

Dated: July 18, 2024.

**Rey Israel Marquez,**

*Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Establishing an Advisory Council Pursuant to the National Marine Sanctuaries Act and Solicitation for Applications for the Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

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

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that NOAA is establishing a national marine sanctuary advisory council for the Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary (LONMS). The new advisory council (council) will replace the pre-designation advisory council which was established September 17, 2019 and which expired upon the designation of LONMS. The council will provide advice and recommendations to ONMS regarding the sanctuary management plan and will serve as liaisons between the sanctuary and constituents and community groups. As a result, ONMS is adding the council to the list of established national marine sanctuary advisory councils. ONMS solicits applications to fill council seats on an as needed basis and is currently seeking applicants for seats on the LONMS Advisory Council. This notice contains web page links and contact information for LONMS and application materials to apply for the council.

**DATES:** Applications for membership on the LONMS Advisory Council must be postmarked or received by September 17, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** For further information contact: Ellen Brody, Regional Coordinator, Eastern Region, Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary, 4840 South State Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48108; 734-276-6387; [ellen.brody@noaa.gov](mailto:ellen.brody@noaa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

Section 315 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA) (16 U.S.C. 1445a) authorizes the Secretary of

Commerce to establish advisory councils to advise and make recommendations regarding the designation and management of national marine sanctuaries. ONMS is establishing a sanctuary advisory council for the LONMS to serve as a liaison with the local community and to provide guidance and advice to ONMS regarding the sanctuary management plan. The new advisory council will replace the pre-designation advisory council, which was established September 17, 2019. The pre-designation sanctuary advisory council expired, and the new advisory council took effect, when the designation of LONMS became effective on July 22, 2024. The advisory council for LONMS was not established on May 24, 2024 when ONMS published its annual announcement advertising to fill vacant seats on the other 17 sanctuary advisory councils (89 FR 45854). Therefore, ONMS is adding the LONMS Advisory Council to the list of sites with open council vacancies and announcing that it is soliciting applications to fill the seats of the LONMS Advisory Council. Applications are due September 17, 2024.

In the following **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section, NOAA provides details regarding ONMS, the role of advisory councils, and contact information for LONMS.

##### II. Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS)

ONMS serves as the trustee for a network of underwater parks encompassing more than 625,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington state to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The network includes a system of 16 national marine sanctuaries and the Papahānaumokuākea and Rose Atoll marine national monuments. National marine sanctuaries protect our nation's most vital coastal and marine natural and cultural resources, and through active research, management, and public engagement, sustain healthy environments that are the foundation for thriving communities and stable economies.

One of the many ways ONMS ensures public participation in the designation and management of national marine sanctuaries is through the formation of advisory councils. Advisory councils are community-based groups established to provide advice and recommendations to ONMS on issues including management, science, service, and stewardship, as well as to serve as liaisons between their constituents in the community and the site. Pursuant to

Section 315(a) of the NMSA, advisory councils are exempt from the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Additional information on ONMS and its advisory councils can be found at <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov>.

##### III. Advisory Council Membership

Under section 315 of the NMSA, advisory council members may be appointed from among: (1) Persons employed by federal or state agencies with expertise in natural resources management; (2) members of relevant regional fishery management councils; and (3) representatives of local user groups, conservation and other public interest organizations, scientific organizations, educational organizations, or others interested in the protection and multiple use management of sanctuary resources (16 U.S.C. 1445a(b)).

The charter for each advisory council defines the number and type of seats and positions on the council. The advisory council charter for LONMS identifies the following non-governmental voting seat types: Citizen-at-Large; Business, Marketing and Economic Development; Divers, Dive Clubs and Archaeology; Education (K-12); Higher Education; Fishing; History, Heritage and Public Interpretation; Recreation; Research, Science and Technology; and Tourism. The council will also have non-voting seats for: New York Department of State; New York Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; United States Coast Guard; Port of Oswego Authority; City of Oswego; Oswego County; Cayuga County; Jefferson County; Wayne County; and New York Sea Grant. Additionally, the council will have two Youth (14-17) non-voting seats.

Recognizing the cultural significance of this area to federally-recognized Indigenous Nations and Tribes, NOAA welcomes the participation of such interested Nations and Tribes on the council. This could involve multiple Nations and Tribes. This process can be initiated by contacting the sanctuary superintendent. Participation on the council does not take the place of government-to-government consultation nor does it serve as the only opportunity for engagement between NOAA and federally-recognized Indigenous Nations and Tribes.

For the LONMS Advisory Council, applicants will be chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; views regarding the protection and management of marine or Great Lakes resources; and possibly

(though not required) the length of residence in the area affected by the site. Council members and alternates for the LONMS Advisory Council serve two or three-year terms, as reflected in the signed charter.

More information on advisory council membership and processes and materials related to the purpose, policies, and operational requirements for advisory councils can be found in the charter for each specific advisory council ([https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/ac/council\\_charters.html](https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/ac/council_charters.html)) and in the National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Implementation Handbook (<https://nmssanctuaries.blob.core.windows.net/sanctuaries-prod/media/docs/2022-sanctuary-advisory-council-handbook.pdf>). For more information about the LONMS Advisory Council, including seat descriptions and application materials, please visit <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/lake-ontario/advisory/>.

#### Privacy Act Statement

*Authority.* The collection of information concerning the solicitation for applications for sanctuary advisory councils is authorized under the NMSA, 16 U.S.C. 1445a, and Executive Order 13178, and in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, (Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a).

*Purposes.* The collection of names, contact information, professional information, qualifications, and answers to the application questions is required in order for ONMS to evaluate and appoint members to the sanctuary advisory councils. The information collected will be reviewed by NOAA employees, and may also be reviewed by current sanctuary advisory council members as part of the evaluation process.

*Routine Uses.* NOAA will use the application information for the purposes set forth above. The Privacy Act authorizes disclosure of the collected information for the following purposes: to NOAA staff for work-related purposes; for other purposes as set forth in the Privacy Act; and for routine uses published in one or more of the following Privacy Act System of Records Notices, as applicable: COMMERCE/DEPT-11, Candidates for Membership, Members, and Former Members of Department of Commerce Advisory Committees, available at <https://www.commerce.gov/opog/privacy/SORN/SORN-DEPT-11>; COMMERCE/DEPT-18, Employees Personnel Files Not Covered by Notices of Other Agencies, available at <https://www.commerce.gov/opog/privacy/SORN/SORN-DEPT-18>; and OPM/

GOVT-1, General Personnel Records, available at <https://www.opm.gov/information-management/privacy-policy/sorn/opm-sorn-govt-1-general-personnel-records.pdf>, which cover certain records regarding Federal employees and may also cover records of individuals who are not Federal employees who, through their service on a sanctuary advisory council, may be considered as volunteers providing gratuitous services to the agency without compensation; and, for individuals who are also members of a Regional Fishery Management Council, COMMERCE/NOAA-13, Personnel, Payroll, Travel, and Attendance Records of the Regional Fishery Management Councils.

*Effects of Not Providing Information.* Providing the application information is voluntary; however, if the information is not provided, the individual will not be considered for appointment as a member of a sanctuary advisory council.

*Consent.* By submitting an application to ONMS for appointment to a sanctuary advisory council, you are consenting to the use and disclosure of the information for the purposes and routine uses described above. However, if you prefer that your application be reviewed by NOAA employees only and not disclosed to current council members as part of the evaluation process, please contact the sanctuary advisory council coordinator to request internal review only, which will not result in any disadvantage or impact regarding your candidacy, or for any questions regarding this Privacy Act Statement.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act

ONMS has a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number (0648-0397) for the collection of public information related to the processing of ONMS national marine sanctuary advisory council applications across the National Marine Sanctuary System. Establishing a sanctuary advisory council for LONMS fits within the estimated reporting burden under that control number. See <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAsearch> (Enter Control Number 0648-0397). Therefore, ONMS will not request an update to the reporting burden certified for OMB control number 0648-0397.

Send comments regarding this burden estimate, or any other aspect of this data collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to: Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, 1305 East West Highway, N/NMS, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of the 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 (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control number is #0648-0397.

*Authority:* 16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*

#### John Armor,

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

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Southeast Region Individual Fishing Quota Programs

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 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 for a 60-day period via a notice published in the **Federal Register** on February 13, 2024. The purpose of this notice is to allow for an additional 30-day public comment period.

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

*Title:* Southeast Region Individual Fishing Quota Programs.

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-0551.

*Form Number(s):* None.

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

*Number of Respondents:* 1,703.

*Average Hours per Response:*

- Dealer Landing Transaction Report, 6 minutes for electronic form or 5 minutes for paper form used in catastrophic conditions only;
- Transfer Shares, 3 minutes;
- Share Receipt, 2 minutes;