
Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

PRESS RELEASE



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PRESS CONTACT: Daniel T. Furlong
(302) 674-2331 (ext. 19)

Secretary of Commerce Announces Council Appointments

Three Members Newly Appointed, One Member Reappointed

Secretary of Commerce Carlos M. Gutierrez announced the appointment of three new members and the reappointment of one other member to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council). Two of the newly appointed members, representing the states of New Jersey and Virginia, will fill the at-large seats. The third newly appointed member will occupy the obligatory seat for Delaware. The reappointed member from Maryland will continue to fill the at-large seat. Council members, nominated by the governors of the respective states, are appointed to serve three-year terms and may not serve more than three consecutive terms. The newly appointed members will begin their terms on August 11, 2007 and will serve on the Council through August 10, 2010.

Lee G. Anderson, a Professor of Economics and Marine Studies at the University of Delaware in Newark, will fill the Delaware obligatory seat currently held by Ron Smith of Lewes, Delaware. Lee is a former member of the Council. He is a current member of the Ocean Studies Board of the National Research Council and is President Elect of the North American Association of Fishery Economists. His current work deals with simulation models, design and implementation of Individual Transferable quota (ITQ) programs, the economics of fishing in time and space, and marine reserves.

Erling A. Berg is from Cape May, New Jersey and will fill the New Jersey at-large seat currently held by Fran Puskas of Barnegat Light, New Jersey. Erling has been a shore side vessel maintenance technician since 1955. He has served the last eight years as a commercial fishing representative on the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council and was most recently appointed to serve as a New Jersey representative on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Richard B. Robins, Jr. is the owner of Bernie's Conchs in Cheriton, Virginia and Ocean Perfect Seafoods in Suffolk, Virginia. He will fill the Virginia at-large seat currently held by Michelle Peabody of Newport News, Virginia. Richard is a commercial processor and a recreational fisherman. He is an Associate member of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC), Chairman of the VMRC Blue Crab Management Advisory Committee, a member of the Blue Ribbon Oyster Panel and an Advisor on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Horseshoe Crab Management Board. He has also served as a Dogfish Advisor to the Council from 1997 until 1998.

Lawrence W. Simms, a charter/party boat captain from Rock Hall, Maryland will retain the regular at-large seat representing the state of Maryland. Larry was reappointed for his third three-year term since being appointed in 2001. He has been actively involved in the Council over the past six years serving on many of the Council Committees including Demersal and Coastal Migratory, Highly Migratory, Surfclams and Ocean Quahogs/Tilefish, Protected Resources, Ecosystems, and Law Enforcement. In addition, he is currently serving as the Vice-Chairman of the Bycatch/Limited Access Privilege Program Committee.

Two members who served on the Council as the principle State officials for marine fishery management matters, Gordon Colvin (Director, New York Bureau of Marine Resources) and Rick Hoopes (Director, Pennsylvania Bureau of Fisheries), have retired from their state positions. We look forward to working with their successors and wish them, as well as our departing Council members, well in their future activities.

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