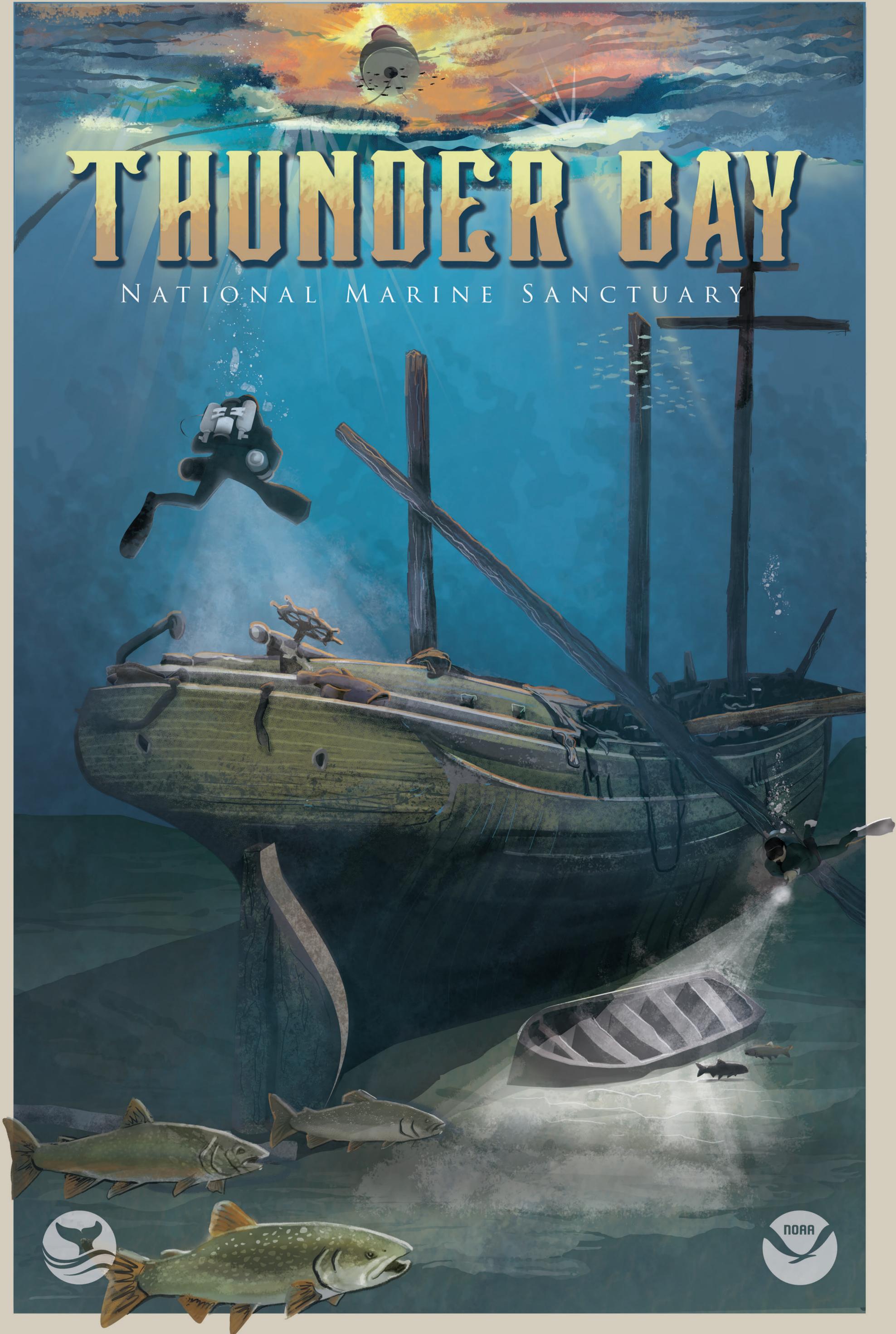


THUNDER BAY

NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY



THUNDER BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY



Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, located in northwest Lake Huron, is adjacent to one of the most treacherous stretches of water within the Great Lakes. Unpredictable weather, murky fog banks, sudden gales, and rocky shoals have claimed over 200 vessels in and around Thunder Bay. The 4,300-square-mile sanctuary protects a nationally significant collection of historic shipwrecks off the Michigan coast. Through research, education, and community involvement, the sanctuary works to protect the Great Lakes and their rich history for this and future generations. The sanctuary is co-managed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the state of Michigan.

ABOUT THE ARTWORK

The sunrise casts a gentle, orange glow on a mooring buoy marking one of the many shipwrecks that rest on the bottom of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Scuba divers explore the pristine remains of a wooden schooner with masts still standing tall. History is well-preserved by the fresh, cold waters of this sanctuary, where lighthouses dot the shoreline, recreation opportunities are vast, and stories come to life.

LOCATION



QUICK FACTS

LOCATION

Northwest Lake Huron, off the northeast coast of Michigan's lower peninsula

PROTECTED AREA

4,300 square miles

DESIGNATION

October 2000
Expansion: September 2014

BY THE NUMBERS

- 100** discovered shipwrecks
- 100** shipwrecks await discovery
- 7** shipwrecks listed on the National Register of Historic Places
- 52** mooring buoys
- 8** historic lighthouses
- 115** species of fish make their homes in Thunder Bay sanctuary waters
- 230** miles of shoreline
- 750** feet deep at the deepest part of the sanctuary



GET INTO YOUR SANCTUARY

Seasonal mooring buoys protect shipwrecks from anchor damage while making sites easier to locate and safer to dive and snorkel.

GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE CENTER

Dive into the rich maritime history of the Great Lakes at the sanctuary's visitor center!



GREAT LAKES MARITIME HERITAGE TRAIL

This immersive cultural trail explores Northeast Michigan's unique history of trade, industry, recreation, and transportation across the "Inland Seas."

LEARN ABOUT YOUR SANCTUARY

Every year, the sanctuary welcomes hundreds of K-12 students for education-based programs, including shipwreck tours aboard a glass-bottom boat.

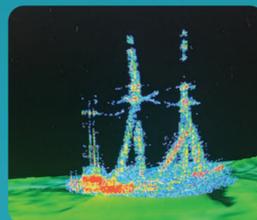


MARITIME CULTURAL HERITAGE

Through preservation of maritime cultural resources, the sanctuary connects visitors with past generations who lived, worked, and traveled the Great Lakes.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The sanctuary is a hub of science, research, and marine technology.



BELOW

Magnificently preserved in 200 feet of Lake Huron's cold freshwater, the 296-foot bulk freighter *Norman* shipwreck is impossible to capture in one photo. Photomosaics, such as this image, are made of several smaller photos pieced together, creating a larger, more detailed picture of the entire wreck. *Norman* represents one of several ship types in the sanctuary, demonstrating transitions in ship architecture and construction over 200 years of Great Lakes shipping.

(Front) Illustration: Tonya Humiston/NOAA. (Back) Photos: (diver exploring *Portland* shipwreck) NOAA; (mooring buoy) Nick Zachar/NOAA; (ship display) NOAA; (trail sign) NOAA; (Lady Michigan) Alpena Shipwreck Tours; (canoe exhibit) NOAA; (fronton) Ocean Exploration Trust/NOAA; (below) NOAA

AMERICA'S UNDERWATER TREASURES

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries serves as the trustee for a network of underwater parks encompassing more than 629,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington state to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. For more information on the National Marine Sanctuary System, visit: sanctuaries.noaa.gov



● National Marine Sanctuary
Scale varies in this perspective. Adapted from National Geographic Maps.