

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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STATE OF ALABAMA

March 10, 2015

Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
Attn: Brian Fredieu

Dear Sir:

Thank you for the opportunity to nominate persons to fill the Alabama obligatory seat on the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council that is currently held by Johnny Greene of Alabama. Mr. Greene has been a very valuable member of the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council. I am proud of his service and I hope he will be reappointed to his seat to continue the valuable work he has done over the last six years. In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act and 50 CFR 600.215, the State of Alabama would like to nominate the following three individuals for the Alabama obligatory seat that is to be filled in 2015: Captain Johnny Greene (charter), Joey Dobbs, Jr. (recreational), and Randy Boggs (charter fisherman and recreational).

Captain Johnny Greene is a charter fisherman in the Orange Beach community. Mr. Greene is currently on the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council and has been involved in the charter industry for the past 28 years. He is currently the owner/operator of the F/V Intimidator. He has been active in the Orange Beach Charter Fishing Association and other charter fishing groups. He has also been involved in recreational fisheries for over 33 years. Mr. Greene has done a great job representing Alabama on the Gulf Council for the past six years. **I recommend that Mr. Greene be reappointed to the Alabama obligatory seat for another term.**

Joseph G. Dobbs, Jr. is the owner of Landscape Workshop, LLC. Mr. Dobbs is a member of the Alabama Conservation Advisory Board and was a founding member of the Gulf Coast Conservation Association. He is a current member of the Coastal Conservation Association Birmingham, Alabama Chapter. Joey is an avid fisherman for inshore, offshore and reef fish species. He spends the majority of his time in Coastal Alabama and has been active in the fisheries issues in our state. Mr. Dobbs has a vast knowledge of coastal fisheries and is actively involved with persons in Alabama, and other states as well, concerning coastal fisheries issues. He founded Landscape Workshop in 1986. Landscape Workshop now has four locations in Alabama and has over 300 employees. Dobbs is a board member of the Birmingham Association of

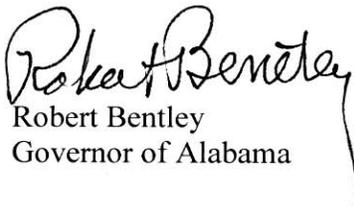
Landscape Professionals, the Birmingham Construction Authority, Auburn School of Horticulture, and American Subcontractors Association - Alabama Chapter and is on the executive committee of Magic Moments, benefiting children with life altering and life threatening diseases. Mr. Dobbs has relationships with commercial, recreational and charter fishermen along the Gulf Coast. He would be very open minded and wants to work cooperatively with all sectors, the other Gulf states and the federal government to use best management practices to ensure viability of our marine resources.

Randy Boggs is the dock manger of the Reel Surprise Dock Store in Orange Beach, Alabama. He sells fuel, ice and bait to recreational, for-hire and commercial fishermen from the dock store and manages the dockage of recreational vessels at the San Roc Cay Marina. Mr. Boggs has been involved in the recreational fishery for over 36 years and interacts with recreational fishermen on a daily basis. He is also the owner of B and D Maritime, Inc. and books fishing trips for 15 for-hire vessels. Mr. Boggs is the owner/operator of the charter boats, "Reel Surprise", "Gulf Winds II", and "Wishbone." Mr. Boggs is an active participant in the Council process.

The nomination process is very important to the State of Alabama. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources/Marine Resources Division (ADCNR/MRD) has met with a variety of groups before selecting the above nominated individuals. The following organizations were consulted in the process: the Organized Seafood Association of Alabama, Alabama Seafood Association, Alabama Seafood Dealers, Coastal Conservation Association, Alabama Coastal Fishermen Association, Orange Beach Fishing Association, the Alabama Seafood Marketing Commission, the University of South Alabama, other charter fishermen, recreational fishermen and marina operators, the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, and other concerned and knowledgeable individuals.

In an effort to consider minority and women candidates AMRD/MRD discussed the nomination process with various persons and organizations. No minority or women candidates provided nomination applications. ADCNR/MRD will continue to work with organizations in Alabama to diversify the nominations for future seats on the Council and in nominations for advisory panels.

Sincerely,



Robert Bentley
Governor of Alabama

cc: N. Gunter Guy, Jr.
Chris Blankenship