



Green sea turtle, *Chelonia mydas*

I'm writing to you today to ask that you please oppose the announcement by the current Administration on June 5, 2020 to weaken protections of the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument.

In 2016, the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument was designated as the first and only Marine National Monument in the U.S. Atlantic Ocean. The Monument protects 4900 square miles of marine life in underwater canyons and seamounts 130 miles off the New England coastline. Hundreds of different species live in these protected waters, including colorful and long-lived deep-sea corals, rare fish, elusive octopus, and charismatic whales and dolphins. Ongoing scientific research shows us what a special place this is. It's important that we set aside some of these places to provide a safe place for wildlife in the ocean to thrive.

As your constituent, I ask that you please support the need for more strongly protected areas of the ocean and oppose the actions of this Administration to weaken existing protections of the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument.

NAME

SIGNATURE



**New England
Aquarium**

Protecting the blue planet