Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Sanctuary Advisory Council

500 W. Fletcher Street, Alpena MI 49707

January 5, 2010

Mr. Jefferson J. Gray
Superintendent
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
500 W. Fletcher Street
Alpena, MI 49707

Dear Mr. Gray:

At the January 5, 2010, Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting the following resolution was unanimously passed to support the recommendation of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Conservation Working Group in their report "Ocean Acidification and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary: cause, effect, and response."

Whereas, the advisory councils of the national marine sanctuaries have recognized ocean acidification as a threat to the long-term conservation and health of sanctuary resources, warranting additional National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) research, monitoring, education and outreach, and management action to reduce and mitigate its impacts; and

Whereas, ocean acidification is a threat to national marine sanctuaries, recognized as among our countries most valuable and symbolic marine resources, worthy of extraordinary conservation efforts; and

Whereas the system of national marine sanctuaries are ideally suited to act as sentinels to gauge the effects of ocean acidification on living marine resources; and

Whereas the system of national marine sanctuaries are also ideally suited as sites to both study and monitor ocean acidification as a global threat to ocean health; and

Therefore be it resolved, the Advisory Council for the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary joins the advisory councils of other national marine sanctuaries in recommending that NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries make every effort to seek the support of NOAA's leadership in developing a coordinated national and regional response to the threat of ocean acidification that recognizes our sanctuaries vulnerability to this threat and the sanctuary systems unique potential to contribute to our understanding of this threat and development of responses to it. It is also recommended that NOAA coordinate these research and awareness efforts with international partners, as well as other governmental agencies, research laboratories, and interested parties currently addressing these issues.

Sincerely,

Stephen D Kroll

Steve Kroll
Chair
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council