



C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

March 14, 2013

Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Attn: William Chappell

Dear Mr. Chappell,

I appreciate the opportunity to submit three names for consideration to fill Idaho's seat on the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC). Idaho now is represented by Herb Pollard and Mr. Pollard has agreed, if selected by NMFS, to serve another term. Idaho is grateful for Mr. Pollard's service and appreciates his willingness to serve our state and region. I am certain you will find a qualified candidate among these three nominees. Idaho is not submitting nominations for the at-large seats.

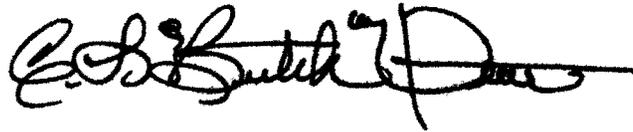
I have reviewed Section 302(b)(2)(A): *The members of each Council required to be appointed by the Secretary must be individuals who, by reason of their occupational or other experience, scientific expertise, or training, are knowledgeable regarding the conservation and management, or the commercial or recreational harvest, of the fishery resources of the geographical area concerned.* I believe each individual has knowledge and training necessary not only to represent Idaho but to assist the PFMC in fulfilling its mandate.

Idaho does not have commercial fishing communities that target or utilize fish species of interest to the PFMC. However, Idaho does have significant recreational fisheries for anadromous salmon and steelhead produced from harvest mitigation hatcheries. Although there are significant recreational fisheries in Idaho, the state generally lacks organized fishing groups who have interest in anadromous species. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Department) interacts intimately and routinely with salmon and steelhead angling communities throughout the state. The Department held recent meetings in Lewiston, Orofino, Grangeville, Riggins, McCall, Boise and Salmon, Idaho to discuss recreational salmon fishing in the state. Consistent with the expectations of the Governor's Office, the Department developed a list of candidates who understand the issues related to recreational fishing for anadromous species in Idaho. Additionally,

candidates were selected based on the expectation that they would be accepted by recreational fishing communities in Idaho. Finally, candidates possess the qualifications to provide exceptional representation to the PFMC on behalf of recreational fishing interests.

No minority or female candidates who met the qualifications of 302(b)(2)(A) were identified during the process of establishing a list of potential nominees. Therefore we were unable to officially consider any in this nomination process.

As Always – Idaho, “Esto Perpetua”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C.L. Butch Otter". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

C.L. “Butch” Otter
Governor of Idaho