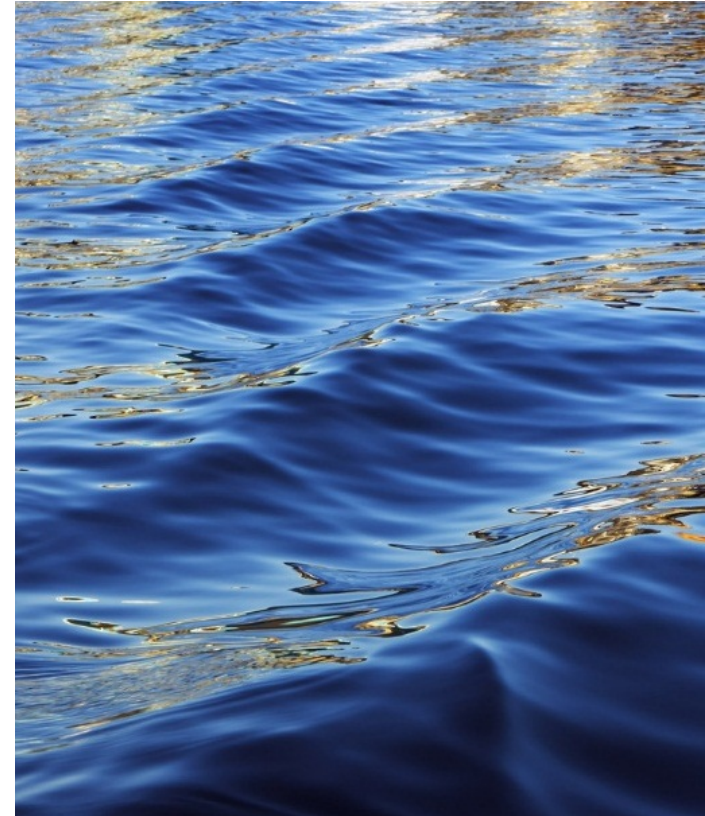




National Heritage Area – Potential Designation For the Finger Lakes Region

A Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance effort



Background – Timeline

2014

- First discussion at FLTA Board meeting

2015

- Senator Gillibrand introduces first bill to fund feasibility study



Background - Timeline

2017

- Senator Gillibrand and Congressman Reed introduce a bill

2019

- Bill is signed into legislation



Background - Timeline

Spring 2020

- National Park Service conducts focus group meetings in each county

March 2021

- Public Comment session is opened from 3/1/2021 to 6/1/2021

Background – Key Points

- *“The creation of a new national heritage area does not change existing private property rights”* as quoted from the National Park Service
- **Community support and engagement with the public comment period are essential to designation**
- **National Park Service themes from context document:**
 - **Glacier-Shaped Geological Lakes**
 - **Agricultural Traditions**
 - **Social Ideals translated to National Movements**
 - **Recreation**
 - **Innovation and Lasting Legacies**
 - **Transportation**

Next Steps – How can you help?

- **Share the link and encourage public comment**
- **Issue personal letters of support**
- **Have letters of support issued from entities for which you have affiliation**
- **If applicable pass resolutions of support**
- **Offering support on the following items will be helpful:**
 - **Support for the Finger Lakes region’s designation as a NHA.**
 - **NHA service area to cover all 14 Counties**
 - **Support for the Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance as the lead entity**

Note: Following our discussion a document with details will be sent along to all.

Next Steps – Time Line

- **National Park Service (NPS) compiles public comments**
- **NPS issues their recommendations**
- **Bill is brought forward to Capital Hill for vote**
- **If it passes both the House of Representatives and the Senate the bill will go to the President for signature and then becomes law**
- **Then the real work will begin**



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