



NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary seeks advisory council applicants

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary is seeking applicants for 10 primary seats and 14 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 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 sanctuary is accepting applications for the following seats: commercial shipping (primary member and alternate); whale watching (primary member and alternate); ocean recreation (primary member and alternate); business/commerce (primary member and alternate); citizen-at-large (primary member and alternate); conservation (primary member and alternate); tourism (primary member and alternate); Lānaʻi Island (primary member and alternate); Molokaʻi Island (primary member and alternate); youth (primary member and alternate); Native Hawaiian (alternate); research (alternate); Honolulu County (alternate); and Hawaiʻi County (alternate).

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 members, who serve on a volunteer basis, represent a variety of local user groups, the general public, and state and federal governmental jurisdictions. Alternates attend meetings when primary members are not available and assume a seat if a primary member resigns.

Applications are due Sept. 30. To receive an application kit or for further information, please contact Malia Chow, sanctuary superintendent, via e-mail at Malia.Chow@noaa.gov; by phone at 808-397-2651, ext. 251; or visit the sanctuary website at <http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov>. Completed applications should be submitted to: Malia Chow, Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, 6600 Kalanianaʻole Highway, Suite 301, Honolulu, HI 96825.

The sanctuary is administered by a partnership of NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and the State of Hawaiʻi 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](#).

DLNR's mission is to enhance, protect, conserve and manage Hawaii's unique and limited natural, cultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawaii nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from the public and private sectors. Join us on [Facebook](#).

On the Web:

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary:

<http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov>

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

State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources: <http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/>

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