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Governor Mike Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

March 15, 2024

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Secretary of Commerce
ATTN: Morgan Corey
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Secretary Raimondo,

In accordance with the provisions of Section 302 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), I am pleased to submit my nominations for the two obligatory seats from the State of Alaska on the North Pacific Management Council (NPFMC) that expires August 10, 2024. I am nominating individuals who are knowledgeable and experienced in the harvest, conservation, and management of fishery resources.

The State of Alaska makes every effort to encourage and seek out qualified women, minorities, tribal members, subsistence users, and individuals representative of historically underserved communities during this process. All the nominees are residents of Alaska. After reviewing the requirements of the MSA and consulting with commercial, recreational, and other fishing interests in Alaska, I submit the following names for your consideration:

Obligatory Seat - Commercial Sector

- Mr. John Moller
- Mr. John Jensen
- Mr. Samuel Rabung

I respectfully request that you appoint Mr. John Moller or Mr. John Jensen.

Mr. John Moller, an Aleut from Unalaska with a lifelong connection to subsistence and commercial fishing, has served on the Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska Council and the Ounalashka Corporation Board. With four decades in commercial fishing, he is the owner and operator of a vessel operating in Southeast Alaska, with experience from Amchitka to Nome. He has managed both a halibut charter vessel and fish processing plants in Adak and Atka and led a

Western Alaska Community Development Quota Organization. His six years on the NPFMC Advisory Panel and involvement in its Crab and CDQ Committees bring a vital, well-rounded perspective to the Council's decision-making.

Mr. John Jensen, a commercial fisherman with over fifty years of experience in Alaska's diverse fishing regions, has consistently been involved in the management and regulatory processes of the industry. A longtime Petersburg, Alaska resident, he has shown a deep understanding of the State's reliance on fishery resources through his commercial endeavors and a self-guided recreational skiff rental business. His contributions to the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council demonstrate his dedication to sustainable fisheries management. With practical experience ranging from gillnetting to operating larger fish tenders, his broad expertise and commitment to conservation and community represent the principles vital for a member of the NPFMC.

Mr. Samuel Rabung is the Director of Commercial Fisheries for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. He upholds the Division's mission to manage subsistence, commercial, and personal use fisheries in the interest of the economy and general well-being of the citizens of the State, consistent with the sustained yield principle, and subject to allocations through public regulatory processes. He believes in managing the resource for the maximum benefit of the people following the sustained yield principle, minimizing waste, and promoting full utilization.

Obligatory Seat - Recreational Sector

- Mr. Brian Ritchie
- Mr. Samuel Rabung
- Mr. Thomas Taub

I respectfully request that you appoint Mr. Brian Ritchie. Mr. Ritchie currently sits on the NPFMC Advisory Panel where he serves as Chairman. He is a former participant in the Homer Charter Association Board, and currently is a part of the Alaska Charter Association Board, Young Fishermen's Network, the IPHC Research Advisory Board, IPHC Conference Board, and is a former AMCC Fishing Fellow. Mr. Ritchie was born and raised in Homer, Alaska, where fishing commercially and recreationally are vital to the local economy and the culture. His upbringing and fisheries involvement have brought him a deep understanding of the value of the varied sectors and fleets that fish and subsist in the North Pacific. He received a Master's Degree in Environmental Science from APU. His studies were focused on fisheries. The education and guidance he had through the development of his thesis helped him gain new perspectives on fisheries science, management, and their interactions. Mr. Ritchie seeks to bring these perspectives to the Council and to help ensure that management is based on sound science and on weighing the interests and wellbeing of all stakeholders.

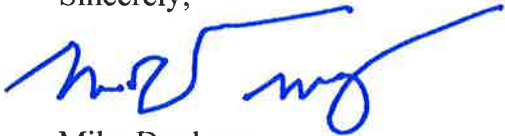
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processes. He believes in managing the resource for the maximum benefit of the people following the sustained yield principle, minimizing waste, and promoting full utilization.

Mr. Thomas Taub is the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish Deputy Director (currently in acting status as Director). In this capacity, his role has been to protect and improve the State's sport fishery resources. He upholds the Department's mission to protect, maintain, and improve the fisheries resources of the State, manage their use and development in the best interest of the economy, and promote the well-being of the people of the State, consistent with the sustained yield principle.

Enclosed you will find a list of commercial, recreational, and other fishing groups that have provided input to my nominations of these knowledgeable and qualified individuals. My preferred nominees – Mr. John Moller, Mr. John Jensen, and Mr. Brian Ritchie – would provide balanced and insightful experience to the NPFMC and will contribute greatly to fisheries management and conservation in the North Pacific. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Dunleavy', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Mike Dunleavy
Governor

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Douglas Vincent-Lang, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
Jordan Shilling, Director of Boards and Commissions, Office of the Governor

List of commercial and recreational fishing groups and other stakeholders providing input for my nominations:

- Homer Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center
- Halibut Association of North America
- Alaskan Leader Fisheries Wild Alaska Cod
- Homer Charter Association
- Freezer Longline Coalition
- Southeast Alaska Guides Organization
- Deep Sea Fishermen's Union
- Cordova District Fishermen United
- Pacific Seafood Processors Association
- Fishing Vessel Owners' Association Incorporated
- Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association
- Kodiak Vessel Owners' Association
- North Pacific Fisheries Association
- Petersburg Vessel Owners Association
- Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
- Aleut Corporation
- Alward Fisheries, LLC
- Silver Bay Seafoods
- Petersburg Borough Assembly
- Ron and Julie Kavanaugh
- Greta Gudmundsson
- Aleutians East Borough
- Mayor Mark Jensen, Petersburg Alaska
- Alaska Federation of Natives
- Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
- Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Tribal Consortium
- Chignik Lake Village Council
- Kodiak Island Tribal Coalition
- Chignik Intertribal Coalition
- Yukon River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
- Mark McNeley, Nelson Lagoon
- Chignik Bay Tribal Council
- Kenai River Sportfishing Association