



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 9, 2016

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

RE: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Nominations to the New England Fishery
Management Council

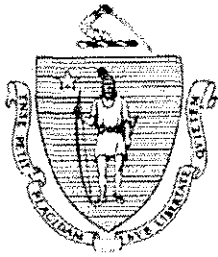
Dear Ms. Sobeck:

I am submitting five individuals as nominees for the two vacant at-large seats on the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) that will become vacant on August 10, 2016. Included are the completed application kits for the nominees.

My selections were made from a list of candidates who responded to the efforts of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (*Marine Fisheries*) to solicit interest in the NEFMC position. Efforts included an announcement over the Division's email listserve, posting on the *Marine Fisheries* website, and outreach made by *Marine Fisheries* staff to potentially qualified candidates. Efforts were made to consider qualified women and minority candidates. Those whom I am nominating are eligible by reason of occupational or other experience, scientific expertise, or training, thereby making them knowledgeable and experienced in ways related to the fishery resources of New England.

For the at-large seat currently held by Dr. Michael Sissenwine of Massachusetts, I nominate in order of preference:

- **Michael Sissenwine (incumbent).** Dr. Sissenwine has provided scientific advice in support of fisheries management worldwide for nearly 40 years. Following retirement from an extensive career at NOAA Fisheries, he became an independent marine science consultant, member of the New England and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils' Scientific and Statistical Committees,



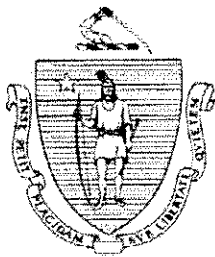
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Visiting Scholar of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and Adjunct Professor at the University of Massachusetts School for Marine Science and Technology. Dr. Sissenwine held numerous leadership positions within the federal fisheries agency, including Senior Scientist (overseeing the agency's scientific programs throughout the country) and Director of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (responsible for the administration of five national laboratories and 11 agency programs). He has authored over 100 scientific reports and publications on a wide range of topics within his discipline, co-edited three books, served on numerous regional, national, and international committees, and been recipient of various civil, private, and academic achievement awards. He holds a B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Massachusetts and a Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Rhode Island. He currently serves on the NEFMC's Executive, Sea Scallop, Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management and Observer Policy Committees in addition to the Risk Policy Working Group.

- **Charles Quinn, Jr.** Mr. Quinn has over 40 years of experience in the commercial scallop fishery. He has been the owner/operator of five commercial scallop vessels and business operating out of New Bedford since 1986. He has actively engaged in the NEFMC's Scallop Advisory Panel and currently is involved with the Fisheries Survival Fund, New Bedford Chamber of Commerce and New Bedford Port Society. Since 1998, Mr. Quinn has worked side-by-side with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and UMass-Dartmouth School for Marine Science and Technology on scallop fishery research studies and the Coonamessett Farm Foundation on the Research Set-Aside Program. Mr. Quinn will bring his experience working as a fisherman, in management and with scientist to the NEFMC to help form a successful and sustainable management model across all New England fisheries. He seeks to bridge the gap between regulators, scientists, managers and fishermen by improving fishery knowledge from scientific research.
- **Patrick Paquette.** Mr. Paquette is a lifelong angler and prominent recreational fisheries advocate and specialist. Following years of employment in the charter boat industry and engagement in assorted sport fishing related activities, he launched in 2008 a private consulting business offering assistance in understanding and organizing the recreational fishing community. He has a recognizable voice among stakeholders from 10 plus years as an outdoor writer both freelance and as a columnist to a number of magazines, as a participant and



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organizer of sports fishing tournaments and seminars, and a member of recreational fishing organizations, often in leadership positions. Mr. Paquette is a fixture at regional and state fisheries management meetings and public hearings, and is often called upon by regulatory agencies and other organizations to sit on stakeholder advisory boards. He remains active in the sales and marketing of fishing tackle, as an outdoor writer, and occasional crewing of charter trips. Through finding common ground on controversial issues, Mr. Paquette desires to bring the fisheries management process through this time of transition to a modern and adaptive system that serves the need of both our fishermen and the fish.

For the at-large seat currently held by Francis W. Blount, Jr. of Rhode Island, I nominate in order of preference:

- **Patrick Paquette.** See above.
- **Charles Quinn, Jr.** See above.
- **Brendan Mitchell.** Mr. Mitchell was first introduced to the commercial fishing industry in 2012, when he began working part time on a lobster boat. Since that time, Mr. Mitchell has been passionate about staying up to date on management issues. Upon graduating from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2015 with a degree in accounting, Mr. Mitchell began working at the Northern Pelagic Group-NORPEL. At NORPEL, he holds a wide array of responsibilities, which allow him to be well versed in all aspects of the industry. These responsibilities include coordinating production and inventory control, researching and monitoring fishery issues pertaining to the Atlantic Herring and Mackerel industry, representing NORPEL at fisheries management meetings and managing the companies HAACP plan. Mr. Mitchell desires to increase collaboration between managers, scientist and fishermen to produce the best scientific data and restore fishermen's confidence in the NEFMC.
- **Daniel Martino.** Mr. Martino has worked on aquaculture farms in Martha's Vineyard harvesting oysters for nearly six years. Through his work with local, state and federal agencies, local stake holders, legislature and a federal Indian tribe, Mr. Martino was granted the first ever aquaculture lease in the town of Oaks Bluff. In 2015, Mr. Martino, in conjunction with the Martha's Vineyard Shellfish



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Group and the Marine Biological Laboratory at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute to cultivate kelp seaweed. Mr. Martino has served on the Oak Bluffs Shellfish Committee and the Lagoon Pond joint committee since 2014. This year he began serving on the MA Aquaculture Association steering committee and is a member of the East Coast Shellfish Growers Association. In addition to his work on aquaculture farms, Mr. Martino has over 15 years of experience in environmental videos and TV production. He is an Emmy nominated, Telly award winning environmental documentary producer for such production companies as the Discovery Channel, NBC/Universal, National Geographic and NOVA. This education has lead to his great understanding of marketing to large audiences and use of media to cultivate ideas. Additionally, Mr. Martino has been a lifelong recreational fisherman and has participated every year in the Martha's Vineyard Bluefish and Striped Bass Derby.

Through *Marine Fisheries*, I have consulted with representatives of the commercial and recreational fishing interests of the Commonwealth, including members of the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission – a nine member citizen advisory board, representing recreational and commercial fishing interests (including seafood dealers), from various parts of the Massachusetts coast - and former members of the Council, regarding my nominees.

Each of my nominees meets the requirements listed in Section 302(b)(2)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. All have convinced me of their commitment to improving fisheries management in New England and to assist the Council in rebuilding, maintaining, and managing the marine resources so important to the economic vitality of the Massachusetts fishing industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Baker", written in a cursive style.

Governor Charles D. Baker

cc: Secretary Matthew Beaton, EEA
Commissioner George Peterson, DFG
Director David E. Pierce, DMF



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MARGARET WOOD HASSAN
Governor

March 9, 2016

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

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

Enclosed are New Hampshire's nominees for the upcoming vacancies on the New England Fishery Management Council. For New Hampshire's obligatory seat, I request the following applicants be considered in the following order of preference:

Ms. Ellen Goethel
Mr. David Goethel
Mr. Mark Godfroy

Ms. Goethel is a marine educator and is a co-owner of a 44 foot stern trawler. She is completing her first term on the New England Fishery Management Council in NH's obligatory seat, where she served on a variety of committees including the Groundfish, Small Mesh Multispecies, Research Steering, and Enforcement Committees. In addition, she is very knowledgeable of marine fisheries issues and was previously appointed by the Secretary of Commerce to serve on the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee and is also a member of the Advisory Committee for the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program. Ms. Goethel is on the Board of Directors of the Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire, the Policy Advisory Committee for NH Sea Grant and has served on the Town of Hampton, NH Conservation Commission as well as on a number of community programs. Her efforts toward marine conservation have been recognized by the US Fish and Wildlife Service for her volunteer work on fisheries issues, the Coastal Conservation Association of NH as their 2009 Conservationist of the Year, and by the Gulf of Maine Council which presented her with a Stewardship Award in 2014. Ms. Goethel has also actively supported programs with our Division of Marine Fisheries. Ms. Goethel's input has always been focused on putting the needs of marine resources first while trying to work towards practical, equitable, and reasonable solutions to fisheries management issues.

Mr. Goethel previously worked for and captained recreational charter party boats and commercial fishing vessels. He is currently a commercial fisherman who owns and operates the F/V Ellen Diane, a 44-foot dragger. Mr. Goethel previously served three terms on the Council in New Hampshire's obligatory seat during which he chaired a number of committees including the Research Steering, Habitat, and Whiting Committees. He currently serves on the Council's Small Mesh Species Advisory Panel and the Northeast Trawl Survey Advisory Panel. In

addition he has served on several Advisory Panels of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. He is also on the Board of Directors of the New Hampshire Commercial Fisherman's Association, Northeast Seafood Coalition, Yankee Fishermens Cooperative and the Center for Sustainable Fisheries. Locally, Mr. Goethel was a long time member of the Governor's Advisory Committee for Marine Fisheries where his degree in biology combined with extensive experience in both the recreational and commercial fishing industries have made him a valuable asset to the state.

Mr. Godfroy is owner and captain of two party boats (Lady Traci Ann II and Lady Courtney Alexa) that operate out of Seabrook, NH as part of Eastman's Fishing Fleet where he has been a charter/party boat captain for nearly 20 years. Mr. Godfroy is also a charter member of the Gulf of Maine Charter and Recreational Fishing Association and was recently appointed to the New England Fishery Management Council's Recreational Advisory Panel. Mr. Godfroy is a supporter of proactive management that provides for sustainable resources and businesses that thrive.

The State of New Hampshire has actively sought qualified applicants from all societal sectors for the Council seats. Our nominee list includes members of the commercial, recreational, and marine education sectors. Nominees were interviewed by the public, including representatives of recreational, commercial, and conservation coastal resource interests in the state, during a candidates' night hosted by our Marine Fisheries Division. The public input was very helpful in determining the order of preference for each of our highly qualified nominees.

The individuals selected for consideration recognize the extensive time obligation the Council seats require and have demonstrated their willingness to make the necessary time commitment.

I would like to thank Brian Fredieu of your staff for the well organized and detailed nominee package. It was very helpful when trying to meet the required deadline.

On a final note, I will not be making any nominations this year for the available at-large seats. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding New Hampshire's obligatory seat nominees to the New England Fishery Management Council.

With every good wish,



Margaret Wood Hassan
Governor

Enc.

Cc: Glenn Normandeau NHFG
Douglas Grout, NHFG



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

State House
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-1196
401-222-2080

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

March 14, 2016

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

Re: Nominations for New England Fishery Management Council

Dear Ms. Sobeck:

I write in response to your letter of January 20, 2016 seeking nominees for one of two at-large seats on the New England Fishery Management Council that will become vacant on August 10, 2016.

I am pleased to forward you the nomination packages for three highly qualified candidates: **Richard John Bellavance Jr.; Zachary H. Harvey; and David Paul Monti**. I respectfully seek your consideration of these fine candidates to fill the at-large seat held by Francis W. Blount Jr. of Rhode Island, who is completing his third and final term on the Council.

All three candidates have firm and impressive grasps on the many issues facing the New England Council. And, they are all particularly strong with regard to their background and experience in recreational fisheries. This is important for two reasons.

First, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act obligates the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, to the extent practicable, to ensure a fair and balanced apportionment between the commercial and recreational fishing sectors in the appointment of members to the regional fishery councils. I am aware that the current membership of the New England Council is weighted heavily toward commercial interests. In fact, at present, Mr. Blount is the only recreational member of the Council. Accordingly, it stands to reason that the Secretary will be inclined to appoint someone

with a strong recreational fishing background to fill Mr. Blount's vacancy. The slate of candidates I am submitting all represent recreational fishing.

Second, Rhode Island's obligatory seat on the New England Council is held by Mr. Eric Reid, who was appointed last year. Mr. Reid works for a major Rhode Island fish dealer/processor, and serves as an excellent representative of Rhode Island's commercial fishing industry. Thus, filling Mr. Blount's at-large seat with a representative from Rhode Island's recreational fishing industry would not only help to balance the overall membership of the Council, but also would balance the Rhode Island delegation to the Council.

The three candidates I recommend are as follows.

Richard John Bellavance Jr.

Mr. Bellavance has had a long and impressive career as a Rhode Island fisherman, representative of the Rhode Island fishing community, and member of various fishery management boards. He brings a wealth of experience, expertise, and common sense to the table. He is well-versed in the fisheries management arena. He understands the resources, the industry, and the management system. He is energetic, committed, and visionary.

Mr. Bellavance grew up in Rhode Island and has been actively engaged in recreational and commercial fishing since childhood. He owns and operates Priority Charters, LLC, a well-respected for-hire fishing business in Galilee. He is President of the Rhode Island Party and Charter Boat Association (65 members). He has participated in the Gulf of Maine Research Institute's Marine Resource Education Program (three courses and former Board member), and he has served on a myriad of fisheries councils, commissions, committees, and panels, including:

- New England Fishery Management Council – Groundfish Advisory Panel
- Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council – Scup/Black Sea Bass/Summer Flounder Advisory Panel
- NMFS Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel
- NMFS Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee – Recreational Fishing Working Group
- Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee
- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (legislative proxy)
- ASMFC Scup/Black Sea Bass/Summer Flounder Advisory Panel
- Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program – Advisory Panel, Chair
- RI Marine Fisheries Management Council
- RI Industry Advisory Committee, Chair (subset of RI Fisheries Council)
- RI Coastal Resources Management Council – Fishermen's Advisory Board

Mr. Bellavance has also served as a fishery liaison for the Deepwater Wind project off Block Island, and he has served on the boards of both the Rhode Island-based Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation and the Rhode Island Commercial Fisheries Center (the latter per his status as President of the Rhode Island Party and Charter Boat Association). While primarily a recreational (for-hire) fisherman, Mr. Bellavance also holds a Rhode Island commercial fishing license and occasionally engages in commercial fishing. Mr. Bellavance has demonstrated a strong commitment to the sound protection of fishery resources and the fishermen who depend on them. He has also long advocated for, and piloted, innovative approaches to data collection, research, and management, putting him at the forefront of an industry that is increasingly embracing progressive, science-based initiatives as a means for achieving growth and stability, as well as flexibility. His strong and diverse background, his grasp of the issues, his leadership skills, and his forward-thinking approach to fisheries management render him well-suited for a seat on the New England Council.

Mr. Bellavance's candidacy is strongly supported not only by the Rhode Island Party and Charter Boat Association and several members of the Rhode Island recreational fishing community, but also the Commercial Fisheries Center of Rhode Island, a coalition of twelve Rhode Island-based commercial fishing organizations representing a major portion of commercial fishing interests in the state. It is noteworthy that Mr. Bellavance has strong support from the Rhode Island commercial fishing community, notwithstanding his primary status as a member of the recreational (for-hire) community.

Zachary H. Harvey

Mr. Harvey is a lifelong fisherman and long-time writer on fisheries issues, who is now committed to broadening his experience and interest by entering the fisheries management arena. He has spent much of his life on the water, in and around Rhode Island, fishing recreationally, and working aboard for-hire and commercial vessels. While most of his professional experience has been associated with the recreational (for-hire) industry, he has also worked as a deckhand on a variety of commercial operations, including rod and reel, lobster, fish pot, tub trawl, gillnet, and bottom trawl.

He earned his B.A. from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, majoring in Writing and Communications; and he participated in the Gulf of Maine Research Institute's Marine Resource Education Program.

Mr. Harvey is an accomplished writer – a true fishing journalist – and the extent and depth of his writings over the years have endowed him with keen insights and forged close working relationships with many individuals from the Rhode Island and New England fishing communities. While he has not yet been a participant in the fishery management process, he has been a sharp observer and analyzer of the process over the past twenty years.

He began his career in the field as Managing Editor for the New England edition of *The Fisherman* magazine, and held that position for seven years. For five years, he also served as the Senior Field Editor for the magazine. Via those positions, he wrote countless feature articles, columns, and editorials on wide-ranging issues of importance to the New England fishing community. While the publication is recreationally oriented, Mr. Harvey had the insight, experience, and knowledge to address commercial issues as well, and did so via his thoughtful, balanced writings.

Mr. Harvey has since broadened his career – while remaining primarily focused on recreational fishing issues – serving as the Fishing Editor for *Soundings* magazine and the *Angler's Journal*, and as Editorial Consultant for the *Coastal Angler* magazine, Rhode Island edition. Over the years, he has received numerous awards and honors for his writing.

Mr. Harvey is astute, pragmatic, and conscientious. He understands the challenges facing the New England fisheries and knows many of the key stakeholders involved in the fisheries. He is ready and willing to engage in the consensus building necessary to restore, stabilize and grow the fisheries. He is a fine candidate for a seat on the New England Council.

Mr. Harvey's candidacy is supported by Chris Willi of Block Island Fishworks & Sandy Point Fly Leaders.

David Paul Monti

Mr. Monti is a well-known and highly regarded member of the Rhode Island recreational fishing community. He is a long-time charter boat captain, a fishing journalist, a thoughtful contributor to fisheries policy and management issues, and holds a top leadership role with the Rhode Island's largest recreational fishing organization representing over 7,500 recreational anglers. He is a graduate of the University of Rhode Island with dual degrees in Political Science and Journalism. He has fished recreationally since he was a boy, harvested scallops on Nantucket for fifteen years, and remains actively engaged in the recreational fishery as the owner and operator of *No Fluke Charter Fishing and Tours*.

Mr. Monti is the weekly fishing columnist for the *Providence Journal*, Rhode Island's major daily newspaper. He also writes a companion column that appears weekly in eleven other Rhode Island and Massachusetts newspapers. He has a knack for communicating clearly and effectively on a host of marine fisheries issues, with a particular focus on emerging policies, programs, and regulations affecting the state and region. He routinely travels to meetings and hearings in Washington, DC and elsewhere, to gain first-hand insight on the issues he covers.

Mr. Monti has participated in the Gulf of Maine Research Institute's Marine Resource Education Program (two courses), and is currently participating in an applied shellfish farming program conducted by Roger Williams University. In 2011, he was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Management Council, and has continued to serve since then. He has emerged as a particularly active and influential member of the Council, always prepared, always inclined to ask the right questions, and always aiming to support what's best for the resources and the people who depend on them. He has twice been appointed to the NOAA Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee - Recreational Fishing Working Group as a New England representative.

Mr. Monti serves as a Vice-President and Chair of the Legislative Committee for the Rhode Island Saltwater Angler's Association, known as the largest recreational fishing association in the Northeast. He is also an active member of the Rhode Island Party and Charter Boat Association. With a strong background in marketing, he is working on a marketing effort aimed at raising the profile of the Rhode Island for-hire industry. As well, he is also involved with Rhode Island's Seafood Marketing Collaborative, which is focused on branding Rhode Island seafood to help increase awareness of locally landed commercial seafood products to enhance local fisheries and fishermen.

Mr. Monti offers a clear, thoughtful, and well-versed perspective on a range of priority issues associated with marine fisheries in Rhode Island. He espouses a "fish first" philosophy and is particularly focused on the challenges and opportunities associated with climate change and ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management. His background and experience, his grasp of the issues, his leadership and communication skills, and his penchant for sound, well-informed decision making render him well-suited for a seat on the New England Council.

Mr. Monti's candidacy is strongly supported by the Rhode Island Saltwater Angler's Association and the twenty-five groups and organizations affiliated with the Association, the Chair of the Rhode Island Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture, the Rhode Island Senate President Pro Tempore, the Vice-Chair of the Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Council, and many others in the Rhode Island recreational fishing community.

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management reached out to Rhode Island's entire marine fisheries community, broadly soliciting candidates for the two vacancies. No minorities applied for consideration. One woman applied for consideration; while she was found to be highly qualified, her background, experience, and current position are strongly oriented toward commercial fishing. Given the need to better balance the New England Council with representatives from the recreational fishing industry, I have opted to limit my submission of candidates to those with a strong background in and connections with the recreational fishing sector.

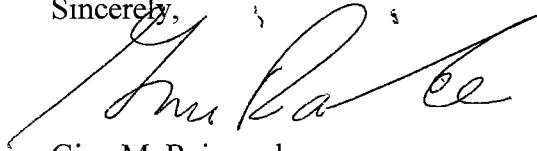
In considering the candidacies of Mr. Monti, Mr. Harvey, and Mr. Bellavance, I, through the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, consulted with a range of

Eileen Sobeck
March 14, 2016
Page 6

individuals and organizations from Rhode Island's marine fishing community, listed in the attachment to this letter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina Raimondo", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the left.

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor