



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

*American Samoa*

15 March 2012

TOGIOLA T.A. TULAFONO

GOVERNOR

FAOA A.I. SUNIA

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Serial #: 276

William Chappell  
Assistant Administrator For Fisheries  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
1315 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Chappell,

In response to Mr. Eric C. Schwab's letter of January 6, 2012, I hereby submit as nominees to fill the vacancy of American Samoa's Obligatory Seat on the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council (WPFMC), Mr. Carlos Sanchez, and Mr. Tony Langkilde. Their completed applications for the WPFMC seat accompany this letter. Both of these applicants possess the requisite knowledge and experience to be active and to make valuable contributions to the WPFMC. They both have a vested interest in and have pledged significant portions of their professional careers to sustainably managing and conserving fishery resources.

Mr. Sanchez has extensive experience in the conservation and management of commercial harvests of fishery resources in the western pacific. He worked as a manager of fisheries development for Starkist Seafoods, Inc. for many years and is currently the general manager of his own company which operates six longline fishing vessels in American Samoa waters. His experience in the field of fishery management is broad and his is very well suited to fill the vacancy on the WPFMC.

Mr. Langkilde has five years experience processing and packing fresh fish for export and ten years experience fishing commercially in American Samoa. He is a former advisory member of the WPFMC and is very familiar with the decision making process and work done by the Council. He is committed to conservation, a native born American Samoa, a former member of the American Samoa Commercial Fishermen's Association and a life long member of the fishing community in

Mr. William Chappell

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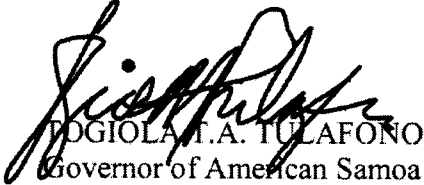
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American Samoa. Mr. Langkilde's prior experience in working with the WPFMC in an advisory capacity makes him a suitable candidate to be considered for the vacant position.

These men and other candidates considered for nomination were contacted and interviewed by Mr. Ufagafa Ray Tulafono, Director of the American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources and Mr. Douglas Fiaui, Assistant Legal Counsel at the Office of the Governor, who were instructed to conduct the search for nominees in accordance with the application packet which you forwarded to me. Mr. Langkilde is a native American Samoan. Mr. Sanchez is Hispanic and originally from Colombia.

I trust that of these two applicants one will be found best suited to fill the vacancy on the WPFMC. I look forward to the announcement from the Secretary.

Sincerely,

  
FOGIOLA F.A. TULAFONO  
Governor of American Samoa