

February 3, 2023

Simon Kinneen, Chair

North Pacific Fisheries Management Council

1007 West 3rd Ave., Suite 400

L92 Building, 4th floor Anchorage, Alaska 99501

RE: Shawaan Jackson-Gamble's (Ch'aak'ti) Letter of Interest for Designated Tribal Seat on the Advisory Panel for North Pacific Fisheries Management Council

Chair Kinneen and Members of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council,

My name is Shawaan Jackson-Gamble and I am putting my name in for consideration for the Designated Tribal Seat on the Advisory Panel for the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council. I come from the communities of Keex Kwaan (Kake, AK) and Sheetka Kwaan (Sitka, AK). My Lingit name is Ch'aak'ti, which means Watchman of Hamilton Bay and I belong to the Tsaagweidi Clan of Kake, and I am both Haida and Lingit. My people have lived in Kake and Sitka since time immemorial and survived two great floods and an ice age. Our values and knowledge have been pivotal in stewarding our homelands for thousands of years. I grew up fishing, hunting, gathering, and living off our lands and waters with my family and from a young age I was taught that it's important to take care of your people, lands, waters, and animal relatives and to never take more than you need. We have a symbiotic relationship with our traditional homelands and waters and will continue for the next generations.

I received my bachelor's degree in Native Environmental Science from Northwest Indian College to ensure that our Native knowledge was a powerful part of successful management regimes moving forward. My capstone project was focused on creating an ArcGIS story map of Kake's traditional place names which was then given to my tribal archives. I have 7 years of experience doing natural resources field work whether it be stream restoration with the USFS in the Sitka Ranger District, stream, culvert, forest and road condition surveys with the Keex Kwaan Community Forest Partnership crew leader, helped as a research assistant with Dr. Sonia Ibarra studying the impacts of sea otters on shellfish. I have experience working in the Alaska State Legislature under Rep. Ortiz as a First Alaskans Institute Public policy fellow and participated in commercial salmon seining before going off to college. In 2019 I served as Tlingit & Haida's Executive Council Emerging Leader and 2019 Alaska Federation of Natives Southeast Village Alternate. This past year I have been working as the Indigenous Stewardship Fellow for First Alaskans Institute where I help assist with the Protecting Our Ways of Life Working Group. I am also currently a Native Peoples Action Community Fund Secretary/Treasurer. I understand the critical need for this tribal seat and am honored that so many have endorsed my application. I am committed to ensuring that the voices of all 231 of

Alaska's federally recognized Tribes, Tribal Nonprofits, ANCSA Regional and Village corporations and the numerous Native fish commissions are heard at the table and incorporated into the management of federal fisheries.

There are currently river systems and generations of Alaska Native People that aren't getting the fish that they have depended on for thousands of years and it is within the powers of the NPFMC to make sure good management measures are put in place to protect what we have for the next generations and subsistence needs are being met. When smoke houses aren't full, our souls aren't full. We depend on salmon, have months named after salmon harvest, clans named after salmon. I am still new to the NPFMC process and will continue to learn the process so that Alaska Native voices are heard at the table. Right now, indigenous knowledge and perspectives are lacking in the NPFMC process, and my background can help bridge the gap that is currently missing. I give respect to the NPFMC for creating a designated tribal seat, it's a start and hopefully that can evolve to establishing a designated tribal seat on the Council and continuing to include Alaska Native perspectives in the federal fisheries process.

I am grateful for all the support that I received as a candidate for the Designated Tribal Advisory Panel Seat. My experience, traditional knowledge, ability to analyze, interpret, and translate data and my ability to read technical fisheries documents, along with breaking down key concepts and priorities will help with the decision-making process that the Advisory Panel makes in regard to federal fisheries management.

Respectfully,

Shawaan Jackson-Gamble (Ch'aak'ti)