

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,