

## **THUNDER BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL CHARTER**

### **ESTABLISHMENT AND AUTHORITY**

Section 315 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA; 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 re-establishes the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (council).

This charter provides a background on the ONMS and the Thunder Bay 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 alternates and meetings, 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; and
- ❖ Develop training programs appropriate to council officers, members, alternates and sanctuary superintendents and staff.

The resources ONMS manages differ in size, species, depth, color, culture, and countless other ways. This rich diversity is part of our natural heritage, a gift to be discovered, appreciated, and protected. Whether a natural ecosystem or a human community, diversity creates strength and

resilience. By recruiting for and representing the equally remarkable diversity of advisory council members, ONMS can leverage new creativity, knowledge, and experiences to achieve its mission of a thriving sanctuary system that protects our nation's underwater treasures and inspires momentum for a healthy ocean.

## **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 steward of coastal and ocean resources, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) protects and manages sanctuaries through the ONMS. ONMS is a network of national marine sanctuaries and marine national monuments, currently encompassing more than 600,000 square miles of ocean and Great Lakes waters. ONMS seeks to protect the extraordinary scenic beauty, biodiversity, historical connections and economic productivity of these areas so they may continue to serve as the basis for thriving recreation, tourism and commercial activities that drive coastal economies. As stewards of these places, through domestic and international partnerships, ONMS helps ensure a healthier ocean, now and for future generations.

Vision of the ONMS:

A thriving sanctuary system that protects our nation's underwater treasures and inspires momentum for a healthy ocean.

Mission of the ONMS:

We protect treasured places in the ocean and Great Lakes.

Strategic goals and objectives of the ONMS:

1. Ensure thriving sanctuaries and other ocean parks.
  - 1.1 Reduce threats to key species and marine habitats.
  - 1.2 Protect significant maritime heritage resources.
  - 1.3 Promote responsible human uses.
2. Safeguard more underwater treasures as national marine sanctuaries.
  - 2.1 Incorporate additional nationally significant resources into existing sanctuaries.
  - 2.2 Implement designation processes for new areas.
  - 2.3 Identify additional resources of national significance.
3. Increase support for sanctuaries.
  - 3.1 Expand recognition of national marine sanctuaries.
  - 3.2 Increase sanctuary engagement.
  - 3.3 Create a vision for the next 50 years of sanctuaries.
4. Deepen our understanding of sanctuaries.
  - 4.1 Learn more about our sanctuaries.
  - 4.2 Track and predict conditions and trends.
  - 4.3 Understand the value of sanctuaries to our nation.

5. Ensure the office of national marine sanctuaries is a great place to work.
  - 5.1 Encourage a culture of collaboration, inclusion and respect.
  - 5.2 Increase staff satisfaction and performance.
  - 5.3 Invest in our people and their professional development.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The Director establishes the council to provide advice on:

- Protecting natural and cultural resources, and identifying and evaluating emergent or critical issues involving sanctuary use or resources;
- Identifying and realizing the sanctuary's research objectives;
- Identifying and realizing educational opportunities to increase the public knowledge and stewardship of the sanctuary environment; and
- Assisting to develop an informed constituency to increase awareness and understanding of the purpose and value of the sanctuary and the ONMS.

## **THUNDER BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY**

On October 7, 2000, NOAA designated Thunder Bay as the nation's thirteenth national marine sanctuary. TBNMS is jointly managed by NOAA and the State of Michigan. The sanctuary's mission is to preserve nationally significant shipwrecks and regional maritime landscape through resource protection, education, and research. The sanctuary also promotes appreciation and responsible use of Thunder Bay, the Great Lakes, and the oceans.

Historical research indicates that more than 200 shipwrecks lie in and around Thunder Bay. The sheer number of shipwrecks is impressive. However, it is their excellent state of preservation and what they represent—a century and a half of maritime commerce and travel on the Great Lakes—that elevates them to national and international significance deserving an exceptional level of protection, study, and public interpretation. Each is a unique and fragile element in history that Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary is dedicated to preserving for future generations.

As equal management partners, NOAA and the State of Michigan will:

- Protect Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary's underwater cultural resources;
- Develop educational projects focused on the Great Lakes and maritime heritage;
- Conduct research to further identify and interpret the Great Lakes and maritime heritage; and
- Promote recreational use of the resources consistent with their protection.

## **COUNCIL ROLES**

1. The council, in accordance with the NMSA and the Memorandum of Understanding between NOAA and the State of Michigan, may provide advice to the sanctuary superintendent and the Joint Management Committee (JMC) regarding the protection and management of Thunder Bay 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 and JMC.
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 and JMC. 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 is underwater cultural resource protection.
5. The council is established to provide advice to the sanctuary superintendent and JMC regarding the management of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary. 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.

## **MEMBERS, ALTERNATES, AND OFFICERS**

1. The council shall consist of no more than 15 voting members (and associated alternates), who shall be appointed by the director (after being mutually agreed upon by the State of Michigan) from among persons employed by federal, state, or local agencies, representatives of local user groups, 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. The sanctuary superintendent may work with the council in non-voting capacity and shall work with the chair in scheduling each meeting and approving the agenda to ensure each topic of discussion is relevant to the sanctuary. Council meetings may not be conducted in the absence of the sanctuary superintendent or his/her designee.
3. To ensure relevant information exchange among national marine sanctuaries and federal, state, local and tribal entities with shared jurisdictions or interests in sanctuary-related management, each of the following entities shall be requested to designate one individual to serve on the council as a non-voting member:

State of Michigan  
U.S. Coast Guard  
Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority  
Friends of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Non-voting members are subject to the same policies and procedures, as outlined below, for respective governmental and non-governmental members and alternates.

4. 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.

(a) Governmental (five members).

- (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 and the Thunder Bay Underwater Preserve Committee shall be requested to designate one individual to serve on the council. As voting members:

Alpena City Council  
Alpena County  
Alcona County  
Presque Isle County  
Thunder Bay Underwater Preserve Committee

- (ii) Governmental members and alternates are appointed by their agencies and are not subject to term limitations or the competitive application process.
- (iii) 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 the approval of the director, may invite another appropriate government agency or another interest to replace that entity on the council. NOAA and the State of Michigan will mutually agree upon the removal of any council member or alternate and/or the appointment of another government entity or new interest.
- (iv) 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 representative. NOAA and the State will mutually agree upon the removal of any council members/or government entity. NOAA and the State may consult with the council prior to taking such action.

(b) Non-governmental (ten members).

(i) A representative and alternate of each of the following interests, which are integrally affected by the management goals of the sanctuary, shall be selected:

Tourism/Recreation (including recreational boating, water sports, charter boats/tour boats) (1)

Business/Economic Development (1)

Fishing (recreational, charter, and/or commercial) (1)

Diving (including snorkeling) (1)

Education (K-12, home school, charter schools) (1)

Education (higher education) (1)

Maritime Industry/Business (1)

Citizen-at-Large (3)

The non-governmental members are appointed for a term of two or three years, and may compete for reappointment (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. If a council member vacates a seat before his/her term is up, the alternate will serve out the remainder of the term.

Should a non-governmental seat become vacant once the term expires, 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) *Term Limits*: The non-governmental council members will serve on the council for no more than three consecutive terms. On the date when this charter is approved, each council member will be considered to be serving in his/her first term for purposes of computing term limits. This policy applies to the seat (e.g., diving seat) and not the council. For example, this would allow an individual to serve three terms as the diving member, and if qualified, may apply for another seat on the council (e.g., citizen-at-large) once they reach their term limit on the former seat.

The ONMS Director may waive the limit on the number of consecutive terms for non-governmental voting council members in the following two circumstances. The waivers and the process as it relates to the council member recruitment and selection process are as follows:

- *Waiver #1*: It is determined that continuity of membership is deemed critical by the sanctuary superintendent (e.g., at a critical juncture in the management plan review process). The request for this waiver should be made at least two months prior to the expiration of the subject seat(s).

*Process:* The waiver applies to the entire council, not a specific seat. The sanctuary superintendent will be aware of this situation well in advance of recruitment and should send a memo to the director requesting the waiver for a certain length of time and providing a justification as to the need. The signed memo should be provided to the council and posted on the website.

- *Waiver #2:* It is a seat that is historically challenging to fill due to the remote location of the sanctuary and distance from population centers, or a limited applicant pool for a particular seat has been shown to limit the number of available candidates to fill a vacancy in a timely and efficient manner and may disrupt or prevent a council from fulfilling its responsibilities.

*Process:* The term-limited individual should be advised of the situation and advised not to apply during the first round of recruitment. If after adequate advertising, there are no qualified applicants in the first round of recruitment, the sanctuary superintendent will send a memo to the director requesting the waiver and providing justification as to the need. The signed memo should be provided to the council and posted to the website. The term-limited individual will then be allowed to submit an application during the second round of recruitment. The application will then be reviewed by the Candidate Review Subcommittee on an equal footing with any other applications submitted during the second round; the signed memo should accompany the application through the entire process from the Candidate Review Subcommittee to the regional director and ONMS. See Part II, C Members section in the Handbook for a full description of the recruitment and selection process.

(iii) Members serve at the discretion of the director and the State of Michigan. NOAA and the State mutually agree upon the selection and/or removal of any council member or government entity. The sanctuary superintendent may recommend to the director the removal of a non-governmental member of the council if that member has violated one or more terms of the charter or on any of the following grounds:

- Is convicted of any felony offense;
- Is found to have violated any of the following laws or regulations promulgated thereunder: NMSA, the National Historic Preservation Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Endangered Species Act, Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, or another environmental law or cultural resource law for which NOAA, the State 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 or regulations protecting 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 council 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 or herself if so 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 or alternate's qualifications for being a member or alternate of the council;
- Misses three consecutive meetings without reasonable justification;
- Disrupts on more than one occasion council meetings in a manner that interferes with the council conducting its business; or
- Violates any other term of this charter.

NOAA and the State may consult with the council prior to taking such action.

- (iv) As each non-governmental seat becomes vacant and the process for selection of a new member (described under Appointments) is conducted, the sanctuary superintendent shall recommend to the director the member and an alternate from the top three candidates resulting from the review process. NOAA and the State will mutually agree upon the individuals who will serve on the council. The alternate shall have all the rights of the member at such times the alternate is officially substituting for the member. The alternate may also be appointed, without going through a competitive process, to complete a primary member's term if that member resigns or is removed. An alternate may not name another alternate.

## 5. Council Officer Elections and Terms.

- (a) The council shall elect one member to serve as chair and one member to serve as vice-chair. The vice-chair shall act as chair in the absence of the chair. Terms of the chair and vice-chair are two years. The chair and vice-chair may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms (four years) if reelected.
- (b) A chair or vice-chair may leave his/her term to run for another council officer position if desired. If the chair or vice-chair is elected to a new position, the council shall nominate and elect a new representative for the vacated position.
- (c) Election for all positions is by majority vote of all council members, excluding the non-voting members, and votes shall be made by written ballot when more than one person is on the ballot for any position. Members who will not be present at the time of the election may submit their vote in writing to the sanctuary superintendent prior to the meeting. Alternates may nominate and vote during an election only when the alternate is filling the seat in the absence of the primary member. Members who will not be present at the time of the election may submit their vote in writing to the sanctuary superintendent prior to the meeting.



- (d) 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 they may begin serving in their position immediately upon being elected, otherwise they may begin serving at the next meeting. If the chair resigns, the vice chair acts on their behalf until the new chair assumes their position.
- (e) In extraordinary circumstances, if both 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.

## 6. Roles of Council Officers

- (a) Chair: The chair schedules and sets agendas for all council meetings with the approval of the sanctuary superintendent, presides over all meetings of the full council and ensures that meetings are run according to accepted meeting practices, signs all correspondence and document 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 their constituents.
- (b) Vice-Chair: The vice-chair serves as chair in the absence of the chair and assists as necessary in performing executive duties of the council. The vice-chair also continues to fulfill the general roles that all council members fill, including representing the interests of their constituents.

## APPOINTMENTS

Public notice shall be provided as to the vacancy of constituent group and at-large seat position(s). Applications for ensuing terms for vacant seat positions shall be submitted to the sanctuary superintendent or his/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 must 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 recommendation for the vacant seat. Selection from among those recommended by the panel, or from among other applicants or nominees, shall be made by the sanctuary superintendent with the approval of the director. NOAA and the State will mutually agree upon the individuals who will serve on the council. 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

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 (one more than half of the voting members). A recorded vote may be requested by the chair or the sanctuary superintendent. For purposes of a quorum an alternate member shall assume the rights and privileges of the member in the member's absence.
- (c) Each council 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 (the meetings should be in different months, but do not have to be precisely 30 days apart) 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 be reasonably accessible to those interested in attending.
- (h) 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, the State of Michigan, or other agencies shall be made in writing and be coordinated through the sanctuary superintendent.
- (b) Any matter that a council member or alternate 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. The sanctuary superintendent approves a topic to be placed on the agenda.
- (c) The council shall provide advice directly to the sanctuary superintendent and JMC 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 shall be considered as background information and included in the minutes.
- (d) Any written or oral advice, correspondence, or information that the council wishes to offer or express beyond the sanctuary superintendent and JMC shall be voted on and approved by the council. 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 consensus reached during discussion with minority opinions noted. A quorum shall be present when the vote is taken or a discussion to reach consensus is conducted.
- (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 and JMC. 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 and Alternates

- (a) Council members and alternates are expected to be familiar with the processes and regulations governing the sanctuary and to keep themselves informed of sanctuary-related

events and issues. Expectations include regular meeting attendance and familiarity with the council charter and the ONMS Advisory Council Implementation Handbook.

- (b) When speaking to the public, the media or writing about any matter regarding the sanctuary in a document for distribution beyond council membership, the sanctuary superintendent and JMC, or sanctuary staff, a member or alternate 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, the JMC, the State of Michigan, sanctuary staff, or NOAA.
- (c) Any council member or alternate 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 or alternate shall cast a vote on any matter that would provide a direct financial benefit to that member or alternate or otherwise give the appearance of a conflict of interest under federal law. An affected member or alternate who may not vote on a matter may not participate in council deliberations relating 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.

After disclosure of the interest or potential conflict of interest (other than direct financial gain as previously identified) the council or sanctuary superintendent may determine if the stated interest constitutes a conflict of interest and decide whether or not that member should recuse themselves from discussion and voting.

- (d) All council members and alternates are expected to conduct themselves in a civil fashion, showing courtesy and respect to other members and alternates of the council, sanctuary staff, and any other individuals present at the meeting.

#### 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.
- (b) The following disclaimer shall be placed in all documents originating from the council:  
*“The council is an advisory body to the sanctuary superintendent and Joint Management Committee. The opinions and findings of this publication do not necessarily reflect the position of Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or the State of Michigan.”*

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 or alternates of the council, or the council as a body, shall be on this letterhead. The council shall not use official NOAA or State of Michigan letterhead for any correspondence or other purpose.

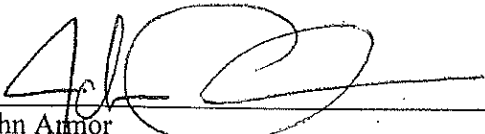
6. Subcommittees and Working Groups

- (a) Subcommittees: The chair, in consultation with the council as a whole and with the concurrence of the sanctuary superintendent, may establish such subcommittees and appoint subcommittee chairs as necessary to fulfill the council's duties. Subcommittees shall be composed solely of members of the council. At the superintendent's discretion, alternates may also serve on subcommittees. A subcommittee must be chaired by a primary member of the council. Subcommittees shall be recognized as official subunits of the council and are subject to all requirements of this charter. No members of subcommittees may receive travel expenses for subcommittee meetings or other activities.
- (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 and appoint working group chairs for specific purposes or topics that need focused attention that are best suited to this structure or format and that cannot be accomplished by a subcommittee or the council as a whole. Their work will be limited to functional areas and discrete issues relating to individual sanctuaries. Working groups may be composed of members and alternates of the council and persons outside the council. Working groups shall be chaired by a primary member of the council and shall function under the purview of the council. At the sanctuary superintendent's discretion and if the full council approves, an alternate member may chair a working group. That alternate 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. No members of working groups, 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**

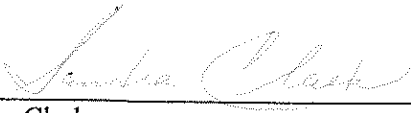
1. The council shall operate pursuant to the terms of this charter.
2. This charter shall remain in effect for a period of five years from the date of signature.
3. Six months prior to the expiration of this charter, the need for the council will be evaluated by the ONMS, with input from council members, 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.

  
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John Armor  
Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

2/18/2020  
Date

I acknowledge and agree with the continuation of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council under the auspices of this charter.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandra Clark  
State of Michigan

2/21/2020  
Date

UPDATED: 11.19.2019