

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

April 25, 2017

Dear President Trump:



Recently, we celebrated the protection of the New England Canyons and Seamounts as the first marine monument in the Atlantic Ocean. As a matter of faithful stewardship of God's gifts, we believe it is a moral imperative to continue to properly shelter this underwater modern "Noah's ark" from potential harm.

The first Genesis creation story begins with the vast chaotic waters, out of which all life emerged. Today, the ocean continues to inspire a great sense of mystery, awe, and promise. With modern subaquatic cameras, and access to well-conserved relatively undisturbed parts of God's marine creation, we are finally getting an inkling of what wonders God has made underwater.

Our New England Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument, only 150 miles off the New England coastline, has canyons as deep as the Grand Canyon and underwater mounts higher than any east of the Rockies, which are highly biodiverse areas in the Atlantic. There are rare cold-water corals more than a thousand years old. Scientists are continuing to identify new species in this area, which are proving to be some of God's most exotic and wondrous creatures.

By caring for creation, we honor our Creator. God's underwater creation merits our reverence. With the designation of these special areas as a national monument and their protection from any form of industrial exploitation, we improve the chances our communities can get to know, love, and be good stewards of these beautiful, unique, and biodiverse areas. Like all our public lands and waters, these special places deserve permanent protection.

We continue to be thankful for the designation of New England's Coral Canyons and Seamounts as the first marine monument in the Atlantic Ocean. We are committed to doing our part to ensure their good stewardship. We ask that you continue to keep these national monument protections in place - preserving another piece of God's beautiful creation for generations to come.

In Hope,

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