



May 15, 2014

Contact: Daniela Kittinger, 808-725-5905

## **Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary seeks advisory council applicants**

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary is seeking to fill two primary and four alternate seats on its advisory council. The council ensures public input into sanctuary matters and provides advice to sanctuary management.

“The members of our advisory council represent an extremely important element of our community,” said Malia Chow, sanctuary superintendent. “Their input, experience and expertise assist sanctuary managers in making informed and timely decisions on how best to protect and conserve our important cultural and natural resources.”

The two primary seats the sanctuary is currently seeking to fill are business/commerce and tourism. The sanctuary also seeks to fill four alternate seats: Native Hawaiian, Hawai'i County, Honolulu County, and commercial shipping.

Alternates attend meetings when primary members are not available and assume a seat if a primary member resigns. All 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.

Established in 1996, the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council provides advice and recommendations on managing and protecting the sanctuary. The council is composed of government and non-governmental seats for a total of 53 representatives, who serve on a volunteer basis, represent a variety of local user groups, the general public, and state and federal governmental jurisdictions.

Applications are due June 30. To receive an application kit or for further information, please contact council coordinator Daniela Kittinger via e-mail at [Daniela.Kittinger@noaa.gov](mailto:Daniela.Kittinger@noaa.gov); by phone at 808-725-5905; or visit the sanctuary website at <http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov>. Completed applications should be submitted to: Inouye Regional Center, ATTN: NOS/HIHWNMS/ Daniela Kittinger, 1845 Wasp Blvd., Building 176, Honolulu, HI 96818.

The sanctuary is administered by a partnership of NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and the State of Hawai'i through the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). The sanctuary works to protect humpback whales through research, education, conservation and stewardship. Join us on [Facebook](#).

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 marine resources. Join us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and our other [social media channels](#).

On the Web:

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary:

<http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov>

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