

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240

AUG D 6 2019

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski:

I hereby transmit the enclosed *Michigan Maritime Heritage Special Resource Study*. The study was completed pursuant to Public Law 109-436 (Michigan Lighthouse and Maritime Heritage Act), which directed the Secretary of the Interior and subsequently the National Park Service (NPS) to conduct a Special Resource Study of the resources related to the maritime heritage of the State of Michigan in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer, other appropriate state and local public agencies, and private organizations.

Section 100507 of Title 54, United States Code, establishes the criteria to be considered in the study of an area for potential inclusion in the national park system. A study area must possess nationally significant natural or cultural resources and represent one of the most important examples of a particular resource type in the country; be suitable and feasible for addition to the system; and appropriate for direct NPS management.

The NPS found that Michigan has a wealth of maritime heritage resources, but that the number and distribution of maritime resources in the State does not lend itself to a single management option that would provide long-term protection and public awareness for all resources. Managing entities and other groups are encouraged to continue to seek assistance through existing NPS programs by working with parks, National Historic Landmarks, the Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance program, and others. As an Agency, the NPS is committed to supporting opportunities at the local and state levels to provide for preservation and public enjoyment. No additional Federal action is recommended.

Thank you for your interest in the National Park Service. A similar letter is being sent to the Honorable Joe Manchin III, Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate; the Honorable Raúl Grijalva, Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives; and the Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives. The affected Michigan delegations will also receive a copy of the report and this letter.

Sincerely,

P. Daniel Smith Deputy Director Exercising the Authority of the Director

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Debbie Stabenow The Honorable Gary Peters The Honorable Jack Bergman The Honorable Bill Huizenga The Honorable Daniel Kildee The Honorable Fred Upton The Honorable Tim Walberg The Honorable Andy Levin The Honorable Paul Mitchell The Honorable Debbie Dingell The Honorable Brenda Lawrence