



## 1. Where Am I?

- I am the single largest fully protected conservation area in the United States.
- I range across 583,000 square miles (1,510,000 km<sup>2</sup>) of ocean waters, including ten islands and atolls of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.
- My name commemorates the union of two Hawaiian ancestors – Papahānaumoku and Wākea – who gave rise to the Hawaiian Archipelago, the taro plant and the Hawaiian people.

## Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument



An endangered Hawaiian monk seal rests on Midway Atoll in the monument. Photo: Andy Collins/NOAA



## 2. Where Am I?

- Twenty-nine species of marine mammals reside in or migrate through me. I also provide critical nesting habitats for seabirds.
- I contain some of the richest fishing and shellfishing grounds on the planet.
- Native tribes including Makah, Quileute, Hoh and Quinault have been sustained by my resources since time immemorial.
- I host a variety of marine habitats, including beaches, rocky shoreline, offshore islands, kelp forests, rocky reefs, sandy seafloor and submarine canyons.
- I am just offshore of a large peninsula.

## Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary



Stacks are silhouetted in front of a sunset at Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary. Photo: NOAA



### 3. Where Am I?

- I cover nearly one thousand square miles of Lake Michigan waters.
- I help preserve dozens of archaeological sites.
- I am home to 39 known shipwrecks, with the potential for more to be found.
- Fifteen of these vessels are preserved almost completely intact due to the Great Lakes' cold water.
- Three ships have standing masts, a rarity among sunken wrecks.

### Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary



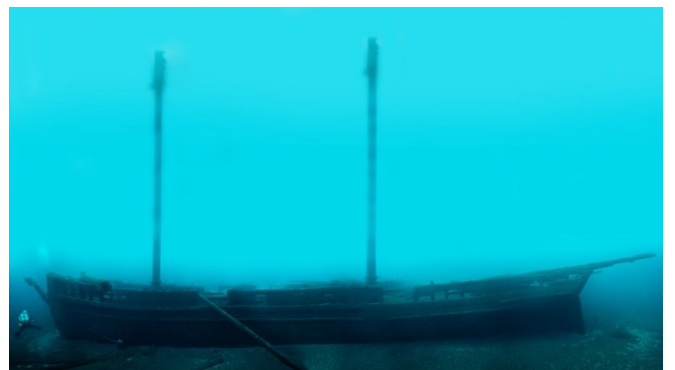
Divers investigate a shipwreck in Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary, one of the newest in the U.S. Photo: Courtesy Wisconsin Historical Society



### 4. Where Am I?

- I protect nearly 100 historic shipwrecks in Lake Huron off the Michigan coast.
- The collection reflects transitions in ship architecture and construction, from wooden schooners to early steel-hulled steamers, as well as several unusual vessel types.
- Through research, education and community involvement, I work to ensure future generations can enjoy these underwater treasures.

### Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary



This is one of the remarkably well-preserved wrecks at Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, which are priceless resources for exploration and discovery. Photo: NOAA

## 5. Where Am I?

- I am a historically important fishing ground.
- Whaling ships once sailed from nearby New England ports, but now I am a premier whale watching destination.
- Commercial and recreational fishing in my waters continue to support local economies.
- Shipwrecks here serve as time capsules of our nation's maritime history.

## Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary



Researchers prepare to release a tagged shearwater at Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary.  
Photo: David Wiley/NOAA

## 6. Where Am I?

- I protect the remains of more than 100 World War I-era wooden steamships – known as the "Ghost Fleet."
- The sunken ships provide habitat for wildlife including fish, mammals and nesting birds.
- I am a short distance down river of Washington, D.C.
- A great way to explore this national treasure is by kayak at low tide. There is also a Sanctuary 360 video. You can click and drag the video to explore in 360 degrees: <https://youtu.be/hkdtprFGZes>

## Mallows Bay-Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary



Paddling around Mallows Bay-Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary in Maryland.  
Photo: Matt McIntosh/NOAA

## 7. Where Am I?

- I protect 1,470 square miles of ocean waters around the islands of Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel and Santa Barbara.
- Endangered species, sensitive habitats, historic shipwrecks and cultural resources are protected here through research, education, conservation and stewardship.
- Home to pristine kelp forests and deep-sea coral gardens, I am known as the “Galapagos of the North.”

## Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary



Native Tomol pullers leave the mainland at sunrise near Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.  
Photo: Robert Schwemmer/NOAA

## 8. Where Am I?

- I am located in the cradle of Polynesia’s oldest culture.
- I protect extensive coral reefs, including some of the oldest and largest *Porites* coral heads in the world.
- I also protect deep-water reefs, hydrothermal vent communities and rare marine archaeological resources.

## National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa



Samoan cultural events are held year-round at National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa.  
Photo: Claire Fackler/NOAA

## 9. Where Am I?

- I contain a diverse community of underwater habitats, from the only coral barrier reef in the continental United States to the largest connected seagrass community in the Northern Hemisphere.
- More than 6,000 animal species are found here, along with an array of submerged historical and cultural resources.
- I am one of the world's most cherished locations for diving, fishing, boating and wildlife viewing.

## Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary



Restoring coral reefs at Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary; Learn more with interactive 360° video: <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/vr/florida-keys/coral-restoration>  
Photo: Nick Zachar/NOAA

## 10. Where Am I?

- With some of the best wildlife viewing in the world, I am known as the “Serengeti of the Sea.”
- I feature pristine beaches, jewel-like tide pools, lush kelp forests, steep canyons and an offshore seamount teeming with life—from tiny shrimp to giant blue whales.
- I stretch along the central California coast from San Francisco to Cambria.

## Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary



A young sea otter takes a snooze at Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Photo: NOAA

## 11. Where Am I?

- I protect 160 square miles (414 sq. km) of critical habitat in the Gulf of Mexico.
- I comprise 17 different reefs and banks.
- Discovered at the turn of the 20th century by fishermen in search of snapper and grouper, the banks' colorful reefs are the northernmost in the continental United States.
- Species observed include graceful manta rays, gentle sea turtles, agile hammerhead sharks and gargantuan whale sharks. Boulder-sized brain and star corals abound.

## Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary



A reef teeming with fish at Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary; Photo: NOAA

## 12. Where Am I?

- I was the first national marine sanctuary designated in the United States.
- I protect the wreck of a Civil War ironclad ship.
- I work with partners to honor and interpret the famous ship and its marine environment for the American people.

## Monitor National Marine Sanctuary



A diver investigates the famous U.S.S. *Monitor*, teeming with fish. Photo: NOAA



## 13. Where Am I?

- Every winter, thousands of whales travel to my warm, shallow waters of Hawai'i to mate, give birth and raise their young.
- I protect these whales, their habitat and many other marine species.
- From November through April, visitors can see whales from shore and at sea.

## Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary



A humpback whale breaches in Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. Photo: NOAA



## 14. Where Am I?

- I protect the wildlife, habitats and cultural resources of one of the most diverse and bountiful marine environments in the world.
- I span 3,295 square miles (8,534 sq. km) off the northern and central California coast.
- Researchers here study creatures both small and great – from zooplankton, like krill, to white sharks.
- My rocky shore habitats support a variety of algae, anemones and mussels.

## Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary



Students explore tide pools at Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Photo: Anna Sparer/NOAA

## 15. Where Am I?

- I am a protected ocean area off the coast of Georgia teeming with life.
- My “live-bottom” habitats, which include corals, are representative of others across the region.
- I provide year-round opportunities for sport fishing, recreational diving and boating.
- My research area hosts one of the only designated no-take zones in the region.
- Researchers here study water quality, ocean noise, hurricane prediction, climate change and more.

## Gray’s Reef National Marine Sanctuary



Divers and anglers come to Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary to enjoy the incredible biodiversity of the live-bottom habitat. Photo: Greg McFall/NOAA

## 16. Where Am I?

- I am located entirely offshore, northwest of San Francisco, California. I protect 1,286 square miles (3,331 sq. km) of ocean, including soft seafloor habitat, a rocky bank, deep sea canyons and diverse communities of wildlife.
- My surface waters are feeding areas for local and migratory seabirds and marine mammals.
- Ocean conditions and undersea topography combine to fuel a diverse marine community. Another sanctuary borders me on three sides.

## Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary



A research submersible prepares to dive Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary; Photo: NOAA