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#### Other Information

##### *Administrative Procedure Act*

Notice and comment are not required under the Administrative Procedure Act, (5 U.S.C. 553), or any other law, for notices relating to public property, loans, grants, benefits or contracts (5 U.S.C. 553(a)). Because notice and comment is not required, a Regulatory Flexibility Analysis is not required and has not been prepared for this notice, (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*).

##### *Paperwork Reduction Act*

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. This notification involves collection-of-information requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act. The use of Standard Forms 424, 424A, 424B, and SF-LLL has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under control numbers 0348-0043, 0348-0044, 0348-0040 and 0348-0046, respectively.

Dated: September 24, 2008.

##### **John Potts,**

*Chief Financial Officer, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service.*

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BILLING CODE 3510-JS-S

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Availability of Seats for the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

**AGENCY:** Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS or sanctuary) is seeking applicants for both primary and alternate members of the following seats on its Sanctuary Advisory Council (council): Business/Commerce, Citizen-

At-Large, Commercial Shipping, Conservation, Ocean Recreation, Tourism, and Whale Watching. The HIHWNMS is also seeking applicants for alternate members of the Native Hawaiian seat and the Fishing seat. Applicants are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; philosophy regarding the protection and management of marine resources; and possibly the length of residence in the area affected by the Sanctuary. Applicants who are chosen as members should expect to serve 2-year terms, pursuant to the Council's Charter with the exception of the Native Hawaiian and Fishing seat alternates who will serve 1-yr terms.

**DATES:** Applications are due by November 15, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Application kits may be obtained from Christine Brammer, 6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy., Suite 301, Honolulu, HI 96825 or [Christine.Brammer@noaa.gov](mailto:Christine.Brammer@noaa.gov). Completed applications should be sent to the same address. Applications are also available online at <http://hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Naomi McIntosh, 6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy., Suite 301, Honolulu, HI 96825 or [Naomi.McIntosh@noaa.gov](mailto:Naomi.McIntosh@noaa.gov) or 808.397.2651.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The HIHWNMS Advisory Council was established in March 1996 to assure continued public participation in the management of the sanctuary. Since its establishment, the council has played a vital role in the decisions affecting the Sanctuary surrounding the main Hawaiian Islands.

The council's 17 voting members represent a variety of local user groups, as well as the general public.

The council is supported by three committees: A Research Committee chaired by the Research Representative, an Education Committee chaired by the Education Representative, and a Conservation Committee chaired by the Conservation Representative, each respectively dealing with matters concerning research, education and resource protection.

The council represents the coordination link between the sanctuary and the state and federal management agencies, user groups, researchers, educators, policy makers, and other various groups that help to focus efforts and attention on the humpback whale and its habitat around the main Hawaiian Islands.

The council functions in an advisory capacity to the sanctuary management and is instrumental in helping to develop policies and program goals, and to identify education, outreach, research, long-term monitoring, resource protection and revenue enhancement priorities. The council works in concert with the sanctuary management by keeping him or her informed about issues of concern throughout the sanctuary, offering recommendations on specific issues, and aiding in achieving the goals of the sanctuary within the context of Hawai'i's marine programs and policies.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. Sections 1431, *et seq.* (Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429, Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: September 22, 2008.

##### **Daniel J. Basta,**

*Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN: 0648-XK84**

#### New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Research Steering Committee (Committee), in October, 2008, to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, October 16, 2008, at 9:30 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the The Westin, 70 Third Street, Waltham, MA 02451; telephone: (781) 290-5600; fax: (781) 890-5959.

*Council address:* New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.