

Dear National Standards Advisory Panel, July 31/18

Anemones are often red,
Mor'owar are partly blue,
But colour aside,
Plankton or snail,
Crab or jelly,
Human or whale,
We share an ocean view,
Much like us,
The squiggle and squirm,
Our neighbours down below,
Or glide or ride a wave or two,
They twish and swim,
Or flip a fin,
Or sing an ocean tune,
And all they need from us,
You see,
All the creatures of the deep,
Is a little bit of space to breathe,
A little bit of room to be,
To be themselves,
And wander on,
Through benthic canyons,
Spongy reefs,
Coral groves or algal trees,
In the mud beneath your feet,
Or far beyond in highest seas,
Through tidal flats,
Or dark crevasse,
Arctic ocean plains,

Everyplace they like to roam,
Signs of you and me,
Scraping,
Digging,
Blasting,
Banging,
Reeling,
Dumping,
Bumping,
Clanging,
Noise or toxic chemicals,
Plastic in the sea,
Now finally we come to know,
The chaos we create,
All the while beneath the surf,
The damage that we made,
So now that we're so well aware,
Let's show the family,
That we care,
And make some space,
For them to do,
The things they like to do,
Clever and wet,
Wild and free,
Doing as they please,
Cold,
Quiet (kind of),
Clean,
The way things used to be,
Deep in oceans blue,
Underneath the sea.

Please protect our marine neighbours
with really good MPA standards.

THANK YOU! Simon, Halifax, NS