



# MEDIA RELEASE

## ERIE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

Brenton Davis,  
County Executive

Douglas R. Smith,  
Director of Administration

### MEDIA ADVISORY

June 21, 2023

## NOAA TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING TONIGHT OVER PROPOSED NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

**WHEN:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** H.O. Hirt Auditorium  
160 E Front Street  
Erie, PA 16507

**WHAT:** NOAA is holding a public comment period tonight in Erie County at the H.O. Hirt auditorium to address any questions or concerns over the possibility of designating a portion of Lake Erie as a proposed National Marine Sanctuary.

The proposed Lake Erie Quadrangle National Marine Sanctuary would encompass approximately 740 square miles of Pennsylvania's Lake Erie waters, from the shoreline to the Canadian border. The approximately 75 miles of proposed sanctuary shoreline along Erie County contain six townships, two boroughs, and the city of Erie. The nomination proposes to exclude the Port of Erie from the sanctuary boundaries to ensure compatible use with shipping and other commercial activities.

<https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/lake-erie/>

NOAA also published a Notice of Intent inviting the public to comment on the first step in the designation process and comments will be accepted until July 18, 2023 through the Federal Rulemaking Portal.

<https://www.regulations.gov/document/NOAA-NOS-2023-0039-0001>

**CONTACT:** Chris Carroll  
Phone: (814) -860-0794  
Email: [ccarroll@eriecountypa.gov](mailto:ccarroll@eriecountypa.gov)