



#CallOnCCAMLR

Campaign Newsletter

July 2021



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The past month has been incredible for declarations calling for Southern Ocean protection at the highest political levels – and for passing 200K signatures on the petition!

Every voice counts as we make a big push in the final months ahead of CCAMLR 2021 in October and the global movement to achieve the biggest act of ocean protection in history continues to grow.

Keep reading for all the breaking news and latest ways to get involved.

Join the #CallOnCCAMLR

Here are **2** easy ways you can get involved today:

1. Share our new 'Deep Thoughts' campaign video and spread the news by posting on social media – video available for download in different media formats [HERE](#).

For maximum impact, include this caption:

#CallOnCCAMLR to protect Antarctica and secure the largest act of ocean protection in history! Sign the petition today at only.one/Antarctica. #CCAMLR

Tag: [@onlyone](https://twitter.com/onlyone)

2. Sign the petition by clicking [HERE](#) and tell your friends! The petition [recently hit 200K signatures](#), but we need your support to build momentum in these critical months ahead of CCAMLR. Let's get to 300K!

 [CLICK TO TWEET](#)

A Google Drive link to the campaign backgrounder, talking points and several social media assets in different languages can be found [here](#). We'll be adding more assets in languages (including Japanese) as they become available, so keep an eye out!

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In The News

1. Antarctic Treaty marks major milestones:

The [43rd annual Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting \(ATCM\)](#), hosted by France from 14 to 24 June, celebrated the 60th anniversary of the entry into force of the Antarctic Treaty, and the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Madrid Protocol on Environmental Protection, by signing the [Paris Declaration](#) reaffirming that the protection of the Antarctic environment is in the interests of science and humankind. The Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC) [welcomed the 43rd ATCM](#), and the chance to celebrate Antarctica as a natural reserve devoted to peace and science, especially during the [2021 Antarctic Super Year](#) – when, as this [ASOC Story Map](#) illustrates, we have the opportunity to secure the next 30 years of protection. The ATCM and CCAMLR have vital roles to play in ensuring that Antarctica's vulnerable areas and species are protected from mounting regional and global pressures.

2. France and Germany Call On CCAMLR!

France seized the moment, as hosts of the historic anniversary ATCM, to emphasize their strong support for expanding marine protection in the Southern Ocean. First, on the opening day of the meeting, Olivier Poivre D'Arvor, French Ambassador for Polar and Marine Issues, delivered a [powerful Call On CCAMLR](#) appealing to all member states to listen to science and agree to designate the 3 proposed new MPAs in 2021. This call was amplified in an [extraordinary video message](#) from President Macron on the closing day, in which he declared to delegates – and the entire world – how critical it is that all CCAMLR members vote to create the MPAs in October and demonstrated his personal commitment to achieving that goal. As the President declared in his message: "... [in the coming weeks it is essential we take action.](#)"

Minister of Environment of Germany Svenja Schulze [highlighted the importance of MPAs and the commitment of Germany towards protecting Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.](#)

3. Scientists warn of Antarctic tipping points:

The Wilson Center Polar Institute launched a ground-breaking new report on [Climate Change and Southern Ocean Resilience](#) to coincide with the opening of the ATCM. It warns that climate change is pushing the Antarctic – that connects all ocean basins and keeps our planet habitable – towards multiple [tipping points](#) that will bring cascading consequences for humanity and biodiversity. And, among the priority solutions the report highlights, is for CCAMLR to establish the proposed Southern Ocean MPAs to protect biodiversity, maintain

4. EU taking the lead in Southern Ocean protection:

On 4 June, a special [webinar](#) hosted by Members of the European Parliament addressed how the EU can take the lead in securing the largest act of Ocean protection in history. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen pledged to [mobilize all the EU's diplomatic strength](#) to get an agreement on the MPA proposals at CCAMLR this year (watch her full speech [here](#)); European Commissioner Virginijus Sinkevičius confirmed Southern Ocean protection as a [high priority for the EU](#) (full speech [here](#)); and Grace O'Sullivan MEP stressed the ["need to come together again](#) and emphasize Antarctica as a place of peace, science and global environmental importance."

The Irish Green Party MEP – who has been campaigning for Antarctic protection since 1986 – has since taken the matter a step further by [tabling a motion in the European Parliament](#) to designate over 3 million square kilometers of the East Antarctic and Weddell Seas as MPAs. This follows the open letter to the European Commission President calling for her leadership on [Ensuring historic protection of Antarctica's Southern Ocean in 2021](#) signed by ASOC, Ocean Unite, Greenpeace, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Only One and SeaLegacy. You can watch the 4 June webinar [here](#).

On July 8 and in a unanimous vote, [588 of the 705 members of the European Parliament have voted in favour of a resolution](#) calling on European Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen, to secure protection of the Southern Ocean this year. The [resolution was drafted and led by Members of European Parliament Grace O'Sullivan and Catherine Chabaud](#), both of whom have crossed the Southern Ocean to Antarctica on conservation work. Just the day before, EU Commissioner, Virginijus Sinkevičius, made a speech at the European Parliament supporting the resolution and creation of MPAs in the Southern Ocean as a key priority of the Commission. Watch the full speech [here](#).

"Today's vote is a clear and unambiguous call on Ursula von der Leyen to overcome geopolitical tensions and secure protection of the Southern Ocean in the coming weeks" said Claire Christian, Executive Director of the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition.

ecosystem functioning, and restore ecosystem services. As Evan Bloom, Senior Fellow at the Polar Institute, said [at the report launch](#): "It has become clear that as part of dealing with the climate crisis, a circumpolar network of marine protected areas in the Southern Ocean, among other management actions, will contribute greatly to climate science and help develop climate-related policies for the entire planet." The full report is available to download [here](#), or you can read about it in German [here](#).

In The News (Continued)

5. G7 Leaders give full support to CCAMLR MPAs:

Antarctica is finally getting the attention it deserves! All our efforts to [#CallOnCCAMLR](#) are raising its visibility to the top table of global politics. The [G7 Leaders' Summit Communique](#), released on the closing day of the Summit on 13 June, specifically asserts that they all [fully support the commitment of CCAMLR to develop a representative system of MPAs in the Southern Ocean](#) as part of the new G7 2030 Nature Compact. The Call On CCAMLR wave then carried President Biden and his EU counterparts from Cornwall to Brussels, where the EU-US Summit ended on 15 June with a joint ["resolve to support the designation of new marine protected areas in the Southern Ocean."](#)

6. Pamela Anderson joins Antarctica2020:

Iconic actress and environmentalist Pamela Anderson is [joining Antarctica2020](#), the international group of influencers from sport, politics, business, media, arts and science, working to build support for the protection of Antarctica's Southern Ocean. Pamela founded the [Pamela Anderson Foundation](#) in 2014 to support organizations and individuals that stand on the front lines, risking their lives to protect and preserve human, animal and environmental rights, and chairs the international board of directors of The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. It's exciting to have her on the [#CallOnCCAMLR](#) team!

Antarctic action on World Ocean Day

World Ocean Day, on 8 June, is always a chance to mobilize support for marine protection, and this year the Southern Ocean was the focus of numerous events and messages. Highlights include:

1. 'Antarctica: Life Emerging' premiere:

The world premiere of [Antarctica: Life Emerging](#), moderated by Katie Couric on 7 June, was the first chance to experience a musical journey that blends the breathtaking nature of Antarctica, the stunning music of Yo-Yo Ma and composer Marcus Goddard, and stirring messages from Antarctic photographer Paul Nicklen in a powerful homage to the icy waters of Antarctica's vast Southern Ocean. You can watch the film and the conversation between the creators [here](#).

2. Virgin Unite blog calls to protect our planet's icy heartbeat:

Nathalie Rey, programme director of [Ocean Unite](#) and coordinator of [Antarctica2020](#), penned a World Oceans Day blog for Virgin Unite highlighting the importance of [Helping to protect the Icy Heartbeat of Our Planet](#) and why everyone should [CallOnCCAMLR](#) to protect the Southern Ocean.



3. **Urgent calls for CCAMLR to protect Antarctic Peninsula:**

In a joint op-ed in La Vanguardia entitled [La Antártida: el último lugar prístino](#), Teresa Ribera, Adrés Allmand, and Felipe Solá make an “urgent” call for a big push for ocean protection at the meeting in October. They highlight the importance of MPAs to safeguard marine life and build resilience against climate impacts and stress that the Chile-Argentina proposal for an Antarctic Peninsula MPA is based on science. Another article, [Día de los Océanos: Argentina y Chile, socios en la Península Antártica](#) in Argentina’s La Nacion journal, states that (translated from Spanish): “The Peninsula is the region where the effects of climate change can be most intensely measured. Here, the surface air temperature increased by an average of 3°C between 1950 and 2005 ... For Argentina and Chile, the designation of an MPA to the west of the Peninsula, is a measure that implies a negotiation with actors that have very different interests in order to help species to better adapt to climate change ... in Antarctica we are in a position to avoid the mistakes of the past.”

4. **WWF President and French Ambassador on CCAMLR commitment:**

Isabelle Autissier, Honorary President of WWF-France and sailor, and Olivier Poivre d’Arvor, French Ambassador for the Poles and Maritime Issues, published an op-ed in Le Monde calling “[Antarctica the symbol of our common commitment in the fight against the environmental crisis](#)”. They write that it is our responsibility today to establish a network of MPAs in the Southern Ocean, which must be decided by CCAMLR this year.

5. **Blue Water Summit with Ashlan and Phillippe Cousteau:**

On WOD-eve, 7 June, Ocean Unite held a virtual panel at the [Blue Water Summit](#) on ‘The Future of Antarctica and protection of the Southern Ocean’ featuring OU Network Members [Ashlan](#) and [Phillippe Cousteau](#), Professor [Cassandra Brooks](#), and writer/photographer/filmmaker John Weller talking about Antarctic wonders and threats.

6. **Blue Scholars Initiative present work in the Southern Ocean:**

On 3 June, the [Blue Scholars Initiative](#) marked ocean week by shining a spotlight on the work of ASOC and the #CallOnCCAMLR petition. Watch the video [here](#) and find out more information [here](#).



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Throughout the month of August, our social media accounts are being taken over by the Antarctic’s smoothest talker: Wendell the Weddell seal!

We hope you’ll help us raise awareness for this fun, educational campaign with your followers by sharing throughout the month of August, encouraging people to follow ASOC on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

We hope you enjoy Wendell’s reflections on Antarctic life!