

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)****Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee Request for Nominations**

**AGENCY:** National Ocean Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice requesting nominations for the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce is seeking nominations for membership on the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee. The Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee was established to advise the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior in implementing Section 4 of Executive Order 13158, and specifically on strategies and priorities for developing the national system of marine protected areas (MPAs) and on practical approaches to further enhance and expand protection of new and existing MPAs.

Nominations are sought for highly qualified non-federal scientists, resource managers, and persons representing other interests or organizations involved with or affected by marine conservation. Individuals seeking membership on the Advisory Committee should possess demonstrable expertise in a related field or represent a stakeholder interest affected by MPAs. Nominees will also be evaluated based on the following factors: marine policy experience, leadership and organization skills, region of country represented, and diversity characteristics. The membership reflects the Department's commitment to attaining balance and diversity. The full text of the Committee charter and its current membership can be viewed on the Agency's Web page at <http://mpa.gov/fac.html>. Vacancies on the Committee occur from time to time and additional information on specific qualifications being sought will be posted on the Web site.

**DATES:** This notice of recruitment will be open for one year from its date of publication in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** Nominations should be sent to: Lauren Wenzel, Marine Protected Areas Center, NOAA, N/ORM, 1305 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lauren Wenzel, Designated Federal Officer, MPAFAC, National Marine Protected Areas Center, N/ORM, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring,

Maryland 20910. (Phone: (301)–713–3100 x136, Fax: (301)–713–3110); e-mail: [lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov](mailto:lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov); or visit the national MPA Center Web site at <https://www.mpa.gov>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In Executive Order 13158, the Department of Commerce and the Department of the Interior were directed to seek the expert advice and recommendations of non-federal scientists, resource managers, and other interested persons and organizations through a Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee. The Committee was established in June 2003 and includes 30 members.

The Committee meets at least twice a year. Committee members serve for a term of two or four years.

Each nomination submission should include the proposed committee member's name and organizational affiliation, a cover letter describing the nominee's qualifications and interest in serving on the Committee, a curriculum vitae or resume of nominee, and no more than three supporting letters describing the nominee's qualifications and interest in serving on the Committee. Self-nominations are acceptable. The following contact information should accompany each submission: the nominee's name, address, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address if available.

Dated: June 7, 2005.

**Eldon Hout,**

*Director, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management.*

[FR Doc. 05–11937 Filed 6–16–05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–08–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Office of Ocean.US Director Solicitation**

**AGENCY:** National Ocean Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce

**ACTION:** Notice of opportunity to apply.

**SUMMARY:** Applications for the position of Director, Ocean.US are invited. Ocean.US was created by the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) to coordinate the development of an operational integrated and sustained ocean observing system (IOOS). Information from the IOOS system will serve national needs for detecting and forecasting oceanic components of climate variability, facilitating safe and efficient marine operations, ensuring national security,

managing resources for sustainable use, preserving and restoring healthy marine ecosystems, mitigating natural hazards, and ensuring public health.

The Director will coordinate with vested interest groups on collaborative activities that accomplish Ocean.US goals to integrate ocean observing activities. These groups include Federal agencies, universities, private industry, state and local governments, and non-governmental organizations. The Director will develop and oversee broad-scale cooperative efforts and strategies of a national scope associated with coastal and ocean stewardship.

The successful candidate will have high-level management experience and the ability to work with a wide range of people and interests to further the goals of Ocean.US and the IOOS. He or she should have demonstrated experience in administration, legislative and public processes, policy development, and constituent affairs. The Director is expected to lead a nation-wide, interagency effort to build coalitions, and should have experience managing staff and negotiating across organizational levels and boundaries. He or she should also have some familiarity with elements of the IOOS, such as Data Management and Communication, Modeling and Analysis, Research, and Education and Outreach.

The successful candidate ideally will have a science background, familiarity with the Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS), the NOPP process, and the Federal spending process, including spending in a legislated, but unappropriated enterprise. He or she must also be able to obtain a security clearance.

Applications, which should include a letter of interest, a curriculum vitae, and the names, addresses, and e-mail addresses of at least three references, should be sent to: Ocean.US, 2300 Claredon Blvd Suite 1350, Arlington, VA 22201–3667, Attn: Ms. Nicole Larrain.

Review of the applications will begin on June 30, 2005, with a start date of October 1, 2005. The mode of employment will be negotiated, depending on the current employment status of the applicant. The search will remain open until the position is filled. Salary is commensurate with experience.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Nicole Larrain by phone (703) 588–0853 or e-mail [n.larrain@ocean.us](mailto:n.larrain@ocean.us).

Dated: June 8, 2005.

**Mitchell Luxenberg,**

*Acting Director, Management and Budget,  
National Ocean Service, National Oceanic  
and Atmospheric Administration.*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-JE-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 060805D]

#### Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; affirmative finding.

**SUMMARY:** The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, (Assistant Administrator) has renewed the affirmative finding for the Government of Mexico under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). This affirmative finding will allow yellowfin tuna harvested in the Eastern Tropical Pacific (ETP) in compliance with the International Dolphin Conservation Program (IDCP) by Mexican-flag purse seine vessels or purse seine vessels operating under Mexican jurisdiction to be imported into the United States. The affirmative finding was based on review of documentary evidence submitted by the Government of Mexico and obtained from the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the U.S. Department of State.

**DATES:** Effective April 1, 2005, through March 31, 2006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone 562-980-4000; fax 562-980-4018.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The MMPA, 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*, allows the entry into the United States of yellowfin tuna harvested by purse seine vessels in the ETP under certain conditions. If requested by the harvesting nation, the Assistant Administrator will determine whether to make an affirmative finding based upon documentary evidence provided by the government of the harvesting nation, the IATTC, or the Department of State.

The affirmative finding process requires that the harvesting nation meet its obligations under the IDCP and

obligations of membership in the IATTC. Every 5 years, the government of the harvesting nation must request an affirmative finding and submit the required documentary evidence directly to the Assistant Administrator. On an annual basis NMFS will review the affirmative finding and determine whether the harvesting nation continues to meet the requirements. A nation may provide information related to compliance with IDCP and IATTC measures directly to NMFS on an annual basis or may authorize the IATTC to release the information to NMFS to annually renew an affirmative finding determination without an application from the harvesting nation.

An affirmative finding will be terminated, in consultation with the Secretary of State, if the Assistant Administrator determines that the requirements of 50 CFR 216.24(f) are no longer being met or that a nation is consistently failing to take enforcement actions on violations, thereby diminishing the effectiveness of the IDCP.

As a part of the affirmative finding process set forth in 50 CFR 216.24(f), the Assistant Administrator considered documentary evidence submitted by the Government of Mexico or obtained from the IATTC and the Department of State and determined that Mexico has met the MMPA's requirements to receive an affirmative finding.

After consultation with the Department of State, the Assistant Administrator issued the Government of Mexico's affirmative finding allowing the continued importation into the United States of yellowfin tuna and products derived from yellowfin tuna harvested in the ETP by Mexican-flag purse seine vessels or purse seine vessels operating under Mexican jurisdiction. The affirmative finding will remain valid through March 31, 2010, subject to subsequent annual reviews by NMFS.

Dated: June 10, 2005.

**William T. Hogarth**

*Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 05-12022 Filed 6-16-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

#### Marine Protected Areas Center New England Region Public Dialogue Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Ocean Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of a public meeting concerning the development of a national system of marine protected areas (MPAs) pursuant to Executive Order 13158 (May 26, 2000). The Gulf of Mexico Region Public Dialogue will be held July 18, 2005, 6:30-9 p.m. in New Orleans, Louisiana. This is the third in a series of regional dialogues to be held around the United States to solicit input from the public concerning their views on a national system of MPAs. Additional meetings will be announced and scheduled pending available resources. Refer to the Web page listed below for background information concerning the development of the national system of MPAs. Meeting room capacity is limited to 75 people, and as such interested participants are required to RSVP via the e-mail address (preferable), fax number, or phone number listed below, by no later than 5 p.m. e.d.t. on July 8, 2005. Attendance will be available to the first 75 people who respond.

Those who wish to attend but cannot due to space or schedule limitations can find background materials at the Web page listed below and may submit written statements to the e-mail, fax, or mailing address below. A written summary of the meeting will be posted on the Web site within one month of its occurrence.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Monday, July 18, 2005 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. e.d.t.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the New Orleans Marriott, 555 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jonathan Kelsey, National System Development Coordinator, National Marine Protected Areas Center, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. (Phone: (301)-713-3155 ext. 230, Fax: (301)-713-3110); e-mail: [mpa.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:mpa.comments@noaa.gov); or visit the National MPA Center Web site at [http://mpa.gov/national\\_system/](http://mpa.gov/national_system/).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** These forums are intended to solicit the public's views regarding the development of a national system of MPAs. All input received via these