

## **Public Comment to the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy**

I read with interest the Commission's document on the elements of a national ocean policy that it currently believes will be necessary. I was particularly encouraged to see that the Commission considers "investment in ocean-based . . . environmental restoration" to be a necessary element of the policy that it will recommend.

I would urge the Commission, however, to expand its emphasis on marine restoration. In particular, I would like to see the Commission recommend that the Marine Protected Area (MPA) Executive Order, first issued by President Clinton and recently adopted and continued by the Bush Administration, be updated and adopted as federal statute, with the goal of protecting at least 20% of the nation's ocean and coastal waters in MPAs, including no-take marine reserves.

Thank you for your attention.

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