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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
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CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 12, 2018

Chris Oliver
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910
ATTN: Hannah Hafey

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

Dear Mr. Oliver:

I am submitting three individuals as nominees for the Massachusetts obligatory seat on the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) that will become vacant on August 10, 2018. 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 positions. Outreach included an announcement over the Division's email listserv, posting on the *Marine Fisheries* website, and direct contact with 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 resource of New England.

For the obligatory seat currently held by John Quinn of Massachusetts, I nominate in order of preference:

- **John Quinn, Ph.D. (incumbent).** Over the past 27 years, Mr. Quinn has been involved in many aspects of the New England fishing industry, particularly Massachusetts and the port of New Bedford. As a former elected member of the Massachusetts legislature for 18 years and a practicing attorney representing various fishing interests, he worked with the complexities of the rules and regulations in the industry. He has been member to several fishery advisory boards, including the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Institute's Advisory Council. He also is a scholar of public administration and policy, gaining skills during his doctoral studies, such as conflict resolution, which assisted the Council in difficult deliberations during his first and second terms. Mr. Quinn has quickly gained the respect of his fellow Council members, as evidenced by his leadership role therein (re-elected Chairman). In addition to his role as Chairman, Mr. Quinn also serves on the Council's Executive, Council Coordination, and Northeast Region Coordinating Committees. He also directs the Public Interest Law Program at UMass Dartmouth's School of Law.

- **Michael Pierdinock.** Mr. Pierdinock is a lifelong angler and recreational fisheries advocate. He is the owner/operator of the charter boat *Perseverance* that has targeted various inshore, offshore, and groundfish species since 2003. In addition to his successful charter boat business, Mr. Pierdinock actively participates on various committees, councils, and advisory panels that impact recreational anglers and the for-hire industry. Currently, he serves on the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission, Stellwagen Bank Charter Boat Association, U.S. ICCAT Advisory Committee, NMFS Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel, and NEFMC Recreational Advisory Panel. Mr. Pierdinock is also a regular contributor to industry magazines and radio shows, discussing the latest fishery management issues that impact recreational fishermen. Mr. Pierdinock seeks to bring his experience as a charter boat captain and in the management process at the state and federal level to the Council to assist in making sound management decisions that consider the economic and social impacts to all stakeholders.
- **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. Currently, Mr. Quinn serves on the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Commission. 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.

Nominations are not being made for the at-large seat currently held by Vincent Balzano of Maine.

Through *Marine Fisheries*, I have consulted with the following representatives of the commercial and recreational fishing interests of the Commonwealth regarding my nominees, including former members of the NEFMC and members of the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission—a nine-member citizen advisory board, representing recreational and commercial fishing interest (including seafood dealers):

Recreational Background

Kalil Boghdan
 Tim Brady
 C. Rip Cunningham

Commercial background

Raymond Kane
 Louis Williams

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 blue ink that reads "Charles Baker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Governor Charles D. Baker

cc: Secretary Matthew Beaton, EEA
Commissioner Ronald S. Amidon, DFG
Director David E. Pierce, PhD, DMF



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage

GOVERNOR

March 9, 2018

Chris Oliver
Assistant Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Attention: Hannah Hafey

Dear Mr. Oliver,

It is my pleasure to submit the following names for consideration for appointment to the at-large seat and the obligatory seat on the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) for the State of Maine.

The Department of Marine Resources (MEDMR) has been in contact with a number of organizations and individuals across the coast with knowledge and interest in marine fisheries. These organizations include Associated Fisheries of Maine, the Maine Coast Fishermen's Association, the Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries, Maine Lobstermen's Association, Downeast Lobstermen's Association, American Bluefin Tuna Association, The Nature Conservancy, Maine Aquaculture Association, Maine Association of Charterboat Captains, and the Portland Fish Exchange.

The individuals listed below are qualified by residency and in accordance with the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Conservation and Management Act.

It is worth noting that my nominations are prioritized in order based on my views of how best to represent Maine's interests on the Council, as well as the long-term stewardship of New England's fishery resources.

For the at-large seat currently held by Vincent M. Balzano:

1. Vincent M. Balzano
2. Kristen E. Brawn
3. John-Paul J. Bilodeau



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TTY USERS CALL 711
www.maine.gov

PHONE: (207) 287-3531 (Voice)

FAX: (207) 287-1034

1. Vincent M. Balzano

Vincent Balzano is a third-generation fisherman who has been involved in the fishing industry for over 25 years as a participant in a number of trawl and seine fisheries, including groundfish, whiting, herring, shrimp, and menhaden. Vincent is the owner of two small vessels located in Portland and is a current NEFMC member. Vincent currently serves as the Chairman of the Scallop and Whiting Committees, and also serves on the Atlantic Herring and Habitat Committees. Vincent is a member of a Maine-based Groundfish Sector, and has participated in many fishery-related cooperative research projects with Maine-based research institutions, including MEDMR.

2. Kristen E. Brawn

Kristen “Togue” Brawn has worked in the seafood industry for almost thirty years. Togue is owner of a specialized sea scallop seafood company, “Downeast Dayboat,” as well as an independent fisheries consultant, journalist, and former Resource Management Coordinator for the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR). Togue is a current member of the MEDMR Advisory Council and holds a dealer’s seat on the Board of Directors for the Maine Fishermen’s Forum. Togue is passionately committed to seafood marketing and sustainability.

3. John-Paul J. Bilodeau

JP Bilodeau is an employee of the New England Fish Company, a wholesale bait supplier of herring, menhaden and skates, as well as the F/V Providian, a herring trawler based in Portland, Maine. Currently, JP serves on the NEFMC Atlantic Herring Advisory Panel, and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s River Herring/Shad Advisory Panel.

For the obligatory seat held by Terry A. Alexander:

1. Terry A. Alexander
2. John-Paul Bilodeau
3. Kristen Brawn

1. Terry A. Alexander

Terry Alexander is a current member of the NEFMC, president of the Associated Fisheries of Maine, and owner of two vessels (one trawl, one gillnet) participating in a number of fisheries, including groundfish, squid, shrimp, monkfish and scallops. Terry is a member of the Executive Committee, serves as the Chairman of the VMS/Enforcement Committee and Vice-Chair of the Groundfish Committee. He also serves on the Transboundary Management Guidance, Habitat, and Monkfish Committees, and represents the Council on the Atlantic Large Whale Take

Reduction Team. He is a member of two Maine-based Groundfish Sectors, and served on the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee from 2009-2012.

2. John-Paul Bilodeau

3. Kristen Brawn

I appreciate your consideration of these individuals for these critical appointments; I am confident of their experience and qualifications to represent our state on behalf of Maine's fisheries and coastal communities.

I have asked DMR Commissioner Patrick Keliher to follow up with you to reiterate my priorities, but please feel free to contact him directly with any questions or concerns that your agency may have.

Sincerely,



Paul R. LePage
Governor of Maine

Cc: Patrick Keliher, Commissioner, Maine Department of Marine Resources



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

March 14, 2018

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

Attention: Brian Fredieu

Subject: New England Fishery Management Council Nominations

Dear Mr. Fredieu:

I am pleased to forward the names of three highly qualified individuals as nominees for Connecticut's obligatory seat on the New England Fishery Management Council. Connecticut's seat is currently held by Dr. Matthew G. McKenzie. Enclosed you will find a complete nomination package for each candidate. There is also a vacancy for one at-large seat, for which I am submitting two nominations as a result of a recent withdrawal from consideration of a third candidate.

The following nominees for Connecticut's obligatory seat meet what I believe to be pressing needs for Connecticut's and the region's fisheries. The state is best served by members who are knowledgeable and experienced in marine fisheries conservation, fishing communities, commercial fisheries interests, and recreational fisheries interests. I ask that you give your fullest consideration to Connecticut's nominees in the priority order presented below:

Dr. Matthew G. McKenzie
Mr. Michael W. Theiler
Mr. Mark S. Alexander

Although I am aware that you are seeking at least three nominations per seat, I respectfully request that you also consider Mr. Theiler and Mr. Alexander, in that order of priority, for the at-large seat. We had identified a third candidate for the at-large seat, whom we intended to nominate, but

unfortunately, that candidate recently withdrew because of other commitments.

Dr. McKenzie is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Connecticut. He teaches and has published on the subjects of Historical Marine Ecology and Marine Environmental History, has lectured on historical New England fisheries management issues, and has extensive experience in environmental and fisheries policy. As stated in his application, Dr. McKenzie's research focuses on "historical research into marine environmental history and historical marine ecology concentrating on intersection of economy, culture, ecology, and science of New England's fisheries" and includes a large body of work that identifies and characterizes those connections and their relationship and importance to fisheries, especially in New England. Dr. McKenzie's knowledge and experience reflects a valuable and rare perspective on the connections between social/economic and scientific/ecological functions of fisheries and fisheries management. Indeed, during his first two terms serving as a Council member, he has proven to be an effective advocate for conservation and has worked diligently with fellow Council members to implement both the spirit and letter of the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act.

Mr. Theiler is an enterprising and successful commercial fisherman who has built a career upon the waters of Long Island Sound and southern New England. He is an articulate and engaged fisheries stakeholder who is deeply involved in the fisheries management process at the state, interstate, and federal levels. He is a vocal industry advocate at state hearings and public meetings and has long been a member of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Area 6 Lobster Conservation Management Team. As the lobster fishery in Long Island Sound has declined, Mr. Theiler has expanded his fishing business into the Limited Access General Category sea scallop fishery and attends scallop-related meetings of the New England Fishery Management Council.

Mr. Alexander will be retiring effective April 1, 2018 from his position as Assistant Director of the Fisheries Division after over 35 years with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Mr. Alexander has served as the Connecticut's official state designee to the New England Fishery Management Council since late 2008. He has a wide range of Council experience, having served on the Research Steering (ex-Chair), Sea Scallop, Monkfish (ex-Chair), Small-mesh Multispecies, Law Enforcement/VMS, and Red Crab Committees. He also served as the Council's representative to the Northeast Regional Planning Body.

We have conducted a broad and active campaign to recruit volunteers for both available seats, including seeking minority and women candidates. Notice of the Council seat vacancies was distributed by email list-serve on January 12, 2018 to nearly 1,000 subscribers of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Marine Fisheries News, whose readers represent a cross section of the recreational and commercial fishing industry and environmental community. The notice was also emailed on the same date to the DEEP Marine Advisory Group. An appeal was made to the membership of the Southern New England Fishermen and Lobstermen's Association at its January 29, 2018 meeting. Personal telephone contact was made to Connecticut commercial fishermen identified from landings data as being reliant on New England Council managed species. Following identification of the nominees described above, appeals for input on the nominees was made to: DEEP Marine Advisory Group Chair Mr. Jack

Conway, Connecticut Charter & Party Boat Association President Capt. Marc Berger, and the Connecticut Seafood Advisory Council.

Thank you for considering my nominations.

Sincerely,



DANNEL P. MALLOY
Governor

DPM/msa

cc: Robert Klee, Commissioner
Susan Whalen, Deputy Commissioner
William Hyatt, Natural Resources Bureau Chief
Peter Arrestad, Fisheries Division Director



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

March 7, 2018

Chris Oliver
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 – Rhode Island Obligatory Seat

Dear Mr. Oliver:

I write in response to your letter of January 25, 2018 seeking nominees for the Rhode Island obligatory seat on the New England Fishery Management Council, which will become vacant on August 10, 2018.

I am forwarding you the nomination packages for three highly-qualified candidates from Rhode Island for this seat: Eric Reid, William Mackintosh, and Gregory Mataronas.

Having carefully considered the qualifications of the three candidates, I respectfully recommend the reappointment of Mr. Reid to the seat.

Eric Reid is completing his first term on the Council and is eligible for reappointment to a second term. By all accounts, he has established himself as a top-notch member of the Council. He never misses a meeting, always comes prepared, and is widely admired and respected – throughout Rhode Island and the region – for his thoughtful, well-informed, and influential engagement on the many issues faced by the Council. Mr. Reid has shown, time and again, that he has the temperament, sensibility, and sound judgement to work through challenging and often controversial issues in a professional, reasoned, and dignified manner. While he has a particularly strong commercial-fishing orientation, Eric is also well-versed on recreational fishing issues, and maintains a balanced perspective regarding the two sectors. For these reasons, along with his strong background, knowledge, and experience in marine fisheries, and the broad support for his reappointment offered by the Rhode Island marine fishing community, I believe he is exceptionally well-qualified for and deserving of reappointment to a second term.

Mr. Reid has actively participated in commercial and recreational fisheries in Rhode Island for 45 years. He first worked as a deckhand on for-hire vessels, then became licensed and ran the vessels as a captain. He did this while attending the University of Rhode Island, from which he graduated in 1981 with an A.S. degree in Fisheries and Marine Technology. Following graduation, he began working as a commercial fisherman, serving as both deckhand and captain on bottom trawl and longline vessels operating out of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Jersey ports.

After ten years of experience on the water, Mr. Reid redirected his fisheries focus to shoreside processing. Since 1983, he has worked for seven different seafood processing companies. After brief stints with the Tri-Coastal Co-Op in Gloucester, MA and the Atlantic Coast Fisheries Corp. in New Bedford, MA, he began working as Production Manager and Plant Manager for several Rhode Island-based companies: Point Judith Packing Co.; Seafresh USA, Inc.; and The Town Dock, Inc. Having established himself as an industry leader in Rhode Island's premier fishing port, Mr. Reid then started his own business in Galilee – Deep Sea Fish of Rhode Island, Inc. – which he owned and operated for eleven years, through 2013. His facility was a full-service vessel unloading facility and fresh fish production plant, and was one of the most active operations in the port. Since 2013, Mr. Reid has served as General Manager at Seafreeze Shoreside, Inc., a large, full-service seafood processing facility in the Port of Galilee.

Throughout his long and successful career, Mr. Reid has also taken the time to engage in the fisheries management process. A strong advocate for the industry, and for sound resource conservation, he has served in leadership roles in numerous capacities – as (past) president of both the Rhode Island Seafood Council and the American Seafood Institute, and as the founding member of both the East Coast Fisheries Association and the New England Seafood Producers Association. He has contributed to numerous marine fisheries policy initiatives in Rhode Island, and he has testified on fisheries issues at the Rhode Island State House.

Since 2015, when he was both appointed to the New England Council and almost simultaneously appointed by Rhode Island State Senator V. Susan Sosnowski to serve as her legislative proxy on the Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission, Mr. Reid has been deeply engaged in the fisheries management arena, at the federal and interstate levels. As a member of the New England Fisheries Management Council, he has served as Chair of the Monkfish Committee, Vice-Chair of the Habitat Committee, and as a member of the Sea Scallop; Whiting; and Ecosystem-Based Management Committees. He has also served as New England Council liaison to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Demersal, River Herring/Shad, and Squid/Mackerel/Butterfish Committees.

Mr. Reid has what it takes – the experience, smarts, poise, and thoughtfulness – to continue serving on the New England Council. He is immersed in the Rhode Island commercial fishery and has a firm grasp on the regional issues that affect our fisheries; he is well-regarded by his peers, and he has a personality suited to the challenging task of serving on the Council. He was an impressive candidate three years ago, and is an even more impressive candidate now. I am proud to have him serve on behalf of Rhode Island, and with your support, I look forward to having him reappointed to a second term.

William Mackintosh is also a solid, well-qualified candidate. He is highly regarded member of the Rhode Island commercial fishing community, steeped in experience both on the water and at the table. He has been engaged in commercial fishing in Rhode Island since the early 1970s, and has successfully pursued a variety of harvest activities, including rod and reel, floating fish traps, shellfishing, lobstering, long lining, fyke netting, dragging, haul seining, fish potting, and gill netting, while also launching a seasonal fish market.

Mr. Mackintosh's vast experience, keen insights, and commitment to sound conservation and management have led to many meaningful contributions to state and regional management programs. He was instrumental in the development of Rhode Island's first striped bass management plan in 1979. Thereafter, he worked closely with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management to help develop escape vents for lobster pots, and with the National Marine Fisheries Service to help develop pingers for use on gill nets. He has long served on the Lobster Conservation Management Teams for southern New England, formed by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Lobster Board to

help guide the development of conservation and management measures for the region. He has also served on the Harbor Porpoise and Large Whale Take Reduction Teams, formed by the National Marine Fisheries Service to help develop plans to mitigate the risk to marine mammals posed by fishing gear.

Mr. Mackintosh is one of the longest-serving and most well-respected members of the Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Council. Since he was first appointed to the Council in 2011, he has been fully engaged in the process of reviewing and offering recommendations on all regulatory issues pertaining to marine fisheries management in Rhode Island. He is a huge talent and a tremendous asset to our fishing community and our State. I am honored to name him as one of my three nominees for the New England Council seat.

Gregory Mataronas embodies the future of marine fisheries. He is relatively young, bright, level-headed, and well-versed on a wide range of marine fisheries issues. His age notwithstanding, he has fished his entire life, and already has nearly 30 years of experience. He comes from a fishing family, so he was able to get his start in the business at a very young age. Much of his early experience involved lobster fishing. He then branched out, still as a trap fisherman, into whelk, sea bass, and scup. He captained two different offshore lobster boats at various times since 2003. Recently, he entered into a partnership with his brother, and is now the co-owner of a major fishing business involving a gillnet vessel that primarily targets monkfish, skates, and summer flounder.

Mr. Mataronas has a strong educational background. He graduated Magna cum laude from Southampton College/Long Island University in 2003 with a B.S. in Marine Biology. He then worked his way through the University of Rhode Island's Master's Program in Aquaculture (thesis and degree pending). Recently, he completed the Marine Resource Education Program through the Gulf of Maine Research Institute.

Rounding out his strong background, Mr. Mataronas has been deeply immersed in fisheries policy and management. He serves on the New England Fishery Management Council's Skate Advisory Panel. He is a member of the Board of the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation, based in Kingston, RI. He serves as an officer with three organizations: the Rhode Island Lobstermen's Association, Rhode Island Monkfishermen's Association, and the Sakonnet Point Fishermen's Association. He also serves on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Area 2 Lobster Conservation Management Team. He has engaged in several collaborative fisheries research projects. He is a regular attendee at New England Fishery Management Council and Rhode Island Fishery Management Council meetings, and reliably offers thoughtful and meaningful input on pending management issues.

Mr. Mataronas is well-known, well-liked, and well-respected throughout the Rhode Island commercial fishing community. With his breadth of experience, education, energy, and commitment, Mr. Mataronas is well-positioned for a promising future as both a successful commercial fisherman and a leader in the fishing community. He rounds out the impressive slate of candidates for the Rhode Island obligatory seat, and it is an honor for me to recommend him for consideration.

In evaluating the candidacies of Mr. Reid and the other nominees, acting through the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, I consulted with a range of key individuals who represent commercial and recreational fishing interests in Rhode Island, including: Katie Almeida, Fishery Policy Analyst, The Town Dock, Inc.; Rick Bellavance, President, Rhode Island Party and Charter Boat Association; David Borden, Executive Director, Atlantic Offshore Lobstermen's Association; Christopher Brown, President, Rhode Island Commercial Fishermen's Association and President, Commercial Fisheries Center of Rhode Island; Richard Fuka, President, Rhode Island Fishermen's Alliance; Michael Marchetti, President, Eastern New England Scallop Association; and Stephen Medeiros, President, Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association.

Please be advised that I am only submitting nominees for the RI-obligatory seat on the Council. I am not submitting nominees for the one at-large vacancy on the Council. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact Department of Environmental Management Director Janet Coit at janet.coit@dem.ri.gov or (401) 222-2771.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina Raimondo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

Gina M. Raimondo
Governor

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