

**Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary  
Sanctuary Advisory Council  
Resolution 2013-1**

The Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary (TBNMS) wholeheartedly supports NOAA's administrative action that would expand the sanctuary boundary from 448 square miles to 4,300 square miles.

This action will provide long-term resource protection and comprehensive management for 47 additional known historic shipwrecks of special national significance, and other maritime heritage resources, outside the sanctuary's existing boundaries. The action will also provide protection for historic shipwrecks and maritime heritage resources yet to be discovered.

These maritime heritage resources require long-term protection and management in order to reduce threats that could impact their historical, archeological, recreational and educational value. In addition, the comprehensive and coordinated management that NOAA provides would include extensive research, education, and outreach programs that will fill important gaps in archeological knowledge and historical context of these shipwrecks as well as enhance sustainable recreational, tourism and other economic opportunities.

The SAC acknowledges the rich history of the commercial shipping industry and its contribution to the local and regional economy. In recognition of this, support for boundary expansion is contingent on the continued compatibility of sanctuary resource protection and shipping practices.

Adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2013.