

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 3886

To amend the boundaries of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 23, 1994

Mr. ORTIZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries

A BILL

To amend the boundaries of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FLOWER GARDEN BANKS BOUNDARY MODI-**
4 **FICATION.**

5 (a) MODIFICATION.—Notwithstanding section 304 of
6 the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C. 1434),
7 the boundaries of the Flower Garden Banks National Ma-
8 rine Sanctuary, as designated by Public Law 102–251, are
9 amended to include the area described in subsection (d),
10 popularly known as Stetson Bank. This area shall be part

1 of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary
2 and shall be managed and regulated as though it had been
3 designated by the Secretary of Commerce under the Na-
4 tional Marine Sanctuaries Act.

5 (b) DEPICTION OF SANCTUARY BOUNDARIES.—The
6 Secretary of Commerce shall—

7 (1) prepare a chart depicting the boundaries of
8 the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanc-
9 tuary, as modified by this section; and

10 (2) submit copies of this chart to the Commit-
11 tee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the House
12 of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
13 Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

14 (c) APPLICATION OF REGULATIONS.—Regulations is-
15 sued by the Secretary of Commerce to implement the des-
16 ignation of the Flower Garden Banks National Marine
17 Sanctuary shall apply to the area described in subsection
18 (d), unless modified by the Secretary. This subsection
19 shall take effect 45 days after the date of enactment of
20 this Act.

21 (d) AREA DESCRIBED.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
23 graph (2), the area referred to in subsections (a),
24 (b), and (c) is the area that is—

1 (A) generally depicted on the Department
2 of the Interior, Minerals Management Service
3 map titled “Western Gulf of Mexico, Lease Sale
4 143, September 1993, Biologically Sensitive
5 Areas, Map 3 of 3, Final”;

6 (B) labeled “Stetson” on the High Island
7 Area South Addition diagram on that map; and

8 (C) within the 52 meter isobath.

9 (2) MINOR BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS.—The
10 Secretary of Commerce may make minor adjust-
11 ments to the boundaries of the area described in
12 paragraph (1) as necessary to protect living coral re-
13 sources or to simplify administration of the Flower
14 Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary.

15 (e) PUBLICATION OF NOTICE.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce
17 shall, as soon as practicable after the date of the en-
18 actment of this Act, publish in the Federal Register
19 a notice describing—

20 (A) the boundaries of the Flower Garden
21 Banks National Marine Sanctuary, as modified
22 by this section, and

23 (B) any modification of regulations appli-
24 cable to that Sanctuary that are necessary to

1 implement that modification of the boundaries
2 of the Sanctuary.

3 (2) TREATMENT AS NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER
4 NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES ACT.—A notice
5 published under paragraph (1) shall be considered to
6 be the notice required to be published under section
7 304(b)(1) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act
8 (16 U.S.C. 1434).

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