

15 October 1980

The Honorable John Breaux
United States House of Representatives
Chairman, Fish and Wildlife Subcommittee
2443 Raborn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Breaux:

The Pacific Seabird Group is a professional organization of scientists, students and laymen interested in marine birds. The Pacific Seabird Group has over 450 members, holds an annual meeting regularly attended by 150 people, is 8 years old, and publishes a bulletin twice a year.

The Pacific Seabird Group is dedicated to coordinating research involving marine birds, and informs its members of conservation issues relating to Pacific seabirds and the marine environment.

The Pacific Seabird Group strongly supports Senate Bill 3001 and House Resolution 7892 establishing the Protection Island National Wildlife Refuge, in Jefferson County, state of Washington.

Over 70% of the seabird nesting in the inland marine waters of Washington nest on Protection Island. Fifty percent of the species of seabird, the Rhinoceros Auklet, nesting in the contiguous 48 states do so on Protection Island. Thus this island is critical to the marine bird populations of the western United States.

Recreational development is inconsistent with management of the marine bird resource. Establishing of the Protection Island National Wildlife Refuge would help insure proper management of the marine bird resource in this country.

If I or members of this organization be of further service to your committee please call on us.

Sincerely,

Ralph W. Schreiber, Ph.D.
Chairman, Pacific Seabird Group

and
Curator, Ornithology
Natural History Museum
Los Angeles County