

# **Hawai'i businesses in support of Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument expansion**

August 15, 2014

Dear President Obama:

As members of Hawai'i's business community who are intrinsically connected to our ocean, we write to you in strong support of expanding the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument to the full 200-nautical-mile United States Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

As you know, the waters around the five uninhabited island or atoll complexes (Wake, Jarvis, Howland and Baker Islands, Johnston Atoll, Kingman Reef and Palmyra Atoll) are some of the richest areas on Earth for sea life. These pristine ocean ecosystems provide essential habitat for 14 million seabirds of 19 species (e.g. Hawaiian petrel), 22 marine mammal species, seven of which are endangered (e.g. sperm whales), five species of threatened and endangered sea turtles (e.g. leatherback), and much more. The almost 250 seamounts, or undersea mountains, within the US EEZ are hotspots of biodiversity. Some widely ranging species, including dolphins, use these seamounts as stopovers on trips between the Hawai'ian Islands and other Pacific areas.

The Pacific Remote Islands are not only a local treasure; they are an essential part of the broader global oceans. We the undersigned are all connected to the ocean, whether through our businesses or in our personal lives. A healthy, thriving Pacific marine environment is of primary importance both for our customers and for ourselves.

As businesses committed to environmental responsibility and sustainability, we urge you to expand the Monument to the full 200 nautical-mile US EEZ. This act would fully protect one of the last remaining pristine ecosystems on earth.

Sincerely,

**Vans Triple Crown of Surfing**

Randy Rarick  
Executive Director  
O'ahu

**Freesurf Magazine**

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**Trilogy Excursions**

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**Ali'i Kula Lavender**

Koa Chang

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**Health, Humor & Hospitals, Inc**

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**Silver Moon Art & Design**

Geoffrey T Moore

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**Lauren Roth Art**

Lauren Roth

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**Splash Productions**

Ananda Stone

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**Happy Garden**

Susan Hopps

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**Waihona Aina Corp.**

Victoria S. Creed

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**USCE**

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**Variables**

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Maui

**Nahiku art glass**

Ruth Billings Canham

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**Oiwi Television Network**

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**Honua Consulting**

O'ahu

**Oiwi Ocean Gear**

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**Ki Concepts LLC**

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**Maui Nutritional Therapy**

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