The Great Lakes, a collection of five freshwater lakes located in North America, have been sailed upon since at least the 17th century, and thousands of ships have been lost. Underwater imaging technology has been used to locate deep wrecks, but this technology has not yet been utilized on the Great Lakes. This thesis will explore these new technologies and how they would be beneficial in the location, identification, and mapping of Great Lakes shipwrecks located in deep water.
have been sunk while traversing them. Many of these ships were never found, so the exact number of shipwrecks in the Lakes is unknown; the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum approximates 6,000 ships and 30,000 lives lost, while historian and mariner Mark Thompson has estimated that the total number of wrecks is likely more than 25,000. In the period wreck diving, wreck diving magazine Wreck diving is recreational diving where the wreckage of ships, aircraft and other artificial structures are explored. Although most wreck dive sites are at shipwrecks, there is an increasing trend to scuttle retired ships to create artificial reef sites. Diving to crashed aircraft can also be considered wreck diving. The recreation of wreck diving makes no distinction as to how the vessel ended up on the bottom. Some wreck diving involves penetration of the wreckage, making a direct ascent to the surface impossible for a part of the dive.

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1 Reason

Also located within Hawaii's Papahanaumokuakea Marine National Monument, the "Hoei Maru" shipwreck rests at the bottom of Kure Atoll — the most remote of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. The "Hoei Maru" is one of the vessels shipwrecked on the small island's surrounding reefs. The craft was found during a survey of sunken World War II-era wrecks in the waters close to the shore of Makena in Maui, Hawaii. Dunnottar Castle Shipwreck. It now rests on the murky bottom of "Shipwreck Alley" in the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, located in northwestern Lake Huron, Mich. A NOAA diver investigates the lower deck of the Great Lakes wooden freighter "SS Florida," which sank after smashing into the steamship "RMS Republic" in January 1909.