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La Jolla, April 9, 2025

To whom this might concern

RE: Donation from Preserve Calavera to benefit microplastic research

This letter is to acknowledge that Preserve Calavera made a \$1,000 donation to the BEST Initiative in the Deheyn lab at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, for the purpose of conducting research on microplastics.

More specifically, these funds were allocated to purchase supplies for the sample collection and for the subsequent laboratory analysis through epifluorescence imaging. The supplies for field sample collection were left with the members of Preserve Calavera for continued monitoring at their will as this was intended to be an on-going collaboration. The only disposable materials that were sent back to the Deheyn lab were the filters through which the samples were processed. The filters were then imaged in epifluorescence in the Deheyn lab and then processed for microplastic and microfiber counts afterwards, together with the members of Preserve Calavera which we trained for this purpose by Deheyn lab staff Avery Dougherty. Some of this work started in 2022 and continued into 2023 and 2024 with the help of this donation. Below is an estimate of the cost associated with this microplastic project, and how the donation contributed to the research overall.

Thank you Preserve Calavera for the continued support and interest in monitoring the environment.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dimitri Deheyn', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Dimitri Deheyn

Snapshot of expenses related to the process of field samples for microplastics

- Reusable field supplies including syringe and filter holders (\$125)
- One-time use small fiber glass filters (100counts), stored in the Deheyn lab after analysis (\$125)
- Salary time for Staff Avery Dougherty, at a daily rate of \$60/hr including full benefits, was estimated to be around 40 hrs between 2023 and 2024, to cover training, sample processing by imaging, counting, and reporting. This accounted for a total of \$2,400.