



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

January 14, 2022

Noah Chesnin
New York Seascape Program
Wildlife Conservation Society's
New York Aquarium
Surf Ave. at West 8th St.
Brooklyn, New York 11224

Dear Mr. Chesnin:

This letter is to update you on your nomination of Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary. As you are aware, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) added this nomination to its inventory of candidate sites on February 23, 2017. NOAA's sanctuary nomination process procedures state that any nomination in the inventory will be considered active for a five-year period (*see* 79 FR 33851). As the Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary nomination is now approaching the end of that five-year period, we need to ensure it remains relevant and responsive to our eleven national significance criteria and management considerations (*see* 79 FR 33851 and <https://nominate.noaa.gov/guide.html>).

Our process provides the Wildlife Conservation Society's New York Aquarium (as the original nominating party) an opportunity to reaffirm the nomination's original intent and identify anything that may have changed during the past five years. For instance, there may be new information you want to bring to our attention about the significance of the area's natural or cultural resources, changes to any threats to these resources, and evolving management efforts or human uses in the proposed area (e.g., wind energy proposals in the area). We will also be issuing a Federal Register notice and request for public comments in the coming days to solicit written comments from the public on the 11 national significance criteria and management considerations.

Your input will greatly assist us in determining the degree to which the nomination is still relevant and responsive to our evaluation criteria. We stand by to work with you on updating or adding any additional information to the Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary nomination package and to evaluate any public comments we receive in response to the Federal Register notice on this five-year review.



To meet our deadline of February 23, 2022, any input you could provide by February 7, 2022 would be greatly appreciated. Please contact LeAnn Hogan (LeAnn.Hogan(@noaa.gov) if you would like to set up a call to discuss this request.

Sincerely,

Matt Brookhart, Regional Director
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries