



July 21st, 2022

To: United Nation International Seabed Authority

RE: Fish Reef Project Speech

It is germane to the discussion of the mining code and finance to speak on the subject of blue carbon. Everyone has a carbon footprint this is true for NGOs, the deep sea mining contractors and the United Nations itself. Numerous nations signed the Paris accords as well as many private entities offset to their carbon footprints, in part by buying nature based carbon offsets on recognized registries and exchanges.

However until now, few entities have recognized their Blue Carbon Footprint. A Blue Carbon footprint is that portion of a regular carbon footprint that in any way touches our oceans. Given that most goods travel by sea as much as 20-30 percent of an entities carbon footprint can be deemed as Blue Carbon and hence should properly be reduced to zero where possible or offset via voluntary verified Blue Carbon offsets. Offshore operations naturally have an even higher ratio of Blue Carbon impact in this regard.

The key reason Blue Carbon has gone mostly unaccounted for is lack of verified nature based Blue Carbon offsets. This is because Blue Carbon has been rare and very hard to make with few viable approved projects. This is about to change as a number of biogenic reef systems including Sea Cave reef systems and other ocean re-wilding projects are being deployed globally that have the potential to sequester millions of tons of carbon dioxide direct from our ocean ecosystems, yielding True Blue Carbon. When carbon dioxide is removed direct from sea water it helps buffer ocean acidification. Most of the man-made carbon dioxide is stored in the ocean and most of the oxygen we breath is generated in the very same ocean making it doubly important for industry, nations and NGOS to offset their collective blue carbon footprints.

Utilizing Blue Carbon offsets and supporting their high value supports meaningful blue economy linked projects that stand to create food and job security on a large scale in Africa and small island developing states. If setup properly on a registry, when buying a nature based



voluntary Blue Carbon offset, the client can also purchase guarantees of large amounts of marine life generation such as fish, lobster, kelp, coral, abalone, plankton and much more that struggling coastal communities rely on. As many as five United Nations Sustainable developments goals can be met with these measured guaranteed outcomes. SDG 14, Life Underwater, SDG 13, Climate Action, SDG 10, Responsible production and consumption, SDG 9 Reduced Inequality, SDG 2 Zero Hunger, SDG 1, No Poverty. All of these to some degree, can be met by utilizing true blue carbon nature based offsets. For this reason we compel the observer NGOs with their fleets of diesel powered ocean going vessels and throngs of folks flying around the globe daily to set an example and acquire high value blue carbon offsets. For contractors, stepping up with voluntary resolutions to offset your Blue Carbon impact can be an ideal means to participate in the same programs as the NGOS to find common ground with them and also set the stage for an ideal means to one day address the outstanding questions of social and environmental mitigation as required by the draft mining code. We encourage the contractors to study this option for formal inclusion in their respective EIR and mitigation solutions.

Thank you,
/Chris Goldblatt/

Fish Reef Project
Executive Director



Helping Ocean Life Thrive™
