



NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



May 4, 2016

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Monitor National Marine Sanctuary launches inaugural shipwreck photo competition

NOAA's Monitor National Marine Sanctuary invites photographers to submit photos that celebrate North Carolina's rich and diverse maritime heritage during its inaugural shipwreck photography competition.

The free Shipwreck Photo Competition begins May 1 and runs through November 1, 2016. Photographers are invited to send their best photos of any North Carolina shipwreck or other maritime heritage resource above or below North Carolina's waters.

"North Carolina is an extraordinary place with strong ties to the marine environment," said David Alberg, sanctuary superintendent. "We hope our Shipwreck Photo Competition inspires people to get their cameras and go experience the state's remarkable maritime history and heritage."

Photographs may be entered into five categories 1) underwater shipwreck; 2) shipwreck above water; 3) maritime archaeological site other than shipwreck; 4) macro photography involving maritime heritage; and 5) wildlife and maritime heritage.

Winners will be announced in December 2016 and will receive a framed shipwreck site plan. For complete contest details and entry forms, visit <http://monitor.noaa.gov>.

Managed by NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Monitor National Marine Sanctuary was designated in 1975 to protect the wreck of the famed Civil War ironclad USS *Monitor*, which sank during a storm 16 miles off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina in 1862.

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