



March 3, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We, the Governors of the US Territories of American Samoa and Guam and the US Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, humbly request that you use executive authority under the Antiquities Act of 1906 to remove the fishing provisions applicable to the Marine National Monuments in federal and our island jurisdictions.

Our island communities depend on the ocean for food security and economic opportunities. Our Samoan, Chamorro, and Carolinian cultures are interwoven with the marine environment and fishing. The monument fishing restrictions are unnecessary and impede our socioeconomic and cultural stability. The promises of previous administrations and environmental organizations of monument co-management and revenue generation have not been realized.

Our islands contribute a significant amount of land and water for military training and among the highest per capita US Armed Forces personnel and military casualties, reflecting our resolute American patriotism. Many of our people have not returned from harsh and distant battlegrounds, providing the ultimate sacrifice for our great country.

We trust you will demonstrate your great leadership on this pressing issue and do what is right for our people and the Nation. Please return American fishermen to US waters and remove the monument fishing prohibitions.

Respectfully,

Eddie B. Calvo
Governor of Guam

Lolo L. M. Moliga
Governor of American Samoa

Ralph D. G. Torres
Governor of CNMI

Enclosures

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