



Q&A with Audra Parker, President and CEO

Q: Why do we need to protect Nantucket Sound?

A: The waters in the center of Nantucket Sound (dark blue) are under federal control and remain vulnerable to industrial development. The Sound is also facing diminished water quality, habitat degradation, and other environmental threats. This unique ecosystem, with its rich maritime and tribal history, is a national treasure that must be protected in perpetuity.



Q: What is the best way to protect Nantucket Sound?

A: The Alliance, along with a large and diverse coalition of stakeholders, is seeking National Historic Landmark (NHL) designation for Nantucket Sound, the highest level of historic protection. We are pursuing both federal legislation through Congress and administrative action through the U.S. Department of the Interior to accomplish this goal. Legislation would designate the Sound as an NHL,

prevent development, protect traditional uses such as fishing and recreation, and address environmental threats. NHL designation through Interior would leverage the Administration's focus on ocean conservation and preservation of sacred sites. Both paths will protect Nantucket Sound in perpetuity.

Q: What can I do to ensure Nantucket Sound is permanently protected?

A: Enacting federal legislation or securing administrative action for NHL designation is a challenging and resource intensive process. We need your help to maintain a robust presence in D.C. and build local support to permanently protect this special body of water.

Please help preserve this national treasure for future generations with a generous gift today!



GOAL

Designate Nantucket Sound as a National Historic Landmark

Administrative Path through U.S. Department of the Interior

- Alliance develops Letter of Inquiry (LOI)
- Alliance submits LOI to National Park Service (NPS) within Interior
- NPS begins review of LOI and consultation with tribes
- NPS issues eligibility opinion
- Alliance develops and submits nomination package to NPS
- NPS staff reviews submission and notifies stakeholders and Landmarks Committee
- Landmarks Committee reviews and makes recommendation to NPS Advisory Board (NPSAB)
- NPSAB reviews and makes recommendation to Secretary for final decision to designate the Sound as an NHL

Legislative Path through U.S. Congress

- Alliance develops Nantucket Sound National Historic Landmark Act (NSNHCLA) with extensive stakeholder input
- Alliance builds large and diverse coalition of local, state, tribal, and federal support
- Stakeholder coalition urges Massachusetts delegation to introduce bill to Congress
- NSNHCLA is introduced in Congress
- Bill is referred to relevant committees in House and Senate for hearings and votes
- Standalone or omnibus bill including NSNHCLA is signed into law designating Nantucket Sound as an NHL