



Maritime Washington National Heritage Area

Economic Development Committee | Sept 23, 2020
Agenda Item 2.c

What is a NHA?

- ▶ National Heritage Areas are designated by Congress to promote both economic development and preservation of our nation's heritage
- ▶ NHAs are operated by local groups and designated by Congress at the request of local citizens and governments.
- ▶ The management of a NHA is locally-based. While NHAs receive technical assistance from the National Park Service, the agency does not have any authority to mandate changes to land use or local regulations.
- ▶ NHAs do not allow new federal regulatory authority over land use, historic preservation, or other local issues.

What is a NHA?

- ▶ The management of NHAs may include programs to support local heritage groups, promote heritage tourism, and preserve heritage resources.
- ▶ Existing Heritage Areas sponsor festivals, assist in the operation of museums and visitor centers, develop tour routes, publish heritage maps, operate web sites, and take part in a other activities that encourage the recognition, enjoyment, and preservation of important heritage resources.
- ▶ Washington NHAs:
 - Maritime Washington National Heritage Area
 - Mountains to Sound Greenway National Heritage Area

MW-NHA

- ▶ 2006 - Grassroots effort began
- ▶ 2010 - Feasibility Study (WA Dept of Archeology and Preservation)
- ▶ 2019 - NHA Designation passed by Congress
- ▶ 2021 - ? - MW-NHA Management Plan Development



Management Plan

- ▶ The management plan will likely include an education plan, the rehabilitation of historic sites or vessels, a tourism enhancement strategy, a strategy for improvement of local museums, and similar activities.
- ▶ The authority to implement the management plan would be local, resting in the hands of willing local officials and the actions of local organizations.

Management Plan

Alex Gradwohl, Project Manager | WA Trust for Historic Preservation

"Participation is voluntary, and Poulsbo is welcome to be involved in the heritage area as much or as little as you see fit. Regardless of your level of engagement, however, the NHA will have no authority over your city code requirements. Instead, the NHA is a partnership model focused on interpretation, marketing, and tourism promotion."

"... we are currently preparing for an outward-facing public engagement phase, which we hope to begin in January 2021... We would be delighted to speak about the NHA at a City of Poulsbo meeting or gathering in early 2021."