Aloha,

The Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary is currently seeking interested individuals to fill both primary and alternate non- governmental seats on the sanctuary advisory council. Beginning immediately, we are accepting applications for council membership for the following seats (both primary and alternate positions): Commercial Shipping, Whale Watching, Ocean Recreation, Business/Commerce, Citizen-at-large, Conservation, Tourism, Lanai Island, Molokai Island, and Youth/Student Seat (ages 14-17). In addition, we are accepting applications for council membership for the following individual seats in the alternate positions only: Native Hawaiian, Research, Honolulu County, and Hawaii County.

The Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council was established pursuant to federal law to ensure continued public participation in the management of the sanctuary. Candidates will be 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.

Please note that if you have been a federally registered lobbyist in the two year period before your potential appointment date to the council, you will not be eligible to serve as a member of a sanctuary advisory council. Please contact Fiona Langenberger at 808-397-2651 x 256 or Fiona.Langenberger@noaa.gov if you have questions about this restriction.

The council was originally established in March 1996 and has a broad representation consisting of 34 primary members. The council represents the coordination link between the sanctuary and the state and federal management agencies, Native Hawaiians, user groups, researchers, educators, policy makers, and other various groups that help to focus efforts and attention on the humpback whale and its habitat.

The council's role is to provide the sanctuary management with advice on resource protection, research, education and outreach programs. Topics that the council has recently addressed relating to the sanctuary's management plan review process include: climate change, ecosystem protections, enforcement, increased protections for humpback whales, maritime heritage, Native Hawaiian culture, offshore development, ocean literacy, and water quality. The council works with sanctuary staff to keep them informed about issues of community interest throughout the sanctuary.

Membership Terms:
Terms for non-governmental members are two years in length and are staggered to establish continuity within the council (the current council seats up for selection were seated in 2011). Governmental members of the council serve at the discretion of their agency or entity and do not have a term limit. Members of the council shall serve without pay but the sanctuary program will cover travel expenses to and from official council meetings. The council shall meet as frequently as necessary, not to exceed once per month but at least once every six months. Applicants must be able to attend meetings as needed.

Application Guidelines:
A copy of the sanctuary advisory council application materials, which includes a copy of the council charter and an application form, as well as information about the sanctuary, can be found on our website at http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov. Council terms will be for 2

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State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources
1151 Punchbowl Street
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years. Applications should provide information regarding their particular interests, qualifications and experience and address the itemized topics on the application to the best of their abilities. Please send all applications by September 30, 2013 to my attention at the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, 6600 Kalaniana‘ole Hwy, Suite 301, Honolulu, HI 96825. Fax: 808-397-2650. A description has been provided of the general expectations and qualifications for each of the seats:

Commercial Shipping Representative: familiarity and affiliation with commercial shipping businesses in communities near the sanctuary; understanding of the links between local commercial shipping, sanctuary resources, and human activities; and ability and willingness to communicate with key representatives of the commercial shipping industry.

Whale Watching Representative: familiarity and affiliation with the whale watching industry in communities near the sanctuary region; understanding of the links between whale watching, sanctuary resources, and human activities; and the ability and willingness to communicate with key representatives from the whale watching industry.

Ocean Recreation Representative: familiarity and affiliation with the ocean recreation industry in communities near the sanctuary region; understanding of the links between ocean recreation, sanctuary resources, and human activities, and the ability and willingness to communicate with key representatives from the ocean recreation industry.

Business/Commerce Representative: familiarity and affiliation with local businesses in communities near the sanctuary; understanding of the links between local businesses, sanctuary resources, and human activities; and ability and willingness to communicate with key representatives from water- dependent and water-associated businesses.

Citizen-at-large Representative: familiarity with communities near the sanctuary, experience and/or knowledge regarding marine or management and resources protection issues in the sanctuary; experience and/or knowledge regarding public uses and activities in the sanctuary; and freedom to express views and cast votes without consideration of any expectations held by an employer or other organization with which the member is affiliated. Island and community representatives should be willing and able to meet with constituents to discuss sanctuary issues and ideas and be able to report these back to the council as a whole.

Conservation Representative: familiarity with marine conservation issues and management approaches affecting the sanctuary; experience working with or representing conservation or environmental organizations, especially those involved with marine conservation; ability to communicate effectively with the broader conservation community in the sanctuary region; and commitment and availability of time to chair the council’s Conservation Committee.

Tourism Representative: familiarity and affiliation with the tourism industry in communities near the sanctuary region; understanding of the links between tourism, sanctuary resources, and human activities; and the ability and willingness to communicate with key representatives from the tourism industry.

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County or Island Representative: familiarity with communities near the sanctuary, experience and/or knowledge regarding marine or management and resource protection issues in the sanctuary; experience and/or knowledge regarding public uses and activities in the sanctuary; and freedom to express views and cast votes without consideration of any expectations held by an employer or other organization with which the member is affiliated. Island and community representatives should be willing and able to meet with constituents to discuss sanctuary issues and ideas and be able to report these back to the council as a whole.

Youth Representative: A non-governmental, non-voting youth/student seat represents the youth segment of the community, defined as ages 14-17. A youth/student member may be appointed for a term of two years, and may compete for reappointment unless the individual will exceed the age limit during the additional term.

Native Hawaiian Representative: knowledge and understanding of Native Hawaiian practices and culture related to ocean use and conservation. Affiliation with Native Hawaiian institutions or organizations desired but not required. Ability and willingness to communicate with key representatives from the Native Hawaiian community to promote understanding of the sanctuary's efforts to establish programs and activities that nurture cultural awareness for conservation of Hawai'i's ocean resources.

Research Representative: affiliation with scientific research institutions or organizations active in the sanctuary region; ability to effectively communicate with multiple institutions and scientists; direct experience with marine research programs; experience, ability, and availability to conduct outreach within the research community consistent with the goals of the sanctuary and the mission of the council; and commitment and availability of time to chair the council's Research Committee.

I look forward to receiving completed applications at our office at the address listed above by September 30, 2013. Applications will be reviewed by a preliminary panel consisting of council members. The panel of council members will help us narrow down the number of candidates for each seat. Of these, a member and an alternate will be chosen, and officially notified of their selection.

If at any point you have a change in circumstances that will not allow you to serve on the council or you have any questions concerning the sanctuary, council, or the council member selection process, please contact Fiona.Langenberger at 808-397-2651 x 256 or via e-mail: Fiona.Langenberger@noaa.gov.

Mahalo nui loa,

Malia Chow PhD
Sanctuary Superintendent
Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary
NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

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