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More restrictions on fishery not needed

The Hawaii longline fishery is considered by the international community to be among the best managed and most responsible fisheries in the world.

There is a proposal on the table that would expand the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) from 50 nautical miles to 200 nautical miles. However, the fishery has no impacts to the bottom of the sea and is the only activity affected by the proposed expansion.

Before we expand conservation areas and create restrictions to our fishery, we need to fully consider the impacts these expanded areas will have upon our local fishermen and food supply. PMNM already provides near-absolute protection for nearshore habitats.

If the expansion does not provide additional protections beyond those already provided by U.S. law, let's not make it more difficult for our fishermen who ensure we have a fresh, sustainable supply of local seafood in Hawaii. Roy Yamaguchi Chef-founder, Roy's Restaurant

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