

Community Announcement September 14, 2023

Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council seeks advisory council applicants.

NOAA's Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve (NWHICRER) is seeking applicants for seven primary and seven alternate seats on its advisory council. The council ensures public participation in reserve management and provides advice to the superintendent.

NWHICRER is currently accepting applications for the following seats:

- Citizen-At-Large (Primary)
- Commercial Fishing (Primary and Alternate)
- Conservation (Primary and two Alternates)
- Native Hawaiian Elder (Primary and Alternate)
- Native Hawaiian (Primary and Alternate)
- Ocean Related Tourism (Primary)
- Recreational Fishing (Primary and Alternate)
- Research (Primary and Alternate)

The application period opens on September 15, 2023. Completed applications are due by October 20, 2023 at 5 p.m. Applications not received by 5 p.m. on October 20, 2023 will not be considered. For more information, including a copy of the application, please visit https://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/new-about/council/apply/ or contact Sara Wood, Advisory

<u>https://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/new-about/council/apply/</u> or contact Sara Wood, Advisory Council Coordinator, via email at <u>sara.wood@noaa.gov</u>.

"Having community representatives who are fully engaged in our advisory council process is an essential part of the overall success of our team," said Eric Roberts, NOAA's superintendent for Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. "Their input is an integral part of protecting this special place."

Applicants accepted as members should expect to serve a three-year term and attend regularly held in-person and/or virtual quarterly meetings. The advisory council consists of 15 primary and alternate members representing a variety of public interest groups. It also includes 10 seats representing other federal and state government agencies.

The Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve's Advisory Council actively recruits for new members and alternates when positions are available. Check our website https://www.papahanaumokuakea.gov/new-about/council/ frequently for updates on how you can help protect the natural resources of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

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