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

NOAA's Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary is seeking applicants for seven primary seats and five alternate seats on its advisory council. The council ensures public participation in sanctuary management and provides advice to the sanctuary superintendent.

"The members of our advisory council represent an extremely important voice in our community," said Chris Mobley, sanctuary superintendent. "Their input, experience and expertise assist the sanctuary in making informed decisions on how to best manage the conservation and use of marine resources surrounding the Channel Islands."

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

Candidates are selected based on 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 two-year term.

The advisory council consists of twenty-one primary and alternate members representing a variety of public interest groups. It also includes 20 governmental primary and alternate members representing federal, state and county agencies.

Applications are due March 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 Michael Murray, deputy superintendent via email at michael.murray@noaa.gov; by phone at 805-893-6418; 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.

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