

# 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: <u>Council.Appointments@noaa.gov</u>

Dear Ms. Coit:

Please accept the following names, Aldrich (Butch) Smith, Larry Phillips, Dave Johnson, as my nominees for the Washington obligatory seat on the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC). The seat is currently held by Mr. Aldrich (Butch) Smith of Ilwaco, his term expires August 10, 2023. Mr. Smith is eligible for reappointment.

Washington State celebrates and values diversity and understands the benefit of including those from different backgrounds and experiences and has consulted with a diverse group of conservation, commercial, recreational, and public constituents in seeking nominations for this seat (see list on page 2). Below is a summary of each candidate's qualifications:

• Mr. Aldrich (Butch) Smith:

Mr. Smith is a resident of Ilwaco, Washington, where he is the owner of Coho Enterprises, a successful charter fishing business, and is a Commissioner for the Port of Ilwaco. Mr. Smith has a long history of engagement with the diverse stakeholders in Washington through his involvement on numerous boards and committees. Mr. Smith has been an independent advocate for ocean salmon resources for decades and gained valuable experience on the PFMC's Salmon Advisory Subpanel from 2002-2022.

Mr. Larry Phillips:

Mr. Phillips is a resident of Olympia, Washington, and is the Pacific Fisheries Policy Director for the American Sportfishing Association (ASA). Prior to working at the ASA, Mr. Phillips worked for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for 21 years including as the Region Six Director from 2017-2022 and was WDFW's representative on the PFMC's Highly Migratory Species Management Team from 2015-2017. Mr. Phillips is an avid recreational angler with an extensive understanding of how management and science contribute to the conservation of ocean resources for the benefit of Washington State.

#### Mr. Dave Johnson:

Mr. Johnson is a resident of Port Orchard, Washington, where he is part owner of Kitsap Marina. Mr. Johnson is the President of the Ocean Chapter of Puget Sound

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> Anglers, a member of Salmon for Soldiers, the Washington Sport Fisheries representative on PFMC's Salmon Advisory Subpanel and is a trusted advisor to WDFW on recreational fishing issues.

All three hold qualities that are vital to effective representation of the state's interests. Each has shown the ability to work collaboratively, in the Council environment and elsewhere, and each enjoys broad support from the diverse sectors that comprise Washington's interests. For those reasons, we recommend that Mr. Smith, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Johnson be advanced to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce for this important decision.

Because Mr. Smith possesses exceptional skills in working collaboratively, effectively, and strategically, they are my preferred candidate. All three applicants are strong supporters of sustainable fisheries and possess a strong conservation ethic. I believe that each are qualified to serve on the Pacific Fishery Management Council and will support management values that promote resource conservation, habitat protection and sustainable fisheries.

Very truly yours,

slep Jay Inslee

Governor

Enclosures: List of Groups Consulted Nomination kits for Mr. Butch Smith, Mr. Larry Phillips, and Mr. Dave Johnson

cc: Kelly Susewind, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Morgan Corey, National Marine Fisheries Service Ms. Coit March 7, 2023 Page 3

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

American Sportfishing Association Arctic Storm, Inc. **Coastal Commercial Fishing Coalition** Columbia River Crab Fishermen's Association Washington Dungeness Crab Fishermen's Association Environmental Defense Fund Fishing Vessel Owners Association Fury Group, Inc. Ilwaco Charter Association Lowman & Associates Fisheries Consulting Midwater Trawlers Cooperative Ocean Conservancy Ocean Gold Seafoods Ocean Outcomes (O2) Oceana Oceanbeat Consulting Pacific Fishery Management Council Pacific Seafood Pacific Whiting Conservation Cooperative Pew Charitable Trusts **Puget Sound Anglers** Purse Seine Vessels Owners' Association **Recreational Fishing** Surfrider Foundation The Nature Conservancy United Catcher Boats University of Washington School and Marine and Environmental Affairs Washington Sea Grant Washington Trollers' Association Westport Charter Association



March 15, 2023

Ms. Janet Coit Assistant Administrator for Fisheries National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries 1315 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Coit:

In response to the your letter dated January 13, 2023, I am submitting the names of four individuals for potential appointment by the Secretary of Commerce to an at-large seat on the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC), currently held by Brad Pettinger.

The nominees are listed in order of our recommendation:

- Bradley Pettinger (Commercial)
- Walter Chuck (Recreational)
- Robert Dolton (Recreational)
- Stephen Smith (Other)

Included with this letter of nomination are the complete original applications and letters of support of the above-named individuals. I have found that the candidates meet the requirements listed in section 302(b)(2)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act. A brief description of their abilities and applicable experience is provided below.

### Bradley Pettinger (Commercial)

Mr. Pettinger has 50 years of commercial fishing experience and 20 years of sport fishing in a variety of fisheries off the West Coast. For the past 25 years he has owned and operated fishing vessels using a variety of fishing gears. He has been a long-time, active participant at PFMC serving on numerous advisory committees. He currently is the Oregon at-large seat and is the active Vice Chair of the PFMC. Previously, Mr. Pettinger was the Director of the Oregon Trawl Commission and is a current advisor to many fishing industry groups, fisheries organizations, and agencies. He holds a Bachelor of Science in business administration.

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#### Walter Chuck (Recreational)

Mr. Chuck has been an active sport angler over the past 50 years with 18 years of experience advocating and advising on sportfishing issues. He also is an active member of state, local, and agency advisory bodies on fisheries issues, rulemaking, policy development, season structures, and marine spatial planning. His advisory body memberships include: the Ocean Policy Advisory Council, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission Advisory body, ODFW Sportfish Advisory Committee, and BOEM Intergovernmental Taskforce on Offshore Wind. He has also spent 11 years as an elected Port Commissioner working with different fishing sectors on policy making, budget and economic development for the Port of Newport.

#### Robert Dolton (Recreational)

Mr. Dolton graduated from Willamette University College of Law with a Juris Doctorate and has been a lawyer in private practice for the entirety of his career. He has a passion for fish, fisheries, and marine sciences which has led him to be a lifelong recreational angler. Mr. Dolton has actively engaged in the salmon, groundfish, halibut, and tuna fisheries as a recreational angler participating on charter and guided vessels. He also belongs to the NW Steelheaders and Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association and participates in ODFW annual Halibut public meetings.

#### Stephen Smith (Other)

Mr. Smith has 45 years of experience as a fisheries biologist in the Pacific Northwest. Mr. Smith is an avid fisherman participating in the ocean and Columbia River fisheries as well as engaging in other ocean fisheries out of southern California. Mr. Smith's various fisheries positions focused on salmon hatchery and harvest issues to recover wild and hatchery salmon and steelhead throughout the Pacific Northwest. He has worked with sport, tribal, commercial, and environmental groups in the pursuit of enhanced fishery opportunities. Mr. Smith holds a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Fisheries Biology from University California Davis.

These nominees possess a broad range of fisheries knowledge and experience and will contribute effectively toward the management goals of the Council. These candidates recognize their important roles as trustees and stewards of our Nation's marine fisheries resources.

In determining who to nominate, we have consulted with a broad range of conservation and management interests familiar with the work of the PFMC. In addition, we have carefully considered qualified women and/or minority candidates as requested. To recruit applicants, ODFW issued a news release and utilized social media to announce the opportunity to be considered. The agency also directly contacted a diverse group of seventy individuals from multiple organizations actively involved in west coast marine resource issues from fishing and conservation perspectives (Attachment 1 and 2). In addition, the press release was picked up and covered by two media outlets (Attachment 3).

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The work of the Council is extremely important. I appreciate this opportunity to provide Oregon's recommendation on the pending appointment. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

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Governor Tina Kotek

GH:HP

Attachment 1-3:Individuals contacted, email, press release, and media outlet linksEnclosures:Applications of nominated individuals with associated letters of support

## **Attachment 1: List of Constituents Contacted**

The email and press release below were sent to various constituents:

- 1. Ericka Carlson, Oregon Salmon and Albacore Commissions administrator
- 2. Tim Novotny, Oregon Crab Commission administrator
- 3. Yelena Nowak, Oregon Trawl Commission administrator
- 4. Charles Loos, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 5. Dave Kuehn, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 6. Dean Fleck, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 7. John Halloway, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 8. Jack Craven, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 9. Mark Lottis, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 10. Neil Bohne, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 11. Ron Mason, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 12. Tamara Mautner, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 13. Timothy James, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 14. Walter Chuck, ODFW recreational fishing advisor
- 15. Wayne Butler, ODFW recreational fishing advisor

The press release was emailed to all of Oregon's advisors to PFMC, including:

- 1. Andrew Thurber
- 2. Ben Enticknap
- 3. Bob Eder
- 4. Cheryl Barnes
- 5. Christa Svensson
- 6. Dan Waldeck
- 7. Darus Peake
- 8. Dorothy Lowman
- 9. Fran Recht
- 10. Gerry Reinholdt
- 11. Glen Spain
- 12. Gway Kirchner
- 13. Heather Mann
- 14. Jeff Lackey
- 15. Jeffrey Wilmarth
- 16. Kevin Dunn
- 17. Kristin McQuaw
- 18. Lori Steele
- 19. Lyf Gildersleeve
- 20. Mark Newell

- 21. Mike Okoniewski
- 22. Mike Sorenson
- 23. Paul Kujala
- 24. Paul Shively
- 25. Ralph Brown
- 26. Richard Heap
- 27. Ryan Kapp
- 28. Scott Hartzell
- 29. Scott Heppell
- 30. Scott McMullen
- 31. Shems Jud
- 32. Steve Godin
- 33. Steve Marx
- 34. Susan Chambers
- 35. Tara Brock
- 36. Theresa Labriola
- 37. Tom Libby
- 38. Waldo Wakefield
- 39. Yelena Nowak

The email and press release below were sent to Oregon Ocean Policy Council and Advisory members:

- 1. Susan Chambers, Chair, South Coast Commercial Fisheries
- 2. John Halloway, North Coast Charter, Sport or Recreational Fisheries
- 3. Richard Heap, South Coast Charter, Sport or Recreational Fisheries
- 4. Walter Chuck, Chair, Ports, Marine Transportation or Navigation
- 5. Charlie Plybon, Coastal Non-Fishing Recreation
- 6. Joe Liebezeit, Statewide Conservation or Environmental Organization
- 7. Margaret Corvi, Oregon Coastal Indian Tribes
- 8. David Yamamoto, North Coastal County Commissioner
- 9. Bob Main, South Coastal County Commissioner
- 10. Fran Recht, Coastal City Elected Official
- 11. Tara Brock, Vice-Chair, Coastal Conservation or Environmental Organization
- 12. Jamie Fereday, Public-at-Large (coastal)
- 13. Peggy Joyce, Public-at-Large (Statewide)
- 14. Rian Hoof, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- 15. Jonathan Allan, Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
- 16. Patty Snow, Department of Land Conservation & Development
- 17. Meliah Masaba. Department of State Lands
- 18. Lisa Sumption, Department of Parks and Recreation
- 19. David Hansen, Oregon State University, Sea Grant College
- 20. Kris Wall, Federal Agency Liaison
- 21. Ray Monroe, Coastwide Small Ports and Local Government
- 22. Alexis Taylor, Department of Agriculture