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NOAA's Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary seeks advisory council applicants

NOAA's Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary is seeking applicants for one seat on its advisory council representing the living resources research community. The council ensures public input in sanctuary management and provides advice to the sanctuary superintendent.

"The sanctuary advisory council provides a vital place for the community and sanctuary management to exchange ideas, discuss issues and share information," said George Sedberry, Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary acting superintendent.

Candidates will be selected based on their expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying, community and professional affiliations, and familiarity with the protection and management of marine resources. The applicant who is chosen for the living resources research seat should expect to serve a three-year term.

The Gray's Reef Sanctuary Advisory Council was established in August 1999 to ensure continued public participation in the management of the sanctuary.

[Applications](#) are due December 31. To receive an application kit, or for further information, please contact council coordinator Becky Shortland via email at becky.shortland@noaa.gov; by phone at 912-598-2381; or by mail at 10 Ocean Science Circle, Savannah, GA 31411. The application and other information can also be found on the Gray's Reef website at <http://www.graysreef.noaa.gov>.

Designated in 1981, Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary is one of the largest near-shore live-bottom reefs off the southeastern United States, encompassing approximately 22 square miles. The live bottom and ledge habitat support an abundant reef fish and invertebrate community. Loggerhead sea turtles, a threatened species, also use Gray's Reef year-round for foraging and resting, and the reef is in the only known calving ground for the highly endangered North Atlantic right whale.

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