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Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

March 15, 2014

Ms. Eileen Sobeck
Assistant Administrator for NOAA Fisheries
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910
ATTN: William Chappell

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

It is my pleasure to submit three names for consideration for appointment to the at-large seat on the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) for the State of Maine.

The Department of Marine Resources (DMR) has been in contact with 42 organizations and individuals across the coastal spectrum with knowledge and interest in marine fisheries to seek nominations for this seat. These include the Associated Fisheries of Maine, Maine Coast Fishermen's Association, Portland Fish Exchange, Downeast Lobstermen's Association, Maine Lobstermen's Association, Southern Maine Lobstermen's Association, The Nature Conservancy, Maine Fishermen's Cooperative Association, Downeast Fishermen's Wives, the Maine Association of Charterboat Captains, and the Maine Professional Guides Association.

The individuals listed below are qualified by residency and in accordance with the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevenson Conservation and Management Act. It is very important to stress that these names are prioritized in order based on my strong view of how to best represent Maine's interests on the Council in addition to the long-term stewardship of New England's fishery resources.

For the at-large seat currently held by Mary Beth Nickell-Tooley:

- 1) Mary Beth Nickell-Tooley
- 2) Margaret J. Raymond
- 3) Dr. James Sulikowski

- 1) Mary Beth Nickell-Tooley

Mary Beth Nickell-Tooley is the current Maine at-large member of the New England Fishery Management Council. Mary Beth effectively serves as the Chair of Scallop Committee and is on the Atlantic Herring, Habitat, Ecosystem Based Management, and Trans-Boundary Management Guidance Committees. In addition Mary Beth is a liaison to the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council. Her current professional experience includes Government Relations for O'Hara Corporation based in Rockland Maine, Fisheries Representative for Starlight Inc. based in Vinalhaven Maine, Spokesperson/Fisheries Representative for the Small Pelagic Group, and she is a member of the



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Implementation Team on the Marine Resources Education Project. Additionally Mary Beth serves on the Board of Directors of the Marine Resources Education Project, on the Board of Directors of the Maine Fishermen's Forum, on the Zoning Working Group of the Stellwagon Bank National Marine Sanctuary, as an Industry Advisor to the Gulf of Maine Research Institute and as an Atlantic Herring Advisor for the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Mary Beth has been a very valuable contributor to the Council process.

2) Margaret Raymond

Maggie Raymond of South Berwick, has over 20 years managing her family's groundfishing business and has been the Executive Director of Associated Fisheries of Maine for sixteen years. Maggie also has initiated and participated in a number of fisheries research projects. She is a Board member of the Maine Fishermen's Wives Association and the Maine Fishermen's Forum. Maggie has been an active participant in the New England Fishery Management Council process including membership on the industry advisory panels for groundfish, monkfish and habitat, and the Groundfish Plan Development Team. Maggie understands the issues related to mid and large size vessels and has been a valuable contributor to the Council process.

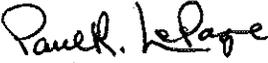
3) Dr. James Sulikowski

Jim Sulikowski is an Associate Professor of Marine Biology at the University of New England in Biddeford, with formal training in zoology, physiology and marine biology. In addition to this formal training he has thousands of hours aboard commercial fishing boats working side by side with fishermen on cooperative research projects. Jim's professional experience includes current membership on the IUCN (World Conservation Union) species survival commission shark specialist group, skate advisor for the New England Fishery Management Council, spiny dogfish advisor for the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, a member of the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, a member of the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review Committee (SEDAR) and as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Elasmobranch Society. Jim's research has focused on commercially valuable species in the Gulf of Maine, and he has been a valuable contributor to the Council's Advisory Panel process.

Thank you for your consideration of these names which are critically important to Maine's fisheries and coastal communities. I will follow up with you, as will my staff, to reiterate the importance of the priority order presented in this letter.

Please contact Commissioner Patrick Keliher at the Department of Marine Resources to answer any concerns or questions that your agency might have.

Sincerely,


Paul R. LePage
Governor

Cc: Patrick Keliher, Commissioner, Maine Department of Marine Resources