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**NATIONAL OCEANIC AND  
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## **NOAA's Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary Appoints New Advisory Council Members**

Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary announces the appointment of three new members to serve on its Sanctuary Advisory Council. The appointees bring a valuable range of experience to the council, which ensures public participation in sanctuary management and provides advice to the sanctuary superintendent.

The three new members are:

- Anna George of Signal Mountain, Tenn. George, director of the Tennessee Aquarium Conservation Institute in Chattanooga, Tenn., will hold a Conservation seat.
- William Cliett, Jr., of Savannah, Ga. Cliett retired from the offshore dredging industry and is active in local (Savannah) marine-related organizations. He will hold one of two newly-created Citizen-at-Large seats. The second Citizen-at-Large seat will be filled next year.
- Timothy Goodale of St. Simons Island, Ga. Goodale is assistant professor of science education at the College of Coastal Georgia in Brunswick and will hold the University Education seat.

The new council members representing the conservation and university communities are expected to serve three-year terms; the citizen-at-large member will serve a two-year term. All three will join the council at its meeting on Friday, April 20, at the Georgia Southern University Museum.

Established in 1999, the Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary advisory council provides advice and recommendations on managing and protecting the sanctuary. The council is composed of 18 members from community constituent groups and government agencies. Serving in a voluntary capacity, council members represent a variety of local user groups, as well as the general public.

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 highly endangered North Atlantic right whale is occasionally seen in the sanctuary.

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### **On the Web:**

Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary: <http://graysreef.noaa.gov>