



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY
GOVERNOR

March 14, 2012

Mr. Eric Schwaab
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
Attention: William Chappell
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Mr. Schwaab:

In response to the request for nominations to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, I wish to submit the following nominees to be considered for the at-large seats which are currently held by Harlon H. Pearce of Louisiana and Thomas D. McIlwain of Mississippi. The four candidates below should be considered for both seats.

Recreational Fishing - Mr. Troy Williamson, Portland, Texas
Other Category - Dr. Gregory Stunz, Port Aransas, Texas
Charter Fishing - Mr. Mike Nugent, Aransas Pass, Texas
Commercial Fishing - Mr. Harley Londrie, Laguna Vista, Texas

Enclosed are the nomination packets for each of the four nominees. These individuals are all knowledgeable of the conservation and management of fishery resources; however, each possesses a unique background and experience as it relates to resource management.

Mr. Troy Williamson, III is a self-employed attorney and recreational fisherman who has long held an interest in the issues facing Gulf of Mexico fisheries. Mr. Williamson has demonstrated his concern and commitment to fisheries management issues, having served as a member of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council's Reef Fish LAPP Ad Hoc Advisory Panel and the Coastal Resources Advisory Committee for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Dr. Gregory Stunz is a professor and Endowed Chair for Fisheries and Ocean Health at the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, Texas A&M – Corpus Christi. After 20 years of study and researching marine fisheries, Dr. Stunz is well-versed with the issues facing the GMFMC and has published over 30 scientific papers in national and international journals. Dr. Stunz is a member of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's Standing Scientific and Statistical Committee, the Gulf Estuarine Research Society, the Coastal Conservation Association and serves on an advisory board for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Mr. Mike Nugent is a member of the charter industry in Texas and operates South Bay Bait and Charters in Aransas Pass. Mr. Nugent has served on several advisory groups to the Gulf Council representing the charter recreational industry. He is knowledgeable about the local industry in Texas and throughout the Gulf region. Mr. Nugent serves on the board of directors of the National Association of Charterboat Operators and is active on national issues affecting the charter boat industry. He is also a member of the Coastal Migratory and Red Snapper Advisory Panels to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.

Mr. Harley Londrie has over 39 years of experience in the shrimping industry in the Gulf of Mexico and is the chief executive officer of a marine supply store and shipyard. Mr. Londrie has an extensive history of service to the industry and to the fisheries, having served as president of the Texas Shrimp Association, as a member of the Southern Shrimp Alliance, and on an advisory panel for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

In compliance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, we have conferred with and nominated representatives from the recreational, charter, and commercial fishing sectors, and nominated a representative from the "other" sector, for the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. In addition, my staff has also consulted with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, which has a significant number of public advisory groups on marine related issues.

The appointments staff actively encouraged and sought nominees from diverse ethnic backgrounds and various areas of the state. I recommend you consider these nominees for the at-large seats because I believe they are highly qualified and possess the talents and experiences to make any one of them an effective council member.

I appreciate your consideration of these nominees. Please do not hesitate to call upon me if you have further questions on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "RICK PERRY". The letters are written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rick Perry
Governor

RP:llg
Enclosures