

Countries mull world's largest marine reserves

Nations that regulate fishing in the Antarctic are set to vote on proposals to establish two marine sanctuaries, either of which would create the world's largest marine protected area (MPA)

PROPOSED MPAs

U.S.-New Zealand: 2.3 million sq km in Ross Sea, including 1.6m sq km no-fishing zone, and small area set aside for research fishing only

Australia, EU: About 1.6 million sq km off East Antarctica

OTHER MPAs

UK: Seeking protection for areas exposed by collapsing ice shelves around Antarctic Peninsula

South Orkney Islands: Only MPA-designated section of Antarctic waters – 94,000 sq km set up in 2009

