



LOLO M. MOLIGA
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT
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LEMANU P. MAUGA
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 13, 2020

Serial No.:139

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

Subject: Nomination of William Sword, Peter Reid III, and Le'a'ai Filoialii for WPRFMC
At-Large Seats

Dear Mr. Oliver:

After receiving your January 15, 2020 letter and much consideration, I am pleased to submit my nominations for the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WPRFMC) At-Large Seats. These candidates offer a wealth of experience and insight that will undoubtedly be beneficial to the Council. They are listed in order of priority and their general backgrounds are as follows:

At-Large Seats

- 1. William Sword:** Mr. Sword is an engineer by trade and a dedicated sports fisherman. He is intimately familiar with the Council process as he has already served on the WPRFMC. Mr. Sword is also well versed on local fishery issues as he deals with the refueling of fishing boats in his profession and he is a member of the American Samoa Fisheries Task Force. Mr. Sword's nomination would represent the recreational sector.
- 2. Peter Reid III:** Mr. Reid is a local businessman with over 40 years of recreational fishing experience. He is the president of Samoa Motors, Inc., a car dealership, and is a board member for shipping companies and distributors. He is also a member of the Pago Pago Game Fishing Association. Mr. Reid's nomination would represent the commercial sector.
- 3. Le'a'ai Meafua Filoialii:** Mr. Filoialii currently serves as the mayor of the village of Siufaga in Ta'u, Manu'a. He has served as president of the Ta'u-Taisamasama Fisheries Corporation for nearly 10 years. He has also participated in recreational fishing for nearly 30 years. Mr. Filoialii is familiar with WPRFMC having attended past meetings held locally in American Samoa. His nomination would represent the commercial sector.

Chris Oliver
March 13, 2020
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The foregoing list represents careful consideration to identify qualified candidates. My office is committed to providing nominees to the WPRFMC that represent diverse interests and backgrounds to better serve the Council.

I trust that you will find these nominees well qualified to fill the At-Large vacancies. They have each displayed a strong desire to serve and a commitment to the responsible management of our fisheries. I appreciate the opportunity to submit their nominations and look forward to the announcement from the Secretary.

Sincerely,



LOLO M. MOLIGA
Governor

attach: Application of William Sword, Peter Reid III, and Meafua Filoialii

cc: Honorable Lt. Governor Lemanu Peleti Mauga
 HTC Fiu J. Saelua, Chief of Staff



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
Attention: Diane Daly
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Administrator:

Thank you for NOAA's letter regarding the upcoming At-Large vacancies for Hawai'i and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) seats on the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (Council). I am nominating the following individuals in order of priority:

Hawai'i At-Large

1. Matthew Ramsey (Recreational)
2. Solomon Kahooalahala (Recreational)
3. Shaelene Kamakaala (Recreational)

CNMI At-Large

1. Eric Kingma (Commercial)
2. Roger Dang (Commercial)
3. Jiro John Kaneko (Commercial)

All nominees have expressed a desire to serve on the Council. All nominees have knowledge of or experience in the conservation and management of marine resources, commercial or recreational harvest of fishery resources, or habitat and ecosystem approaches to resource management. My list reflects qualified women and minority candidates.

The required documents for each nominee are enclosed. If further information is needed, please contact Mrs. Linda Chu Takayama, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor (808-586-0005), or Ms. Suzanne Case, Chairperson of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (808-587-0401).

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

State of Hawaii's Nominations to the WesPac Council

(In alphabetic order, by last name)

Roger Dang is President of Dang Holdings, which owns Hawaii-based longline vessels, fuel and fishing supply companies, and Hawaii's largest seafood wholesale distribution company (Fresh Island Fish) with facilities on Kauai, Oahu, Maui and Hawaii Island.

Solomon Kahoohalahala is a lifelong traditional subsistence fisher and gatherer. He is a native Hawaiian descendant from the island of Lanai. Currently Mr. Kahoohalahala serves as the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument Native Hawaiian Elder on the Reserve Advisory Council, he chairs the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council, and he was recently appointed Community Group Member of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument. He has also held elected seats on the Maui County Council and the State House Representatives. Mr. Kahoohalahala strives to be a good steward for the islands and its surrounding waters. He believes that our success depends on seeking knowledge from our past, and that this will help us define our roles and responsibility in maintaining our balance for a sustained existence.

Shaelene Kamakaala is a young Hawaiian female with lifelong recreational and subsistence fishing experience. She has also participated in Hawaii's commercial fishery for six years. Ms. Kamakaala graduated from the University of Hawaii's William S. Richardson School of Law with a Juris Doctor Degree, specializing in Environmental Law and Native Hawaiian Rights. She is currently the Director of Aina Protection for the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust. Prior to this, she served as a Deputy Attorney with Hawai'i County's Office of the Corporation Counsel and a Law Clerk and Bailiff for the Third Circuit Court in Hilo, Hawaii. She has also served as the Community Based Fisheries Planner at the State of Hawaii's Division of Aquatic Resources. Ms. Kamakaala is dedicated to the stewardship of Hawaii, our Nation's, and the World's ocean fisheries and habitats. Her guiding philosophy on the management of marine resources is facilitating solutions that integrate western science, traditional culture, and local community values.

John Kaneko is the Program Director for the Hawaii Seafood Council (HSC). HSC is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting Hawaii's responsible fisheries and safe and sustainable seafood through research, outreach, education and training.

Eric Kingma is Executive Director, Hawaii Longline Association (HLA). HLA is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of Hawaii longline vessels and affiliated Hawaii seafood businesses including United Fishing Agency (Honolulu Fish Auction). All active Hawaii-based longline vessels (~145) are members of HLA.

Matthew Ramsey is a lifelong recreational fisherman. He currently serves as Director for Conservation International's Hawaii program. Prior to his current appointment, he served as the Hawaii fisheries extension agent for NOAA, NMFS. Throughout the past years he has worked closely with Council staff and appreciates the challenges the Council faces in creating fisheries management measures. He believes that a connection between the resources and people needs to be established to bring positive change to natural resource management. Mr. Ramsey sees both science and traditional knowledge being equally fundamental to management decision making. He recognizes opposing views often develop when fisheries management measures are considered, but believes that mutually beneficial results can be attained when both sides truly listen to each other.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
MAGA'HÅGA • GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
SIGUNDO MAGA'LÅHI • LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

April 28, 2020

Hannah Hafey
Management and Program Analyst
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Hafa Adai Ms. Hafey,

I am pleased to nominate the following individuals to the At-Large seats as representatives of Guam on the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. The nominees are listed in order of preference for selection.

1st At-Large Seat

Category- OTHER- Dr Jason Biggs brings a scientifically trained perspective to the needs of the fishing resource. He also advocates for the importance of traditional conservation and management practices and the need to bring more islanders into the field of marine resource management.

Category- RECREATIONAL John Cruz has 33 years as a recreational fisherman with an extensive record of participating in regional fishing derbies. He has first hand knowledge of the needs of the local and regional fishing communities. We also appreciate his advocacy to teach conservation practices to the younger generation.

Category- COMMERCIAL James Borja has demonstrated his ability to participate and organize as needed on behalf of the needs of the fishing community, both recreational and commercial.

2nd At-Large Seat

Category- RECREATIONAL Kin Flores combines his love of fishing with his analytical background running a complex and technical operation for decades. We appreciate that he can handle complex situations created by competing scientific studies and stakeholder interests.

Category- RECREATIONAL Walden Weilbacher of Pohnpei, has lived and fished on Guam since 1997. During that time he has participated in many of the regional fishing derbies where he is able to exchange fish stories with members of the extensive Pacific fishing community about the well being of the fish stocks.

Within the fishing communities we asked for advice and or participation from Monique Genereux, Ken Borja, Eric Flores, Felix Sasamoto, Joaquin Cruz and Dr Hui Gong.

All nominees are current residents of Guam and of good moral character and have demonstrated their love and interest in recreational, or commercial fisheries. I have full confidence that they will participate to ensure that fishery issues are brought forth and that our vital natural resources are managed and available for future generations to enjoy.

Senseramente,



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
I Maga'hāgan Guåhan
Governor of Guam



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH of the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 09, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Oliver:

In accordance with the Governors' Guidance for Nominations to Regional Fishery Management Councils, I am pleased to nominate the following individuals below to fulfill the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Obligatory Seat and (2) At-Large Seats.

Each nominee for the obligatory seat resides in the CNMI and is knowledgeable about the conservation and management of commercial or recreational harvest of the fishery resources in the CNMI. Further, each nominee for the at-large seat resides in a state or territory of the Western Pacific Region and is knowledgeable about the conservation and management of commercial or recreational harvest of the fishery resources in the Region.

For your review and approval, I am submitting two (2) nominees for possible appointment to the CNMI's one (1) obligatory seat as follows:

WPRFMC Obligatory Seat:

1. John Gourley
2. Mike Fleming

Mr. John E. Gourley is the sole proprietor of Micronesian Environmental Services (MES), which provides a range of environmental and regulatory consulting services to the Micronesian region, with specialization in permits, certification and compliance with the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and similar matters. Under Mr. Gourley's leadership, MES developed a bio-sampling program for surveying reef and bottom fish in Saipan. Mr. Gourley has assessed federally endangered species in both the Northern and Southern Islands of CNMI and has conducted numerous environmental assessments throughout the archipelago. Previous to the MES, Mr. Gourley was the sole proprietor of the Micronesian Clam Company. He has served the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council as a Council member and vice chair (2014-2017) and as a member of its various Advisory Panels (since 1995) and Pelagic Plan Team (early 1990s). He served for three terms as director of the Guam Department of Commerce's Industry Advisory Council for the Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture (1996-2003), developed international standards for the marine ornamental industry with the Marine Aquarium Council, and assisted with the development of

the CNMI aquaculture industry as a member of the Governor's 1999 Economic Revitalization Committee's subcommittee on Agriculture and Fisheries Development.

Mr. Michael Fleming has over 50 years, both traditional and westernized fishing techniques from near shore to open ocean fishing activities. He is also employed and a retired professional in the environmental and archaeological field. He is currently a consultant for the governments of Guam and the CNMI. Mr. Fleming is also one of the longest serving Advisory Panel members of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. Mr. Fleming is also a strong advocate of indigenous fishing practices and a supporter for fishing rights for future generations to conserve and perpetuate sustainable fishing activities within ocean resources. Additionally, Mr. Fleming has a M.A. Thesis from University of Otago, Dunedin South Island New Zealand. Mr. Fleming completed a comprehensive analysis of fishbones in archaeological sites from the state of Hawaii, French Polynesia, Republic of Palau, FSM State of Pohnpei, The Marianas fishbone collections (Guam & CNMI), and Port Moresby Papua New Guinea.

While both nominees are well qualified for this vacancy, I respectfully request the re-appointment of Mr. Gourley to the obligatory seat. I am confident that Mr. Gourley more than meets the qualifications listed in the Magnuson-Stevens Act as he currently serves on the Council as the CNMI Vice Chair.

Furthermore, for your review and approval, I am submitting three (3) nominees for possible appointment to the first of the two (2) at-large seats as follows:

WPRFMC (1) At-Large Seat:

1. Manuel P. Duenas
2. McGrew Rice
3. Cecilio Raiukiulipiy

Manuel (Manny) P. Duenas, born and raised on Guam both as a farmer and fisherman since childhood with strong cultural ties to both the land and sea. Fishery experience includes; shoreline rod and reel, cast net, surround net, spearfishing both in and outside of the reef margin, trolling, shallow bottom fishing and deep bottom fishing and currently training with longline. Mr. Duenas is the current president of the Guam Fishermen's Cooperative Association, position held since January 1995 through an annual membership election process. This organization is comprised of nearly two hundred artisanal fishermen (troll and bottom fish) with vessels averaging 22 feet in length. Most of the members are subsistence with a small percentage qualifying as commercial and even less as recreational. As a fisherman, he is legally categorized under federal law as a recreational fisherman having never sold whole or in part his harvest. Currently, he is the Chairman representing Guam's Fishing Community on the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. He was a Fisheries Development Instructor for GFCA working with the University of Guam 4-H Fisheries Program. In 1998, he received certification in the US FDA Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point Program (HACCP) and a Certified Advance SCUBA Diver.

McGrew Rice is a sixth generation Scottish American born and raised in Hawaii. The Rice family came to the Islands in 1838 as missionaries. His family has been involved in ranching and fishing for decades. His grandfather fished as an angler in the International Billfish Tournament in the 1950's & 60's. His father Freddie bought his first Charter boat in Kona in 1968 and McGrew caught his first marlin with him when he was 9 years old. He grew up cattle ranching and fishing and chose fishing as his full-time profession. He worked as a crewman through high school and on weekends and vacations. He was hired to travel to Australia, New Zealand and Tahiti to fish tournaments. He started to work for his father in 1986 on the "Ihu Nui" as a crewman and part time Captain, and when his father retired in 1991, he became the Captain of the "Ihu Nui" and has been fishing on the waters of the Kona Coast till this day. McGrew is currently an At-Large Council member under the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council.

Cecilio Raiukiulipyi is a traditional navigator and the captain of Okeanos Marianas. Born and raised on the Micronesian island of Satawal, Cecilio shares how the Vaka Motu can help Pacific Islanders live their culture while safely meeting their ocean transportation needs. Raiukiulipyi has been sailing for over 35 years learning the traditional method under the guidance of master navigator Mau Piailug in Satawal in Yap State in the Federated States of Micronesia. His traditional voyaging methods have brought him to Hawaii, the CNMI, Japan, Australia, Guam, and the Philippines. In addition, Mr. Raiukiulipyi is also a certified water distribution operator and water treatment operator for 32 years. His professional skills include mechanical and electrical work. He is also a contractor for the US Military bases on Guam, Diego Garcia, CNMI and the Palau government. Lastly, he is a certified NCCER Instructor for electrical and plumbing.

I am also submitting for your review and approval, the following three (3) nominees for possible appointment to the second of the two (2) at-large seats:

WPRFMC (1) At-Large Seat:

1. Jack DLG. Torres
2. Gene Weaver
3. Rufin Inos Jr.

Jack DLG. Torres is long time fisherman on Saipan. He enjoys trolling and lengthy bottom fishing expeditions around Saipan and the Northern Islands. Mr. Torres has been practicing law since 2002. He graduated with a Juris Doctor from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, MI, 2002. He also graduated with a Bachelors in Communication & English, from Boise State University, 1998.

Gerald (Gene) Weaver has been the Saipan Fishermen's Association President for over 12 years. The organization coordinates the longest and largest running recreational fishing tournaments within the region. Currently, the organization is on its 36th year operating within the Marianas. Also, under Mr. Weaver's guidance, the association has expanded its public

service by providing High School Fishing Clinics across Saipan. Mr. Weaver is also a former Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council Committee Member for recreational fishing. He is also a REAC (Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committee) member under the Council, representing the recreational industry. Lastly, Mr. Weaver is currently the Superintendent for the CNMI's House of Justice Court Facility.

Rufin Inos Jr. was born and raised in Saipan and has been fishing the CNMI's waters since he was a young child. He cherished the moments spent with his family learning how to cast his rod along the shoreline and then, at an older age, learning how to throw a *Talaya* (cast net). Mr. Inos now enjoys going deep sea fishing via trolling or bottom fishing. Currently, Mr. Inos serves as a Project Engineer in a local engineering firm in Saipan and takes pride in his service to the CNMI by improving the islands' infrastructure.

While all six nominees are well qualified for this vacancy, I respectfully request the re-appointment of Mr. Manuel P. Duenas and the appointment of Mr. Jack DLG. Torres to the At-large seat. I am confident that both nominees more than meet the qualifications listed in the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Governor Torres and I have consulted with the Saipan Fishermen Association (SFA), CNMI Fishery Advisory Panel, and Anthony T. Benavente, Secretary of the CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources, as well as others in the fishing community, and we are comfortable with our nominations.

My staff and I look forward to continued collaboration with the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and we assure you of our strong support of the goals and objectives of the organization.

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (670) 237-2200 or via email at arnold.palacios@gov.mp.

Respectfully,



ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Lieutenant Governor

cc: Kitty Simonds, Executive Director, WPRFMC
Anthony T. Benavente, Secretary, CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources
Floyd R. Masga, CNMI Island Coordinator, WPRFMC



RALPH DLG. TORRES
Governor

ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH of the NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 11, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Oliver:

In accordance with the Governors' Guidance for Nominations to Regional Fishery Management Councils, I am resubmitting this revised communication to nominate the following individuals below to fulfill the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Obligatory Seat and one (1) At-Large Seat.

Each nominee for the obligatory seat resides in the CNMI and is knowledgeable about the conservation and management of commercial or recreational harvest of the fishery resources in the CNMI. Further, each nominee for the at-large seat resides in a state or territory of the Western Pacific Region and is knowledgeable about the conservation and management of commercial or recreational harvest of the fishery resources in the Region.

For your review and approval, I am submitting three (3) nominees for possible appointment to the CNMI's one (1) obligatory seat as follows:

WPRFMC Obligatory Seat:

1. John Gourley
2. Mike Fleming
3. Cecilio Raiukiulipiy

Mr. John E. Gourley is the sole proprietor of Micronesian Environmental Services (MES), which provides a range of environmental and regulatory consulting services to the Micronesian region, with specialization in permits, certification and compliance with the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and similar matters. Under Mr. Gourley's leadership, MES developed a bio-sampling program for surveying reef and bottom fish in Saipan. Mr. Gourley has assessed federally endangered species in both the Northern and Southern Islands of CNMI and has conducted numerous environmental assessments throughout the archipelago. Previous to the MES, Mr. Gourley was the sole proprietor of the Micronesian Clam Company. He has served the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council as a Council member and vice chair (2014-2017) and as a member of its various Advisory Panels (since 1995) and Pelagic Plan Team (early 1990s). He served for three terms as director of the Guam Department of Commerce's Industry Advisory Council for the Center for Tropical and

Subtropical Aquaculture (1996-2003), developed international standards for the marine ornamental industry with the Marine Aquarium Council, and assisted with the development of the CNMI aquaculture industry as a member of the Governor's 1999 Economic Revitalization Committee's subcommittee on Agriculture and Fisheries Development.

Mr. Michael Fleming has over 50 years, both traditional and westernized fishing techniques from near shore to open ocean fishing activities. He is also employed and a retired professional in the environmental and archaeological field. He is currently a consultant for the governments of Guam and the CNMI. Mr. Fleming is also one of the longest serving Advisory Panel members of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council. Mr. Fleming is also a strong advocate of indigenous fishing practices and a supporter for fishing rights for future generations to conserve and perpetuate sustainable fishing activities within ocean resources. Additionally, Mr. Fleming has a M.A. Thesis from University of Otago, Dunedin South Island New Zealand. Mr. Fleming completed a comprehensive analysis of fishbones in archaeological sites from the state of Hawaii, French Polynesia, Republic of Palau, FSM State of Pohnpei, The Marianas fishbone collections (Guam & CNMI), and Port Moresby Papua New Guinea.

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While all three nominees are well qualified for this vacancy, I respectfully request the re-appointment of Mr. Gourley to the obligatory seat. I am confident that Mr. Gourley more than meets the qualifications listed in the Magnuson-Stevens Act as he currently serves on the Council as the CNMI Vice Chair.

Furthermore, for your review and approval, I am submitting three (3) nominees for possible appointment to one (1) of the At-Large seats as follows:

WPRFMC (1) At-Large Seat:

1. Manuel P. Duenas
2. McGrew Rice
3. Jack DLG. Torres

Manuel (Manny) P. Duenas, born and raised on Guam both as a farmer and fisherman since childhood with strong cultural ties to both the land and sea. Fishery experience includes; shoreline rod and reel, cast net, surround net, spearfishing both in and outside of the reef margin, trolling, shallow bottom fishing and deep bottom fishing and currently training with longline.

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While all three nominees are well qualified for this vacancy, I respectfully request the re-appointment of Mr. Manuel P. Duenas to the At-large seat. I am confident that Mr. Duenas more than meets the qualifications listed in the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Governor Torres and I have consulted with the Saipan Fishermen Association (SFA), CNMI Fishery Advisory Panel, and Anthony T. Benavente, Secretary of the CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources, as well as others in the fishing community, and we are comfortable with our nominations.

My staff and I look forward to continued collaboration with the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and we assure you of our strong support of the goals and objectives of the organization.

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (670) 237-2200 or via email at arnold.palacios@gov.mp.

Respectfully,



ARNOLD I. PALACIOS
Lieutenant Governor

cc: Kitty Simonds, Executive Director, WPRFMC
Anthony T. Benavente, Secretary, CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources
Floyd R. Masga, CNMI Island Coordinator, WPRFMC