

The national marine sanctuaries provide opportunities for me to connect with history through searching, documenting and preserving shipwrecks. I have had the privilege and pleasure of SCUBA diving in the Florida Keys and Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuaries. Both sanctuaries have unique qualities. Discovering the mysteries of the Acorn and the Hannah M. Bell shipwrecks at Elbow Reef in Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary has been very exciting. Documenting the World War II-era P-39Q Airacobra airplane of the historic Tuskegee Airmen, 2nd Lieutenant Frank H. Moody, in Port Huron, Michigan has been a once in a lifetime experience.

I am extremely excited about the newest national marine sanctuary, Mallows Bay-Potomac River, located in the State of Maryland. There are approximately 200 historic shipwrecks in this sanctuary. The time period for these wrecks range from the Revolutionary War to the present. This is a tremendous opportunity to connect with history and tell stories associated with these shipwrecks to the next generation.

In addition to immersing myself in history, I take the opportunity to help restore the ocean through coral reef restoration activities when I visit Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Being involved in restoring coral reefs, gives me a sense of accomplishment. Knowing that I am a small part of helping to restore the ocean is very gratifying.

Whether you enjoy the salty sensations of the ocean or the fresh feelings of the Great Lakes, all of the national marine sanctuaries offer opportunities to discover the wonders of the aquatic environment. Come and join me in restoring our oceans and preserving our heritage.



WATCH JAY'S VIDEO

There's an Ocean of Sanctuaries to Discover

Beautiful and awe-inspiring, they are home to miraculous wildlife that soar above and swim below the water's surface. Explore and do your part to help protect these wet and wonderful places.

Discover your story, Discover Wonder.

