



EDDIE BAZA CALVO
Governor

RAY TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor of Guam

March 9, 2015

Ms. Eileen Sobeck
Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
United States Department of Commerce
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20810

Re: Obligatory Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council
Recommendation for Guam.

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

Hafa Adai! It is with great pleasure that I submit my three nominations as required by the Obligatory Seat for Guam to the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council: Mr. Michael P. Duenas, Mr. James Borja, and Mr. Peter Perez. Each nominee meets the requirements listed in Section 302(b)(2)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, which states that each nominee should be knowledgeable regarding the conservation and management, as well as commercial and recreational harvest of the fishery resources within the Council's geographical jurisdiction. Additionally, all are very well aware of the subsistence needs of our island community.

I recommend that Mr. Michael Duenas continue to represent Guam on the Council, and recognizing such is subject to the Secretary of Commerce's approval. Mr. Duenas has represented our island as Council member since 2012 and prior to his term, he served as an advisory panel committee member since 2006. Mr. Duenas has been extremely active with the Guam Fishermen's Cooperative Association (GFCA), a community based not for profit corporation, since 1997 and is well versed in local fisheries issues. Mr. Duenas has been a subsistence and recreational fisherman since childhood (30 years). Currently, Mr. Duenas is employed as General Manager of the Guam Fishermen's Cooperative Association, and as a result has integral knowledge of all aspects of Guam's fisheries. In the performance of his duties, he is responsible for ensuring that the Conservation Policies of the GFCA are followed. Mr. Duenas also oversees science based sustainable fisheries programs such as data collection, bio-sampling, and life-history research, while continuing to pursue his lifelong passion for fishing.





EDDIE BAZA CALVO
Governor

RAY TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor of Guam.

Mr. Peter Perez has been an active subsistence fisherman since childhood, and comes from a well-respected fishing family. His fishing experience extends from shoreline to offshore. Mr. Perez presently serves as an advisory committee member on the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. He is currently employed as the Civilian (Civil Service) Administrator for all Guam Based Military Transportation.

Mr. James Borja is President of the Marianas Underwater Fishing Federation, and was part of the core team that established the organization in 1997. He is an active fisherman and fishes both inshore and offshore. Mr. Borja has served on the advisory panel for the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. He is also a current board member for the Guam Fishermen's Cooperative Association. Mr. Borja is currently employed with the Guam Power Authority as a Personnel Specialist IV.

Over the past couple of months, Lt. Governor Ray Tenorio and I have consulted Mr. Manuel P. Duenas, President of the Guam Fishermen's Cooperative Association, Mr. James Borja, President of the Marianas Underwater Fishing Federation, and Mr. Thomas Camacho, President of the Guam Organization of Saltwater Anglers, as well as others in the fishing community, and we are comfortable with our nominations.

While all three are very well qualified for this vacancy, I respectfully request the appointment of Mr. Michael P. Duenas to this Obligatory position. I am confident that Mr. Duenas more than meets the qualifications listed in the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Furthermore, I believe he has shown his commitment to effective management of our resources for sustainable future use and enjoyment.

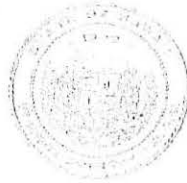
Should you have any questions concerning the nomination packets of Guam's participation in the Council, please do not hesitate to contact Franklin P. Arriola at 472-8931 or by email at franklin.arriola@guam.gov.

Sinseru yan Magåhet,



EDDIE B. CALVO
I Maga'Låhen Guåhan
Governor of Guam





EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

March 9, 2015

Ms. Eileen Sobeck, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
Attention: Mr. Brian Fredieu
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

Thank you for NOAA's letter regarding Hawaii's upcoming obligatory seat vacancy on the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (Council). I am nominating the following individuals in order of priority: Michael Goto (renomination), Alton Miyasaka and Edwin Watamura.

All the nominees have expressed a desire to serve on the Council; and all have knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources, commercial or recreational harvest of fishery resources and/or habitat and ecosystem approaches to resource management. My list reflects minority candidates; however, no qualified women were available for consideration.

The required documents for each nominee are enclosed. If further information is needed, please contact Ms. Sharon Ibarra, Director of Boards and Commissions, Office of the Governor (808-586-0034), or Mr. Carty Chang, Interim Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (808-587-0401).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David Y. Ige", is positioned above the printed name of the Governor.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawaii

WESTERN PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL NOMINATION RATIONALE

The following nominees are individuals who, due to their occupation, experience, scientific expertise, training, or interest, are knowledgeable of Hawaii's fishery resources.

Michael (Mike) Goto, who is currently serving his first term in Hawaii's obligatory seat, is a commercial and recreational fisher. In his position with the United Fishing Agency, Mr. Goto works closely with the entire fishing industry. He has dealt with the commercial fisheries sector, including the longline, shoreline, handline, trolling, shallow-set swordfish, and bottomfish fisheries. Mr. Goto is also a member of the Hawaii Longline Association. In the past years, Mr. Goto has participated in the Council's fisheries forum, advisory panels, Plan Teams, as well as Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and Council meetings.

Alton Miyasaka, current Acting Program Manager of the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources, has 35 years' experience working with the State's Department of Land and Natural Resources. Mr. Miyasaka has extensive knowledge of the State's commercial and recreational fishery resources; and is actively involved in the sustainability of these resources and associated habitats. Over the years, Mr. Miyasaka has served on various Council committees, working groups, and Plan Teams. He currently serves as the State's alternate representative at Council meetings.

Edwin Watamura is experienced in fisheries management (10+ years), commercial fishing (20+ years) and recreational fishing (60+ years) fishing. Currently, he is Chair of the Advisory Panel to the Council and is a member of several of its Special Working Groups. In addition, Mr. Watamura is President of the Waialua Boat Club, a Hawaii representative to the NOAA Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee Recreational Fishing Working Group, member of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Advisory Committee, and founding member of the Hawaii Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition. He regularly attends Council SSC, Plan Team and REAC meetings.

INDIVIDUALS/GROUPS CONSULTED WITH AND/OR SHOWN SUPPORT OF NOMINEES

The following groups within the fishing community have been consulted regarding nominations to the Council: the Hawaii Longline Association; the Pacific Islands Fisheries Group; Hawaii Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition; Maui Fishing Cooperative; Waialua Boat Club; Kauai Trollers; and Maunalua Hawaiian Civic Club.

The following individuals provided input and/or were involved in some capacity in the nomination process: Kitty Simonds, Executive Director, Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council; Sharon Ibarra, Director of the Governor's Boards and Commissions; Brian Kanenaka, Michael Fujimoto, Jo-Anne Kushima, and Reginald Kokubun of the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources; and Carty Chang, Interim Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.