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NOAA's Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary seeks advisory council applicants

NOAA's Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary is seeking to fill six primary and five alternate seats on its advisory council. The council ensures public participation in sanctuary matters and provides advice to sanctuary management.

"The diversity of members on our advisory council contribute extremely important perspectives from our community," said Chris Mobley, sanctuary superintendent. "Council member involvement and advice is critical to the successful management of the marine sanctuary."

The sanctuary is accepting applications for the following seats: business (primary and alternate); commercial fishing (primary and alternate); conservation (alternate); non-consumptive recreation (primary and alternate); public-at-large (two primary); and research (primary and alternate).

Candidates are selected based upon their expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying, community and professional affiliations, and views regarding the protection and management of marine resources. Applicants who are chosen as members or alternates should expect to serve a voluntary, two-year term.

The advisory council consists of 21 primary and alternate members representing a variety of public interests. It also includes 20 governmental primary and alternate members representing federal, state and county agencies.

Applications are due by Wednesday, May 31. Application kits can be downloaded from the sanctuary's website at http://channelislands.noaa.gov/sac/council_news.html. For further information, please contact Aubrie Fowler, advisory council coordinator, via email at aubrie.fowler@noaa.gov; by phone at 805-893-6425; or by mail at NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, Ocean Science Education Building 514, MC 6155, University of California Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA, 93106.

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary was designated in 1980 to protect marine resources surrounding San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Anacapa and Santa Barbara islands. The sanctuary spans approximately 1,470 square miles, extending from island shorelines to six miles offshore, and encompasses a rich diversity of marine life, habitats, and historical and cultural resources.

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and

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On the Web:

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary: <http://channelislands.noaa.gov>

NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov>

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