



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

January 3, 2025

Dr. Priscilla Brooks
Vice President, Ocean Conservation
Conservation Law Foundation
62 Summer St.
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Dr. Brooks:

Thank you for submitting the Cashes Ledge Area nomination for consideration as a national marine sanctuary.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) has completed our detailed review of the nomination and determined that it sufficiently addresses the four national significance criteria and seven management considerations ONMS relies on to evaluate nominations. Thus, we have added the nomination to our inventory of successful nominations.

As you are aware, this determination does not indicate NOAA's intention to initiate a sanctuary designation process for the area identified in the nomination at this time, nor does it endorse or imply endorsement of any specific boundaries, regulations or management measures in the Cashes Ledge proposal. Rather, it is confirmation that the nomination has met our review requirements and been included in our inventory of possible sites for designation. NOAA may or may not choose to consider an area added to the inventory for designation as a national marine sanctuary.

Thank you for bringing this special place in the Gulf of Maine to our attention and gathering so much information about its ecological significance. I wish to congratulate you and your colleagues. Please feel free to contact me or Beth Dieveney at beth.dieveney@noaa.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Matt Brookhart
Eastern Region Director

