

[Date]

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

[organization/elected official/legislative body/municipality/I] [is/am] in full support of preservation of the federally owned land off the eastern tip of Long Island's North Fork known as Plum Island. [We/I] [are/am] asking you to contact the White House to encourage a proclamation by President Biden of Plum Island as a National Monument, using his powers under the Antiquities Act. When considering a National Monument designation, President Biden will want to know the position of the Governor of the state in which the monument would be located. Please let the President know New York's unequivocal support for protecting Plum Island through a National Monument designation.

[We/I] [are/am] deeply appreciative that your commissioners of environmental conservation and state parks have expressed their support for preservation to Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland and Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas, as the decommissioning of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center proceeds and the island is readied for transfer. Moreover, your commissioners pledged continued cooperation toward protection, in perpetuity, of the island's irreplaceable natural, historical, and cultural resources. [We/I] are writing to ask for your direct help: Please join the 118 organizations in the Preserve Plum Island Coalition (PPIC), [as we are/as I am], in requesting President Biden declare Plum Island a National Monument.

The PPIC has worked for more than a decade to save Plum Island from development. In 2020, Congress heard our voices and repealed a law that circumvented traditional land disposal processes, effectively removing Plum Island from the auction block and making way for a new, permanent protection solution. The coalition also developed a broadly supported, unified vision for the future of the island in a two-year, "Envision Plum Island" stakeholder process (www.preserveplumisland.org/envision-report). With the repeal of the federal sale provision, the arrival of a potential donor for a public-private management outcome, and a new "America the Beautiful" initiative underway, the PPIC's vision has evolved to a call for a new **National Monument for the purposes of environmental conservation, historic preservation, and discovery and celebration of our shared cultural heritage.**

[I/We] ask you to convey a strong message of support from the State of New York to President Biden for the proclamation of Plum Island as a new National Monument in the northeast region, fulfilling the vision of the national, regional, and local organizations, whose membership numbers, collectively, are in the millions.

Much of the story of America is represented in the amazing lands, wildlife, waters, and people of New York.

Sincerely,

cc: Senator Charles E. Schumer