



May 5, 2016

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the proposed expansion of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Monument) around the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

As you know, the County of Kaua'i and its people will be most directly impacted by the expansion of the Monument as our islands are positioned the closest. The ocean that surrounds our islands sits at the core of our community's culture and livelihood – it is an integral part of our way of life.

I share the concern of many of my fellow elected officials and members of the fishing community who believe that expansion of the Monument would come at the detriment of our fishing and seafood industry which provides security and sustainability to our already-strained economy.

While we understand the importance of regulating and protecting our precious marine life, we have not been provided any research or evidence to validate the benefit of an expansion.

As the Mayor of Kaua'i County, I humbly ask your consideration in maintaining the current boundaries of the Monument and to not further strain Hawai'i's fishing industry, which is both culturally and economically significant.

Mahalo nui loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.", with a long, sweeping underline.

**BERNARD P. CARVALHO, JR.**  
Mayor, County of Kauai

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