

Call for Nominations

Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee

The Oregon [Ocean Policy Advisory Council](#) (OPAC) is seeking nominations of qualified candidates to serve on its [scientific and technical advisory committee](#). We anticipate filling approximately five member seats this year.

About the Council

OPAC is the legislatively mandated marine policy advisory body that provides advice to the Governor, state agencies and local governments on ocean policy and resource management matters for Oregon ([ORS 196.443](#)). OPAC members represent coastal community interests, state agencies, conservation interests and the public ([ORS 196.438](#)).

About the Committee

OPAC's Scientific and Technical Committee (STAC) provides independent scientific and technical advice and reports to the Council's Executive Committee. The STAC's charge is to make recommendations to OPAC relating to the performance of the council's functions and to state agencies on matters related to Oregon's ocean or nearshore resources ([ORS 196.451](#)). The committee responds to requests from OPAC for scientific and technical advice and may initiate advice on scientific and technical issues of relevance to OPAC. The Oregon Sea Grant director serves as the ex-officio chair of the OPAC STAC ([ORS 196.451](#)) and is an ex-officio member of the OPAC Executive Committee as defined in the Council's [policies and procedures](#).

Eligibility Criteria

Qualified candidates will have a scientific and technical background in a discipline relevant to the duties of the Council ([ORS 196.443 \[Duties of council\]](#)):

- Periodically review the Territorial Sea Plan and submit recommendations for the plan to state agencies represented on the council. The council shall recommend deletions to the Territorial Sea Plan of all site designations and management prescriptions to the Land Conservation and Development Commission.
- Advance the policies of [ORS 196.420 \(Policy\)](#) to the federal government and any multistate bodies.
- Provide a forum for discussing ocean resource policy, planning and management issues and, when appropriate, mediating disagreements.

- Recommend amendments to the Oregon Ocean Resources Management Plan as needed. If the recommended amendments to the plan incorporate the establishment of a system of limited marine reserves or other protected areas, the council also shall perform an economic analysis of short-term and long-term effects that the establishment of such areas would have on coastal communities. Any recommended amendments related to marine reserves or marine protected areas shall be submitted to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission for review and approval.
- Offer advice to the Governor, the State Land Board, state agencies and local governments on specific ocean resources management issues.
- Encourage participation of federal agencies in discussion and resolution of ocean resources planning and management issues affecting Oregon.

Areas of expertise sought

The STAC welcomes nominations of qualified candidates with scientific and technical backgrounds relevant to any of the duties of the Council (see above). We are especially interested in candidates with demonstrated expertise in one or more of the following fields with relevance to marine and coastal environments, communities, or policy:

- Social sciences
- Marine renewable energy
- Engineering
- Coastal resilience
- Acute and chronic hazards
- Coastal and estuarine biological or chemical oceanography
- Marine ecology
- Benthic ecology
- Fisheries or coastal zone management
- Indigenous knowledge systems
- Ocean climate change

Commitment

Members are expected to serve a term of three years, with the possibility of renewal ([OPAC guidelines on STAC form and function](#)). The committee typically meets three times per year (virtually or in-person), with additional meetings called as needed.

Time commitment is estimated at approximately three-four hours per month, including meeting preparation and participation. Work on special reports or projects may involve additional, periodic commitment of effort.

How to Apply

Interested individuals are invited to submit nominations or self-nominate. The nomination package should include:

1. A cover letter describing the nominee's qualifications and interest in serving on the committee including a brief statement on how their expertise will contribute to the work of the committee (2-page maximum).
2. A short curriculum vitae (CV) or résumé (3-page maximum).

Please submit the nomination package by January 31, 2025. Please combine the cover letter and CV into one pdf file with file name format, "LastName_FirstName_OPAC STAC_nomination" (e.g., Smith_Sam_OPACSTAC_nomination.pdf) and [upload it here](#).

The [current members of the STAC](#) will review the nomination packages and recommend appointments to OPAC. Appointments to the STAC are approved by OPAC. Appointments will be effective upon approval. The next Council meeting is expected to be scheduled in December 2024 (see the [OPAC website](#) for meeting dates and agendas).

Deadline for Submission: November 15, 2024

Where to submit: [Upload your nomination package here](#).

- **Contact for Inquiries about the Committee:** Karina Nielsen, Chair OPAC STAC, Director Oregon Sea Grant
 - **Email:** karina.nielsen@oregonstate.edu
- **Contact for Inquiries about Technical Issues or Submission Process:** Susie Conley, administrative support to OPAC STAC, Oregon Sea Grant Project and Event Coordinator.
 - **Email:** susie.conley@oregonstate.edu