

Call for Nominations: Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team

September 1, 2017

The Ocean Protection Council (OPC) welcomes nominations for a vacant seat on the OPC Science Advisory Team (OPC-SAT). OPC-SAT membership reflects the diversity of expertise needed to provide scientific advice to the California Ocean Protection Council in support of healthy, resilient, and productive ocean and coastal ecosystems. The work of the OPC-SAT is supported by the Ocean Protection Council and administered by Ocean Science Trust (OST).

In this solicitation, we are specifically seeking a scientist with experience and/or knowledge in one or more of the following areas:

- Understanding of state of California and U.S. federal fisheries management, with a focus on California marine fisheries. Knowledge of U.S. West Coast marine fisheries overall and the ability to apply lessons learned from other U.S. regions and international contexts to inform effective management approaches in California is beneficial.
- Experience and knowledge with respect to the biology, ecosystem interactions, innovative fisheries science tools and models, stock assessment and management of state and federally managed fisheries on the U.S. West Coast.
- Collaborating with state and federal fisheries managers and agencies in California and along the West Coast, academic scientists, fishermen and fishing communities, environmental non-governmental organizations and other constituents to achieve fishery management goals.
- Serving on regional fishery management councils, review and/or science and statistical committees.
- Translating multi-faceted and complex scientific issues for decision-makers and a wide range of stakeholders.
- Achieving fishery management goals in the context of other natural resources management measures, including marine protected areas, and other ocean uses.
- Experience with deriving and applying fishermen's knowledge and citizen science.

Please submit nominations to Hayley Carter (Hayley.carter@oceansciencetrust.org), Program Scientist, OST. Nominations should include a brief explanation/justification based on the considerations below and specific areas of expertise being solicited. Please feel free to nominate yourself.

Deadline: Nominations will be accepted until 30 September 2017.

Member Commitments and Expectations

New members of the OPC-SAT are asked to serve an initial **three-year term**, with the possibility of renewal. OPC-SAT members are expected to actively engage in activities to the best of their ability and consistent with their area of expertise. Service includes:

- Attendance at two annual in-person workshops in the San Francisco Bay Area
- Participation in working groups and other forums, as appropriate
- Response to State requests in a timely manner

The time commitments of OPC-SAT members will vary, depending on their expertise and the number and nature of requests for OPC-SAT work from the OPC.

OPC-SAT members are expected to have:

- **Scientific expertise** in an area or field of study germane to providing scientific advice, guidance, and recommendations to the OPC, state agencies and representatives, and other clients on priority coastal and ocean issues.
- **Strong scientific credentials** as evidenced by a record that includes scientific publications and reports, serving as an investigator on research grants and contracts, scientific presentations, and participation in scientific organizations. Consistent with this record, members are expected to have demonstrated strong written and oral communication skills and analytical ability.

About the OPC-SAT

The mission of the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) is to ensure that California maintains healthy, resilient, and productive ocean and coastal ecosystems for the benefit of current and future generations. The OPC was established by the California Ocean Protection Act of 2004, and is chaired by the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency. Central to the OPC is a commitment to science informing policy. To that end, the OPC established a Science Advisory Team (OPC-SAT), currently consisting of 23 members across a range of ocean and coastal disciplines and research institutions includes. Members include expertise in natural and social science, law, and tribal perspectives and interests in coastal and ocean resource management. The mission of the OPC-SAT is to ensure that the best available science supports OPC policy and funding decisions.

Ocean Science Trust coordinates all activities of the OPC-SAT. OST is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation dedicated to helping scientists and decision-makers work together more effectively. Ocean Science Trust's Executive Director also serves as co-chair of the OPC-SAT and Science Advisor to the OPC.

Role of the OPC-SAT

OPC-SAT members operate in a complex institutional and political space, and serve as an effective portal to the wider scientific community for the OPC, as well as other state agencies and offices. Members must be willing to respond to the state's needs, and provide requested information or reviews, sometimes on short notice. This means not only availability, but a proven track record of working collaboratively and constructively with people from a range of backgrounds and perspectives.

OPC-SAT members support the state with advice related to, but not limited to, the following areas:

- Providing recommendations on high level strategic planning to the OPC based on emerging issues and/or scientific innovations;
- Identifying critical emerging science issues that should be of concern to the state, and recommending potential actions that the OPC could take to respond to these issues;
- Assisting in describing, refining, and ranking research priorities;
- Developing recommendations on scientific issues identified by the OPC;
- Responding to information requests from the OPC;
- Evaluating the technical merit of scientific and technical projects proposed to the OPC;
- Suggesting outside experts to serve as peer reviewers for OPC proposals and projects, as well as products of other state, federal, and non-governmental entities;
- Providing technical expertise and advice on and review of OPC project reports, literature reviews, and agenda items; and
- Convening technical working groups to address critical management problems.

Compensation

OPC-SAT members serve without compensation. However, members may receive honoraria for participating in working groups and scientific and technical reviews. OPC-SAT members are also

reimbursed for all reasonable expenses related to participation, including travel and other direct costs, consistent with State reimbursement policies.

OPC-SAT Member Selection Process

When seats on the OPC-SAT become available, OST conducts a public nomination process:

1. Ocean Science Trust will develop and widely distribute a formal notice of vacancy, including the type of expertise preferred for candidates seeking to fill the OPC-SAT position. The notice will be posted on Ocean Science Trust's and the OPC's websites, distributed over the OPC listserv, and spread through other public platforms. Ocean Science Trust will also proactively solicit nominations.
1. Nominations are submitted by email and should include the name, affiliation, and contact information for the nominee, a brief rationale for the selection based on the areas of expertise being solicited, and a brief description of why the nominee would be a good fit for the OPC-SAT. All nominations are to be submitted to and organized by Ocean Science Trust.
2. The public nomination period lasts 30 days from the distribution of the announcement.
3. Ocean Science Trust will reach out to nominees by email to inform them of their nomination and to confirm whether or not the nominee is willing to serve if chosen. The recommended nominee(s) for each vacant position will be identified following evaluation by Ocean Science Trust, the OPC-SAT Executive Committee, and the OPC, at which point the recommendations(s) to fill each vacancy will be made. The recommended candidate(s) for each vacancy will then be advanced to the OPC for consideration.
4. OPC leadership will discuss the recommended candidate(s) for each vacancy with the Secretary for Natural Resources, who is also the Chair of the OPC. The final selection to fill the seat is discussed and made public at an OPC public meeting.