



PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR

Samuel D. Rauch
Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910
(Attention: William Chappell)

Dear Mr. Rauch:

Thank you for the opportunity to nominate persons to fill the at-large seats on the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council) which will become vacant on August 10, 2012. In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act and 50 CFR 600.215, I would like to nominate the following four individuals for one of the at-large seats: William S. "Corky" Perret, Thomas J. Becker, Leann Bosarge, and Shelby B. Drummond. My top recommendation to fill one of the at-large seats is William "Corky" Perret.

After reviewing the education, experience, and background of each of the four nominated individuals and consulting with appropriate representatives of the environmental community, the recreational, commercial, and for-hire charter segments of the fisheries, I feel each of these individuals meet the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. More importantly, their qualifications identify them, not only as efficient stewards of fisheries resources, but also as individuals prepared to meet the task of attaining the desired management goals of the Regional Fisheries Management Councils.

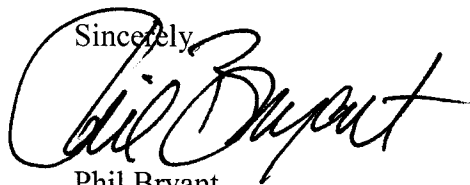
Mr. William S. "Corky" Perret has served on the Gulf Council for approximately 26 years (first as the state of Louisiana agency designee, then as the state of Mississippi agency designee), has over 45 years of professional experience in the scientific and marine science field, has numerous fisheries publications and has received several conservation awards. Mr. Thomas J. Becker has over 27 years of experience as a recreational for-hire charter boat fisherman. He currently serves as president of the Mississippi Charter Boat Captains Association and Second Vice President of the National Association of Charter Boat Operators. Ms. Leann Bosarge has over 15 years in the commercial fishing business and additional experience in the banking and auditing industry. She is also a member of the Southern Shrimp Alliance. Mr. Shelby B. Drummond has professional experience as a fisheries biologist for over 40 years at

NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service and an avid recreational fisherman all of his life, serving as the Recreational Sports Fisherman representative for the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources.

Of the nominees presented here, the potential success of their placement, if selected, was determined through the following preliminary consultations with individuals in the Gulf Coast's commercial, recreational and for-hire charter fishing, and environmental community. Enclosed is a list of organizations consulted in the process. While we contacted women and minority candidates, only one woman submitted an application kit. Consulted relative to William S. "Corky" Perret were: Mr. Larry Simpson (Executive Director Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission), Mr. Read Hendon (Director of Fisheries Center, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory), Mr. Edgar Richard Gollott (Commercial/Recreational Fisherman, Commercial Shrimp Processor, member of the American Shrimp Processors Association), William W. Walker, Ph.D. (Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources) and Dr. Vernon Asper, Ph. D. (Chairman of the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources). Consulted relative to Mr. Thomas J. Becker were: Mr. Dale Diaz (Marine Fisheries Office Director, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources), Mr. Larry Simpson (Executive Director, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission), and Mr. Kerwin Cuevas (Artificial Reef Bureau Director, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources). Consulted relative to Ms. Leann Bosarge were: Phillip Horn (commercial fisherman and owner and president of Clark's Seafood) and Tommy Schultz (lifelong commercial fisherman). Finally, consulted relative to Mr. Shelby Drummond were: Mr. Larry Simpson (Executive Director, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission), Mr. Joe Jewell (Assistant Director of Marine Fisheries – Mississippi Department of Marine Resources), and Mr. Jimmy Taylor, (Member of the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources).

I have provided a written statement and the nominees' application kits for their consideration for one of the at-large seats. Again, my top recommendation is William "Corky" Perret.

Sincerely,



Phil Bryant

Enclosures (4)

Organizations consulted include: Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, Mississippi Gulf Coast Charter Boat Association, American Shrimp Processors Association, Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation, American Fisheries Society, Land Trust for Mississippi Coastal Plain, and Gulf of Mexico Alliance.