



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE

Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary is undergoing a management plan review. The revised management plan will be informed by the current condition of the sanctuary and knowledge of key issues the sanctuary faces. It will also help the sanctuary continue to protect natural and cultural resources.

NOV. 30

NOAA published the draft management plan and draft environmental assessment, kicking off a public comment period.

JANUARY 21, 2022

Sanctuary management welcomes your input about the proposal during a public comment period through January 21, 2022.



We invite you to submit comments in one of several ways:

- **Submit online comments** at www.regulations.gov, using docket number NOAA-NOS-2020-0003.
- **Provide comments at public meetings:** details can be found at stellwagen.noaa.gov.
- **Electronic public comments may be emailed to:**
sbnmsmanagementplan@noaa.gov
- **Written public comments may be mailed to:**
Stellwagen Bank NMS Management Plan Review
175 Edward Foster Road
Scituate, MA 02066

Sanctuary management will consider public comments, then prepare a final management plan and environmental assessment.

Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary extends from Cape Ann to Cape Cod, encompassing 842 square miles of biologically diverse and productive marine habitats including muddy basins, sandy banks, boulder reefs, and shipwrecks that support more than 575 species of invertebrates, fish, seabirds, sea turtles, and marine mammals.

PROPOSED ACTION PLANS

Action plans are the means by which NOAA identifies and organizes the various management issues with the methods, tools, and resources to address a given issue. Each action plan has an overarching goal with a series of strategies that describe what is needed to implement the activities in the plan.

The draft management plan is comprised of 15 action plans addressing the following areas:

- Marine Mammal Protection
- Seabird Research
- Vessel Traffic
- Maritime Heritage and Cultural Landscapes
- Compatible Uses
- Climate Change
- Education and Outreach
- Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination
- Soundscape
- Water Quality Monitoring
- Habitat
- Ecosystem Services
- Administration and Infrastructure



Photo: Ari Friedlaender/NOAA, under NOAA Fisheries permit #14245



Photo: Matthew Lawrence/NOAA

For more information on the management plan review process and to access the full documents, visit stellwagen.noaa.gov