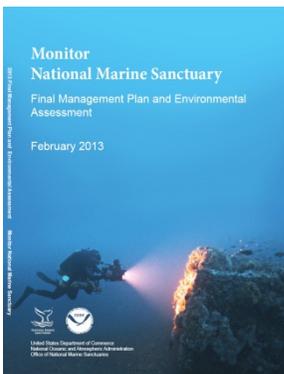


## 2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



### MONITOR SAILORS INTERMENT

Working with the Secretary of the Navy and The Department of Veterans Affairs, NOAA's Monitor National Marine Sanctuary was honored to play a role in the final burial of two United States sailors recovered from the shipwreck of the USS *Monitor*. On March 8, 2013, thousands gathered to watch as two horse-drawn caissons carried the flag-draped caskets of the fallen sailors through Arlington National Cemetery where they were laid to rest. The event marked the end of a long journey for these men, whose remains were discovered in the ironclad's turret during a joint NOAA-U.S. Navy expedition in 2002.



### MANAGEMENT PLAN RELEASED

In 2013, Monitor National Marine Sanctuary accomplished a major milestone with the completion and release of the 2013 Final Management Plan and Environmental Assessment for the sanctuary. This comprehensive plan, the first of its kind for the site, outlines NOAA's management goals and priorities for the next five years. These priorities are organized into eight action plans which include: resource protection, education and outreach, archaeological research, resource monitoring, burial of the recovered *Monitor* sailors, conservation, site expansion, and administration and operations.



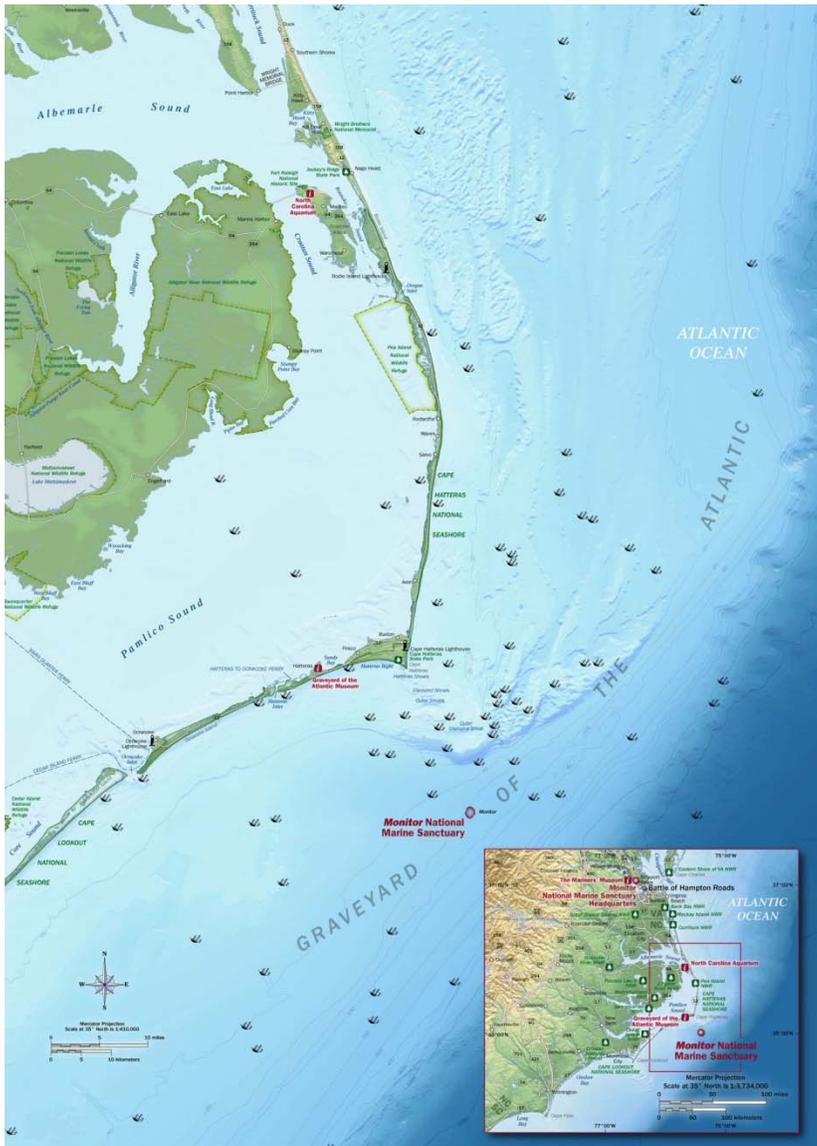
### MARITIME SCIENCE COURSE PARTNERSHIP

In partnership with the Newport News Public School System, the sanctuary helped develop a semester-long course for middle school students focusing on marine science, underwater archaeology, engineering and technology, remotely operated vehicles, observation buoys, oyster restoration, and careers in ocean conservation. The course highlights the work of the sanctuary program by engaging children in ocean science. During the semester, students had the opportunity to conduct real-world research aboard the NOAA research vessel SRVx *Sand Tiger*. Crittenden Middle School helped develop and pilot the course curriculum that will be offered to schools nationwide in the fall of 2014.



### NAUTICAL ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY CLASSES

In 2013, the sanctuary began partnering with the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) to teach the NAS maritime archaeology course for avocational divers promoting citizen science. The three-day course involves academic and practical components, which instruct participants in the methods employed by archaeologists to survey shipwrecks. The course is a pre-requisite to participate in sanctuary-sponsored field expeditions to record WWII shipwreck sites *in situ* off North Carolina. In 2013, the sanctuary had more than 20 participants that participated in the NAS course and subsequent field operations, resulting in the complete archaeological survey of the Soviet tanker *Ashkhabad*.



## LOOKING AHEAD

- The sanctuary will work with the Sanctuary Advisory Council, local and state governments, members of the community, and other stakeholders to explore the opportunities and implications of site expansion towards the protection of additional shipwrecks in the Graveyard of the Atlantic.
- The sanctuary will expand the site's volunteer diver program by working with local divers and other partners such as REEF - Reef Environmental Education Foundation - and Nautical Archaeology to build on the sanctuaries' "Citizen Science" initiative.
- In 2014, the sanctuary will continue to conserve, protect and display artifacts recovered from the USS *Monitor*. Although more than 65% of the artifacts recovered from the famous ironclad have already been successfully treated, NOAA is committed to completing this important work over the next 15-20 years.

**Monitor National Marine Sanctuary** was designated the nation's first national marine sanctuary in 1975. The site protects the wreck of the famed Civil War ironclad USS *Monitor* off Cape Hatteras, N.C., best known for its battle in 1862 with the Confederate ironclad CSS *Virginia* at Hampton Roads. In partnership with The Mariners' Museum in Newport News, Va., the sanctuary is working to conserve over 1,500 artifacts recovered from the famous shipwreck and works to preserve, study and educate the public about this iconic piece of our nation's maritime past. Established January 30, 1975.

*NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is committed to supporting lives and livelihoods across the nation and in sanctuary communities through socioeconomic research and monitoring to understand the economic and social drivers of sanctuary resources and improve management practices.*

## NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY SYSTEM

Olympic Coast  
Cordell Bank  
Gulf of the Farallones  
Papahānaumokuākea  
Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale  
Monterey Bay  
Channel Islands  
American Samoa (U.S.)



Thunder Bay  
Stellwagen Bank  
Monitor  
Gray's Reef  
Florida Keys  
Flower Garden Banks

○ National Marine Sanctuary  
△ Marine National Monument

Scale varies in this perspective. Adapted from National Geographic Maps.

The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries serves as the trustee for a system of 14 marine protected areas encompassing more than 150,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington state to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The system includes 13 national marine sanctuaries and the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. For more information on the National Marine Sanctuary System, visit: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov>