

February 3rd, 2023

Re: Advisory Panel Appointment

To the North Pacific Fishery Management Council Members,

The undersigned support the appointment of Shawaan Jackson-Gamble to serve on the Advisory Panel to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. Mr. Jackson-Gamble has risen to fill a variety of roles as a community leader, and we trust he will apply his knowledge and commitment with remarkable skill at the NPFMC as well.

Shawaan's commitment to community service and inclusive public process has been evident through his fellowships with the First Alaskans Institute. In 2021, he served in a Public Policy fellowship, learning how the Alaska State Legislature operates and helping as the staff person for the House Tribal Affairs. In that capacity, Mr. Jackson-Gamble was also in charge of drafting legislative citations and drafted a concurrent resolution to establish the Tribal Affairs Committee in both the House and Senate. After that legislative session, Shawaan became a First Alaskans Institute's Indigenous Stewardship Fellow, conducting groundwork that helps strengthen and embolden Alaska Native stewardship of Alaska waters, with an emphasis on the Pacific Ocean and all interconnected water and land systems. That role is designed to build and foster Indigenous ways of life and knowing. Concurrently, Shawaan began what is now ongoing service to the Native Peoples Action Community Fund Board of Directors as Secretary/Treasurer. His service to community has also included experience as a youth representative on the Executive Council of Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

In addition to his demonstrated community service, Mr. Jackson-Gamble is clearly committed to ecosystem health through a holistic lens. For many summers, Shawaan has helped to conduct surveys of clam health and habitat, collected field data in the USFS Sitka Ranger District, and helped conduct surveys to determine potential sites for stream restoration in the Kake area. In 2020, he contributed to a collaboration of Organized Village of Kake, Kake Tribal Corporation, UAF, SEACC and City of Kake to collect baseline data on the shore and the ocean related to cruise ship waste. This has all contributed to, and been built upon, his degree in Native Environmental Science from Northwest Indian College.

Shawaan's knowledge and commitment to healthy communities is commendable, and his willingness to serve on the Advisory Panel to the NPFMC is a tremendous offering. Thank you for your consideration of our request to appoint Mr. Jackson-Gamble.

Sincerely,

Linda Behnken, Executive Director
Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association

Marissa Wilson, Executive Director
Alaska Marine Conservation Council

Aleut Community of St. Paul

The City of St. Paul

Philip Lestenkof, President
Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association

Deep Sea Fishermen's Union

Robert Alverson, Executive Director
Fishing Vessel Owners Association

Peggy Parker, Executive Director
Halibut Association of North America

Nathan Hill, Manager
Lake and Peninsula Borough

Mellisa Maktuayaq Johnson, Tribal Member
Nome Eskimo Community

Tim Bristol, Executive Director
SalmonState

Sealaska

Hannah Heimbuch, Executive Director
Under 60 Cod Harvesters