



LOLO M. MOLIGA
GOVERNOR

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AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT
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LEMANU P. MAUGA
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

April 28, 2017

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Samuel D. Rauch, III
Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Attention: Hannah Hafey

Dear Mr. Rauch:

It is with great pleasure that I submit qualified nominees for the vacant at-large seats for the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. These individuals are listed by seat and order of priority. Their general background and experience are as follows:

Vacant At-Large Seat

1. Fuega Lua Moliga: Mr. Moliga is a life-long fisherman and the owner of 3 alia fishing boats. He is the Treasurer of the Fale-Leluanu'u Fisherman Co-op. His boats troll and bottomfish. As a local fisherman Mr. Moliga would like to preserve traditional fishing practices for future generations. He currently serves as the Director of the Department of Administrative Services for the American Samoa Government.
2. Keniseli Lafaele: As the Director of Commerce for the American Samoa Government, Mr. Lafaele is deeply involved with the economic development and use of fisheries in our Territory. His department is responsible for programs that increase local fishery participation. He has also served as a representative for the American Samoa Government at international treaty negotiations including the South Pacific Tuna Treaty and the Western and Central Pacific Fishery Commission. Currently, he also serves as a member of the American Samoa Fishery Task Force.
3. Eo Elvin Mokoma: Mr. Mokoma is a life-long fisherman and has been an alia commercial fisherman for the past 20 years. He operates the only active alia long-liner in American Samoa. Mr. Mokoma is a member of the American Samoa Alia Fishing Association and he

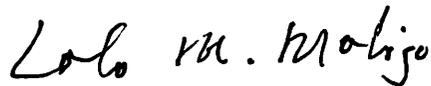
owns and operates two alia boats. Mr. Mokoma is familiar with federal/state fisheries meetings and has attended numerous meetings in the past.

The foregoing list of nominees was compiled by my office after consultation with Va'amua Henry Seseapasara, Director of DMWR. Mr. Seseapasara worked with Governor's Deputy Legal Counsel Alema Leota to identify qualified nominees. My Deputy Legal Counsel also spoke with: Mr. Solip Hong, chairman of the American Samoa Fishery Taskforce to determine viable candidates.

Every year, in compiling this list, my office is committed to soliciting applications from those who are qualified and come from diverse backgrounds and experience. My office continues to solicit applications from those who are qualified, both men and women.

I trust that from the foregoing nominees you will find persons qualified to fill the existing and pending vacancies on the WPFMC. Each nominee is committed to the responsible management of our precious resources and has expressed a strong desire to serve on the council. I look forward to the announcement from the Secretary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lolo M. Moliga". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Lolo M. Moliga
Governor of American Samoa