



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
**NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE**

**Office of National Marine Sanctuaries**

1305 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

March 21, 2017

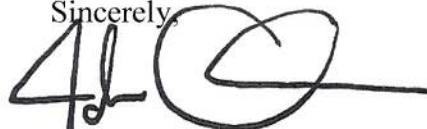
Philip Church  
Oswego County Administrator  
46 East Bridge Street  
Oswego, NY 13126

Dear Mr. Church:

Thank you for submitting the nomination for the proposed Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary. We greatly appreciate the interest expressed by the state, congressional delegation, nonprofit groups, business and tourism organizations and the number of other community members and individuals that signed letters in support of the nomination. It is clear that many care deeply about the unique resources in and around eastern Lake Ontario.

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) has completed our detailed review and determined that this nomination meets the national significance criteria and management considerations. Thus, we have added the nomination to the inventory of areas NOAA may consider in the future for national marine sanctuary designation. We look forward to working with you, your colleagues and the community organizations that have proposed the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary nomination as we consider possible national marine sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,



John Armor  
Director

