residents of our islands without the need to implement industrialized harvesting methods.

The Marianas Fishing Community should be allowed to continue fish in the waters of the Marianas with traditional or modern effective fisheries management tools.

The Marianas Fishing Community wholeheartedly supports the existing management regime as established by the U.S. Congress under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The Marianas Fishing Community recognizes that the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council for several decades has banned the use of the Trawl Nets, Gill Nets and most recently Purse Seine. The WPRFMC also established large closed areas whereby larger (50') scale fishing vessels are prohibited from entering; thus protecting seamounts from industrialize resource extraction to include anchoring which adversely impacts the marine habitat.

Sincerely,

Therese M. Terlaje
P.O. Box 864
Hagatna, Guam 96932
tterlaje@guam.net

Cc: Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo
Governor of Guam
Speaker, 29th Guam Legislature

From: [Mike Tripp](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marine Monument
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 8:09:40 PM
Attachments:

To Whom it may concern.

I believe what is best for the region is creation of a large protected area. However this can only be achieved with the support of the local population.

Although some may think it preferable to have the area a full no take zone I feel leaving the door open to the possibility of future mineral extraction in limited areas or to limited degrees under certain circumstances will not only see local support but also provide both sides with an insurance policy should the need or desire to extract resources from the area or a portion of it arise in the future. Such reasons could include but are not limited to the discovery of substances utilized in medicines required to cure cancer or diabetes for example. Discover of a clean and feasible energy source known only to exist within the monument would be another.

In a similar fashion fishing for sustenance or personal consumption should be allowed in parts of the area. Diving, eco-tourism and navigation of certain types of vessels should also be allowed with strict regulations and enforcement. The area can be protected without completely restricting human activity. Concessions to full protection such as these are often necessary and certainly better than not having a protected area at all or perhaps worse one that is not supported by the local stakeholders and doomed for failure.

I support the monument if it brings economic benefits to the residents of the CNMI in the form of federal assistance and increased tourism with the building of a visitors center designed to educate and attract visitors. I support the monument if it helps to perpetuate the indigenous Carolinian and Chamorro cultures and only if it gives co-management authority to local agencies and representatives who support conservation. But most of all I support the monument only if it can be achieved with the support of the residents of the CNMI. If this cannot be achieved

then education as to the benefits of marine protected areas should continue so when the opportunity arises again decisions will be made based on knowledge not rhetoric.

Mike Tripp

President
Mike Tripp Productions
Marianas Dive

<http://www.marianasdive.com>

Own a piece of paradise today visit

<http://www.theunderwaterworldof.com>

One mans perspective on diving and living in the Marianas

<http://www.saipanscuba.blogspot.com>

From: [Jay M Messer](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: We need two new national marine monuments and I support them.
Date: Sunday, October 26, 2008 10:37:34 AM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush,

Thank you for realizing the needs of many Americans for taking increased conservation of two of the most fantastic and pristine marine areas in the world...Rose, Wake, Baker, Jarvis, Kingman, Johnson, Palmyra, Howland Islands, the Marina Trench for the Central Pacific Islands.

Please designate them as marine national monuments for the sake of life itself. We need to take care of our planet so it can help take care of us. We need to protect the ecosystems for the good of mankind.

What about our wildlife which also includes sear turtles, both large and small fish and seabirds. If you think of all of the problems with the world today just taking care of our oceans and protecting animals big and small will do the world RIGHT in protecting all that we need to exist today and tomorrow for our families today and in the future. We need to keep our Islands protected so they can persist for generations to come.

Please establish the new marine monuments today for the critical conservation for our ocean legacy and our ocean in need today.

Many thanks and I do hope that you do take care of our WORLD today. We need to do the RIGHT THING!

Always, Sheila Messer



Office of the Governor of Guam

P.O. Box 2950 Hagåtña, Guam 96932

TEL: (671) 472-8931 • FAX: (671) 477-4826 • EMAIL: governor@mail.gov.gu

Felix P. Camacho
Governor

Michael W. Cruz, M.D.
Lieutenant Governor

27 OCT 2008

James L. Connaughton
Chairman
Council of Environmental Quality
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

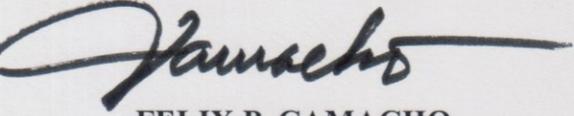
Dear Mr. Connaughton:

Hafa Adai! Marine resources within the Marianas Trench are extremely valuable and the Government of Guam has several concerns regarding the designation of a marine conservation management area in this region. We are not in support of a sudden declaration of a monument or conservation status within the Marianas Trench by Executive Order of the President because such a process would not allow for an appropriate consideration of cultural, environmental, economic and multiple use implications which require a considerable amount of time. The creation of such a monument entails detailed planning and should include, at minimum, an assessment of resource values and potential uses, an assessment of impacts to the local communities, meaningful stakeholder input, a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis, and long term management and monitoring strategy. None of these analyses have been conducted.

While the mission of the Department of Defense is crucial for national security and the Marianas Trench has high strategic military value, the designation of a monument without a complete assessment of Department of Defense operations and procedures would compromise the ultimate intent and purpose of a monument--the protection and conservation of marine resources. Furthermore, if a monument should be established, it is crucial that the interests of the Government of Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands be incorporated into preliminary designs and studies. For example, the southern islands of the Marianas Trench have higher biodiversity and greater habitat diversity as compared to the northern islands. It is imperative that facts such as these are considered in a site selection process. In addition to involvement of the local governments, meaningful stakeholder input from the general public is crucial especially with regard to marine conservation actions. Also, the Government of Guam was assured by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration representatives during their recent visit that the current management of potentially affected fisheries would not be modified. Finally, joint responsibility for management of the proposed area of conservation should be shared by the local jurisdiction and the federal government.

I believe that the management of cultural, economic, and environmental resources should be conducted in an open and inclusive manner for all the residents of the Mariana Islands.

Sinseru yan Magåhet,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Camacho', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

FELIX P. CAMACHO

I Maga' låhen Guåhan

Governor of Guam



Office of the Governor of Guam

P.O. Box 2950 Hagåtña, Guam 96932

TEL: (671) 472-8931 • FAX: (671) 477-4826 • EMAIL: governor@mail.gov.gu

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27 OCT 2008

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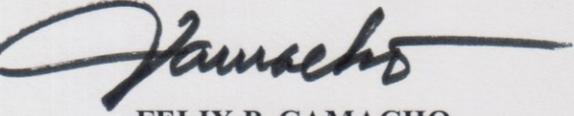
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FELIX P. CAMACHO

I Maga' låhen Guåhan

Governor of Guam

From: Cd0748@cs.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: marine monuments
Date: Monday, October 27, 2008 5:55:37 AM
Attachments:

please preserve the area for the marine monuments an help keep our oceans safe an our environment protected. celia cerrato



October 27, 2008

The Honorable James L. Connaughton
Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton:

The National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA), the nation's leading recreational marine industry association, and the American Sportfishing Association (ASA), the sportfishing industry's trade association, are writing in regards to the initiative currently underway to identify potential new marine area designations in the Central Pacific Ocean. NMMA and ASA appreciate the opportunity to further the dialogue with you on this matter, and this letter is in addition to formal written comments we and additional groups filed with the Council on Environmental Quality on October 24, 2008.

NMMA represents nearly 1,700 boat builders, engine manufacturers, and marine accessory manufacturers who collectively produce more than 80 percent of all recreational marine products made in the United States. With almost 73 million boaters nationwide, the recreational boating industry is a major consumer goods industry with expenditures on recreational marine products and services of \$37.5 billion in 2007 alone. Spending by recreational boaters is responsible for 900,000 U.S. jobs nationwide and boating has an overall economic impact in the country of over \$100 billion annually. There are currently 18 million recreational boats owned in the United States, with 59 million boaters and more than 60 million recreational anglers. Fishing and boating are closely linked, with more than 60 percent of boats purchased for the primary purpose of angling.

ASA represents the interests of over 700 manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of fishing equipment and related fishing accessories, as members of the outdoor media. ASA invests in long-term ventures to ensure the industry will remain strong and prosperous, as well as safeguard and promote the enduring social, economic, and conservation values of sportfishing in America. America's 60 million anglers generate over \$45 billion in retail sales with a \$125 billion impact on the nation's economy creating employment for over one million people. Of that, saltwater fishing generates over \$11 billion in retail sales, \$1.8 billion in state and local tax revenues, and contributes over \$30 billion to the nation's economy.

In addition, through the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, passed in 1950 at the request of the fishing industry, special excise taxes on fishing gear and boating fuel have contributed over \$8 billion for fish conservation. Added each year to this are the nearly \$650 million in annual fishing license sales plus approximately \$200 million in private donations by anglers for conservation efforts.

As you are surely aware, the current economic climate in the United States and around the world has put enormous pressure on the American recreational marine manufacturing sector. Many boat builders—large and small—have begun furloughing plants or closing them outright, implementing painful layoffs, and dramatically scaling down production in all segments in the marine market, including large offshore fishing yachts designed for remote angling trips. Overall, the boating industry is at least 20 percent down in units sold. The recreational fishing industry is also suffering a 20% percent reduction in business. While we are confident that our industries can weather this economic storm, we strongly urge the Administration to resist implementing any policies or actions that could exacerbate the current economic environment.

We urge the Administration to fully consider the direct and indirect economic consequences of any large-scale action to reduce or signal the reduction of recreational fishing or boating access, even in areas that are currently infrequently visited by boaters and anglers. The current economic environment is an inopportune time for the Administration to cause the boating and fishing consumer to think that their right to access the natural resources held in their trust is endangered without very good, scientifically justifiable cause. The Administration may view a large-scale monument designation in the Central Pacific as largely symbolic, but such a designation will have real economic impacts on the angling and boating industries.

NMMA, ASA and their allies recognize that the Pacific Remote Island Areas and other parts of the Pacific that are currently under consideration for a U.S. National Monument designation are remote destinations worthy of protection. As yet, however, there is no evidence that well-regulated recreational fishing in these areas poses any harm to the ecosystem. With no discernable added environmental benefit to implementing bans on recreational fishing, it would seem imprudent to even marginally risk the economic sustainability of boating and angling.

A permanent closure in these areas could specifically impact an emerging recreational angling practice — destination angling. Recreational fishing destination trips are increasingly common. The billfishing segment of the U.S. recreational fishing community offers long-distance, remote trips for anglers to continue to experience a uniquely satisfying angling experience. But this angling segment will be seriously imperiled by the perception of arbitrary closures even and especially in remote ocean areas.

These recreational fishing expeditions are expensive and economically significant projects that involve anglers who seek high-encounter rates with fish. Distant remote fishing trips are becoming an increasingly popular option for those who can afford it. Such trips require the services of a “mothership operation,” either through the lease of a vessel and full crew, the purchase of a fractional ownership and use rights, or the outright purchase and operation of a vessel. Motherships provide a staging platform from which smaller sportfishing vessels are launched for actual fishing. An operation of this type requires a minimum investment of \$10 million just for the vessel, typically in the 135 -150 foot range. Additional costs include the smaller sportfish boats, equipment for each vessel, and the crew, fuel, supplies, and maintenance.

A fishing trip of this magnitude involves a year of planning and preparation and will last at least a year or longer. The amount of jobs in the U.S. supported just in readying the whole operation—from procuring a vessel, outfitting the group and deploying—is substantial. Once underway, these operations make abundant use of local resources by replenishing supplies and making repairs in local ports, obtaining goods and services for anyone new joining the tour at the local market or securing local navigational assistance.

Again, Mr. Chairman, we hope you recognize the direct and indirect, short- and long-term economic implications of any large-scale U.S. National Monument designation in the Pacific – as well as the precedent set for other U.S. waters. Our organizations fully recognize the need to conserve special marine ecosystems, but a well-regulated recreational fishery would not, in our view, impair the ability of resource managers to sustain the important coral reefs, fisheries and habitats in the Central Pacific. We appreciate your consideration of our views on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Dammrich', written in a cursive style.

Thomas J. Dammrich
President, National Marine Manufacturers Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Nussman', written in a cursive style.

Michael Nussman
President, American Sportfishing Association

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Sunny Daysahead [vickigayer@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 3:14 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Fw: Lets keep the Islanders here on our side as we conserve the Marianas at the same time by making minor alterations to Marianas Monument plan.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Sunny Daysahead <vickigayer@yahoo.com>
To: oceans@ceq1.eop.gov
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 5:09:42 PM
Subject: Lets keep the Islanders here on our side as we conserve the Marianas at the same time by making minor alterations to Marianas Monument plan.

Dear Washington Leaders in Charge,

As a loyal American I am asking you to please **rethink and change the wording of your plan in regard to the Marianas Monument so that it does not disallow all fishing in the Marianas vicinity by persons of indigenous Mariano (Chamorro) ancestry.**

I do approve of keeping Japanese ships and any other ships including American ships that might wish to over fish or dump their nuclear waste into the deepest areas of the trench. As you may know, the Japanese **admitted they were going to dump nuclear waste** and have been doing it since the early 1970s. I was at the meeting when they came to ask our permission but stated unequivocally that if we denied it they would do it anyway.

I want to be a proud American, not ashamed to belong to an imperialistic world bully who blatantly disregards the traditions and needs of the peoples whom America is supposed to be protecting, that is, the indigenous Chamoru people who have been shafted for hundreds of years now.

Please re-write your law to **allow small boats that have American and Guam flags on them but do not allow any big longliners or other large commercial fishing boats**, and the indigenous people will applaud you. Say that indigenous people who will build ancient style vessels and use handmade nets and fishing techniques are welcome to continue fishing and they will be happy, but of course they are generally too lazy to do it... and you'll see that the area is 99.9% conserved. Just start out by making this tiny concession.

There is a loud scream and lots of anger by Chamorro activists which you could probably easily calm and appease by saying they could **use ancient fishing techniques only in the preserved waters...** which are not nearly as effective and yield smaller catches than what is being done by these Asian huge fishing boats. Perhaps we could disallow refrigeration of their catches to insure what ever they take it will be limited. Most of them will stop screaming and their take will be so small it will hardly make a dent in decreasing the fish population.

I know these people as I've lived among them for nearly 40 years. I want to see them happy and they feel wronged by America already because they don't have self determination as some believe the U.N. promised America would give them after they became a self governing entity, which to a large degree they already are.

I totally agree we need to stop Japanese and Chinese boats that might be dumping nuclear waste into the ocean or using long nets, or, as bad or worse, those dumping nuclear waste to get it away from their own shores.

Yes, stop traffic of their large vessels so they will have to bury it on land in their own countries, where

the ocean's erosion will not as quickly erode the steel drums they have sealed the nuclear waste within. But, **allow indigenous vessels of limited size** and tighten up the manner in which they can fish.

WARNING: with the military build up coming up many Chamorus are voicing the opinion that America is squelching on their agreement to the United Nations to protect Guam and is instead using Guam to dump large quantities of toxic waste and going against their promise to protect and guide this area. I am sorry, but we Americans are losing our credibility and I have a plan on how to get it back at least partially.

THANK YOU for considering my testimony. Please call me on the phone to talk 671-472-2229 in you would like a final one going over or help in altering the current plan to soften the outcry of the people of the Marianas. Lets not make them into enemies when we don't need to,. After all, the people here are loyal soldiers and have a high rate of enrollment into our various military branches. We will be cutting off our nose to spite our face to piss them off unnecessarily.

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Tom Huff [huffdown@pixi.com]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 12:48 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Establishment of Protected Ocean Areas in the Pacific

Dear Council on Environmental Quality:

I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FULLY PROTECTED OCEAN AREAS IN THE NORTHERN MARIANAS, AMERICAN SAMOA, AND CENTRAL PACIFIC ISLANDS.

PLEASE WORK FOR THIS FULL SUPPORT. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT!!!

BARBARA DOWNS
2516 East Manoa Road
Honolulu, HI 96822

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2516 East Manoa Road
Honolulu, HI 96822

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Tony Gumataotao [tonkoross@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 6:48 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: To classify the Marianas Trench Locality as a National Marine Monument

Dear Council

I am a chamorro from the island of Guam. I have raised my family, like many generations before me, from the food mother Ocean has provided us. Long ago, a great sin was inflicted on my people from a foreign nation. We were once a great island nation with excellent seafaring skills. However, we were at odds with the mighty spainards who decided to burn all our outrigger canoes and banish us to the land as farmers. Since then our culture has lost all of the traditional seafaring knowledge and skills.

I sense another great sin ,that if come to pass, will once more change the lives of my children fishermen and all generations of my people who live off the sea. To classify the Marianas Trench Locality as a National Marine Monument will take away our ocean home, our source for food, and our traditions and culture that makes us unigue as chamorro Islanders from the Marianas. Please reconsider this act because it will do more harm than good. The area, if ban from the people is too small to make any realistic contribution to increasing the overall fish stocks of the Western Pacific area. However, It will certainly devastate the livelihood of those indigenious fisherman who feed their families and villages. There are other ways to help the ocean recover without taking it away from the people who truely cherish it:

- *Stop military bombing ranges in the Northern Marianas
- *Regulate the real raiders of the open sea who harvest thousands of tons of fish, leaving very little to migrate into our waters for us to survive on
- *Help create deep water artificial reefs that are safe from global warming and typhoons
- *Stop vessels from dumping trash and other waste into the sea miles out, for island currents collect them and wash them unto our shores

Dear council members, I am only one voice but I cry out loud for my children and their children who live off the sea; Please don't take our livelihood, our home, our ocean tradition away from us. We have lived through the burning of our outrigger canoes, I hope that I don't have to live through seeing my children exiled to the land like my acestors.

Respectfully,
Anthony A. Gumataotao
(671) 472-2473
"Catalina fishing clan"

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Anthony A. Gumataotao
(671) 472-2473
"Catalina fishing clan"

From: [Hurst, Brenda \(NBC Universal\)](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Support 2 New Marine Monuments
Date: Monday, October 27, 2008 1:44:27 PM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush,

Please designate the Central Pacific Islands (Jarvis, Howland, Baker, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose & Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench as marine national monuments.

You have demonstrated leadership in the past for the protection of our oceans, please continue with your future support of full protection for these ecosystems, which includes preventing the damaging activities of mining, drilling and fishing.

Please protect these island oases and coral reefs. Help them be more resilient to environmental damage, so they can persist for generations to come.

Please support these monuments and cement your ocean legacy and work on ocean conservation.

Please act quickly to establish these new marine monuments.

Thank you!

Brenda Hurst

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: JOAN MELTON [meltonfour@embarqmail.com]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 8:54 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Monument

I support increased protection for the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench. I also support FULL protection for these ecosystems from all damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing. Please act quickly on this matter. Thank you.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: JOAN MELTON [meltonfour@embarqmail.com]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 8:54 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Monument

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: majalight@aol.com
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 9:59 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine Mounments

Dear Enlightened President Bush:
Please establish the new MMs,and millions... will think better of us all. Thank you.

Sincerely,from your children('s children) and
MJ Lichtcsien

McCain or Obama? Stay updated on coverage of the Presidential race while you browse - [Download Now!](#)

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Bumble Bee Foods, LLC
Christopher D. Lischewski
President, Chief Executive Officer
P.O. Box 85362
San Diego, CA 92186-5362
Telephone (858) 715-4092
Facsimile (858) 715-4392
LischewskiC@BumbleBee.com

October 27, 2008

Mr. James L. Connaughton
Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton;

I write to express Bumble Bee Foods concerns regarding the proposed Pacific Marine Conservation Areas now being assessed by your office. By way of background, Bumble Bee Foods was founded in 1899 when a handful of dedicated canners in Astoria, Oregon banded together as the Columbia River Packers Association to fish for and process salmon. Over the next 100 years Bumble Bee became a leader in canned tuna and salmon and in 2004, Bumble Bee joined with Connors Bros., the world's largest producer of canned sardines and herring products. Today our company is North America's largest branded seafood company offering a full line of canned tuna, salmon, sardine, and specialty seafood products marketed under leading brands including Bumble Bee®, Clover Leaf®, Brunswick®, Beach Cliff®, King Oscar®, and Snow's®.

Bumble Bee Foods is a U.S. company with our headquarters and operations center located in San Diego, California and the majority of our production facilities located in the U.S. We own and operate the last canned tuna production facility in the continental U.S. located in Santa Fe Springs, California, the last canned tuna processing plant in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, one of the last two canned clam facilities located in Cape May, New Jersey and the last canned sardine production facility located in Prospect Harbor, Maine. Because of our need for raw material we are deeply engaged in fishery management globally and participate in many regional fishery management organizations, particularly in the Pacific region. Bumble Bee has adopted a strict sustainability policy throughout our product lines including tuna and we work hard to ensure that fisheries in which we are engaged are managed in a sustainable manner.





Our company relies heavily on tuna catches from the U.S. tuna purse seine fleet fishing in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. The U.S. tuna fleet fishes under licenses issued pursuant to the Treaty on Fisheries between the Governments of Certain Pacific Island States and the Government of the United States, known as the South Pacific Tuna Treaty of 1987. The Treaty provides up to 45 licenses for U.S. tuna purse seine vessels which authorizes them to fish on the high seas and in various Pacific Island Parties exclusive economic zones (EEZ's) (in addition to the U.S. EEZ's) included in the Treaty area.

Several of the Central Pacific Islands the President has asked you to assess for further protection are important historical fishing grounds for the U.S. Treaty fleet. These include Howland, Baker and Jarvis Islands, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll. Because tuna are highly migratory and the fleet follows the fish, our boats do not always fish in the EEZ's around these islands. However, when the fish enter these waters they become critical fishing grounds for the U.S. Treaty fleet. For the past 30 years the fleet has fished in these waters to harvest tuna to supply our plants and the processing facilities on American Samoa.

While I respect the President's desire to protect pristine and undisturbed coral and reef formations and the marine life they support, I ask that this not be done in a way that harms the U.S. tuna industry. As you may know, purse seine fishing does not disturb bottom environments such as reefs and our boats do not target or harvest reef fish. Rather purse seine tuna fishing occurs in the middle of the water column, well off the bottom and often far from shore. Moreover, all fishing operations on the U.S. Treaty fleet are heavily monitored and regulated by the U.S. government and the Treaty authority.

Should you recommend to the President to establish greater protections for the Central Pacific Islands mentioned above, I strongly urge you to include a 12 mile no-take buffer zone around these islands...outside of which the U.S. Treaty fleet could continue to fish. I believe tuna purse seine fishing is compatible with your conservation goals and by creating these buffer zones you would significantly strengthen protection while not needlessly injuring an important U.S. industry.

Lastly, in the President's August 25, 2008 memorandum he directed you to consider the economic implications of any measures you recommend, including "the extent to which they are compatible with sustaining access to recreational and commercial fishing". I very much hope that you agree with us that by establishing 12-mile buffer zones around the Central Pacific Islands you can sustain our access to the tuna resource and minimize the negative economic consequences for the tuna industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Lischewski".

Christopher D. Lischewski
President, CEO



From: [Karen Martinelli](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: I support two National marine monuments
Date: Monday, October 27, 2008 9:01:56 PM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush,

I think you are Great, I also think our country is the best for preserving lands and wildlife. Thanks to some of your efforts.

I am writing as I am in support of the new Marine National Monuments. Central Pacific Islands, and Mariana Trench. This is critical for conservation and would show yet another reason for many who care for future generations, that you were a big part of keeping these areas pristine.

Please continue to support these new Marine National Monuments.

Sincerely,

Karen A. Martinelli

907-262-5325

karen@alaska.net

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Vicki McClure [vicmcclure@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 10:07 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

This is your chance to do something right. You may be able to have a positive leagacy at least on this front.

Mike N.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Vicki McClure [vicmcclure@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 10:07 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

This is your chance to do something right. You may be able to have a positive leagacy at least on this front.

Mike N.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Nowlen, Jenny (jn8v) [jn8v@eservices.virginia.edu]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 8:31 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Marine National Monuments

Dear President Bush,

Please designate these Marine Monuments to protect these oceanic areas not only for the American people but for all the people of the world. We need to preserve our oceans and their precious wildlife. I for one would be very grateful.

Sincerely,
Jenny Nowlen

10/27/2008

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Sincerely,
Jenny Nowlen

10/27/2008

From: [lisa cipollone](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Testimony from Senator ben pangelinan
Date: Monday, October 27, 2008 3:14:30 AM
Attachments:

October 26, 2008

Via email: oceans@ceq.eop.gov

Assessment
c/o Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Council Members,

As a resident of Guam, one of the indigenous Chamorus of Guam and the Marianas Islands and an elected representative of the people of Guam serving in the Guam legislature, I strongly oppose any efforts by the President or federal entities to establish Marine Protected Areas, Marine Conservation Areas, Marine Conservation Management Areas, or a Marine National Monument in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone of Guam and the Marianas Islands, to include the Marianas Trench and islands under the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands government protection; as may be recommended in response to the President's memorandum of August 25, 2008, to be established pursuant to Executive Order of the President of the United States or pursuant to the Antiquities Act.

The President issued a memorandum on August 25, 2008, directing the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Chairman of the Council On Environmental Quality to assess the views of territorial governments, local governments on the advisability of increased action by the United States or the federal government over specific areas of the Pacific.

In response to that directive, this is an official statement, expressing my official position on behalf of the people of Guam to such action in the scope and manner being proposed by the President.

A. Establishment of a Marine Conservation Management Area while allowing military activity on the scale currently being conducted has no preservation or conservation benefit to the people of the Marianas, the United States, or the world, and will only further subject these rare resources to exploitation by the military and impedes the conservation efforts of residents and governments of the region.

Development of a Preserve or Conservation Management Area will restrict the indigenous people of the Marianas access to the natural, cultural, and economic resources surrounding their islands, yet the President in his memorandum states that the establishment of these areas will not restrict in any way the U.S. military in its operations in the same area, which currently includes an unprecedented military buildup of personnel, docking of nuclear ships and submarines, active firing ranges, training exercises, and supporting equipment and personnel on the island and waters of Guam and potentially on other islands of the Marianas. This massive buildup of military activity, personnel, and dependents during peacetime is the largest ever in the history of the United States and is slated to be in full force by 2012. (The Environmental Impact Statement is currently being conducted on this buildup of military and support activities, and is scheduled to be completed in Spring of 2009.)

In addition to current and proposed massive military activity, Guam and the Marianas Islands continue to be subjected to contaminated military dump sites which have not been cleaned since WWII, continue to suffer as downwinders the higher incidences of cancer and other effects of radiation from nuclear bombing of the Marshall Islands, and continue to be subject to environmental damage and illness as a result of the washing of nuclear-contaminated ships on Guam. Environmental policy for this region should include prohibiting damage from current and planned military activities and remedying the effects of past military activity.

I truly believe the establishment of this marine monument will give greater latitude to the military to expand the scope of allowed activities in waters immediately surrounding the island of Guam. It will make the case that the degradation of the marine environment immediately surrounding Guam is being mitigated by the establishment, while doing nothing to ensure the environmental integrity of the environmental regulation processes during the military expansion.

B. The Establishment of a Monument or Conservation by Executive Order denies the government and people of Guam from meaningful input in the further taking of their lands and waters by the United States.

The President in his memorandum of August 2008 directed all agencies to consider cultural, environmental, economic, and multiple use implications of any measures, and to assess the views of the territorial and local governments and other interested parties, of the advisability of providing additional protection and management of historic or scientific interest at these islands, coral reefs, geologic features and surrounding marine waters. However, although the Marianas Trench lies within 60 miles from Guam and the northern Marianas Islands lie within the same archipelago as Guam, none of the agencies directed to respond—including the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Interior, Secretary of Commerce, and Chairman of the Council of Environmental Quality-- have solicited the input of the people of Guam or the government of Guam. Only the head of the Guam Fisherman's Co-op has called a meeting on the proposed actions and invited a representative of the Council of Environmental Quality to attend. This representative expressed to those in attendance that there was no project to explain, but that he was only there to make a list of interests or existing activities that the people in attendance thought should be excluded from or made an exception for in the establishment of a preserve in the area, for example, local fishing activities. The process denies the opportunity of the people of Guam and the Marianas Islands to adequately comment or to even be notified of the proposed conservation areas, and in effect robs them on the eve of a presidential election from having input into this matter.

C. In addition to the negative impact on fishing and access to other natural resources by the people living on Guam and the other Marianas Islands, restriction of these waters and islands would be a clear violation of the rights of the indigenous inhabitants of Guam, the Chamorros, as outlined in the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

While the President and federal agencies tout the importance of the objects of historic and scientific interest in the areas “under the jurisdiction of the United States”, including the exceptional and diverse collection of marine life and habitat in the marine waters around the northern Mariana Islands and the Marianas Trench, the proposed action will prevent increased or new access by the people of Guam and the Marianas to

these energy and mineral resources, and prevent new or increased scientific study of the area except with permission of the United States. This will also restrict energy, fishing, tourism and other economic benefits for the island economies from access to these areas.

Aside from a blanket exception to U.S. military activity, the President's memo directs that the agencies make a recommendation on the compatibility of a conservation area with sustaining access to (1) recreational and commercial fishing; (2) energy and mineral resources; and (3) opportunities for scientific study. Thus, the representative from Council on Environmental Quality only solicited a list of the current interests in the area from the people at the Fisherman's Co-op meeting.

Chamorros have a right to use and benefit of the natural resources of the region and in order to sustain their unique and indigenous culture must have continued stewardship of any commercial, scientific, or other exploration or use of the resources in this region.

D. Further taking of land and waters of Guam without consent is directly contrary to the right of the people of Guam to self determination and to be assisted in this regard by the colonial government of the United States.

I object to the establishment of any restrictive area on this water or land by the United States government as an impediment to and a violation of the right to self determination of the Chamorros, who remain on the United Nations list of 16 remaining non-self governing territories in the world. This further taking of the resources of Guam mirrors the taking of the land on Guam by the military and requires consent of the people of Guam. Guam has not yet had the opportunity, resources, or political status to study or develop the resources in the region, and this further restriction of the energy, fishing, tourism and other economic benefits for the island economies from access to these areas directly interferes with their ability to be self governing.

E. The Marianas Fishing Community is not responsible for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

The fishing constituency and the people of the Marianas are comprised of a

number of Pacific Islander cultures living side by side with other mainstream Americans who collectively practice sustainable fishing.

The Marianas Fishing Community is not the cause of the degradation of high seas fish stocks or the destruction of critical marine habitat;

The Marianas Fishing Community has historically (nearly 4,000 years) proven to be excellent stewards of the ocean whereby the harvest is primarily consumed by the community;

The Marianas Fishing Community continues to provide sustenance to residents of our islands without the need to implement industrialized harvesting methods.

The Marianas Fishing Community should be allowed to continue fish in the waters of the Marianas with traditional or modern effective fisheries management tools.

The Marianas Fishing Community wholeheartedly supports the existing management regime as established by the U.S. Congress under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The Marianas Fishing Community recognizes that the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council for several decades has banned the use of the Trawl Nets, Gill Nets and most recently Purse Seine. The WPRFMC also established large closed areas whereby larger (50') scale fishing vessels are prohibited from entering; thus protecting seamounts from industrialize resource extraction to include anchoring which adversely impacts the marine habitat.

Sincerely,

Senator ben c. pangelinan
29th Guam Legislature

Cc: Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo
Governor of Guam
Speaker, 29th Guam Legislature



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

American Samoa Government
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Tel: (684) 633-5155 Fax: (684) 633-4195



Togiola T.A. Tulafono
Governor

Aitofele T.F. Sunia
Lt. Governor

Faleseu Eliu Paopao.
Director

Lelei Peau
Deputy Director

In reply refer to:
Serial No:

October 6, 2008

In preparation for the public hearing and discussions taking place this week regarding the potential designation of Rose Atoll as a National Monument, I have spent some time reviewing the facts surrounding the proposal. As Director of American Samoa's Department of Commerce I must carefully balance business needs with those of the natural environment as both are within DOC's jurisdiction. After careful review, I am fully in support of the designation of Rose Atoll as a national monument as the benefits that arise from protecting the area outweigh the commercial concerns.

Aside from the well documented aesthetic beauty of the Atoll, its ecological importance warrants additional protection as a national monument. Rose Atoll is visited or home to 12 federally protected bird species, 97% of American Samoa's giant clam population, and numerous fish species depleted or gone from other Samoan and South Pacific waters. No fewer than 7 fish species were first discovered at Rose Atoll and the first ever deep sea expedition at the Atoll discovered roughly 60 species new to the Atoll with some potentially new to science. Similarly, there is a long history of biological surveys conducted at the Atoll providing valuable data on the changes and history of the ecology of the area. Having an area that is relatively pristine with a long history of scientific research is a valuable resource for scientists and managers.

On the economic side of the equation, there is no permanent human habitation of Rose Atoll so there will not be any impact to a local population. It is suspected that yachters and some smaller fishing vessels may be visiting the area but the direct impact to both industries will be minimal as the remoteness of the Atoll means it is expensive and time consuming to visit the location. Further, having an area protected from human impacts will provide a safe area for species to reproduce and increase in numbers so when they migrate to areas where they can be harvested the commercial take will be increased.

It is for these reasons I am in support of the designation of Rose Atoll as a national monument.

Sincerely,

Faleseu Eliu Paopao

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ed Poppe [ayepoppe@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 2:52 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans; FN-CEQ-Oceans

To the Committee on Ocean Policy,

I am a resident of Guam and have been since 1969. I am a husband and father of 6 children, I am a lover of the ocean, a conservationist and a part time subsistence fisherman. My mother is a Chamorro from Guam and my father is originally from Long Island, New York he came to Guam in 1960 in the US Air Force.

I am also in the USCG reserve and have conducted many patrol's of the EEZ from Guam up to Asuncion, Maug and Farallon De Pajaros (Uracas) to the East as well as to the West of the EEZ, from the air and from a cutter.

Yes, the Northern Marianas Islands are very beautiful and the proposal for a National Monument is a great idea. I hope their natural beauty is preserved for generations to come. Their beauty is just as incredible above the water as below. These isles are gems to all who have been there and for those who may one day get there. Though currently uninhabited, they do not get a lot of "legal fishing pressure" that I am aware of. But I could be wrong. I do have suspicions as well as the local NMFS agent that a lot of illegal fishing occurs in our EEZ up there because the USCG does not have a locally stationed C-130 to patrol the said area on a regular basis.

I have looked online to see the extent of the proposed Marianas Trench Monument designation and what it exactly means to myself and my family. Maybe I am not very well informed as to the scope of the proposed National Monument. I seem only to find the proposal mentioning the 3 Northern most islands of the CNMI @115,000 sq. miles from East to West across the EEZ.

It does not mention that if it is designated a national monument that I will be required to obtain a special permit to go there, is this true? I have a lot of questions about this type of designation, that I have not found the answers for.

There is a lot of "RUMOR" in the local media about the proposal, that it includes the Marianas Trench area to the East and South of Guam. I did not find this mentioned in the articles I have found online. **IF** this is a part of the National Monument proposal I am requesting that the committee not recommend that the area's south of Guam be included.

I am also requesting that more information addressed to Guam's residents be sent our way, through what ever means best reaches the

10/27/2008

most people on our island.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this issue.

Edward Poppe III
671 789-4514

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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To: FN-CEQ-Oceans; FN-CEQ-Oceans

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most people on our island.

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Edward Poppe III
671 789-4514

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Josephine Rojas [josephine.rojas@guamcc.edu]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 1:50 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Cc: rosemarie.siguenza@guamcc.edu
Subject: Tasen-Mâmi I Marianas Trench.
Importance: High

[Buenas Yan Hafa Adai](#)

[Te peskatot yu lao hafa na para guaha restricion para i peskan tasi giya Guåhan.](#)

Tano mami este, hafa i amerkanu na gos interesu? Basto ma fagaga ham!

Nihi ya ta prutehi yan ta difende i henengge, I kottura, I langguahi yan I aire, I hanom yan I tano' CHamoru. Direchum mâmi esta ginen as Yu'os Tâta, ya debe ta na fitme esta ge mas tâkhilo' gi hinasso ta yan I mâs takhalom gi kurason ta.

Ti maolek un chocho'gue' para hami giya i Marianas. Hasso na tâno-mami esta, tasi-mâmi, yan I aire-mâmi. Chamo potfabot ko maka puno' I kutturan I man CHamorus.

Ai subetbia ham-yu, hasso na I peskadot, man pepeska sa po ma sapotti I familia ñiha. Esta gue finanaguen i nana yan tata ke famagu'on niha. Hafa na para I manchatsaga esta po na mas chatsaga? Tâku siha ya u ma espia otro cho'cho fera d esta I tasi ta. Mungi i konsasion niha? Hafa malago niha? Hafa na para ta konsiente i amerkanu para hu sangani hit hafa para ta cho'gue gi lugat-ta. Basta fan, nihi ya ta fan tacho ya tanafan megot hit ni CHamoru.

Pot fabot munga chumule' I tasen-mâmi I Marianas Trench.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase

[Na Asentâdu i Ha'âni!](#)

[Si Josephine Taitano Rojas](#)
[Specialist](#)

[Human Resources Office](#)
[Guam Community College](#)
[Telephone: \(671\) 735-5537/38](#)
[Fax: \(671\) 734-5238](#)
[E-Mail: \[josephine.rojas@guamcc.edu\]\(mailto:josephine.rojas@guamcc.edu\)](#)

[This e-mail message is intended only for the use of the individuals or entity named above and may contain confidential and privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the information contained in this transmission is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately notify me](#)

at josephine.rojas@guamcc.edu and delete the message immediately. Thank You.

Gof unicita hit na ta FA'NÁ'GUE, NA' METGOT, NA'FÁMTA' i Kutturán Chamorro-mámi! Anai ta abiba i Kutturán Chamorro-mámi gi gima-ta, gi checho-ta, yan todú' gi hinanao-ta mo'na... un na'adilanto i Kutturán Chamorro- mámi anai ma fino hit Chamorro kada diha! I Kutturán Chamorro-mámi i na'la-ta! BIBA CHAMORRO!

We MUST TEACH, STRENGTHEN, PRODUCE our Chamorro Culture! By promoting our Chamorro Culture in our homes, our work, and in everything we do... we strengthen our Chamorro Culture when we speak Chamorro every day! Our Chamorro Culture gives us life...BIBA CHAMORRO!

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Josephine Rojas [josephine.rojas@guamcc.edu]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 1:50 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Cc: rosemarie.siguenza@guamcc.edu
Subject: Tasen-Mâmi I Marianas Trench.
Importance: High

[Buenas Yan Hafa Adai](#)

[Te peskatot yu lao hafa na para guaha restricion para i peskan tasi giya Guåhan.](#)

Tano mami este, hafa i amerkanu na gos interesu? Basto ma fagaga ham!

Nihi ya ta prutehi yan ta difende i henengge, I kottura, I langguahi yan I aire, I hanom yan I tano' CHamoru. Direchum mâmi esta ginen as Yu'os Tâta, ya debe ta na fitme esta ge mas tâkhilo' gi hinasso ta yan I mâs takhalom gi kurason ta.

Ti maolek un chocho'gue' para hami giya i Marianas. Hasso na tâno-mami esta, tasi-mâmi, yan I aire-mâmi. Chamo potfabot ko maka puno' I kutturan I man CHamorus.

Ai subetbia ham-yu, hasso na I peskadot, man pepeska sa po ma sapotti I familia ñiha. Esta gue finanaguen i nana yan tata ke famagu'on niha. Hafa na para I manchatsaga esta po na mas chatsaga? Tâku siha ya u ma espia otro cho'cho fera d esta I tasi ta. Mungi i konsasion niha? Hafa malago niha? Hafa na para ta konsiente i amerkanu para hu sangani hit hafa para ta cho'gue gi lugat-ta. Basta fan, nihi ya ta fan tacho ya tanafan megot hit ni CHamoru.

Pot fabot munga chumule' I tasen-mâmi I Marianas Trench.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase

[Na Asentâdu i Ha'âni!](#)

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The Marianas Fishing Community wholeheartedly supports the existing management regime as established by the U.S. Congress under the **Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act**.

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In closing, **the Marianas Fishing Community** *is not responsible* for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

Sincerely,


Signature


Print Name

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ALBERT H. TSUTSUMI

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Lisa A. Campbell

Signature

LISA A. CAMPBELL

Print Name

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Date: 10-27-08

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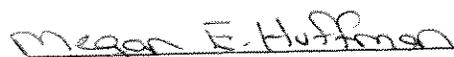
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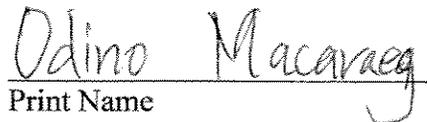
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The WPREMFC also established large closed areas whereby larger (50') scale fishing vessels are prohibited from entering; thus protecting seamounts from industrialize resource extraction to include anchoring which adversely impacts the marine habitat.

In closing, **the Marianas Fishing Community** is not responsible for over-fishing and should not be penalized for the acts in other jurisdictions that utilize gear and practices that do not support sustainable use, or responsible conservation and management regimes.

Sincerely,


Signature


Print Name

Dear Sir/Madame,

Date: ²⁷ Oct 27, 2008

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Sincerely,



Signature

JAMES A. SANTOS

Print Name

Dear Sir/Madame,

Date: 10/27/08

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Signature

Michael B. Carandang
Print Name

Dear Sir/Madame,

Date: Nov 27, 2008

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RAFAEL HERNANDEZ
Print Name

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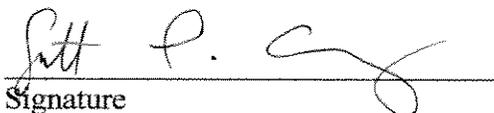
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Print Name

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Date: 10-27-08

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ALIKA LIMA
Print Name

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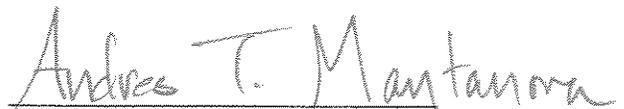
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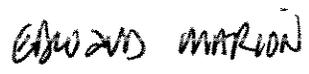
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Sincerely,



Signature



Print Name

From: gaia12345@hotmail.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: national marine monuments
Date: Monday, October 27, 2008 3:10:24 PM
Attachments:

President George Bush

Dear President Bush,

I am writing to express my support for designation of the Central Pacific Islands and the Mariana Trench as national marine monuments.

These areas include pristine coral reefs, ecosystems which are in decline worldwide.

Full protection within the exclusive economic zone will make these coral reefs more resilient to environmental damage, so they can persist for generations to come.

Please give full protection for these ecosystems, meaning preventing extractive and damaging activities such as mining, drilling and fishing. Doing otherwise would negate the purpose.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Wendy Schorr
173 North Rd
Deerfield, NH 03037

From: [Savelieff, Ludmilla L.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Tiari, Logan; Marcelli, Nicholas G.;](#)
CC: [Pasko, Michael R.; Lazaroff, Mark A.; Hellmer, Kristen A.; Scheve, Christopher S.;](#)
Subject: FW: Pacific Island Protection Proposals
Date: Monday, October 27, 2008 5:38:45 PM
Attachments: [MOSPacific Island Protection 2008 Oct.doc](#)
[clip_image001.jpg](#)

From: Kurt [mailto:krschwa1@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 4:32 PM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Cc: Kurt
Subject: Pacific Island Protection Proposals

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.



October 27, 2008

James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20503
chairman@ceq.eop.gov

9045 Dunloggin Court
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042
krschwa1@comcast.net

Dear Sir:

The Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS) appreciates the opportunity to submit these comments on the Bush Administration's deliberations regarding establishment of protection for several large, ecologically important ocean areas in the Central and Western Pacific. These include seven U.S. possessions, their surrounding waters in the Central Pacific, and islands in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas and American Samoa.

Members of MOS have visited Hawaii and a lucky few have also visited more remote islands in the Pacific, as they contain important habitat for birds and other forms of wildlife. We understand the fragility of island habitats and appreciate the need to conserve the wildlife on the Pacific islands under consideration. We believe the proposed protected areas would be a boon to many species of seabirds, including the highly imperiled Polynesian Storm-Petrel, Audubon's Shearwater, and Black-footed Albatross. In addition, the waters around the islands provide critical foraging habitat for these seabirds.

MOS is a statewide nonprofit organization established in 1945 and devoted to the study and conservation of birds. Currently we have 15 chapters and approximately 2,000 members. Some are scientists and naturalists, but our membership includes people of all ages and all walks of life, from physicists to firefighters, legislators to landscapers. Birding is one of the fastest-growing outdoor recreational activities. MOS members travel to national lands on birding and nature-watching vacations throughout the United States. We spend money on food, lodging, guide services, books, and souvenirs to support the local economy wherever we go.

To ensure full protection of these ocean treasures, we join with our esteemed colleagues in the American Bird Conservancy in support the most stringent of the alternatives, which is strict protection out to the maximum 200 nautical miles.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Kurt Schwarz
Conservation Chair

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: RAY SMITH [raynjulie1048@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 11:07 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Subject: Save a Marine Sanctuary

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: RAY SMITH [raynjulie1048@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 11:07 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Subject: Save a Marine Sanctuary

From: [Conor Soraghan](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Marine Conservation Areas
Date: Monday, October 27, 2008 2:04:05 PM
Attachments:

Please support & designate the 2 Marine Conservation Areas. You have done so much to harm our country and environment this is the least you can do to at least try and ameliorate some of the horrendous damage you have done. Please designate these areas with NO drilling, mining and fishing.

Thank you,
Conor Soraghan
Datascop IDN Manager,
Corporate Accounts
V: 800.288.2121 x3057
C: 619.206.4352
c.soraghan@datascopemonitors.us
www.datascopemonitors.us
A Mindray Global Company

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ruby Stahlnecker [kg6aso@netpci.com]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 1:50 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Fishing

To Whom It May Concern"

We have lived on Guam for 30 years - half of our married life. We have a daughter married to a Chamorro. They have a lovely daughter. We have a grandson who is also married into a Chamorro family. They have a beautiful little son. Though we, personally, don't carry Chamorro blood - it surely runs thick and red within our family.

From the beginning the Chamorro people got the major part of their food from the ocean. During these many centuries they have taken care of this basic food resource. It is only with the long-line and purse seine fishing industry that this valuable resource has been threatened.

Therefore: Rather than restricting the local fishermen. Deny the long-liners and the purse seiners access to this area. Then there will be plenty of fish in our seas.

Obviously president Bush sees the Pacific Ocean including the Marianas Trench as only that vast blue space on the map that is west beyond San Francisco and before the Philippines. I strongly resent Mr. Bushes obvious disregard for Guam and its very patriotic people. Oh, except as a base for the military.

Since a large number of our sons and daughters serve our country in the military, we are not anti-military. Such personnel are welcome on our island to enjoy the abundant natural beauty of this tropical paradise. We ask only that you help us preserve these resources.

If president Bush is so hip on doing something to be remembered by, may I respectfully suggest that his home state of Texas had a coastline much longer than ours. Perhaps he should preserve that as his legacy.

Most sincerely,

Ruby Stahlnecker, Ed. D.

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Donna Turman [fannan2003@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2008 11:29 AM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please designate these areas as marine monuments

The Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench.

Besides being areas of great national beauty, they are habitat for millions of seabirds, rare sea turtles and fish.

Thank you for your consideration.

Donna Turman
6226 Llano Ave
Dallas TX 75214

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CC:
Subject: National Marine Monument
Date: Monday, October 27, 2008 3:41:55 AM
Attachments:

To Whom is in Charge,

I wish to express my strong opposition to any and all efforts in designating a National Marine Monument within the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Marianas archipelago via the Antiquities Act of 1906 or by Executive Order.

As a citizen of the United States and long term resident of the Marianas archipelago, consisting of the Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), I hope you realize that the Marianas fishing community, its local residents promote responsible and sustainable fishing practices which provide for the nutritional needs of our families, as well the rest of the island community.

The people of the Marianas have inhabited these island for 9,000 years. This was before the Roman Empire, this was before Magellan set foot on these island in the 16th Century, before the U.S. was founded as a Great Nation have locals lived in harmony with the sea.

The same like thinking people that purchased Manhattan for \$28 but gave local Indians New Jersey. The same governmental thinking that moved the Cherokee Indians from Georgia to Oklahoma during the *Trail of Tears* are the same brain trust thinking about **taking** local resources.

This is might be your inter-office's memo and meeting, but *its locals lives, traditions and culture at stake.*

After the Civil War, this brand of "leadership" and "influencers" was called **CARPETBAGGERS.**

You should be ashamed of your narrow, arrogant thinking. You think, here is just another local cultural group (**civilization**) that does not know what its doing but with remote control from far off Beltway appointees knowing **best**.

You don't live here but **locals** live here - 24/7 all the rest are visitors who pass through but never seem to learn, or walk in local residence shoes, or even think outside of SUBURBAN STATESIDE MENTALITY.

You are a visitor. PEW is a visitor. You take but leave nothing in your footsteps.

YOU TAKE, WE GIVE.

YOU GAIN, WE LOSE.

THIS HAS BEEN THE HISTORY OF US POLICY WITH INDIGENOUS CIVILIZATION.

Local people give up 1/3 of their water and land..... the same size territory as the state of Arizona in size but the tourist, students and guest workers somehow have gained the ability to say **YES** to a **NO** question and locals have should have the only say on. **PEW EFFORTS FOR THE PETITION WAS BOGUS AND FRUITLESS.**

UNRELIABLE.

DONE IN HASTE.

WASTED OF TIME AND CREATING MISLEADING DATA.

Recommend you ---- Take the outlining island water; Midway, Rose Atol, Johnson Is, etc..... take them first, then come back with an ACTION PLAN to let the CNMI PEOPLE DECIDE. **Go where NO people INHABIT --- TRY THERE FIRST--**

HAWAII MONUMENT IS A FAILURE----- STOP REPEATING FAILURE OR PROVE THAT ITS A SUCCESS.

CNMI Islanders don't vote in US elections. Islander don't vote for President. So the policy is to take from them, they have no power.....shame on you.

Paul Zak

Resident of 16 years, Businessman

From: dcarson@archerlaw.com
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Support Central Pacific Islands and Mariana Trench as New National Marine Monuments
Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2008 12:19:46 PM
Attachments:

President George Bush

Dear President Bush,

Please support Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench as new national marine monuments without delay. As new monuments, there should be NO extractive and damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Glenn %pa_first_name% Debbie Carson
1356 Stokes Road
Medford, NJ 08055

From: wildlifeart@mail.yellowstone.net
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: Inational marine monuments
Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2008 12:47:46 AM
Attachments:

President George Bush

Dear President Bush,

I further support FULL protection for the Central Pacific Islands (Baker, Howland, Jarvis, Johnston, Kingman, Palmyra, Rose and Wake Islands) and the Mariana Trench.ecosystems, meaning preventing extractive and damaging activities including mining, drilling, and fishing.

This is critical for conservation and would cement your ocean legacy and work on ocean conservation.

Please act quickly to establish these new marine monuments.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Courtney Couch
805 Baker Rd
Kamiah, ID 83536

From: [Elaine Karas](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject:
Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2008 11:48:29 AM
Attachments:

Please, we urgently ask that you help support the protection of these marine treasures.

Elaine Karas and the Purple Circle School.

To:

Emily Lindow
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of the Under Secretary
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
202-482-1181

Dear Emily:

Thank you for your message of October 6th. Following are some of our thoughts regarding possible marine conservation areas being considered.

I am writing to you on behalf of the American Tunaboat Association (ATA). The ATA represents the U.S. tuna purse seine fleet, which operates primarily in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO). Our vessels catch tuna that are highly migratory and roam throughout the Pacific Ocean. Our fleet catches the great majority of light meat tuna caught by U.S. flag fishing vessels operating in these areas and is the largest supplier of tuna to the US canneries located in American Samoa.

It is our understanding that the Departments of Commerce, Interior and Defense as well as the Council on Environmental Quality have begun a review of potential "marine conservation management areas." We strongly hope that our fleet's concerns are taken into consideration during this review since this area is where most of our vessels operate. Areas of special concern include Jarvis Island, Howland Island, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll. Johnson Atoll and Wake Island are not areas that our vessels operate in.

The United States has a fishing treaty called the South Pacific Tuna Treaty (Treaty) with 16 Pacific island countries that gives our fleet access to a defined Treaty area. For 20 years this agreement has served as a model of cooperation among the U.S. and the other 16 signatories to this Treaty. We have worked closely with our State Department and NOAA for over 20 years to maximize our access to the Treaty area. U.S. restrictions of its own fleets to this area would send a very bad signal to the Pacific island parties from an access standpoint. The areas I mention represent a significant

amount of our total catch. These areas have always been closed to foreign fishing fleets. The reported considered actions would exclusively harm U.S. fishing operations.

The U.S. has worked for many years to finalize a management organization that would provide effective conservation and management of the WCPO. As a member the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), the US government has been working hard to support the actions of the WCPFC to manage the area as a whole and not to have piecemeal management on a country by country basis. Taking unilateral individual actions in the name of conservation and management would only further support fracturing a unified approach to manage stocks in this area.

As mentioned above, tuna are wide-ranging highly migratory species. They are not “residents” of these areas. Tuna caught in these areas are essentially “in transit.” Closing the waters in the areas mentioned above to our fishing vessels would have no significant positive impact on the conservation of tuna stocks in the area.

When conservation of certain areas is discussed, the topic often involves the subject of wanting to preserve the coral atolls of an area. Please understand that our vessels do not fish near the bottom of the ocean. The last thing our vessels would want would be to come into contact with coral formations as it would cause damage to our fishing gear. Our vessels do not land crew on these islands, or use the beach areas. Purse seining has no negative impact on seabird mortalities.

I understand that the areas being considered for closure are considered pristine and thus there is a desire to maintain this condition in the area. Our vessels have operated for over 30 years in the area being considered for conservation measures. Previously, our fleet access in these areas was limited to 50 fishing vessels. Later, we voluntarily agreed to reduce the maximum number vessels to 40 vessels. This voluntary reduction and vessel number limit is a matter of U.S. law. It is very important to note that while our vessels have continually operated in these areas, they are still considered to be pristine in nature. This is proof that our vessels operate in these areas without causing harm to the environment or fish stocks in the area.

Monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) of the involved areas is not easy or inexpensive. By allowing our vessels to operate in the area, we have been able to provide important assistance in the MCS efforts that are required for the area. We closely communicate with the U.S. Coast Guard and NMFS officials in the reporting of illegal fishing activity by foreign fleets in these areas. Exclusion of our vessels would significantly diminish U.S. eyes and ears supporting the surveillance of these areas.

I am also sending you with this message a copy of the letter that John Connelly of the National Fisheries Institute dated May 28, 2008. We also hope that serious consideration is being given to the contents of his letter. We support the contents of his letter.

Please use your best efforts to ensure that those involved in the decision process give serious consideration to the contents of our letter including our plea that the EEZs of Jarvis Island, Howland Island, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll not be closed to fishing by U.S. flag purse seine vessels.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Krampe

Executive Director

American Tunaboat Association

1 Tuna Lane Suite 1

San Diego, CA 92101

Phone: 619-233-6407

New **MapQuest Local** shows what's happening at your destination. Dining, Movies, Events, News & more. [Try it out!](#)

From: [Don E Madden](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
CC:
Subject: ocean preserves
Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2008 1:19:19 PM
Attachments:

Dear Mr. Bush, I support full protection of the proposed marine reserves. Thank you, don madden peacedog2@sbcglobal.net

From: [Savelieff, Ludmilla L.](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans; Tiari, Logan; Marcelli, Nicholas G.;](#)
CC: [Pasko, Michael R.; Lazaroff, Mark A.; Hellmer, Kristen A.;](#)
[Scheve, Christopher S.;](#)
Subject: FW: Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument
Date: Thursday, October 30, 2008 8:24:02 AM
Attachments:

From Jim's public account

From: Philip Witmer [mailto:Philip.Witmer@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2008 2:07 PM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Subject: Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument

Dear Chairman,

I urge the President to apply the strictest standards for the preservation of marine animals and seabirds. The environment is under assault from every corner of the globe and we must do everything we can to save what we can for the benefit of our children.

Sincerely,

Philip N. Witmer
Non-Profit Consulting
125 East Hathaway Lane
Havertown, PA 19083-1517

610.446.1312 (Office)
610.256.2786 (Cell)

Philip.Witmer@Verizon.Net

From: [Angelo Villagomez](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
CC:
Subject: Saipan Resident in support of Mariana Trench Marine Monument
Date: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 12:15:49 AM
Attachments:

Dear President Bush,

I am an environmentalist from the island of Saipan. Generations of my people have depended on the ocean to feed their family. I am the first in my family to make a living protecting the ocean. I run an environmental coalition called "Beautify CNMI." We have received national recognition from both the EPA and USDA.

I urge you to designate the waters surrounding the islands of Maug, Uracas, and Asuncion as a marine monument with the strongest protections.

Thank you,

Angelo Villagomez

--

Angelo O'Connor Villagomez

Volunteer
Beautify CNMI
(670) 285-6462
<http://www.beautifyncnmi.com>

Visit The Saipan Blog - Saipan, CNMI's most popular blog since ever since
<http://www.thesaipanblogger.com>

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To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans](#);
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Angelo O'Connor Villagomez

Volunteer
Beautify CNMI
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<http://www.beautifyncnmi.com>

Visit The Saipan Blog - Saipan, CNMI's most popular blog since ever since
<http://www.thesaipanblogger.com>

From: Kathy-Lyn Allen [mailto:naiaomanoa@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 08, 2008 12:36 PM
To: Chairman Connaughton
Subject: PROTECT the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI)

Dear Chairperson,

Through eight years of overwhelming public support, you have helped make the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) the largest marine reserve on earth! Today, President Bush has directed his administration to consider similar protections for a number of large, ecologically important ocean areas in the Central and Western Pacific. The complete list of areas considered for protection involves seven important reef ecosystems located in the Central Pacific, three islands in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, and the world's smallest atoll in Samoa.

Of these, most utmost importance to protecting Papahānaumokuākea in the NWHI is Johnston Atoll. This small deep ocean island shares a very important relationship with the newly protected NWHI. Unfortunately, decades of military use has contaminated the land and surrounding ocean. Serious protections are needed for Johnston Atoll, including a commitment to clean up.

Protecting these areas to the maximum extent (200 nautical miles) would create the largest conservation area in history, and provide conservation and protection for some of the Pacific's rich natural and cultural heritage. Under this proposal, these native Pacific ecosystems would have a chance at undisturbed survival, free from the threats that are decimating ocean life elsewhere. These islands are among the most intact natural coral reef ecosystems left in the Pacific.

BUT! There is real concern the Bush Administration, under pressure from industry, could allow "multiple use practices" like mineral extraction and overfishing in these areas, harming their native species and ecosystems. Exclusion of "commercial use" and "multiple use management" is precisely why natural and cultural resources in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands today have a real chance.

YOU, today, have an opportunity to create a similar legacy throughout the Pacific. PLEASE do not allow any "multiple use practices" in these already protected areas. PLEASE protect these areas to the maximum extent. The Pacific Ocean, our country, and our children's and grandchildren's world will only be better because of it.

Aloha,
Kathy-Lyn Allen

From: Kathy-Lyn Allen [mailto:naiaomanoa@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 08, 2008 12:36 PM
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Aloha,
Kathy-Lyn Allen

Opposed to the Marine Monument-Mariana Trench

lisa morley [landemorley@gmail.com]

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Hello,

I am opposed to designating the Mariana Trench as a marine monument. I think it is a waste of resources and the local population of CNMI is opposed. Research can be conducted and a visitors center can be built w/o making it a Marine monument and there is currently no fishing in that area, so there is so reason to make it a "no catch zone". I feel that there are other areas that are more at risk and could be preserved before we waste resources on presenving an area that is not currently endangered.

Thanks

Tracy Harty

Juneau, AK

Opposed to the Marine Monument-Mariana Trench

lisa morley [landemorley@gmail.com]

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Thanks

Tracy Harty

Juneau, AK

From: Kaitlyn McKee [silversurferkauai@hotmail.com]
To: Chairman Connaughton
CC:
Subject: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific

Aloha from Kauai,

Without a doubt conservation is key to sustainability for all life. Please extend the protections for the MPA's in Central and Western Pacific. The laws need strict enforcement and fines. Life depends on it.

Sincerely,

Kaitlyn McKee

p.s. see the movie SharkWater. Check out the trailer at: www.sharkwater.com.

From: Kaitlyn McKee [silversurferkauai@hotmail.com]
To: Chairman Connaughton
CC:
Subject: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific

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Sincerely,

Kaitlyn McKee

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From: miwa
To: Chairman Connaughton
Cc:
Subject: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific

I am writing to support the creation of fully protected marine national monuments in the Pacific. The islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival.

Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will create a lasting Blue Legacy for unique and threatened natural and cultural resources of the Pacific.

I sincerely urge you to grant full protection--not status quo, multiple use, management to these remarkable places, and thank you for your ocean conservation efforts.

From: miwa
To: Chairman Connaughton
Cc:
Subject: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific

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From: Bill Best [bestb002@hawaii.rr.com]
To: Chairman Connaughton
Cc:
Subject: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific

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Thank you and Aloha,
Mr. and Mrs. Best

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To: Chairman Connaughton
Cc:
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Thank you and Aloha,
Mr. and Mrs. Best

From: Kau, Harry [hkau@honolulu.gov]
To: Chairman Connaughton
Cc:
Subject: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific

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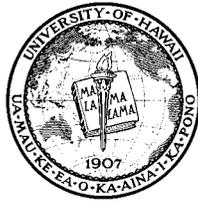
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hkau@honolulu.gov, 808-372-2699, thank you

From: Kau, Harry [hkau@honolulu.gov]
To: Chairman Connaughton
Cc:
Subject: Support for Maximum Protections for MPAs in the Central and Western Pacific

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University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology

P.O. Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kāne'ohe, Hawai'i 96744-1346
Telephone: (808) 236-7471 • Facsimile: (808) 236-7443

October 25, 2008

Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality,
722 Jackson Place, NW,
Washington, D.C. 20503

RE: PACIFIC MARINE CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT COMMENT

Dear Chairman,

We, the undersigned researchers and educators at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, wish to register our written testimony regarding the proposed Pacific Marine Conservation Areas. We agree completely that the proposed areas (Johnston Atoll, Howland, Baker and Jarvis Islands, Kingman Reef, Palmyra Atoll, Wake Island, Rose Atoll, and the Mariana Trench) are natural treasures worthy of improved conservation and management efforts. We applaud the current movement to solidify and expand the protections already in place for these areas, but we have a number of concerns that we believe need to be considered in this process.

First, scientific research has provided the justification for why these locations are unique, and continued appropriate research, monitoring and education efforts are an essential component of ecosystem management for any protected location.

Second, there needs to be a commitment by agencies tasked with this responsibility and adequate funding to support the necessary research, monitoring, education and enforcement or any proclamation will simply result in paper parks. Designation without infrastructure could result in a negative, rather than positive, effect on the regions because additional recognition is likely to draw public attention to the areas and may increase visitation and impacts.

Finally, there needs to be a realization that a new process will take time to develop and implement. Without a management structure and permit process firmly in place, the current long-term research and monitoring, which has resulted in recognition of these special areas, will be shut down. We strongly recommend that any existing process be left in place until such time that a suitable replacement is available.

If you have any questions or wish further input from us, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are pleased to have this opportunity to voice our opinion on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jo-Ann Leong
Robert Toonen
Brian Bowen
Malia Rivera
Ruth Gates
Paul Jokiel
Ku'ulei Rodgers
Michael Stat

Carl Meyer
Matthew Craig
Carlie Wiener
Derek Skillings
Jon Puritz
Erik Franklin
Matthew Dunlap
Anuschka Faucci

Jeff Eble
Toby Daly-Engel
Michelle Gaither
Tonatiuh Trejo
Matt Iacchei
Greg Concepcion
Mark Heckman
Zoltan Szabo

From: [Beth Weigel](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
Subject: Create the Mariana Trench Marine Monument
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 2:36:32 PM

Dear Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality,

Please designate the waters surrounding the northernmost CNMI islands a "commercial no-take zone," and appoint the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as the lead federal agency. NOAA builds, funds, and develops a variety of educational programs as part of their Marine Sanctuary program in both the Atlantic and the Pacific ocean. Because the ocean is largely unexplored, this opportunity to create a new marine monument will allow NOAA to continue their educational work. They work with the newest technologies, sensors and tools to explore the ocean. This would allow NOAA to bring cutting edge research to visitors to Saipan and around the world through other educational programs. For example, visiting tourists, schools, and scientists could access high quality interactive educational materials and activities.

This is also a relatively pristine marine environment and an opportunity to protect a giant swath of unmolested ocean territory that will provide interdisciplinary exploration and educational opportunities. This is the opportunity for biologists, chemists, climatologists, computer programmers, engineers, geologists, meteorologists, and physicists to better understand the interconnected workings of our oceans and world and move us forward in new ways of thinking.

Thank you for this important work.

Sincerely,
Beth A. Weigel, PhD
Juneau, Alaska

From: [Beth Weigel](#)
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
Subject: Create the Mariana Trench Marine Monument
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Thank you for this important work.

Sincerely,
Beth A. Weigel, PhD
Juneau, Alaska

FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: ctrue [cttrue@rr.com]

Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:27 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

Subject: Central Pacific islands and Mariana Trench Marine Monuments

To the executive branch,

Please go ahead and create the Marine sanctuaries at the Central Pacific Islands and the mariana Trench. We must protect the oceans and the marine life. As the fish populations plummet (pollack) we must stop the trawling and the over fishing and protect against pollution. Creating the marine monuments as you have proposed would help heal the fish populations.

Thank you.

FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Sent: Saturday, October 25, 2008 9:27 AM

To: FN-CEQ-Oceans

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Thank you.



October 24, 2008

The Honorable James L. Connaughton
Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton:

I am writing today to express the concerns of the National Fisheries Institute, the largest seafood industry trade association in the United States whose membership includes the major U.S. processors of tuna, Bumble Bee Foods, Chicken of the Sea International, and StarKist Foods, about the potential marine conservation management areas that have been proposed for areas in the central Pacific. We participated in one of the open houses to discuss the advisability of establishing these areas. We urge you to strongly consider how important some of these areas are to the U.S. tuna processing industry and US tuna fleet.

In reviewing these areas, President Bush directed the Secretaries of Defense, Interior, and Commerce as well as the Council on Environmental Quality to “consider cultural, environmental, economic, and multiple use implications of any measures you recommend, including the extent to which they are compatible, if applicable, with sustaining access to: (1) recreational and commercial fishing; (2) energy and mineral resources; and (3) opportunities for scientific study.” It is vital that sustained access to important fishing grounds be maintained for the U.S. tuna purse seine fleet.

The U.S. tuna fleet has operated in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, including areas under consideration as a marine conservation area, for over 30 years without causing any harm to the environment or fisheries stocks in those areas. In some years, the catch from this area can be almost 30,000 metric tons. In particular, the Exclusive Economic Zones of Jarvis Island, Howland Island, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll are used by the U.S. fleet and should not be closed to fishing by U.S. flag tuna purse seine vessels.

Most of the tuna caught in these areas are delivered to the U.S. canneries on American Samoa. These canneries provide the primary private sector employment for American Samoa. According to a February 2008 report, “American Samoa’s Economic Future and the Cannery Industry,” prepared for the Department of Commerce through a grant from the U.S. Department of Interior, (<http://www.asdoc.info/canneries.pdf>), the tuna canning industry represents approximately one-half of American Samoa’s economic base. It is vital that tuna from these important fishing grounds continues to come to these canneries.

Other areas under consideration, such as Johnston Atoll, Wake Island and marine waters around the northern islands of Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, including the Mariana Trench, are not utilized by the U.S. fleet. We are not taking a position on designations of those areas as marine conservation areas. However, the fishing grounds of Jarvis Island, Howland Island, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll must be maintained.

We welcome the opportunity to further discuss these important areas with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Connelly". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

John Connelly
President



October 24, 2008

The Honorable James L. Connaughton
Chairman
Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

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FN-CEQ-Oceans

From: Ocean Conservancy [webmaster@oceanconservancy.org] on behalf of Clare Cleveland [claremb@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2008 5:02 PM
To: FN-CEQ-Oceans
Subject: Please protect U.S. Pacific Ocean

Oct 24, 2008

Chairman James Caunaughton
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Caunaughton,

I write to strongly support your bold vision for the creation of marine protected areas in the U.S.-controlled waters of the Pacific. The

islands and surrounding waters must receive full protection in order to

effectively protect these coral reefs and the variety of marine animals that rely on them for survival. Without full protection over all federal waters from all destructive activities, these ocean jewels could be lost forever. Designating these areas as marine national monuments with permanent, full protection, together with the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands monument you created in 2006, will produce a Blue Ocean Legacy of historic proportions.

The nation and the world will benefit immeasurably from your leadership in firmly establishing protection for the natural beauty and value of our ocean resources. I sincerely urge you to confer full protection not status quo "multiple use" management to these unique pieces of our heritage, and thank you for your remarkable ocean conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Ms. Clare Cleveland
720 Baker St Apt I
San Francisco, CA 94115-4331

From: dziakj1@alumni.cua.edu
To: [FN-CEQ-Oceans;](#)
Subject: Please keep Pacific Marine Conservation Assessment area strongly protected
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2008 3:07:23 PM

Chairman James Connaughton
Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton,

I am so happy that President Bush decided to create Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument so that some of our nation's waters and islands can be protected in their natural state. This is wonderful news for so many kinds of ocean wildlife, and for future generations.

I wanted to urge that the waters be protected as a no-take monument and that commercial and recreational fishing, as well as mining, not be allowed there. Having an area like this as a sort of protected refuge might be one answer to reducing the effects of overfishing in other areas on the ocean as a whole.

Thank you so much for your consideration!

Sincerely,
John Dziak
110 East Foster Avenue, Apt. 314
State College, PA 16801

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