

Obama administration designates two new marine sanctuaries

October 5 2015

The White House is announcing the designation of two new National Marine Sanctuaries—the first chosen in 15 years—as part of President Barack Obama's efforts to protect the environment.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will designate a marine sanctuary in the tidal waters of Maryland, and another in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan.

To combat illegal fishing, the Obama administration also said it would launch Sea Scout, a global initiative to unite governments and stakeholders in fighting against unreported fishing. Participants will share information and technology to identify and prosecute illegal fishing groups.

NOAA will expand development of an application that detects lights and targets [illegal fishing](#) activities. The detection system will be implemented in Indonesia, the Philippines, and three other countries next year.

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