GREATER FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL
CHARTER

ESTABLISHMENT AND AUTHORITY

Section 315 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA or Act; 16 U.S.C. § 1431 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to establish sanctuary advisory councils to provide advice to the Secretary of Commerce regarding the designation and management of national marine sanctuaries. This authority has been delegated to the Director (director) of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS). The director hereby reestablishes the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (council).

This charter provides a background on the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) and Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, and describes the objectives and roles of the council's activities, procedural requirements regarding the appointment of council members, alternates and officers, requirements for the conduct of council members and meetings and alternates, and other requirements. All council activities must be conducted pursuant to this charter.

SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL POLICY STATEMENT

The ONMS regards the involvement of communities and the development of a stewardship ethic as vitally important to successfully protect sanctuary resources. One key way to achieve this involvement is the formation of sanctuary advisory councils.

Sanctuary advisory councils bring members of a diverse community together to provide advice to the sanctuary superintendent on the management and protection of the sanctuary, or to assist the ONMS in guiding a proposed site through the designation process.

The ONMS is committed to the full support, utilization, and enhancement of councils at all sanctuaries. In order for councils to achieve their full potential, the ONMS within the limits of available resources will:

- Provide sufficient support to allow councils to operate efficiently and effectively at each site;
- Provide support and guidance from the national office to help councils operate efficiently and at a basic level of consistency across the system;
- Promote coordination and communication among councils and among sanctuary staff that work closely with councils;
- Develop training programs appropriate to council officers and members, and sanctuary superintendents and staff;

OFFICE OF NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES

A national marine sanctuary is an area of the marine or Great Lakes environment of special national, and sometimes international, significance warranting protection and management under the NMSA. As a steward of coastal and ocean resources, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) protects and manages sanctuaries through the ONMS.

Vision of the ONMS:

The Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is a leader in ocean stewardship, conserving and protecting America's ocean and Great Lakes treasures for future generations through strong science-based management.

Mission of the ONMS:

National Marine Sanctuaries protect our Nation's most vital coastal and marine natural and cultural resource. Through active research, management, education, and public engagement, we sustain healthy environments that are foundations for thriving communities and stable economies.

Goals of the ONMS:

- Identify, designate, and manage sanctuaries to maintain the natural biological communities in sanctuaries and to protect and, where appropriate, restore and enhance natural habitats, populations, and ecological processes, through innovative, coordinated, and community-based measures and techniques.

- Build and strengthen the nation-wide system of marine sanctuaries, maintain and enhance the role of the system in larger marine protected area networks, and help provide both national and international leadership for marine protected area management and marine resource stewardship.

- Enhance nation-wide public awareness, understanding, and appreciation of marine and Great Lakes ecosystems and maritime heritage resources through outreach, education, and interpretation efforts.

- Investigate and enhance the understanding of ecosystem processes through continued scientific research, monitoring, and characterization to support ecosystem-based management in sanctuaries and throughout U.S. waters.

- Facilitate human uses in sanctuaries to the extent such uses are compatible with the primary mandate of resource protection, through innovative public participation and interagency cooperative arrangements.

- Work with the international community to strengthen global protection of marine resources, investigate and employ appropriate new management approaches, and disseminate ONMS experience and techniques.

- Build, maintain, and enhance an operational capability and infrastructure that efficiently and effectively support the attainment of the ONMS mission and goals.

GREATER FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS) was established in 1981 to protect the nearshore and offshore waters of the central and northern California Coast. The sanctuary supports nursery and spawning grounds for commercially important species, over 36 species of marine mammals, and the largest concentration of breeding seabirds in the contiguous United States. Key habitats include coastal beaches, rocky shores, mud and tidal flats, salt marsh, estuaries, and pelagic waters.

As of March 2004, the ONMS Director announced that the area within Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) north of the San Mateo/Santa Cruz county boundary, referred to as the Northern Management Area (NMA), would be administered by GFNMS; however, the legal boundaries of each sanctuary were not altered and remain unchanged. GFNMS is responsible for developing and managing most sanctuary programs within the NMA, with the exception that MBNMS is responsible for the Water Quality Protection Program.

COUNCIL ROLES

1. The council, in accordance with the NMSA, shall provide advice and recommendations to the sanctuary superintendent regarding the protection and management of Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary.

2. The council shall draw on the expertise of its members, alternates, and other sources in order to provide advice to the sanctuary superintendent.

3. Council members and alternates shall serve as liaisons between their constituents and/or communities and the sanctuary, keeping sanctuary staff informed of issues and concerns, as well as providing information to their respective communities on the sanctuary's behalf.

4. The council may serve as a forum for consultation and deliberation among its members and as a source of advice and recommendations to the sanctuary superintendent. Such advice shall fairly represent the collective and individual views of the council members. In formulating such advice, the council members shall recall that the primary objective of the sanctuary and the NMSA is resource protection.

5. The council is established to provide advice and recommendations to the sanctuary superintendent regarding the management of GFNMS. Nothing in this charter constitutes authority to perform operational or management functions, or to make decisions on behalf of the sanctuary, NOAA, or the Department of Commerce.

6. The council shall develop an annual work plan, in consultation with and approved by the sanctuary superintendent, to establish an agenda for specific issues and projects the council intends to address.

MEMBERS, ALTERNATES, AND OFFICERS

1. The council shall consist of no more than 14 voting members, who shall be appointed by the director from among persons employed by federal, state, or local agencies with expertise in management of natural resources, representatives of local user groups, conservation and other public interest organizations, scientific and educational organizations, and members of the public interested in the protection and multiple use management of sanctuary resources. The membership is designed to be balanced in terms of points of view represented, geographic diversity, and advisory functions the council will perform.

2. There are four categories of seats for which non-voting members are appointed or selected.

Category A
The sanctuary superintendent sits on the council as a non-voting member and shall work with the chair in scheduling each meeting and approving the agenda to ensure that topics of discussion are relevant to the sanctuary. Council meetings may not be conducted in the absence of the sanctuary superintendent or his/her designee.

Category B
To ensure relevant information exchange among national marine sanctuaries, the superintendents of Monterey Bay, Cordell Bank, and Channel Islands national marine sanctuaries shall sit on the council as non-voting members.

Category C
(i) By virtue of the shared functional responsibilities of federal, state, and local jurisdictions in the implementation of sanctuary-related management, each of the following government entities shall be requested to designate one individual to serve on the council. The following government agencies shall sit on the council as non-voting members:

National Marine Fisheries Service

(ii) Governmental members are appointed by their agencies and are not subject to term limitations or the competitive application process.

(iii) An alternate (from the same government entity) of a governmental council member may attend a council meeting on occasion if the chair and sanctuary superintendent are notified in advance of any meeting at which an alternate will represent the council member, including the name, address, and position of the individual designated. An alternate may not name another alternate.

(iv) If a government entity decides to no longer participate as a member of the council, or fails to attend three consecutive council meetings without reasonable justification and is formally removed by the director, the sanctuary superintendent with approval of the director, shall invite another appropriate government entity to replace that agency on the council.

(v) If it is found that a governmental member of the council has violated one or more of the terms of this charter, the sanctuary superintendent may recommend to the director that the appropriate agency be notified and requested to replace the designee. The sanctuary superintendent may consult with the council prior to taking such action.

(vi) Governmental members are subject to the same grounds for removal as non-governmental members.

Category D
A non-voting youth/student seat to represent the youth segment of the community, defined as ages 14-17. The individual filling the youth/student seat must:

(i) Be between the ages of 14 and 17 when he or she applies;
(ii) Attend a school, including home schools (or other alternative high school option), in the area affected by the sanctuary;
(iii) Have proven ability to communicate and network with other students within their school, in other schools within his/her community, or with home schooled students and with adults;
(iv) Possess an interest in sanctuary resource protection and management;
(v) Have experience or knowledge regarding public uses and activities in the sanctuary;
(vi) Be able to travel to and attend council meetings and retreats (parent/guardian or student provides transportation); and
(vii) Provide written recommendation from one or more teachers or other adult references.

Once selected, ONMS staff will contact the student to provide:
(i) Written permission from parent/guardian;*
(ii) Written permission from the school administration to attend council meetings and retreats only if council meetings or retreats require a student to miss school;* and
(iii) Paperwork required by the school if, for example, the student has to miss school.

*Permission slips will grant blanket permission for all council meetings and retreats.

3. There are two categories of seats for which voting members are appointed. The following procedures shall govern the application, nomination, and appointment of council voting members.

Category A
(i) Governmental (5 members). By virtue of the shared functional responsibilities of federal, state, and local jurisdictions in the implementation of sanctuary-related management, each of the following government entities shall be requested to designate one individual to serve on the council. The following government agencies shall sit on the council as voting members:

National Park Service
U.S. Coast Guard
California Resources Agency
California Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

(ii) Governmental members and alternates are appointed by their agencies and are not subject to term limitations or the competitive application process.

(iii) An alternate (from the same government entity) of a governmental council member may attend a council meeting on occasion if the chair and sanctuary superintendent are notified in advance of any meeting at which an alternate will represent the council member, including the name, address, and position of the individual designated. An alternate may not name another alternate.

(iv) If a government entity decides to no longer participate as a member of the council, or fails to attend three consecutive council meetings and is formally removed by the director, the sanctuary superintendent, with the approval of the director, shall invite another appropriate government entity to replace that agency on the council.

(v) If it is found that a governmental member or alternate of the council has violated one or more of the terms of this charter, the sanctuary superintendent may recommend to the director that the appropriate agency be notified and requested to replace the designee. The sanctuary superintendent may consult with the council prior to taking such action.

(vi) Governmental members and alternates are subject to the same grounds for removal as non-governmental members.

Category B
(i) Non-governmental (8 members). A representative and alternate of each of the following activities, which are integrally affected by the management goals of the sanctuary, shall be selected:

Research (1)
Education (1)
Maritime Activities (2)
Community-at-Large (3): 1 for Sonoma/Marin; 1 for San Francisco/San Mateo; 1 for Mendocino/Sonoma
Conservation (2)

Non-governmental members and alternates are appointed for a term of three years, and may compete for re-appointment (subject to the non-governmental term limits policy described below). If necessary, subsequent terms of appointment may be changed to provide for balanced (staggered) expiration dates. Should a non-governmental seat become vacant, the vacated position shall be advertised and a replacement appointed as specified below. The newly appointed member shall serve for a full term beginning on the date of his/her swearing-in by the sanctuary superintendent.

(ii) Non-governmental members and alternates will not be selected to serve more than three consecutive terms on a sanctuary advisory council subject to the following provisions:

- The incumbent non-governmental council members and alternates, who are part way through their term upon the signature of this council charter, will be counted as serving their first term for the purposes of this cap.

- The policy only applies to seats that go through the advertised, competitive process; this is not applicable to appointed governmental seats.

- The policy applies to the seat (e.g., conservation seat or research seat) and not the position (i.e., primary or alternate). Example: An individual can serve one term as the conservation alternate and two terms as the conservation primary member, for a total of three terms. If qualified, the same individual may also apply for another seat on the council (e.g., community-at-large) once he/she is term-capped on the conservation seat.

- A limited amount of waivers may be granted at the discretion of the ONMS Director for special circumstances as outlined in the national non-governmental term limits policy.

(iii) Members serve at the discretion of the director. The sanctuary superintendent may recommend to the director the removal of a non-governmental member or alternate of the council if that member has violated one or more terms of the charter or on any the following grounds:

- Is convicted of any felony offense;

- Is found to have violated any of the following laws or regulations promulgated there under: the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Endangered Species Act, Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, or another environmental law for which NOAA or another federal agency has jurisdictional responsibility;

- Is found to have violated state environmental laws or regulations;

- Is found to have violated national or state laws that protect cultural resources;

- Is determined to have abused his or her position as a member or alternate of the council (including but not limited to use of SAC information for personal gain; use of council position to advance a personal agenda or harm another member or alternate of the council or of the community; misrepresentation of, or spreading misinformation about the council or the sanctuary; and refusal to recuse himself/herself if requested by the sanctuary superintendent and/or chair in a matter in which the member or alternate has a conflict of interest);

- Has a change to the professional affiliation(s) and/or personal circumstances that comprise a significant portion of that member's qualifications for being a member of the council;

- Misses three consecutive meetings;

- Disrupts on more than one occasion council meetings in a manner that interferes with the council's ability to conduct its business; or

- Violates any other term of this charter. The sanctuary superintendent may consult with the council prior to taking such an action.

The sanctuary superintendent may consult with the council prior to taking such an action.

4. As each non-governmental seat becomes vacant and the process for selection of a new member or alternate (described under Appointments) is conducted, the sanctuary superintendent shall recommend to the director the member and an alternate from among the top three candidates resulting from the review process. The alternate shall have all the rights of the member at such times the alternate is officially substituting for the member. The chair and the sanctuary superintendent shall be notified by the member before an alternate officially attends a meeting. The alternate may also be appointed to complete a primary member's term if that member resigns or is removed. An alternate may not name another alternate.

5. (a) Council Officer Elections and Terms

The council shall elect one member to serve as chair, one member to serve as vice chair, and at the discretion of the council, one member to serve as secretary. The vice chair shall act as chair in the absence of the chair. Terms of the chair, vice chair, and secretary are two years. The chair and vice-chair may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms (four years) if reelected. The council secretary may serve consecutive terms if reelected.

A chair, vice chair, or secretary may leave his/her term to run for another council officer position if desired. If the chair, vice chair, or secretary is elected to a new position, the council shall nominate and elect a new representative for the vacated position.

Council members, including non-voting members, may nominate individuals for the council officer positions (except sanctuary superintendents and/or their designees). Any primary member of the council, including government seats and non-voting seats (with the exception of the sanctuary superintendent) may be nominated and elected as a council officer. Election for all positions is by majority vote of all council members (except sanctuary superintendents and/or their designees), including the non-voting members and votes shall be made by written ballot. Alternates may nominate and vote during an election only when the alternate fills the seat in the absence of the primary member. Members who will not be present at the time of the election may submit their votes in writing to the sanctuary superintendent prior to the meeting.

If a council officer resigns, the council should hold an election at the next regularly scheduled council meeting. If the newly elected individual feels comfortable, the/she may begin serving in his/her position immediately upon being elected, otherwise he/she may begin serving at the next meeting. If the chair resigns, the vice-chair will act on his/her behalf until the new chair assumes his/her position. If the vice-chair resigns, the secretary will act on his/her behalf until the new vice-chair assumes his/her position. If the secretary resigns, the position may remain vacant until the new secretary assumes his/her position.

In extraordinary circumstances, if all (both, if no secretary) council officers resign at the same time, the council can agree to allow another council member to serve as interim chair until the new officers are elected; new officers should be elected at the next scheduled council meeting.

(b) Roles of Council Officers:

(i) Chair: The chair presides over all meetings of the full council and ensures that meetings are run according to accepted meeting practices, signs all correspondence and documents authorized by the council, and generally represents the council's interests and concerns to the public. The chair also continues to fulfill the general roles that all council members fill, including representing the interests of his/her constituents.

(ii) Vice Chair: The vice chair serves as chair in the absence of the chair and assists as necessary in performing the council's executive duties. The vice chair also continues to fulfill the general roles that all council members fill, including representing the interests of his/her constituents.

(iii) Council Secretary: The council secretary assists sanctuary staff in performing administrative duties, such as drafting council letters, as directed by the chair or vice chair. The secretary also continues to fulfill the general roles that all council members fill, including representing the interests of his/her constituents.

APPOINTMENTS

Public notice shall be provided as to the vacancy of constituent group seat(s) and at-large representatives. Applications for ensuing terms for vacant seats shall be submitted to the sanctuary superintendent or to his or her designee (e.g., advisory council coordinator or other appropriate site staff), as defined in the Federal Register notice for a particular recruitment. Copies of all applications and nominations for each seat will be submitted by the sanctuary superintendent to the preliminary review panel to obtain recommendations on selections. Any council member that has a conflict of interest (financial, personal, self nomination, etc.) shall recuse him/herself from making a selection for the vacant seat. Selection from among those recommended by the council or from among other applicants or nominees, shall be made by the sanctuary superintendent with the approval of the director. The sanctuary superintendent may choose to re-advertise the vacant seat(s) if adequate candidates are not available after the first recruitment process. In all cases, submission of written statements of particular interest, qualifications, and experience shall be requested. Guidelines for applying shall be supplied at the appropriate time.

ADMINISTRATION

1. Members of the council shall serve without pay, except that each member may receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of Title 5 of the United States Code for travel to and from official council meetings. No members of subcommittees or working groups (defined below) may receive travel expenses for subcommittee or working group meetings or other activities. Travel expenses for governmental members of the council may be provided by their own agencies.

2. The ONMS may make available such staff, information, administrative services, or assistance as the sanctuary superintendent determines are reasonably required to enable the council and its subcommittees/working groups to carry out their functions.

OPERATION

1. Meetings

(a) Meetings are held at the call of the chair and the sanctuary superintendent.

(b) Decisions (e.g., recommendations) made by the council shall be made by majority vote of those present, provided there is a quorum (more than half of the voting members). A recorded vote may be requested by the chair or the sanctuary superintendent.

(c) Each meeting shall be open to the public.

(d) Interested persons shall be permitted to present oral or written statements on items on the agenda, or other pertinent topics.

(e) Emergency meetings may be held at the call of the chair or presiding officer and the sanctuary superintendent.

(f) Timely notice of each council meeting, including the time, place, and agenda of each meeting, shall be provided to the local media and additional notice may be given by such other means as will result in appropriate publicity to interested groups. This requirement shall not apply to workshops scheduled by the council to address strategic planning, administration, or specialized technical issues. The council may not vote at any meeting for which the above public notice has not been issued. The council may not vote on any agenda item for which notice was not provided.

(g) The council shall meet as frequently as necessary, not to exceed once per month for voting meetings, but at least once every six months. The council meeting place may be rotated among various locations adjacent to the sanctuary and meeting sites shall be chosen to accommodate anticipated public attendance and reasonably accessible to those interested in attending.

(h) The advisory councils for GFNMS and MBNMS will meet jointly every other year. The primary focus of the meeting every other year will be the collaborative work and regular consultation by staff and management from GFNMS and MBNMS on matters in the NMA and the annual work plan accomplishments for this area.

(i) GFNMS and MBNMS councils may choose a council member or alternate to act as a liaison between the two councils. These liaisons may receive travel expenses to attend regularly scheduled meetings of the other council.

(j) Minutes of each meeting shall be kept by a person specified by the sanctuary superintendent and contain a summary of attendees and matters discussed; such minutes shall be available to the public.

2. Procedures for Providing Advice: The following procedures shall be used to provide advice:

(a) The council may provide advice on a relevant issue or topic to the sanctuary superintendent. Requests for information, assistance, or advice from the ONMS, other NOAA offices, or other agencies shall be made in writing and be coordinated through the sanctuary superintendent.

(b) Any matter that a council member wishes to raise to the attention of the sanctuary shall be brought to the attention of either the sanctuary superintendent or the council chair so that it might be placed on the agenda as a discussion topic. The sanctuary superintendent and the council chair shall discuss topics for the agenda and agree that a topic is an appropriate sanctuary issue before it may be placed on the agenda.

(c) The council shall provide advice directly to the sanctuary superintendent via a written recommendation or a motion passed by the council and reflected in the minutes. Draft recommendations and verbal discussions shall not be considered official advice from the council, but may be considered as background information and shall be included in the minutes

(d) Any advice, correspondence, or information the council wishes to offer or express beyond the sanctuary superintendent shall be voted on and approved by the council prior to sending. Because the council was established specifically to provide advice to the secretary, and operates through the sanctuary superintendent, the sanctuary superintendent must also approve advice or correspondence that goes outside the sanctuary prior to sending.

(e) The council shall base its advice on a vote of the council with negative votes and abstentions noted, or on a general consensus reached during discussions, with minority opinions noted. A quorum shall be present when the vote is taken or general consensus reached.

(f) Any information or advice resulting from discussions in subcommittees or working groups that is requested by the council shall be presented to and considered by the full council and, as appropriate, incorporated into the council's recommendation to the sanctuary superintendent. If the council does not incorporate information or advice of a subcommittee or working group, it shall inform the sanctuary superintendent and explain in its advice or information the reasons for not incorporating the subcommittee's or working group's advice or information.

3. Conduct of Individual Members

Council members are expected to be familiar with the processes and regulations that govern the sanctuary and keep themselves informed of sanctuary-related events and issues. Expectations include regular meeting attendance and familiarity with the council charter and the National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Implementation Handbook.

(a) Council members may not use or allow the use of, for other than official council purposes, information obtained through or in connection with their council affiliation that has not been made available to the general public.

(b) When speaking to the public or writing about any matter regarding the sanctuary in a document for distribution beyond council membership, the sanctuary superintendent, or sanctuary staff, a member shall clearly distinguish those recommendations, opinions, or positions officially adopted by the council as a body from those he or she may have as an individual. In no case shall a member represent individual opinions as those of the council, the sanctuary superintendent, sanctuary staff, or NOAA.

(c) Any council member that has an interest (financial, personal or business interest) in any matter before the council or a subcommittee or working group shall identify such interest prior to discussion and voting on such matter. No member shall cast a vote on any matter that would provide a direct financial benefit to that member or otherwise give the appearance of a conflict of interest under federal law. An affected member who may not vote on a matter may participate in council deliberations that relate to the decision after notifying the council of the voting recusal and identifying the interest that would be affected. These same guidelines apply to members of working groups who are not members of the council.

4. Conduct of the Council as a Body

(a) Any correspondence or other written documents that are intended to speak for the council as a body shall be coordinated with, and approved by, the chair and the sanctuary superintendent prior to sending.

(b) The following disclaimer shall be placed in all documents and communications that originate from the council: "The council is an advisory body to the sanctuary superintendent. The opinions and findings of this publication do not necessarily reflect the position of Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration."

5. Council Letterhead

The council shall, with the assistance and approval of the sanctuary superintendent, design and use its own letterhead. All correspondence from the chair or other members of the council, or the council as a body, shall be on this letterhead. The council shall not use official NOAA or DOC letterhead for any correspondence or other purpose.

6. Subcommittees and Working Groups

(a) Subcommittees: The chair, in consultation with the council as a whole and with the concurrence of the sanctuary superintendent, may establish such subcommittees as necessary to fulfill its duties. Subcommittees shall be composed solely of council members; at the superintendent's discretion, council alternates may also serve on subcommittees. The subcommittee must be chaired by a primary member of the council. Subcommittees shall be recognized as official sub-units of the council. Subcommittees are subject to all requirements of this charter. Subcommittee members shall not have assigned alternates. No members of subcommittees may receive travel expenses for subcommittee meetings or other activities.

A standing subcommittee, the executive subcommittee, will serve as the administrative body of the advisory council and handle such administrative activities as may be appropriate, including, but not limited to, setting the times and places of meetings, selecting agenda items, and reviewing meeting conduct. The executive subcommittee consists of the council chair, council vice chair, council secretary, and sanctuary superintendent. The council coordinator will work very closely with the executive committee. The council chair, vice chair, and secretary also serve as the preliminary review panel for council member selection. Meetings of the executive committee are not subject to public meeting requirements.

(b) Working Groups: The chair, in consultation with the council as a whole and with the concurrence of the sanctuary superintendent, may establish working groups for specific purposes or topics that need focused attention that cannot be accomplished by a subcommittee. Their work will be limited to functional areas and discrete issues relating to individual sanctuaries. Working groups may be composed of council members, including council alternates, and persons outside the council. Working groups shall be chaired by a primary council member or a council alternate and shall function under the purview of the council. Working groups established by the council to address specific issues shall disband once the final advice on the particular matter is submitted to the council. Working group members shall not have assigned alternates, but in the case of unexpected resignation, the resigning party will suggest one or several replacements to be vetted and possibly accepted by the working group chair and sanctuary superintendent. In addition, upon acceptance, the newly appointed member will be briefed by the working group chair to make sure that he/she understands the set of issues that have been settled and therefore, will not be revisited by the new appointee. No working group members, including members who are also members of the council, may receive travel expenses for working group meetings or other activities.

OTHER TERMS OF THIS CHARTER

1. The council shall operate pursuant to the terms of this charter.

2. This charter shall remain in effect for a period of five years from the date of signature.

3. Six months prior to the expiration of this charter, the need for the council will be evaluated by the ONMS, with input from council members, to determine whether to renew the charter.

4. Revisions to the charter may be made as determined necessary by the ONMS with input from the council.

John Armor
Acting Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

2/17/2016
Date