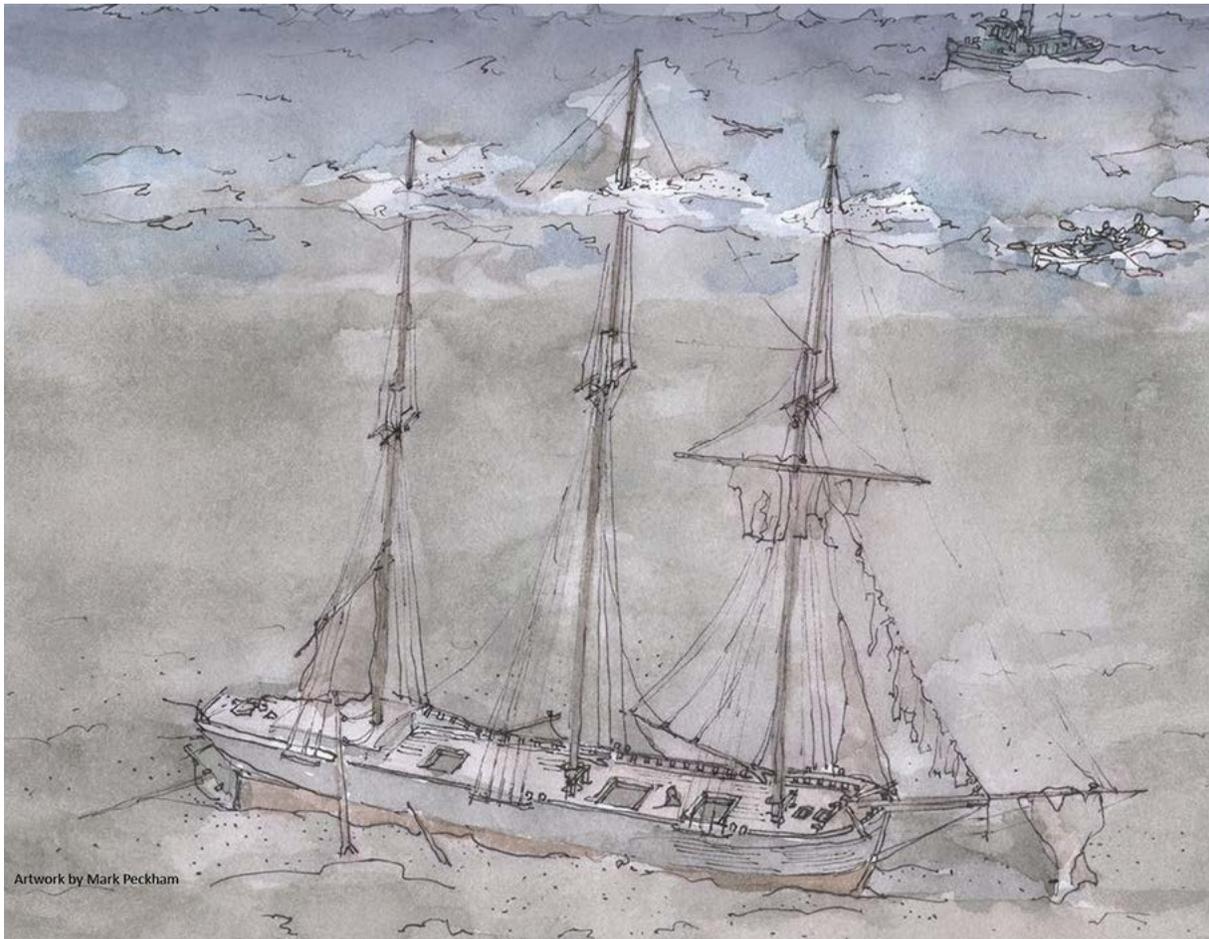


GREAT Lake Ontario



National Marine Sanctuary

Proposal to the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration's Marine Sanctuary Program 2017



Artwork by Mark Peckham

Wreck of the St. Peter (1874) – National Register of Historic Places



Section I – Basics

Nomination Title: The Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary

Nominator Names(s) & Affiliations(s): Andrew Cuomo, Governor of New York; Kevin Gardner, Chairman of the Oswego County Legislature; Scott Gray, Chairman of the Jefferson County Legislature; Keith Batman, Chairman of the Cayuga County Legislature; Steve LeRoy, Chairman of the Wayne County Board of Supervisors; and William Barlow, Mayor of the City of Oswego.

Point of Contact: Philip Church, Oswego County Administrator, Chairman of Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary Nomination Task Force; 46 East Bridge Street, Oswego 13126; phone 315-349-8235, fax 315-349-8237, e-mail pchurch@oswegocounty.com

Section II – Introduction

Narrative Description: The proposed Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary includes unique and significant submerged cultural resources within a corridor that is one of the most historically significant regions in the Great Lakes and the North American continent. Located in the southeastern and eastern quadrant of Lake Ontario, this area and its tributaries provided food and transportation trade routes for indigenous peoples and early European explorers, such as Samuel de Champlain. During the colonial period, it was a strategic theater of conflict among European powers and the young American republic. Military actions involving naval and land forces occurred at Sodus, Oswego, Big Sandy Creek, and Sackets Harbor during the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. These actions involved historic figures such as the Marquis de Montcalm, Sir William Johnson, Commodore Isaac Chauncey and Sir James Yeo. Later, this region was critical to the development of the American west and our nation's industrial core and the westward spread of democracy. The area also served as a location of maritime innovation and invention, and was crucial in the agricultural expansion of the 19th century. With the City of Oswego as its geographic center, the proposed sanctuary lies at the western end of the historic maritime highways of the St. Lawrence River and the Erie-Oswego Canal. Through this corridor immigration and commerce flowed to and from the developing east coast cities of New York, Philadelphia, Boston and westward to Buffalo, Chicago, Detroit and beyond. Oswego's harbor is the oldest freshwater port in the United States, and thus this region's history is intertwined with the history of nearly every other Great Lakes community.

Within the nomination area there are 21 shipwrecks and one aircraft whose locations are known. Contemporary vessel loss reports and news reports indicate that an additional 47 shipwrecks and two historic aircraft are within the nomination area. These figures do not include dozens more shipwrecks that the historical record indicates were salvaged or grounded and broke apart. Of those known shipwrecks, the *St. Peter*, is on the National Register of Historic Places, and another, the *David W. Mills*, is New York State's only Submerged Cultural Preserve and Dive Site in its Great Lakes. Several more of the known shipwrecks exhibit intact architectural features and are likely



Great Lakes schooner under tow in early 20th century.

eligible for listing, such as the *Atlas*, *Bay State*, *Queen of the Lakes*, *Royal Albert*, *Roberval*, *Black Duck* and the *Lady Washington*, which is the second oldest (1797) intact shipwreck discovered in the Great Lakes. The oldest is also in Lake Ontario, the Revolutionary War-era *HMS Ontario* (1780), which is non-contiguous to proposal area.

Inhabitants of the eastern Lake Ontario region have held a unique bond with their heritage and natural surroundings for centuries. The lake dominated trade and transportation, beginning with the canoes and boats of early indigenous peoples. Shipbuilding and water transportation has been one of the largest endeavors of the region from the age of exploration through today's commercial age. Nearly every city, town, village or hamlet produced vessels of nearly every architectural type known to the Great Lakes. 687 known vessels were built within the corridor, many of which can be found submerged, in whole or in part, throughout the Great Lakes and their tributaries – even within other existing and proposed National Marine Sanctuaries. Considerable shore-based infrastructure remains intact in the form of dock-yards, dry-docks, piers, terminuses, cribs, canal structures, lighthouses, and associated historic architecture. These resources provide a lasting memory that is not lost on the citizens who reside in the region, as a rich maritime culture continues to thrive in the forms of commercial shipping, sport fishing, sailing, yachting, diving, paddling, museums, maritime-themed product and business branding. The regional maritime heritage in the collective communities of the proposed sanctuary demonstrates the willingness of the region's citizens to foster marine educational opportunities and research, as well as related economic growth and expansion.

Designation of a National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) here would increase the reach and capabilities of existing educational and research institutions such as, but not limited to: New York Sea Grant, several colleges of the State University of New York, Syracuse University, the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the NYS Museum, Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Great Lakes Research Consortium, and not-for-profit museums and school districts that operate on the shores of southern and eastern Lake Ontario.

Further, the proposed sanctuary would increase tourism and economic opportunity in the communities along the Seaway Trail – a 518-mile National Scenic Byway that travels directly along the entire length of the proposed sanctuary corridor. Increased tourism would have exponential effects on the communities, and shore-based resources within them that support the education, research, exploration and access to these nationally significant submerged cultural resources.

The counties of Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne, along with the City of Oswego and the State of New York are embarking on this effort to preserve, protect, promote and create economies around such submerged resources – and those shore-based resources that adjoin them. Establishment of an NMS in this location is the critical enabling step to make this corridor a world-class epicenter for our nation's maritime history, heritage and culture and help ensure its existence for future generations.

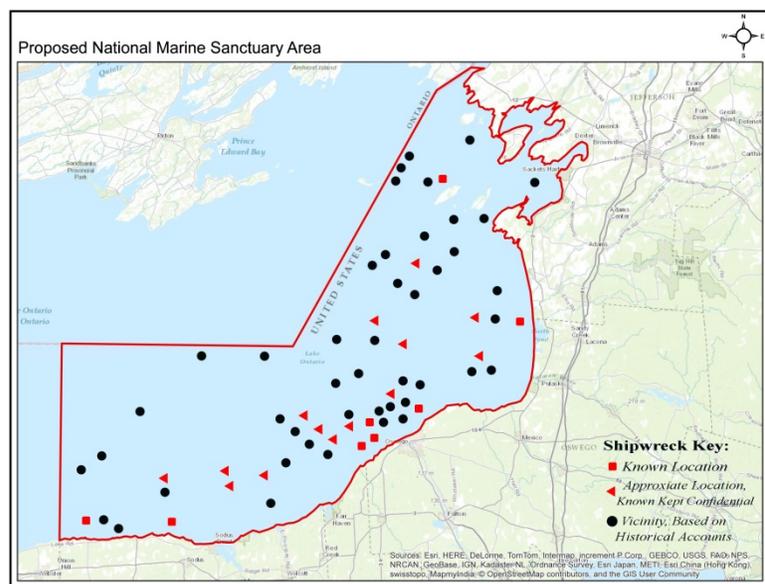
Goals Description: The proposed “Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary” will establish international recognition for the unique maritime historic and cultural features of the region. The Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council, to be formed by NOAA as a result of this initiative, will work with local, state, regional, federal, international and indigenous entities to achieve these stated goals. Centered on submerged heritage resources, the designation will

increase international awareness of these resources, thereby instituting broad-range exponential success in nearly every other correlated goal, as described here:

1. To preserve, interpret and protect the region's and the nation's submerged maritime heritage resources and artifacts within the boundaries of the proposed NMS.
2. To expand and enrich regional and international research and educational programs and opportunities for all levels of educational pursuit - from primary school science and history to post graduate studies and institutional research in marine sciences, maritime history, archaeology and related disciplines, thereby facilitating the development of future leaders and experts in the many fields related to Great Lakes maritime heritage.
3. To build and strengthen partnerships and collaborations between federal, state, local, indigenous, and international agencies for implementing best practices in maritime heritage resource management.
4. To pursue and develop strengthened partnerships and co-programming in the areas of tourism, education, and heritage preservation with local, state, regional, national and international entities.
5. To support, strengthen, and grow the economic and tourism goals of the counties of Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne, along with the City of Oswego and New York State; to develop conservation and management strategies for submerged cultural resources that are concurrent with, and do not impede, commercial and recreational uses of the waters within the proposed sanctuary.

Location Description: The proposed Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary encompasses the waters and bottomlands bordered as follows: Beginning at the western border of Wayne County (approximately 22 miles east from downtown Rochester), then due north to the mid-lake international boundary with Canada, following the international border east and northeastward to the turn of the border southeast of Point Alexandria, Wolfe Island, Ont., then southeast to the Village of Cape Vincent in Jefferson County (26 miles north of Watertown), and then following the lake's shoreline south and east back to the western border of Wayne County, excluding waters of the Port of Oswego Authority. The area's midpoint community is Oswego, 40 miles north of Syracuse.

The area described above encompasses approximately 1,746 square miles, with depths



reaching 802 feet, and borders 193 miles of US shoreline. It borders the scenic shoreline communities of Cape Vincent, Chaumont, Sackets Harbor, Port Ontario, Richland, Oswego, Sodus Point, Fair Haven, Ellisburg, Sandy Creek and Pultneyville. It boasts natural features known as Galloo Island, Grenadier Island, Henderson Harbor, Eastern Lake Ontario Dune and Wetland System, Mexico Bay, Derby Hill Bird Observatory, Oswego Harbor, Little Sodus Bay, Blind Sodus Bay, Port Bay, East Bay, Chimney Bluffs, Sodus Bay, and Maxwell Bay. Major tributaries are the Oswego, Salmon and Black rivers.

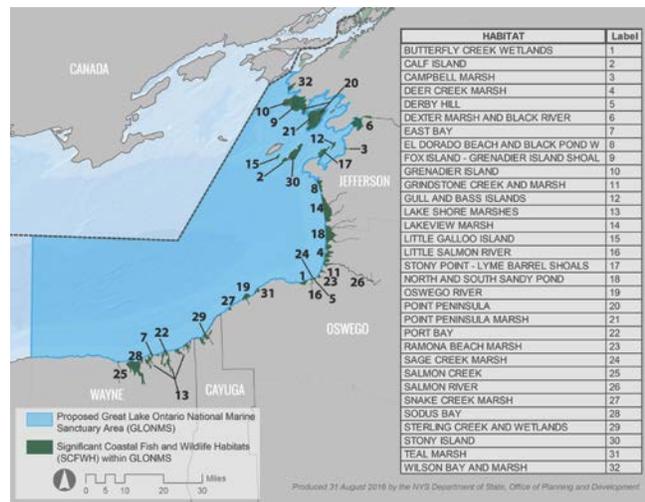
Section III – Criteria Information

Criteria 1: Natural Resources and Ecological Qualities

This is a maritime heritage sanctuary nomination. We do not propose that the sanctuary regulate fishing, water quality or other natural resource attributes of the area. We provide the information below as context for the maritime heritage resources that are the focus of this nomination.

Lake Ontario is the 12th largest freshwater lake in the world, by area and by volume. It provides drinking water for over 10 million people in the US and Canada. It’s the smallest Great Lake, but the second deepest. Only Lake Superior is deeper. This type of deep, cold freshwater ecosystem is rare worldwide. Although it is not a pristine system (many of the species are non-native), it is functioning well and restoration is underway for native species such as lake trout, lake sturgeon, deep-water cisco, and lake herring. Improvement in Lake Ontario water quality over the last 40 years has assisted in the successful restoration of the American bald eagle to New York State.

The proposed NMS area features significant biodiversity in coastal fish and wildlife habitats including fish spawning shoals critical for supporting native fish populations, which support the region’s outstanding recreational fisheries. Lake Ontario waters and food web support two federally listed endangered or candidate species: Piping plover (endangered) and American eel (candidate). The lake supports a large and thriving recreational fishery for native lake trout, smallmouth bass, and walleye, and for introduced species such as Chinook and Coho salmon, brown trout and rainbow trout.



In 2007, New York State identified the ‘[Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex](#)’, a 17-mile long, 5,800 acre area made up of multiple barrier beaches, embayments, dunes and wetlands. Eastern Lake Ontario marshes and various embayments are unique and important because of their filtering capacity that improves the lake’s water quality and ability to offer structural protection for spawning fish and small prey fish before they venture out into the open lake. The area represents the remains of one of the largest inland dune systems in the eastern Great Lakes and contains some of the highest quality freshwater marshes in New York State. The Department of State has deemed the area a "Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife

Habitat." Other designations include Audubon "Important Bird Area," New York State "Bird Conservation Area" and "National Natural Landmark."

Other areas of natural significance contiguous to the proposed NMS include: Chimney Bluffs, sculpted by the lake's unique weather, Derby Hill Bird Observatory, one of the premier locations in North America to observe migrating birds of prey before they traverse the NMS area north; Lake Shore Marshes; Sterling Nature Center; Stony Point - Lyme Barrel Shoals; Little Galloo Island; one of only two known nesting areas for double-crested cormorant in upstate New York, and may contain the largest colony on the Great Lakes.

Criteria 2: Significant Submerged Heritage Resources

Centuries of indigenous habitation, exploration, colonialism, military conflict, and commercialization necessitated journeys of people and goods on Lake Ontario. These voyages often met with challenging maritime conditions that resulted in a great number of shipwrecks. This region's numerous well-preserved submerged maritime heritage resources are of rare age and type. They offer a fascinating story that is just beginning to be uncovered and told. Combined with the rich heritage of the maritime cultural landscape of eastern Lake Ontario, these "submerged museums" give credence to the case for their preservation, study and interpretation through the National Marine Sanctuary Program.

Within the nomination area there are 21 shipwrecks and one aircraft whose locations are known. The oldest date from the late 1700s. The historical record indicates that an additional 47 shipwrecks and two historic aircraft are likely within the nomination area. The 22 located submerged resources were discovered over the decades by recreational scuba divers and shipwreck research hobbyists. No government or university sponsored professional scientific shipwreck surveys have been undertaken of this historic area. Designation as a NMS would leverage resources and interest to conduct this necessary and important research.

Only one of the potential 71 submerged historic resources has been formally evaluated for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Considering the age, condition, and type of many of the known shipwrecks, several likely meet one or more of the criteria. Designation as a NMS would provide the impetus to evaluate these resources for listing in the National Register.

Known Submerged Resources of Special Significance

St. Peter. This vessel was listed in 2004 on the National Register of Historic Places (Ref. No. 04000226). One of Lake Ontario's most impressive recreationally accessible shipwrecks, the *St. Peter* is located northeast of Putneyville. This 135-foot, three-masted schooner rests upright in 117 feet of water.

In the early daylight hours of Oct. 27, 1898, the *St. Peter* succumbed to a violent, early winter blizzard. Bound for Toledo, OH, she had left Oswego carrying a full load of coal. On the evening of the 26th, the



Artist's conception of the *St. Peter* wreck.

schooner was approaching the safety of the Welland Canal when the storm struck her with 70 mph winds. Unable to reach the canal, the captain ordered *St. Peter* to turn back east and run before the wind. The captain, his wife, and *St. Peter's* crew desperately fought for their lives during 12 long hours of darkness, 14-foot seas, gale-force winds, and freezing sleet. Their battle was in vain. Only the captain survived the ordeal, rescued by a boat from the local Lifesaving Service.

David W. Mills. This vessel is the only New York State Submerged Cultural Preserve and Dive Site in lakes Ontario or Erie. *David W. Mills* was a typical Great Lakes cargo vessel of the late 19th century. Measuring 202-feet by 34-feet by 13-feet, this wooden "steambarge" could carry over one million board feet of lumber. Built by Thomas Quayle and Sons, the vessel was originally named *Sparta* and was launched at Cleveland, Ohio on April 11, 1874. The vessel was renamed in 1910 after the manager of the Port Huron Navigation Company. Captain Frank J. Peterson bought *David W. Mills* in 1919. *David W. Mills* ran aground on Ford Shoals on August 11, 1919 in dense smog created by forest fires in Canada. Attempts to free the ship failed and it broke apart during a violent October storm.

Ford Shoals is the site of at least five shipwrecks, according to historical accounts, most of which were salvaged. During the mapping of *David W. Mills* site, maritime artifacts inconsistent with *David W. Mills'* age and type were located, including a large wooden rudder that predates *David W. Mills* design and rests within 150 feet of *David W. Mills'* metal rudder.

Note on Imagery

Photographic, ROV video, and side-scan imagery of the following seven vessels is copyrighted and therefore not included in this application. This imagery can be viewed at www.shipwreckworld.com, where the stories of these vessels can also be read in detail.

Atlas Various sources state this small wooden two-masted schooner was built in 1836 or 1838 at Dexter by Ortha Little & Son. The vessel foundered in a gale in 1839 while bound from Chaumont Bay to Oswego with a load of stone. The vessel rests in over 300 feet of water off Oswego, upright, with partial collapse.

Bay State According to its discoverers, *Bay State* is the "oldest propeller driven steamship found to date in Lake Ontario." Located in deep water off Fair Haven, the vessel rests upright with its hull largely intact. Constructed at Buffalo in 1852 by Bidwell & Banta, the vessel measured 137 feet by 26 feet. *Bay State* left Oswego, bound for Cleveland on Nov. 4, 1862. Like *St. Peter*, the vessel encountered a gale before reaching the Welland Canal. The storm was too much for this early steamer, and she began coming apart, eventually sinking. There were no survivors.

Lady Washington This small early commercial vessel, described both as a schooner and sloop, was built in 1797 as *Washington* at Presque Isle, near Erie, PA. It is the second oldest shipwreck to be found in the Great Lakes. After construction she was sold and her new Canadian owners hauled the vessel down the Niagara escarpment from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario where she was put into service. *Lady Washington* went missing on Nov. 11, 1803 loaded with a cargo of chinaware, and was discovered intact in 2016 in deep water off Oswego.

Queen of The Lakes This 158-year-old vessel is aptly named, given her remarkable condition today, 110 years after her sinking. She rests in deep water off Sodus, upright and intact with all

three masts still standing, seemingly ready to take on sail and continue her journeys. Originally named *Robert Taylor*, she was built in 1858 at Portsmouth, Ontario. This 129-foot vessel sank Nov. 28, 1906 with a cargo of coal. While enroute from Charlotte to Kingston she developed a leak that her pumps could not handle. After 48 years on the lake, *Queen of The Lakes* foundered. Her crew survived by launching her yawl and rowing 15 miles to shore.

Three Brothers Built in 1827 by Whitford Gill at Galloo Island, *Three Brothers* is a rare dagger-board schooner. According to its discoverers, it is “the first fully working dagger-board schooner ever found.” Lost Nov. 12, 1833 with a cargo of apples and wheat, the schooner foundered in a storm while sailing from Pultneyville to Oswego. The ship’s tiller, a barrel of apples, and the captain’s hat were found just east of Oswego near Nine Mile Point.

Royal Albert Built in 1858 by John Simpson at Oakville, Ontario, this two-mast wooden schooner was lost Aug. 17, 1868 ten miles off Little Sodus with a cargo of 285 tons of railroad rails. She was heading from Oswego to Toledo when she foundered quickly. The crew escaped in life boats. Her heavy load of railroad rails may have shifted in heavy seas and caused the vessel’s seams to split.

Roberval This vessel is an example of a propeller-driven steel bulk freighter of the early 20th century. She was built in 1907 by Polson Iron Works in Toronto. On Sept. 25, 1916, *Roberval* sank in a heavy storm while steaming from Cape Vincent to Oswego with a cargo of lumber. Two crew lost their lives.

Table 1. Submerged resources that have been located within the proposed NMS area.

Name	Built	Loss	Type	Condition
<i>Atlas</i>	1836	1839	Schooner	Partial collapse. Oldest known of type.
<i>Bay State</i>	1852	1862	Steamer	Hull intact. Deck collapse.
<i>Black Duck</i>	1859	1872	Scow-sloop	Intact. Good. Perhaps only known of type.
<i>Cormorant</i>	1941	1958	Tug	Intact
<i>David W Mills</i>	1874	1919	Steamer	Broken on shoal. NYSSCPDS
<i>Etta Belle</i>	1871	1873	Schooner	Very good.
<i>Gordon</i>	?	1879	Dredge	Good
<i>Hartford</i>	1873	1994	Schooner	Broken apart.
<i>Homer Warren</i>	1863	1919	Steamer	Fair
<i>Lady Washington</i>	1797	1803	Sloop	Intact. Also known as “ <i>Washington</i> ”
<i>Mary Kay</i>	1957	1988	Tug	Collapsed.
<i>Ocean Wave</i>	1868	1890	Schooner	Broken. Stern & deck missing.
<i>Orcadian</i>	1854	1858	Brig	Deck missing. Masts collapsed.
<i>Queen Of The Lakes</i>	1858	1906	Schooner	Intact, including 3 upright masts.
<i>Roberval</i>	1907	1916	Steel steamer	Deck missing. Starboard hull collapse.
<i>Royal Albert</i>	1858	1868	Schooner	Good. Intact.
<i>St. Peter</i>	1867	1874	Schooner	Good. Listed NRHP
<i>Three Brothers</i>	1827	1833	Dagger-board schooner	Fair to good. Oldest known of type.
(aircraft)		1952	USAF C-45	Fair to good
<i>USCG Boat 56022</i>		1977	Landing craft	Very good. Resting vertical.
<i>Two canal boats</i>	mid-1800s	?	65 and 78-ft canal boats	Plank on frame construction. Partial collapse.

***HMS Ontario* – non-contiguous to NMS proposed area.**

The *HMS Ontario* is included here for NOAA’s consideration to include in the proposed NMS as a non-contiguous site, and as an example of the remarkable potential for discovery of intact historic vessels and archaeological sites of significant age and importance within the proposed NMS area. The *HMS Ontario* was built in 1780 at Carleton Island in the St. Lawrence River, the British Royal Navy’s strategic base and shipbuilding center. This 22-gun brig sloop or sloop of war, (sixth rate) “is the oldest confirmed shipwreck and the only fully intact British warship to have ever been found in the Great Lakes,” according to her discoverers Jim Kennard and Dan Scoville. She was located in 2008, resting intact with a slight list in over 500 feet of water, west of the proposed NMS area. During the Revolutionary War, the 80-foot, two-masted *HMS Ontario* repeatedly transported British troops and materials across Lake Ontario between Fort Haldimand on Carleton Island and Fort Niagara. On a return trip from Fort Niagara she foundered in a storm with up to 120 souls, including British troops, civilians, native Americans, and American prisoners. Sources: “*Legend of the Lake: The 22-Gun Brig-Sloop Ontario 1780*” by Arthur Britton Smith and www.shipwreckworld.com/articles/shipwreck-explorers-discover-1780-british-warship-in-lake-ontario

Potential Submerged Resources of Special Significance

B-24 Liberator “Getaway Gertie.” Built by Consolidated Aircraft, this World War II heavy bomber was lost near Oswego in Lake Ontario during a snowstorm on Feb. 18, 1944. The B-24 was on a training mission when it encountered a heavy lake-effect storm that reduced visibility to zero. The aircraft was low on fuel and began circling over central New York and Lake Ontario, its eight-man crew desperately trying to fly out of the storm. The Liberator was last heard by residents of Oswego, as it headed out over Lake Ontario. A few days later, a wing section washed ashore east of Oswego. Despite a large search effort at the time, and many amateur expeditions over the last seven decades, the rare historic wartime aircraft and her crew remain lost.



Consolidated B-24 “Liberator” heavy bomber.

Fair American. Built for commercial use in 1804 at Oswego, this 64-foot wooden schooner was purchased by the U.S government at the start of the War of 1812 and armed with two guns to become part of the fledgling American Great Lakes fleet. After the war she was returned to commercial service. She sank in a storm north of the mouth of the Salmon River in October 1818.

Lady Of The Lake. This vessel was built in 1813 at the American naval base and shipbuilding center at Sackets Harbor as a five-gun armed schooner for service in the War of 1812. At the conclusion of the conflict she was sold for commercial use. In December of 1826, *Lady of the Lake* foundered in a storm with a loss of all hands while in route from York to Oswego.

United Kingdom. This early example of a sidewheel steamer was built in 1828 as the *Alciope* at Niagara, Ontario. She carried passengers and package freight on Lake Ontario until she went down in November 1835 near Oswego.

Table 2. Potential submerged resources within the proposed NMS area.

Name	Built	Loss	Type	Suspected location
<i>Adiramled</i>	1866	1912	Bulk freighter	Six miles east of Stoney Island, Henderson
<i>American</i>	1870	1894	Schooner	Off Stony Point, Henderson
<i>Appelona</i>	1814	1822	Schooner	Between Oswego and Genesee, 16 miles offshore
<i>Ardelia</i>	1835	1854	Schooner	20 miles off Oswego
<i>M. Ballard</i>	1855	1866	Schooner	Off Galloo Island
<i>Philip Becker</i>	1876	1879	Steam tug	Ten miles off Oswego
<i>Blanche</i>	1874	1888	Schooner	Between Oswego and Brighton, Ont.
<i>Robert Bruce</i>	?	1835	Schooner	West of Henderson
<i>Canada</i>	1826	1837	Sidewheel steamer	Near Oswego NY
<i>City Of New York</i>	1863	1921	Passenger/freighter	Off Main Duck Island
<i>Comanche</i>	1867	1886	Schooner	Near Point Peninsula
<i>Dolphin</i>	1817	1818	Schooner	Near Pultneyville
<i>William Elgin</i>	1871	1888	Schooner	16 miles northwest of Oswego NY
<i>Elizabeth</i>	1853	1857	Schooner	Between False Duck Island & Nine Mile Point
<i>W.Y. Emery</i>	1867	1899	Schooner	1.5 mi off the mouth of Bear Creek
<i>Fair American</i>	1804	1818	Schooner. Armed during War of 1812	Off the mouth of Salmon River.
<i>Farmer's Daughter</i>	1816	?	Schooner	Unknown, but built at Ellisburg
<i>Anna Foster</i>	1875	1889	Schooner	20 miles northeast of Charlotte
<i>E. B. Gannett</i>	1864	1870	Schooner	12 miles north of Oswego
<i>E. Hall</i>	1863	1879	Schooner	15 miles off Fair Haven
<i>J. E. Hall</i>	1863	1876	Schooner	Midway between Pultneyville and Bear Creek
<i>Maggie Hunter</i>	1862	1876	Schooner	Off Oswego
<i>Iona</i>	1892	1912	Bulk freighter	Off Stony Point
<i>Isaac Jenkins</i>	1873	1875	Schooner	Five miles off Lewis' Bluff, Oswego
<i>Jeska</i>	1909	1926	Bulk freighter	Ten miles off Fair Haven
<i>William John</i>	1865	1872	Schooner	Ten miles north of Oswego
<i>Lady Of The Lake</i>	1813	1826	Schooner. Armed in War of 1812	Off Oswego
<i>Laurel</i>	1871	1876	Schooner	15 miles from Oswego
<i>Lochiel</i>	1852	1854	Schooner	15 miles northeast of Genesee
<i>Mary</i>	1877	1905	Schooner	Northeast of Oswego
<i>Sir Charles Metcalf</i>	1853	1861	Schooner	Near Main Duck Island
<i>Meteor</i>	1856	1874	Schooner	Off Ford Shoal near Oswego
<i>Mineral</i>	?	1860	Brig-schooner	Off Adams
<i>Moira</i>	1855	1862	Steamer	Ten miles from Main Duck Island
<i>North Star</i>	?	1863	Schooner	Seven miles out of Port Ontario
<i>North Star</i>	1854	1886	Schooner	Near Stony Island, north of Oswego
<i>Ontario</i>	1816	1832	Sidewheel steamer	Off Oswego
<i>John Parsons</i>	1891	1913	Schooner	Off Fair Haven
<i>Pioneer</i>	1860	1871	Schooner	Ten miles off Main Duck Island
<i>Lloyd S. Porter</i>	1893	1917	Lumber hooker	Scuttled off Fair Haven
<i>Reindeer</i>	?	1838	?	Unknown, but built at Clayton
<i>Sophia</i>	1818	1827	Schooner	6 miles east of Big Sodus Bay and 4 miles offshore
<i>Algie O. Thayer</i>	1872	1879	Tug	Ten miles off Oswego
<i>Tornado</i>	1862	1870	Tug	Four miles north-west of Oswego
<i>T.J. Waffle</i>	1914	1919	Bulk freighter	Between Oswego and False Duck Islands
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1828	1835	Sidewheel steamer	Near Oswego
<i>Getaway Gertie</i>	?	1944	U.S. Army B-24 Liberator bomber	Deep water off Oswego
?	?	1944	U.S. Army C-47 transport	Off Sandy Pond
<i>Vision</i>	1864	1885	Sloop	One mile east of Oswego

The Maritime Landscape

The people, the cargo, the missions undertaken, and the vessels of many types and varieties, form ripples in the wake of Lake Ontario history, and they connect directly to a deep and rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of national and global significance. Examples include Fort Ontario State Historic Site & Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum (now under consideration by Congress as a National Landmark), the Revolutionary War Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Oswego's Historic Maritime District, Sacket's Harbor Battlefield, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, 1813 Port Ontario Lighthouse, Seaway Trail National Scenic Byway, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor including the Oswego Canal. Significant archeological artifacts and remnants of a long and rich cultural history may remain 'in situ' on the lakebed and potentially the shoreline and embayments of eastern Lake Ontario. In addition to potential for artifacts from archaic peoples, there are unresearched artifacts and features of 19th century extractive industries and agricultural development, the Vacation Era of 1870 to 1929, docks, piers, canal locks, and military sites.



1684 French drawing showing the location of a meeting with the Onondaga Nation leaders with the French at what is now Port Ontario.

The Five Nations of the Iroquois, the Huron, the French, the British, and the Americans have important histories along the eastern Lake Ontario shore. Control of the lake by each of these groups allowed access to the greater interior of North America. The area surrounding the entrance to the St. Lawrence River was particularly important because it provided a gateway to trade connectivity between the North American heartlands and Europe. Control of this area along with various sites of trading posts, harbors and forts was critical, leading to naval and shoreline conflicts throughout the colonial period until the War of 1812.

Battles fought on and along Eastern Lake Ontario during the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 involved movements of men and weaponry by land and waterway routes laced through the region. In 1809 U.S. Naval midshipman James Fenimore Cooper was stationed in Oswego constructing America's first Great Lakes warship, the 16-gun brig *USS Oneida*. He later chose this location as the setting for *The Pathfinder*, third in his classic literary series of "*Leatherstocking Tales*." Local lore in shoreline communities describes tremendous acts of stealth and bravery. Among these are the events surrounding the May 1814 Battle of Oswego and Battle of Big Sandy, during which a 4-ton ship's anchor cable critical for the *USS Superior* that was carried by bateaux and over land by 200 men from Oswego to Sackets Harbor. This event became the basis for the young readers



British attack on Fort Ontario, May 1814.

book and stage play, “*The Great Rope*,” by Dr. Rosemary Nesbitt, founder of the H. Lee White Maritime Museum.

During the War of 1812, Sackets Harbor became the center of American naval and military activity for Lake Ontario and the St Lawrence River region. A large fleet was constructed at the harbor’s extensive shipyard to compete with the British Navy’s fleet constructed and headquartered at Kingston. Barracks were also built for the thousands of soldiers, sailors, and mechanics who soon arrived to provide the manpower for the invasion and conquest of Canada. Potential exists for discovery of submerged artifacts and features around this historic harbor.

Eastern Lake Ontario served as an important trade route from the eras of archaic and indigenous peoples to colonial settlement and eventually the development of the Erie and Oswego Canals. Portage routes connecting to eastern Lake Ontario later became canals, and trails transitioned to roads and eventually railways. As the first freshwater port designated by Congress, the Port of Oswego has been a major shipping port for well over 200 years.

Trade by water route between the resource-rich Canadian territories, the St. Lawrence River and the western Great Lakes was amplified with the introduction of a direct maritime connection to the Port of New York through New York State via the Oswego Canal (1828) and the Erie Canal (1825). This transportation system dramatically reduced the transport cost of goods, opening regions farther west to settlement. Urban settlement during the 1840s brought industrialization with faster-moving steamboats, railroads and telegraphs connecting lakeshore communities to the news and the needs of the day.



Oswego Harbor and Canal Entrance, c 1900.

Enlarged between 1834 and 1862, the canal's peak year was 1855, when 33,000 commercial shipments took place. By the end of the 19th century the green forests along the Lake Ontario shore had transitioned to farmland that produced food products for easy export via the connecting railroads and waterways. The engineering of these locked waterways (necessary to negotiate changes in elevation between the Port of Oswego and the Port of New York), resulted in the development of related coastal industry, shipping, services and the accompanying built environment, much of which remains today.

In 2000, the United States Congress designated the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor to recognize the national significance of the canal system as the most successful and influential human-built waterway and one of the most important works of civil engineering and construction in North America. The proposed NMS area would extend a designation of national significance to the resting grounds of a diverse collection of submerged vessels linked to the canal’s heritage.

U.S. and Great Lakes maritime technology also developed and evolved here in the communities of the proposed NMS, including the introduction of what became our modern-day grain elevator systems. The first American vessel to sail on Lake Ontario after the Revolution was launched in 1789 from Big Sodus Bay. The first center-board schooner was built at Oswego in 1806. In 1809, the *Diana* was built at Oswego, later to become the famous *USS Hamilton*. The US Navy’s first vessel on Lake Ontario, *USS Oneida*, was built in Oswego in 1808. Also built in Oswego was *Vandalia*, the first screw-propelled vessel in the Great Lakes which revolutionized steamboats. The *USS Jefferson*, the first iron boat on Lake Ontario was built in Oswego in 1845, followed in 1850 by the *O. S. Howard*, the first steam tug on the Great Lakes.

Pultneyville, Little Sodus Bay, Oswego, Selkirk and Cape Vincent are known to have been gateways to freedom in Canada for enslaved people during the American Civil War era. Some of the Underground Railroad ‘safe house’ coastal buildings, where people gave and received shelter during this unsettling time in American history, still exist.

Lighthouses. Lighthouses along the proposed NMS include Cape Vincent Breakwater Lighthouse; Tibbets Point Light; East Charity Shoal Lighthouse, built to mark the shallows over a 3,000-ft diameter rocky hazard off Cape Vincent; Horse Island Light off Sackets Harbor; Stony Point (Henderson) Light near Henderson Bay originally lit in 1869; Selkirk Light*, activated in 1838 at mouth of the Salmon River is one of only four lighthouses in the United States that retains its original bird-cage lantern; Oswego West Pierhead Lighthouse*; and the Sodus Outer Lighthouse and Sodus Point Light* in Wayne County. *NRHP



Tibbets Point Lighthouse is one of nine lighthouses in the proposed NMS.

Criteria 3: Economic Use

With 193 miles of Lake Ontario shoreline comprised of sandy and rocky beaches, sublime natural clay formations and overlooks, thousands of acres of conservation lands and wildlife management areas, numerous historic sites, variety of gamefish, accessible shipwrecks, fine examples of historic architectural types in vibrant welcoming communities, and a reputation for some of the most spectacular sunsets in North America, the proposed NMS area is already an international destination for visitors.

Tourism related to enjoyment of these and other assets amounts to more than \$100 billion statewide in New York, the most visited state by overseas travelers in 2014, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Travel & Tourism Office. The State recognizes the importance of tourism as an economic sector and supports the industry with grants and direct funding through its famous I♥NY program. Some of the most popular and growing tourism sectors in the state are strong in the proposed NMS area. In recent reports by Tourism Economics, an Oxford Economics Company, the combined annual traveler spending alone in Oswego, Jefferson, Cayuga, and Wayne Counties was over \$442 million. This spending represents just a fraction of the total overall impact of tourism in the regional economy if one considers labor income, employment and taxes.

Fishing. The region is known for its world-class fisheries. Record breaking catches attract serious sport fishing enthusiasts regularly. Both warm season and ice fishing are popular. In 2015, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) estimated the overall annual economic impact of sport fishing in Oswego County alone to be \$42 million, and another \$35.3 million in Jefferson County. Data on fishing license sales annually demonstrates that Oswego County alone sells more non-resident licenses than any other county in the state and more than all other Lake Ontario counties combined. These data sets also establish the world-wide breadth of interest in the Lake Ontario fishery, because anglers from every state in the



Eastern Lake Ontario boasts some of the best sportfishing in North America.

nation and many countries are represented. Angler survey data indicate excellent catch rates over the last 10 years, and countless trophy-size fish have been caught. The Salmon River is a premier fly fishing destination in North America. In fact, the waters of Lake Ontario, including its embayments and tributaries within the proposed nomination area, have produced over one dozen New York State and world fishing records.

Diving. Scuba divers represent an economic impact of more than \$108 million to New York’s Great Lakes region (New York Sea Grant survey, 1999). The fresh waters of the St. Lawrence River, Lake Ontario, Niagara River and Lake Erie are filled with fascinating shipwrecks, aquatic life, and geologic formations. In 2007, “Dive the Seaway Trail,” a project of New York Sea Grant and Seaway Trail, Inc., showcased this largely undiscovered underwater destination for attention by diving enthusiasts and maritime history buffs. The “Dive the Seaway Trail” project includes development of a series of dive sites marked, buoyed and maintained by community-based stewards along the 518-mile freshwater shoreline in New York and Pennsylvania.



A diver explores the wreck of the tugboat *Mary Kay* near Oswego.

The Great Lakes Seaway Trail National Scenic Byway. The proposed NMS area is along over one-third of the Great Lakes Seaway Trail. This National Scenic Byway is a 518-mile driving route that follows the shores of Lake Erie, the Niagara River, Lake Ontario, and the St. Lawrence River. It connects destinations such as Presque Isle, Niagara Falls, and the Thousand Islands, and the cities of Erie, Buffalo, Rochester, and Oswego. The trail is popular with resident and visitor bicyclists, motorists and motorcyclists. The trail highlights unique historical attractions and cultural heritage



Great Lakes Seaway Trail interpretive panels overlooking Oswego Harbor, telling the story of the harbor’s forts, the wreck of the *David W. Mills*, and waterfowl species, respectively.

sites, scenic vistas, waterfront towns and villages, festivals and events found along its path. Great Lakes Seaway Trail maintains over 60 kiosks along the route, featuring maps and information. In addition, there are over 150 colorful panels installed in waterfront locations that interpret the people, places, environment and events of each specific site. Many focus on maritime heritage.

Heritage Tourism. Museums like the H. Lee White Maritime Museum in the City of Oswego, the Sodus Bay Lighthouse Museum in Wayne County and the Antique Boat Museum in Clayton, showcase fascinating aspects of the region’s maritime heritage, depicting over 400 years of Great Lakes history with a variety of artifacts, paintings, models, events and exhibits.

Fort Ontario brings military life of 1868 alive for visitors. This New York State Historic Site overlooks beautiful eastern Lake Ontario in Oswego. Visitors have an opportunity to see the enlisted men’s barracks, officers’ quarters, the powder magazine, and much more. Known as the “Guardian of the Northern Frontier,” Fort Ontario has been rebuilt and changed hands several

times since the first fortress was built on this site in 1755. The present star-shaped fort dates back to the early 1840s and offers an insider's look at life on a military post in 1868.

The Safe Haven Holocaust and Refugee Shelter Museum commemorates America's only shelter for Nazi Holocaust survivors. It is dedicated to preserving the stories of 982 World War II refugees from 18 war-torn countries who were allowed into the United States as guests of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. These Holocaust survivors were housed at Fort Ontario in Oswego from August 1944 until February 1946.

The Salmon River International Sportfishing Museum is home to a collection of over 250,000 historic items originally on display at the Gladding Corporation's museum, which was believed to be the nation's first sportfishing museum. The collection includes homemade antique fishing rods, rare lures, reels and tackle, books, original watercolors and historic prints

Sackets Harbor Battlefield interprets the War of 1812 for visitors, and children are enthralled by re-enactors marching and firing muskets and cannon. The battlefield is interpreted to the public by exhibits, outdoor signs, reenactors, guided and self-guided tours, and a restored 1850's Navy Yard and Commandant's House.

A Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan, currently in progress for Central New York, will provide the planning foundation for development of a regionally-interlinked network of recreational and heritage trails and bike routes to be accompanied by recommendations for protection, rehabilitation, reuse and development of complimentary services and infrastructure targeted toward growth in tourism in the region.

Beaches. Thousands of people of all ages visit Lake Ontario beaches every summer to relax and play in the sand and swim in its waters contributing millions of dollars to local economies in the region. The three NYS parks in Oswego and Cayuga counties alone (Fair Haven, Selkirk Shores and Sandy Island Beach) attracted 430,573 visitors in 2015. Other popular state beaches within the proposed NMS area, Southwick Beach State Park, Robert Wehle and Westcott State Parks, attracted 317,947 in 2014.

Boating & Sailing. Boating enthusiasts piloting crafts of all types and sizes enjoy the entire nomination area from the scenic Thousand Islands Region in the east to open lake waters to the west. Historically, competitive sailing has made an impact on the eastern region of Lake Ontario. The sport of yacht racing has deep roots in this region and continues to be a source of recreation and pride for many Lake Ontario communities. The Eastern Yachting Circuit (EYC) in an international yacht racing association concentrating exclusively on the eastern region of Lake Ontario. It is comprised of 12 yacht clubs located in New York State, Ontario, and Quebec. This association provides competitive racing, through a yearly regatta.

There are several educational programs that introduce children and adults to sailing and boating on Lake Ontario within the region. The H. Lee White Maritime Museum offers affordable sailing and boating programs for youth and adults alike to have an opportunity to connect with sailing and the waterfront. Sodus Bay Yacht Club's adult sailing program provides a means for adults to learn to sail beyond their youth programs. The region provides support for people of all ages with the desire to learn to sail, and provides a gateway to competing in the sport at the highest levels.

Criteria 4: Conservation and Management for Public Benefit

Eastern Lake Ontario is a uniquely rich natural and cultural environment that has drawn settlers and visitors for centuries. A tapestry of maritime history is woven of unique submerged heritage resources, scenic coastal landscapes, diverse and rare wetland and dune systems, canal-linked waterway trade routes, and world-class fisheries.

Today, Eastern Lake Ontario is a destination for all-season tourism with a variety of activities on the lake from sailing, swimming, boating, and sport-fishing to shore-side farmers markets, festivals, bird watching, skiing, u-pick produce, award-winning wineries and historic villages and port cities. Residents and visitors alike can often be found lining the shore on summer evenings to experience the astounding beauty of what many consider to be among the most magnificent sunsets in the world.

The 2015 Central New York Travel Market Research study conducted by Young Strategies, Inc. revealed that the quality of outdoor experiences found in Central New York ranks highest of several amenities that were rated by visitors and residents. According to research conducted between January and May 2015, 49.1% of visitors participate in 18 categories of outdoor activities in the region. Many of these activities are directly related to assets found along the Eastern Lake Ontario waters, including hiking, boating, wildlife viewing/birding, fishing the Salmon River, fishing Lake Ontario, scuba diving, and ice fishing.

The Salmon River and Oswego River and Black River, along with many other tributaries to the lake provide numerous public fishing opportunities that have resulted in many state and world-class trophy catches of salmon and trout. Fifteen state parks and several local parks and preserves line the southeastern and eastern shores along the proposed NMS area.

The region's rolling hills and scenic valleys are crisscrossed with hundreds of miles of national, state and local recreation trails that support hiking, bicycling, and camping. Inter-regional linkages such as North Country National Scenic Trail, Seaway Trail, Finger Lakes Trail System, and the Adirondack Park, draw hikers and road trippers alike. Numerous lakes and waterways directly connect to the proposed NMS area and serve as recreational magnets.

The Erie Canalway corridor, including the Cayuga, Seneca, Oswego and Oneida Rivers, serve as blueway corridors, connecting the lake and Port of Oswego's deep-water port with interior lakes such as Cayuga and Owasco. The Erie Canalway Trail and its connectivity to the wider Central New York community represents potential for recreational and economic growth, with the benefit of increased healthy outdoor activity for residents and visitors alike.

The conservation and management of these resources is undertaken cooperatively by national and state discussed in Management Consideration 5. Local conservation and management activities are undertaken by environmental management councils, which are provided for by state law, local community development agencies, volunteer organizations and conservation entities such as the Nature Conservancy and Audubon Society.

From conservation of the region's rich agricultural heritage and scenic rural landscapes, to support for the day-to-day work of a multitude of natural and cultural resource managers; becoming host to the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would help tremendously to highlight and further the region's need to preserve, protect and share the many beneficial assets

The Great Lakes Research Consortium. (GLRC) is an organization dedicated to collaborative research and education on the Great Lakes, focusing on ecosystem studies and the physical, biological, and chemical processes affecting the lake system. It is comprised of 18 colleges and universities in New York State and nine affiliate campuses in Ontario, Canada, with a total of nearly 400 faculty members.

The New York Archaeological Council. (NYAC) is a not-for-profit association of professional archaeologists that exists to “stimulate, guide, direct and conduct research in the field of archaeology in the State of New York.” The council publishes research, facilitates the exchange and dissemination of information, and promotes archaeology of public education.

New York Sea Grant. (NYSG) is a very active participant in all facets of research and education related to Lake Ontario. Beginning in the early 1990s the NYSG office at Oswego was an early participant and facilitator of the first organized explorations of shipwrecks and their public interpretation in southeastern Lake Ontario. In partnership with the former Oswego Maritime Foundation, NYSG was a catalyst for the establishment of the New York State’s first and only “cultural preserve and dive site,” which is centered around the wreck of the *David W. Mills*. NYSG went on to coordinate with Seaway Trail the designation of four additional dive sites as the “Underwater Seaway Trail.” NYSG has conducted or facilitated numerous important studies of this proposed sanctuary area, including published research into the rare Eastern Lake Ontario Dune System, economic impacts of scuba diving, and shoreline erosion, and water quality and contaminants.

Ontario Underwater Council and Save Ontario Shipwrecks. With the proposed NMS bordering the Province of Ontario’s waters in Lake Ontario, an important opportunity for international research cooperation exists. Both organizations have indicated their support and excitement for this proposed sanctuary (see Appendix).

Management Consideration 2: Education Opportunities

Marine heritage education in this region has largely been undertaken by non-profit organizations such as the Oswego Maritime Foundation and H. Lee White Maritime Museum (now combined), New York Sea Grant, New York State Divers’ Association, Canal Society of New York State, Erie Canal Museum, Sodus Bay Lighthouse Museum, and Seaway Trail, Inc. Through special programming and exhibits, these groups bring to the public and school children the history and heritage of Lake Ontario and its communities.

Through the efforts of the former Oswego Maritime Foundation and New York Sea Grant, the wreck of the *David W. Mills* was mapped and a documentary about the project was produced with PBS affiliate WCNY. The wreck was designated as the only New York State Submerged Cultural Preserve and Dive Site in Lake Ontario in 2000. The site was officially opened with a first of its kind live underwater broadcast from the wreck site to the evening news on ABC affiliate WSYR.

The multi-year efforts of organizations and media such as these, and those discussed in *Management*



Live broadcast of underwater ribbon-cutting at the *David W. Mills* site.

Consideration 1, to bring Lake Ontario's underwater world to the public and into grade schools clearly demonstrate there is an interest, a will, and a public demand for more learning opportunities centered on maritime heritage in this region.

Many historic resources are resting on the lake bottom due to eastern Lake Ontario's unique and sometimes violent weather features. Warm, humid air from the Gulf of Mexico and cold, dry air from the Arctic meet over the Great Lakes and impact the region's climate. The results are often "nor'easters" and blinding "lake effect" storms that doomed many vessels in their path. These present educational opportunities for NOAA's National Weather Service, National Severe Storms Laboratory, and Marine Sanctuaries Program to use the stories of these heritage resources in collaborative projects to inspire interest in meteorology and history.

Designation of the proposed area as a NMS will greatly enhance these opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve the New York State Museum and local school districts. Institutions of higher education in the region will have the opportunity to create or expand programs in marine science and archaeology. These institutions include Syracuse University, the State University College at Oswego, State College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Cayuga Community College, Finger Lakes Community College and Jefferson Community College. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation will also provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, nautical archaeology and marine technologies.

Management Consideration 3: Threats to the Resources

Lake Ontario is an annual tourism destination for hundreds of thousands of visiting boaters, anglers, and scuba divers, and it is the first Great Lake traversed by vessels coming from the St. Lawrence Seaway. While both of these factors are significant contributors to the regional economy and residents' quality of life, they also make local waters and resources vulnerable to invasive species. Over the past two decades, zebra and quagga mussels have infiltrated the lake and colonized many historic shipwrecks. Some vessels are entirely encased with the mussels, resulting in the ability for a diver or researcher to only see the outline of the vessel and its artifacts. The mussel attaches itself to objects by embedding its byssal threads into the surface, potentially damaging fragile wood structures of submerged vessels.

Advances in underwater bottom imaging, side-scan sonar and magnetometer technologies have made these tools increasingly available and usable by the general public and private sector. This greatly increases the likelihood that more and more of the "undiscovered" shipwrecks and aircraft in this region will be found by people not involved in government, university, or museum sanctioned research. While most are maritime history enthusiasts and divers who respect the resources and their heritage, there is the risk that artifact collectors and illegal salvagers will be among those searching the depths.

The importance of commercial shipping to this region cannot be understated, nor can the impact of boating-related tourism. Both depend on clear channels for safe navigation, which require periodic dredging. The sponsors of this proposal do not see a conflict with an NMS designation and the continuation of critical channel and harbor dredging activities. Dredging needs have been met through routine maintenance that has not impacted the quality of the area's shipwrecks.

The great depth of many of the shipwrecks minimizes their risk for damage by nets or anchors within shipping channels or sportfishing areas. However, some shipwrecks of importance are shallower; and future discoveries may be found in shallow waters and would benefit from conservation management that is concomitant with commercial and recreational activities.

The Region's unique natural characteristics that led to the rapid maritime, industrial and municipal growth along the coast also were subject to adverse impacts from pollution and habitat degradation. Due to these significant impacts, the lower Oswego River was designated one of 43 "Areas of Concern" across the entire Great Lakes region. However, thanks to considerable investments by the State, City and County of Oswego the AOC was restored and officially delisted in 2008 – the first Area of Concern in the U.S. to attain this distinction.

Designation as a NMS will not only foster conservation by increasing public awareness and appreciation for maritime history and shipwrecks, it will also supplement and enhance current protections. Conservation and management policies such as those successfully implemented in the Thunder Bay NMS would minimize the risks of damage and artifact collection.

Management Consideration 4: Unique Conservation and Management Value

Designation of a marine sanctuary for southeastern Lake Ontario would bring needed scientific, technological, and financial resources to bear in the development of a collaborative effort to manage the sanctuary, and would present opportunities for related community involvement, scientific research, outreach and education across New York State and the international Great Lakes Region.

The geographic location of the proposed NMS is easily accessible through major metropolitan hubs such as New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Montreal, and connects to the world. The proposed area borders the Province of Ontario, which is very active in shipwreck research and education. The proposed NMS therefore presents opportunities for collaboration between NOAA, the State, and Canada on marine heritage research and interpretation. The result would be an anchor location for NOAA to help preserve, study and share the full story of the natural and cultural heritage of the largest group of fresh water lakes on Earth.

Education of the public and of future scholars is the key to successful and meaningful conservation and preservation of submerged cultural resources. An NMS designation will provide the impetus for regional universities to collaborate with local and state management efforts to develop public outreach activities and new and enhanced programs of study

Sanctuary designation would bring NOAA's network of resources and expertise to aid state and local efforts to understand, protect, and interpret these important historic resources.

Management Consideration 5: Regulatory and Management Authorities

Although the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966* created the National Register of Historic Places, State Historic Preservation Offices and the Section 106 Review Process, and the *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969* declared that it is a federal policy to "preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage," these laws do not necessarily translate to actual preservation in the field. On the State level, section 233 of the State Education Law states that it is unlawful to disturb archaeological resources on public lands

without first obtaining a permit from the New York State Museum, but without the needed outreach, education and presence in the vicinity of the resources, these laws may not be enough to support protection.

New York's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) helps communities identify, evaluate, preserve, and revitalize their historic, archeological, and cultural resources. The SHPO administers programs authorized by both the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980. These programs, including the Statewide Historic Resources Survey, the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places, the federal historic rehabilitation tax credit, the Certified Local Government program, the state historic preservation grants program, state and federal environmental review, and a wide range of technical assistance, are provided through a network of teams assigned to territories across the state. The SHPO works with governments, the public, and educational and not-for-profit organizations to raise historic preservation awareness, to instill in New Yorkers a sense of pride in the state's unique history and to encourage heritage tourism and community revitalization. The NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) contributes to updated regulations contained in Title 9 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) that implement the Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law and the Navigation Law. Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) is the body of law that established NY Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in 1970 and authorizes its programs. DEC combines in a single agency all state programs designed to protect and enhance the environment and enforces environmental laws through a number of means, including traditional police-type law enforcement, as well as administrative and civil actions. State enforcement personnel and policies aim to work in concert with their local and federal counterparts, keeping citizens informed and involved.

Staffing through DEC and SHPO offices is limited in time and numbers compared to the diversity and extent of the resources over which they have oversight and management responsibilities, therefore these efforts would benefit from partnership with NOAA.

The New York State Park Police provide essential police services consistent with the OPRHP's mission-to provide safe and enjoyable recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. State Park Police assist park users, make arrests, conduct criminal and non-criminal investigations, and provide emergency services. State Park Police also provide special services including marine law enforcement and education duties on state waterways, snowmobile enforcement and education, high angle and swift water rescue teams.

Congress enacted the federal *Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)* to encourage coastal states to be proactive in managing natural resources for their benefit and the benefit of the nation. The Department of State (DOS) is the administrative home to New York's Coastal Management Program. Key coastal policies potentially advanced by the proposed NMS designation would include those focused on historic preservation, public access and recreation, and commercial and recreational fisheries.

DOS also has worked with a number of Lake Ontario communities adjacent to the proposed sanctuary to foster resource protection and advance tourism opportunities through the development of Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs (LWRPs). In some cases, LWRPs are associated with a Harbor Management Plan that extends into the water. Many of these LWRPs include a focus on heritage resources within the community that complement the submerged

resources that are a focus of this NMS nomination. LWRPs exist in the City of Oswego, the Village of Cape Vincent, the Village of Dexter and the Village of Sodus Point. LWRPs being updated include the Town of Huron, and the Village of Sackets Harbor and the City of Watertown. These which support sound management principles in the protection and enhancement of the economic, historic, archaeological, educational, and recreational resources to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors.

Bottomlands of Lake Ontario are owned by the State of New York. The New York State Office of General Services manages most underwater holdings. Jurisdiction over historic artifacts found in the lake or on the lake bottom outside of any privately-owned 'water lots' falls to the New York State Museum, SHPO, DEC, Department of State Coastal Management Program and the Office of General Services. Because of the large number and likely significance in our national history of the submerged heritage resources located in the waters of eastern Lake Ontario, it is critically important to continue the work of inventory and documentation of these resources along with advancing the public understanding and appreciation of their meaning through the benefits that sanctuary designation would bring. The NMS may be a catalyst for more centralized unified jurisdiction among these agencies.

The proposed NMS area is integral to two binational agreements, the *U.S./Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement* and the *U.S./Canadian Convention of Great Lakes Fisheries*, both of which are designed to promote cooperative management in water quality restoration and sustainable aquatic resource management on a lake-wide basis, enhance public awareness and stewardship of the resources, and facilitate continual research to understand changes in the aquatic ecosystem.

State and federal laws make submerged heritage resources the shared cultural and historic legacy and property of the people of New York. Submerged Heritage Preserves and Cultural Preserves are historic shipwrecks and other submerged archaeological resources marked by a round mooring buoy, which provides access to the site, and a barrel-shaped navigation buoy. These programs sets rules and regulations for preserve sites including forbidding removing artifacts or damaging shipwrecks, trail lines, signage or buoys in the preserve system. State and federal laws help preserve this heritage so that future generations can enjoy and learn. New York welcomes partnership with NOAA to preserve and interpret submerged heritage sites.

Management Consideration 6: Partnership Opportunities

NMS in Central New York Regional Economic Development Council 5-Year Plan. In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of having a NMS designated in the south-eastern quadrant of Lake Ontario to Governor Andrew Cuomo's Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process developed to identify ideas/projects that have the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. Our application discussed the potential economic impacts that might be brought about by the various activities that would likely result from an NMS designation. It suggested that the project would require some civic infrastructure enhancements in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors if the sanctuary nomination proposal is approved. Oswego County identified \$10 million as an approximate number that could fulfill those needs.

The CNYREDC recognized that this NMS initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five-year period to implement their strategies.

Should our nomination proposal be met with favor, it would be our intention to use at least some of the funding we previously identified to partially support the capital costs required for a primary and satellite visitor centers. Way finding signage, remote interpretive technologies, branding and promotional materials are other likely investments that could be considered for funding through this source.

Support for NMS-related Businesses. Governor Cuomo’s “StartUp” New York program provides financial assistance and 10 years of tax relief to businesses that locate near state universities and colleges. The NMS/StartUp combination has the potential to attract marine recreation and marine technology businesses to the region. The CNYREDC plan recognizes the potential growth in the field of unmanned systems and is now making strategic investments to capitalize on the region’s strength in this industry sector. A NMS in close proximity to some of the world leaders in this field could be the impetus for future innovations in unmanned underwater systems technology in partnership with universities and NOAA.

Underwater Blueway Trail. Funded in part by a grant through the State Environmental Protection Fund LWRP line, planning is underway for development of a Statewide Underwater Blueway Trail. This project involves the development of a pilot project that will create a statewide underwater historic dive system to promote recreational diving, tourism, and maritime and other waterfront cultural resources education in six municipalities and associated nearby waterways.

Tourism Promotion Agencies. All four of the counties that have partnered in this proposal have existing Tourism Promotion Agencies (TPA’s) that currently work together to promote their common interests, most of which are related to the Lake Ontario fishery. Under our current structure, each of the four partner counties contributes a minimum of \$3,000 annually to a fund dedicated to this purpose. This is supplemented by in-kind services, as needed. It is anticipated that those collaborative efforts would continue and grow to include the promotion of the sanctuary and any related opportunities.

Community Assets & Facilities

City of Oswego. The City of Oswego is the geographic shore-line center of the proposed sanctuary. It is the first freshwater port in the Great Lakes, with a deep-draft harbor depth of 27 feet and protected by over 2.5 miles of breakwater. It is managed by the New York State Port Authority of Oswego, which ships over 500,000 tons of material annually. Three marinas serve charter and recreational boaters with six boat launches, winches, and over 560 recreational and charter slips. The recently restored Oswego Lighthouse opened for tours in 2016. Oswego Harbor is also home to a US Coast Guard Station, Homeland Security Border Patrol Station, and U.S. Geological Survey’s Lake Ontario Biological Station and its new research vessel, creating possibilities of shared vessel time. Several properties and historic districts within the city are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Small cruise ships use the harbor.

In 2015 the city was awarded \$132,250 through the NYS Environmental Protection Fund LWRP line to engage in the City of Oswego Waterfront Feasibility Study. The study will analyze waterfront planning, design, and community visioning for the waterfront, as well as provide market analysis for real estate development opportunities to create an economically viable plan to serve as a catalyst to capitalize on the city's natural asset. Two properties in the initial assessment were identified as potential sites for the NMS visitor/welcome/research center. The study will recognize the potential opportunity for the southeastern shore of Lake Ontario to become a designated NMS, and determine how to best position the area to capitalize on that tremendous opportunity to create long lasting positive economic impact to the area.

In 2016 the city also became a first-place \$10 million winner in Governor Andrew Cuomo's Downtown Revitalization Initiative, which funds initiatives to transform downtown neighborhoods into vibrant places for people to live, work and raise a family, and which will also attract new investments that could create synergies with NOAA and the marine sanctuary.

The city is also the location of the Lake Ontario Event and Conference Center. It is a state-of-the-art facility offering seating for up to 600 guests, multiple audio-visual systems, breakout meeting rooms, and an adjoining lakeview restaurant/bar with indoor and outdoor seating, suitable for NOAA/sanctuary conferences and events.

Village of Cape Vincent. Located in Jefferson County at the northernmost point of the proposed sanctuary area, Cape Vincent's harbor is 16 to 20 feet in depth and protected by a 1,381 foot breakwater. One marina caters to charter and recreational boaters. The village is the gateway to the popular Thousand Islands region of the St. Lawrence River, and the embarkation point for Horne's Ferry to Wolfe Island and Kingston, Ont.

Village of Sodus Point. Located in Wayne County, the Sodus Bay Harbor is a deep draft recreational harbor of 22 feet. It is protected by a breakwater of 4,575 feet, and contains marinas with a total of 802 slip and four launches. The US Coast Guard Auxiliary maintains a station here.

Fair Haven. Located in Cayuga County, Little Sodus Bay is a deep draft recreational harbor of 8 to 15 feet in depth and protected by a breakwater of 5,237 feet. It provides shelter for many beautiful bay-side homes and contains 550 slips and eight launches.

Port Ontario. Mariners entering this harbor are greeted by the Selkirk Lighthouse, built in 1813 (NRHP). This is a shallow draft recreational harbor of 6 to 8 feet in depth. It is protected by breakwaters totaling 1,690 feet. It contains 68 slips and two boat launches. The Salmon River meets Lake Ontario here.

Village Sacketts Harbor. Located in Jefferson County, the village was the headquarters of the American Navy during the War of 1812 and the historic downtown district is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The small harbor contains recreational slips and a boat launch. Seaway Trail is headquartered in Sackets Harbor.

Fort Drum / City of Watertown. Jefferson County is home to the City of Watertown and the US Army's Fort Drum. Located on the Black River, Watertown is a vibrant small city with libraries and museums and proximity to the Thousand Islands resort region and the Adirondack Park. Its historic district is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Fort Drum is home

to the 10th Mountain Division and supports operation of 80,000 troops. This federal installation may be a technology and man-power resource partner to NOAA.

Meeting Rooms and Exhibit Space. In addition to the Lake Ontario Conference Center, the shoreline communities of the four counties in the proposed NMS area have dozens of small (25 persons) to large (over 100 persons) facilities available for meetings and exhibits throughout the proposed sanctuary. These include town and village halls and community centers, yacht clubs, museums and historical societies, and restaurants and hotels. Numerous town, county and state parks have indoor and outdoor locations for meetings, exhibits and interpretive panels. Other than those highlighted above, small communities with meeting space and boating access facilities include Pultneyville, Catfish Creek, Henderson Harbor and North Sandy Pond, among many others.

Museums & Historic Sites

H. Lee White Maritime Museum. As significant potential partner for NOAA, the H. Lee White Maritime Museum is located at the heart of the proposed sanctuary in Oswego Harbor. Open all year, the museum offers a wide variety of educational programs for all ages, with most free and open to the public. Established in 1982, the facility is comprised of the main museum building, fleet of historic vessels, and the J. Richard Pfund Boating Education Center (BEC). The museum houses exhibits and thousands of artifacts telling over 400 years of regional maritime history. Vessels include the 1927 NYS *Derrick Boat 8* (NRHP), the WWII Tugboat *LT-5* (National Historic Landmark) used in the Normandy Invasion, and the last American commercial fishing vessel on Lake Ontario, *Eleanor D.* The museum is completing the outfitting of the *Ontario*, an replica 19th century schooner complete with onboard laboratory, another possibility for vessel sharing. The museum oversees the physical restoration and educational interpretation of the Oswego West Pierhead Lighthouse (NRHP), and collaborates with other lighthouses along the eastern shore of Lake Ontario to promote their combined historic and cultural significance. The BEC is the site of the former Goble Drydock, where many Great Lakes schooners and steam vessels were built. Preliminary design engineering is completed to restore the drydock to operating condition and establish a tall-ship service center. The museum hosts visiting vessels, provides meeting and educational space, and has partnerships with SUNY Oswego, historical agencies, and various tourism agencies. The maritime museum is a registered 501 (c) 3 organization that has an educational charter from New York State.



Ontario raises sails for her first sea trials.

Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site Located in Jefferson County in the Village of Sackets Harbor, this site interprets the War of 1812 for visitors through static displays and re-enactments. As headquarters for the American Navy on Lake Ontario, this harbor was the site of a shipbuilding arms race with British naval forces in Canada and the launch point of naval assaults against Kingston, Ontario.

Sodus Bay Lighthouse Museum. This lighthouse is preserved in excellent condition, and is operated as a maritime museum by the Sodus Bay Historical Society. The museum interprets the lighthouses and maritime heritage of the Great Lakes, and contains artifacts recovered from the wreck of the *St. Peter*.

Fort Ontario / Safe Haven. Fort Ontario State Historic Site interprets the US Army installation during the immediate post-Civil War era. The first fort built on this site in the early 1700s protected colonial interests in Oswego's strategic harbor and control of Lake Ontario's military and trade significance. Fort Ontario is currently under consideration by Congress for National Landmark status and transferal to federal control. It is also the location of the Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum, the only place in the United States to accept refugees of the Holocaust. Once federal status is secured, this historic site will be nominated as a World Heritage Site.

Erie Canal Museum. This museum is located in Syracuse south of Oswego County. The collection is dedicated to the Erie Canal System, of which the Oswego Canal to Lake Ontario is part. The weighlock building is home to the museum where canal barges were weighed to determine the cost of freight transport. The museum is the leading history museum specializing in the Erie Canal's history.

Antique Boat Museum. Located in Clayton just north of Cape Vincent is the Antique Boat Museum. This attraction features a collection of antique recreational boats and is home to an annual festival celebrating the craftsmanship of wooden pleasure craft.

Research Partnerships. Nearby potential research partners for NOAA include the State University of New York colleges of Oswego, Cayuga Community, Jefferson Community, Finger Lakes Community, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, as well as Syracuse University, Great Lakes Research Consortium and the NYS Museum.

Management Consideration 7: Community-based Support for the Nomination

Eastern Lake Ontario is home to the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes. We want to protect and share our Lake Ontario maritime heritage for generations to come. Our growing coalition of regional community leaders and citizens recognize that these resources have limited protection and are a sleeping giant of economic and community development potential for our region. New York State, County, City and local leaders as well as private and non-profit organizations and citizen groups across the region collectively, and enthusiastically support the nomination of Eastern Lake Ontario as a maritime heritage-based opportunity for world class scientific study, heritage tourism, regional economic development, and incredibly valuable educational pedagogy development through designation as a part of our National Marine Sanctuary System.

The public announcement that the local governments would pursue this nomination was met with universal praise and support. Within days there were 5,400 visits to the project web site (www.lakeontarionms.com) and the Facebook page reached 45,000 people.

To date, the nomination task force has received, on behalf of NOAA, 142 letters of support representing 218 entities/individuals and two petitions. These are listed and attached in the Appendix. Represented are New York State, federal officials, local governments and officials, Canadian interests, the Onondaga Nation, regional policy and economic development agencies, local businesses, schools, universities, heritage and archaeological organizations, and the general public.

APPENDIX

List of Supporting Entities, Letters of Support, & Petitions

State of New York

Governor Andrew Cuomo

Sponsoring Communities

Cayuga County Legislature
City of Oswego Common Council
Jefferson County Legislature
Oswego County Legislature
Wayne County Board of Supervisors

Elected & Appointed Officials

US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Congressman Richard Hannah
Congressman John Katko
State Senator Patty Ritchie
Assemblyman William Barclay
Assemblyman Robert Oaks
Oswego County Legislature Chairman Kevin Gardner
City of Oswego Mayor William Barlow
Legislator Margaret Kastler, Oswego County
Legislator Shawn Doyle, Oswego County
Legislator Roy Reehil, Oswego County
Town of Scriba Supervisor Ken Burdick
Oswego County Administrator Philip Church

Local Governments

New York State Association of Counties
representing all 62 counties of NYS
North Shore Council of Governments
representing V. Central Square, V. Cleveland, T. West Monroe, T. Hastings
Salmon River Council of Governments
representing V. Parish, T. Parish, T. Albion, T. Amboy, T. Orwell
Town of Ellisburg
Town of Henderson
Town of Huron
Town of Montezuma
Town of Ontario
Town of Oswego
Town of Sterling
Village of Sandy Creek

International

Onondaga Nation
Ontario Underwater Council
Save Ontario Shipwrecks

Government Agencies

New York State Canal Corporation
Oswego City-County Youth Bureau
Oswego County Emergency Management
Town of Huron Historian
Village of Sodus Point Historian
Wayne County Historian

Education

Cayuga Community College
Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation –
representing nine school districts
Finger Lakes Community College
Great Lakes Research Consortium
Hannibal Central School District
Jefferson Community College
New York Sea Grant
Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse
Sandy Creek Central School District
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
SUNY Oswego President
SUNY Oswego Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
SUNY Oswego Chemistry Department Chair

Museums and Libraries

Children's Museum of Oswego
Friends of Fort Ontario, Inc.
H. Lee White Maritime Museum
Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum

Archaeology & Historical

New York Archaeological Council
Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor
Georgann & Michael Wachter, Erie Wrecks
Half-Shire Historical Society
Heritage Foundation of Oswego County
Joseph Zarzynski, Maritime Archaeologist & Independent Scholar
Preservation Association of Central New York

Archaeology & Historical cont.

Town of Ontario Historical & Landmark Preservation Society
Sodus Historical Society
Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society

Stewardship Organizations

New York State Conservation Council Inc.
Oswego County Environmental Management Council
Oswego County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs
Sterling Nature Center

Economic Development

Cayuga County Office of Tourism
CenterState CEO
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board
County of Oswego Industrial Development Agency
Greater Oswego-Fulton Chamber of Commerce
Jefferson County Local Development Corporation
Ontario Chamber of Commerce
Operation Oswego County, Inc
Oswego County Tourism Advisory Council
Pulaski Farmer's Market and Preservation & Revitalization of Pulaski
Pulaski-Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce
Town of Hastings Community Development & Tourism Office
Tug Hill Commission
Visit Syracuse
Wayne County Industrial Development Agency & Economic Development Corp.
Wayne County Economic Development and Planning
Wayne County Tourism

Recreational User Groups

Above & Below The Water Training Center
Auburn Skin Divers Association
Captain Duane Morton
Eastern Lake Ontario Salmon and Trout Association
Oswego Yacht Club

Businesses

Broadwell Hospitality Group
Fairpoint Marina
Kallet Theater and Conference Center
Pleasant Beach Hotel
Rainbow Shores
Selkirk (Salmon River) Lighthouse & Marina, LLC
Sunoco Ethanol
Universal Metal Works

Other

Creekside Tenants Association
CNY Arts Center
Al and Shaun Knopp
Oswego Harbor Festivals Inc.
Pulaski Lodge No. 415
Deanne Hall, Director of Faith Formation *including a 57-signature petition and 33 student letters and drawings*
Richard S. Shineman Foundation
Ms. Mary Spencer-Geer
Change.org online petition of signatures (121)

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representing V. Parish, T. Parish, T. Albion, T. Amboy, T. Orwell
Town of Ellisburg
Town of Henderson
Town of Huron
Town of Montezuma
Town of Ontario
Town of Oswego
Town of Sterling
Village of Sandy Creek

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SUNY Oswego President
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Rainbow Shores
Selkirk (Salmon River) Lighthouse & Marina, LLC
Sunoco Ethanol
Universal Metal Works

Other

Creekside Tenants Association
CNY Arts Center
Al and Shaun Knopp
Oswego Harbor Festivals Inc.
Pulaski Lodge No. 415
Deanne Hall, Director of Faith Formation *including a 57-signature petition and 33 student letters and drawings*
Richard S. Shineman Foundation
Ms. Mary Spencer-Geer
Change.org online petition of signatures (121)



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

December 28, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

I would like to express my full support for this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) in the waters of eastern Lake Ontario. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the eastern coast of the lake. Lake Ontario is one of our State's and country's great historical and cultural treasures with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes region.

The unique beauty of eastern Lake Ontario and its wealth of submerged and shore-based cultural sites offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario's storied past connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Designation as an NMS will establish international recognition for the countless archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural past, which remain undisturbed at the bottom of eastern Lake Ontario, ensuring their continued protection and preservation. These expected outcomes are consistent with New York's lakewide ecosystem management and regional economic development efforts.

In addition, the proposed Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary will expand regional research and educational opportunities, raise awareness of the lake's ecological resources, enhance recreational activities and spur tourism in Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne counties, strengthening both the local and state-wide economy.

WE WORK FOR THE PEOPLE
PERFORMANCE ★ INTEGRITY ★ PRIDE

Finally, this proposal will serve as a tool to build and fortify partnerships and collaborations between federal, state, local and international agencies for implementing best practices in maritime heritage resource management.

This call for nomination represents a unique opportunity for Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne counties, New York State and our country to showcase and protect our rich maritime heritage and I am pleased to lend my full support to this collaborative effort to develop a NMS in eastern Lake Ontario.

Sincerely,



ANDREW M. CUOMO

cc: Kathleen Moser
James Gilmore
Eileen Murphy



County of Cayuga

Chairman of the Legislature
Hon. Keith M. Batman

April 19, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Legislative Chair, representing Cayuga County, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

Cayuga County recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

Keith M. Batman
Chairman

zoning

CITY OF OSWEGO, NEW YORK
Motions, Resolutions and Notices

By Councilor Walker

WHEREAS, for the first time in nearly 20 years the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is accepting nominations to add new National Marine Sanctuaries (NMS) to the 15 already established regions in the world; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the significant and beneficial economic, educational and recreational impact an NMS designation would mean for local communities, in 2015 the Chairman of the Legislature and the Mayor of Oswego established a regional task force comprised of elected and appointed leaders of the counties of Oswego, Jefferson, Cayuga and Wayne, the City of Oswego and the State of New York to coordinate a nomination of the southeastern quadrant of Lake Ontario; and

WHEREAS, the proposed "Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary" will establish international recognition for the unique maritime historic and cultural resources of the region; and

WHEREAS, the Goals of the nomination project are:

1. To preserve and protect the region's and the nation's legacy of maritime heritage resources and artifacts, both submerged and onshore, within the boundaries of the proposed National Maritime Sanctuary corridor.
2. To expand and enrich regional research and educational programs and opportunities for all levels of educational pursuit from primary school science and history education to post graduate study in marine technology and maritime cultural heritage sciences, including NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program, ensuring increased knowledge and the development of future leaders and experts in the many fields related to Great Lakes maritime heritage and research.
3. To build and strengthen partnerships and collaborations between federal, state, local, and international agencies for implementing best practices in maritime heritage resource management.
4. To pursue and develop strengthened partnerships and co-programming in the areas of tourism, education, and heritage preservation with regional heritage resource collections such as the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, the Canadian Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport, and NOAA's network of other National Marine Sanctuaries.
5. To support, strengthen, and grow the economic and tourism goals of the counties of Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne, along with the City of Oswego and New York State; to develop conservation and management strategies for submerged cultural resources that are concurrent with commercial and recreational uses of the waterway; and by providing additional resources to, and creating greater partnerships with, local and regional heritage tourism initiatives through building upon heritage tourism and recreational opportunities within and linked to the NMS, and

WHEREAS, the proposers recognize the existing economic benefits that are provided through the continued use of this area as a significant recreational fishery, and recognize that commercial shipping is important to the economic vitality of the Great Lakes region and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the nomination is being crafted to limit the scope of the proposed NMS to submerged cultural resources, so that recreational fishing and boating and diving, commercial shipping, and harbor activities can continue unimpeded; and

WHEREAS, other areas that have been designated as an NMS have experienced economic growth resulting from increased tourist visitation; enhanced sportfishing, boating, and diving; growth in marine technology industries; and international university research activities; now, therefore, be it

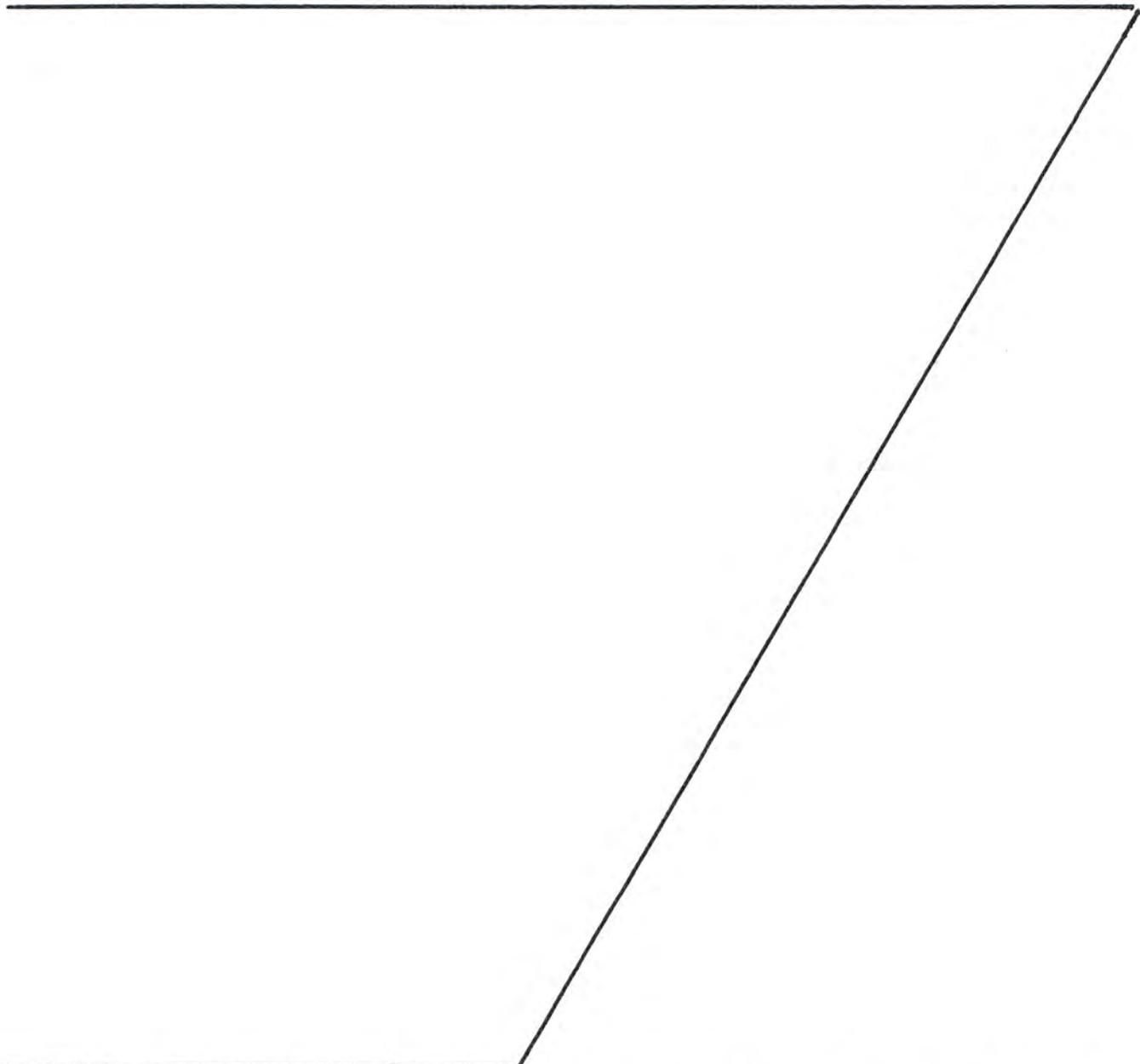
RESOLVED, that the City of Oswego Common Council supports the nomination of the "Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary" and looks forward to a mutually beneficial partnership with participating communities, stakeholders, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Sanctuaries Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution, shall be included in the nomination proposal as recognition of this body's support for this initiative; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the City Clerk provide a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressman John Katko, State Senator Patty Ritchie, Assemblyman Will Barclay, and Assemblyman Robert Oaks.

CITY OF OSWEGO, NEW YORK
Motions, Resolutions and Notices

By Councilor Walker



	AYES AND NAYS CALLED		ABSENT
	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN
Councilor Reynolds	✓		
Councilor McLaughlin, Jr.	✓		
Councilor Emmons			✓
Councilor Walker	✓		
Councilor Gosek	✓		
Councilor VanBuren	✓		
Councilor Corradino	✓		
TOTAL	6	0	1

Recommended by Planning and Development Committee

Chairman Councilor Shawn P. Walker

I certify that the foregoing resolution was duly passed by the Common Council on the 25 day of April, 2016

Deana Ascenzi Lafond City Clerk
 DEANA ASCENZI LAFOND

William J. Barlow, Jr. Mayor
 WILLIAM J. BARLOW, JR.

Approved April 26 2016

~~ADOPTED~~ LOST

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
Resolution No. 150

Support to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for the Nomination of the
“Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary”

By Legislator: Carolyn D. Fitzpatrick

Whereas, For the first time in nearly 20 years the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is accepting nominations to add new National Marine Sanctuaries (NMS) to the 15 already established regions in the world, and

Whereas, Recognizing the significant and beneficial economic, educational and recreational impact an NMS designation would mean for local communities along the southeastern quadrant of Lake Ontario, in 2015 a regional task force comprised of elected and appointed leaders of the counties of Oswego, Jefferson, Cayuga and Wayne, the City of Oswego and the State of New York to coordinate a nomination to NOAA was established, and

Whereas, The proposed “Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary” will establish international recognition for the unique maritime historic and cultural resources of the four county Southeastern Lake Ontario region, and

Whereas, The Goals of the nomination project are:

1. To preserve and protect the region’s and the nation’s legacy of maritime heritage resources and artifacts, both submerged and onshore, within the boundaries of the proposed National Maritime Sanctuary corridor.
2. To expand and enrich regional research and educational programs and opportunities for all levels of educational pursuit from primary school science and history education to post graduate study in marine technology and maritime cultural heritage sciences, including NOAA’s National Sea Grant College Program, ensuring increased knowledge and the development of future leaders and experts in the many fields related to Great Lakes maritime heritage and research.
3. To build and strengthen partnerships and collaborations between federal, state, local, and international agencies for implementing best practices in maritime heritage resource management.
4. To pursue and develop strengthened partnerships and co-programming in the areas of tourism, education, and heritage preservation with regional heritage resource collections such as the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, the Canadian Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport, and NOAA’s network of other National Marine Sanctuaries.

5. To support, strengthen, and grow the economic and tourism goals of the counties of Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne, along with the City of Oswego and New York State; to develop conservation and management strategies for submerged cultural resources that are concurrent with commercial and recreational uses of the waterway; and by providing additional resources to, and creating greater partnerships with, local and regional heritage tourism initiatives through building upon heritage tourism and recreational opportunities within and linked to the NMS.

Whereas, The proposers recognize the existing economic benefits that are provided through the continued use of this area as a significant recreational fishery, and recognize that commercial shipping is important to the economic vitality of the Great Lakes region and the nation; and

Whereas, The nomination is being crafted to limit the scope of the proposed NMS to submerged cultural resources, so that recreational fishing and boating and diving, commercial shipping, and harbor activities can continue unimpeded; and

Whereas, Other areas that have been designated as an NMS have experienced economic growth resulting from increased tourist visitation; enhanced sportfishing, boating, and diving; growth in marine technology industries; and international university research activities.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That the Jefferson County Board of Legislators supports the nomination of the "Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary" and looks forward to a mutually beneficial partnership with participating communities, stakeholders, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Sanctuaries Program, and be it further

Resolved, That a certified copy of this Resolution, shall be included in the nomination proposal as recognition of this body's support for this initiative, and be it further

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Board provide a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congresswoman Elise Stefanik, State Senator Patty Ritchie, Assemblyman Kenneth Blankenbush, and Assemblywoman Addie Russell.

Seconded by Legislator: Michael J. Docteur

State of New York)
County of Jefferson) ss.:

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Legislators of the County of Jefferson, New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of Resolution No. 150 of the Board of Legislators of said County of Jefferson with the original thereof on file in my office and duly adopted by said Board at a meeting of said Board on the 14th day of June, 2016 and that the same is a true and correct copy of such Resolution and the whole thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County this 14th day of June, 2016.


Clerk of the Board of Legislators

May 12, 2016

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT TO THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION FOR THE NOMINATION OF THE “GREAT LAKE ONTARIO NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY”

By Legislator Roy Reehil:

WHEREAS, for the first time in nearly 20 years the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is accepting nominations to add new National Marine Sanctuaries (NMS) to the 15 already established regions in the world; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the significant and beneficial economic, educational and recreational impact an NMS designation would mean for local communities, in 2015 the Chairman of the Legislature and the Mayor of Oswego established a regional task force comprised of elected and appointed leaders of the counties of Oswego, Jefferson, Cayuga and Wayne, the City of Oswego and the State of New York to coordinate a nomination of the southeastern quadrant of Lake Ontario;

WHEREAS, the proposed “*Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary*” will establish international recognition for the unique maritime historic and cultural resources of the region; and

WHEREAS, the Goals of the nomination project are:

1. To preserve and protect the region’s and the nation’s legacy of maritime heritage resources and artifacts, both submerged and onshore, within the boundaries of the proposed National Maritime Sanctuary corridor.
2. To expand and enrich regional research and educational programs and opportunities for all levels of educational pursuit from primary school science and history education to post graduate study in marine technology and maritime cultural heritage sciences, including NOAA’s National Sea Grant College Program, ensuring increased knowledge and the development of future leaders and experts in the many fields related to Great Lakes maritime heritage and research.
3. To build and strengthen partnerships and collaborations between federal, state, local, and international agencies for implementing best practices in maritime heritage resource management.
4. To pursue and develop strengthened partnerships and co-programming in the areas of tourism, education, and heritage preservation with regional heritage resource collections such as the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, the Canadian Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport, and NOAA’s network of other National Marine Sanctuaries.

5. To support, strengthen, and grow the economic and tourism goals of the counties of Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne, along with the City of Oswego and New York State; to develop conservation and management strategies for submerged cultural resources that are concurrent with commercial and recreational uses of the waterway; and by providing additional resources to, and creating greater partnerships with, local and regional heritage tourism initiatives through building upon heritage tourism and recreational opportunities within and linked to the NMS.

WHEREAS, the proposers recognize the existing economic benefits that are provided through the continued use of this area as a significant recreational fishery, and recognize that commercial shipping is important to the economic vitality of the Great Lakes region and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the nomination is being crafted to limit the scope of the proposed NMS to submerged cultural resources, so that recreational fishing and boating and diving, commercial shipping, and harbor activities can continue unimpeded; and

WHEREAS, other areas that have been designated as an NMS have experienced economic growth resulting from increased tourist visitation; enhanced sportfishing, boating, and diving; growth in marine technology industries; and international university research activities;

NOW, on recommendation of the Economic Development and Planning Committee of this body, be it

RESOLVED, that the Oswego County Legislature supports the nomination of the “*Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary*” and looks forward to a mutually beneficial partnership with participating communities, stakeholders, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Marine Sanctuaries Program; and be it further

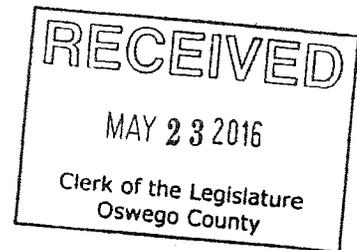
RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution, shall be included in the nomination proposal as recognition of this body’s support for this initiative; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature provide a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressman John Katko, State Senator Patty Ritchie, Assemblyman Will Barclay, and Assemblyman Robert Oaks.

ROLL CALL

YES: 25 NO: 0 ABSENT: 0

**Board of Supervisors
WAYNE COUNTY**



RESOLUTION NO. 319-16: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF GREAT LAKE ONTARIO NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PROPOSAL WITH THE COUNTIES OF JEFFERSON, OSWEGO, AND CAYUGA AND THE CITY OF OSWEGO

Mr. Spickerman presented the following:

WHEREAS, Wayne County was approached by representatives of Oswego County regarding the possible designation of the portion of Lake Ontario that is adjacent to the participating counties as the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, the participating jurisdictions are the Counties of Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga, and Wayne and the City of Oswego; and

WHEREAS, formal announcement of the proposal was made on September 4, 2015; and

WHEREAS for the first time in nearly 20 years the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is accepting nominations to add new National Marine Sanctuaries (NMS) to the 15 already established regions in the world; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary consists of a corridor that is one of the most historically significant geographic locations in the Great Lakes and the North American continent; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Great Lake Ontario NMS will be focused solely on "submerged cultural resources," such as shipwrecks, aircraft, and archaeological sites; and

WHEREAS, the proposed NMS will not establish regulations on commercial and recreational fishing, shoreline development, or commercial shipping, nor establish fees or new restrictions on recreational diving; and

WHEREAS, a NMS would supplement and significantly enhance recreational activities in this region, attracting many more travelers and improving the quality of life for residents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Wayne County Board of Supervisors supports the designation of the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary, and be it further

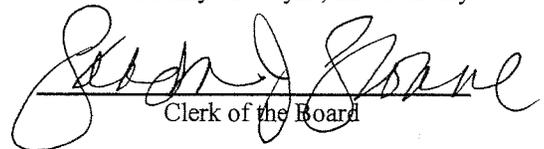
RESOLVED, that the Clerk of Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized and directed to send a copy of this resolution to the NOAA National Marine sanctuary Program, Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator Michael F. Nozzolio, Assemblyman Robert C. Oaks, and the other municipalities joining us in this effort.

Mr. Manktelow moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Mrs. Crane. Upon roll call, adopted.

WAYNE COUNTY
Board of Supervisors
LYONS, NEW YORK

This is to Certify that I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Wayne, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution with the original resolution now on file in this office and which was duly adopted by the Board of Supervisors of said County at a session held on the 17th day of May 2016 and that the same is a true copy of said original and of the whole thereof.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the official seal of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Wayne, this 17th day of May 2016.


Clerk of the Board

KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND

NEW YORK

SENATOR

RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
SUITE 478
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4709
202-224-4451

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
AGRICULTURE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205

July 6, 2016

Mr. John Armor
Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Sanctuary Program
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Armor,

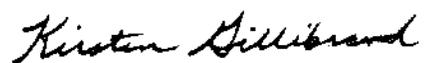
I write in support of the application submitted by Oswego, Cayuga, Jefferson, and Wayne counties to nominate the southeastern portion of Lake Ontario as a National Marine Sanctuary through the National Marine Sanctuary Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The creation of a Sanctuary in the southeastern portion of Lake Ontario will preserve maritime history while promoting tourism throughout the region.

Lake Ontario is an important piece of our country's history. It is home to two national and state designated shipwrecks and played a vital role in trade between indigenous groups, early settlers, and Canadians. Lake Ontario was also crucial to the expansion of manufacturing throughout the country. It is located between the St. Lawrence Seaway and the Erie-Oswego Canal, and enabled people, ideas, and goods to travel from New York to the Midwest and the West Coast. Lake Ontario also surrounds the shores of Fort Ontario, a military fort that dates back to the French and Indian War and was used through World War II and then used as the only refugee camp in the United States for victims of the Holocaust.

The proposed National Marine Sanctuary will be located along 193 miles of heavily trafficked New York State shoreline that includes 15 state parks and historic sites, as well as multiple research and educational institutions. The center of the proposed Sanctuary will be located in the City of Oswego which is the oldest freshwater port in the United States. While there are many on-land sites lining the proposed Sanctuary, it will be focused on exploration of shipwrecks, aircraft, and archaeological sites beneath the water. Currently, there are 17 known shipwrecks and one aircraft submerged in the lake. There are an additional 52 shipwrecks and two aircraft that may be located in the nomination area. The creation of the Sanctuary will allow for the discovery and preservation of these wrecks, and will greatly increase tourism along the shores of the Lake Ontario.

I ask that you please give this application your full consideration. If you have any questions, or desire and further information, please do not hesitate to contact my staff member Laura Driscoll at (202) 224-4451.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirsten Gillibrand". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kirsten Gillibrand

JOHN KATKO
24TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

1123 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3701

440 SOUTH WARREN STREET
7TH FLOOR, SUITE 711
SYRACUSE, NY 13202
(315) 423-5657

<http://katko.house.gov>



HOUSE TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

HOUSE HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION SECURITY
CHAIRMAN

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

August 15, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director
Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Acting Director Armor,

As the representative in Congress for western Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne Counties, I commend these counties for joining with Jefferson County and the City of Oswego in a collaborative approach to planning and submitting a request for nomination by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) of the eastern Lake Ontario region as a National Marine Sanctuary (NMS).

Lake Ontario has played a significant role in the history of Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne Counties and a National Marine Sanctuary in the eastern region of the Lake will help to preserve that history while protecting important environmental, commercial and ecological resources. A National Marine Sanctuary designation has the potential to help promote recreational activities and tourism, create new jobs and grow the economy of the Lake Ontario region. I am confident that an appropriate and enduring balance can be struck to both provide adequate protection for the historic and environmental resources in eastern Lake Ontario as well as continue to foster the growth of the Port of Oswego and the shipping and transportation industry in the Lake Ontario region.

I look forward to the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary organization's continued engagement with key stakeholders and the general public as they move forward with this proposal, and ask that you give the Great Lake Ontario Marine Sanctuary's request every consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Katko".

John Katko
Member of Congress

RICHARD L. HANNA
22ND DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE ON
SMALL BUSINESS

CONTRACTING AND WORKFORCE SUBCOMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3222

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
319 CANNON H.O.B.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
PHONE: 202-225-3665
FAX: 202-225-1891

DISTRICT OFFICES:
49 COURT STREET, SUITE 230
BINGHAMTON, NY 13901
PHONE: 607-723-0212
FAX: 607-723-0215
258 GENESEE STREET
UTICA, NY 13502
PHONE: 315-724-9740
FAX: 315-724-9746
<http://hanna.house.gov>

July 20, 2016

Mr. John Armor
Acting Director
NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
1305 E West Hwy, Fl 11
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3278

Dear Director Armor,

I am writing in strong support of the application submitted by the County of Oswego, New York to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Sanctuaries (NMS) program for funding to create the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary.

It is my understanding the County is seeking this nomination for the southeastern portion of Lake Ontario. If approved, I am told the proposed NMS would focus solely on protecting and promoting "submerged cultural resources," such as shipwrecks, aircraft and archaeological sites.

With 15 state parks and historic sites lining the 193 miles of shoreline, two shipwrecks with national and state designations, and a potential of 77 more submerged historic vessels and aircrafts, an NMS designation would be the critical next step in establishing this region as a center for our country's maritime history, heritage, research and culture.

I commend Oswego County for its commitment to preserving and protecting the region's rich maritime history while also using it as a way to grow the local economy through tourism.

Please do not hesitate to contact my Utica Office by phone (315) 724-9740, fax (315) 724-9746 or via email Nate.Crossett@mail.house.gov, if you have any questions, need additional information or wish to share your ultimate decision with me.

Thank you, in advance, for your time and consideration of this worthy application. I look forward to hearing from you.

Warm Regards,



RICHARD HANNA
U.S. Representative

RH/nc

**DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER
FOR SENATE/ASSEMBLY RELATIONS**

CHAIR
SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

CHAIR
LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON THE
DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL RESOURCES

**THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK**



SENATOR PATTY RITCHIE
48TH DISTRICT
OSWEGO, JEFFERSON, ST. LAWRENCE COUNTIES

COMMITTEES
ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE
CIVIL SERVICE & PENSIONS
CRIME VICTIMS, CRIME & CORRECTION
CULTURAL AFFAIRS, TOURISM, PARKS &
RECREATION
ENERGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS
FINANCE
HIGHER EDUCATION
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
TRANSPORTATION

May 5, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Mr. John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Armor:

I write to endorse the Oswego County's application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) in eastern Lake Ontario waters. This NMS would harbor many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

Developing an NMS in the eastern Lake Ontario region would shine a spotlight on the beauty of our region, while creating a major boost to the area's tourism industry. In fact, the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) recognized that this initiative could be "transformative" and selected it as one of the tourism sector highlights of its 5-year plan.

Again, I strongly endorse the application submitted by the County of Oswego. Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patty Ritchie", written over a large, light blue circular scribble.

Patty Ritchie
State Senator

PAR:mlb

cc: Philip R. Church, County Administrator

REPLY TO: **ALBANY OFFICE:** ROOM 412 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247 (518) 455-3438
 JEFFERSON COUNTY OFFICE: 317 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 418, WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601 (315) 782-3418
 OSWEGO COUNTY OFFICE: 46 EAST BRIDGE STREET, FIRST FLOOR, OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126 (315) 342-2057
 ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY OFFICE: 330 FORD STREET, OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK 13669 (315) 393-3024

E-MAIL: RITCHIE@NYSENATE.GOV

WEBSITE: WWW.RITCHIE.NYSENATE.GOV





THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

DEPUTY MINORITY LEADER
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Insurance Committee

WILLIAM A. BARCLAY
Assemblyman 120th District
Jefferson, Onondaga, and
Oswego Counties

April 4, 2016

COMMITTEES
Energy
Judiciary
Rules
Ways & Means

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta:

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for the efforts being made to designate the four-county shoreline regions of Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne counties of Lake Ontario as a National Marine Sanctuary. As one of the Assembly representatives for Oswego and Jefferson Counties, I recognize that this designation could be very beneficial to the lakeside communities such as ours.

The collaborative proposal between the four coastline counties will help these communities preserve their maritime history, promote recreational activities such as fishing and boating and draw tourists to the area. For the areas I represent, the designation will likely create new jobs due to increased tourism activities. Additionally, it has the potential to increase research and development at local universities by attracting international researchers to study shipwrecks and archaeological sites in the area.

Lake Ontario has always played a prominent role in this area's history. The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history. Fort Ontario, located in the City of Oswego, was built by the British due to its strategic location on Lake Ontario. Further, it is the only fort in the United States that has played a role in every American conflict and remains standing today as an important monument and historical place dedicated to the military legacy of this region. In addition to the lake being a strategic military point, Lake Ontario has played an important role in Oswego County's industry, commerce and cultural and recreational history.

From the world famous sunsets, to the cultural heritage and historic prominence, few areas can boast of these natural attributes. The designation of Lake Ontario as a National Marine Sanctuary is an important step in preserving this rich history while at the same time expanding on future historical, cultural and recreational activities for residents and visitors. Further, Oswego and Jefferson County will greatly benefit from the economic activity this designation would bring and it is for these reasons it is my hope that our area is selected.

Very truly yours,

William A. Barclay
Member of Assembly



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

Ranking Minority Member
Ways and Means

COMMITTEES
Rules

ROBERT OAKS
Assemblyman 130th District
Cayuga, Oswego and Wayne Counties

May 12, 2016

John Armor, Acting Director
Office of Marine Sanctuaries
NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the Member of the New York State Assembly for the 130th District, it is with great pleasure that I offer my strongest support for this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. The proposed Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary will establish international recognition for the region's unique maritime history and many cultural and ecological features.

The Assembly District I represent includes all of Wayne County and portions of Cayuga and Oswego Counties whose shorelines border much of the proposed sanctuary region. The designation will help to further showcase this area's natural attributes and attractions including the historic Sodus Point Lighthouse, Chimney Bluffs State Park, Fair Haven State Park and numerous embayment areas. In the waters off the hamlet of Pultneyville in Wayne County rests the remains of the schooner St. Peter, this designation will ensure that this national underwater treasure will be preserved and protected. Our area also offers exceptional boating and fishing opportunities, such a designation will add to the attraction of our counties and region benefitting our marinas, fishing charters and associated businesses.

Additionally, the designation would have a positive impact on SUNY Oswego located in my district and along the southeastern shore of the Lake. It will provide an opportunity to expand regional research and educational programs in marine and maritime heritage sciences. It will also build upon the efforts and many contributions of Sea Grant which has an office on the college campus.

The National Marine Sanctuary designation for our region will create a path toward preserving our Lake Ontario history, expanding educational opportunities, helping grow our economy and strengthening tourism opportunities for both local residents and visitors alike.

Again, it is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I offer my strongest support to the designation of the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary.

Sincerely,

ROBERT C. OAKS
Member of Assembly

RCO:mlb



OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATURE

(315) 349-8230
FAX (315) 349-8237

COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING, 46 EAST BRIDGE STREET, OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126

KEVIN L. GARDNER
CHAIRMAN
Email: kgardner@oswegocounty.com

WENDY M. FALLS
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Email: wfalls@oswegocounty.com

BETSY SHERMAN-SAUNDERS
DEPUTY CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Email: bsaunders@oswegocounty.com

August 17, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Mr. John Armor, Acting Director
Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Armor:

As Chairman of the Oswego County Legislature, I am writing to express my support for Oswego County's nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a National Marine Sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. This collaborative proposal between the four coastline counties of Oswego, Cayuga, Jefferson and Wayne will help to preserve our maritime history; promote recreational activities such as fishing, boating, and diving, and draw tourists to the area.

Lake Ontario has always played a prominent role in this area's history with some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history being on Eastern Lake Ontario. Fort Ontario, located in the City of Oswego, was built by the British due to its strategic location on Lake Ontario. It is the only fort in the United States that has played a role in every American conflict and remains standing today as an important monument and historical place dedicated to the military legacy of this region. Lake Ontario has also played an important role in Oswego County's industry, commerce, cultural and recreational history.

If selected, this National Marine Sanctuary would harbor many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

From the world famous sunsets, to the cultural heritage and historic prominence, few areas can boast of these natural attributes. The designation of Lake Ontario as a National Marine Sanctuary is an important step in preserving the vast cultural and historic resources that lie beneath the waters and on the shores of Lake Ontario.

Respectfully,

Kevin L. Gardner, Chairman
Oswego County Legislature



William J. Barlow, Jr.

Mayor

March 31, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta,

As Mayor of the City of Oswego, NY, I would like to express my full support for the nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance, such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known, submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

The City of Oswego, NY, is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

William J. Barlow, Jr.
Mayor, City of Oswego, NY



MARGARET A. KASTLER
Oswego County Legislator
District 1
1695 CO. RT. 15
LACONA, NY 13083

TELEPHONE (H): (315) 387-5209
EMAIL: Kastlerm@hotmail.com

May 16, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As an elected legislator, representing Oswego County, New York,, I would like to express my full support and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great lakes.

The unique beauty of eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one

of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

The Oswego County Legislature recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend out support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret A. Kastler".

Margaret A. Kastler
Legislator Oswego County
District 1



SHAWN P. DOYLE
Oswego County Legislator
District 3
85 Lake Street
Pulaski, NY 13142-4436

TELEPHONE (H): (315) 298-3620
(C): (315) 532-5919
EMAIL: SPDinPUL@hotmail.com

September 10, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta:

As County Legislator, representing the town Richland and environs in Oswego County I would like to express my full unqualified support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance education opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only local school districts, but also institutions of higher education in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, will provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

I also serve as Richland Town Historian, and I recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely


Shawn Patrick Doyle

Oswego County Legislator, District #3



ROY E. REEHIL
DISTRICT 5 OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATOR

OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATURE
PO BOX 184, CLEVELAND, NEW YORK 13042
EMAIL: Legislator@Reehil.com

Oct. 9, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As 5th district Oswego County Legislator and Chairman of the Economic Development and Planning Committee, I would like to express my effusive support for the establishment of a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario. The Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and some of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in all of the Great Lakes.

The eastern Lake Ontario region is historic and beautiful with a wealth of maritime heritage resources amassed over hundreds of years. Along our shoreline, early settlements were established on the westernmost trade routes of colonial New England, battles were fought and weather and war took its toll on early maritime travelers. Of particular historic significance in the region are the Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' upon the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as especially fascinating maritime heritage resources.

Designation as a National Marine Sanctuary would greatly enhance tourism and educational opportunities in the region providing momentum to involve local school districts and institutions of higher education. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, would provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

Oswego County recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is tremendously excited to support collaborative efforts to showcase this incredible maritime heritage.

Most Sincerely,

Roy Reehil,
5th District Oswego County Legislator
5th District Oswego County Legislator
Majority Whip
Chair, Economic Development and Planning Committee
Chair, Oswego County Anti-Poverty Task Force

TOWN OF SCRIBA
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
42 CREAMERY ROAD
OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126



OFFICES
(315) AREA CODE

FAX
343-9087

March 28, 2016

SUPERVISOR
343-3019

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

TOWN CLERK
343-3375
FAX 343-9664

ASSESSOR
343-3894

Dear Director Basta,

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS
WATER DEPT.
342-6894

As Executive Director of the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board, representing the Counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego, I would like to express the agency's full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

WATER BILLING CLERK
342-6342

BUILDING INSPECTOR
343-4568

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER
592-8601

HISTORIAN
342-6420

HIGHWAY DEPT
343-3036

JUSTICE COURT
343-1503
343-3250

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

PLANNING BOARD
343-0854

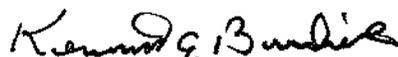
S.A.C.C.
342-6919

TAX COLLECTOR
343-8038

Staff from our agency attended the 2014 celebration held at Thunder Bay NMHS in Alpena, Michigan, and witnessed firsthand the enthusiasm for the NOAA Sanctuary there. What a tremendously successful effort and opportunity the partnership has fostered. The CNY Regional Planning Board recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, the Central New York Region is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,


Kenneth E. Burdick
Supervisor



COUNTY OF OSWEGO OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

County Office Building • 46 East Bridge Street • Oswego, NY 13126
Phone 315-349-8235 Fax 315-349-8237
Philip R. Church, County Administrator

October 14, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

For the past year and a half it has been my privilege to serve as the Chairman of the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary Nomination Task Force. In that role, and as the County Administrator for Oswego County, I whole-heartedly support and endorse this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The proposed Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary includes up to 71 historically important shipwrecks and aircraft, including the two oldest intact shipwrecks in the Great Lakes: the *HMS Ontario* (1780) and the *Lady Washington* (1797).

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and military missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and special places of recognized significance such as the historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site (under consideration by Congress as a National Historic Landmark), the Revolutionary Trail, Sacket's Harbor Battlefield, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. The maritime history of eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military actions in the nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the westward expansion and development of our nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The submerged maritime resources within the proposed sanctuary, coupled with onshore and regional attractions, support a wide variety of recreational activities, including heritage tourism, boating and sailing, scuba diving, hiking and kayaking, agri-tourism, and what is widely considered to be one of the best sport-fishing areas in the world. The sanctuary would supplement and significantly enhance recreational activities in this region, attracting many more travelers and improving the quality of life for residents.

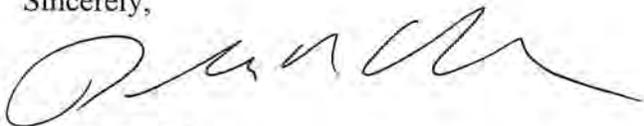
Designation as a sanctuary would greatly enhance education opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only local school districts, but also institutions of higher education in the region and throughout the world. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an sanctuary designation will provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in maritime research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

This region has unique coastal natural resources, including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore. The area represents the remains of one of the largest inland dune systems in the eastern Great Lakes and contains some of the highest quality freshwater marshes in New York State. The Department of State has deemed the area a "Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat." Other designations include Audubon "Important Bird Area," New York State "Bird Conservation Area" and "National Natural Landmark."

Eastern Lake Ontario is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy. In 2015, the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council recognized that sanctuary initiative could be "transformative" and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The plan was selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

I would like to thank you and NOAA for opening up this rare opportunity for communities to submit nominations. We are excited to offer the nation and the world our unique submerged resources for new research, education, and maritime heritage studies.

Sincerely,



Philip Church
County Administrator
Chairman, Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary Nomination Task Force



NYSAC

NEW YORK STATE
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

540 Broadway, 5th Floor, Albany, New York 12207

Phone: (518) 465-1473

Fax: (518) 465-0506

www.nysac.org

President: Hon. William Cherry, Schoharie County

Executive Director: Stephen J. Acquario, Esq.

April 27, 2016

John Armor
Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

The New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) extends our full endorsement and support for the nomination of a National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) in eastern Lake Ontario.

This area of Lake Ontario would provide great archaeological research as a designated NMS. It contains numerous sunken artifacts of our nation's past, including the St. Peter shipwreck of 1898 and a USAF C-45 Aircraft, abandoned midflight due to an engine failure in 1944.

In addition to preserving this historic maritime heritage site and advancing marine research in Lake Ontario, the National Marine Sanctuary designation would bring with it the potential benefits of increased tourism and regional economic development.

NMS areas have proven to be economic drivers in their communities. Acting as the model for the Great Lake Ontario NMS, Thunder Bay NMS attracts researchers and tourists from all over the country. The Thunder Bay NMS in Alpena, MI, designated in 2000, added 1,704 jobs and \$92 million in sales by 2005.

With a wide range of recreational activities in the eastern Lake Ontario region, including world renowned sport-fishing, boating, agri-tourism and hiking, the NMS designation would attract more people to the area and increase employment and quality of life opportunities for residents.

Funded research and preservation of submerged sites would greatly enhance educational opportunities in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation would allow local school districts and institutions of higher education to partner with institutions from all over the world, enhancing their curriculum by gaining access to programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technology.

NYSAC recognizes the importance of this nomination and is enthusiastically supports this effort to showcase New York State's maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Acquario
Executive Director





The North Shore Council of Governments:

The Village of Central Square
The Village of Cleveland
The Town of Constantia
The Town of West Monroe

Richard Colesante, *Chairman*

Thursday, June 30, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta

As chairman of the North Shore Council of Governments, I am writing in support of this nomination of the proposed Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The North Shore Council of Governments includes a majority of Oneida Lake, which feeds Lake Ontario through the Oneida River, is a part of the state's canal system and a vital part of recreational and commercial shipping, and home to a variety of recreational activities including recreational diving of the shipwrecks there. As a result, we understand the importance of the tourism, recreational and historical activities associated with such resources.

The designation of a Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would seem to have significant potential benefits to the entire eastern Lake Ontario region, and it is our understanding that it would not impede current hunting, fishing, boating, and commercial activities important to the economy of the area. Thus, we look forward to NOAA's favorable consideration of this designation.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard F. Colesante".

Richard Colesante
Chairman

SRCG

**The Salmon Rivers Council of
Governments:**

The Village of Parish
The Town of Albion
The Town of Amboy
The Town of Orwell
The Town of Parish

Stephen Stelmashuck, *Chairman*

Thursday, June 30, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta

As chairman of the Salmon Rivers Council of Governments, I am writing in support of this nomination of the proposed Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The Salmon Council of Governments includes the Lake Ontario watershed, and specifically the Salmon River and the Little Salmon River, which feed Lake Ontario

The designation of a Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would seem to have significant potential benefits to the entire eastern Lake Ontario region, with the potential for enhanced tourism and educational opportunities which would bring many benefits to citizens, students, businesses and organizations. We look forward to NOAA's positive action regarding this designation and the official recognition of submerged cultural resources in the proposed area.

Sincerely

Stephen Stelmashuck
Chairman
Salmon Rivers Council of Governments

TOWN OF ELLISBURG

William H. Fulkerson, Supervisor
16335 County Route 85
Adams, New York, 13605
(315) 232-3365

May 27, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary Designation

Dear Director Armor:

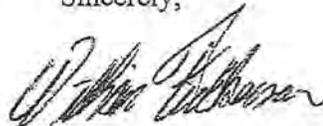
I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary to be established in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

We appreciate the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities found along the eastern shores of Lake Ontario that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved. There would likely be significant new investment in our business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements as well.

The Town of Ellisburg recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,



William H. Fulkerson
Supervisor
Town of Ellisburg



Town of Henderson, NY
12105 Town Barn Road
Henderson, New York 13650
(315) 938 - 5542
www.townofhendersonny.org

June 7, 2016

Mr. John Armor
Acting Director
Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East – West Highway, 11th floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary Designation

Dear Mr. Armor:

This letter is to express the full and complete support of the Town of Henderson, New York for the nomination to the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary to be established in the Eastern Lake Ontario waters. The proposed Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coastline of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the Eastern Lake Ontario region and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offers a fascinating story of people, cargo and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. In addition, it is a natural resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of many local economies such as ours in the Town of Henderson.

As a town with miles of shoreline along Eastern Lake Ontario, we truly appreciate the potential economic impacts that could be realized by the lakeside communities in this region. It is those that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the proposed sanctuary nomination be approved. There would likely be a significant new investment in our business and recreational sectors as well as enhancements in civic infrastructure.

The Town of Henderson recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential for long-term economic benefits in the region. As such, we are pleased to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in the collaborative effort to add a National Marine Sanctuary in Eastern Lake Ontario.

Sincerely,

John Culkin
Town Supervisor

The Town of Henderson is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



*Preserving the
Stories and
Heritage
of the Town of Huron*

Rosa Fox

*Town of Huron Historian
10880 Lummisville Road
Wolcott, New York 14590
rfox@townofhuron.org
315-594-8074*

May 5, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Historian for the Town of Huron in Wayne County, I would like to express my support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. The Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

Eastern Lake Ontario is a uniquely beautiful region, and has a wealth of maritime heritage offering a fascinating story of people, maritime culture, and social and business missions undertaken over hundreds of years. Lake Ontario's history connects directly to a rich cultural history in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources. Significant sites such as the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor compliment the historic legacy of the area. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain in place on the lakebed of eastern Lake Ontario as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage assets.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway. The development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure is due, in great part, to the developments along Lake Ontario's eastern shores. An exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources, Eastern Lake Ontario offers significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

I fully support the submission of this nomination and welcome the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

Rosa Fox

TOWN OF MONTEZUMA

8102 Dock Street - Montezuma, NY 13117

Phone: 315.776-8844 -

<http://townofmontezuma.org>

April 10, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta,

As Town Supervisor, representing the Town of Montezuma, Cayuga County, NY, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

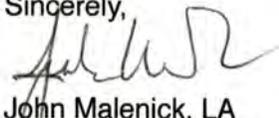
The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

The Town of Montezuma recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, the Town of Montezuma is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,



John Malenick, LA
Town Supervisor

John J. Smith
Town Supervisor

May 2, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Town Supervisor, representing the Town of Ontario, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be "transformative" and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

The Town of Ontario recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,



John Smith
Supervisor, Town of Ontario

TOWN OF OSWEGO

2320 County Route 7 Oswego, New York 13126

Phone (315) 343-2424 Fax (315) 343-4414

Supervisor Richard E. Kaulfuss

Town Board Members: Timothy DeSacia, Greg Herrmann, Margaret Mahaney, Richard Tesoriero
Attorney to the Board: Kevin C. Caraccioli

June 23, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries

1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Oswego Town Supervisor, representing the residents of the Town of Oswego, New York, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

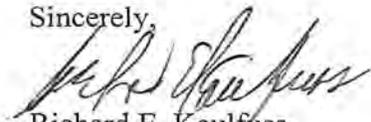
The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be "transformative" and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

The Town of Oswego recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,



Richard E. Kaulfuss

Supervisor, Town of Oswego



1290 State Rte. 104A
Sterling, New York 13156

Supervisor (315) 947-6104
Fax (315) 947-5119

May 11, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries

1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the Town Supervisor, representing the Town of Sterling, NY, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of the nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business subsector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

The Town of Sterling recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randall Lawrence", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Randall Lawrence

Sterling Town Supervisor

Cc: Town Board

Village of Sandy Creek
P.O. Box 240
Sandy Creek, New York 13145-0240
Telephone (315) 387-5781
Fax (315) 387-5782
Email: villagesc@frontier.com

May 4, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

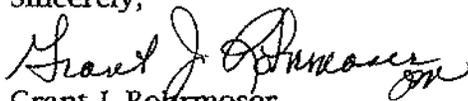
As Mayor, representing the Village of Sandy Creek, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. The maritime resources within the proposed NMS, coupled with onshore and regional attractions, support a wide variety of recreational activities, including heritage tourism, boating and sailing, scuba diving, hiking and kayaking, agri-tourism, and what is widely considered to be one of the best sport-fishing areas in the world.

An NMS would supplement and significantly enhance recreational activities in this region, attracting many more travelers and improving the quality of life for residents.

The Village of Sandy Creek recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,


Grant J. Rohmoser
Mayor

JOSEPH J. HEATH
GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE ONONDAGA NATION
ATTORNEY AT LAW
512 JAMESVILLE AVENUE
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13210-1502
315-447-4851
Facsimile
315-475-2465
jjheath1946@gmail.com

June 17, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

**RE: EASTERN LAKE ONTARIO:
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY**

Dear Director Armor:

As General Counsel for the Onondaga Nation, I write to express my support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. The eastern shore of Lake Ontario is part of the original territory of the Onondaga Nation, where their ancestors fished, and traveled extensively. I also have a deep, personal interest in this area, as I was born and raised in Sandy Creek, New York and spend many wonderful summers at Sandy Island Beach and in north and south Sandy Ponds.

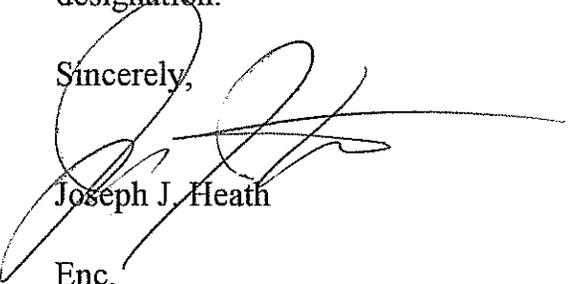
The history of the Onondaga Nation's presence along the eastern shore of Lake Ontario is not well known and that represents a huge cultural loss to all who live and visit the area. I am attached a copy of a 1684 French drawing which depicts a meeting of French explorers and Onondaga Nation Chiefs at the mouth of what is now the Salmon River, at Port Ontario.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region is actually overshadowed by the unique environmental beauty and importance of the sand dunes, the wetlands and fens along the eastern shore. These areas are critical to the ecological health of the lake and must be zealously protected against further damage.

Over the past two decades the Nation and my office have worked cooperatively with citizens and residents of the eastern shore on a variety of environmental projects which have been aimed at preservation of the resources and at restoration of past damages.

My office and the Onondaga Nation support the submission of this nomination and welcome the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

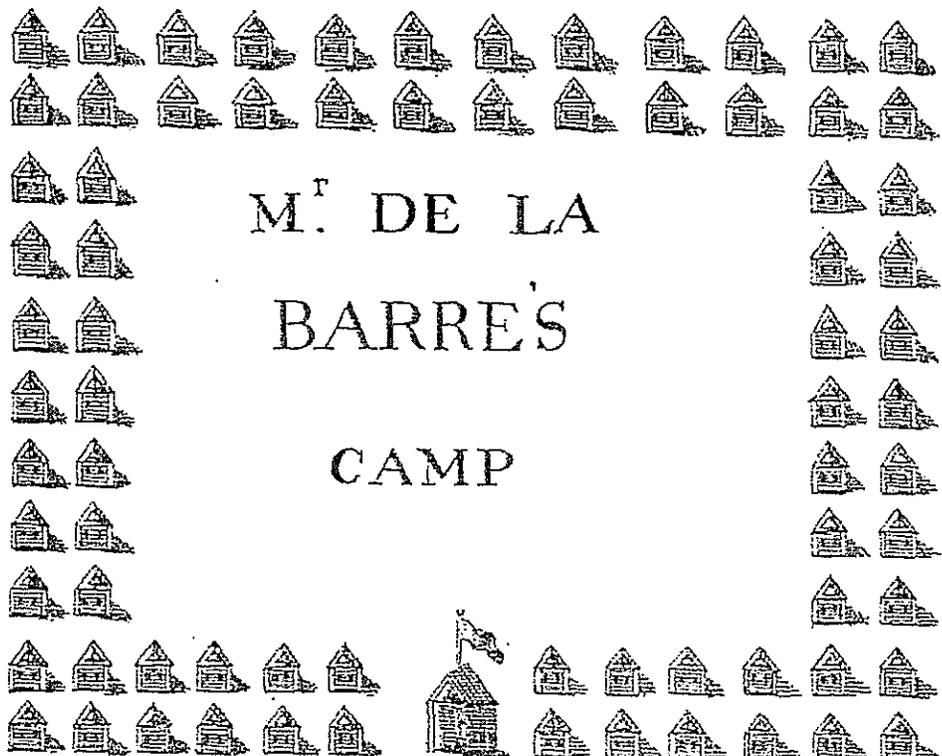


Joseph J. Heath

Enc.

cc: Onondaga Nation Council of Chiefs

The Cal.
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M. DE LA
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CAMP



The
militia
and
regular
troops

M. de la
Barre

The Calumet of peace



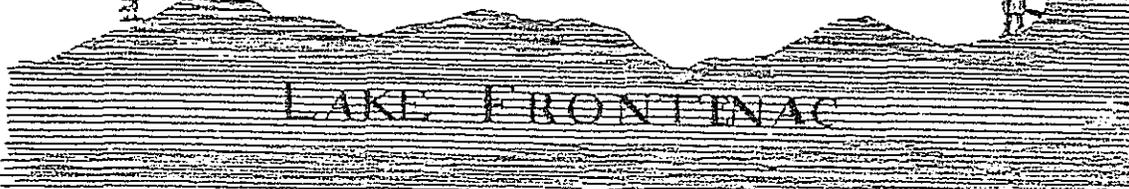
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THE GRACKLE



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Suite 109, 1 Concord Gate
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M3C 3N6
Tel: 1416-426-7033 Fax: 416-426-7280

May 11, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As President, representing the Ontario Underwater Council, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. The maritime resources within the proposed NMS, coupled with onshore and regional attractions, support a wide variety of recreational activities, including heritage tourism, boating and sailing, scuba diving, hiking and kayaking, agri-tourism, and what is widely considered to be one of the best sport-fishing areas in the world.

An NMS would supplement and significantly enhance recreational activities in this region, attracting many more travelers and improving the quality of life for residents.

The Ontario Underwater Council recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase the maritime heritage in the eastern Lake Ontario region.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Bogart
President
Ontario Underwater Council

OUC: " Promoting the sport of scuba diving in Ontario through safety, advocacy, cultural & environmental awareness, self-governance, and fun since 1958."



Save Ontario Shipwrecks
P.O. Box 2389
Blenheim, Ontario
N0P 1A0

May 13, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As President of Save Ontario Shipwrecks (SOS), and on behalf of the SOS Board of Directors, I would like to express our enthusiastic support for this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The stated goals of the proposed Great Lake Ontario NMS to “preserve and protect the region’s and the nation’s legacy of maritime heritage, resources, and artifacts”, and to “pursue and develop strengthened partnerships and co-programming in the areas of tourism, education, archaeology, and heritage preservation” perfectly reflect SOS’s own mandate, and we are happy to see these efforts being made by our American neighbours.

Save Ontario Shipwrecks recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support collaborative efforts to showcase the maritime heritage of the Great Lakes. SOS is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krissy Nickle".

Krissy Nickle
President – Save Ontario Shipwrecks
t: (519) 671-2472
e: president@saveontarioshipwrecks.ca



Canal Corporation

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

JOANNE M. MAHONEY
Chair

BRIAN U. STRATTON
Director

April 25, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta,

As Director, representing the New York State Canal Corporation, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

The New York State Canal Corporation recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Page 2
Dan Basta
April 25, 2016

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the Central New York Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, I am fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcome the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,



Brian U. Stratton
Director

BUS:lms



Oswego City-County Youth Bureau

OSWEGO COUNTY COMPLEX
70 BUNNER STREET
OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126
(315) 349-3451 Fax (315) 349-3231

Brian Chetney, Executive Director



May 9, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Executive Director, representing the Oswego City-County Youth Bureau Parks & Recreation, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance education opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only local school districts, but also institutions of higher education in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, will provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

Oswego City-County Youth Bureau Parks & Recreation recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Chetney".

Brian Chetney
Executive Director



**OSWEGO COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE**

DALE A. CURRIER, CEM
DIRECTOR

200 NORTH 2ND STREET
FULTON, NEW YORK 13069

(315) 591-9150
FAX: (315) 591-9176

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

I am writing to offer my support for the multi-county application for a National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) for the eastern end of Lake Ontario.

As the Director of Emergency Management I have a ring-side seat to the opportunities that would be provided to our respective communities should we be selected for the NMS designation. The eastern Lake Ontario region presents a multi-faceted opportunity for future generations to enjoy this beautiful area. Lake Ontario can be viewed as both a blessing and a curse in that it brings many opportunities for recreational enjoyment and commercial development, while at the same time creating a wide variety of environmental and security concerns.

On the recreational facet, fishing, SCUBA diving on the many historic shipwrecks, water skiing and paddlesports abound. Being selected for NMS status will allow the region to further develop these recreational opportunities, and ancillary activities such as camping, furthering our economic development recreation revenue stream.

From an environmental and security perspective the region entails a wide variety of pristine areas – wetlands, tributaries of all sizes, dunes, and beautiful bluffs that tower above the waves. From a security perspective Lake Ontario provides a wide open border with Canada that provides a route for welcomed international commerce yet can be an easily accessible conduit for international terrorist activity.

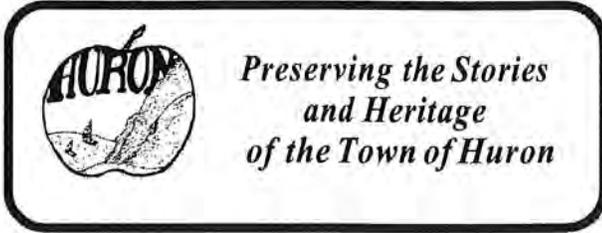
The common thread I see for all of these facets is the need for protection and support to maintain and preserve this incredible area for many generations to come. The resources that would become available from many sources with an NMS designation would help provide the protection we need. Additionally, this office stands ready to provide assistance to NOAA for emergency planning and preparedness activities associated with this designation.

I urge you to please give strong positive consideration for this application to nominate this region as a National Marine Sanctuary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dale A. Currier".

Dale A. Currier, Ed.D (ABD), CEM



Rosa Fox
Town of Huron Historian
10880 Lummisville Road
Wolcott, New York 14590
rfox@townofhuron.org
315-594-8074

May 5, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Historian for the Town of Huron in Wayne County, I would like to express my support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. The Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

Eastern Lake Ontario is a uniquely beautiful region, and has a wealth of maritime heritage offering a fascinating story of people, maritime culture, and social and business missions undertaken over hundreds of years. Lake Ontario's history connects directly to a rich cultural history in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources. Significant sites such as the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor compliment the historic legacy of the area. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain in place on the lakebed of eastern Lake Ontario as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage assets.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway. The development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure is due, in great part, to the developments along Lake Ontario's eastern shores. An exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources, Eastern Lake Ontario offers significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

I fully support the submission of this nomination and welcome the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

Rosa Fox

Village of Sodus Point, New York
Historian, Bruce Farrington

May 3, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Village Historian, representing Sodus Point, New York, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

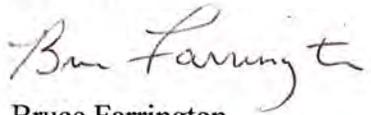
The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

As Village Historian, I recognize the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and I am excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, I, as Village Historian am fully supportive of the submission of

this nomination and welcome the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Farrington". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Bruce Farrington
Village Historian
Sodus Point, NY 14555



Web: www.co.wayne.ny.us
Email: Historian@co.wayne.ny.us

9 Pearl Street, Suite 3, Lyons NY 14489 · Phone 315-946-5470
Fax 315-946-5460

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

May 6, 2016

Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries

1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As County Historian for Wayne County, New York, and as a past president of the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society, it has been my privilege to work with and assist in the research of the many marine research archeologists, divers and shipwreck exploration groups working the near shore areas along the south shore coast along the eastern portion of Lake Ontario for over the past 40 years.

I also assisted the New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation and the State Historic Preservation Office prepare the documentation necessary to have the Shipwreck Schooner St. Peter listed on the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places. The 35 miles of Lake Ontario shoreline of Wayne County has played key roles in commercial development between the United States and Canada, was actively engaged throughout the War of 1812 and was instrumental in acting as the northern terminus of the Underground Railroad delivering by ship 100s if not 1000s of fugitive slaves to the relative safety of British Upper Canada. Our ports were active commercial shipping centers well into the 20th Century and remain active sport fishing and recreation centers today. Wayne County along with Cayuga and Oswego Counties support a number of youth educational programs and institutions that focus on the many aspects of life and environment on Lake Ontario.

I live in a pre-1812 home on the shore of Lake Ontario in Pultneyville, it has been my long term interest, hope and concern that the heritage of the lake, lake shore and artifacts in and around the shore area be respected, recognized, used appropriately and protected.

I, and the office I represent, fully support the submission of the nomination and welcome the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and eventual National Marine Sanctuary designation. Please call on me at any time for more in depth information or other support for this nomination.

Sincerely,

Peter Evans



AUBURN CAMPUS
197 Franklin Street
Auburn, New York 13021
Tel: (315) 255-1743
Fax: (315) 255-2117

FULTON CAMPUS
11 River Glen Drive
Fulton, New York 13069
Tel: (315) 592-4143
Fax: (315) 592-5055

May 5, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program.

Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As President of Cayuga Community College, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. The maritime resources within the proposed NMS, coupled with onshore and regional attractions, support a wide variety of recreational activities, including heritage tourism, boating and sailing, scuba diving, hiking and kayaking, agri-tourism, and what is widely considered to be one of the best sport-fishing areas in the world.

An NMS would supplement and significantly enhance recreational activities in this region, attracting many more travelers and improving the quality of life for residents.

Cayuga Community College, and specifically our Fulton Campus, recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brian Durant'.

Brian M. Durant, Ed.D.
President





District Office

CHRISTOPHER J. TODD

District Superintendent/Executive Officer

P: 315.963.4222 | C: 315.402.4898 | F: 315.963.4475

ctodd@oswegoboces.org

April 25, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As District Superintendent, representing The Center for Instruction, Technology and Innovation, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance education opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only local school districts, but also institutions of higher education in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, will provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

CiTi recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Todd', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Christopher J. Todd
District Superintendent

A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

179 County Route 64, Mexico, NY 13114

Christopher J. Todd, District Superintendent/Executive Officer

May 5, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Mr. John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance education opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only local school districts, but also institutions of higher education in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, will provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

Finger Lakes Community College recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,



Barbara G. Risser, Ed.D.
President



June 1, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE Letter of Support for the eastern Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary

Dear Director Armor:

As Director of New York's Great Lakes Research Consortium (GLRC), I am writing you to express our support for the nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. If successful, the GLRC would be happy to work with the NOAA and its partners in Central New York to help facilitate binational communication with research scientists around the region regarding this important resource.

Eastern Lake Ontario is an important resource from a cultural, historic and ecological perspective. As the first lake one enters coming into the great lakes System from the St Lawrence River, Lake Ontario is the point of entry for both invasive species and human entry into the Great Lakes system. For this reason, eastern Lake Ontario harbors many historically important shipwrecks and some of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes. The region is the site of many of the important moments in US History. Many of these terrestrial sites, e.g. the Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Seaway Trail, Sacket's Harbor, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, have been protected by various means. However our underwater resources have not enjoyed similar protection. Archeological artifacts and remnants of our countries rich cultural history remain on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed. As such, they provide an important resource for future investigation into the history and cultural development of this great nation. Designation of this area as a National Marine Sanctuary would greatly enhance their visibility and provide the needed momentum to protect these resources.

The GLRC consists of 18 New York State (SUNY) and private universities and involves 300 research scientists spread across the state between Lake Champlain and Buffalo. We currently partner with 8 Canadian institutions including the University of Windsor and are dedicated to advancing all aspects of Great Lakes science through a combination of research, education and outreach. The GLRC works closely with many other organizations including NOAA's Sea Grant network, the Great Lakes Observing System (GLOS), and the many New York State agencies. Our interests are both in forming research partnerships, but also in helping bring the information from those partnerships to the greater public and agencies in order to address local and national needs. Designation of the waters of eastern Lake Ontario as a marine sanctuary would open additional opportunities to partner with local schools and Universities to educate the new generation of aquatic scientists. We whole hearted support this nomination and look forward in assisting in the process as needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Greg Boyer'.

Greg Boyer (glboyer@esf.edu)
Professor of Biochemistry and
Director, Great Lakes Research Consortium
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Syracuse NY 13210
Phone: 315-470-6825 (office); 470-6720 (GLRC)

Board of Education:

Michael LaFurney, President
Madeline A. Pittorf, Vice President
Vern Cole
Marlow J. Cuyler
Jessica McNeil
John R. Pope
Janice B. Scott



928 Cayuga Street
Hannibal, New York 13074

Christopher A. Staats
Superintendent

Phone: (315) 564-8100
Fax: (315) 564-7263

April 27, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Superintendent, representing the Hannibal Central School District, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance education opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only local school districts, but also institutions of higher education in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, will provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

The Hannibal Central School District recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Staats', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Christopher A. Staats
Superintendent

CAS:lms



1220 Coffeen Street | Watertown, NY 13601
315.786.2200 *main* | 888.435.6522 *toll free*
www.sunyjefferson.edu

May 26, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the President of Jefferson Community College in Watertown New York, located in Jefferson County, I would like to express my support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The eastern Lake Ontario region and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. While the Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sackets Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor are widely recognized for their cultural significance, the archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history that remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed would expand understanding of the region's rich maritime heritage.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance educational opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve both local school districts and institutions of higher education in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation will provide Jefferson Community College with opportunities to enhance our curriculum offerings through partnerships with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

Jefferson Community College recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and as president of "this community's college", I enthusiastically support collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

Carole A. McCoy
President

CAM:kjf



A Joint Program of: • State University of New York • Cornell University • NOAA, Dept. of Commerce

18 April 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Armor,

New York Sea Grant supports the establishment of a Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary as it is described in the proposal put forward by the New York State counties of Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne and the City of Oswego. We have worked with coastal communities and stakeholders in the designation area of southeastern Lake Ontario for more than 45 years on issues related to tourism, recreation, fisheries, maritime history and education. Creation of the proposed sanctuary would offer additional and expanded opportunities for future collaborative programming with the partners named in this proposal.

Those who value the rich natural, cultural and historic resources of Lake Ontario have an opportunity to elevate the international stature of this unique area. Although not a formal partner in the proposal, New York Sea Grant has been facilitating parts of the proposal development process. The proposal organizers contacted our Great Lakes Recreation and Tourism Extension Specialist asking for initial meeting facilitation services, which he happily provided. This same individual is now serving as an advisor to the partners as they complete the nomination process. If selected, we would be delighted to further partner and collaborate with the local sponsors and other impacted businesses and stakeholders to promote relevant programming in the area. Designation of the proposed national marine sanctuary will absolutely expose more people, residents and tourists, to the unique attributes of the region.

I hope your office will act favorably on this nomination. Interest is high in New York regarding its maritime heritage - - in southeastern Lake Ontario and elsewhere in the State's Great Lakes, marine and large inland river and canal systems. Establishment of the Lake Ontario sanctuary could potentially serve as a catalyst to a more organized and integrated, State-wide effort to bring this heritage to brighter and clearer light.

Sincerely,

William M. Wise, Director

New York Sea Grant *Bringing Science to the Shore*

Administrative offices at Stony Brook University

125 Nassau Hall ◊ Stony Brook University ◊ Stony Brook, NY 11794-5001

TEL: 631.632.6905 ◊ FAX: 631.632.6917 ◊ nyseagrant@stonybrook.edu ◊ www.nyseagrant.org



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SYRACUSE

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

May 4, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor,

As Superintendent of Schools for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse, the former Superintendent of Schools for the Oswego City School District and a professionally certified SCUBA Divemaster by the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI), I offer my full support and endorsement of the nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary (NMS) in the eastern Lake Ontario waters. As the designation is envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in all the Great Lakes.

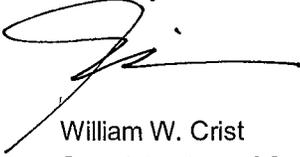
The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of natural landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Sacket's Harbor, Galloo Island Lighthouse (1820), Selkirk Lighthouse (1838), Sodus Bay Lighthouse (1871), the City of Oswego and Oswego Harbor, the oldest freshwater port city and port in the United States, as well as the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

This proposed NMS region, that includes these wonderful maritime resources, coupled with onshore and regional attractions, also supports a wide variety of recreational activities, including heritage tourism, boating, scuba diving, sailing, and what is widely recognized to be one of the premier fresh-water sport-fishing capitals in the world. A National Maritime Sanctuary would greatly supplement and significantly enhance recreational activities in this region which would attract even more travelers and tourists to explore and experience this area while improving the quality of life for upstate residents.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance educational opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve local schools districts, museums, as well as institutions of higher education in this region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, will provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology and technologies. The eastern Lake Ontario region will become an international model classroom representing a vibrant, living and actively participatory environment given our shrinking globe through media and technology integration.

Having dedicated thirty-four years to education, I stand as a representative of counterparts statewide to enthusiastically support this showcase of our own maritime heritage. This relationship with, and designation by, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, brings great hope and realization that the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary will become a destination rich with history, poised for recreational exploration and academic research and offer educational transformation opportunities for all ages of students and educators.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Crist', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William W. Crist
Superintendent of Schools
Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse



Sandy Creek Central School District

"Comet Pride is Community-Wide!"

May 9, 2016

Stewart R. Amell
Superintendent of Schools
Shelley H. Fitzpatrick
Business Administrator

Board of Education:

Brian MacVean
President
Janet Hanni
Vice-President
James Dowlearn
Amy Guarasce
Tammy Miller
Deanna Soule
Brenda Yerdon

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Superintendent of Schools, representing the Sandy Creek Central School District, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of eastern the Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse,

Bonnie Finnerty
Elementary School Principal

Carolyn Shirley
Middle School Principal

Maureen Shiel
High School Principal

and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance education opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only local school districts, but also institutions of higher education in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, will provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

The Sandy Creek Central School District recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

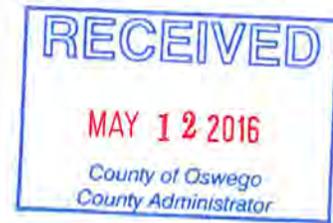


Stewart R. Amell
Superintendent of Schools

SRA/vls



State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Office of the President



May 9, 2016

NOAA
National Marine Sanctuary Program
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Attn: John Armor, Acting Director

Dear Mr. Armor:

I am writing in support of the proposed National Marine Sanctuary for Lake Ontario focused on its rich trove of submerged cultural resources. The number and historical significance of the lake's shipwrecks, aircraft, and archaeological sites are unmatched and clearly constitute a national treasure. The proposed sanctuary and its convergence with the Erie-Oswego Canal, St. Lawrence River, and historic port city of Oswego is uniquely meritorious as a national sanctuary. I applaud this effort to assure that these irreplaceable remnants of early America are preserved for the benefit of future generations, historians, and scholars. In addition to preserving the known treasures in the region, sanctuary status will assure time exists to explore the scores of not-yet-discovered ships and locations and intensify interest in such exploration. It is my recommendation and wish that the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary become a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Quentin D. Wheeler", written over a horizontal line.

Quentin D. Wheeler
President

cc: Mr. Philip R. Church, Administrator, County of Oswego ✓

April 26, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

ATTENTION: John Armor
Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries

Dear Director Armor:

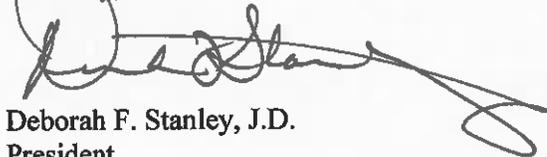
As a proud member of the Oswego community in central New York State and president of the region's only comprehensive public college, I would like to express my full support for an endorsement of the nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario, a New York State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, the Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this important cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known, submerged maritime heritage resources.

Designation as an NMS would greatly strengthen educational opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only our local school districts but also other institutions of higher education in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, will provide our institutions with opportunities to enhance curriculum by collaborating with partners around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology and technologies.

The State University of New York at Oswego recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and our students, faculty and staff are excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage. Thank you for your time and consideration of this nomination for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters through the National Marine Sanctuary Program.

Sincerely,



Deborah F. Stanley, J.D.
President

Cc: Philip R. Church



May 5, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. We have many programs in the College that would benefit from this designation coming to Lake Ontario. Our programs in Anthropology, Atmospheric and Geological Sciences, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Bio- and Geochemistry, and History, to name a few, stand to benefit from the increased educational opportunities associated with applied research and field experiences that such a designation would enable. The increased resources and preservation activities that the NMS designation would bring to Central New York and the local Oswego community, in particular, would strengthen an already strong commitment to collaborations between our campus and Oswego County initiatives. We are classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a Community Engaged campus, and this designation and the reciprocal collaborations it would enable will strengthen the ties between our campus and the broader Eastern Lake Ontario community.

As an administrator at SUNY Oswego, I recognize the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and am excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our local maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adrienne McCormick".

Adrienne McCormick
Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Cc: Deborah Stanley, President, SUNY Oswego
Walter Roettger, Acting Provost, SUNY Oswego
Philip Church, Oswego County Administrator



NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

Representing Department of Chemistry, SUNY Oswego, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance education opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only local school districts, but also institutions of higher education in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, will provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

As a faculty member in the field of Chemistry, I recognize the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and am excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fehmi Damkaci". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Fehmi" being more prominent.

Dr. Fehmi Damkaci
Chair, Department of Chemistry
fehmi.damkaci@oswego.edu

May 26th, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

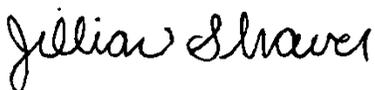
As Executive Director, representing The Children's Museum of Oswego, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources, offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance educational opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only local school districts, but also institutions of higher education in the region. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation, will provide these institutions with opportunities to enhance their curriculum through partnering with institutions around the world that offer programs in marine research, history, archaeology, and technologies.

The Children's Museum of Oswego recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,



Jillian Shaver
Executive Director
The Children's Museum of Oswego



Friends of Fort Ontario Inc.
PO Box 5379 - 1 East Fourth Street - Oswego, NY 13126
315-343-4711 Fax: 315-343-1430

25 May 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As President, representing Friends of Fort Ontario State Historic Site, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lakes Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the New York Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, the Underground Railroad Trail, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on eastern Lake Ontario labeled as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important naval activities in the Nation's maritime history, as well as transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

Friends of Fort Ontario recognize the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, Oswego International War of 1812 Symposium, Fort Ontario World War I Centennial, Friends of Fort Ontario is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul E. Foster". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "P" and a long, horizontal tail on the "F".

Paul E. Foster
President



05-09-2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Executive Director and President of the H. Lee White Maritime Museum at Oswego, we express our full support for this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As a potentially instrumental partner for a National Marine Sanctuary, we have been serving the Central New York area since 1982. We house exhibits and thousands of artifacts telling over 400 years of the regional maritime history, heritage and culture contained within the proposed corridor. Our fleet of historic vessels includes the National Register of Historic Places 1927 NYS *Derrick Boat 8*, the National Historic Landmark WWII Tugboat *LT-5*, the last American commercial fishing vessel on Lake Ontario *Eleanor D*, and the replica 19th century schooner *Ontario* – all historically significant to this region of Lake Ontario. Further, we oversee the physical restoration and educational interpretation of the National Register of Historic Places Oswego West Pierhead Lighthouse.

For more than thirty years, the Maritime Museum has been conducting and advocating for the historic preservation of our maritime heritage resources, and with the purpose to “promote, protect, enhance and collect the historical resources associated with the Oswego River and its drainage basin, the Oswego Canal, and Lake Ontario,” we merged with the former Oswego Maritime Foundation in 2014 to continue the legacy left by that organization in efforts to provide a consistent, safe and educational experience above or below the waters of Lake Ontario. We have no doubt that a successful sanctuary nomination will greatly increase this region’s ability to continue to promote, protect and enhance those same resources.

We firmly believe that the maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario that includes nationally significant naval battles, maritime transportation and trade history, agricultural and technological history; all exemplifies the industrial, social, political and cultural development of our Nation. Furthermore, as the United States oldest freshwater port, we boast some of the earliest examples of that history in material culture.

The Maritime Museum recognizes the rare opportunity of this call for nominations, and is excited to support any enthusiastic and collaborative efforts that showcase our own maritime heritage. We are fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

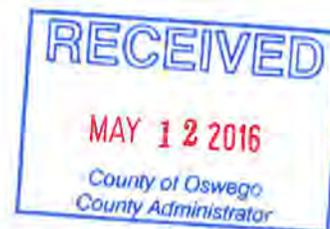
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mercedes Niess', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mercedes Niess
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Bush', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard Bush
President

**SAFE HAVEN HOLOCAUST REFUGEE SHELTER MUSEUM
PO BOX 846
OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126**



NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As President _____, representing Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum _____, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

Safe Haven recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, Safe Haven is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,



George R. DeMass
President



Canal Corporation

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

JOANNE M. MAHONEY
Chair

BRIAN U. STRATTON
Director

April 25, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta,

As Director, representing the New York State Canal Corporation, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

The New York State Canal Corporation recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Page 2
Dan Basta
April 25, 2016

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the Central New York Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, I am fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcome the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,



Brian U. Stratton
Director

BUS:lms



New York Archaeological Council

April 25, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor,

As President of the New York Archaeological Council (NYAC) and on behalf of my organization please allow me to express the full support of NYAC for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary includes many historically important shipwrecks and encompasses hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological sites and other remnants of this rich cultural context remain submerged on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed. These represent significant and potentially National Register eligible maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes. NYAC recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, NYAC fully supports the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Respectfully,

Douglas J. Perrelli, Ph. D., RPA
President, New York Archaeological Council
University at Buffalo
Department of Anthropology
380 MFAC, Ellicott Complex
Buffalo, New York 14261-0026
(716) 645-2297, e-mail: perrelli@buffalo.edu

cc: NYAC Board

Phone: 440-933-4601
www.eriewrecks.com

Corporate *Impact*

33326 Bonnieview Drive, Suite 200
Avon Lake, Ohio 44012-1230

May 15, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the authors of five books on Lake Erie Shipwrecks, (the **Erie Wrecks** series), as well as a chart on these sites we would like to express our full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

Erie Wrecks (Lake Erie Shipwrecks) recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, **Erie Wrecks** is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

Georgann and Michael Wachter

We Bring Great Lakes History to Life!

HALF-SHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. 73, 1100 COUNTY RTE. 48
RICHLAND, NEW YORK 13144
HALFSHIRE@HOTMAIL.COM

SHAWN P. DOYLE
PRESIDENT

GREG MONETTE
VICE PRESIDENT

FAY ANN COLVIN
SECRETARY

ANNE LADUKE
TREASURER

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta:

As President of Half-Shire Historical Society, founded in 1972 and representing twelve townships between Lake Ontario and Tug Hill Plateau, I would like to express my full unqualified support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters.

As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes. The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

As the largest (by membership) historical society in the region, Half-Shire recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage. With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, Half-Shire is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

We look forward to working further on this project as it evolves, our archives are at your disposal!

Sincerely,



Shawn Doyle
President, Half-Shire Historical Society



143 West Third Street
P.O. Box 405
Oswego, New York 13126
315.342.3354

May 5th, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the Board President representing Heritage Foundation of Oswego County, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, the Heritage Foundation of Oswego County is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Best Regards,

Austin M. Wheelock
Board President, Heritage Foundation of Oswego County



P.O. Box 2134
Wilton, New York 12831
(518)-587-7638 (h)
e-mail: zarcuws@aol.com
April 26, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Director Armor:

From 1987 to 2011, I was the Executive Director of Bateaux Below, an underwater archaeology team that studied historic shipwrecks in Lake George, New York. We worked with other groups to get several shipwrecks listed onto the National Register of Historic Places (1758 *Wiawaka* Bateaux-NR, 1992; 1758 *Land Tortoise* radeau shipwreck, NR-1995; 1893 *Cadet ex Olive* steam launch shipwreck, NR-2002, 1906 *Forward* gasoline launch shipwreck, N.R.-2008; and one shipwreck, the 1758 *Land Tortoise* radeau shipwreck, designated as a National Historic Landmark, NHL-1998. We also collaborated with several NGOs and local and state agencies to open the first shipwreck preserve system in the Empire State. Established in 1993, it was a State park called Lake George's Submerged Heritage Preserves. Thus, I am very familiar with maritime and naval heritage preservation and protecting submerged cultural resources in New York state. It is with this background that I write to you to offer my full support for the nomination to NOAA for a national marine sanctuary in the eastern Lake Ontario waters. Dubbed the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary, it is a section of my state that includes many historic shipwrecks that are extremely significant to the maritime heritage of both the region and country.

The eastern Lake Ontario region has a unique story waiting to be fully told that revolves around its maritime cultural landscape and waters. This eastern Great Lakes region is bountiful in history—Native American water transportation, commercial trade, battle routes, shipbuilding, fisheries, and historic nautical-related architecture. Numerous archeological artifacts (sunken vessels and their material culture) still reside along the Lake Ontario lakebed. If protected, these

submerged cultural resource offer great potential for future archaeological study, maritime history education, and recreational visitation by eager sport divers.

Furthermore, the history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important naval battles fought in America's history. Likewise, it is a region that was and continues to be a major maritime transportation passageway—Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway. This water route played a critical role in the development of the region's communities, economy, and infrastructure.

I am especially excited about this nomination since I personally know many of the principals involved in promoting this region's submerged and maritime heritage sites. These individuals, groups, and their communities are extremely passionate and hardworking people who will work diligently to fully develop the potential for the national marine sanctuary. If this nomination is accepted, I have no doubt the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary will soon become a model for other MPAs to emulate.

Thus, it is with great pleasure that I fully support this nomination for National Marine Sanctuary designation. Should you wish for me to discuss this further I would certainly make myself available to elaborate. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Zarzynski". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Joseph W. Zarzynski, M.A.T., M.A., RPA
Maritime Archaeologist & Independent Scholar



April 26, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

The Preservation Association of Central New York (PACNY) wishes to offer full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

PACNY recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, PACNY is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Murray F. Gould". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a stylized "G".

Murray F. Gould
President



TOWN OF ONTARIO
Historical & Landmark
Preservation Society
7147 Ontario Center Road Box 462
Ontario, New York 14519 - 0462

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

Please include this letter of support from our historical and landmark society with those from other concerned agencies in the County of Wayne to encourage positive action on the Lake Ontario Maritime District.

Our 15-acre, multi-building museum @ Heritage Square in the Township of Ontario, on the south shore of Lake Ontario in northwestern Wayne County, houses artifacts on loan from the NYS Museum from shipwrecks located off our shoreline in Lake Ontario.

In excess of 2,000 visitors each calendar year, including more than 500 school-aged children on guided tours, have the opportunity to view these items and maps and diagrams of the lake-bottom locations of their origin.

Lessons on shipping on our great lakes, shipwrecks, diving, diving teams and state and local history are a sampling of the "ripple-effect," pun intended, of the proposed maritime district.

This designation is very important to our community. Thank you for including us in this effort.

Very truly yours,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

James E. Switzer

By: James E. Switzer,
President, 2013-2016

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

jes



Sodus Historical Society

17 Maple Ave.

Sodus, New York 14551-1005



April 26, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries

1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As President, representing the Sodus Historical Society, I would like to express our full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

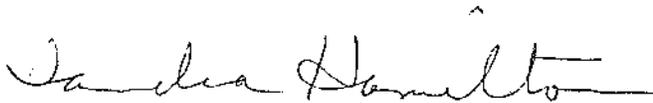
The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

The Sodus Historical Society recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, the Sodus Historical Society is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra Hamilton". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Sandra Hamilton – President

Sodus Historical Society

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

May 17, 2016

Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries

1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

The Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society has had the privilege to work with and assist in the research of the many marine research archeologists, divers and shipwreck exploration groups working the near shore areas along the south shore coast along the eastern portion of Lake Ontario for over the past 40 years.

We have assisted New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation and the State Historic Preservation Office prepare the documentation necessary to have the Shipwreck Schooner St. Peter listed on the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places. The 35 miles of Lake Ontario shoreline of Wayne County has played key roles in commercial development between the United States and Canada, was actively engaged throughout the War of 1812 and was instrumental in acting as the northern terminus of the Underground Railroad delivering by ship 100s if not 1000s of fugitive slaves to the relative safety of British Upper Canada. Our ports were active commercial shipping centers well into the 20th Century and remain active sport fishing and recreation centers today.

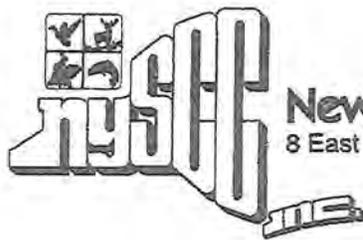
The Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society is the current repository for the NYS Museum of the artifacts retrieved from the Schooner St. Peter. It has been our long term interest, hope and concern that the heritage of the lake, lake shore and artifacts in and around the shore area be respected, recognized, used appropriately and protected. We devote approximately one-third of our exhibit space to telling the story of the lake and the shipwreck St. Peter. We also provide walking tours of Pultneyville, the harbor and lake front area to school groups, scouts, senior citizens organizations and the general public.

We wish to fully support the submission of the nomination and welcome the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and eventual National Marine Sanctuary designation. Please call on us at any time for more in depth information or other support for this nomination.

Sincerely,

Julie Sorrells

For the W-PHS Executive Committee and Board of Trustees



New York State Conservation Council Inc.
8 East Main Street, Ilion, New York 13357-1899

May 30, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Acting Director Armor:

As President of both the New York State Conservation Council and the Oswego County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, representing those concerned with conservation and Hunting Fishing and Trapping and understanding that there will be no negative impact concerning access and outdoor recreation, I would like to express our full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The sportsmen that my groups represent, are well aware of the ecological and recreational value of the Eastern Lake Ontario Region. The added historical value is also recognized by many of the sportsmen. We see no conflict with the awareness and promotion of the historical elements that lie within the Eastern Lake Ontario Region waters. We would welcome the opportunity to share the historical heritage of this area with those of us that enjoy the world class fishing opportunities in the same area.

Tourism is a major economic influence to the Eastern Lake Ontario area. The added maritime resources within the proposed NMS, along with the existing fishing opportunities and the onshore and regional attractions, would significantly enhance recreational activities in this region, attracting many more travelers and improving the quality of life for residents.

The New York State Conservation Council, and the Oswego County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs recognizes the true benefits to have the Eastern Lake Ontario Regions officially classified as a **GREAT LAKE ONTARIO NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY**"

Sincerely,

A Charles Parker

A Charles Parker
President, NYSCC, OCFSC



Oswego County Environmental Management Council

May 2, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Acting Director Armor,

The Oswego County Environmental Management Council would like to express its full support for the proposal and nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary.

Eastern Lake Ontario has a matchless natural beauty and an abundance of maritime heritage resources reflecting over four centuries of American history. From the missionaries of the 17th century, to the French and Indian War of the 18th century, through the War of 1812, to the housing of Jewish refugees during World War II, eastern Lake Ontario relates a captivating tale of people and cargo, and military and humanitarian missions. The Great Lake Ontario Marine Sanctuary, which includes dozens of historically important shipwrecks, would provide direct connection to the rich onshore cultural history of this area.

Designation as a National Marine Sanctuary would enrich educational opportunities, and provide motivation and momentum for local school districts as well as the many institutions of higher learning in the region. The distinction and prestige of an NMS designation will provide these institutions opportunities for curriculum enhancement by promoting connections with other institutions and organizations having an interest in maritime heritage, research, and history.

The Oswego County EMC appreciates the exceptional opportunity provided by NOAA call for nominations, and enthusiastically supports the efforts of local officials and citizens to showcase the maritime heritage of Eastern Lake Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim Carroll".

Tim Carroll
Chair, Oswego County Environmental Management Council



PO Box 216 - 15730 Jensvold Rd
Sterling, NY 13156
315-947-6143

snc@cayugacounty.us
www.cayugacounty.us
facebook.com/sterlingnaturecenter

22-April-2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Nature Center Director, representing the Sterling Nature Center, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. The maritime resources within the proposed NMS, coupled with onshore and regional attractions, support a wide variety of recreational activities, including heritage tourism, boating and sailing, scuba diving, hiking and kayaking, agri-tourism, and what is widely considered to be one of the best sport-fishing areas in the world.

An NMS would supplement and significantly enhance recreational activities in this region, attracting many more travelers and improving the quality of life for residents.

The Sterling Nature Center recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

Jim D'Angelo, Director
Sterling Nature Center

cc: David Nelson, Cayuga County Planning Department



TOURCAYUGA.COM

**CAYUGA COUNTY
OFFICE OF TOURISM**

131 GENESEE STREET
AUBURN, NY 13021

E. info@tourcayuga.com

T. 315.255.1658

T. 800.499.9615

F. 315.255.3742

April 25, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

I am writing on behalf of the Cayuga County Convention Bureau, the designated Tourism Promotion Agency (TPA) for Cayuga County in support of the nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary. This new National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) will be focused solely on "submerged cultural resources," such as shipwrecks, aircraft and archaeological sites.

The NMS will be good for the economy and in particular for tourism by maintaining a vibrant marine environment, creating a destination for divers and other high value tourists. In addition, the NMS will be good for the environment, which is critical to tourism as well. Recognizing the potential economic impacts that would be realized by our lakeside communities that would see an influx of new visitors, the CNY REDC selected this proposed project as a "transformative" initiative in their 5-year plan for regional development in Central New York, which was selected as one of the top three regional plans in New York State.

The proposed Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary will establish international recognition for the unique maritime historic and cultural features of our region and will generate long-term benefits to the region and with this in mind, we fully support this nomination.

Respectfully,

Meg Vanek
Executive Director



CENTERSTATE
CORPORATION FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

April 22, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

I would like to express my full support for this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC), a group that I co-chair, through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan.

The CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,



Robert Simpson
President & CEO



Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board

126 N. Salina Street, Suite 200, Syracuse, New York 13202 • Tel. (315) 422-8276 • Fax: (315) 422-9051

Kathleen A. Rapp, Chair

David V. Bottar, Executive Director

April 20, 2016

John Armor, Acting Director
Office of Marine Sanctuaries
NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Armor:

As Executive Director of the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board, I am pleased to have this opportunity to express my support for the nomination that is being submitted by Oswego County to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

With many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, I recognize the rare

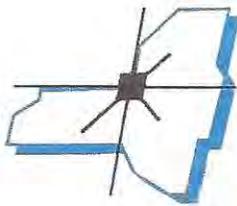
opportunity this nomination represents and welcome this opportunity to support this collaborative effort to showcase our maritime heritage in Central New York.

Sincerely,



David V. Bottar
Executive Director

Cc: Phil Church
David Turner
Jeanie Gleisner



May 10, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the Chair of the Board of Directors representing the County of Oswego Industrial Development Agency, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNY REDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNY REDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

The County of Oswego Industrial Development Agency (IDA) is a public benefit corporation created by New York State and the Oswego County legislature. The IDA’s mission is to create and retain jobs through economic development financing. The IDA has been serving Oswego County since 1976. In this capacity, the IDA recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region.

As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

County of Oswego Industrial Development Agency

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolyn A. Rush". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Carolyn Rush
Chair



44 East Bridge Street
Oswego, New York 13126
315-343-7681 (phone)
315-342-0831 (fax)
director@oswegofultonchamber.com
www.oswegofultonchamber.com

May 12, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the executive director of the Greater Oswego-Fulton Chamber of Commerce, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

The Greater Oswego-Fulton Chamber of Commerce recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

Greg Mills
Executive Director



Jefferson County Local Development Corporation

800 Starbuck Avenue, Suite 800
Watertown, New York 13601

ph: 315.782.5865 / 800.553.4111
fx: 315.782.7915

www.jclda.com

May 18, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
ATTN: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Armor;

It was the summer of 1813 when the ship-of-the-Line, the schooner the '**USS Scourge**' sank in the troubled waters of Lake Ontario nearly causing the death of a young American sailor by the name of Edward "Ned" Myers. The Scourge was one of two American war ships sunk in a gale that terrible night taking 53 sailors to their death.

This tragic incident recorded for posterity by James Fenimore Cooper in his historical novel, '**A Life Before the Mast**' was confirmed many years later when modern naval archaeologist Jacques Cousteau took his cameras into the deep and cold waters of the lake to record the remnants of the ship and the bodies of those who served in her and remain at their station today.

Lake Ontario is a treasure-trove of the maritime history of northern New York and southern Ontario Canada.

At least two wars have been fought on our shores and hundreds of men and woman gave their lives in and near the waters of eastern Lake Ontario in support of our developing new nation. The Lake is a living museum only now being realized for its full potential.

The Jefferson County Local Development Corporation and the Jefferson County Industrial Development Agency strongly support and endorse this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary to be established in eastern Lake Ontario waters.

The 'Scourge' is only one of many ship wrecks and submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes and these testaments to the dedication of our people deserve all of the preservation efforts that can be bestowed on this historical body of water.



Jefferson County Local Development Corporation

800 Starbuck Avenue, Suite 800
Watertown, New York 13601

ph: 315.782.5865 / 800.553.4111
fx: 315.782.7915

www.jclda.com

Our economic development organizations recognize the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations focusing on the potential long-term economic benefits to all of our many residents. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop a national marine sanctuary.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D.C. Alexander', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Donald C. Alexander
CEO

DCA/eg



Ontario Chamber of Commerce
Post Office Box 100
Ontario, New York 14519-0100
315-524-5886
website: www.ontarionychamber.org

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

Please include this letter of support with those from other concerned agencies in the county of Wayne to encourage positive action on the Lake Ontario Maritime District.

Our community is named for the great lake which we border on the north in the western portion of the County of Wayne. Our residents and visitors are frequent users of the shoreline and near waters and this designation is very important to our community.

Thank you for including us in this effort.

Very truly yours,
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James E. Switzer

By: James E. Switzer, Senior Member

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

jes

L. Michael Treadwell, CEcD
Executive Director



44 West Bridge Street
Oswego, NY 13126
315-343-1545

Fax: 315-343-1546
email: oooc@oswegocounty.org
www.oswegocounty.org

Operation Oswego County

An Economic and Job Development Corporation Serving Oswego County, NY

May 5, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the Executive Director representing Operation Oswego County, Inc. (OOC) I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

Operation Oswego County, Inc. (OOC) is a private sector not-for-profit economic development corporation. We are Oswego County's authorized economic development organization and have been in business since 1953. In this role, OOC fully recognizes and supports the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Very truly yours,
Operation Oswego County

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Michael Treadwell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "L".

L. Michael Treadwell, CEcD
Executive Director



It's great outdoors.

Oswego County Tourism Advisory Council
Oswego County Office Building, 46 E. Bridge St., Oswego, NY 13126
www.visitoswegocounty.com
David Rath, Chairman

June 16, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

At its May 17, 2016 meeting, the Oswego County Tourism Advisory Council voted unanimously to support the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary application to NOAA.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region is a resource that supports thousands of jobs in our region, including nearly 3,000 here in Oswego County (NYS DED). The tourism industry generates more than \$135,256,000 annually in Oswego County, through activities that include recreational fishing, boating, diving, lighthouse tourism, heritage sites, second homes, food and lodging, and other assets that are critical to Oswego County's economy and our residents' quality of life.

The Tourism Advisory Council is committed to increasing visitation and economic development through the travel industry in Oswego County. We appreciate the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

David Rath, Chairman
Oswego County Tourism Advisory Council

Pulaski Farmer's Market
C/o Preservation Revitalization of Pulaski
P.O. Box 621
Pulaski, New York 13142

Brian Leary
Market Coordinator

Shawn Doyle
Secretary

Steve Gaffney
Treasurer

May 17, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director,
Office of Marine Sanctuaries 1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta:

As a committee that operates the Pulaski Farmer's Market and three annual festivals just two miles east of Lake Ontario in Pulaski, we would like to express our full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters.

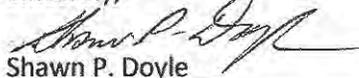
As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes. The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history.

Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District (where we operate our market and festivals), Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources. The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

The Pulaski Farmer's Market and Festivals Committee recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage. With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference.

Pulaski Farmer's Market Committee is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,


Shawn P. Doyle
Market Secretary

Pulaski-Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce

Pulaski-Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 34, Pulaski, NY 13142

May 14, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Acting Director Armor:

The **Pulaski-Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce** represents businesses and communities along the Eastern Shore of Lake Ontario. We fully endorse and support Lake Ontario's nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary.

The proposed **Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary** would encompass hundreds of square miles containing numerous historically important shipwrecks. Sanctuary designation would advance marine science, education, and conservation programs to ensure natural, cultural, and historic maritime heritage resources representing hundreds of years of North American history are available for future generations to experience. And it would offer great potential to significantly enhance economic development opportunities throughout the region.

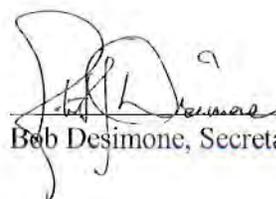
In 2015, the County of Oswego, NY, submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved, and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could be "transformative," and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five-year period to implement their strategies.

The Pulaski-Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented, and the potential long-term economic benefit to the region. As such, we enthusiastically support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,


Kate Connell, President


Bob Desimone, Secretary

Town of Hastings
Community Development & Tourism Office

1134 U.S. Rt. 11
Central Square, New York 13036
Phone – (315) 591-2627
Email: LouellaLeclair@gmail.com

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta,

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

As a former Oswego County legislator, and newly appointed Community Development and Tourism Director for the Town of Hastings, I want to add my name to the long list of supporters for this Federal designation. Oswego County is unique in its history and Lake Ontario has been a huge part of our history.

I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters.

Sincerely,



Louella LeClair
Director of Community Development and Tourism Town of Hastings



315-785-2380 / 2570

315-785-2574 (fax)

e-mail: tughill@tughill.org

website: www.tughill.org

Dulles State Office Building
317 Washington Street
Watertown, New York 13601-3782

Chairman

Jan J. Bogdanowicz

Vice Chairman

Michael G. Yerdon, Sr.

Secretary

Thomas E. Boxberger

Members

Leona M. Chereshnoski

Roger W. Maciejko

Arnold E. Talgo

Kenneth W. Vigus

Executive Director

Katie Malinowski

June 28, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta,

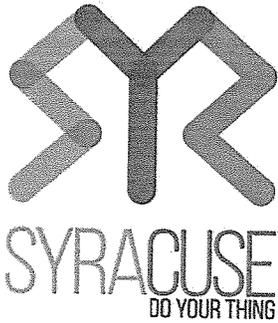
As Executive Director of the NYS Tug Hill Commission, I would like to express the organization's support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in the east end of Lake Ontario. As envisioned, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne Counties, in an area with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

A large portion of the Tug Hill region is within the Lake Ontario watershed. Tug Hill provides a significant quantity of high quality water to the lake particularly related to snowmelt in the spring, as Tug Hill receives the most significant amount of snow east of the Rockies. We strongly value our partnerships with Oswego and Jefferson counties, and are in full support of their effort to bring recognition to this unique area of New York State. Efforts to bring more tourism and educational opportunities to the area will have many benefits for a variety of organizations and businesses.

The presentation at the Central NY Regional Planning Board meeting by Jeff Gray of the Thunder Bay NMHS was very interesting and educational and helped illustrate what has happened in a similar area as a result of the designation. We are excited for the opportunity to bring similar benefits to upstate New York. The Tug Hill Commission is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and encourage NOAA to finalize the proposed designation.

Sincerely,

Katie Malinowski
Executive Director



VISIT SYRACUSE

115 W FAYETTE STREET
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13202

800.234.4797
315.470.1910

VISITSYRACUSE.COM



April 4, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta,

I am writing to offer the full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

All of these Eastern Lake Ontario assets provide ample tourism base to help our region dramatically grow tourism. As the President of Visit Syracuse and a close regional partner to the county tourism offices participating in this nomination, I am thrilled beyond words for the stimulus this program would deliver. This is a rare opportunity and one that will support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

David Holder, President

16 June 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Mr. John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this regional nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, the NYS Western Erie Canal Corridor and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

Designation as an NMS would greatly enhance educational and tourism opportunities, providing a destination for visitors and lifelong students of history, shipping, culture and logistics. The prestige and coordinated resource management resulting from an NMS designation will provide reasons for people to learn about our region, not only its history, but its vibrant communities with their opportunities for business, research and great living.

The Wayne County Industrial Development Agency and Economic Development Corporation recognize that this is a rare opportunity. We are excited to support these collaborative efforts to protect, highlight and build on our significant maritime heritage.

Sincerely,



Peg Churchill
Executive Director



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
TDD relay number 1-800-662-1220

Wayne County Department of
Economic Development and Planning

www.co.wayne.ny.us

9 Pearl Street, 2nd floor
Lyons, NY 14489
Phone 315-946-5919
fax 315-946-7657

Industrial Development Agency • Economic Development Corporation • Planning Department

June 6, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the Director of the Wayne County Economic Development and Planning Department, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

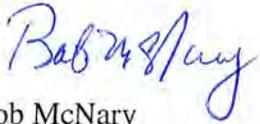
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In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

The Wayne County Economic Development and Planning Department recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob McNary". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "B".

Bob McNary
Director



May 6, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

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Wayne County Tourism recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

Christine Worth
Executive Director

Wayne County Office of Tourism ■ 9 Pearl Street ■ Suite 3 ■ Lyons, NY 14489
toll free 800-527-6510 ■ tel 315-946-5469 ■ fax 315-946-5460

WWW.WAYNECOUNTYTOURISM.COM



Above & Below The Water Training Center LLC



852 Co. Rt. 62
Sandy Creek, NY 13145

Phone: 315-387-3231
Fax: 315-387-3471
Email: penny535@frontiernet.net

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Penny Shotts, representing Above and Below the Water T.C.
I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

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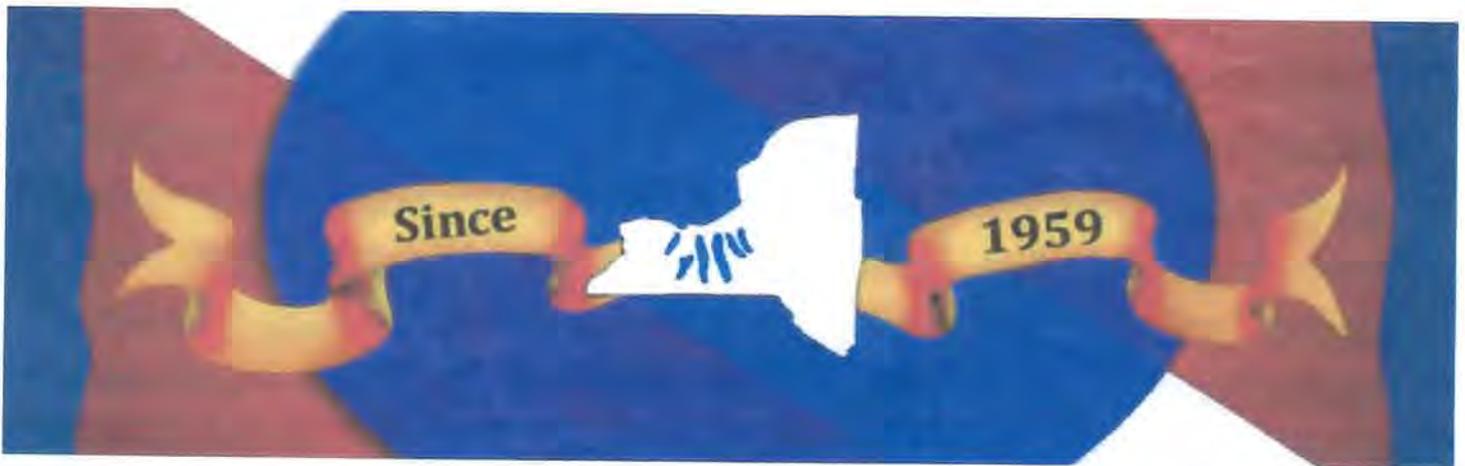
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Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be "transformative" and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

Above and Below the Water T.C. recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

Penny Shutt



Auburn Skin Divers Association
c/o 4532 State Route 38A Skaneateles, NY 13152

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the members and officers representing Auburn Skin Divers Association, we would like to express our full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

Our dive club, Auburn Skin Divers Association, recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

The Officers and Membership of Auburn Skin Divers Association

August 20, 2016
NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

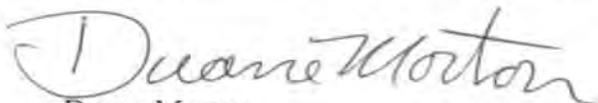
Dear Director Armor:

The creation of a National Marine Sanctuary on the eastern shores of Lake Ontario would have many positive effects for local businesses.

As the owner of a boat capable of being used in a diving operation, I am very much in favor of the creation of the sanctuary. The sanctuary would protect the shipwreck sites and at the same time make sites available to all. Preserving the history of these sites will be better accomplished with the proper marking and documentation. Because some of the sites may be at depths some recreational divers may not want to go, alternate business plans may be created. This could open up opportunities for a vessel with remote devices to be used in the areas where depths may be a problem. This business could expand to give the visitor a "hands on" experience for all.

Marking the sites also has a positive impact on the lake fishing industry. Fishing boat captains will know where the sites are located and avoid dragging equipment through a site, losing equipment and destroying the site.

The latest find of the Washington brings new energy to recreational diving and historians alike. The site is near Oswego, however it will be kept from public knowledge and could be lost or vandalized. The sanctuary would make these sites available to all and keep them protected. And at the same time creating business opportunities for boat owners such as myself.



Duane Morton
Owner, *DelMor*
POB 485
Mexico, NY 13114



Eastern Lake Ontario Salmon and Trout Association

Box 3484 – Syracuse, NY – 13220

Web Site – www.elosta.org

OFFICERS

Brian Garrett
President

Dan Zanetti
Vice President

Tom Lott
Treasurer

Phil Lucanson
Recording Sec.

Libby Loughnot
Newsletter Editor

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Dave Marks
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May 26, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Acting Director Armor:

As President of Eastern Lake Ontario Trout and Salmon Association, I would like to express our full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would encompass hundreds of square miles Eastern Lake Ontario coastal waters, a waterway with many historically important shipwrecks representing some of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

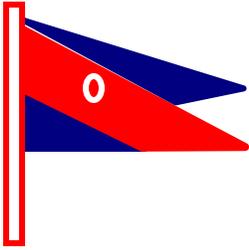
The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years that helped shape and define our country. The maritime resources within the proposed NMS, coupled with onshore and regional attractions, support a wide variety of recreational activities, including heritage tourism, boating and sailing, scuba diving, hiking and kayaking, agri-tourism, and what is widely considered to be one of the best sport-fishing areas in the world.

An NMS would supplement and significantly enhance recreational activities in this region, attracting many more travelers and improving the quality of life for residents.

The members of Eastern Lake Ontario Trout and Salmon Association recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

Brian Garrett
President of Eastern Lake Ontario Trout and Salmon Association



Wednesday, May 25, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor,

As Commodore of the Oswego Yacht Club, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of the nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The Oswego Yacht Club is one of the oldest organizations on the Great Lakes, established in 1881 by prominent local businessman, banker and sailor, John T. Mott. OYC and its members have long been active on Lake Ontario and shares a passion for the beauty and majesty of this historic waterway. We are active both on the water as sailors, racers and boaters and off the water promoting community activities and involvement that highlight the opportunities for all people to enjoy this wonderful resource that is Lake Ontario. Our goals and desires to protect this resource for current and future generations naturally align with those of the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) proposal.

The eastern Lake Ontario region is an area of rich natural beauty that offers life giving resources to both wildlife, abundant aquatic species and the people of the region. It also offers a wealth of maritime heritage that presents a fascinating story of people, cargo, military engagements and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of our history as a nation. It also provides an economic resource that supports hundreds of businesses and thousands of jobs in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

The NMS designation has the potential to have a very positive impact on the region. It would bring additional tourism to the area. It would provide for enhanced resource management through the program that would help to coordinate efforts to protect the environment and improve the ecosystem of the eastern Lake Ontario waters and watershed. It would enable educational opportunities for all levels to become involved in the work being done and open the door for larger educational institutions that would offer programs in marine research, history, archeology and technologies.

The NMS designation will also strengthen the efforts already underway by the City of Oswego and Oswego County to develop and identify projects through the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC). The funds from the CNYREDC initiative can be used to bolster business development in the area and, in synergy with the NMS, bring many positive changes and opportunities to better the quality of life for the citizens of this region.

The Oswego Yacht Club and its members recognize the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term social and economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here and to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Anderson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael A. Anderson
Commodore
Oswego Yacht Club



May 25, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the President of the Broadwell Hospitality Group, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

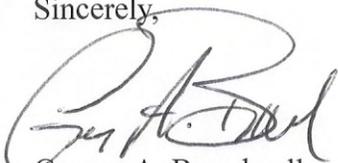
The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

The Broadwell Hospitality Group recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. A. Broadwell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and "B".

George A. Broadwell
President



NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta,

As Vincent Lobdell, representing Kallet Theater and Conference Center, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

Kallet Theater and Conference Center recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, Kallet Theater and Conference Center is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

Vincent Lobdell
CEO Kallet Theater and Conference Center

Pleasant Beach Hotel

14477 Fancher Avenue
Fair Haven, NY 13064

April 24, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Springs, MD 20910

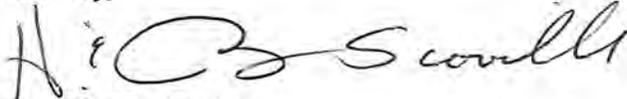
Dear Director Armor:

I am writing you to express our total support for the nomination to NOAA for a new national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario. My husband and I purchase the Pleasant Beach Hotel in Fair Haven in 2007. Our facility has been here since 1910 and sits on the shore of Little Sodus Bay just off Lake Ontario. We came here from Georgia because we love the water, the history and the phenomenal summer weather. We are very interested in spreading an appreciation for the amazing marine resources, both natural and historic that are so unique to this area.

We feel that this area and this project have so much to offer not just the scientist or historian but the tourist in general. Every season we are host to several thousand travelers from all over the country and the world. Some come by boat, some by car, we have had people stay with us on their way cross country by bicycle, we've even had people who were traveling the lake by kayak. They pass our way because of the natural beauty and the rich maritime heritage. Your project seems a natural fit.

If there is anything that we can do to help with this process, we would be most happy to assist. We have been following this project since we first heard the concept and are so glad to see that it is progressing through the channels. Thank you for giving this area your consideration for such a fine project.

Sincerely,



H and Bonnie Scoville
Pleasant Beach Hotel
315 947-5399 - bonnie@pleasantbeach.com
www.pleasantbeach.com

Rainbow Shores

lakeside dining & cottages

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta,

As Owner, representing Rainbow Shores, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

Rainbow Shores recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, Rainbow Shores is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely, Paul R. Oleyard
315.298.5110

186 s rainbow shores rd. pulaski. ny. 13142
rainbowshoresny.com

Salmon River Lighthouse & Marina
5 Lake Road Extension
Pulaski, NY 13142

April 6, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta:

As Owner and General Manager of the above-referenced business, I would like to express my full support for the nomination of eastern Lake Ontario waters to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for designation as a national marine sanctuary. If so designated, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically relevant shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes. As owners, stewards and restorers of the circa 1838 Selkirk Lighthouse, we fully understand, embrace and appreciate the critical importance of preserving the natural and historic treasures we all share.

The unique beauty and wealth of maritime heritage resources of the eastern Lake Ontario region encompass a fascinating history as a recognized and valued resource, first by Native Americans and later by European and American settlers and explorers. Lake Ontario connects directly to a rich, cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, historic architecture, trade and battle routes and engineering resources of undeniable significance. These would include the Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, the Erie Canal Way National Heritage Corridor and our very own Selkirk Lighthouse, which protected the Salmon River harbor as an important asset to 19th century maritime commerce prior to roads and railroads. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich history remain 'in situ' beneath the waters of the eastern Lake Ontario basin, as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought by our Nation, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. Lake Ontario is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

On behalf of the Salmon River Lighthouse & Marina and all who have shown support for redevelopment of the Lighthouse and its related history, it is my unequivocal belief that this nomination would represent an exciting, enthusiastic and collaborative effort to showcase our maritime heritage in a very special way. With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, the Salmon River Lighthouse & Marina supports fully the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,



Roland L. (Abe) Ellis

Selkirk Lighthouse & Marina, LLC
5 Lake Road Extension
Pulaski, NY 13142

April 4, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta:

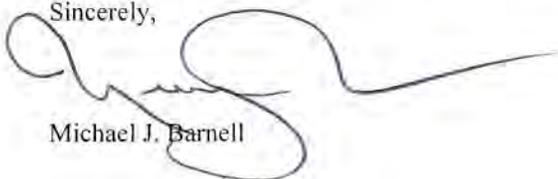
I am the owner of the Selkirk (Salmon River) Lighthouse & Marina, and in that capacity and personally, I would like to express my full support for the nomination of Eastern Lake Ontario waters to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary. If so designated, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes. As an owner and steward for some of that history – the Selkirk Lighthouse was originally built in 1838 and is now being restored to its original glory with great love and attention – I know the importance of preserving the natural and historic treasures that we all share.

The eastern Lake Ontario region is unique and beautiful in many ways, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources encompasses much history, being a recognized and valued resource first by Native Americans and then by European explorers and American settlers. Eastern Lake Ontario was central to our American struggle for Independence and in the following War of 1812, with Canada just across the lake being the “front lines” during that period of war with England. Later history of the region includes the early American history of commercial development and trade, and includes historic architecture and other resources of undeniable significance. These would include the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket’s Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, the Erie Canal Way National Heritage Corridor and my own Selkirk Lighthouse, which guarded the harbor of the Salmon River when that estuary was an important asset to early commerce at the time before roads and railroads. As a direct consequence of that rich cultural history, there are many archeological artifacts and remnants remaining ‘in situ’ under the waters of the eastern Lake Ontario basin.

Lake Ontario is also an exceptional fishery, with visitors coming every year from long distances to enjoy the great outdoors in a unique coastal natural resource that includes the 17-mile long ‘Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area’ along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

On behalf of the Selkirk Lighthouse & Marina, and all of those who have shown support for redevelopment of the lighthouse and its related history, I would like to express my belief that this nomination would represent an exciting, enthusiastic and collaborative effort to showcase our maritime heritage in a very special way. With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, the Selkirk Lighthouse & Marina supports fully and unequivocally the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Barnell



Sunoco Ethanol
Fulton Ethanol Plant
376 Owen Road
P. O. Box 427
Fulton, NY 13069-0427
P: 315.593.0504
F: 315.593-0541

May 5, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As the General Manager of Sunoco Ethanol in Fulton, NY, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be "transformative" and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

We at Sunoco Ethanol recognize the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,
Sunoco Ethanol

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Hardy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a checkmark-like flourish at the end.

Timothy Hardy
General Manager



159 Hubbard Street
Fulton, NY 13069
Office: 315.598.7607
Fax: 315.598.7613

May 5, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Vice President, representing Universal Metal Works, LLC, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

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Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be "transformative" and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

Universal Metal Works, LLC recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JF Sharkey IV", written in a cursive style.

John F. Sharkey IV
Vice President – Universal Metal Works

Creekside Tenants Association

6216 U. S. Route 11

Sandy Creek, New York 13145

315-489-6152

May 15, 2016

NOAA National Marine Marine Sanctuary Program

Att: Johna Aemor, Acting Director, Office of Marien Sancturaire

1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor;

As elected board members, representing the the members of Creekside Tenantss Association, we would like to express our full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in the eastern Lake Ontario waters. as envisioned, The Great Lake Ontario marien Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritinme heritage resourses in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resourses not only offer a fascinating story of people, cargo and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American History, it also is a resourse that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

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Appreciating the potential economic impact that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see great influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be "transformative" and selected it as one of the few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5 year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

The Creekside Tenants Association recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,

Beverly J. Snyder - President

David L. Shepard V Pres.

Ayubia Bachar Secretary

Katherine Palmer

Connie Mathersell



NOAA National marine Sanctuary Program
Artt: Dan Basta, Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-Wet Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta,

As the Chief Executive Officer/President, representing CNY Arts Center, Inc. I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Eastern Lake Ontario National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary would include dozens of historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of the rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged heritage resource.

CNY Arts Center recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, CNY Arts Center is fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Maritime Heritage Sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Fox".

Nancy Fox

May 10, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

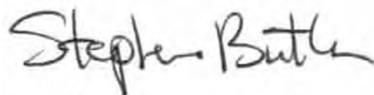
As Stephen Butler, representing CNY Arts, Inc., a regional council that represents the arts, cultural, and heritage industry in Central New York, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. The maritime resources within the proposed NMS, coupled with onshore and regional attractions, support a wide variety of recreational activities, including heritage tourism, boating and sailing, scuba diving, hiking and kayaking, agri-tourism, and what is widely considered to be one of the best sport-fishing areas in the world.

An NMS would supplement and significantly enhance recreational activities in this region, attracting many more travelers and improving the quality of life for residents.

CNY Arts, Inc. recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Butler". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Stephen Butler
Executive Director
CNY Arts, Inc.

6-23-16

I whom it may concern,
Upon Reading the article we
support. the effort to nominate the Lake
Ontario shore line to be preserved and
named a National Marine Sanctuary for
future generations

Shawn Knapp
al Knapp



Oswego Harbor Festivals, Inc.

Roy McCrobie Building, 41 Lake Street, Oswego, NY 13126
(P) 315.343.6858 www.oswegoharborfest.com

From: Chena Tucker, President BOD

May 9th, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Board President, representing Oswego Harbor Festivals, Inc., I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

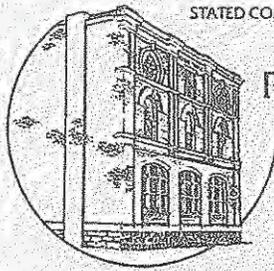
Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

Harborfest recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,



Chena Tucker
Board President of Oswego Harbor Festivals, Inc.



STATED COMMUNICATIONS 1st. & 3rd. Wednesdays

PULASKI LODGE No. 415, F. & A. M.

Broad St., Pulaski, New York 13142

May 17, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries

1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Basta:

As Secretary of Pulaski Lodge #415, successor to Friendship Lodge #288 founded in 1817, I would like to express our organizations full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters.

As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes. The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history. Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District (where we are located), Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. Archeological artifacts and remnants of this rich cultural history remain 'in situ' on the eastern Lake Ontario lakebed as fascinating, yet little known submerged maritime heritage resources.

The maritime history of Eastern Lake Ontario includes some of the most important maritime military battles fought in the Nation's history, as well as maritime transportation and trade history related to the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence Seaway and the development of our Nation's communities, industry, and infrastructure. It is also an exceptional fishery, with unique coastal natural resources including the 17-mile long 'Eastern Lake Ontario Barrier Beach and Wetland Complex Natural Heritage Area' along its eastern shore, and significant cultural, historic, and educational resources found nowhere else in the Great Lakes.

Pulaski Lodge #415 recognizes the rare opportunity this call for nominations represents, and is excited to support enthusiastic and collaborative efforts to showcase our own maritime heritage. With the many regional heritage sites and initiatives in progress, such as the CNY Regional Recreation and Heritage Plan and the upcoming 2017 Bicentennial Celebration of the Erie Canal and World Canals Conference, members of the local masonic fraternity are fully supportive of the submission of this nomination and welcomes the opportunity for a maritime heritage inventory and possible National Marine Sanctuary designation.

The 200 years of records we have are full of members who worked the lakes as captains, seaman and related disciplines. We look forward to working with any interpretive center that may be built to share information we have on the lives of these men.

Sincerely,


Shawn Patrick Doyle, Secretary

Deanne M. Hall
c/o St. Mary of the Assumption
103 W. Seventh St. Oswego NY 13126
315.343.3953
dhall@syrdio.org

Dear Oswego County Representatives & NOAA members,

Regarding the possibility of Lake Ontario being designated as a National Marine Sanctuary and the request for public support, I have taken the liberty of organizing catechetical support within various faith formation programs of our local Catholic parishes.

During the recent papal visit in Fall of 2015, Pope Francis called for a global awareness and unification towards fighting environmental atrocities which not only impact our own physical environment and well-being but also endanger our neighbor's health, welfare and economy both local and abroad.

Within this publication are copies of what I have sent to a few local parishes:

- A praxis of the suggested mandates in **Laudato Si'** as written by Pope Francis with the intended outcomes of sanctuary designation;
- Public information on the topic as devised by the committed counties;
- Faith Formation class outline samples ;
- Artwork from youth depicting their interests in preserving Lake Ontario. These parishes include St. Mary of the Assumption, the SUNY Oswego Newman Center and St. Paul's, Oswego and Holy Trinity Catholic Community in Fulton. *(I also have a contact in Jefferson County spreading the word within their faith community.)*

(Due to prior scheduling commitments and the short notice of this public proposal, I was unable to collaborate on a much larger scale.)

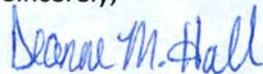
To date, I am not sure where the proposal stands however; I pray with the greatest sincerity that it has not been dropped. We have youth envisioning:

- a chance for a future in the place where they grew up;
- an opportunity to live in a healthy, fiscally sustainable environment;
- and perhaps even more importantly, that their voices are validated in an adult community forum with regards to their own future.

Often times in our current culture we see a clash between governmental and church agencies. However, a proposal of this nature is too large and important to not join efforts and show support for our environment.

Should you need any further information or volunteer support, please know that you can count on my assistance. My contact information is above. Thank you for making strides in making a difference.

Sincerely,



Deanne M. Hall
Director of Faith Formation
St. Mary's, Oswego

Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary Proposal:

A

Catholic Call For

Environmental Justice

Project Contents:

Initial Information Sheet.....Page 1

A combined Informative resource gathered from public sources and handed out to individuals involved in our Catechetical programs.

Nature & Faith.....Page 2

This pictograph explains the relationship between Catholicism and nature. This care of all creation” concept applies to all Christian faiths.

Praxis of NMS with Laudato Si’Page 3

Another pictograph explaining how some of the highlights of Laudato Si’ support the very essence of the proposed outcomes of NMS. This is an actual local application of Pope Francis message to our very own “backyard”. Individuals apply a global message locally and reflect on what that could mean for their community.

Sample Lesson Plan HandoutPage 4

This handout was shared with the Catechetical Leaders and Catechists of the participating parishes.

Contributions of the YouthPage 5

The genuine overwhelming responses from the youth, including a petition, sample lesson plan from SUNY Oswego.

Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary Proposal

"The coalition of activists and government leaders from four counties are applying for the federal designation that would put that section of the lake in the same category as places like the Florida Keys."

- Ellen Abbott @<http://www.northcountrypublicradio.org>

*"For the first time **in nearly 20 years** the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has opened up the application process to add new National Marine Sanctuaries to the 14 already established regions in the world. This unique opportunity has prompted four Lake Ontario counties (Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne) and the City of Oswego to apply for status for the southeastern Lake Ontario region. Each community brings its strengths and interests to the table in an effort to **ensure that the natural, cultural and historic resources that we cherish and enjoy can be experienced by others for generations to come.** To succeed, the process begins with **community support.** It's important to understand what an NMS is and what it means for our community and industries." ... go online to:*

Great Lake Ontario MNS and read more about it!

"An NMS does not mean "off limits". Just the opposite in fact. An NMS seeks to enhance responsible and sustainable access for recreational, educational and economic purposes!"

How Can You Help?

✓ Designation of a NMS is a 2-step process. Nominating a site is the first step.

___ Public involvement from a wide variety of interests and groups is essential to a successful nomination. Nomination must meet federally required criteria and have broad public support before it is accepted by NOAA.

___ Show your support and help spread the word!



For more information contact your local tourism office:

Wayne County	wayneplanning@co.wayne.ny.us	315-946-5919
Jefferson County	roberth@co.jefferson.ny.us	315-785-3075
Cayuga County	info@tourcayuga.com	315-255-1658
Oswego County	dturner@oswegocounty.com	315-349-8322

Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary Proposal

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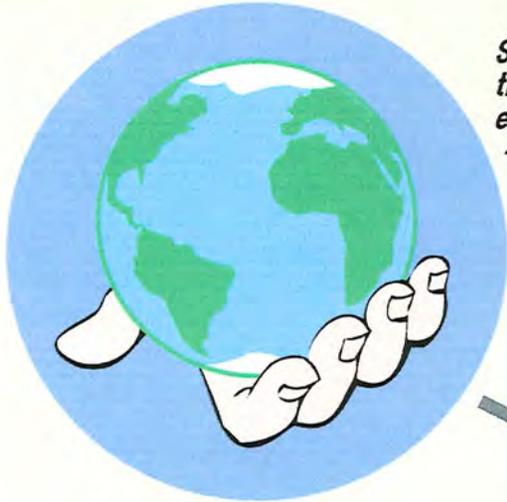


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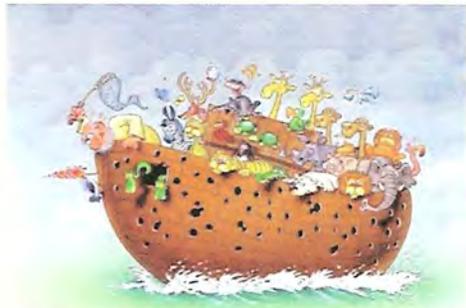
What does nature have to do with faith?

Catholic faith is based Scripture and Tradition, lets see what they say . . .



So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.
- Gen 1:21 NRSVCE

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." - Gen 1:28 NRSVCE



Even Noah took God serious!
The righteous know the needs of their animals, but the mercy of the wicked is cruel. - Prov 12:10 NRSVCE

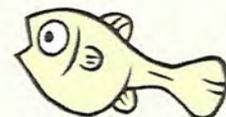


He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."
- Luke 10:27 NRSVCE



**Fast Forward
2015 yrs....**

Pope Francis warns us that the earth is getting sick. He also shows us how caring for our sick earth is a way of showing we love our neighbor.



NMS & Catholic Praxis

Sanctuary Benefits.

Ladauto Si' - Supportive paragraphs for reflection.



Laudato Si' -

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.htm

Sample Lesson Plan: Lake Ontario Sanctuary Proposal

Dear Catechist(s),

Pope Francis in his encyclical *Laudato Si'* draws a direct correlation between the treatment of our environment and its impact on how we treat our "neighbors". He calls us to profoundly reflect on how we can limit poverty and protect nature at the same time.

Due to time limitation in youth gatherings and the urgency of this proposal date, I ask you to please encourage each youth to pick one of the below or any other idea that they may have to convey their understanding that God made all creation and we as Catholics are called to be responsible for the dignity and preservation of all life forms.

Project Ideas:

1. Draw pictures of:
 - a. What they think is in Lake Ontario. (Shipwrecks, fish, garbage, etc.);
 - b. God's blessings that come from Lake Ontario. (food, fun, beauty, etc.);
 - c. Various life forms that need Lake Ontario to live.
2. Write a brief essay on why Lake Ontario is important to them and why making the lake a sanctuary is so important.
3. Write a prayer which includes blessings on Lake Ontario and all those that live in and around the Lake and forgiveness for those we hurt when we don't care for nature and our neighbor.
4. Start a Petition within your parish and/or through the youth during gathering time.

All submissions require: A first name **ONLY**, Parish/ School Name and Grade. When complete please return projects to Catechetical Leader by Oct. 30, if not sooner.

I personally would like to sincerely thank you for participating in this project. Our local communities are hurting and they need so much in the way of economy, ecology, and education. Hopefully and prayerfully participating in such a project as this could be the beginning of positive change.

Many Blessings,

Deanne Hall
Northern Region Faith Formation Admins. – Dio. Of Syracuse
Faith Formation Director – St. Mary's, Oswego NY

St. Mary of the Assumption
103 W. Seventh St.
Oswego NY 13126

As a resident and member of the county of Oswego NY and as a Catholic, I realize the importance of creating and supporting healthy sustainable environments as a way of providing a quality of life necessary to the preservation of all life forms connected with Lake Ontario.

I support the nomination and approval of Lake Ontario for National Marine Status.

#	Name	Residence (City)
1	Rev. John F. Hogan, Jr	Oswego, N.Y.
2	Michael J. Bateman	Oswego, NY
3	Suzanne Bronshaw	OSWEGO TOWN
4	Kathy Haluty	OSWEGO TOWN
5	Deanne Hall	Oswego NY.
6	Michelle A. Brown	Oswego, NY
7	Sandra A. White	Oswego, N.Y.
8	DAVE WHITE	OSWEGO N.Y.
9	MILLER SHERMAN	Oswego N.Y.
10	Veronica Baker	Oswego n.y.
11	Ann Britcherd	Os, NY
12	Joseph Rotolo	Oswego Ny, 13126
13	Maryloune Teijs	oswego, NY.
14	Theresa Cozzer	Oswego, NY
15	Robert Blach	OSWEGO NY
16	Jeffrey E. Gordon	Oswego
17	Nancy Weber	O. Fulton
18	Dain Jones	Oswego NY
19	Gregory Angelini	Oswego N.Y.
20	Robert Fisher	OSWEGO NY
21	DENNIS POWERS	OSWEGO, NY
22	Wesley Roman	Oswego NY

St. Mary of the Assumption
 103 W. Seventh St.
 Oswego NY 13126

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I support the nomination and approval of Lake Ontario for National Marine Status.

#	Name	Residence
1	Anne Marie Rbero	Oswego, NY 13126
2	Caroline E. Anderson	Oswego, NY 13126
3	Patrick Adams	Oswego NY 13126
4	Margaret Suple	Oswego, NY 13126
5	James Winterhelt	Oswego, NY 13126
6	David C Place	Minetto, NY 13115
7	Rosemary Place	Minetto, NY 13115
8	DANIEL CAUCHEY	Pulaski, NY 13142
9	Robert McKinstry	Oswego, NY 13126
10	Marie J Desrosiers	Oswego, NY 13126
11	De Rhise	Oswego NY 13126
12	Eugene A Knopp	Oswego
13	Shirley Francis	Oswego NY
14	Robt Dupre	Oswego NY
15	Carolyn J. Beguin	Oswego, N.Y.
16	Abigail Douglas	Oswego, NY 13126
17	Megan Lago	Oswego, NY 13126
18	Tatiana Cummins	Oswego NY 13126
19	Katie Smith	Oswego NY 13126
20	Alexandra Cummins	Oswego NY 13126
21	Andree Stacia	Oswego NY 13126
22	Katelyn Lago	Oswego NY 13126

Lake Ontario Sanctuary Project- Middle and High School – Newman Center/SUNY Oswego

Grade Level: 7-10

Objectives:

- Students will be able to describe in their own words that the Pope's Encyclical is a calling for all people to look out for the planet that God made for us
- Students will be able to describe that water is an essential resource to human life and needs to be preserved
- Students will be able to identify reasons in which Lake Ontario is a major resource for people locally and far away
- Students will be able to develop opinions about the current state of planet earth and Lake Ontario

Lesson- this is a discussion based lesson to relate the Encyclical to a major local resource, Lake Ontario:

- Reviewing of the Pope's Encyclical- see what the students remember from the prior lesson and focus on these three, they're most applicable to this lesson (2-3 minutes)
 - Climate change has grave implications
 - why are we here on Earth in the first place? "What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?"
 - The importance of access to safe drinkable water is "a basic and universal human right."
- Discussing Lake Ontario as a freshwater resource- ask the students for examples for each of these categories, challenge them to think of ways in which the lake is a resource that aren't as obvious (7-8 minutes)
 - Food-
 - Home to fish and other animals
 - Source of water to many local farms
 - Economics-
 - Large port for shipping
 - Recreation and tourism
 - Water-
 - Clean drinking water
 - Luckily, not as polluted as some other great lakes
 - Energy-
 - Water is used by all the factories and power plants
 - Recreation-
 - Good for swimming
 - Aesthetically pleasing
 - Geography -
 - The way the shore near Oswego is shaped helps protect

- Linking the Encyclical to the local area- ask the students to make this connection, give hints if necessary (1-2 minutes)
 - Lake Ontario is a gift to us
 - We must take care of it the same way it takes care of us
- Group discussion about Lake Ontario lead by teachers asking questions (5-10 minutes)
 - What sorts of things can we do to help conserve our local environment?
 - How can we apply the Pope's encyclical to our lives?
 - What are some ways we can help spread awareness about environmental issues?
 - What other environmental issues do we face that you're aware of?
 - Teachers can help start discussions by answering these questions or giving hints to have students respond here are some examples
 - California has been in a drought for several months and many people lack water but several celebrities have been criticized for still watering their lawns and corporations such as Nestle are allowed to pump water and sell in bottles with no regulations- how would you feel if there was a similar situation here?
 - Oswego is known for strong winds and big waves coming off of Lake Ontario, both could be large sources of renewable energy if harvested, the argument is that they will ruin the aesthetics (beauty) of the view- Do you agree? Disagree? Should we harvest these untapped energy sources?

Prior Knowledge:

- One lesson about the Pope and the Encyclical
- Other information learned on their own or in school

Resources:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/acts-of-faith/wp/2015/06/18/10-key-excerpts-from-pope-franciss-encyclical-on-the-environment/>

Quinn
 Holy Trinity Parish
 Grade 6

1. What's in Lake Ontario?



2. God's Blessings from Lake Ontario

God gave us many blessings from Lake Ontario.

1. Food - If you clean the fish and catch them, you get food, which you need to live.

2. Sight - Lake Ontario is beautiful at sunset. The lights reflect off of the lake and it's just beautiful.



3. Various forms of life depend on Lake Ontario to live. They might include Ducks, Many different kinds of fish I can't even name a quarter of them, Sea Anemones, Seaweed, and a lot of other things I probably don't know about.



(I'll try and do the 7th & 8th Grader work 'cause why)
not 7th — 8th Grader Work

Lake Ontario is very important to me and making it a sanctuary is also very, very important. It's important to me because it gives us food, looks amazing, and is home to many fish. Without it there would be less food, we'd have lost an amazing sunset view, and many fish would have died.

Making it a sanctuary is really important, just as much or even more than the lake itself. At the time Lake Ontario is filled with many fish, but also chemicals and trash. If anybody accidently swallows the dirty water somehow it might hurt them. Also, it could be better for the fish to live in a less polluted environment.

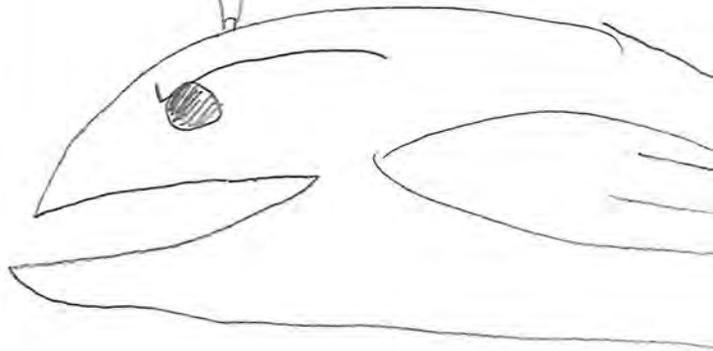
That's why Lake Ontario is so important to me, and why making it a sanctuary is also very important.

Samantha
Holy Trinity 5 grade

its a good
thing to
Feed
the
Fish also
Have
Fun

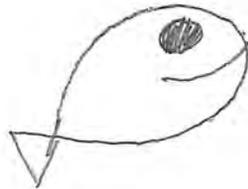


Protect
the
Fish



Fish
are
going
to

Die
Feed
the
Fish
Starts
to
Die



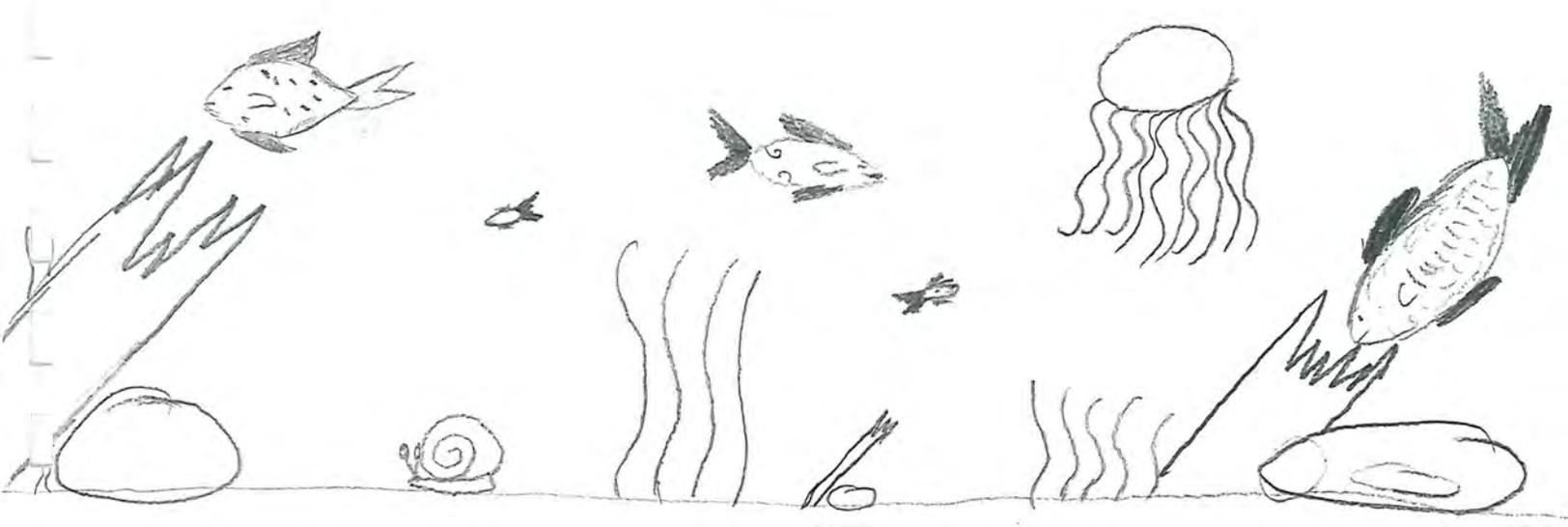
2. Keeping the world Save
is a good idea and a good
thing for pets and kids

Makayla
No. 1 Trinity Parish
6th grade

B) Food, Beauty,
- The water cycle, Air, Amphibians, Plant Life,



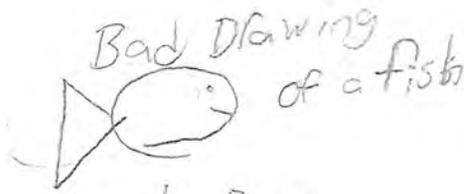
Lake Ontario



Brodie 5th Volney
houley trinity Parish



king fish



Bad Drawing
of a fish

fish all types

Spong Bob
not really



another Bad
drawing

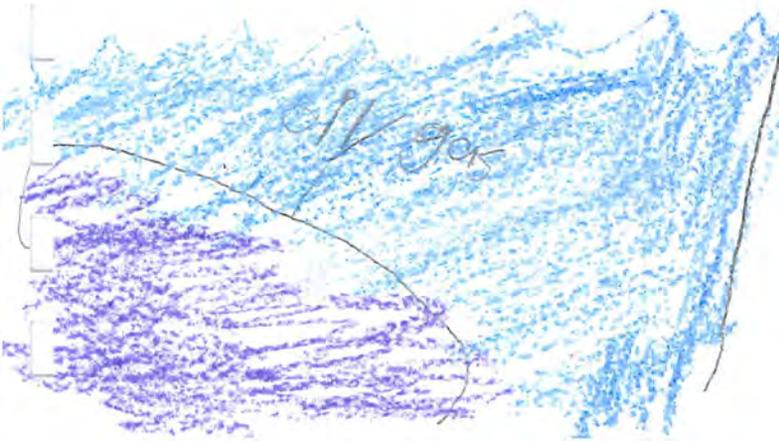


Ship wreck

lots of trash



Probley a little gas/oil



garry lol
not really



Taylor

Holy Trinity Parish
8th

I think lake Ontario is important because many people have houses along the coast and they go fishing, boating, swimming etc. It's also important because it gives a habitat to the animals in the lake and many people could do things on the lake.

Hobby

Holy Trinity Parish
7th grade F.J.H.S.

I think Lake Ontario is important to myself and many others because many people enjoy fishing and eating fish and Lake Ontario provides us much fish. Also we can travel across the lake on boats or canoes much like the Iroquois used to do. Also the center of Oswego County is the lake, Lake Ontario. Making the lake a sanctuary is so important because Lake Ontario has a big impact on many people's lives. That is why I think Lake Ontario is important to my self and many others. And that is also why I think making Lake Ontario a Sanctuary is important also.

Samantha
Holy Trinity Parish
1th grade

Lake Ontario is important to me and many others because it provides many types of foods like fish. Lake Ontario is also a place that you can go for a boat ride, a swim or just go to hang out. Lake Ontario is the center of life in Oswego and allows many different life forms to thrive, such as plants, fish and other animals. Making Lake Ontario a sanctuary is so important because almost everything in Oswego is centered around it, plants, animals, restaurants, festivals, and many other activities.

~~Rev~~ Alex,
Holy Trinity Parish
8th

~~Dear~~ Dear God bless lakes ~~and~~ Ontario so the fish is plump and plentiful
that fishers can catch big fish and that plants may thrive in its waters. Lord
God please forgive those that pollute the ~~world~~ world and show them the ~~light~~ ~~beauty~~ ~~beauty~~ that is
nature. Amen
bounty

ETM ~~ADT~~
HOLY TRINITY RUSH
8th

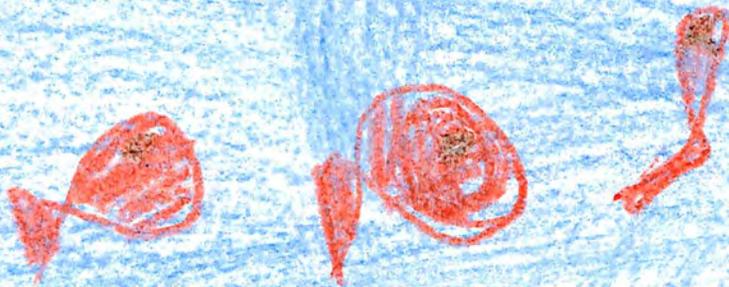
* God, please watch over
Lake Ontario, watch over
the people that live around
the lake make sure they do
not ruin the nature around
the lake or the lake. And
if they do harm the nature,
forgive them for their sins,
Amen

- Lake Ontario is important to me because it gives us food, water, and many other things. If we didn't have lake Ontario we would have less seafood such as fish to eat. Therefore we need to hold back from polluting Lake Ontario to keep our resources from Lake Ontario. However, if we didn't have Lake Ontario we wouldn't have as much water in N.Y. We also wouldn't have enough water in N.Y. if we pollute Lake Ontario.

- Making Lake Ontario a Sanctuary is so important because

Justin
Holy Trinity Parish
Grade: 7

Shane Bonoff 5/19/11
Holy Trinity Parish
5th grade



Katie Holy Trinity
Parish 7th



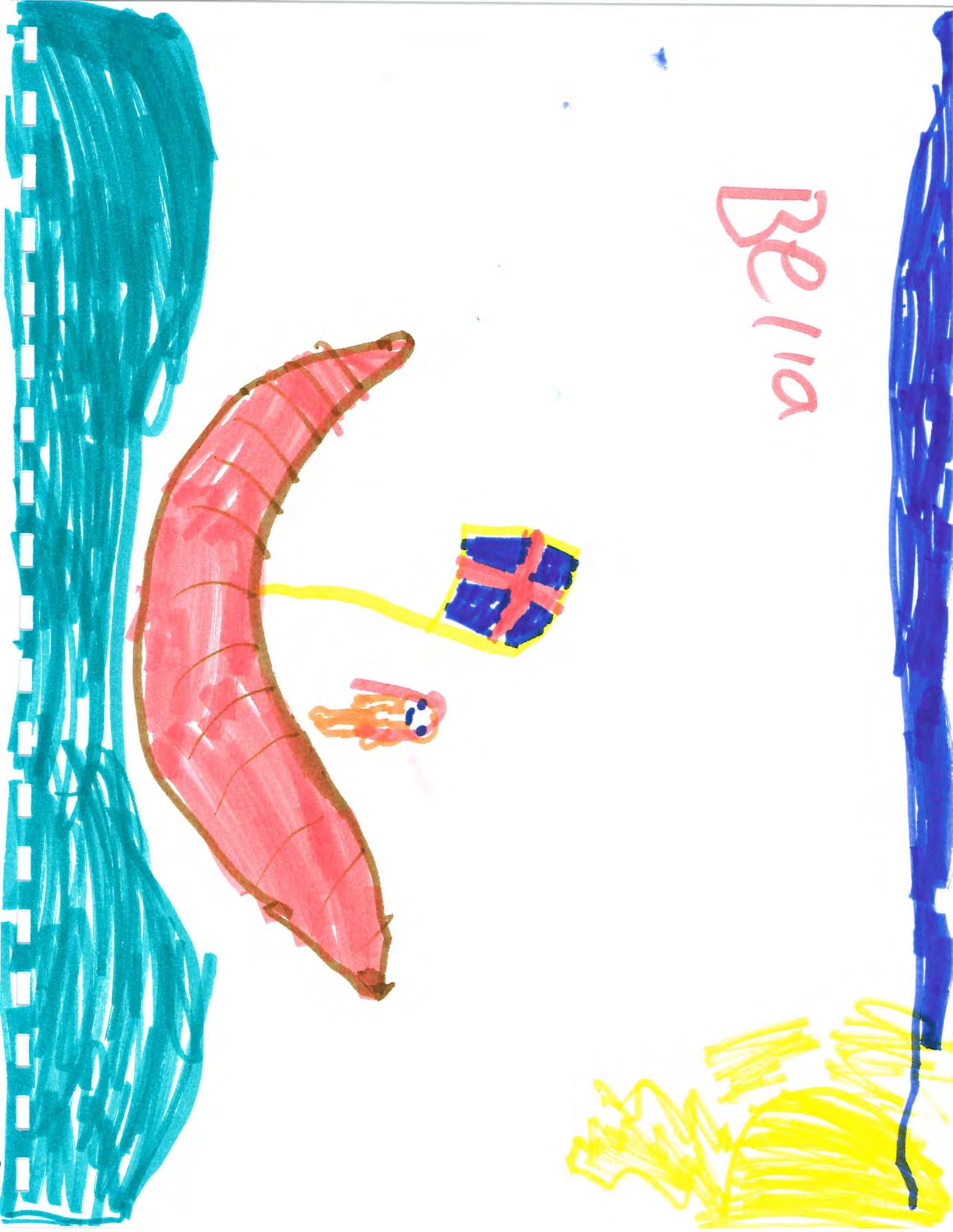
Keep Our Lake

By: Megan
and 1st Grade

Clean!



Bella





gavik

Fish and driftwood



89

19

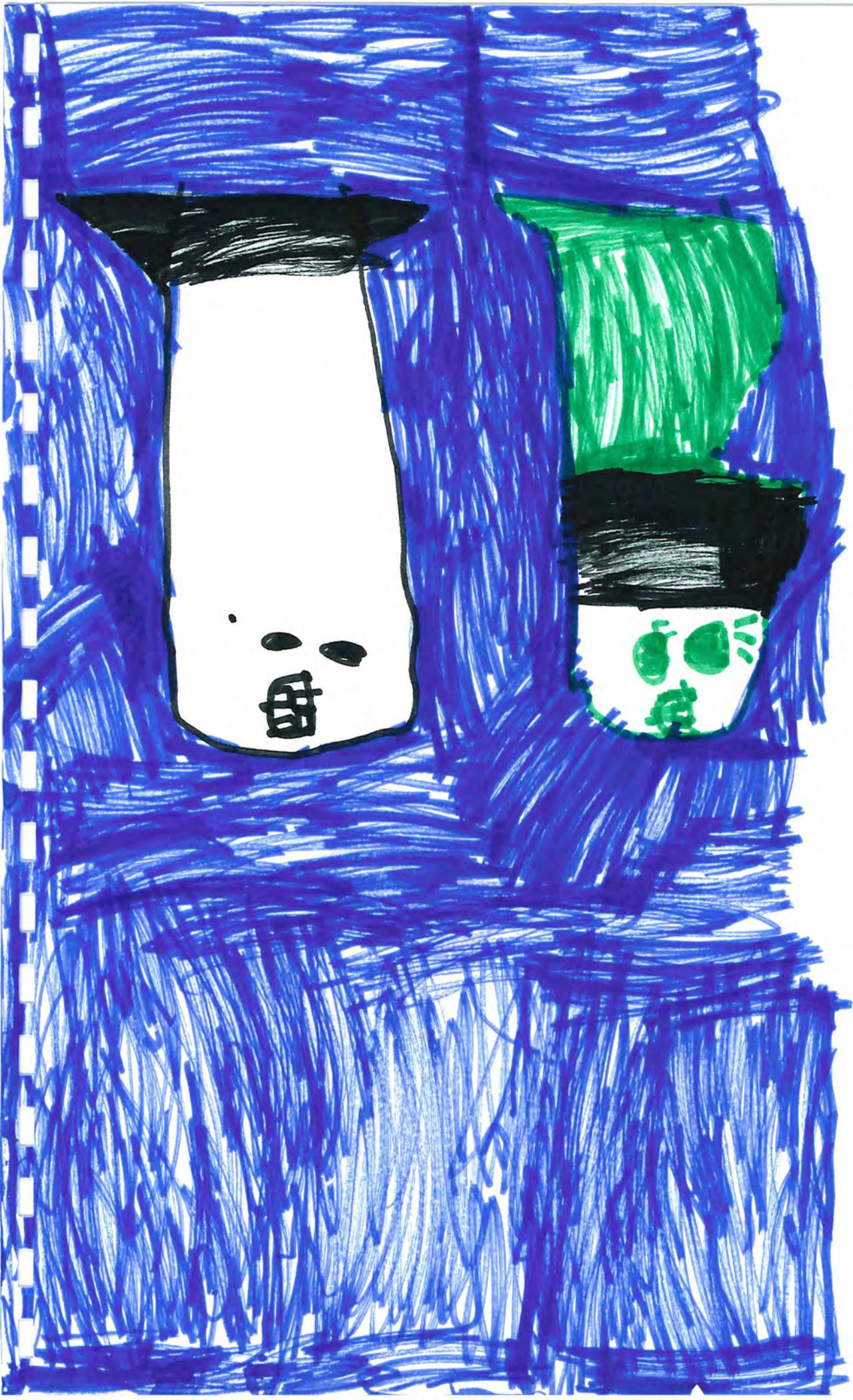
1001

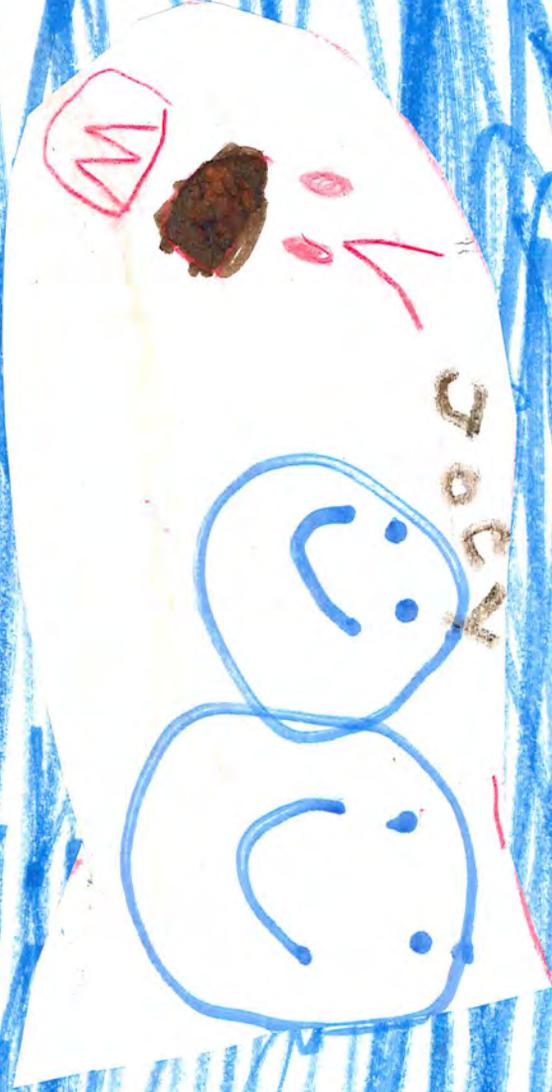
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Joseph

POOD

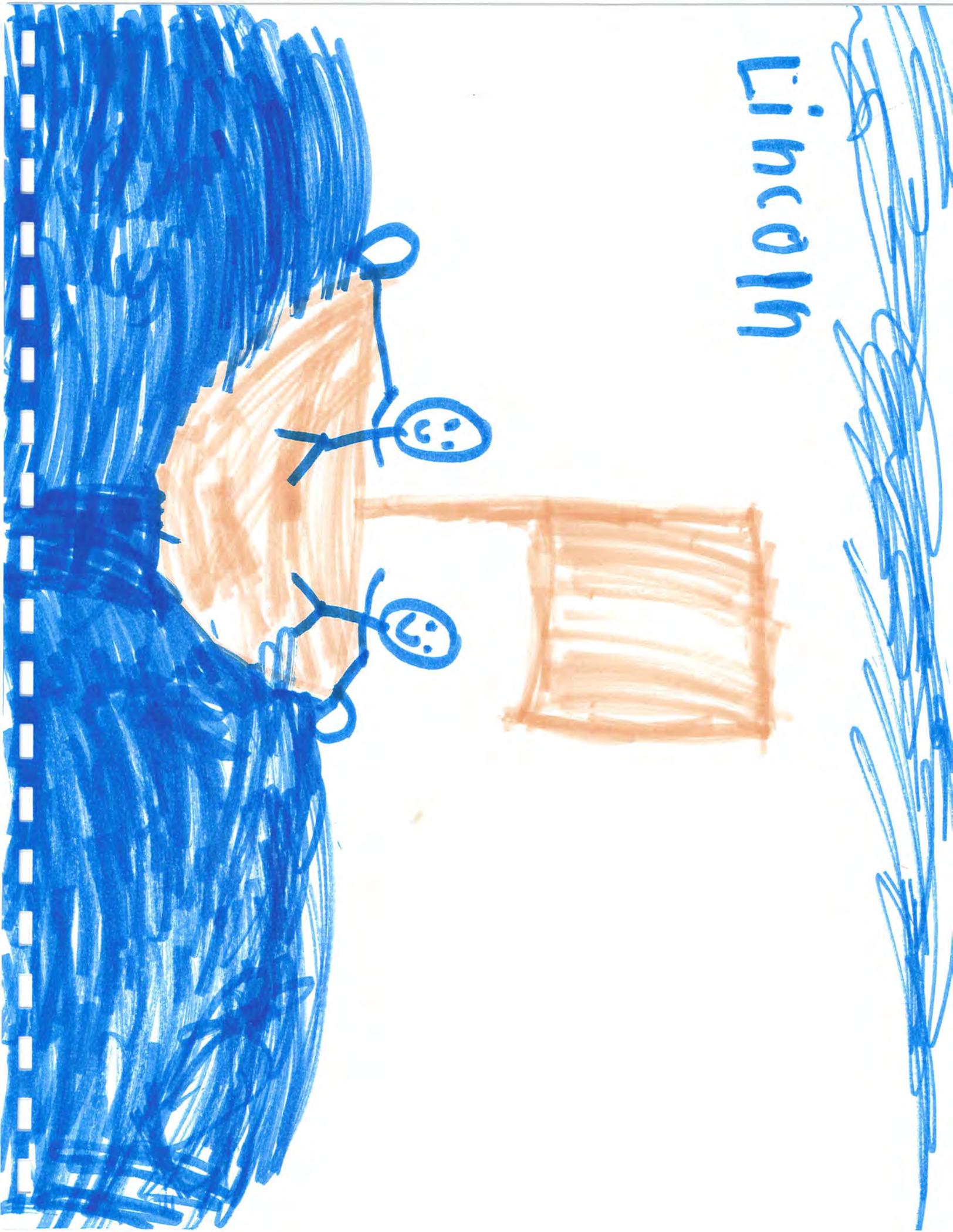
OWEN





KOC

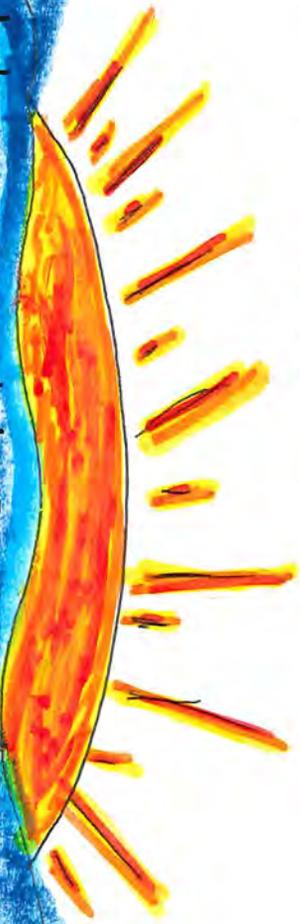
Lincoln



My name is Alexandra Evans. God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake Ontario most is :

I love that it is ~~always~~ that it is always there to swim in and if it is clean I also like to ~~swim~~ watch storms come in over the lake. It is pretty cool. I ~~also~~ also like to watch the sun rise over the lake and set over the lake. I like sailing with my friend Sydney.



Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

My name is Amie Niger. God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake Ontario most is :



Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

I ♥ My Friends
Serving Others

My name is

Theresa Przepiara

God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake

Ontario most is :



Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

St. Mary of the Assumption - Lake Ontario

My name is Colin

. God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake Ontario most is : IS when I went fishing with my papa a few years

ago at Lake Ontario to go have fun and eat the fish we
get to bring them home to cook. And now we might
not to be able to fish there if the water is getting
all polluted and the fish are not going to be very
healthy. And it wont be safe to eat the fish and
there wont be any left. But with this company they
can save the fish and make the water safe
to spread the fish around.

Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

My name is

AJ Blakeley

. God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake Ontario most is :



Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

My name is Charis Evans. God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake Ontario most is : I like to ^{and swimming} ~~wading~~ in Lake Ontario and to set on the beach waching the waves and going on the ~~dot~~ ^{boat} and jesy.

swim



sun set



boat



jesy



Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

My name is Teagan. God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake

Ontario most is: How We get to Boat and swim.



Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

St. Mary of the Assumption - Lake Ontario

My name is

Maddie

God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake

Ontario most is :

How we get to swim and fish. And how

the sun



Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

St. Mary of the Assumption - Lake Ontario

My name is

Matthew Oldenburg

God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake

Ontario most is: The Breakwall and how It Separates

the Wonder ful Colors Of the Water. As well
as the lighthouse being able to Guide all
of our Ships where they need to go.

Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

My name is Maureen Wills. God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake Ontario most is: the feeling of serenity we have when we go to the shore and sit, enjoy the breeze that we feel the wonder and awe at what God has given us. It is not just for recreation as some think. Lake Ontario is an entire world in its own. From the smallest of algae to the largest of fish. From the waves that come from far away to the nearest shore with its ever changing shores is the work of God.

It is the duty of us, as humans, to protect the entire environment, therefore, it is our duty to protect Lake Ontario as best we can! Someday, if we do this, someone else will turn to the Lake for serenity and see the wonder and awe of God's creation: the Great Lake Ontario.

Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

St. Mary of the Assumption - Lake Ontario

My name is Emma Delong. God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake Ontario most is :



Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

My name is Alex. God

made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake Ontario most is :



Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.

St. Mary of the Assumption - Lake Ontario

I ♥

See Wildlife!

My name is

Vera

Butchko

God

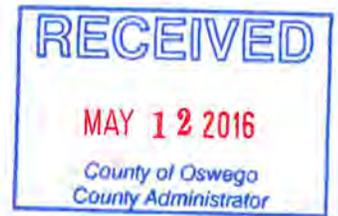
made Lake Ontario for all creatures and people to enjoy. What I love about Lake

Ontario most is :

the Beaches Because It is Beautiful



Please help us preserve Lake Ontario and its wildlife. Thank You.



May 9, 2016

NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
Attn: John Armor, Acting Director, Office of Marine Sanctuaries
1305 East-West Highway, 11th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Director Armor:

As Executive Director of the Richard S. Shineman Foundation, I would like to express my full support for and endorsement of this nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in eastern Lake Ontario waters. As envisioned, the Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary would include many historically important shipwrecks and encompass hundreds of square miles off the coast of Eastern Lake Ontario, a waterway with many of the oldest submerged maritime heritage resources in the Great Lakes.

The unique beauty of the eastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources not only offers a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history, it also is a resource that supports hundreds of businesses in the region and is a foundation of the local economy.

In 2015, the County of Oswego submitted the concept of the NMS to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council (CNYREDC) through a process they developed to identify ideas/projects that had the potential to transform the region in any one of a dozen or so predetermined business sectors. One of the priority sectors identified was tourism.

Appreciating the potential economic impacts that could be realized in the lakeside communities that would see the greatest influx of visitors should the sanctuary nomination proposal be approved and acknowledging that there would likely be significant new investment in the small business sector and in civic infrastructure enhancements, the CNYREDC recognized that this initiative could in fact be “transformative” and selected it as one of a very few in the tourism sector to be highlighted in their 5-year plan. The regional plan was subsequently selected as one of the top three regional development plans in New York State and the region was awarded \$500 million over a five year period to implement their strategies.

The Richard S. Shineman Foundation was created four years ago for the express purpose of being a “Catalyst for Change” in Oswego County and the surrounding region. It uses its funding resources to stimulate economic vitality, to encourage strong social bonds that strengthen the community, and to build the capacity of its not-for-profit partners. The Shineman Foundation recognizes the rare opportunity that NOAA has presented in this call for nominations and its potential long-term economic benefits to the region. As such, we are pleased to be able to enthusiastically lend our support and join others throughout the region in this collaborative effort to develop an NMS here.

Sincerely,


Karen S. Goetz
Executive Director

Ms. Mary Spencer-Geer
34 Davis St.
Phoenix, N.Y. 13135

Mr. Philip Church
Oswego County Administrator
46 E. Bridge St.
Oswego, N.Y. 13126



Dear Mr. Church:

I would like to show my support for the Great Lake Ontario Marine Sanctuary. Not only would the sanctuary increase tourism in the area but it would cause many locals who may think about leaving the area, to stay, due to the economic benefits and community enhancements resulting from such a designation. Nothing, I believe, would prove more beneficial to the communities of this four county shoreline region and beyond it, and in helping to protect our Great Lake. How often can a people have both at the same time? I hope the Great Lake Ontario Marine Sanctuary becomes a reality.

Sincerely,
Ms. Mary Spencer-Geer



NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

Help Make Great Lake Ontario a National Marine Sanctuary

Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary



National Marine Sanctuary

Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary

121

Supporters

For the first time in nearly 20 years the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has opened up the application process to add new **National Marine Sanctuaries** to the 14 already established regions in the world. This unique opportunity has prompted four Lake Ontario counties (Jefferson, Oswego, Cayuga and Wayne) and the City of Oswego to apply for status for the southeastern Lake Ontario region.

The unique beauty of the southeastern Lake Ontario region, and its wealth of maritime heritage resources offer a fascinating story of people, cargo, and missions undertaken over hundreds of years of North American history.

Lake Ontario history connects directly to a rich cultural history ashore in the form of **heritage landscapes, trade and battle routes, historic architecture**, and engineering resources of recognized significance such as the **Historic Fort Ontario State Historic Site, the Revolutionary Trail, Pulaski Village Historic District, Sacket's Harbor, the 1871 Sodus Bay Lighthouse, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.**

The Great Lake Ontario proposed Sanctuary embodies historic and cultural significance which could benefit from federal protection. Hundreds of years of well preserved war ships, commerce ships, aircraft, and artifacts unique to our region can be preserved and protected for future generations.

Designation as an NMS would:

- Greatly enhance education opportunities and provide the needed impetus and momentum to involve not only local school districts, but also institutions of higher

education in the region

- Supplement and significantly enhance recreational activities in this region, attracting many more travelers and improving the quality of life for residents.
- Boost the regional economy and promote Central New York's tourism efforts while preserving and protecting the region's most unique historical natural resources

Show your support and help spread the word!

My signature below certifies that I am a resident of/visitor to the Central New York region that would ultimately benefit from the southeastern quadrant of Lake Ontario being designated as a National Marine Sanctuary. I understand that this proposal is based on the wealth of historic resources that lie within the waters here and believe that it is important that we take proactive measures to protect that part of our Nation's history.

For more information visit www.lakeontarionms.com

This petition will be delivered to:

- NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

[Read the letter](#)

Letter to
NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program

Help make Great Lake Ontario a National Marine Sanctuary

[OK](#)

- [Environment](#)

Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary started this petition with a single signature, and now has 121 supporters. Start a petition today to change something you care about.

[Start a petition](#)

Updates

1. 5 months ago
100 supporters
2. 5 months ago
Great Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary started this petition

Supporters

Recent comments

[I have lived in this area all of my life and Lake Ontario is such a beautiful place I really think it would be a great idea to make this lake a marine sanctuary because we take pride in our lake and have so much respect for our marine life](#)

[Kelly Rainville, Oswego, NY](#)
[1 month ago](#)