



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
500 West Fletcher Street
Alpena, Michigan 49707
(989)356-8805 phone ~ (989)354-0144 fax

February 28, 2012

Dear Friend of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary:

We are in the process of filling vacant seats on our sanctuary advisory council. Beginning immediately, we will accept applications and nominations for council membership for the following positions:

Education (K-12)
Tourism
Fishing (recreational, charter, and/or commercial)
Diving (including snorkeling)
Citizen-at-Large
Maritime History & Interpretation

The Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council was established pursuant to Federal law to ensure continued public participation in the management of the sanctuary. The Thunder Bay Sanctuary Advisory Council (council) was established in 1997. The council has fifteen members and fifteen alternates. Five seats represent local community governments, and the other ten represent facets of the sanctuary community, including education, research, fishing, diving, tourism, cultural resources, economic development, and the community at large. The council meets bi-monthly, with informal coffees and lunches scheduled for non-meeting months. Working groups meet as needed. The fifteen alternates also take an active role in council meetings as well as assist in carrying out many volunteer assignments throughout the year.

Enclosed is our sanctuary advisory council application kit, which includes a copy of the council's charter and an application sheet, as well as some information about the sanctuary.

We are looking forward to receiving completed applications at our office at **500 W. Fletcher Street, Alpena, Michigan 49707** by **March 30, 2012**. Applications will be reviewed by a preliminary review panel consisting of sanctuary staff and council members. The panel will help us narrow down the number of candidates for each seat to the top three. Selected members will serve a term of three years on the council.

If you have any questions concerning the council feel free to contact Jean Bauer, Sanctuary Council Coordinator at (989)356-8805 xt.13 or jean.prevo@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Jefferson J. Gray
Sanctuary Superintendent



**NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL
APPLICATION FORM**

Before applying for advisory council membership, please review the advisory council charter provided in your application kit, and the ONMS Sanctuary Advisory Council Implementation Handbook available online at <http://www.sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/ac/acref.html> (or you may obtain a copy from your local sanctuary – see contact information below). The council charter outlines the purposes and governs the operation of the council; the handbook provides broader operational requirements for councils. In applying for council membership, you are agreeing to abide by the terms of the charter and the handbook if you are selected as a member or alternate. As a part of the selection process, please note the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) will conduct a LEXIS/NEXIS check and a departmental bureau check for potential conflict of interest and other issues in your background. Also review the information provided at the end of this form; it contains important guidance with regard to the information you submit on this form and its availability under federal law.

Council members and alternates must be 18 years of age or older. The complexity of the issues addressed by sanctuaries and councils, the ability to effectively network with all ages of constituents, and the ability to travel to and attend meetings and retreats all necessitate this minimum age limit.

Please note that under federal law, federal government employees are not allowed to sit on the advisory councils in a personal capacity. State employees are allowed to sit on the advisory councils in a personal capacity, but must include letters of support on agency letterhead from their state supervisors.

Please indicate which seat(s) you are applying for, provide your contact information, and respond to the questions below. The ONMS may consider applicants for seats for which they have not applied if the ONMS believes they are qualified for that seat and are willing to serve in it.

The application deadline is **March 30, 2012**. Please return all pages of this application to **Jean Bauer, 500 W. Fletcher Street, Alpena, MI 49707**.

Date: _____

First Name*: _____ **Middle** _____ **Last** _____

* Please include full first, middle and last names.

Seat(s) applying for:

- | | |
|---|---|
| _____ Diving (including snorkeling) | _____ Maritime History & Interpretation |
| _____ Education (K-12) | _____ Tourism |
| _____ Fishing (recreation, charter and/or commercial) | _____ Citizen-at-Large |

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Home Fax: _____ **Home E-mail:** _____

Work Address (include company/organization name):

Work Phone: _____

Work Fax: _____ **Work E-mail:** _____

Please thoroughly address each of the following in an attached statement:

1. Reasons for interest in serving on the council, including a statement of guiding views regarding protection and management of marine or Great Lake resources
2. Formal community and professional affiliations and employment
3. Length of residence in area affected by the sanctuary, and if a year-round or seasonal resident of the area
4. Previous attendance of council and/or working group meetings
5. Particular expertise and experience germane to the goals and uses of the sanctuary, particularly in relation to the seat(s) for which you are applying
6. Description of your views of what the role of the council is, and how you will work to best support the sanctuary while on the council
7. Description of the amount of time you have to devote to council activities (council meetings, subcommittee meetings, working group meetings, council retreats, chairing subcommittee or working groups, reviewing written materials, constituent outreach)
8. Description of how you will coordinate with, consult with, and inform the members of the constituency you will represent
9. Other qualifications or information relevant to membership on the council

The information obtained through this application process will be used to determine the qualifications of the applicant for membership on the sanctuary advisory council. The ONMS intends affirmatively to disclose the applications only to ONMS staff and other members of the review panel. However, the ONMS may be required to disclose the applications in response to a court order, a congressional request, or a request from the public under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). If disclosure is requested under the FOIA, the ONMS will endeavor to protect the privacy of applicants by withholding personal information such as home addresses and telephone numbers. In contrast, statements of philosophy or opinions contained in the application would likely be released. Applying for membership on the council is voluntary.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average one hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, 1305 East West Highway, N/ORM6, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

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 of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

OMB Control #0648-0397
Expires 03/31/2012

Roles of the Sanctuary Advisory Council Seats

The descriptions below were developed to help potential applicants understand what would be expected of them if they are chosen for a seat on the Advisory Council and to help NOAA and the State of Michigan select the best possible candidates.

All Seats

- Ability and willingness to communicate with the spectrum of users or stakeholders the seat represents
- Understanding the links between the constituents and/or the uses the seat represents and the sanctuary resources
- Commitment and availability to attend six advisory council meetings annually
- Opportunity to chair or participate in advisory council working groups or subcommittees

Education – elementary, junior high, or high school

- Affiliation with elementary, junior high, or high school educational institutions or organizations in the sanctuary region
- Direct experience with Great Lakes education programs

Tourism

- Familiarity and affiliation with the travel/tourism industry in communities near the Sanctuary/Preserve

Diving (including snorkeling)

- Affiliation with individual divers, diving organizations, dive charters, and other dive businesses within the Sanctuary/Preserve region
- Breadth of experience and knowledge regarding diving law, safety, and practices within the Sanctuary/Preserve region

Fishing (recreational, charter and/or commercial)

- Affiliation with individual fishers, fishing organizations, charters and/or businesses within the sanctuary region
- Breadth of experience and knowledge regarding fisheries law, policies, and practices within the sanctuary region

Maritime History & Interpretation

- Affiliation with maritime history, underwater cultural resources/archeology or similar institutions or organizations active in the Sanctuary/Preserve region
- Direct experience with Great Lakes maritime history, underwater cultural resources/archaeology or similar programs

Citizen-at-Large

- Familiarity with communities close to the sanctuary
- Experience and/or knowledge regarding Great Lakes maritime heritage, particularly underwater cultural resource in the sanctuary region