

Accepting Nominations for Coastal Advisory Group on Ocean Policy

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) is seeking nominations for membership on an advisory group for ocean policy to fill three vacant seats: Energy, Recreation, and Tourism. The advisory group will advise the State Ocean Caucus, an interagency team, on ocean policy and management issues along Washington's Pacific Coast.

Any group or individual can nominate a candidate to the advisory group. Self-nominations are also accepted. Nominees do not need to be affiliated with an organized group. Nominations must be submitted in writing by 5 p.m., July 13, 2012 and include the following information:

- The nominee's name, address, telephone number and email address.
- The nominee's affiliations, if any.
- The name, address and telephone number of any organization submitting a nomination.
- Relevant experience and reasons for wanting to serve as a member of the advisory group as well as references and the preferred category or categories the nominee should be considered to represent.
- The nominee's experience and effectiveness in collaborating with others.
- Letters of endorsement or support for the nominee from individuals or organizations are encouraged, but not required.

Members of the coastal advisory body will review nominations and provide recommendations on appointments to Ecology's Director Ted Sturdevant. They will seek to recommend individuals that provide a balance across the geographic region as well as across diverse interests.

Ecology is seeking to fill three vacant seats on the advisory body that represent Energy, Recreational, and Tourism. The information below provides a more detailed description of these categories and the criteria for composition of the advisory group. All members will be able to designate and include alternates.

Currently, coastal advisory body members include a representative from each coastal Marine Resource Committee and a broad range of other interests: commercial fishing, conservation, shellfish aquaculture, ports, economic development, ports, education, shipping, recreational fishing, science and citizens. The advisory group plans to meet approximately 4 times per year. Advisors do not receive any compensation for their work. Advisors will serve up to a three-year term and may be reappointed. More information on the advisory group is available at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/ocean/advisorygroup.html>

Nominations must be received by July 13, 2012. Submit nominations to Jennifer Hennessey, by email at: jennifer.hennessey@ecy.wa.gov or mail at: Washington Department of Ecology, PO Box 40173, Olympia, WA 98504-7600. For more information contact Jennifer Hennessey at 360-407-6595.

Criteria and Descriptions for Advisory Group Composition

General criteria for advisory group composition:

- A. Broad-based.
- B. Balanced across stakeholders.
- C. Diverse across the coast (geographic balance).
- D. Representative of the coast's communities and interests.

In addition, as part of their application, nominees should demonstrate their interest in ocean policy issues and their commitment to participate in a collaborative advisory group process. Nominees should also demonstrate support from their organization (direct nomination or endorsement) or from the broader community for their participation in the advisory group, if applicable. Support from the broader community may be demonstrated with letters of support or endorsements.

Washington's coast refers to the geography of Wahkiakum, Pacific, Gray Harbor, and western Jefferson or western Clallam counties with a focus on marine areas, including the estuaries of the Columbia River, Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor and the marine areas offshore from these areas (Pacific Ocean).

General descriptions for vacant seat categories

Tourism: An individual who runs a business that relies on visitors to Washington's coast (e.g. hotels, bed & breakfasts, restaurants, tour/trip/experience operators, etc.) or who represents a group of these interests through participation on the chamber of commerce, tourism board, or other similar organization that specifically focuses on tourism issues for the coast.

Recreation: An individual who participates in or represents the interests of groups of individuals that are active in recreation activities on Washington's coast (e.g. surfing, boating, kayaking, beach-going, wildlife watching, hiking, camping, diving, etc).

Energy: An individual who represents a public or private utility or company which generates energy or supplies energy, especially electricity, to coastal communities or an industry with energy technologies or projects being pursued on Washington's coast -- particularly interested those that are focused on marine-based energy such as offshore wind, wave or tidal energy.