



## Hinchingsbrooke School Science Department

### KS3 Homework Task

#### Interdependence HW2 – Protecting the Sea

Date set:

Date Due in:

On the following page is information related to the task. You may need to do additional research to achieve the maximum level possible.

- Answer all questions, if you use PowerPoint please print off and stick in your book
- Fill in your details below

Name:	Form:
Teacher:	Science Set:

Feedback from teacher:

Student comment:

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## Protecting the sea

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The United States has announced that it is to ban commercial fishing and mining in a 'protected zone' totalling half a million square kilometres around its Pacific Islands. The area of sea is around the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Guam, in the Pacific Ocean north of Australia, East of the Philippines and South of Japan. This area contains the Marianas Trench, the deepest part of ocean on Earth, which contains undersea volcanoes, undersea pools of sulphur, coral reefs and some of the most biologically diverse seas in the world.

Environmental groups and scientists have welcomed the decision, which will protect some of the largest areas of live coral reef in the world from fishing, and will mineral extraction from the undersea volcanoes along the Trench. However, they are warning that it is not an answer to caused to the ocean environment by overfishing and by change. One scientist, Brendan Cummings from the Center Diversity, said that:

'Unless we deal with global warming, all other protective coral reefs will be rendered meaningless.'

Scientists say the global warming is damaging marine life by oceans to warm up. Warmer waters contain less oxygen, so other marine life are able to survive. This means not only falling fish stocks around the world, but less food for seabirds and marine mammals. At present the oceans also absorb about one quarter of the carbon dioxide human activity produces each year, but as they the oceans warm they are absorbing less carbon dioxide.



Global warming could result in empty seas (iStockphoto)

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### QUESTIONS

List some of the features that make the 'protected zone' important.

Give **two** reasons why environmentalists and scientists have welcomed the decision to protect this area.

What do they say the protected zone will not protect the ocean environment from?

Describe in your own words how marine life is affected by the oceans warming up.

Describe how the oceans affect the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere at present, and suggest how this might change in the future.

Find out what a 'live coral reef' is and how fishing can harm it.

### Challenge

Use the Internet to find out about the Marianas Trench, its underwater volcanoes and some of its wildlife. Contribute pictures and information to make a class display about the area.