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7 University of Massachusetts  
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9 Dartmouth - Woodl and Common  
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11 285 Old Westport Road  
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13 No. Dartmouth, MA  
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19 Public Comments

20 June 17, 2008

21 7:30 p.m.

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (Meeting of the Stellwagen Bank National Marine  
3 Sanctuary public hearing commenced at 7:00 p.m.)

4 (Public comments began at 7:23 p.m.)

5 MR. MacDONALD: First speaker, Douglas  
6 Denninger.

7 MR. DENNINGER: My name is Douglas  
8 Denninger, D E N N I N G E R. I live at 225 Erin  
9 Road, E R I N Road, East Taunton, Massachusetts.  
10 I'm a sailor, a scuba diver. I've a Bachelor in  
11 Zoology from the University of New Hampshire, and  
12 I'm a member of the Ocean Conservancy.

13 I am most concerned about the ecosystem  
14 alteration and habitat protection and especially the  
15 harvesting of orange species such as sandlances. So  
16 I encourage everything that can be done to ban the  
17 harvesting of those species that are the base for  
18 the whales and the other creatures on, the marine  
19 mammals and fish on the sanctuary area, and also the  
20 habitat destruction and degradation that affects all  
21 the species. Thank you.

22 MR. MacDONALD: Thank you very much.  
23 Next speaker is Brad Stevens.

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1 MR. STEVENS: Brad Stevens. I'm an  
2 associate professor of marine science here at U Mass  
3 Dartmouth. I have documents that I will send you by  
4 email, but I wanted to address a couple of items in  
5 the plan that I think are good. And I just want to  
6 re-enforce them.

7 And these are Items E A 2.1 which  
8 refers to establishing reference areas of  
9 undisturbed sea floor, and these would be used for  
10 comparing recovery efforts from impacts of fishing.  
11 I think this is an excellent idea. The only way you  
12 can do those kind of studies, you need controlled  
13 areas, and hopefully that you can also form a basis  
14 for some protected areas from commercial fishing as

15 well.

16 Item MH 312 would be to establish  
17 heritage preservers, similar idea established areas  
18 around cultural heritage sites that are open to  
19 destructive human activities. I think this is very  
20 important and very critical.

21 Also under Breen heritage, Item 3.3,  
22 establishing partnerships, you don't mention it  
23 there but I think it's very critical to establish

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1 partnerships with diving organizations and diving --  
2 dive shops because protection of archeological  
3 resources is everybody's issue. And you can't  
4 enforce it. You have to get all the divers involved  
5 to buy into the idea that it's their resources that  
6 they should be protecting. It's the only way to  
7 prevent divers from removing things from the reefs  
8 and from the shipwrecks.

9 And finally MH 3.5 establishing mooring  
10 buoys at those sites is an excellent idea to keep  
11 the dive boats from dropping anchors on the sites  
12 and tangling and creating more problems.

13 I will send you some written comments,  
14 but those are the ones I wanted to point out  
15 tonight.

16 MR. MacDONALD: Thank you very much.  
17 These two folks are the only ones that signed up.  
18 Anybody else who wants to give some comments?

19 All right. Thank you very much. This  
20 concludes the hearing portion of the meeting, and if  
21 any of you would have any questions for us as we're  
22 kind of packing up, moving things around, grab us,  
23 we would be happy to talk to you individually.

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1 Thank you very much. We really appreciate it.

2 (The proceedings adjourned  
3 at 7:27 p.m.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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2 STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS )  
3 COUNTY OF NORFOLK )

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5 for the County of Norfolk, State of MASSACHUSETTS,  
6 do hereby certify:

7 That the said proceeding was taken before  
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11 Reporter of the State of Massachusetts, that the  
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14 and that the foregoing transcript constitutes a  
15 full, true, and correct report of the proceedings  
16 which then and there took place;

17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto  
18 subscribed my hand and affixed my seal this  
19 17th day of June, 2008.

20 CAROL Di FAZIO  
21 Registered Professional Reporter  
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