

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's Great Lakes contain some of our nation's most significant cultural resources, including over 700 historic shipwrecks; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin and the coastal communities of Manitowoc, Port Washington, Sheboygan, and Two Rivers have for over 30 years invested in documenting, preserving, and celebrating Wisconsin's rich maritime heritage; and

WHEREAS; the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries serves as the trustee for a system of 15 national marine sanctuaries and two marine national monuments, encompassing more than 600,000 square miles of ocean and Great Lakes waters; and

WHEREAS; in October 2015, NOAA announced its intent to designate a new national marine sanctuary in Lake Michigan to conserve 36 shipwrecks of great importance to our nation's history and, in June 2021, a 962-square-mile area of the lake, adjacent to Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Ozaukee, and Sheboygan Counties, was designated by NOAA as the Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary; and

WHEREAS; the newly designated sanctuary, which will be co-managed by the state of Wisconsin and NOAA, will undoubtedly bring new opportunities for research, resource protection, educational programming, and community engagement; and

WHEREAS; in partnership with the state of Wisconsin and local communities, the sanctuary will provide a national stage for promoting heritage tourism and recreation; and

WHEREAS; we recognize the efforts of the tourism entities, economic development entities, local elected leaders, and residents of Manitowoc, Port Washington, Sheboygan, and Two Rivers who have worked tirelessly to ensure this historic designation; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins NOAA and Lake Michigan's coastal communities in celebrating the official designation of the NOAA Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary and in affirming our state's essential role in our national maritime heritage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 9, 2021, as

NOAA WISCONSIN SHIPWRECK COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY DESIGNATION DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 30th day of September 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State