

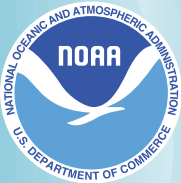
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary

introduces its new home:

Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center



**Great Lakes
Maritime Heritage Center**
500 W. Fletcher Street
Alpena, MI 49707
989-356-8805
www.thunderbay.noaa.gov



NATIONAL MARINE
SANCTUARIES

THUNDER BAY



NOAA ocean **SERVICE**

The 20,000 square foot Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center will feature:

- 9,000 feet of state-of-the-art shipwreck and Great Lakes exhibits
- 93-seat auditorium
- archaeological conservation lab and climate controlled artifact storage
- 2,000 feet of innovative education space
- research facilities
- administrative space

Hours:
Monday - Saturday
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

The GLMHC also serves as a regional resource for maritime history, underwater archaeology, and Great Lakes research.

An Important Mission

As part of its mission to educate the public about the significance of shipwrecks, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the State of Michigan, has established the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center in Alpena, Michigan. The Center promises to be a vital and popular destination for residents and visitors of all ages, allowing the public to experience and appreciate the estimated 200 shipwrecks in and around Thunder Bay.

Visitors will be able to explore shipwrecks in real time via live video feeds, discover the Great Lakes' rich maritime past through innovative exhibits, and learn how underwater archaeologists work to preserve historic shipwrecks. Fostering these types of experiences is central to the National Marine Sanctuary Program's goal of inspiring Americans to care about our oceans and Great Lakes.

Bringing People to Alpena

The Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center will attract an estimated 60,000 visitors per year to Alpena, significantly increasing public awareness of NOAA and the National Marine Sanctuary Program in the Great Lakes. The Center will strengthen northeastern Michigan's identity as a premier location for Great Lakes maritime heritage interpretation, research, and recreation.

A "Green" Building

The GLMHC is a high-performance, sustainable building and is on track to become certified at the Gold level by the Green Building Council's "LEED" Program (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). Energy and water consumption will be greatly reduced through efficient design, including a geo-thermal heating and cooling system and low volume and waterless toilets.