

Update for the MPAFAC on the National Marine Sanctuary Nomination Process

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**NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
May 2016**

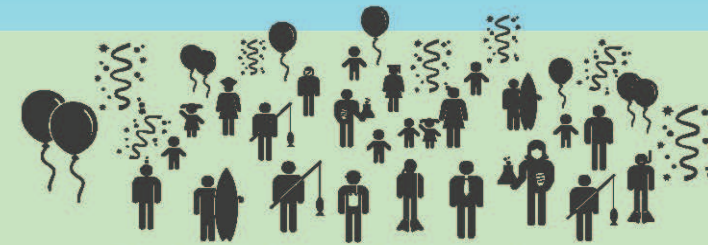
The Road to Nomination

For the first time in two decades, NOAA invites communities across the nation to nominate their most treasured places in our marine and Great Lakes waters for consideration as national marine sanctuaries.

In response to ongoing widespread interest from the public, NOAA has launched a new, locally driven sanctuary

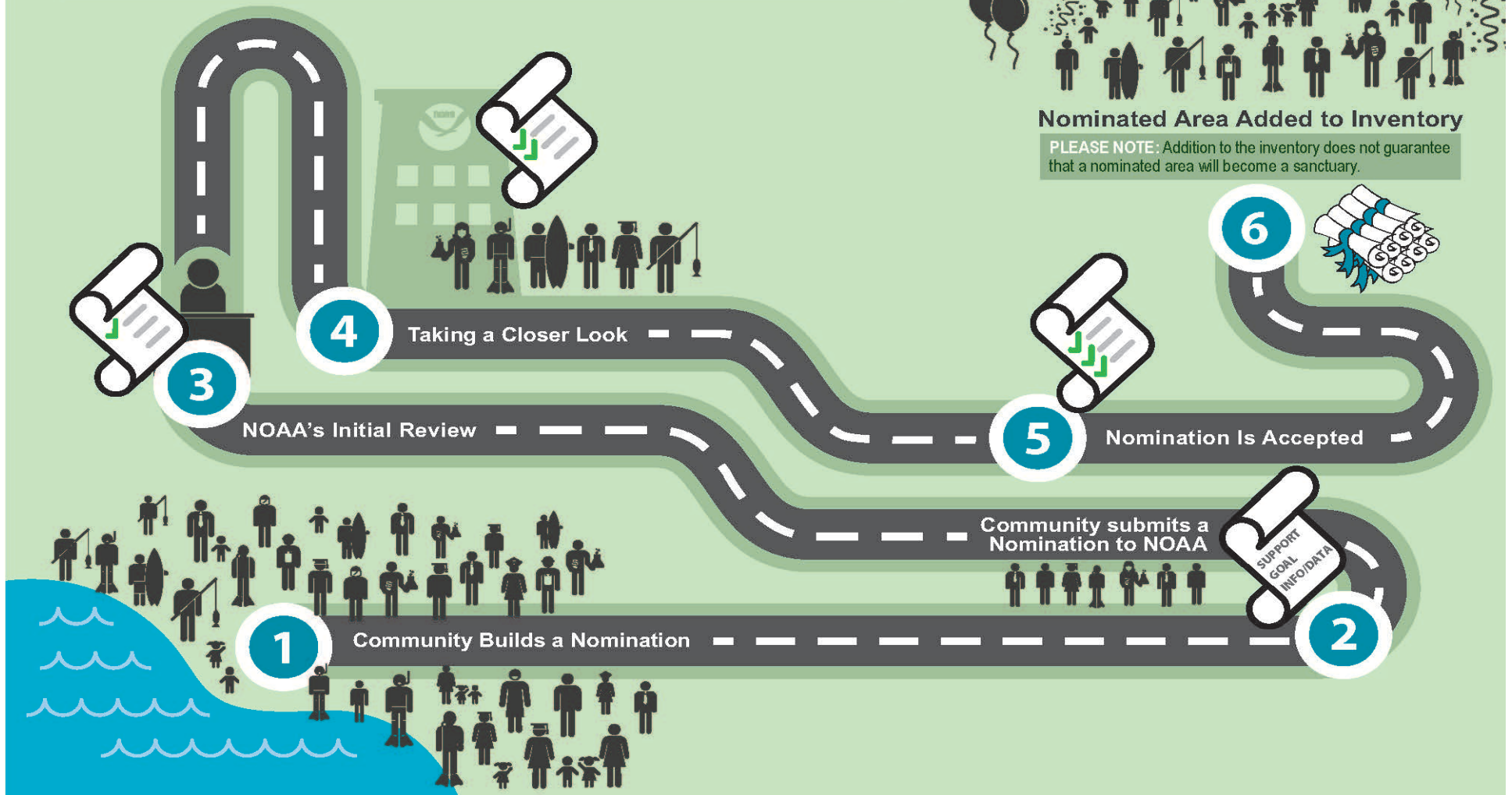
nomination process developed with input from more than 18,000 public comments. Throughout the nomination process, NOAA will be available to answer questions and provide guidance to nominating communities and other interested parties. NOAA will also update nominators on the progress of the agency's review of their nomination.

PLEASE NOTE: Nomination is not the same thing as sanctuary designation. Designation occurs as a separate process that by law, is highly public and participatory and often takes several years to complete.

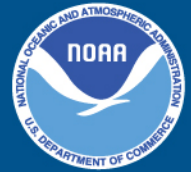


Nominated Area Added to Inventory

PLEASE NOTE: Addition to the inventory does not guarantee that a nominated area will become a sanctuary.



SNP Inventory



Inventory

- Areas that could be considered for designation
- Designation is not guaranteed
- Nominations expire after 5 years

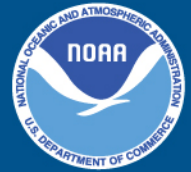
Nominations *(date added to inventory)*

- Mallows Bay – Potomac River *(January 12, 2015)*
 - Wisconsin – Lake Michigan *(February 5, 2015)*
 - Chumash Heritage *(October 5, 2015)*
 - Lake Erie Quadrangle *(February 22, 2016)*
- Three nominations have been declined and one withdrawn

NMS System



Mallows Bay – Potomac River



Aerial view of Mallows Bay in the Potomac River



Ship hulls have provided the structure for ecologically important habitats.



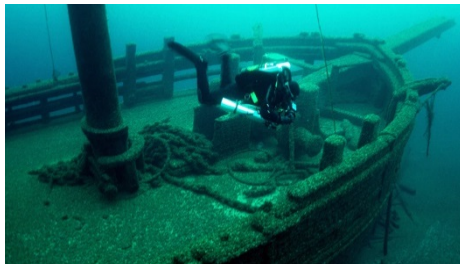
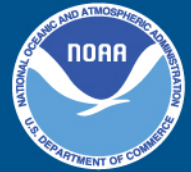
Benzoia rests on the *Caribou* stern.



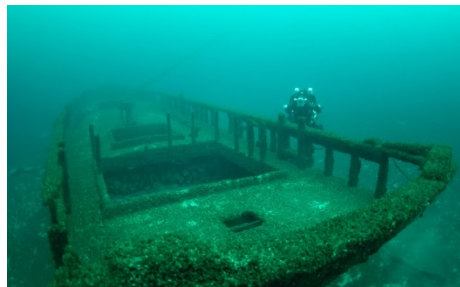
A vessel at low tide shows the frame of its hull.

www.sanctuaries.noaa.gov/mallows-bay/

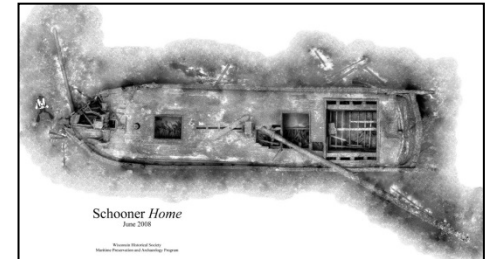
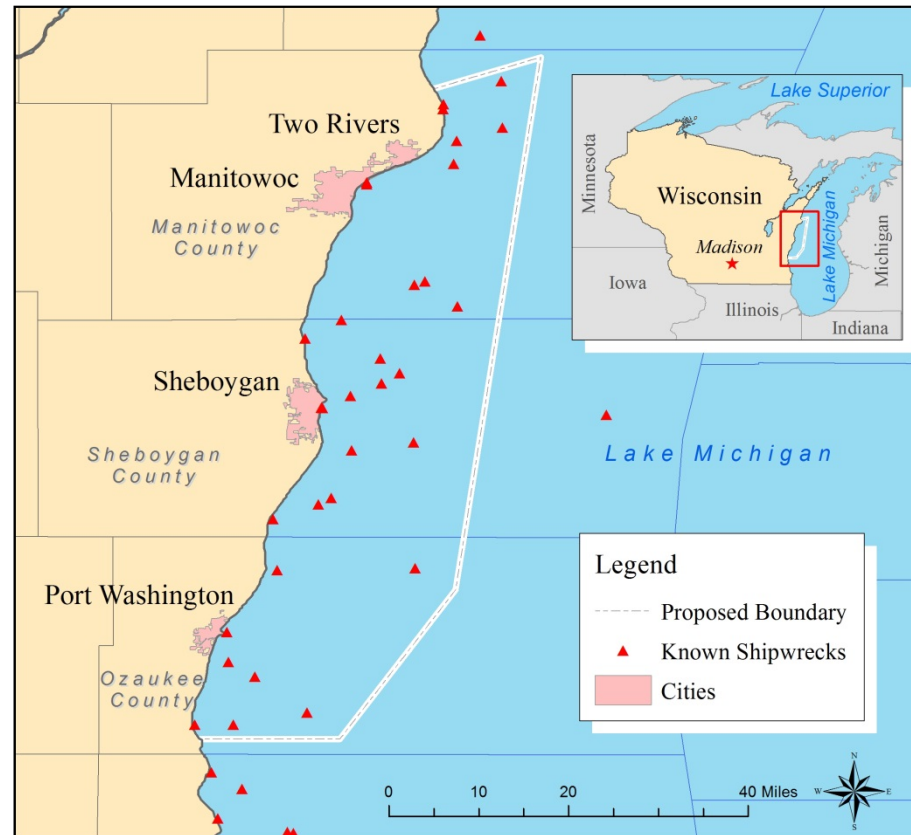
Wisconsin – Lake Michigan



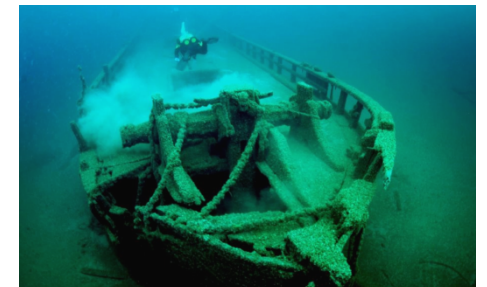
A diver swims over the two masted schooner, *Walter B. Allen*.



The *Northerner* now lies 130 feet below the surface.

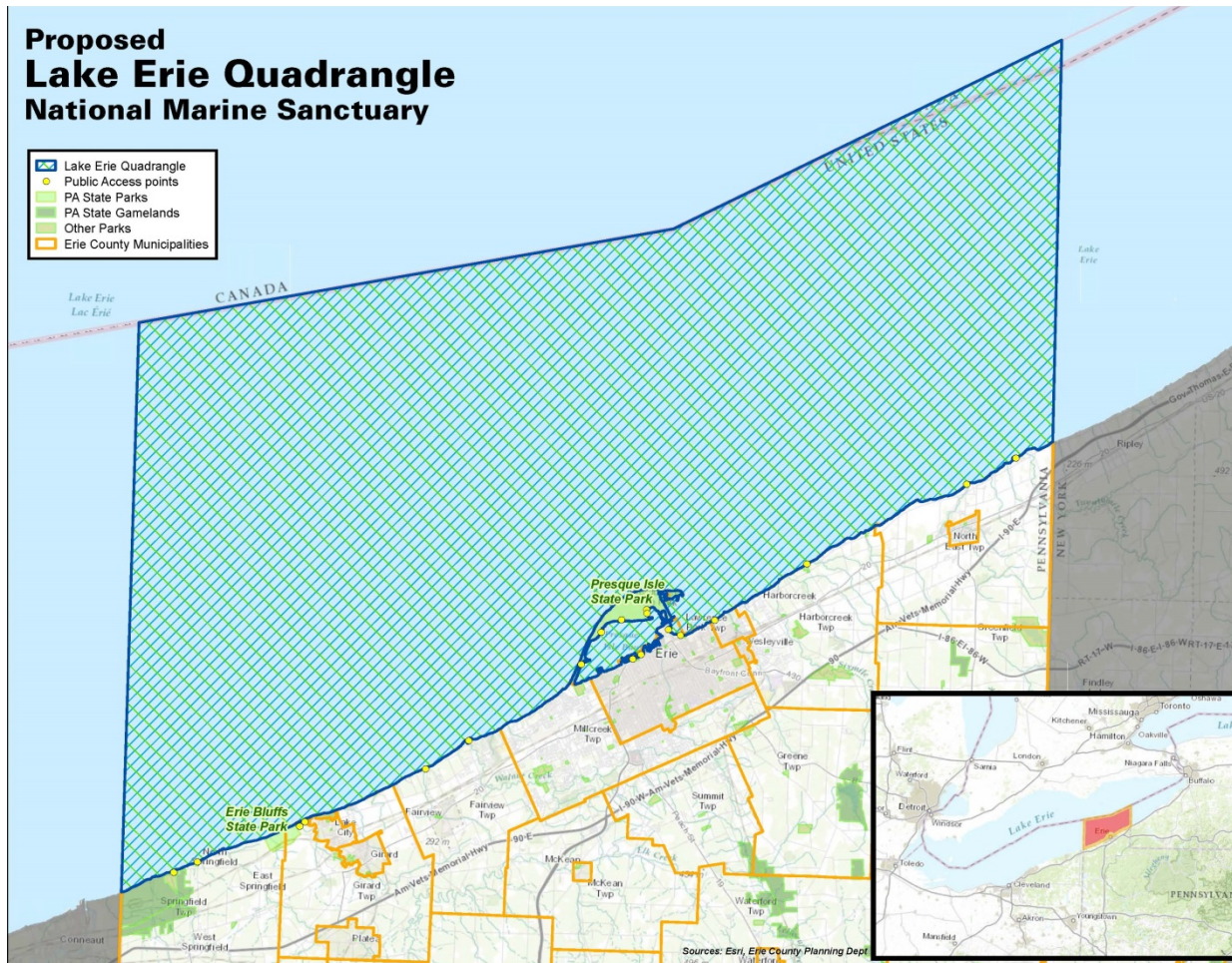
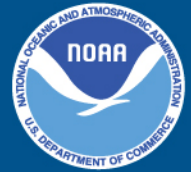


A photo-mosaic view of the schooner, *Home*.



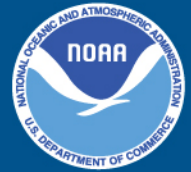
The schooner, *Home*, is one of the oldest shipwrecks discovered in Wisconsin.

Lake Erie Quadrangle



Map from nominating community website: <http://www.lakeeriequadranglems.org/>

Chumash Heritage



Map from nominating community website: <https://chumashsanctuary.com/>

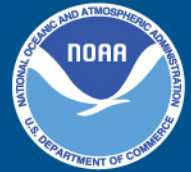
Wisconsin / Maryland Next Steps



New Site Designations

- NOAA started process on October 10, 2015
 - Public meetings held November 2015
 - Public comments accepted until January 15, 2016
- Next step is drafting designation documents for public review
 - Draft Environmental Impact Statement
 - Draft Management Plan
 - Proposed Regulations

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



nominate.noaa.gov

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