

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS®) Program in NOAA publishes this notice on behalf of the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee (IOOC) to announce a formal meeting of the IOOC's Data Management and Communications Steering Team (DMAC-ST). The DMAC-ST membership is comprised of IOOC-approved federal agency representatives and non-federal participants representing academic, non-profit, private, regional and state sectors who will discuss issues outlined in the agenda.

**DATES:** The meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2013, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. and February 28, 2013, between 8 a.m. and 12 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be broadcast via a conference telephone call. Public access is available at the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, 1201 New York Avenue NW., 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information about this notice, please contact the U.S. IOOS Program (Charles Alexander, 301-427-2429, [Charles.Alexander@noaa.gov](mailto:Charles.Alexander@noaa.gov)) or the IOOC Support Office (Joshua Young, 202-787-1622, [jyoung@oceanleadership.org](mailto:jyoung@oceanleadership.org)).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The IOOC was established by Congress under the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009 and created under the National Ocean Research Leadership Council (NORLC). The DMAC-ST was subsequently chartered by the IOOC in December 2010 to assist with technical guidance with respect to the management of ocean data collected under the U.S. IOOS®. The IOOC's Web site (<http://www.iooc.us/>) contains more information about their charter and responsibilities. A summary of the DMAC-ST meetings, documentations, activities and terms of reference can also be found on-line, at the following address: <http://www.iooc.us/committee-news/dmac>.

**Authority:** 33 U.S.C. 3601-3610.

Dated: February 13, 2013.

**Christopher C. Cartwright,**

*Associate Assistant Administrator for Management and CFO/CAO, Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.*

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**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Availability of Seats for the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

**AGENCY:** Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for applications.

**SUMMARY:** The ONMS is seeking applicants for the following seats on the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (council): Recreation, Business/Economic Development, Tourism (primary seat only), Diving (alternate only), Higher Education, and Citizen-at-Large. Applicants are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; philosophy regarding the protection and management of marine resources; and possibly the length of residence in the area affected by the sanctuary. Applicants who are chosen as members should expect to serve 3-year terms, pursuant to the council's Charter. **DATES:** Applications are due by March 4, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Application kits may be obtained from Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, 500 W. Fletcher Street, Alpena, Michigan 49707. Completed applications should be sent to the same address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jean Bauer, Advisory Council Coordinator, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, 500 W. Fletcher Street, Alpena, Michigan 49707, (989) 356-8805 ext. 13, [jean.bauer@noaa.gov](mailto:jean.bauer@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Thunder Bay Sanctuary Advisory Council (council) was established in 1997. The council has fifteen members and fifteen alternates, five seats represent local community governments, and the other ten represent facets of the sanctuary community, including education, research, fishing, diving, tourism, economic development, and the community at large. The council meets bi-monthly, with informal coffees and lunches scheduled for non-meeting months. Working groups meet as needed. The fifteen alternates also take an active role in council meetings as well as assist in carrying out many

volunteer assignments throughout the year.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1431, *et seq.*

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: February 7, 2013.

**Daniel J. Basta,**

*Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XC389**

#### Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Low-Energy Marine Geophysical Survey in the Gulf of Mexico, April to May, 2013

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

**ACTION:** Notice; proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS has received an application from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to take marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to conducting a low-energy marine geophysical (seismic) survey in the Gulf of Mexico, April to May, 2013. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to issue an IHA to USGS to incidentally harass, by Level B harassment only, 19 species of marine mammals during the specified activity.

**DATES:** Comments and information must be received no later than March 22, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the application should be addressed to P. Michael Payne, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The mailbox address for providing email comments is [ITP.Goldstein@noaa.gov](mailto:ITP.Goldstein@noaa.gov). NMFS is not responsible for email comments sent to addresses other than the one provided here. Comments sent via email, including all attachments, must not exceed a 10-megabyte file size.

All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be