

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary 4700 Avenue U, Building 216 Galveston, Texas 77551

December 3, 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR:

John Armor Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

THROUGH:

Matt Brookhart, Regional Director BROOKHART.MATTHEWJ.1365883366 Digts 2019.12.16 1604.47 OSO7 Southeast Region

FROM:

George P. Schmahl, Superintendent Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary

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SUBJECT:

Advisory Council recommendation for the revision of the FGBNMS Advisory Council charter regarding council composition

Issue Synopsis

This memorandum notices action taken by the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (FGBNMS) Advisory Council regarding their recommendations for a revision to the FGBNMS Advisory Council charter regarding the council composition.

On May 15, 2019, the Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) convened for their regularly scheduled, quarterly meeting in Galveston, TX. During this meeting, a motion was made to revise the FGBNMS Advisory Council Charter to add one governmental, non-voting seat to the Council for Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD). The primary reason for this recommendation is that TPWD now has ownership and management authority for an artificial reef site within the boundary of FGBNMS. This is due to the decommissioning, partial removal and transfer of ownership of the oil and gas platform High Island A-389A to TPWD.

Necessary Attachments: FGBNMS Advisory Council charter

Council's Majority Opinion

The motion was to recommend the addition of one governmental, non-voting seat to be added to the Advisory Council from Texas Parks and Wildlife's Artificial Reef Program in its Coastal Fisheries Division. The motion was carried 11:2 (aye:nay).

Recommendation Made to Sanctuary Superintendent

To amend the FGBNMS Advisory Council charter in order to add one governmental, non-voting seat for Texas Parks & Wildlife – Coastal Fisheries Division – Artificial Reef program.

Sanctuary Superintendent's Final Decision

Concurs with Council X Disagrees with Council

I believe the Advisory Council's recommendation is acceptable. I request concurrence from the Regional Director and ONMS Director, and approval to amend the Council Charter to incorporate this change.

Signature of Transmittal of Information to ONMS Director

Acknowledges what has transpired:

John Armor

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Director Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

ONMS Director Comments:

I concur.