

Registration Reference No.: E47B3FE1 Sharonkwokpong

to:

18/05/2018 16:32

Dear Miss. M. Poon:

Further to our phone correspondence just a moment ago, this is the data I want to submit along with my registration. Thank you for your kind attention in this matter!

Regards: Sharon Kwok Pong *Mission Blue* 

Re: Shum Wan Hope Spot Nomination

Submission #: E47B3FE1

As a Hong Konger who is in a unique position to be working with Dr. Sylvia Earle on marine conservation, I have submitted a nomination for the areas south and southwest of Lamma Island to be recognised as a Hope Spot. If accepted by all involved, this will be the first Hope Spot in China. A hope spot is an area of ocean and nearby habitat that needs special protection because of its wildlife and significant underwater habitats. Hong Kong, located in the Southern China Seas, has always been extremely rich in marine biodiversity until recent years. Currently, there is insufficient

monitoring of the area to curb pleasure crafts and speed boats from disturbing or killing the marine life. As of this year, already 7 green sea turtle carcasses have been discovered along the shore line with actual death toll unknown. During the past month alone, over a dozen sea turtle sightings have been reported. These animals mate in the shallow waters near the beach, often at the surface. They do get killed by pleasure crafts.

While progress is vital to society, so too is the protection and preservation of our natural heritage for future generations. Since the suggested areas are already sights of scientific interest with limited protection, it is imperative that greater protection be set into place. It is also worth noting that the suggested areas will not be affected by the Hong Kong, Zhuhai and Macau transport linkage and its infrastructure which intends to provide significant macro socio-economic benefits for the Greater Pearl River Delta Region.

Further info re: Hope Spots <a href="https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hope Spots">https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hope Spots</a>

 $\underline{https://mission-blue.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/MBSEA-ImpactReport-0817FA.pdf}$ 

Sent from my iPhone