



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Marine National Facility Steering Committee

- Opportunity to contribute senior government, policy, industry and risk expertise to the Marine National Facility Steering Committee.
- Help guide the strategic direction, performance and national value of Australia's dedicated ocean research capability.
- Work alongside respected experts from government, industry, research and the marine science community to help guide the strategic direction and national impact of the Marine National Facility.

MNF Steering Committee

The CSIRO Marine National Facility (MNF) Steering Committee (MNFSC), appointed by the CSIRO Board, provides strategic advice on the direction, time allocation, and performance of the MNF within Australian and international contexts. Operating under CSIRO's governance and *The Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, the MNFSC includes a Chair and representatives from government, industry, and the user community, with ex-officio members from relevant agencies to ensure alignment with national priorities.

The MNFSC advises on policy, advocates for marine research, promotes use of CSIRO research vessel (RV) *Investigator*, and raises awareness of the MNF's contribution to the nation.

Refer to the MNFSC Charter for further details: <https://www.csiro.au/en/about/facilities-collections/MNF/About/Steering-committee/MNFSC-Charter>

About the roles

The MNFSC is seeking three new representatives to fill roles in 2027. These roles will contribute to strategic discussions about the direction, performance and national value of the MNF.

The following representatives are sought:

- an **Industry Representative** to contribute independent industry expertise (commencing January 2027)
- a **Government Representative** to contribute independent public-sector expertise (commencing July 2027)
- an **Independent Member** to contribute strategic insight and independent expertise (commencing July 2027).

The MNFSC is seeking to strengthen its collective capability in risk management, business development, workplace health and safety, digital and information technology, and the strategic use of national marine research infrastructure.

Candidates do not need to meet every attribute but should be able to demonstrate deep expertise in one or more of these areas and a capacity to contribute constructively to Committee discussions.

Core Skills and experience sought:

- **Demonstrated senior leadership, governance and strategic oversight experience** in complex organisations, programs, infrastructure or advisory environments.
- **Strong communication, stakeholder engagement and relationship-building skills** with the ability to work effectively across government, research, industry and community sectors.
- **Experience contributing to multidisciplinary committees, boards, advisory bodies or cross-sector collaborations**, and providing constructive input to strategic discussions.
- **Demonstrated risk management capability** in strategic, operational, governance or organisational contexts, supported by sound judgement and decision-making.
- **Commitment to advancing science, research infrastructure, innovation and national benefit**, with an appreciation of the role of marine research infrastructure in supporting evidence-based decision-making and national capability.

Industry representative specific skills and experience sought:

- Senior leadership experience within industry sectors relevant to the Committee's remit.
- Experience in industry partnerships, commercial operations, applied research translation or innovation.
- Understanding of industry opportunities, challenges, priorities and emerging trends.
- Experience with operational delivery, environmental approvals, infrastructure management or commercial decision-making.
- Demonstrated workplace health and safety governance experience, including oversight of safety management systems and culture.
- Ability to provide practical industry perspectives while contributing independently to discussions.

Government representative specific skills and experience sought:

- Current or recent senior experience within an Australian Government department, agency or public-sector organisation.
- Expertise in public policy, regulation, funding programs, governance or national infrastructure decision-making.
- Strong understanding of government processes, priorities and policy development.

- Broad networks across government and the ability to support alignment with national priorities.
- Experience working across multiple jurisdictions, agencies or government stakeholders.
- Ability to provide insights into public sector policy, regulatory and funding considerations relevant to national research infrastructure.

Independent representative specific skills and experience sought:

- Senior leadership experience in a field that delivers public benefit through science, research, education, philanthropy, community outcomes, innovation, environmental stewardship or strategic governance.
- Experience engaging with diverse stakeholder groups, including research organisations, government, community organisations, philanthropic institutions and not-for-profit sectors.
- Understanding of the broader societal, environmental and economic benefits of research infrastructure.
- Capacity to bring perspectives from outside the traditional marine science sector.

Appointments are for three years, with a possible three year second term. Members act as independent experts, not as representatives of their employers. The MNFSC undertakes three meetings per year, two face-to-face meetings in Hobart (generally April/May and November) and one virtual-online meeting (August). Additional video meetings and out-of-session consultations may occur as required.

MNFSC members are not excluded from submitting or being party to applications for sea time and a robust process for managing conflicts of interest is in place.

For more information and the MNFSC Terms of Reference, visit:

<https://www.csiro.au/en/about/facilities-collections/MNF/About/Steering-committee>

How to Apply

Please apply to mnfsecretariat@csiro.au with a single document that includes your cover letter and CV. Your cover letter should address the attributes listed above, including the skills, experience and area of expertise that you will bring to the committee.

Applications close on **Monday 7 September 2026 at 11:59pm AEST**.

Contact

If you require further information, please contact the MNFSC Secretariat at mnfsecretariat@csiro.au or 03 6232 5102.

About CSIRO

At the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), we shape the future. We do this by using science to solve real issues to unlock a better future for our community, our economy, our planet.

We're Australia's national science research agency. At CSIRO, we solve the greatest challenges using innovative science and technology.

Find out more: <https://www.csiro.au/>

About the Marine National Facility

The Marine National Facility (MNF) is national collaborative research infrastructure operated by CSIRO, Australia's national science agency, and funded by the Australian Government. The MNF provides an advanced ocean research capability to the Australian scientific community and their international collaborators and is guided by advice from an independent Steering Committee.

The MNF is based at the CSIRO Marine Laboratories in Hobart, Tasmania, which is the home port for research vessel (RV) *Investigator*. Data and knowledge generated through MNF voyages provide critical information to support government, industry and other stakeholders in making evidence-based decisions that contribute to the long-term viability and prosperity of Australian marine industries.

The MNF comprises: the ocean-class research vessel (RV) *Investigator*; a suite of scientific equipment and instrumentation; a collection of more than 40 years of marine data; the expertise required to manage an advanced ocean-going research platform and support vessel users; and an independent Steering Committee and advisory committees.

Read more: <https://www.csiro.au/mnf>