

Research, Recreational/Commercial Fishing, Recreational Diving, The Mariners' Museum, Youth, the U.S. Navy, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Coast Guard. It is the combined expertise and experience of these individuals that creates an advisory council that is a valuable and effective resource for the sanctuary manager.

The council's objectives are to provide the sanctuary manager with advice on: (1) Protecting natural and cultural resources and identifying and evaluating emergent or critical issues involving sanctuary use or resources; (2) identifying and realizing the sanctuary's research objectives; (3) identifying and realizing educational opportunities to increase public knowledge and stewardship of the sanctuary environment; and (4) developing an informed constituency to increase awareness and understanding of the purpose and value of the sanctuary and the National Marine Sanctuary System.

The council may serve as a forum for consultation and deliberation among its members and as a source of advice to the sanctuary manager regarding the management of the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary. The sanctuary advisory council holds open meetings to ensure continued public input on management issues and to increase public awareness and knowledge of the sanctuary environment. Public participation at these meetings is welcomed and encouraged.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1431, *et seq.*
(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: March 5, 2012.

Daniel J. Basta,

Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2012-6076 Filed 3-14-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Availability of Seats for the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

AGENCY: Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice and request for applications.

SUMMARY: The ONMS is seeking applications for the following vacant seats on the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council: (1) At-Large Member; (2) Research Alternate; (1) Youth Member; and (1) Youth Alternate. Applicants are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; philosophy regarding the protection and management of marine resources; and possibly the length of residence in the area affected by the sanctuary. Applicants who are chosen as members should expect to serve 3-year terms, pursuant to the council's charter.

DATES: Applications are due by 27 April 2012.

ADDRESSES: Application kits may be obtained from *Elizabeth.Stokes@noaa.gov*, Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, 175 Edward Foster Road, Scituate, MA 02066. Telephone 781-545-8026, ext. 201. Completed applications should be sent to the same address or email, or faxed to 781-545-8036.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact *Nathalie.Ward@noaa.gov*, External Affairs Coordinator, telephone: 781-545-8026, ext. 206.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council was established in March 2001 to assure continued public participation in the management of the Sanctuary. The Council's 17 voting members represent a variety of local user groups, as well as the general public, plus seven local, state and federal government agencies. Since its establishment, the Council has played a vital role in advising the Sanctuary and NOAA and critical issues.

The Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary encompasses 842 square miles of ocean, stretching between Cape Ann and Cape Cod. Renowned for its scenic beauty and remarkable productivity, the sanctuary supports a rich diversity of marine life including 22 species of marine mammals, more than 30 species of seabirds, over 60 species of fishes, and hundreds of marine invertebrates and plants.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1431, *et seq.*
(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: March 1, 2012.

Daniel J. Basta,

Director of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Availability of Seats for the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

AGENCY: Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice and request for applications.

SUMMARY: The ONMS is seeking applicants for the following seats on the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (council): Education (elementary, junior high, and high school), Fishing (recreational, charter, and/or commercial), Diving (including snorkeling), Tourism, Maritime History & Interpretation, and Citizen-at-Large. Applicants are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; philosophy regarding the protection and management of marine resources; and possibly the length of residence in the area affected by the sanctuary. Applicants who are chosen as members should expect to serve 3-year terms, pursuant to the council's Charter.

DATES: Applications are due by March 30, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Application kits may be obtained from Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, 500 W. Fletcher Street, Alpena, Michigan 49707. Completed applications should be sent to the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jean Bauer, Advisory Council Coordinator, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, 500 W. Fletcher Street, Alpena, Michigan 49707, (989) 356-8805 ext. 13, *jean.prevo@noaa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Thunder Bay Sanctuary Advisory Council (council) was established in 1997. The council has fifteen members and fifteen alternates, five seats represent local community governments, and the other ten represent facets of the sanctuary