

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
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CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 9, 2016

Eileen Sobeck
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910
ATTN: Brian Fredieu

RE: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Nominations to the New England Fishery
Management Council

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

I am submitting five individuals as nominees for the two vacant at-large seats on the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) that will become vacant on August 10, 2016. Included are the completed application kits for the nominees.

My selections were made from a list of candidates who responded to the efforts of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (*Marine Fisheries*) to solicit interest in the NEFMC position. Efforts included an announcement over the Division's email listserve, posting on the *Marine Fisheries* website, and outreach made by *Marine Fisheries* staff to potentially qualified candidates. Efforts were made to consider qualified women and minority candidates. Those whom I am nominating are eligible by reason of occupational or other experience, scientific expertise, or training, thereby making them knowledgeable and experienced in ways related to the fishery resources of New England.

For the at-large seat currently held by Dr. Michael Sissenwine of Massachusetts, I nominate in order of preference:

- **Michael Sissenwine (incumbent).** Dr. Sissenwine has provided scientific advice in support of fisheries management worldwide for nearly 40 years. Following retirement from an extensive career at NOAA Fisheries, he became an independent marine science consultant, member of the New England and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils' Scientific and Statistical Committees,



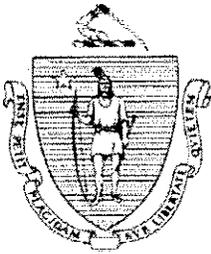
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Visiting Scholar of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and Adjunct Professor at the University of Massachusetts School for Marine Science and Technology. Dr. Sissenwine held numerous leadership positions within the federal fisheries agency, including Senior Scientist (overseeing the agency's scientific programs throughout the country) and Director of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (responsible for the administration of five national laboratories and 11 agency programs). He has authored over 100 scientific reports and publications on a wide range of topics within his discipline, co-edited three books, served on numerous regional, national, and international committees, and been recipient of various civil, private, and academic achievement awards. He holds a B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Massachusetts and a Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Rhode Island. He currently serves on the NEFMC's Executive, Sea Scallop, Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management and Observer Policy Committees in addition to the Risk Policy Working Group.

- **Charles Quinn, Jr.** Mr. Quinn has over 40 years of experience in the commercial scallop fishery. He has been the owner/operator of five commercial scallop vessels and business operating out of New Bedford since 1986. He has actively engaged in the NEFMC's Scallop Advisory Panel and currently is involved with the Fisheries Survival Fund, New Bedford Chamber of Commerce and New Bedford Port Society. Since 1998, Mr. Quinn has worked side-by-side with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and UMass-Dartmouth School for Marine Science and Technology on scallop fishery research studies and the Coonamessett Farm Foundation on the Research Set-Aside Program. Mr. Quinn will bring his experience working as a fisherman, in management and with scientist to the NEFMC to help form a successful and sustainable management model across all New England fisheries. He seeks to bridge the gap between regulators, scientists, managers and fishermen by improving fishery knowledge from scientific research.
- **Patrick Paquette.** Mr. Paquette is a lifelong angler and prominent recreational fisheries advocate and specialist. Following years of employment in the charter boat industry and engagement in assorted sport fishing related activities, he launched in 2008 a private consulting business offering assistance in understanding and organizing the recreational fishing community. He has a recognizable voice among stakeholders from 10 plus years as an outdoor writer both freelance and as a columnist to a number of magazines, as a participant and



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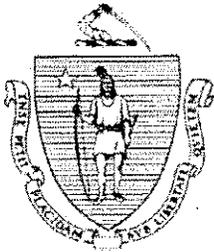
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organizer of sports fishing tournaments and seminars, and a member of recreational fishing organizations, often in leadership positions. Mr. Paquette is a fixture at regional and state fisheries management meetings and public hearings, and is often called upon by regulatory agencies and other organizations to sit on stakeholder advisory boards. He remains active in the sales and marketing of fishing tackle, as an outdoor writer, and occasional crewing of charter trips. Through finding common ground on controversial issues, Mr. Paquette desires to bring the fisheries management process through this time of transition to a modern and adaptive system that serves the need of both our fishermen and the fish.

For the at-large seat currently held by Francis W. Blount, Jr. of Rhode Island, I nominate in order of preference:

- **Patrick Paquette.** See above.
- **Charles Quinn, Jr.** See above.
- **Brendan Mitchell.** Mr. Mitchell was first introduced to the commercial fishing industry in 2012, when he began working part time on a lobster boat. Since that time, Mr. Mitchell has been passionate about staying up to date on management issues. Upon graduating from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2015 with a degree in accounting, Mr. Mitchell began working at the Northern Pelagic Group-NORPEL. At NORPEL, he holds a wide array of responsibilities, which allow him to be well versed in all aspects of the industry. These responsibilities include coordinating production and inventory control, researching and monitoring fishery issues pertaining to the Atlantic Herring and Mackerel industry, representing NORPEL at fisheries management meetings and managing the companies HAACP plan. Mr. Mitchell desires to increase collaboration between managers, scientist and fishermen to produce the best scientific data and restore fishermen's confidence in the NEFMC.
- **Daniel Martino.** Mr. Martino has worked on aquaculture farms in Martha's Vineyard harvesting oysters for nearly six years. Through his work with local, state and federal agencies, local stake holders, legislature and a federal Indian tribe, Mr. Martino was granted the first ever aquaculture lease in the town of Oaks Bluff. In 2015, Mr. Martino, in conjunction with the Martha's Vineyard Shellfish



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Group and the Marine Biological Laboratory at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute to cultivate kelp seaweed. Mr. Martino has served on the Oak Bluffs Shellfish Committee and the Lagoon Pond joint committee since 2014. This year he began serving on the MA Aquaculture Association steering committee and is a member of the East Coast Shellfish Growers Association. In addition to his work on aquaculture farms, Mr. Martino has over 15 years of experience in environmental videos and TV production. He is an Emmy nominated, Telly award winning environmental documentary producer for such production companies as the Discovery Channel, NBC/Universal, National Geographic and NOVA. This education has lead to his great understanding of marketing to large audiences and use of media to cultivate ideas. Additionally, Mr. Martino has been a lifelong recreational fisherman and has participated every year in the Martha's Vineyard Bluefish and Striped Bass Derby.

Through *Marine Fisheries*, I have consulted with representatives of the commercial and recreational fishing interests of the Commonwealth, including members of the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission – a nine member citizen advisory board, representing recreational and commercial fishing interests (including seafood dealers), from various parts of the Massachusetts coast - and former members of the Council, regarding my nominees.

Each of my nominees meets the requirements listed in Section 302(b)(2)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. All have convinced me of their commitment to improving fisheries management in New England and to assist the Council in rebuilding, maintaining, and managing the marine resources so important to the economic vitality of the Massachusetts fishing industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles Baker".

Governor Charles D. Baker

cc: Secretary Matthew Beaton, EEA
Commissioner George Peterson, DFG
Director David E. Pierce, DMF