



March 20, 2013

Samuel D. Rauch III, for the
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Mr. Rauch:

On behalf of Governor Edmund G. Brown, and pursuant to the standards and requirements in 16 U.S.C. 1851, section 301 *et seq.*, I am pleased to offer the following slate of candidates to fill the positions created by the expiration of one of the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) at large seats, currently held by Dan L. Wolford of California. Mr. Wolford is seeking reappointment for a third three-year term. I am submitting a total of three names for your consideration in order of preference: Mr. Dan L. Wolford, Mr. Peter Flournoy, and Mr. Peter Leipzig.

Nominations were submitted based on consultations with key organizations representing those California fishing industries most affected by Council management plans. In addition, we solicited nominations from the environmental community as their representatives continue to play an increasing role in the Council's public process, and in fishery and community collaborations and partnerships. Some of the nearly 100 organizations and affiliations we contacted are as follows:

Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations (PCFFA)

The PCFFA is the largest organization representing commercial fishermen in California. PCFFA is mostly comprised of salmon fishermen, but also represents crab, shrimp, albacore, sea urchin, and groundfish fishermen.

Fishermen's Marketing Association (FMA)

The FMA represents groundfish trawl fishermen from California, Oregon, and Washington. Their membership lands approximately 70 percent of the trawl-caught groundfish in California.

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California Salmon Council (CSC)

The CSC is a non profit, 2,500-member group dedicated to educate and promote the excellence of California King Salmon.

California Wetfish Producers Association (CWPA)

The (CWPA) was established in 2004 to promote sustainable sardine, mackerel, squid, and anchovy fisheries, and foster cooperative research. Voluntary membership includes the majority of wetfish harvesters and processors operating in California.

Western Fishboat Owners Association

The Western Fishboat Owners Association represents about 400 albacore troll-vessel owners and supporting businesses based in California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Hawaii, New Zealand, and British Columbia.

Sportfishing Association of California (SAC)

The SAC represents commercial passenger fishing vessels operating in central and Southern California. The SAC and its affiliate, the Golden Gate Fishermen's Association, represent over 400 commercial passenger fishing vessels, the largest charter boat organization in the world.

United Anglers of California (UAC) and United Anglers of Southern California (UASC)

The UAC is the only statewide organization in California that represents saltwater anglers. Their focus in central and northern California issues relate to anadromous fish and groundfish. In Southern California the UASC focuses on highly migratory species, coastal pelagic species, and groundfish.

Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA)

The RFA is a nationwide coalition of private boat anglers, spearfishing divers, bank and kayak anglers, and allied sportfishing organizations who represent individual anglers and divers in the fishery management process.

American Fishermen's Research Foundation (AFRF)

AFRF was founded to aid, encourage, promote and support science and education in the field of albacore and related fish species.

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

NRDC is an environmental action group, combining the grassroots power of 1.3 million members and online activists with the courtroom clout and expertise of more than 350 lawyers, scientists and other professionals.

The Ocean Conservancy (OC)

Their goal is to bring people together to find solutions for our water planet. Their vision is to educate and empower people to defend not only the ocean and its wildlife, but also the millions who earn their living from the ocean.

The Nature Conservancy

To ease the transition to more sustainable forms of fishing, the Conservancy has worked with commercial fishermen to buy back federal trawling permits and vessels, and is now working with the local community and scientists on more sustainable approaches to fishing in the Central California Coast.

Oceana

Oceana seeks to make our oceans as rich, healthy and abundant as they once were. Ocean ecosystems can be restored to sustain us, entertain us, amaze us and generate jobs around the world for centuries to come.

Pew Charitable Trusts/Pacific Fish Conservation Campaign (PFCC)

Representatives strive to balance the needs of the ecosystem as a whole, to ensure maintenance of a food base that is vital for a healthy ocean and sustainable fishing industry. Pew's PFCC works to promote marine ecosystem needs as they relate to fisheries, as the marine food web, and the coastal economies it supports, depends to a great degree on an abundance of schooling fish.

California Fisheries and Seafood Institute (CFSI)

The CFSI is the largest organization representing wholesale fish processing industries in California.

Golden Gate Salmon Association (GGSA)

This coalition of salmon advocates includes commercial and recreational salmon fishermen, businesses, restaurants, tribes, environmentalists, elected officials, families and communities that rely on salmon. Their mission is to protect and restore California's largest salmon producing habitat comprised of the Central Valley rivers that feed both the Bay-Delta ecosystem and the communities that rely on salmon as a long-term and sustainable commercial, recreational and cultural resource.

Coastside Fishing Club

The Coastside Fishing Club is a community of recreational fishermen with the goal of improving the fishery, sharing knowledge with younger generations, and focusing on conservation to help preserve our resources for future generations to enjoy. The club has given study grants to graduate fishery departments to study recreational angling science related policies. The group is also active politically at the state and national level.

NOMINATION PROCESS

In soliciting nominees, the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department), on behalf of the Governor, consulted with individuals and fishery organizations whose members are directly affected by Council actions, as required under Fish and Game Code Section 7655 (copy of statute attached). The solicitation letter, including the full list of nearly 100 individuals and associations that received the letter, is enclosed. The Department received completed applications from three individuals who are California residents representing and supported by a diversity of interests. All candidates meet the minimum qualifications relative to pertinent sections of the Magnuson Act,¹ and would be willing to accept nominations to either the California Obligatory seat or either of the at large seats.

NOMINEES

Mr. Dan L. Wolford, incumbent (finishing second term in this at large seat)

Mr. Wolford is presently a member of the Council representing California, and is completing his second term in the at large seat available for appointment. He has served as the Council's chairman since August 2011, and was vice chair from August 2009 through June 2011. He also serves on the Council's budget and legislative committees. In his role as chair, Mr. Wolford also represents the Pacific Council on the Council Coordinating Committee. Since his Council service began in 2007, Mr. Wolford has attended every meeting and many ancillary meetings, and has consistently demonstrated a commitment to developing science based and yet viable management recommendations for Pacific coast fisheries. He also meets with stakeholders and interest groups both during and between meetings to gather information and perspective to aid him in the Council's decision making process. Mr. Wolford primarily represents recreational fishery constituents.

Prior to his appointment on the Council, Mr. Wolford was a member of the Council's Salmon Advisory Subpanel and the Salmon Amendment Team. He previously served as the recreational fishery representative to the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) and has served on two special study panels during his tenure.

Since 2002, Mr. Wolford has served as the science director for the Coastside Fishing Club, an all-volunteer California organization of 13,000 members with primarily recreational interests. In that capacity, he actively engaged in numerous groundfish methodology and salmon technical reviews, aiding development of management and regulatory measures in these venues. He also served as an alternate on a Regional Working Group for California's Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA), and has actively worked with constituents in developing and supporting select marine reserve proposals. Mr. Wolford is a retired Lockheed aerospace

¹Members "...must be individuals who, by reason of their occupational or other experience, scientific expertise, or training, are knowledgeable regarding the conservation and management, or the commercial or recreational harvest, of the fishery resources of the geographical area concerned." Section 302 (b) (2) (A).

engineer with 33 years of management and technical experience in the private sector.

Mr. Peter H. Flourney

Since 1989, Mr. Flourney has represented individuals, business entities, and industry associations involved in international business, trade or investment in a wide range of legal matters. Mr. Flourney has represented clients before NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Food and Drug Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, Environmental Protection Agency, and International Boundary and Water Commission. He regularly attends Council meetings, along with meetings of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), the California Fish and Game Commission, and the Council's Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS). He has previously served as chair of the HMSAS, and currently serves as the chair of IATTC's General Advisory Committee, and chair of the Permanent Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section of the WCPFC.

From 1983 to 1989, Mr. Flourney was employed with the U.S. State Department providing legal advice for the negotiation of international agreements and treaties in the areas of fisheries, marine mammals, scientific and technological cooperation, deep seabed mining, and the environment. In this capacity, he assisted with drafting the South Pacific Tuna Act of 1988, and was also a legal advisor to the International Convention Concerning North Pacific Seals, the International Whaling Commission, the International North Pacific Fisheries Convention, and others.

Mr. Peter P. Leipzig

Mr. Leipzig has been the executive director of the Fishermen's Marketing Association since 1978. As executive director he has represented commercial groundfish and shrimp trawl fishermen from San Pedro, California to Bellingham, Washington. He previously served two terms on the Council from 1989 to 1995, and was vice chair from 1993 to 1995. He has been a member and chair of the Council's Groundfish Advisory Panel, the Council's Limited Entry Buy-back Committee, several Council Stock Assessment Panels, the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee, and two national steering committees. Mr. Leipzig is an active participant at Council meetings and was instrumental in addressing overcapitalization in the West Coast groundfish fleet through a federal buyback program. He currently serves on the Council's Groundfish Trawl Individual Quota Committee and the Groundfish Allocation Committee. He also serves as a faculty associate for the Humboldt State University's Fisheries Department.

The required federal application forms for the aforementioned candidates are enclosed. If further assistance is needed in the nomination process, please feel free to call my Appointments Secretary, Mona Pasquil at (916) 445-4541.

Thank you for allowing some of California's finest and most qualified candidates an opportunity to represent the Golden State on the Pacific Fishery Management Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Laird".

John Laird
Secretary for Natural Resources

Enclosures