



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 15, 2016

Ms. Eileen Sobeck
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1316 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

I am offering the following candidates to fill the positions created by the expiration of the at-large seat on the Pacific Fishery Management Council, currently held by Mr. Dan Wolford from California. I am submitting a total of seven names for your consideration in order of preference: Mr. Marc M. Gorelnik, Mr. Peter P. Leipzig, Ms. Ashley L. Erickson, Mr. Thomas A. Marking, Mr. Robert C. Fletcher, Ms. Meaghan H. Brosnan, and Mr. David P. French.

In soliciting nominees, the Department of Fish and Wildlife consulted with individuals and fishery organizations whose members are directly affected by Council actions of the nomination and application process, as required under Fish and Game Code Section 7655 (copy of statute attached). All candidates appear to meet the minimum qualifications relative to pertinent sections of the Magnuson Act and would be willing to accept appointment to the at-large seat.

Nominations were submitted based on consultations with key organizations representing those California fishing industries most affected by Council management plans. The solicitation letter, including the full list of approximately 100 individuals and associations that received the letter, is enclosed. In addition, we solicited nominations from the environmental community as their representatives continue to plan an increasing role in the Council's public process, and in fishery and community collaborations and partnerships.

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

Sincerely,



Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Enclosures

NOMINEES

Mr. Marc M. Gorelnik

Mr. Gorelnik has been a member of the Council's Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) since 2013, and has been a regular participant in state and federal fishery management processes since 2006. Mr. Gorelnik currently serves as Director of Coastside Fishing Club, Golden Gate Salmon Association, and the Coastal Conservation Association.

As a SAS member, Mr. Gorelnik has worked collaboratively with other states and fishery interests on a variety of complex issues requiring coordination and compromise between agencies, user groups and conservationists. As Director of the Golden Gate Salmon Association, Mr. Gorelnik has worked with environmentalists, business owners, commercial anglers, and others to improve salmon habitat and to establish in-river water quality conditions, and has successfully worked with state and federal agency representatives on smolt release and acclimation strategies to maximize survival. Mr. Gorelnik also serves on the California Dungeness Crab Task Force, which is responsible for advising the Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture, the Department, and the Fish and Game Commission (FGC) on fishery management measures, including a new commercial fishery trap limit program. He regularly attends FGC meetings to provide input into the decision making process on salmon, crab and other issues both as an affected individual and as a representative of a group.

From 2007 to 2010, Mr. Gorelnik was an alternate member on the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council and he has also been a member of the Government Affairs Committee of the American Sportfishing Association since 2008. He has 35 years of experience as a recreational angler targeting a diverse variety of species, including salmon, lingcod, halibut, albacore, tuna, groundfish, sea bass, and marlin.

Mr. Gorelnik has over twenty years of experience performing legal services related to a variety of business matters (intellectual property, trademark, patent, and copyright) and has served as outside general counsel to the American Sportfishing Association since 2012. Prior to his legal career, Mr. Gorelnik was a physicist with eight years of management and technical experience.

Mr. Gorelnik has strong communication skills, a demonstrated ability to effectively advocate for the needs of the state as a whole, understands the need to protect the resource and the communities which rely upon the resource, and works well with diverse interest groups. As a regular participant in the Council process for over three years, Mr. Gorelnik is also very knowledgeable about relevant federal laws and the Council's advisory bodies and procedures, and would be able to immediately and effectively represent the needs of the California delegation

early in the term. His background provides a solid foundation which would aid him well in serving California in the Council's public, science-based decision making process.

Mr. Peter P. Leipzig

Mr. Leipzig has been the Executive Director of the Fishermen's Marketing Association since 1978. In this capacity, he represents commercial groundfish and shrimp trawl fishermen from San Pedro, California to Bellingham, Washington. He previously served two terms on the Council from 1989 to 1995, and was Vice Chair from 1993 to 1995. He has been a member and Chair of the Council's Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP), the Council's Limited Entry Buy-Back Committee, and several Council stock assessment review panels. At the national level, Mr. Leipzig has represented West Coast interests on the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC), the Bycatch Steering Committee, and the Committee for Principles of Responsible Fisheries.

Over the past three years, Mr. Leipzig has been instrumental in working with environmental organizations to achieve consensus on recommendations for Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat, including recommendations for areas in northern California that should be open and closed to trawling. He has also been actively involved in experimental fishery research aimed to improve the West Coast groundfish trawl fishery (i.e., catch share program). Personal/vessel accountability for catch and bycatch is a cornerstone element of the catch share program. Mr. Leipzig, in coordination with industry members, federal scientists and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), is testing whether video cameras (e.g. electronic monitoring) can be utilized in lieu of human observers, and if this monitoring approach will be an accurate and cost effective alternative to account for catch and bycatch. The research is showing promise that at-sea monitoring can occur with cameras while maintaining a fiscally viable trawl fishery on the West Coast. Mr. Leipzig was also instrumental in addressing overcapitalization in the West Coast groundfish fleet through a federal buyback program a number of years ago.

Mr. Leipzig currently serves on the Council's Groundfish Allocation Committee and has previously served on the Groundfish Trawl Individual Quota Committee, Groundfish Regulatory Deeming Workgroup, Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat Technical Team, Groundfish Trawl Permit Stacking Committee, and the Groundfish Plan Oversight Committee. He also serves as a faculty associate for the Humboldt State University's Fisheries Department.

Mr. Leipzig has been an active participant at recent Council meetings and based on his knowledge, experience, and prior Council service, would be able to immediately and effectively contribute early in the term as a California Council member representing the needs and interests of the California delegation.

Ms. Ashley L. Erickson Reineman

Ms. Erickson Reineman (“Erickson”) is relatively new to California, moving here from the East Coast in 2011. She is currently the Assistant Director for Law and Policy at Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment. In this capacity she engages with academia, agencies and NGOs and oversees various programs and projects that have an emphasis on law, policy, and education. She is also an academic advisor and lecturer in graduate studies at local institutions. She has worked on interdisciplinary teams to author various documents on national ocean issues including fishery management and ocean planning for academic, agency and NGOs. Since 2011 Ms. Erickson has been involved in California state fishery related issues such as designing research and decision support tools to aid fishery managers, and exploring approaches to improve stakeholder engagement. However, she has not participated in the Council process or in any meetings of Council advisory bodies to date, nor in other California fishery management processes.

Ms. Erickson previously worked as a policy and education manager, a policy and law fellow, and a NGO consultant. She completed a one year fellowship in Washington D.C. and in that capacity researched legislation on implementation funding for the West Coast groundfish catch share program. She has worked with the public and researchers to scope new gear innovations for use in the catch share program and published legal articles on international fisheries issues. Ms. Erickson is licensed to practice law in California and North Carolina.

Mr. Thomas A. Marking

Mr. Marking has been a member of the GAP since 2010, representing private recreational fishery interests in northern California. In his role on the GAP, Mr. Marking has repeatedly demonstrated his ability to work with members from other states in developing recommendations on how to share constraining fish species affecting both recreational and commercial fisheries. He is a regular and effective participant and contributor at both Council and Department-sponsored meetings.

In 2013, Mr. Marking was appointed to the International Pacific Halibut Commission’s Management Strategy Advisory Board, where he currently serves as the only recreational representative. Mr. Marking is a member of the MAFAC Recreational Fisheries Working Group, is a member of the Humboldt Area Saltwater Anglers, and regularly writes articles for local fishery magazines to provide information on current fishery policy and management for northern California and southern Oregon.

Mr. Marking has 60 years of recreational fishing experience in a variety of fisheries including halibut, salmon, steelhead, albacore, rockfish, cabezon, lingcod and greenling. He has worked as

a sampler in the commercial salmon fishery, conducted research studying red abalone, and worked in the mariculture industry on oysters in the Humboldt Bay. Mr. Marking has a strong background in marine biology and marine ecology, and also has over twenty years of management and technical experience in wastewater treatment. In that capacity, he worked regularly with a variety of local, state and federal agencies on regulatory and permitting issues.

Mr. Marking has strong communication skills, and has demonstrated an ability to work with others to achieve consensus in his role on the GAP. Mr. Marking is very knowledgeable about the Council process, and would be able to immediately and effectively represent the needs of California constituents on the Council early in the term.

Mr. Robert “Bob” C. Fletcher

Mr. Fletcher is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of the Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute. He previously served 15 years as a voting member on the Council - six years as an agency designee (1983-1989) when he was the Deputy Director of the California Department of Fish and Game, and nine years (1991-2000) as an at-large member representing California. He also served as the Council’s Vice Chairman for two years (1985-1987) and Chairman for three and a half years (1988 to 1989; 1995-1997). Mr. Fletcher has been a member of the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Committee (2001 - 2008), Marine Reserves Working Group for the Channel Islands, and Regional Stakeholders Group of the Marine Life Protection Act. At the national level, he has also been a member of MAFAC and Chair of the MAFAC Recreational Fisheries Working Group.

Mr. Fletcher was a Commissioner on the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission for a number of years, and Chairman of the Klamath Fishery Management Council. He served for seven years as a U.S. Commissioner on the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. Mr. Fletcher was also President of the Sportfishing Association of California for 10 years, and remains active in the organization today. Mr. Fletcher previously owned and operated two sportfishing charter boats and has fished commercially for tuna, albacore, and swordfish.

Ms. Meaghan H. Brosnan

Ms. Brosnan is new to California fishery management and policy issues. Since November 2014, she has been working as independent consultant for fisheries governance and compliance projects. Prior to becoming an independent consultant she worked with the PEW Charitable Trusts for two years managing a program focused on eliminating illegal fishing worldwide. Ms. Brosnan also served for 12 years as U.S. Coast Guard officer specializing in Living Marine Resources conservation, policy and law enforcement. Ms. Brosnan has also been a guest lecturer

for international environmental law classes. She has not attended any Council meetings since 2009.

Mr. David P. French

Mr. French has worked in the fishing industry intermittently since 1982. He has 32 years of experience as a recreational fisherman, 16 years as an owner and operator of a 6-pack and commercial passenger fishing vessel (CPFV). He has fished for salmon, rockfish, lingcod and albacore. He also has four years of experience as a deckhand on CPFV, trawl, salmon troll and albacore vessels. Currently, Mr. French operates for other skippers on an as needed basis when requested. Mr. French has attended some PFMC meetings.