



Governor Mike Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Secretary of Commerce
ATTN: Morgan Corey
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Secretary Raimondo,

In accordance with the provisions of Section 302 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), I am pleased to submit my nomination for the one obligatory seat from the State of Alaska on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) that expires August 10, 2023. I am nominating an individual who is knowledgeable and experienced in the harvest, conservation, and management of fishery resources.

The State of Alaska makes every effort to encourage and seek out qualified women, people of color, and individuals representative of historically underserved communities during this process. All nominees are residents of Alaska. After reviewing the requirements of the MSA and consulting with commercial, recreational, and other fishing interests in Alaska, I submit the following names for your consideration:

- Mr. Ryuichi "Rudy" Tsukada
- Mr. Samuel Rabung
- Mr. Tom Taube

I respectfully request that you appoint Mr. Rudy Tsukada. Mr. Tsukada has a professional career that has always been heavily focused on fisheries in one form or another. He is the Chief Operating Officer of Coastal Villages Region Fund (CVRF) – one of the six Western Alaska Community Development Quota Program groups that receives allocations of Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands crab and groundfish to provide economic and social benefits to support the subsistence fishery lifestyle of CVRF's 20-member communities in Western Alaska. Rudy is also known in sportfishing circles as one of the kayak anglers that popularized saltwater sport fishing for halibut and salmon from a kayak in southcentral Alaska. If appointed, his goals will be to ensure that stakeholders are heard and that their concerns are fairly considered, while also ensuring that living marine resources are well-managed for the benefit of current and future generations.

The Honorable Gina Raimondo

March 15, 2023

Page 2 of 2

Mr. Samuel Rabung is the Director of Commercial Fisheries for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Sam upholds the division's mission to manage subsistence, commercial, and personal use fisheries in the interest of the economy and general well-being of the citizens of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle and subject to allocations through public regulatory processes. He believes in managing the resource for the maximum benefit of the people following the sustained yield principle, minimizing waste, and promoting full utilization.

Mr. Tom Taube is the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish Deputy Director (currently in acting status as Director). In this capacity, his role has been to protect and improve the state's sport fishery resources. Tom upholds the department's mission to protect, maintain, and improve the fisheries resources of the state, manage their use and development in the best interest of the economy, and promote the well-being of the people of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle.

Enclosed you will find a list of commercial, recreational, and other fishing groups that have provided input to my nomination of these knowledgeable and qualified individuals. My preferred nominee, Mr. Ryuichi Tsukada, would provide balanced and insightful experience to the NPFMC and he will contribute greatly to fisheries management and conservation in the North Pacific. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mike Dunleavy
Governor

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Douglas Vincent-Lang, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
Jordan Shilling, Director of Boards and Commissions, Office of the Governor

List of commercial and recreational fishing groups and other stakeholders that provided input for my nomination:

- Alaska Fisheries Science Center
- Bering North LLC
- Mahoney Properties and Services - Port of Dutch Harbor
- City of False Pass
- Homer Charter Association
- Alaska Charter Association
- Alaskan Leader Fisheries
- Freezer Longline Coalition
- Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation
- City of Akutan
- Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association
- Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association
- Milne Marine LLC
- Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
- Twin Peaks Fisheries
- Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Tribal Consortium
- The Pew Charitable Trusts
- Alaska Marine Conservation Council
- City of St. Paul
- International Arctic Research Center
- Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
- Native Peoples Action
- Pacific Seafoods Processors Association
- Coastal Villages Region Fund
- Trident Seafoods Corporation
- Navigating the New Arctic Community Office



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE

March 7, 2023

Ms. Janet Coit
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Hwy, Room 14636
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Via email to: Council.Appointments@noaa.gov

Dear Ms. Coit:

Please accept the following names, Kenny Down, Becca Robbins-Gisclair, Jamie Goen, as my nominees for one of the two obligatory Washington State seats to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC). Mr. Kenny Down currently occupies this seat; he is eligible for reappointment for a final term.

Washington State has consulted with a broad range of commercial, recreational, and public constituents in seeking nominations; the consultation list is attached. Particular efforts were made to recruit qualified women and minority candidates. In conjunction with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, we have evaluated each candidate's suitability and qualifications relative to the Magnuson Stevens Act and the December 2022 Guidance Document, have conducted initial background reviews, and have also determined that none of them are federally registered lobbyists. Mr. Down and Ms. Goen should be classified in the commercial sector, while Ms. Robbins-Gisclair should be classified in the "other" sector. Based on my evaluations of each candidate's qualifications, I am recommending the following individuals in priority order.

1) Mr. Kenny Down:

Mr. Down has served as a Voting Member of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council since 2015. He is currently the President and Owner of Seaquest Ventures, working with a variety of commercial fishing companies and leading in revolutionary innovations for the utilization and stewardship of marine resources. Prior to founding Seaquest in 2018, Mr. Down was President and CEO of Blue North Fisheries from 2012 to 2018. Blue North operated several hook-and-line cod freezer vessels. Before joining Blue North, Mr. Down was the first Executive Director of the Freezer Longline Coalition, a trade organization representing owners and operators of the catcher/processor fishing vessels using longline gear to harvest groundfish in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska. Prior to that, he gained 20 years of experience working in the Alaska longline fishing industry. Mr. Down is a U.S. Coast Guard licensed Chief Engineer and port engineer,

and before he became a Council member, served on several Council advisory boards including the Observer Advisory Committee and the Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Committee. He resides in Seattle, WA.

- 2) Ms. Becca Robbins-Gisclair:
Ms. Robbins Gisclair is the Senior Director of Arctic Programs for Ocean Conservancy, where she works closely with Alaska Tribes and grassroots organizations to protect a region that is on the frontlines of global climate change. She developed an in-depth understanding of the Bering Sea ecosystem and fisheries through two decades of involvement in the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) process, including six years on the Advisory Panel with four of those in leadership, and as a Board member of the North Pacific Research Board (NPRB). She serves as a domestic advisor for the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission and the Bering Sea Fishery Advisory Body and has worked for several Alaska organizations as a natural resources advisor. She resides on Coast Salish lands in Bellingham, Washington.

- 3) Ms. Jamie Goen:
Ms. Goen is the Executive Director of the Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers, a trade organization represent most of the independent harvesters of Bering Sea crab that is headquartered in Seattle. She participates regularly in the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council process. Prior to taking this position in 2018, Ms. Goen worked as staff for the International Pacific Halibut Commission and previously was a Fishery Policy Analyst for the National Marine Fishery Service. Ms. Goen resides in Seattle, Washington.

While Mr. Down is my preferred candidate, I believe that each of these three candidates are well qualified to serve on the NPFMC and will support management values that promote resource conservation, habitat protection, and sustainable fisheries.

Very truly yours,



Jay Inslee
Governor

Enclosures: List of Groups Consulted
Nomination kits for Mr. Down, Ms. Goen, Ms. Robbins-Gisclair

cc: Kelly Susewind, Director, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Bill Tweit, Special Assistant, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

List of Groups Consulted Regarding Nominations for Washington Obligatory Seat on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council – 2023 Nomination

Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers
Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association
Alaska Marine Conservation Council
Alaska Scallop Association
Alaska Seafood Cooperative
American Seafoods
Arctic Storm Management Group
At Sea Processors Association
Bering Sea Pot Cod Cooperative
Deep Sea Fishermens Union
Fishing Vessel Owners Association
Freezer Longliner Coalition
Groundfish Forum
Icicle Seafoods
Meddar Corporation
Midwater Trawlers Cooperative
Mundt MacGregor
North Pacific Crab Association
North Pacific Seafoods
North Pacific Vessel Owners Association
Ocean Conservancy
Oceana
Pacific Seafood Processors Association
Peter Pan Seafoods
SeaState, Inc.
Trident Seafoods
United Catcher Boats
University of Washington – School of Marine Affairs
US Seafoods