



Governor Mike Dunleavy
STATE OF ALASKA

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Secretary of Commerce
ATTN: Morgan Corey
1315 East-West Highway, Room 14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Secretary Raimondo,

In accordance with the provisions of Section 302 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), I am pleased to submit my nomination for the one obligatory seat from the State of Alaska on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) that expires August 10, 2023. I am nominating an individual who is knowledgeable and experienced in the harvest, conservation, and management of fishery resources.

The State of Alaska makes every effort to encourage and seek out qualified women, people of color, and individuals representative of historically underserved communities during this process. All nominees are residents of Alaska. After reviewing the requirements of the MSA and consulting with commercial, recreational, and other fishing interests in Alaska, I submit the following names for your consideration:

- Mr. Ryuichi "Rudy" Tsukada
- Mr. Samuel Rabung
- Mr. Tom Taube

I respectfully request that you appoint Mr. Rudy Tsukada. Mr. Tsukada has a professional career that has always been heavily focused on fisheries in one form or another. He is the Chief Operating Officer of Coastal Villages Region Fund (CVRF) – one of the six Western Alaska Community Development Quota Program groups that receives allocations of Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands crab and groundfish to provide economic and social benefits to support the subsistence fishery lifestyle of CVRF's 20-member communities in Western Alaska. Rudy is also known in sportfishing circles as one of the kayak anglers that popularized saltwater sport fishing for halibut and salmon from a kayak in southcentral Alaska. If appointed, his goals will be to ensure that stakeholders are heard and that their concerns are fairly considered, while also ensuring that living marine resources are well-managed for the benefit of current and future generations.

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Mr. Samuel Rabung is the Director of Commercial Fisheries for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Sam upholds the division's mission to manage subsistence, commercial, and personal use fisheries in the interest of the economy and general well-being of the citizens of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle and subject to allocations through public regulatory processes. He believes in managing the resource for the maximum benefit of the people following the sustained yield principle, minimizing waste, and promoting full utilization.

Mr. Tom Taube is the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish Deputy Director (currently in acting status as Director). In this capacity, his role has been to protect and improve the state's sport fishery resources. Tom upholds the department's mission to protect, maintain, and improve the fisheries resources of the state, manage their use and development in the best interest of the economy, and promote the well-being of the people of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle.

Enclosed you will find a list of commercial, recreational, and other fishing groups that have provided input to my nomination of these knowledgeable and qualified individuals. My preferred nominee, Mr. Ryuichi Tsukada, would provide balanced and insightful experience to the NPFMC and he will contribute greatly to fisheries management and conservation in the North Pacific. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mike Dunleavy
Governor

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Douglas Vincent-Lang, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game
Jordan Shilling, Director of Boards and Commissions, Office of the Governor

List of commercial and recreational fishing groups and other stakeholders that provided input for my nomination:

- Alaska Fisheries Science Center
- Bering North LLC
- Mahoney Properties and Services - Port of Dutch Harbor
- City of False Pass
- Homer Charter Association
- Alaska Charter Association
- Alaskan Leader Fisheries
- Freezer Longline Coalition
- Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation
- City of Akutan
- Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association
- Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association
- Milne Marine LLC
- Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
- Twin Peaks Fisheries
- Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Tribal Consortium
- The Pew Charitable Trusts
- Alaska Marine Conservation Council
- City of St. Paul
- International Arctic Research Center
- Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association
- Native Peoples Action
- Pacific Seafoods Processors Association
- Coastal Villages Region Fund
- Trident Seafoods Corporation
- Navigating the New Arctic Community Office