

Science Time

Program Content for September 21, 2016

Read the article “Atlantic Ocean gets its first marine national monument” on page A4 of the Friday, September 16, 2016 edition of The Seattle Times.

Objectives

- I can describe what the Atlantic Ocean marine national monument is and explain why it is considered to be important.
- I can analyze the opinions of those for and against the creation of the Atlantic Ocean marine national monument.

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) connection

- Disciplinary Core Idea (DCI) - Through the magnitudes of human impacts are greater than they have ever been, so too are human abilities to model, predict, and manage current and future impacts.

Pre-reading and Vocabulary: Define each term and then use it in a sentence to demonstrate your understanding.

1. climate change
2. marine
3. species
4. steward

Comprehension Questions

1. What are three reasons President Obama feels the Atlantic Ocean’s first marine national monument is necessary?
2. What is the name of the Atlantic Ocean’s first marine national monument *and* where is it located?
3. What activities will be restricted within the marine monument?
4. What do supporters say about the protection of the ocean from human stresses?
5. Why are fisherman worried about the creation of the national monument?
6. In what ways did President Obama’s administration feel that it listened to the fisherman industry’s concern?
7. What is unique (special) about the three underwater canyons within the Atlantic Ocean monument?
8. What protected species make the Atlantic Ocean monument their home?

Prompts and Extensions

1. Learn more about what a national marine monument is as well as others that can be found around the United States at [NOAA’s website](#).
2. Watch [President Obama’s announcement](#) of the Atlantic Ocean monument and a [video slideshow](#) highlighting the new marine reserve.
3. The contrasting opinions of President Obama and fisherman over the newly created marine monument can be captured in the following quotes.
 - “If we’re going to leave our children with oceans like the ones that were left to us, then we’re going to have to act and we’re going to have to act boldly.” - President Obama.

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- “We’ve been fishing out there for 35 years. It’s a big blow to us.” - Jon Williams, Atlantic Red Crab Co.
 1. Explain how these two quotes display a difference of opinion over the creation of the Atlantic Ocean national monument.
 2. Based on your understanding of the article and the possible harm it will cause to New England fisherman, do you think the creation of the marine reserve was a good idea? Explain your position with evidence from your reading.