

Summary of significant changes to NWHI CRER Advisory Council charter

1. Format revised to reflect ONMS standard advisory council charter format as it currently stands. In some places it was not possible due to the differences between the RAC and SACs.
2. Language revised to reflect current reality: Monument established, Monument expanded, potential sanctuary. Replaced “NOAA representative” with “site superintendent”.
3. Clarified the fact that EO 13178 establishes the RAC and its membership, not the ONMS director and that the council advises the Secretary.
4. In Members, Alternates and Officers section:
 - Clarifies language on the process and options for filling vacant seats.
 - Clarifies consultation requirements between site superintendent and council during the recruiting process.
 - Noted that the State of Hawai‘i seat serves at the discretion of the Governor and has no term limits.
 - Specifies the existence and roles of the council executive committee.
5. In Appointments section, inserted language regarding:
 - Public notice requirements not required when filling the State of Hawai‘i seat.
 - The role of council in review of applicants and selection of members as stipulated in the ONMS Advisory Council handbook.
 - The current HQ-led quarterly recruiting process.
6. Added that members of council sub-committees and working groups may receive reimbursement for travel expenses at the discretion of the site superintendent.
7. In the Operation section:
 - Clarified language on quorum and decision making.
 - Added language about holding meetings throughout the State and trying to hold one meeting per year away from the IRC.
 - Added language that meeting times/location should be based on maximizing attendance and minimizing cost.
 - Added language on establishing and reviewing membership of sub-committees and working groups.

A number of changes recommended by Sub-Committee were not accepted by ONMS HQ, mostly due to lack of alignment with the ONMS Advisory Council Handbook and the ONMS model advisory council charter. These included member term limits, council participation in member selection, process for filling vacancies, and how quorum is determined.