

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

1305 East-West Highway Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

February 23, 2017

Jon Forrest Dohlin Vice President and Director Wildlife Conservation Society's New York Aquarium Surf Ave at West 8th Street Brooklyn, NY 11224

Dear Mr. Dohlin:

Thank you for submitting the nomination for the proposed Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary. We greatly appreciate the interest expressed by the state, congressional delegation, nonprofit groups, business and tourism organizations and the number of other community members and individuals that signed letters in support of the nomination. It is clear that many care deeply about the unique resources in and around the Hudson Canyon.

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) has completed our detailed reviews and determined that this nomination meets the national significance criteria and management considerations. Thus, we have added the nomination to the inventory of areas NOAA may consider in the future for national marine sanctuary designation. We look forward to working with you, your colleagues and the community organizations that have proposed the Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary nomination as we consider possible national marine sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

John Armor

