



January 7, 2025

To Potential Sanctuary Advisory Council Applicants,

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is establishing a Sanctuary Advisory Council for [Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary](#). We are inviting applications for the following voting public seats:

- Indigenous Cultural Knowledge (2 members, 2 alternates)
- Public-at-Large, San Luis Obispo County (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Public-at-Large, Santa Barbara County (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Conservation (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Education (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Research (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Tourism and Recreation (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Ports, Harbors, and Maritime Transportation (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Offshore Energy and Telecommunications (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Commercial Fishing (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Recreational Fishing (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Student Leadership (Non-Voting - 1 member, 1 alternate)

In addition, the following three voting governmental seats and alternates will be invited by NOAA to join the advisory council:

- Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians (1 member, 1 alternate)
- Local Government (open to local, municipal, and county governments) (1 member, 1 alternate)
- California Natural Resources Agency (1 member, 1 alternate)

NOAA also seeks applications for a public non-voting student seat (post high-school, age 18+) for the advisory council.

To further support the advisory council, the following government agencies will be invited to appoint a non-voting member and alternate to the council:

Federal Government

- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
- Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
- Department of Defense
- NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service
- U.S. Coast Guard

State Government

- California Coastal Commission



- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California State Lands Commission
- California State Parks
- Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Applications for public seats will be accepted through **March 7, 2025**.

The Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council was established pursuant to federal law to ensure public and Tribal/Indigenous community input to help guide sanctuary management. Per the charter, voting members and alternates are appointed for a term of two or three years, and may compete for reappointment.

For local, state, and federal agency representation on the council, please do not submit an application for a public seat. NOAA will extend agency invitation letters and potentially offer informational webinars before the application period closes.

Please contact Sachiko Lamén, Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary, Program Analyst, at sachiko.lamen@noaa.gov, or by phone at 805-203-6004 if you have any questions about the advisory council application or appointment process.

Please send completed public seat applications, postmarked by March 7, 2025, to:

Sachiko Lamén at sachiko.lamen@noaa.gov.

Email is preferred, but application packages may also be mailed to the following address:

Sachiko Lamén
Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary
1 Grand Ave, Bldg #83 Suite 1C-1
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

All applicants will be notified once decisions have been made regarding public seat appointments for the positions to be filled. If at any point you have a change in circumstance that will prevent you from serving on the council, please notify Sachiko Lamén at sachiko.lamen@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Acting Superintendent,
Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary