



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

March 8, 2013

Mr. Samuel D. Rauch III
Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs
National Marine Fisheries Service
Attention: William Chappell
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Mr. Rauch

Thank you for your letter regarding the upcoming at-large seat vacancies on the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (Council). For the seat currently held by Ms. Julie Leialoha, I am nominating the following individuals: Julie Leialoha (renomination), Paul Sensano and John Randall Cates.

Each of the nominees has expressed a desire to serve on the Council, and all have knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources, commercial or recreational harvest of fishery resources and/or habitat and ecosystem approaches to resource management. Our list reflects minority candidates and a female nominee.

Enclosed are the required documents for each nominee. Should further information be needed, please contact Mr. William J. Aila, Jr., Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources at (808) 587-0401.

Aloha
Neil Abercrombie
NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Enclosures

WESTERN PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL NOMINATION RATIONALE

The following nominees are individuals who, due to their occupation, experience, scientific expertise, training, or interest, are knowledgeable of Hawaii's fishery resources.

Julie Leialoha, who possesses an extensive career in natural resource management, is being renominated for a second term on the Council. In addition to her Council role, Ms. Leialoha also serves as the Vice President of the Conservation Council for Hawai'i (CCH), an organization that plays an important role in educating the public and government leaders on environmental issues. In addition, Ms. Leialoha is a member on the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument State Management Team; serves as the Conservation Alternate on the Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council; and manages the Wao Kele O Puna Forest Reserve on the Big Island, a joint project between the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife. She is interested in a variety of fisheries, e.g. spiny/slipper lobster, tuna, bottomfish/seamount groundfish; and combines her cultural knowledge with a commitment to both terrestrial and marine species.

Paul Sensano, a Harbor agent with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, has over 28 years of experience as a recreational fisher, and has engaged in commercial fishing for several years. He has experience fishing for nearshore reef fish, mahimahi, marlin, ono, tunas, deep sea crab, lobster, pelagic and bottom fish and has utilized various fishing gear types, such as rod & reel, throw and lay nets, fish and crab traps, crab nets, and spear. He is a Board member and active volunteer for the North Shore Hanapa'a Fishing Club and has participated in many fishing tournaments such as the North Shore Hanapa'a fishing Tournament, Ahi Fever Fishing Tournament, Hooters Fishing Tournament and the Keehi Boat Club Fishing Tournament.

John "Randy" Cates: John ("Randy") Cates, who has an extensive background in marine research/fishing, is the owner of Safety Boats Hawaii, a marine research and salvage operation, and Cates International, an open ocean aquaculture business. His background includes a wide range of marine-related activities such as training dolphins for the Navy, owning and operating a dive-charter business, acting as a fish buyer and previously owning a retail market. He has fished both recreationally and commercially (trolling, shrimping, lobster). He served as a board member of the Hawaii Operational Safety Team (HOST) representing local fishermen, and has given presentations on "HOST" in the U.S. including Washington, D.C. He is currently a member of the U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee.

INDIVIDUALS/GROUPS CONSULTED WITH/SHOWN SUPPORT OF NOMINEES

Individuals within the fishing community were consulted regarding nominations to the Council. The following individuals also provided input and/or were involved in the nomination process: Tony Benabese, Manager, State Boards and Commission; Kitty Simonds, Executive Director, Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council; Robert Nishimoto, Francis Oishi, and Reginald Kokubun of the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources; and William J. Aila, Jr., Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.