Interested in supporting the proposed Mallows Bay - Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary? There are two ways to help:

1. Have 2 minutes?
Sign the online petition here: https://www.marinesanctuary.org/advocate/celebrate-americas-historic-ghost-fleet-mallows-bay/

2. Have a few more minutes?
Submit your comments online at: https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=NOAA-NOS-2016-0149-0001

Here are suggestions to help you craft your own brief letter.

1) *Introduce yourself briefly, including any relevant associations, or simply where you live:*

Example: My name is Joe Smith. I live in Anytown, MD, and am a (member of the local community/business owner/recreational enthusiast/etc.).

2) Tell them you SUPPORT the designation of the Mallows Bay - Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary and WHY.

Some facts you can use:

- The draft Environmental Impact Statement and draft Management Plan proposed by NOAA outline a thoughtful plan to protect historical, archaeological, and cultural resources of national significance.
- The recommended 52-square-mile designation in the Potomac River would include one of the largest collections of historical WWI era vessels, as well as Civil War, and Revolutionary War-era shipwrecks, Native American and other maritime artifacts.
- The local community will also benefit from recreation and tourism, particularly though enhancements to interpretative water trails and related visitor services. Charles County, Maryland, has already seen an increase in the number of visitors to Mallows Bay, and the DEIS anticipates a positive impact on the local economy as a result of the Sanctuary designation.

3) Share a personal anecdote or experience here (optional).

Example: I have often paddled these waters with my children. I want Mallows Bay to become a National Marine Sanctuary to prevent future damage to this national treasure so all Americans have the opportunity to experience it.

Sincerely, YOUR NAME