



STATE OF DELAWARE  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

TATNALL BUILDING, SECOND FLOOR  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BOULEVARD SOUTH  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

**JACK A. MARKELL**  
GOVERNOR

PHONE: 302-744-4101  
FAX: 302-739-2775

March 11, 2016

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

Attention: Brian Fredieu

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

I hereby nominate three highly qualified individuals for consideration of appointment to our Delaware obligatory seat on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC). All three nominees are well known in Delaware's recreational and commercial fishing sectors. The staff of the Fisheries Section of the Division of Fish and Wildlife in the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control have reviewed the credentials of these nominees and find that each meet the requirements of Section 302(b)(2)(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Delaware's recreational and commercial fisheries are important industries in our state. I understand and appreciate the importance of nominating qualified individuals to preserve and protect our natural resources and restore those that are currently depleted or in decline. I also agree that it is important to nominate individuals who are not only qualified, but also may reflect the diversity of our great state. Our Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife conducted an extensive search for qualified applicants. Their web site posted the information about the MAFMC seats along with the application and instructions for how to apply. They also spread the word with notices emailed to all individuals on their extensive email list. Furthermore, applying for the MAFMC seats was discussed at meetings of Delaware's fisheries councils. Despite these efforts, we did not receive female or minority applications.

Upon all things being considered, I am honored to nominate in priority order the following individuals, for consideration of appointment to the Delaware Obligatory seat:

1. Paul Weston Townsend

Paul Weston (Wes) Townsend is a successful commercial fisherman with 45 years of experience fishing both state and federal waters. Mr. Townsend's family has lived along Delaware's Inland Bays since the 1730s and this history has given him a deep appreciation of the interactions between people and fisheries. He has years of involvement in fisheries management that go well beyond his fishing. He has served as a Commercial Fishing Councilor on Delaware's Advisory Council on Tidal Finfisheries since 2009. In addition he has served on both the MAFMC and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Advisory Panels since 2014. Mr. Townsend's commercial fishing experience combined with his understanding of and participation in fisheries management make him the best candidate to represent Delaware on the MAFMC.

2. Andrew Manus

Mr. Manus holds degrees from the University of New Hampshire (B.S.) and Texas A&M University (M.S.). He had a 38 year career in natural resources management, which included serving as the Director of the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife for eight years. During his time as Director of the Division he was very involved with fisheries management. He maintained his interest in fisheries management in his retirement. Mr. Manus background in managing natural resources at the state and regional level will make him a great fit for MAFMC.

3. Dr. Dewayne Fox

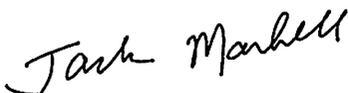
Dr. Dewayne Fox has degrees from California Polytechnic University (B.S.), University of Washington (M.S.), and North Carolina State University (Ph. D.). Dr. Fox is currently an Associate Professor of Fisheries Science at Delaware State University. He has conducted much research on fish species managed by the MAFMC and ASMFC, and is well known for his Atlantic Sturgeon research. Prior to becoming a fisheries research scientist Dr. Fox worked in both recreational and commercial fisheries. He is that special academic who maintains a strong rapport with both recreational and commercial fishermen. Dr. Fox's knowledge of the fisheries and rapport with all the fishing public make him an ideal candidate for MAFMC.

In addition to the nominees for the Delaware obligatory seat on the MAFMC, I will be sending 3 qualified nominees for the vacant at large seat on the MAFMC with hope that Delaware will be given the opportunity to fill an at-large seat.

Enclosed is the requested completed application kit for each nominee.

Thank you for your consideration of these qualified nominees and I look forward to hearing from you following the appointment.

Jack A. Markell



Governor

**STATE OF MARYLAND  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**



**LARRY HOGAN**  
GOVERNOR

STATE HOUSE  
100 STATE CIRCLE  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1925  
(410) 974-3901  
(TOLL FREE) 1-800-811-8336

TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

March 11, 2016

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

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

On August 10, 2016 three vacant at-large seats on the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council will become available. The State of Maryland would like to offer the following qualified nominees for the vacancies listed in order of preference:

**At-Large Seat**

1. Mr. David Sikorski
2. Mr. Ward Slacum
3. Mr. Mark Eustis
4. Mr. Pete Jensen

The nominees provided share many years of experience regarding conservation and management, research, recreational and commercial harvest of fisheries resources in the Mid-Atlantic region. Each is passionate about the long term viability and sustainability of these resources and each understands the need for management to ensure these goals.

In an effort to solicit for these nominees, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) queried various commissions/committees (Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission, Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission), used the Departments Fisheries Service Constant Contact distribution list, and placed an announcement on the Departments Fisheries Service homepage. Advisory group members, Constant Contact recipients, and readers of the Fisheries Service website represent the broad spectrum of conservation, commercial and recreational interest groups in Maryland which include women and minorities. When considering potential nominees, MDNR made every effort to include for consideration qualified women and minority candidates.

Eileen Sobeck  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
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If you have any questions during your review of the enclosed applications, please contact David Blazer, Director of MDNR Fisheries Service. Mr. Blazer can be reached by phone at (410) 260-8281 or via e-mail at [David.Blazer@Maryland.Gov](mailto:David.Blazer@Maryland.Gov).

Sincerely,



Larry Hogan  
Governor

cc: David Blazer, Director of MDNR Fisheries Service

Enclosures



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
P.O. BOX 001  
TRENTON  
08625  
(609) 292-6000

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
GOVERNOR

Via Overnight Mail

Eileen Sobeck  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries  
United States Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway  
Room 14636  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
March 11, 2016

Attn: Brian Fredieu

Dear Mr. Fredieu:

Enclosed please find the completed nomination materials for New Jersey's at-large seat on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC). The New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council, the Garden State Seafood Association, numerous commercial fishing docks and all major commercial fishing ports throughout the State were solicited for nominations. Efforts were made to solicit applications from qualified women and minority candidates. The candidates below belong to or are affiliated with some of these organizations and each has been active in both state and federal level fishery management issues. They are all highly respected within the commercial industry and recreational sector.

New Jersey At-Large Seat:

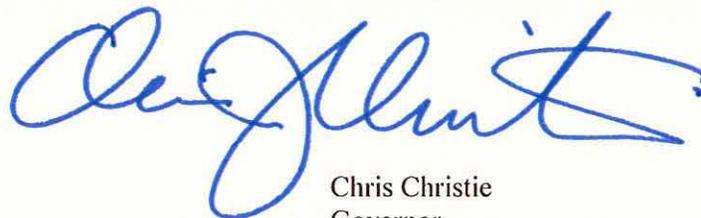
- **Jeffrey H. Kaelin**—Mr. Kaelin is the incumbent in this seat, currently nearing completion of his first term. He has been involved in various aspects of the commercial

fishing operations for the last 35 years. Currently, Mr. Kaelin is the Government Relations Coordinator at Lund's Fisheries, one of New Jersey's largest commercial fishing companies. Additionally, he serves as the Chair of the Industry Advisory Board for the Science Center for Marine Fisheries and as an Advisor on a number of MAFMC and New England Fishery Management Council committees. He is a former member of the U.S. Coast Guard and the Maine House of Representatives. It is recommended that Mr. Kaelin remain as New Jersey's at-large representative.

- **Peter Hughes**— Since 1990, Mr. Hughes has been the Director of Sustainability at Atlantic Capes Fisheries, a significant seafood dealer in a wide variety of commercial fisheries products in Cape May. He is also the Fishing Industry Coordinator at Fishermen's Energy. Additionally, he is an advisor to the Fisheries Survival Fund, the Science Center for Marine Fisheries, the Garden State Seafood Association, the Cape May Seafood Association, and a number of New England Fishery Management Council committees.
- **Ernie Panacek**—Mr. Panacek is the General Manager at Viking Village, a major commercial port and dealer in Barnegat Light, New Jersey. He maintains the fishery permits, informs fishermen on all aspects of the commercial fishing industry rules and regulations, and handles seafood sales. He has been working at Viking Village since 1989 and has been in the commercial fishing industry for over 35 years. Mr. Panacek is also the President of the Garden State Seafood Association, and the Bluewater Fisherman's Association.

Thank you for your consideration of my nominees. If you have any questions, please contact Matthew McDermott, Director of Appointments, at (609) 777-2203.

Sincerely,



Chris Christie  
Governor



# **COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**

## **Office of the Governor**

Terence R. McAuliffe  
Governor

March 11, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Fredieu,

I am proud to nominate, in order of preference, Roger Mann, Ken Neill, and Meade Amory for an at-large seat on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council which will become vacant on August 10, 2016.

Each of these candidates is fully qualified for this position by reason of their occupational or other experience, scientific expertise, or training, are knowledgeable regarding the conservation and management, or the commercial or recreational harvest, of the fishery resources. Ensuring the vitality of our tidal waters natural resources is essential to a vigorous economy for our coastal communities, and each of these individuals would prove an asset to the Council.

Serving the Commonwealth for much of his career, and each candidate's experience and expertise has enhanced the sustained use and productivity of our fisheries and each candidate has shown a commitment to stewardship of our marine resources. The above nominations are, in part, the result of consultations with members of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission and its Finfish Management Advisory Committee, the Virginia Seafood Council, the Shellfish Growers of Virginia, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Nature Conservancy, and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. Along with those considerations, a great deal of thought and expertise from state agencies – principally the Virginia Marine Resources Commission and its staff – went into the selection of Virginia's nominees.

I am committed to the goal of increasing women and minority representation throughout government and on boards and commissions like the MAFMC. Efforts were made to identify qualified women and minority nominees, but given the constraints of the concurrent Virginia Legislative session and the relatively short period between receipt of the nomination packet and the nomination deadline, none could be found with the appropriate credentials, experience and willingness to serve. An effort is now in place and will remain ongoing to pre-select women and minority candidates for future openings and the Commission should expect to see a very diverse slate of nominations from Virginia in the future.

In addition to his long and distinguished career as a marine scientist, Roger Mann is also a veteran of the related field of fisheries management. He has a long history of working closely with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission to provide scientific advice to guild management decisions on a wide variety of species. Roger's experience would allow him to step into a familiar role at the MAFMC and act with confidence and competence and provide a well-grounded, in-depth scientific perspective to the Council's deliberations.

Ken Neill has been involved in both fisheries research for many years through the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and Old Dominion University, and is a respected member of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission and its advisory boards.

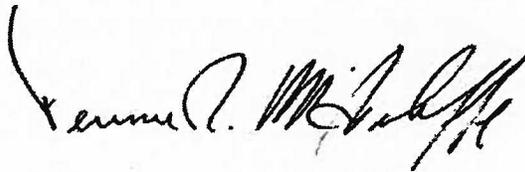
As a member of the business community and owner of Amory Seafood, Meade Amory has a first-hand understanding of the health and vitality of our fisheries, from both an economic and harvesting basis. Although each of these candidates offers different backgrounds, they all share a significant commonality – a lifetime of dedication to our marine resources.

These candidates demonstrate the skills and knowledge necessary to carefully strike a balance between a flourishing economy and habitat and species conservation. While respecting the delicate nature of competing interests, each candidate has a firm grasp on decisions that best fit the needs of our nation's marine resources. These candidates are ready to manage the many aspects of MAFMC by aiding informed decision-making on fisheries and other resources throughout this North Carolina-New York region of Federal waters, developing management plans for our federally- or jointly-managed coastal resources, promoting recreational activities, and participating in local, interstate, and Federal fishery organizations.

These candidates have a long-standing, deeply-rooted, and enduring interest in the conservation and management of our coastal fisheries throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. Their experience, knowledge, and expertise are sure to prove valuable to the citizens of all of the member states of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

I am pleased to nominate Roger, Ken, and Meade for MAFMC's vacancies and I am confident that you will find each of these candidates as qualified as I do. The Commonwealth of Virginia respectfully submits that the other two nominees put forth be given consideration for any additional open seats on the Commission. No other nominees will be put forward at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terence R. McAuliffe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T" and "M".

Terence R. McAuliffe