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DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

CODY STEWART STAFF DIRECTOR

U.S. House of Representatives

Committee on Natural Resources Washington, DC 20515

November 2, 2017

The President

Dear Mr. President:

The White House

We are writing today to request that you release the report from Department of Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross regarding the review of 11 National Marine Sanctuaries and Marine National Monuments under Executive Order 13795.

We are concerned that the Administration has failed to deliver on its promise of an open process in its sweeping review of national sites that are of great public interest. These are waters that belong to the American people, as should the report itself.

The review process lacked any transparency, despite false claims that the original monument and sanctuary designations and expansions did not involve the public. To our knowledge, the only public engagement in this review involved the nearly 100,000 public comments received by the Department of Commerce. These commenters deserve to have their ideas considered and all Americans deserve an Administration that is fully accountable for its actions.

It seems as though the review process and the Secretary's report are being hidden from stakeholders across the country. This secrecy creates uncertainty for communities and businesses that depend on healthy oceans and coasts. Rather than creating another example of behind-closed-doors government bureaucracy, we respectfully ask that you provide all information relating to the Secretary's review and report.

Sincerely,

Raúl M. Grijalva

Ranking Member

House Committee on Natural Resources

Jared Huffman

Vloe-Ranking Member

House Committee on Natural Resources

Ruben Gallego Member of Congress	Jimmy Gomez Member of Gongress
Darren Soto Member of Congress	Anthony Brown Member of Congress
Jimmy Panetta Member of Congress	Alan Lowenthal Member of Congress
Mike Thompson Member of Congress	Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan Member of Congress
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Norma J. Torres Member of Congress	Colleen Hanabusa Member of Congress
Manette Diaz Barragán Member of Congress	A. Donald McEachin Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr. Member of Congress

Niki Tsongas Member of Congress

Wm. Lacy Clay Member of Congress