

Dr. Jesús Corona Osornio

Santuario marino en peligro

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MARINE SANCTUARY UNDER THREAT

By Jesus Corona Osorio - October 9, 2024

Jean-Michel Cousteau, president of Ocean Futures Society, and the Mexican environmental group Ballenas o GAS have denounced the Saguaro Project, which proposes the construction of a liquefied natural gas terminal in Puerto Libertad, Sonora, Mexico. This project would result in the continuous transit of massive tankers through the Gulf of California, causing severe and lethal damage to habitats of whales, dolphins, and thousands of marine species, impacting communities that have depended on the sea for generations.

Jacques-Yves Cousteau, explorer, researcher, oceanographer, and documentary filmmaker, called the Gulf of California "the aquarium of the world." This sanctuary is where whales come to reproduce and migrate. As Rubén D. Arvizu, director general for Latin America at Ocean Futures Society, emphasizes, the damage would be irreparable, causing significant loss of marine flora and fauna, disrupting the balance of the seas.

This urgent call to action seems to be falling on deaf ears. The environmental group and OFS have sent a message to Mexico's President, Dr. Claudia Sheinbaum, and the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), headed by Alicia Bárcena, hoping to halt or relocate the project to protect the whales.

The disappearance of whales would have far-reaching consequences for marine ecosystems and the planet. Unfortunately, this critical issue has received scant attention, and the lack of awareness and public interest has already caused significant ecological damage due to the construction of the Tren Maya and indiscriminate deforestation.

It is crucial to spread the news about this atrocity against marine species. The Gulf of California is an essential part of the planet. Honoring Jacques Cousteau's legacy and respecting the life of whales and other marine fauna and flora requires preventing or relocating this project before it's too late.

Mexico and the world need the life of the seas. It is imperative to generate public policies on environmental issues with consensus from all stakeholders and society. It's time to start fighting for the preservation of the planet, threatened by atmospheric pollution, plastics, and waste.

We hope President Claudia Sheinbaum, a renowned environmentalist, will join the defense of the Gulf of California's whales. Whales and marine life cannot defend themselves; let's become their voice, as their existence is vital to humanity.

For the love of Mexico and its seas, let's raise our voices and join Jean-Michel's call: "Save the Aquarium of the World."