



May 1, 2017

Contact: Shannon Lyday Ruseborn, 808-725-5905

NOAA's Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary seeks advisory council applicants

NOAA's Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary is seeking to fill four primary and seven alternate seats on its advisory council. The council ensures public participation in 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 sanctuary is accepting applications for the following seats: business/commerce (primary and alternate); conservation (alternate); Lāna'i Island (alternate); Maui Island (alternate); Moloka'i Island (primary and alternate); Native Hawaiian (primary); O'ahu Island (alternate); ocean recreation (alternate); and tourism (primary).

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 primary or alternate members should expect to serve a three-year term.

Applications are due by Wednesday, May 31. To receive an application kit or for further information, please contact Shannon Ruseborn via email at Shannon.Ruseborn@noaa.gov; by phone at 808-725-5905; or visit the sanctuary website at http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/council/council_app_accepting.html. Completed applications should be submitted to: Inouye Regional Center, ATTN: NOS/HHWNMS/ Shannon Ruseborn, 1845 Wasp Boulevard, 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. 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 [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) 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>

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