



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
**NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE**  
Southwest Fisheries Center Honolulu Laboratory  
2570 Dole St. • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2396

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The Honorable Edouard Tereori Fritch  
Minister for Fisheries, Domestic Air and  
Sea Transport, Outer Islands Development  
and Land Affairs  
Government of French Polynesia  
P.O. Box 2551, Papeete  
Tahiti, French Polynesia

Dear Minister Fritch:

I want to take this opportunity to personally thank you for your time last Friday to discuss the significance of Scilly Atoll as a nesting site for sea turtles (honu) throughout the South Pacific. I greatly appreciated the genuine interest and concern that you displayed for this important subject. Scilly is clearly in need of some additional protective measures to prevent the poaching of turtles and eventual destruction of this grand and unique turtle breeding assemblage. My colleague and friend, Philippe Siu, has taken commendable steps to assist in the protection of Scilly. I hope that you will continue to support him in this effort.

If I can be of any additional help to your program, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs  
Zoologist and Leader  
Marine Turtle Research Program

cc: Mr. Philippe Siu, EVAAM

