



Governor Brad Little

State Capitol :: Boise, Idaho 83720
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March 12, 2025

Emily Menashes
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries (Acting)
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Attention: Morgan Corey

Dear Ms. Menashes,

Please accept the following names as my nominees for the State of Idaho obligatory seat to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC). Pete Hassemer currently occupies this seat. He is completing his second term which will expire on August 10, 2025, and he is eligible for another term under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (the Act). Idaho is not nominating any candidates for the at-large vacancies.

Idaho has reviewed Section 302(b)(2) of the Act regarding qualifications for individual nominees and for consultation to the extent practicable with recreational and commercial fishing interests of the state regarding nominees.

Idaho has determined the following individuals are qualified for nomination under Section 302(b)(2)(A) of the Act. I nominate them for the Idaho obligatory seat, as listed in the order of Idaho's preference.

1) Pete Hassemer

Mr. Hassemer holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Fisheries Resources from the University of Idaho. He has been a voting member of the PFMC as designee for the State of Idaho Principal Official since 2015. Mr. Hassemer is currently completing his second term in the Idaho obligatory council seat for the PFMC. He has served as chair of the budget committee and is currently vice-chair of the council. He retired from a career with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) in 2017 as the Anadromous Fish Manager. During his 26 years at IDFG he worked in the research and management arenas and served on many Columbia River basin and west coast technical and management bodies including the Pacific Salmon Treaty Chinook Technical Committee, the council's Scientific and Statistical and Habitat committee, U.S. v Oregon Columbia River Fish Management Plan committees, and the NOAA Interior Columbia River Basin Technical Recovery Team. Prior to joining IDFG, Mr. Hassemer spent seven and a half years teaching in the fisheries and marine biology programs at Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka, Alaska.



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2) Mr. Joe Dupont

Mr. Dupont is currently the IDFG regional fisheries manager in Idaho's Clearwater Region. Mr. Dupont holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Fisheries Science from the University of Idaho. He has worked in fisheries for IDFG since 2002. Mr. Dupont has extensive experience managing anadromous fish. His region supports fisheries for spring, summer, and fall chinook salmon, summer steelhead, and coho. Additionally, Mr. Dupont has experience managing wild populations of anadromous fish and much of the habitat in his region is designated as salmon EFH.

3) Mr. Mike Edmondson

Mr. Edmondson is currently the administrator of the Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation. Mr. Edmondson has been the administrator for four years and worked as a program coordinator and policy advisor for 13 years prior to being appointed administrator. Mr. Edmondson has experience with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality working on surface water quality. Mr. Edmondson also served on the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committees and on the Columbia Basin Partnership Task Force.

Each of the above individuals has the necessary experience, scientific expertise, training and knowledge of fishery conservation, management, and harvest not only to represent Idaho but to assist the PFMC in fulfilling its broader statutory mandate.

Although Idaho does not have commercial fishing communities that target or use fish species of interest to PFMC, we have significant recreational fisheries for anadromous salmon and steelhead produced from hydropower mitigation hatcheries. Each of the above candidates is qualified to provide exceptional representation to PFMC on behalf of Idaho's recreational fishing interests, as evidenced by their respective long histories of service with IDFG and close interaction with our recreational salmon and steelhead anglers and host communities.

Thank you for your consideration, and please let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brad Little", is positioned above the printed name.

Brad Little
Governor of Idaho



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 15, 2025

Emily Menashes
Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Acting Assistant Administrator Menashes,

I am writing in response to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service's (NOAA Fisheries) January 13, 2025, letter regarding Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) nominations. I am pleased to offer the following candidates to fill the seat on the Council that will become vacant on August 10, 2025, upon the expiration of the term of the at-large seat held by Mr. Marc Gorelnik. The candidates appear to meet the minimum qualifications relative to pertinent sections of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and would be willing to accept appointment. As encouraged in the NOAA Fisheries' letter, the candidates represent a diversity of interests that are affected by the recommendations of the Council.

I am nominating Jaime Diamond as my preferred candidate for appointment to the at-large seat presently held by Mr. Marc Gorelnik. Mr. Gorelnik has represented California in this seat for three terms and therefore is no longer eligible for reappointment. Ms. Diamond would represent the recreational fishery, has several years of experience navigating the Council process, and has been an active participant at Council meetings. Ms. Diamond has demonstrated the ability and experience to fulfill the role of the at-large seat. As requested in the NOAA Fisheries' letter and required by MSA, I am providing two additional nominees, with details on their qualifications enclosed. My nominees for the at-large seat are as follows:

- 1) Jaime Diamond
- 2) Donna Kalez
- 3) Jason Diamond

In soliciting nominees, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife contacted California Native American tribes and more than 160 individuals and fishery organizations whose



Emily Menashes, Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
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members are directly affected by Council actions. Additionally, information was posted on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife website and sent to interested parties to make the public aware of the request for nominees. More than 5,000 subscribers received a notice of this posting via email.

The required federal application forms for the candidates are also enclosed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Newsom', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gavin Newsom
Governor

Enclosures

Nominees for the at-large seat

Jaime Diamond – Recreational

Ms. Diamond is an active participant at Pacific Fishery Management Council meetings, offering public testimony, working collaboratively to advise on management measures and the stock assessment process. She has served as an alternate for the PFMC Groundfish Advisory Subpanel. In April 2024, Ms. Diamond was appointed by U.S. Secretary of Commerce to the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee, which advises on setting national living marine resource policies, developing and implementing initiatives and programs, evaluating and recommending needed changes during reauthorization processes for the Magnuson-Stevens, Endangered Species, and Marine Mammal Protection Acts, and assessing other areas of interest to the Secretary. Ms. Diamond owns two sportfishing vessels in Santa Barbara, California and manages the business operations, charter bookings, bookkeeping, purchasing, publicity, social media/advertising, human resources, upkeep of all licenses and permits/documentation and supports numerous scientific research programs. Ms. Diamond actively engages with associations, organizations and agencies on behalf of the five businesses operating from Santa Barbara Landing. Since 2023, Ms. Diamond has been the Vice President of the Sportfishing Association of California for Santa Barbara and Ventura counties and has helped guide the sportfishing industry of California to their fullest potential. Additionally, in 2020, Ms. Diamond was elected as President to the Board of Trustees for the Carpinteria Unified School District. In 2020, Ms. Diamond participated in the Marine Resource Education Program. Ms. Diamond is also a member of the Coastal Conservation Association of California working to protect not only the health, habitat and sustainability of marine resources, but also the interests of recreational saltwater anglers. Ms. Diamond is a member of various associations and councils, including the American Sportfishing Association and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council. In her various capacities, she has worked on many action items including legislative, policy, best practice, and scientific research.

Donna Kalez – Recreational

Ms. Kalez has attended Pacific Fishery Management Council meetings to participate in the process and provide public comment. She is the Vice-President of the Sportfishing Association of California for the Orange County and Los Angeles area and has been a Board member of SAC for many years. Ms. Kalez is the owner and operator of Dana Wharf Sportfishing in Dana Point, CA. And she is a member of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee. Ms. Kalez is also on the Board of various groups, including the Coastal Conservation Association of California, the California Travel Association, Pier Pride, Doheny State Beach Foundation, and Fish for Life. She is Chairwoman for the Festival of Whale Foundation, was

nominated as Woman of the Year by the California Senate in 2018 and Citizen of the Year for Dana Point in 2017 and is a member of the Dana Wharf Lady anglers. Ms. Kalez is very involved in whale watching and marine education activities in her region.

Jason Diamond – Recreational

Mr. Diamond started helping on sportfishing boats when he was 8 years old in San Diego. At the age of 19, he received his 100 United States Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Credential. He was captain of the commercial passenger fishing vessel, Daily Double in San Diego from 1990-1995, and he has been the owner and operator of the CPFV Stardust since 1996, the CPFV Coral Sea since 2015, and owner of the Santa Barbara Landing since 2021. His company works with a local museum to provide a platform for the Santa Barbara Floating Marine Labs for Santa Barbara County Title 1 Schools every year. Since 1990, Mr. Diamond has been on the Board of Directors for the Sportfishing Association of California. Mr. Diamond began working with fisheries scientists in the 1990s through state and federal agencies, and he has attended meetings for the Pacific Fishery Management Council and the California Fish and Game Commission. From 2008-2010 he partook in the Marine Life Protection Act Regional Stakeholder Group. He is a member of the Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara, the California Lobster Trap Fishermen Association, Coastal Conservation Association of California.