

NORTHWESTERN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM RESERVE  
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November 9, 2015

Ms. Athline Clark  
Superintendent  
Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument  
1845 Wasp Boulevard, Building 176  
Honolulu, HI 96818

Aloha Ms. Clark:

Subject: Establishment of a Second ONMS Memorial Garden on the West Coast

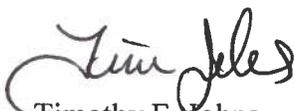
At its most recent meeting, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council (RAC) voted unanimously to nominate Dr. Isabella Abbott for inclusion in the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) Memorial Garden on the grounds of the Dr. Nancy Foster Florida Keys Environmental Complex in Key West, Florida.

In the course of the RAC's discussion, members decided that having a single ONMS Memorial Garden location in the Florida Keys might make accessing it, and thereby learning about the outstanding contributions of those memorialized there, difficult, especially for those in the Pacific Islands region.

Based on that discussion, the RAC would like to propose that ONMS consider establishing a second Memorial Garden somewhere on the West Coast of the United States. Doing so would provide a place where those who have served the system in an exemplary manner can be honored by people living in the western half of the United States, in the same revered and educational manner that the existing Florida Keys site provides. It is worth noting that more than half of all ONMS sites are in the West Coast and Pacific Islands regions.

The RAC would be happy to work with other West Coast and Pacific Islands advisory councils to develop a list of potential sites. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,



Timothy E. Johns  
Chair