

MARIANA MONUMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The purpose of the advisory council document is to specify the committee's mission or charge, and general operational characteristics (not membership behavior).

- 1. Council's Official Designation.** Mariana Monument Advisory Council (MMAC)
- 2. Authority.** The MMAC is organized as directed by Presidential Proclamation 8335, establishing the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument (Trench Monument). The MMAC is exempt from provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, as an *intergovernmental committee*, in accordance with 41 CFR Part §102-3.40 (g).
- 3. Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The objectives of the MMAC shall be for each member to provide intergovernmental advice and recommendations on the development of management plans and management of the Trench Monument. The scope of the MMAC is solely to exchange individual members' views, information, or advice relating to the management planning or implementation of Federal programs established pursuant to statute, that explicitly or inherently share intergovernmental responsibilities or administration.
- 4. Description of Duties.** MMAC members shall provide advice and recommendations to the Department of the Interior (DOI) through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Department of Commerce (DOC), through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Recommendations on overall management of the Trench Monument will be made to USFWS, and advice and recommendations on fisheries-related activities in the Islands Unit of the Trench Monument shall be provided to NOAA Fisheries Service. USFWS and NOAA will consult with each other on their management. The MMAC will adopt such procedures as it deems necessary to govern its activities.
- 5. Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports.** The MMAC members will provide advice on overall Monument management to the DOI/USFWS through the Refuge Supervisor of the Hawaiian and Pacific Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex and to the NOAA Fisheries Service, Monument Program Director.
- 6. Support.** Each participating agency in the MMAC shall be responsible for the expenses of its representative and the Departments of the Interior and Commerce shall be equally responsible for the costs of the Advisory Council.
- 7. Designated Federal Officer (DFO).** The Superintendent of the Trench Monument/Project Leader for the Pacific Reefs National Wildlife Refuge Complex shall serve as the DFO for the MMAC. The NOAA Monument Program Director shall be an alternate DFO for the MMAC. The DFO will approve or call all of the advisory committee's meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the USFWS official to whom the MMAC reports.

8. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings. The MMAC shall meet in person at least once per fiscal year and may schedule additional teleconference or videoconference meetings approximately every four months, as deemed necessary by the DFO.

9. Duration. The MMAC shall exist for the duration of development of the Trench Monument Management Plan. The need for continuation of the MMAC shall be reevaluated by the DOI/USFWS and DOC/NOAA upon completion of the Record of Decision for the Plan.

10. Termination. The MMAC shall be terminated three months after signature of final Record of Decision of the Trench Monument Management Plan, unless deemed necessary to extend by the DOI/USFWS and DOC/NOAA.

11. Membership and Designation. The MMAC shall consist of three officials of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and one representative each from the Department of Defense and the United States Coast Guard. Members of the MMAC will be appointed for a term of 3 years in accordance with provisions of Presidential Proclamation 8335. Each appointed MMAC member may designate one alternate from their respective governmental entity (CNMI, DOD, and USCG). Alternates shall be identified and submitted to the DFO at least two weeks prior to participation on the MMAC. Alternates must be fully briefed and be prepared to provide their government's advice.

12. Subcommittees. The MMAC DFO has the authority to create subcommittees. Any subcommittees developed must report back to the MMAC, and must not provide advice or work products directly to the USFWS or NOAA.

13. Recordkeeping. Records of the MMAC, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the committee, shall be documented and reported to the USFWS and NOAA MMAC representatives. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.