



MARITIME WASHINGTON

NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Shaped by Sea & Story

Spanning 3,000 miles of Washington State's saltwater shoreline, the new Maritime Washington National Heritage Area recognizes our state's unique and diverse maritime cultures. This heritage area builds partnerships and increases collaboration to support our coastal communities in celebrating, maintaining, and sharing their water-based stories.



We are connected by water

Washington State's shorelines have long been defined by their relationship to saltwater and connected by a shared maritime heritage. Since time immemorial, water and maritime culture have shaped this place and its people, contributing greatly to the development of the region and the nation. Today, maritime heritage remains a vibrant part of Washington's communities. The 2019 designation of the Maritime Washington National Heritage Area along our state's saltwater shorelines recognizes the importance of maritime heritage to our local, regional, and national story.

This new National Heritage Area will:

- **Build a network** of cross-sector partners dedicated to advancing, honoring, and stewarding Washington's maritime stories and resources.
- **Provide support and resources** for organizations, communities, and Tribes working to enhance and share their maritime heritage.
- **Share diverse stories** and increase visibility of maritime heritage, past and present.
- **Encourage sustainable experiences** of maritime heritage for residents and visitors alike.
- **Preserve our region's unique maritime identity**, resources, and lifeways.



NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS

National Heritage Areas (NHAs) are designated by Congress as places where natural, cultural, and historic resources combine to form nationally important landscapes. NHAs tell nationally significant stories that celebrate our diverse heritage. Although supported by the National Park Service, they are locally run and completely non-regulatory.



MARITIME WASHINGTON

In 2019, the Maritime Washington National Heritage Area was designated by Congress to help share and preserve our state's unique maritime heritage resources and stories. It supports those who celebrate, maintain, and share our water-based experiences, increases collaboration, and enhances the way we think about and experience our maritime heritage.



LOCATION

Maritime Washington includes 3,000 miles of Washington State's saltwater coastline from Grays Harbor to the Canadian border, extending one-quarter mile inland from the mean high tide line. Its boundaries include the coastal lands of 18 federally recognized Tribes, 13 counties, 32 incorporated cities, and 33 port districts.



MANAGEMENT PLAN

Over the past two years, people from across the region have provided input on the direction for this new National Heritage Area, crafting a Management Plan for this new program. This plan charts the course ahead for this new program, outlining vision, goals, strategies, and policies for Maritime Washington.



WHAT'S NEXT

The Maritime Washington National Heritage Area will officially set sail in early 2023. Until then, we're working with communities across the region to identify partners, surface new stories, and begin building the Maritime Washington network. Interested in working with us? Visit our website to learn more.

The Maritime Washington National Heritage Area is facilitated by the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation with support from the National Park Service.

preservewa.org/maritime



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