



Updates from NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

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Office of National Marine Sanctuaries - Eastern Region
September 2024



Credit NOAA/OER

Sanctuary Nomination Process/Cashes Ledge



Receipt of Nomination

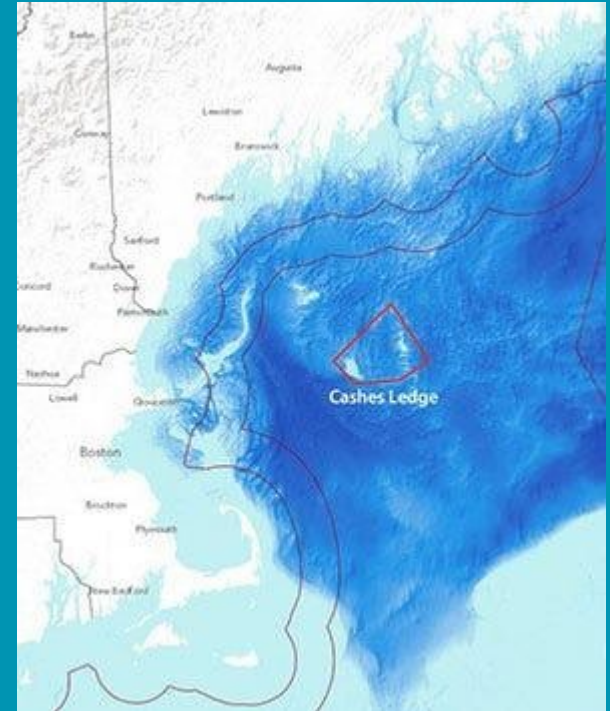
- Conservation Law Foundation
- Follows ONMS criteria

Review of Nomination

- Purposes and intent
- Addition to “inventory

Nomination vs Designation

- Not the same
- At designation, NOAA becomes the “actor”



Management Plan Review



Required by the NMSA

- Every 5-10 years
- Intent is to demonstrate progress towards management goals

Role of Advisory Council

- Provide advice and recommendations to superintendent
- Sometimes introduce new “proposals” (eg., sanctuary expansion)

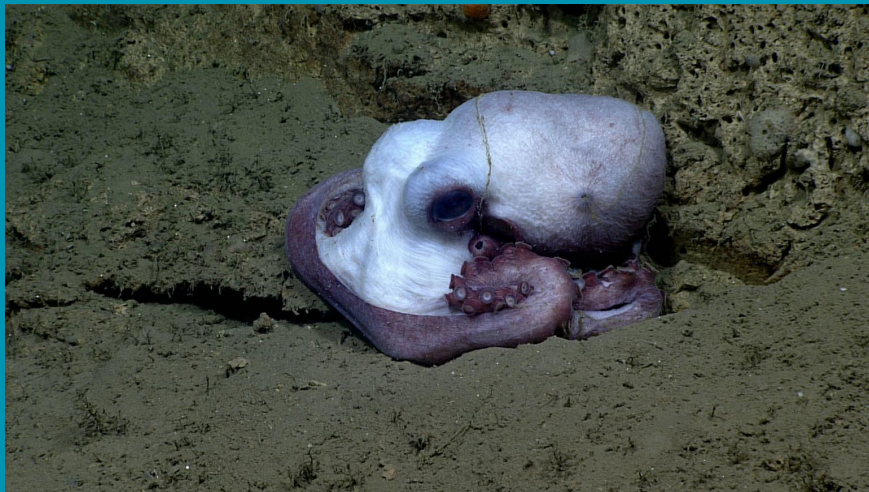
Internal ONMS proposal vs external action

- Proposed expansions can sometimes be overtaken by Administration action
- Unknown at this point what, if anything, will occur with Blake Plateau





Sanctuary Designation Process



Designation Process (3-5 YEARS)



Public Scoping - NOAA initiated designation in June 2022

- 60 day public comment period and public meetings
- ONMS received more than 17,000 comments

NOAA established pre-designation Sanctuary Advisory Council in May 2023

- 6 virtual and 1 in-person meetings held to date

Develop Sanctuary Proposal

- Data analysis and research, and review of input from scoping
- Draft environmental impact statement
- Draft management plan
- Proposed rule

Designation Process (3-5 YEARS)



Publication of Draft Designation Documents

- 60 to 90 days for public comments including public meetings
- ONMS reviews and analyzes all comments and information submitted during the comment period
- Determines appropriate changes if necessary

Development and publication of Final Designation Documents

- Final environmental impact statement
- Final management plan
- Final rule

Sanctuary Designation

- Before designation becomes effective, Congress has the opportunity to review the final designation documents during a 45-day consecutive session.

What Documents Does ONMS produce?

- **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**
 - Cooperating Agencies - USCG and US Navy
- **Sanctuary Management Plan**
 - Non-regulatory management activities
 - Action Plans include goals, strategies and actions
 - Resource Protection, Research, Outreach & Education, Rec & Tourism
- **Proposed Rule**
 - Describes the preferred boundaries
 - Terms of Reference
 - Identifies prohibited or otherwise regulated activities

Hudson Canyon Sanctuary Advisory Council



Hudson Canyon Advisory Council



Commercial Fishing

Meghan Lapp
Greg DiDomenico

Patrick Knapp
Andrew Minkiewicz

Recreational Fishing

Alan Lee
John Depersenaire

Deane Lambros
Will Poston

Tourism/Recreation

Kiera Maloney

Rob Nixon

Conservation

Noah Chesnin
Carl LoBue

Judith Weis
Peter Chaibongsai

Science/Research

Mercer Brugler

Walter Golet

Business/Economic Development

Cortney Worrall

Rick Weber

Marine Industry

Stephen Lyman
John Dempsey

Rik van Hemmen
Ronald Rapp

Education/Outreach

Lisa Breslof
Chrissy Word

Chris Lido
Jim Kent

Citizen at Large

Paul Collier
Raymond Fusco

Brynn Heller
Martin Scanlon

Hudson Canyon Advisory Council



Government non-voting seats

1. NOAA Fisheries (Sarah McLaughlin)
2. New England Fishery Management Council (Michelle Bachman)
3. Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Chris Moore)
4. South-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Chip Collier)
5. U.S. Coast Guard (Tim Spence)
6. U.S. DOI/Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (Wright Frank)
7. U.S. Department of Navy (Matthew Senska)
8. State of New York (Mike Snyder)
9. State of New Jersey (Kevin Hassell)
10. State of Rhode Island (Julia Livermore)

Advisory Council Role in Designation



- Provide advice and make recommendations to NOAA on the designation and management of sanctuaries
- Serve as a liaison between NOAA and local communities and constituents
- Identify potential partners and constituent groups for collaboration
- Help identify issues involving the proposed sanctuary
- Assist in developing informed constituency
- Provide technical expertise and information to support the development of the draft management plan

Next Steps



- Summer 2025 Hudson Canyon Scientific Research Cruise
- Continue to develop draft designation documents
- Publish draft documents in 2025



<https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/ HUDSON-CANYON/>



QUESTIONS?

For more information about the proposed designation of a national marine sanctuary in Hudson Canyon contact:

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