

upon by the Committee prior to dissemination to NIST.

#### Miscellaneous

1. Meetings of the VCAT usually take place at the NIST headquarters in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The Committee will meet at least twice each year at the call of the chairperson or whenever one-third of the members so request in writing. The Committee shall not act in the absence of a quorum, which shall consist of a majority of the members of the Committee not having a conflict of interest in the matter being considered by the Committee. 15 U.S.C. 278(d).

2. Generally, Committee meetings are open to the public.

#### Nomination Information

1. Nominations are sought from all fields described above.

2. Nominees should have established records of distinguished service and shall be eminent in fields such as business, research, new product development, engineering, labor, education, management consulting, environment and international relations. The category (field of eminence) for which the candidate is qualified should be specified in the nomination letter. A summary of the candidate's qualifications should be included with the nomination, including (where applicable) current or former service on Federal advisory boards and Federal employment. In addition, each nomination letter should state that the candidate agrees to the nomination, acknowledges the responsibilities of serving on the VCAT, and will actively participate in good faith in the tasks of the VCAT.

3. The Department of Commerce is committed to equal opportunity in the workplace and seeks a broad-based and diverse VCAT membership.

**Alicia Chambers,**

*NIST Executive Secretariat.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD893]

#### Applications for Membership to the American Fisheries Advisory Committee

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

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

**SUMMARY:** Applications are being sought for appointment by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) for 9 membership positions to serve on the 22-member American Fisheries Advisory Committee (AFAC or Committee). Individuals selected to serve on the Committee will serve a term of three years, unless otherwise stipulated.

**DATES:** Applications must have an email date stamp on or before June 20, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications should be submitted by email to: [nmfs.afac.nominations@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.afac.nominations@noaa.gov), or by mail to: Clifford Cosgrove, American Fisheries Advisory Committee Designated Staff Member, NMFS Office of Management and Budget, 1315 East-West Highway, Rm. #14456, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cliff Cosgrove, American Fisheries Advisory Committee Designated Staff Member, NMFS Office of Management and Budget, by email, at [nmfs.afac.nominations@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.afac.nominations@noaa.gov); or by phone at (301) 427-8736. Please visit the Saltonstall-Kennedy (S-K) Research and Development Program web page at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/funding-financial-services/saltonstall-kennedy-research-and-development-program>, or contact Cliff Cosgrove, American Fisheries Advisory Committee Designated Staff Member, NMFS Office of Management and Budget, by email, at: [nmfs.afac.nominations@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.afac.nominations@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The AFAC Committee was created from Public Law (Pub. L. 117-121) signed on May 12, 2022. The Committee meets no more than 3 times annually and membership is comprised of 22 individuals appointed by the Secretary with the following geographic representation:

Region 1 consisting of Alaska, Hawaii, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Territories of Guam and American Samoa;

Region 2 consisting of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut;

Region 3 consisting of Texas, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Arkansas, Puerto Rico, and the Territory of the Virgin Islands of the United States;

Region 4 consisting of California, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho;

Region 5 consisting of New Jersey, New York, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia; and

Region 6 consisting of Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

Membership for each region will be composed of highly qualified, diverse individuals with experience in one or more of the following areas of expertise, and in as many seafood species as possible: seafood harvesting or processing; recreational or commercial fishing; growing seafood; fisheries science; and/or food distribution, marketing, retail, or food service.

Four at-large members shall also be appointed by the Secretary as follows: one individual with experience in food distribution, marketing, retail, or food service; one individual with experience in the recreational fishing industry supply chain, such as fishers, manufacturers, retailers, and distributors; one individual with experience in the commercial fishing industry supply chain, such as fishers, manufacturers, retailers, and distributors; and one individual who is an employee of NMFS with expertise in fisheries research.

AFAC is responsible for making recommendations to the Secretary for financial assistance awards under the S-K Grant Competition under the Department of Commerce. AFAC will also make recommendations to the Secretary to assist in the development of the annual Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) for submission to the S-K Grant Competition. This may include identifying the needs of the fishing communities (program priorities), establishing individual award funding limits, specifying the application review criteria and selection processes, and other sections of the NOFO as appropriate and allowable. Applicants for these nine membership positions must have demonstrable experience listed below in as many seafood species as possible from the specific AFAC fisheries regions as follows:

- Region 1, one individual with experience in the Fisheries Science Community or Relevant Fishery Management Council;
- Region 2, one individual with experience as a Recreational or Commercial Fisher and/or Experience Growing Seafood;
- Region 3, two positions, one individual with experience as a Recreational or Commercial Fisher and/or Experience Growing Seafood and one individual with experience as a Seafood Harvester or Processor;
- Region 4, two positions, one individual with experience in the Fisheries Science Community or Relevant Fishery Management Council, one individual with experience as a Recreational or Commercial Fisher and/or Experience Growing Seafood;

- Region 5, one individual with experience as a Recreational or Commercial Fisher and/or Experience Growing Seafood;

- Region 6, one individual with experience as a Seafood Harvester or Processor; At-Large Region, one individual with experience in Food Distribution, Marketing, Retail, or Food Service.

Members must be able to fulfill the time commitments required for up to two annual in-person meetings and one virtual meeting. The in person meetings rotate between regions and last up to four business days, subject to the time needs of each meeting. The virtual meeting is one business day for approximately four to six hours.

Committee membership is voluntary and, except for reimbursable travel and related expenses per federal travel regulations, service is without compensation.

Each nominee must submit a cover letter and a resume/curriculum vitae (CV) in PDF format. The cover letter shall include a brief statement as to their interest in serving on the Committee and their qualifications. The resume/CV shall detail the applicant's contact information (address, telephone number, email address) and specific qualifications/experience/expertise as referenced in Public Law 117–121. Any applicants selected for Committee membership shall be required to complete a conflict of interest form. The first Committee meeting of members selected from this notice will be September 17 through September 20, 2024.

Applications must be submitted by email to [nmfs.afac.nominations@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.afac.nominations@noaa.gov), and must be received or email date stamped by June 20, to be considered. The full text of Public Law 117–121 and other relevant documents can be viewed on the Saltonstall-Kennedy web page at the following link: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/funding-financial-services/saltonstall-kennedy-research-and-development-program>

Dated: April 30, 2024.

**Daniel A. Namur,**

*Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Applications and Reports for Registration as an Agent or Tanner

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on January 24, 2024, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

*Agency:* National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

*Title:* Applications and Reports for Registration as an Agent or Tanner.

*OMB Control Number:* 0648–0179.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission, extension of a current information collection.

*Number of Respondents:* 25.

*Average Hours per Response:* 2 hours for an application and 2 hours for a report.

*Total Annual Burden Hours:* 50 hours.

*Needs and Uses:* This is a request for extension of an approved information collection. The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) mandates the protection and conservation of marine mammals and makes the taking, killing or serious injury of marine mammals, except under permit or exemption, a violation of the Act. An exemption is provided for Alaskan natives to take marine mammals if the taking is for subsistence or for creating and selling authentic native articles of handicraft and clothing. Possession of marine mammals and marine mammal parts by other than Alaskan natives is therefore prohibited (exception, 50 CFR 216.26: beach found non-Endangered Species Act (ESA) teeth or bones that have been registered with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)). As native handicrafts

are allowed by the MMPA to enter interstate commerce, an exemption is also needed to allow non-natives to handle the skins or other marine mammal produce, whether to tan the pinniped hide or to act as an agent for the native to sell his handicraft products. The information is necessary for law enforcement purposes to ensure that only Alaska Indians, Aleuts, or Eskimos are submitting marine mammal hides or parts for tanning.

The information required by 50 CFR 216.23 is of two types. Applications: Information is required to identify the applicant as a tanner/agent in order to preclude prosecution under the MMPA and to determine that he/she has an acceptable record keeping program to accurately account for those marine mammal products received. This information serves as a deterrent for those individuals who might use this registration program for entering prohibited marine mammal products into interstate commerce. Reports: Information is also needed annually to evaluate the agent/tanner's activities during the year, and his/her procedures for bookkeeping and yearly inventory to assure NMFS, the Marine Mammal Commission, and the general public that prohibited marine mammal products were not being transhipped through registered agents.

The reporting requirements are: report in writing to the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, any changes in the facts stated in Registrant's applications for this Certificate of Registration within 30 days of such change; maintain current records of each transaction authorized stating the marine mammals or marine mammal parts or products involved, from whom received, any processing accomplished, to whom returned, and the date of each such transaction. These records shall be kept separate and apart from other records maintained in the ordinary course of business and shall be retained for not less than three years; and annually, during the month of January, send certified copies of such records (annual report) to the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations; state, local or tribal governments.

*Frequency:* Annually and on occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* U.S. Code: 16 U.S.C. 1361; Marine Mammal Protection Act.

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.