

From: <Kashieka_Minor@ios.doi.gov>
To: Randal_Bowman@ios.doi.gov
Subject: DCN: EST-00002119 - Support continued protection for the five marine national monuments: Marianas Trench, Pacific Remote Islands, Rose Atoll, Papahānaumokuākea, and Northeast Canyons and Seamounts
Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 7:33:57 AM
Attachments: [Ocean Elders in.pdf](#)

Please review.



May 3, 2017

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are writing to signal our full support for the five marine national monuments in United States waters: the Mariana Trench, Pacific Remote Islands, Rose Atoll, Papahānaumokuākea, and the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts. President George W. Bush established the first four marine monuments, all in the Central Pacific. President Obama subsequently expanded two of these existing monuments and established a fifth in the Atlantic. Careful and lengthy public processes were followed that led to the creation or expansion of these monuments, balancing short term commercial uses with long term benefits to fisheries and to maintaining irreplaceable national assets. Increasing the number of fully protected marine reserves can significantly increase the number of fish worldwide, as the fish are able to reproduce and grow in safe havens, before migrating to other waters.

Early in the 20th century, actions were taken to embrace special places on the land and secure them as National Parks with enduring protection for historic battlefields, sensitive cultural sites, ancient forests, vital waterways, inspirational landscapes, and homes for wildlife. A century later, U. S. presidents have been inspired to use their power to protect similar places in the sea. Just as U.S. National Parks are celebrated and emulated globally as national crown jewels, so has U.S. leadership helped inspire a global movement to restore and protect areas in the ocean prized for their historic, cultural and natural significance.

Your leadership is vital in continuing to protect this critically important legacy. Mindful of the magnified impact actions of today will have on future of all that the nation and the world hold dear, we offer our support in securing continued protection for the U. S. Marine National Monuments.

Sincerely,

The Ocean Elders

Ted Turner

Jane Goodall

Sir Richard Branson

Capt. Don Walsh

Dr. Sylvia Earle

Nainoa Thompson

Dr. Rita Colwell

Graeme Kelleher

Catherine Novelli

Prof. Walter Munk

Wade Davis

Gerry Lopez

cc: U.S. Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross

www.oceanelders.org