

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

ROBERT BENTLEY  
GOVERNOR

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## STATE OF ALABAMA

March 10, 2015

Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910  
Attn: Brian Fredieu

Dear Sir:

Thank you for the opportunity to nominate persons to fill the Alabama obligatory seat on the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council that is currently held by Johnny Greene of Alabama. Mr. Greene has been a very valuable member of the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council. I am proud of his service and I hope he will be reappointed to his seat to continue the valuable work he has done over the last six years. In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act and 50 CFR 600.215, the State of Alabama would like to nominate the following three individuals for the Alabama obligatory seat that is to be filled in 2015: Captain Johnny Greene (charter), Joey Dobbs, Jr. (recreational), and Randy Boggs (charter fisherman and recreational).

Captain Johnny Greene is a charter fisherman in the Orange Beach community. Mr. Greene is currently on the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council and has been involved in the charter industry for the past 28 years. He is currently the owner/operator of the F/V Intimidator. He has been active in the Orange Beach Charter Fishing Association and other charter fishing groups. He has also been involved in recreational fisheries for over 33 years. Mr. Greene has done a great job representing Alabama on the Gulf Council for the past six years. **I recommend that Mr. Greene be reappointed to the Alabama obligatory seat for another term.**

Joseph G. Dobbs, Jr. is the owner of Landscape Workshop, LLC. Mr. Dobbs is a member of the Alabama Conservation Advisory Board and was a founding member of the Gulf Coast Conservation Association. He is a current member of the Coastal Conservation Association Birmingham, Alabama Chapter. Joey is an avid fisherman for inshore, offshore and reef fish species. He spends the majority of his time in Coastal Alabama and has been active in the fisheries issues in our state. Mr. Dobbs has a vast knowledge of coastal fisheries and is actively involved with persons in Alabama, and other states as well, concerning coastal fisheries issues. He founded Landscape Workshop in 1986. Landscape Workshop now has four locations in Alabama and has over 300 employees. Dobbs is a board member of the Birmingham Association of

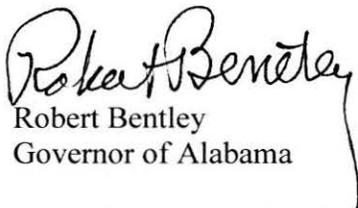
Landscape Professionals, the Birmingham Construction Authority, Auburn School of Horticulture, and American Subcontractors Association - Alabama Chapter and is on the executive committee of Magic Moments, benefiting children with life altering and life threatening diseases. Mr. Dobbs has relationships with commercial, recreational and charter fishermen along the Gulf Coast. He would be very open minded and wants to work cooperatively with all sectors, the other Gulf states and the federal government to use best management practices to ensure viability of our marine resources.

Randy Boggs is the dock manger of the Reel Surprise Dock Store in Orange Beach, Alabama. He sells fuel, ice and bait to recreational, for-hire and commercial fishermen from the dock store and manages the dockage of recreational vessels at the San Roc Cay Marina. Mr. Boggs has been involved in the recreational fishery for over 36 years and interacts with recreational fishermen on a daily basis. He is also the owner of B and D Maritime, Inc. and books fishing trips for 15 for-hire vessels. Mr. Boggs is the owner/operator of the charter boats, "Reel Surprise", "Gulf Winds II", and "Wishbone." Mr. Boggs is an active participant in the Council process.

The nomination process is very important to the State of Alabama. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources/Marine Resources Division (ADCNR/MRD) has met with a variety of groups before selecting the above nominated individuals. The following organizations were consulted in the process: the Organized Seafood Association of Alabama, Alabama Seafood Association, Alabama Seafood Dealers, Coastal Conservation Association, Alabama Coastal Fishermen Association, Orange Beach Fishing Association, the Alabama Seafood Marketing Commission, the University of South Alabama, other charter fishermen, recreational fishermen and marina operators, the Dauphin Island Sea Lab, and other concerned and knowledgeable individuals.

In an effort to consider minority and women candidates AMRD/MRD discussed the nomination process with various persons and organizations. No minority or women candidates provided nomination applications. ADCNR/MRD will continue to work with organizations in Alabama to diversify the nominations for future seats on the Council and in nominations for advisory panels.

Sincerely,



Robert Bentley  
Governor of Alabama

cc: N. Gunter Guy, Jr.  
Chris Blankenship



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

March 11, 2015

Mr. William Chappell  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Mr. Chappell:

This letter is in response to your request for nomination to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. My office consulted with members of recreational and commercial fishing interests and these discussions highlighted the importance of saltwater fishing that support jobs and economic vitality in Florida, particularly in our coastal communities. We received recommendations and endorsements from numerous individuals and organizations who care deeply about the management of our saltwater fisheries:

Bill Kelly, Florida Keys Commercial Fisherman's Association  
Bob Jones, Southeastern Fisheries Association  
Bob Zales, Panama City Boatmen Association  
Brett Fitzgerald, The Snook & Gamefish Foundation  
Brett Veehusen, Seafood Harvesters of America  
Carlos Curbelo, Congressman 26<sup>th</sup> District  
Eric Brazer, Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders' Alliance  
Gary Jarvis, Destin Charter Boat Association  
Heana Ros-Lehtinen, Congresswoman 27<sup>th</sup> District  
Janie Thomas, Shrimp Producers Association  
Jerry Sansom, Organized Fisherman of Florida  
Mario Diaz-Balart, Congressman 25<sup>th</sup> District  
Pam Dana, Current Gulf Council Member  
Russell Hudson, Directed Sustainable Fisheries, Inc.  
Shane Cantrell, Charter Fisherman's Association  
Trip Aukeman, Coastal Conversation Association

After careful consideration of each applicant, I am pleased to nominate the individuals listed below for the at-large seat, currently held by Mr. Juan Sanchez. These nominees are well qualified for their sector and would make excellent candidates for appointment to the Council. Given the serious challenges facing saltwater fishery management in the State of Florida, I am providing my nominations in order of preference and ask that you give strong consideration to the preferred nominee.

I am recommending Mr. Juan Sanchez as the preferred choice for reappointment to the Obligatory seat on the Council. He is the vice president and general manager of Blaylock Oil Company, as well as an avid recreational fisherman who travels globally to fish and learn about

different fishing practices while promoting conservation. Mr. Sanchez has been serving on the Gulf of Mexico Marine Fisheries Council for the past two and half years, gaining knowledge of the multifarious issues impacting the Gulf water fisheries, marine resources, and user groups. He previously served as a member of the South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council. Mr. Sanchez has been an asset to the Council since being appointed in 2012 and hopes to continue thorough evaluation of all available information and work with all user groups toward the mutual goal of sustainably managing our nation's fishery resources in a manner which results in the great economic benefits while allowing fair and equitable access to those resources to all user groups.

My second recommendation is Mr. Robert Spaeth. He is the owner of Fishermen's Ice and Bait Inc as well as Wholesale Fish Distribution and Boat Supplier. Mr. Spaeth also has experience with the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council, as a member of the Reef Fish Advisory Panel since 1980. He has stayed focused on management efforts and their effects on the recreational and commercial fishing industry. He has over 25 years experience in fishing and involvement in the regulatory methods and procedures the Council often needs to address. Mr. Spaeth's major goal is sustainability for future generations, and he believes to achieve this, there needs to be a balance between user groups.

My third recommendation is Mr. Edward Walker. He has been a full-time fisherman for the past 26 years, as well as a federally permitted charterboat operator and fisheries research associate. Mr. Walker currently works with the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council as a member of the Coastal Migratory Pelagic Species Advisory Panel and the Red Snapper For-Hire Advisory Panel. He is also a participant in numerous research projects including gag grouper, red grouper, amberjack, goliath grouper, redfish, shark, and hogfish. Mr. Walker believes that proper informed management has never been more critical; he has the potential to be an asset to the Council by providing informed input to help make the best decisions for the Gulf of Mexico and the fishermen in the area.

In summary, my recommendations for the at-large seat are as follows:

1. Mr. Juan Sanchez
2. Mr. Robert Spaeth
3. Mr. Edward Walker

I appreciate your consideration of my nominations for Council appointment and look forward to seeing citizens of Florida continue their service on the Council in ways that will help ensure wise and sustainable use of our valuable saltwater fishery resources. Please contact my office if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Rick Scott  
Governor



**BOBBY JINDAL**  
GOVERNOR

Post Office Box 94004  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 10, 2015

Eileen Sobeck  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Attention: William Chappell  
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

Enclosed please find my nominations for Louisiana's Obligatory Seat and two At-Large Seats on the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, in priority order. These candidates would be an asset to the Gulf Council. Consultations were made with the commercial, recreational, and for-hire fishing communities of Louisiana regarding these nominees (list attached).

The following are my nominees for the Obligatory Seat held by Campo Matens/LA (Recreational):

- Campo Matens—Recreational
- Charles Conrad Trascher—Recreational
- Christopher Macaluso—Recreational

The Following are my nominees for the At-Large Seat currently held by Harlon Pearce/LA (Commercial):

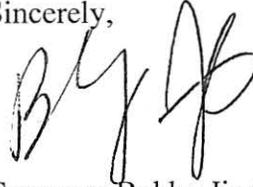
- Edward Swindell, Jr.—Commercial
- Charles Conrad Trascher—Recreational
- Christopher Macaluso—Recreational

The following are my nominees for the At-Large Seat currently held by William "Corky" Perret/MS (Other):

- Bart Yakupzack—Recreational
- Billy Broussard—Commercial
- Christopher Macaluso—Recreational

The required support information is enclosed. Females and minorities have been considered. I recommend this list as the most qualified. Your consideration of these nominees is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bobby Jindal', written in a cursive style.

Governor Bobby Jindal  
State of Louisiana

Enclosures

cc: Robert Barham, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

**BOBBY JINDAL**  
GOVERNOR



Post Office Box 94004  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

March 30, 2015

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

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

Per the advice of NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office Regional Administrator Roy Crabtree, I have amended my nominations for Louisiana's Obligatory Seat and two At-Large Seats on the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council. Enclosed, please find my amended nominations, in order of priority. These candidates would be an asset to the Gulf Council. Consultations were made with the commercial, recreational, and for-hire fishing communities of Louisiana regarding these nominees (list attached).

The following are my nominees for the Obligatory Seat currently held by Campo Matens/LA (Recreational):

- Campo Matens—Recreational
- Charles Conrad Trascher—Recreational
- Christopher Macaluso—Recreational
- George Huye—Recreational

The following are my nominees for the At-Large Seat currently held by Harlon Pearce/LA (Commercial):

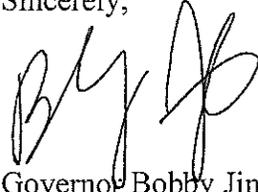
- Edward Swindell Jr.—Commercial
- Charles Conrad Trascher—Recreational
- Christopher Macaluso—Recreational
- George Huye—Recreational

The following are my nominees for the At-Large Seat currently held by William "Corky" Perret/MS (Other):

- Bart Yakupzack—Recreational
- Billy Broussard—Commercial
- Christopher Macaluso—Recreational
- George Huye—Recreational

The required support information is enclosed. Females and minorities have been considered. I recommend this list as the most qualified. Your consideration of these nominees is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bobby Jindal', written in a cursive style.

Governor Bobby Jindal  
State of Louisiana

Enclosures

cc: Robert Barham, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

### **2015 Statement on Effort to Consider Qualified Women and/or Minority Candidates**

A high level of importance was placed on contacting and considering women and/or minority candidates for nomination to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. After thorough review of potential candidates' qualifications, no woman and/or minority candidate was selected.

## **Persons Consulted Regarding 2015 Nominations**

The following persons within the Louisiana recreational, commercial, for-hire, and environmental communities were consulted regarding 2015 nominations to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council:

### Recreational

Neil Toups  
Beau Baudoin  
Tigue Bonneval  
Mark Callais

### For-Hire:

Rene Rice  
Bobby Terrebonne  
Damon McKnight

### Commercial:

Kelty Readenour  
Dean Blanchard  
Harlon Pierce  
Danny Babin

### Other:

Craig Morvant – Marine Industry Representative; Owner, Southern Diesel  
Kevin Martin – Commercial and Recreational Marine Surveyor, Arthur H. Terry & Co.  
Wayne Keller – Administrator, Grand Isle Port Commission  
Windell Curole – South Lafourche Levee District  
Alan Matherne – LSU Sea Grant



PHIL BRYANT  
GOVERNOR

March 10, 2015

Eileen Sobeck  
Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910  
(Attention: Brian Fredieu)

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

Thank you for the opportunity to nominate persons to fill one of the at-large seats on the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council) which will become vacant on August 10, 2015. In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act and 50 CFR 600.215, the State of Mississippi, would like to nominate the following three individuals for one of the at-large seats: Dale A. Diaz, Harvey S. "Sonny" Schindler and J. Read Hendon.

After reviewing the education, experience, and background of each of the five nominated individuals and consulting with appropriate representatives of the environmental community, the recreational, commercial, and for-hire charter segments of the fisheries, I feel each of these individuals meet the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. More importantly, their qualifications identify them, not only as efficient stewards of fisheries resources, but also as individuals prepared to meet the task of attaining the desired management goals of the Regional Fisheries Management Councils.

Mr. Dale A. Diaz has over 25 years of experience in fisheries management and marine law enforcement, which includes seven years of service as the Marine Fisheries, Office Director for Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR). In addition, he spent 10 years commercial fishing for shrimp, crab and oysters. He has served as a Council member on the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, as a proxy, for the Executive Director of the MDMR, since August of 2012. As proxy, Mr. Diaz has been thoroughly committed to reading all material, listening and reaching out to user groups and trying to develop consensus for sustainable resource management decisions. Based on qualifications and great job performance in his current Council role, I strongly recommend that Mr. Diaz be appointed to an at-large seat.

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STATE OF MISSISSIPPI • OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Mr. Harvey S. "Sonny" Schindler has been engaged in the charter-for-hire industry for over 13 years. He is the owner and operator of one of the largest charter for hire business on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and serves on several advisory panels of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. He actively attends federal and state fisheries management meetings, participates in education programs and writes articles for outdoor magazines.

J. Read Hendon, Ph.D. has professional experience as a fisheries biologist for over 20 years and currently serves as Director of the Center for Fisheries Research and Development at Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, University of Southern Mississippi. He has served on the Standing Scientific and Statistical Committee, the Coastal Migratory Pelagics and Red Drum advisory panels of Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.

Of the nominees presented here, the potential success of their placement, if selected, was determined through the following preliminary consultations with individuals in the Gulf Coast's commercial, recreational and for-hire charter fishing, and environmental community. The following organizations were consulted: Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Coastal Conservation Association, Mississippi Charter Boat Captains Association, Southern Shrimp Alliance, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, and other knowledgeable individuals including commercial, charter, and recreational fisherman. While we consulted numerous Mississippi groups regarding women and minority candidates, we were unable to identify a candidate at this time. We will continue to work with organizations and individuals to diversify future nominations.

I have provided a written statement and the nominees' application kits for their consideration for one of the at-large seats.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil Bryant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Phil Bryant  
Governor of Mississippi

Cc: Jamie Miller



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

March 11, 2015

Ms. Eileen Sobeck  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

In response to the request for nominations to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC), I wish to submit the following nominees to be considered for the two at-large seats which will become vacant on August 10, 2015. The four candidates should be considered for both seats.

Mr. William L. "Tres" Atkins, III, Galveston, Texas  
Mr. Troy Bello Williamson, III, Portland, Texas  
Captain Michael "Mike" Jennings, Angleton, Texas  
Mr. Ronald O. "Ronnie" Luster, Houston, Texas

Enclosed are the nomination packets for the four nominees. These individuals are all knowledgeable of the conservation and management of fishery resources and each possesses a unique background and experience as it relates to resource management.

**William L. "Tres" Atkins, III** is a commercial fishing captain with over 20 years of experience in both charter for hire, recreational and commercial fishing industries and holds a Master 100 Tons License issued by the United States Coast Guard. He is owner and operator of Atkins Seafood and Coastal Charter Adventures, which specializes in private guided fishing tours in the Galveston, Freeport, and Gulf of Mexico areas, and is a member of the Gulf of Mexico Reef Fish Shareholders' Alliance and the Charter Fisherman's Association. Mr. Atkins is also an active participant in both national and state fisheries meetings such as, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department public hearings and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council meetings and scoping hearings.

**Troy Bello Williamson, II**, is an attorney in private practice in Corpus Christi and a recreational fisherman. Mr. Williamson has demonstrated his concern and commitment to fisheries management issues through his service on numerous panels and commissions. He is a

Commissioner on the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. Mr. Williamson is also a member of the Gulf Of Mexico Fishery Management Council's Red Snapper Advisory Panel, Coastal Migratory Pelagics Advisory Panel, Ad Hoc Red Snapper IFQ Advisory Panel, Ad Hoc Red Snapper Charter for Hire Advisory Panel and Ad Hoc Artificial Substrate Advisory Panel.

**Michael "Mike" Jennings** owns and operates two federally permitted charter vessels that take recreational fisherman offshore for private fishing charters. He has been a charter fisherman for 27 years. Mr. Jennings dedicates a substantial portion of his time advocating on behalf of his industry and sustainability in the fishery as President of the Charter Fisherman's Alliance. Mr. Jennings is also a member of the Gulf Of Mexico Fishery Management Council's King Mackerel Advisory Panel.

**Ronald O. "Ronnie" Luster** is a property and casualty insurance broker specializing in the oil and gas industry. He is a founding member of Gulf Coast Conservation Association (now Coastal Conservation Association). Mr. Luster is a member of the Commercial/Recreational Fisheries Advisory Panel of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. In 2006, Field and Stream magazine named Mr. Luster a winner of their National Hero of Conservation for initiating the volunteer driven retrieval of abandoned crab traps.

In compliance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, we have conferred with representatives from the recreational and commercial fishing communities regarding the nominees. In addition, my staff has also consulted with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, which has a significant number of public advisory groups on marine related issues. My appointments staff actively encourages and sought nominees from diverse ethnic backgrounds and various areas of the state.

I recommend you to consider these nominees for the available seats on the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. I believe they are highly qualified and possess the talents and experiences necessary to make any of them an effective council member. I appreciate your consideration of the nominees.

Sincerely,



Greg Abbott  
Governor

GA:ls

Enclosures