

From: <Catherine_Callaway@ios.doi.gov>
To: Randal_Bowman@ios.doi.gov
Subject: DCN: EST-00003349 - Antiquities Act - NE Seamounts
Date: Monday, July 10, 2017 9:31:54 AM
Attachments: [3349 in.pdf](#)

Tasked to OCL.

ANN McLANE KUSTER
SECOND DISTRICT, NEW HAMPSHIRE

www.KUSTER.HOUSE.GOV

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

RANKING MEMBER:

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT & INVESTIGATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMODITY EXCHANGES,
ENERGY, AND CREDIT



Congress 115th United States 2017 JUL -7 PM 12:16
House of Representatives

July 6, 2017

WASHINGTON OFFICE
137 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2902
P: (202) 225-5206

RECEIVED

LEGISLATION OFFICE
100 NORTH MAIN STREET, 4TH FLOOR
CONCORD, NH 03301
P: (603) 226-1002

NASHUA OFFICE
184 MAIN STREET, UNIT 222
NASHUA, NH 03060

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

NORTH COUNTRY OFFICE
33 MAIN STREET, SUITE 202
LITTLETON, NH 03561
P: (603) 444-7700

Secretary Ryan Zinke
Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

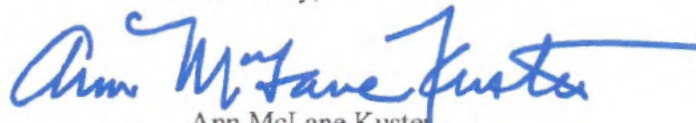
I am writing in response to the Department of Interior's current review of designated National Monuments, and to express my firm support for protecting these important and historic landmarks. Of particular interest to New England states is the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument, which was designated on September 15, 2016 as the first and only national monument in the Atlantic Ocean. This monument is of critical importance to marine biodiversity and serves as a biological hotspot, and I request that no modifications to its boundaries or uses are enacted as a result of the Department's review.

Located just 130 miles off the coast of Cape Cod, this monument encompasses some of the world's oldest underwater canyons, deep sea corals and sensitive habitats for countless aquatic species. Actions taken to permanently protect this critical ecosystem will allow rare marine species to flourish and future generations of scientists to understand how a changing ocean impacts our climate. These canyons and seamounts have been the source of extensive scientific interest and research since the 1970s, and recent studies have discovered several rare aquatic species that are not known to exist anywhere else on Earth. The preservation of this highly sensitive ecological habitat will enhance researchers' ability to study unique deep sea ecology and the dynamic ecosystem that is contained within the monument.

The Northeast Canyons and Seamount Marine National Monument is worthy of permanent protection because the geographic boundaries were narrowly drawn based on the best available science, and incorporated extensive public and stakeholder input. While this monument was being proposed, thousands of concerned citizens, businesses, and members of our science and fishing communities wrote in support of the monument's designation and the importance of protecting this ocean ecosystem for future generations. In response to comments issued by regional commercial fishing groups, the Obama Administration granted a 7-year grace period during which lobster and crab fisherman will be able to operate within the boundaries, and protected the right to recreationally fish. This monument brought together a wide spectrum of stakeholders who understood the importance of protecting this land while ensuring that the economic livelihood of New England's commercial fishing industry wasn't jeopardized.

The United States continues to experience the impacts of a changing ocean, and it is imperative that we remain committed to protecting sensitive aquatic ecosystems. As you continue your review of federally designated national monuments, I request that you maintain the existing geographic boundaries of the Northeast Canyon and Seamounts Marine National Monument as designated by President Obama, and not alter the permitted uses within the monument.

Sincerely,


Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

DOI-2018-06 01589



Howarth, Robert <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

Fwd: Monuments Letter to Sec. Zinke

1 message

Micah Chambers <micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov>

Fri, Jul 7, 2017 at 11:07 AM

To: Downey Magallanes <downey_magallanes@ios.doi.gov>, randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov, Robert Howarth <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Krogman, Travis" <Travis.Krogman@mail.house.gov>
To: "micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov" <micah_chambers@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Monuments Letter to Sec. Zinke

Hi Michah,

Hope this email finds you doing well! Attached, please find a letter to Sec. Zinke from Rep. Kuster regarding Interior's review of National Monuments. This letter has already been submitted through Interior's public comment page, but I wanted to flag for you as well.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter. Thanks!

Travis

Travis Krogman

Senior Legislative Assistant

Congresswoman Ann McLane Kuster (NH-02)

137 Cannon House Office Building

O: (202) 225-5206 | C: (202) 302-8581

2 attachments



noname.html
1K



7.6.2017 Letter to Secretary Zinke Seamounts Monument.pdf
539K