

2025 GUBERNATORIAL NOMINATIONS TO THE REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS

On August 10, 2025, 20 terms will expire for 10 obligatory (state-specific) and 10 at-large (regional) seats on the 8 Regional Fishery Management Councils (RFMCs). Listed below are the Governors' nominations for vacant seats this year. NOAA Fisheries determined the nominees listed to be qualified for their respective vacancy.

Public Endorsements for Council Nominees

Each year, the Secretary of Commerce selects individuals to serve on the nation's eight RFMCs, which play a vital role in the sustainable management of U.S. fisheries. Members of the public, including industry stakeholders, community representatives, and other interested parties, may submit written endorsements in support of nominees' qualifications and contributions to fisheries management.

How to Submit an Endorsement:

- **Deadline:** Endorsements should be submitted during the appointment review period, typically between Mid-March and June.
- **Content:** Endorsements should include the nominee's name and a statement of support relevant to their qualifications.
- **Send To:** For timely receipt, send your endorsement to council.appointments@noaa.gov.

**Please note, we do not record or retain endorsement letters addressed to state & tribal governments.*

^ This member has served three consecutive terms and is ineligible by law for reappointment.

** The incumbent is renominated*

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL				
Obligatory Seats				
State	Incumbent		Fishing Sector	Term #
NH	Peter Whalen		Recreational	1st Term
At-Large Seats				
MA	Eric Hansen		Commercial	1st Term
RI	Richard Bellavance^		Recreational	3rd Term
State	Seat	Governor Submitted Nominees:		
ME	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	No Submission		
MA	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	Eric Hansen*	Aubrey Church	Justin Moore
NH	Obligatory:	Peter Whalen*	Scot Calitri	Dale Pike
	At-Large:	No Submission		
RI	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	Francis Blount	Gregory Mataronas	Andrew Dangelo
CT	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	No Submission		

MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL				
Obligatory Seats				
State	Incumbent		Fishing Sector	Term #
DE	Paul Townsend^		Commercial	3rd Term
At-Large Seats				
MD	Scott Lenox		Recreational	2nd Term
NJ	Peter Hughes^		Commercial	3rd Term
VA	Kenneth Neill		Other	1st Term
Governor Submitted Nominees:				
NY	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	No Submission		
NJ	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	Jake Wiscott	Scot Mackey	James Dopkin
PA	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	No Submission		
MD	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	Scott Lenox*	Chimere Murrill	Austin Lewis
DE	Obligatory:	Elizibeth Wooleyhan	Edward Hale	Jamar Campbell
		Kenneth Logan		
	At-Large:	Jamar Campbell	Kenneth Logan	Joseph Garvilla
		Michael Sorrell		
VA	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	Hillary Kent	Todd Janeski	James Minor
NC	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	No Submission		

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL				
Obligatory Seats				
State	Incumbent		Fishing Sector	Term #
NC	Robert Griner^		Commercial	3rd Term
SC	Gary Borland		Recreational	1st Term
Governor Submitted Nominees:				
NC	Obligatory:	Alana Harrison	Brian Buff	Jack Cox
		Francis Hemilright	Thomas Newman	
SC	Obligatory:	Pending		
GA	Obligatory:	N/A		
FL	Obligatory:	N/A		

GULF FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL				
Obligatory Seats				
State	Incumbent		Fishing Sector	Term #
MS	Michael McDermott		Recreational	1st Term
TX	Troy Williamson		Recreational	2nd Term
At-Large Seats				
FL	Thomas Frazer^		Other	3rd Term
Governor Submitted Nominees:				
FL	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	Michael Allen	Leiza Fitzgerald	Roger Barnhart
		Michael Avinon		
AL	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	No Submission		
MS	Obligatory:	Michael McDermott*	John Marquez	Ralph Humphrey
	At-Large:	No Submission		
LA	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	Robert Allain	Charlie Caplinger	Haley Bittermann
TX	Obligatory:	Brenda Ballard	Douglass Boyd	Lily Walker
	At-Large:	No Submission		

CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL				
At-Large Seats				
State	Incumbent		Fishing Sector	Term #
VI	James Kreglo		Commercial	1st Term
Governor Submitted Nominees:				
PR	At-Large:	No Submission		
VI	At-Large:	No Submission		

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL				
Obligatory Seats				
State	Incumbent		Fishing Sector	Term #
ID	Peter Hassemer		Recreational	2nd Term
At-Large Seats				
CA	Mark Gorelnik^		Recreational	3rd Term
Governor Submitted Nominees:				
CA	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	Jamie Diamond	Donna Kalez	Jason Diamond
WA	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	No Submission		
OR	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	No Submission		
ID	Obligatory:	Peter Hassemer*	Joe Dupont	Michael Edmondson
	At-Large:	N/A		

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL				
Obligatory Seats				
<i>State</i>		<i>Incumbent</i>	<i>Fishing Sector</i>	<i>Term #</i>
AK		Angel Drobnica	Commercial	1st Term
		Nicole Kimball	Commercial	2nd Term
Governor Submitted Nominees:				
AK	Obligatory:	Angel Drobnica*	Nicole Kimball*	Forrest Bowers
		Israel Payton		
WA	Obligatory:	N/A		

WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL				
Obligatory Seats				
<i>State</i>		<i>Incumbent</i>	<i>Fishing Sector</i>	<i>Term #</i>
AS		William Sword	Recreational	1st Term
At-Large Seats				
GU		Judith Guthertz	Recreational	1st Term
HI		Shaelene Kamaka'ala	Other	1st Term
Governor Submitted Nominees:				
HI	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	Pelikaokamanaio Andrade	Edwin Watamura	Frederick Rice
GU	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	Judith Guthertz*	Michael Duenas	Jesse Rosario
AS	Obligatory:	William Sword*	Tamiano Gurr	Gene Pan
	At-Large:	Nathan Ilaoa	Edgar Feliciano	Pete Gurr
CNMI	Obligatory:	N/A		
	At-Large:	No Submission		