



Caribbean

Miguel Rolon
Executive Director
Marcos Hanke
Chair



Gulf of Mexico

Dr. Carrie Simmons
Executive Director
Thomas Frazer
Chair



Mid Atlantic

Dr. Christopher Moore
Executive Director
Mike Luisi
Chair



New England

Thomas Nies
Executive Director
Dr. John Quinn
Chair



North Pacific

David Witherell
Executive Director
Simon Kinneen
Chair



Pacific

Chuck Tracy
Executive Director
Marc Gorelnik
Chair



South Atlantic

John Carmichael
Executive Director
Mel Bell
Chair



Western Pacific

Kitty Simonds
Executive Director
Taotasi Archie Soliai
Chair

U.S. Regional Fishery Management Councils
www.fisherycouncils.org

November 6, 2020

Mr. Chris Oliver
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
NOAA Fisheries
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

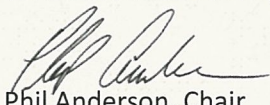
Dear Chris,

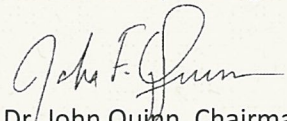
The Council Coordinating Committee (CCC) at its virtual meeting on September 23-24, 2020, established a subcommittee to develop recommendations to the NMFS internal working group on guidance to implement the new National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations as they relate to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), including functional equivalency.

The Regional Fishery Management Councils (RFMCs) must meet NEPA requirements on the actions taken by the RFMCs and implemented through MSA. As such, it is important the RFMCs understand and have early and meaningful contributions to discussions in the development of guidance for the implementation of the new NEPA rule. We appreciate your continued support in ensuring CCC and RFMCs engagement in improving the application of NEPA for Council actions under the MSA, and look forward to working with NMFS in developing the new guidance.

Sincerely,


Taotasi Archie Soliai, Chair
Western Pacific Fishery Management Council

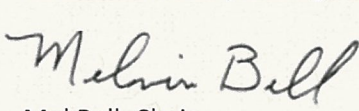

Phil Anderson, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council

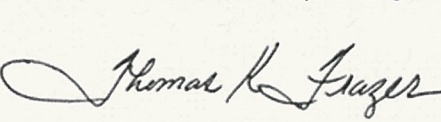

Dr. John Quinn, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council


Simon Kinneen, Chair
North Pacific Fishery Management Council


Mike Luisi, Chair
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Marcos Henke, Chair
Caribbean Fishery Management Council


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Dr. Thomas Frazer, Chair
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