

MAINE

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Carl Wilson

**Commissioner, Maine Department of Marine Resources
(ME DMR)**

32 Blossom Lane

Augusta, Maine 04330

207.633.9538

Carl.Wilson@maine.gov



Carl Wilson was appointed to serve as ME DMR’s Commissioner in April 2025, becoming the Administrative Commissioner at that time. Carl first joined DMR in 1999 as the agency’s lead lobster biologist. He has served since 2015 as Director of DMR’s Bureau of Marine Science, leading a staff of 90 people in conducting DMR’s overall fisheries research and monitoring efforts.

According to former DMR Commissioner Pat Keliher, “Carl’s deep understanding of, and connection to, Maine’s commercial fisheries has helped the Science Bureau adapt its programs to the impacts of a changing climate, incorporate industry’s desire for participation in the science, and address the important need for better data to help manage and protect our dynamic marine environment.”

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Megan Ware

Maine Department of Marine Resources

32 Blossom Lane

Augusta, Maine 04330

207.446.0932

Megan.Ware@maine.gov



Megan Ware is the Director of External Affairs for ME DMR, focusing on Commission and Council related activities for the state. She joined the Department in 2019, following four

years as a Fishery Management Plan Coordinator at ASMFC where she worked on FMPs for American lobster, Atlantic herring, and Atlantic menhaden. Megan was appointed Carl's ongoing proxy in April 2025.

Megan received a Master's in Environmental Management from Duke University and a Bachelor's degree from Boston University.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Representative Allison Hepler

417 Montsweag Road

Woolrich, Maine 04579

207.319.4396

Allison.Hepler@legislature.maine.gov



Allison Hepler serves in the Maine House of Representatives. She is the author of *McCarthyism in the Suburbs: Quakers, Communists and the Children's Librarian*. She has also worked as a printer, a retail store and office coordinator, a magazine production assistant and a steelworker. Allison is part-owner of her husband's wooden boat building and repair business in Small Point, Phippsburg.

ONGOING LEGISLATIVE PROXY

Senator Cameron Reny

Maine Legislature

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

207.287.1585

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Cameron Reny was born in Lincoln County, Maine, and raised in the community of Round Pond. She earned a Bachelor of Science in community and justice studies from Guilford College and a Master of Science in school counseling from the University of Southern Maine.

Cameron was elected to the Maine Senate in November 2022. Through her experience as an educator, community advocate, union member, and leader of professional associations,

Cameron has worked at local, school, district, and state-wide levels to solve problems, support equitable policies, and advocate for children and families. Cameron was appointed Allison's ongoing proxy in April 2025.

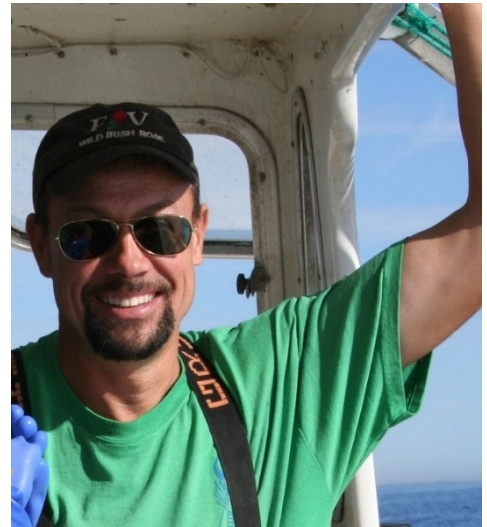
GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Stephen Train

33 Vernon Road
Long Island, ME 04050-3116
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Fvhattierose@aol.com

Steve Train, a full-time commercial lobsterman for over three decades, has been actively involved in the fisheries management process at both the state and interstate level.

He was appointed to ASMFC in January of 2012. He has served for more than 16 years on the Board of Directors of the Maine Lobstermen's Association and as a member and Chair of the Maine Lobster Advisory Council. He has also sat on the Maine Department of Marine Resources Advisory Council, Maine Scallop Advisory Council, and the Commission's American Lobster Advisory Panel. Steve attended Northeastern University and holds a 100-ton Captain's license. He lives in Long Island, Maine.



NEW HAMPSHIRE

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Renee Zobel

New Hampshire Fish and Game, Marine Division

225 Main Street

Durham, NH 03824-4732

603.868.1095

Renee.M.Zobel@wildlife.nh.gov



Renee Zobel was appointed the Marine Division Chief for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department in November 2025. She has been with the Department since 2004 with her most position being Supervisor of Marine Programs. Prior to serving as the Supervisor of Marine Programs, Renee oversaw the Fisheries Statistics and Invertebrate programs. She has served on many Commission and New England Fishery Management Council committees and work groups over the years.

Renee received a BS in Biology from Wheaton College (Illinois). Outside of work, she enjoys all things outdoors and mentoring young women through the sport of volleyball.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Senator David H. Watters

Department of English, University of New Hampshire

Director, Center for New England Culture

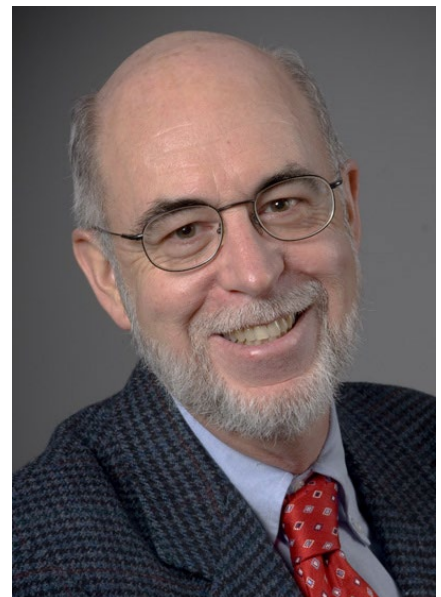
State Senator, District 4

19 Maple Street

Dover, NH 03820

603.271.8567

David.Watters@leg.state.nh.us



David Watters has served five terms in the New Hampshire Senate, working on various committees, including Education, Energy and Natural Resources, Transportation, Capital Budget, and Executive Departments and Administration. When he was elected State Senator for District 4 in 2012, after serving two terms in the New Hampshire House

of Representatives, David Watters vowed to restore civility to Concord and protect the New Hampshire advantage of equal opportunity, economic development, public education, a sustainable and healthy environment, low taxes and quality of life.

David is the renewable energy leader in the Senate, promoting jobs and cheaper energy. He established the New Hampshire Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission to study sea-level rise, coastal flooding, and extreme precipitation, which set a national model. He created the New Hampshire Commission on Coastal Marine Environment and Resources.

David received his PhD from Brown University and his BA from Dartmouth College. He has authored and co-authored several books and articles involving New England history and culture.

ONGOING LEGISLATIVE PROXY

Dennis Abbott

199 Ash Swamp Road
Newmarket, NH 03857-2073
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Swamper199@gmail.com

Dennis Abbott served as Legislative Commissioner to ASMFC from 1997 through 2010. He was appointed as David's ongoing proxy in 2010. He currently serves as Co-Chair of the Legislators and Governors Appointees Committee and also serves on the Executive Committee.



Dennis has supported fisheries conservation and management activities along the Atlantic coast as both an ASMFC Commissioner and a New Hampshire state legislator. In May 2012, he received the ASMFC Annual Award of Excellence for his legislative contributions.

Dennis served as a member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives serving District 12 in Rockingham County for seven terms, from 1994-2000 and 2003-2010. He chaired the House Fish & Game Committee, served on the House Finance Committee and the Natural Resources Committee.

A longstanding resident of the coastal community of Newmarket, Dennis is a lifelong recreational fisherman, primarily freshwater, and a hunter. He is a member of the American Legion, NH

Audubon Society, Atlantic Salmon Federation and Local Historical Society. He served as a town councilor, budget committee member, Zoning Board of Adjustment member and Water Commissioner. Dennis attended the University of New Hampshire.

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Doug Grout

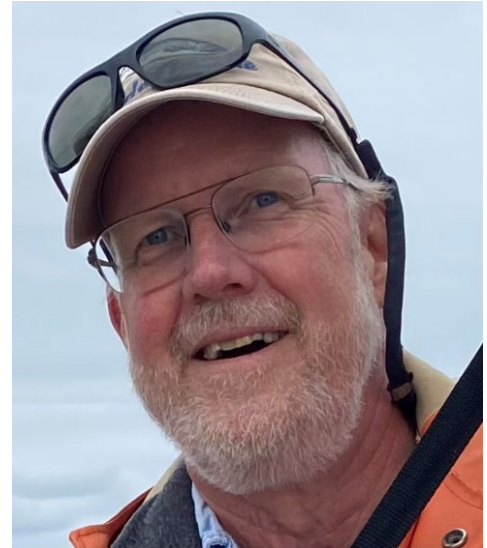
369 Edgemont Road

Sunapee, NH 03782

603.266.8800

Groutnfish@gmail.com

Doug Grout has been a lifelong saltwater angler having fished for numerous marine and anadromous species along the Atlantic coastal waters of the US and Canada. He was appointed Governor's Appointee Commissioner in September 2022.



He worked for 36 years in the Marine Division of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department; first as a Marine Biologist and finishing his career as the Chief of the Marine Division. During the early years of his career, he served on numerous technical committees of the Commission as well as the Management and Science Committee and the Assessment Science Committee. He received the Commission's Award of Excellence in the Scientific/Technical/Advisory category in 2005.

As Marine Division Chief, he assumed the responsibilities of New Hampshire's Administrative Commissioner for ASMFC and served as Chair of the Commission from 2015-2017. Other fisheries management responsibilities included 11 years on the New England Fishery Management Council. Doug received the Commission's Captain David H. Hart Award in 2020.

Doug received his MS and BA in Zoology from the University of New Hampshire and is a Certified Fisheries Scientist of the American Fisheries Society.

ONGOING GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE PROXY

G. Ritchie White

30 Lang Road

Rye, NH 03870

R-dwhite@comcast.net

Ritchie White has been an active saltwater angler for over 40 years. He is an avid sportsman and has passionately pursued bluefin tuna, striped bass, bluefish, and other marine species. As a result of this passion, Ritchie has been actively involved with fisheries and wildlife policy since the 1990s. During those years, he was a long-time appointee to New Hampshire's Advisory Committee on Marine Fisheries and spent 13 years as the Coastal Commissioner for the NH Fish and Game Commission. He served as New Hampshire's Governor's Appointee Commissioner from 2000-2022 and was appointed ongoing proxy for the Governor Appointee in 2023. Ritchie received the Commission's Captain David H. Hart Award in 2013.

Ritchie serves on the Board of Directors of the Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire. He is a founding member of Rescue Great Bay and has served on many other conservation organizations, including State of New Hampshire Chair of Ducks Unlimited, the American Tree Farm System, New Hampshire State Forestry Advisory Board and Conservation Commissions of Bow and Rye, New Hampshire.

Ritchie has a BS from University of New Hampshire.



MASSACHUSETTS

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Daniel J. McKiernan

**Director, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
(DMF)**

836 South Rodney French Boulevard

New Bedford, MA 02744

617.626.1536

Dan.McKiernan@mass.gov



Elected Vice-Chair in 2023

Dan McKiernan was appointed Director of MA DMF in late 2019 and became the Administrative Commissioner at that time. He develops agency policies and provides expert representation at interstate and federal fishery management forums and administers nearly all aspects of the DMF's in-state management and regulations for fisheries management.

He began his professional career as a field biologist for DMF in 1985 and worked closely with the lobster fishery as a sea sampler and an assistant marine biologist. He brought his field experience to DMF's headquarters and has worked on fisheries management and policy for almost four decades.

Dan is practiced in the arenas of federal and interstate fisheries management. As a long-standing representative to the ASMFC, he has chaired numerous species management boards and was recognized for his management efforts with an Award of Excellence in 2018. He is a strong promoter of conservation and accountable fisheries management for commercial fisheries, recreational fisheries, and the seafood industry at large.

Dan is a graduate of UMASS-Dartmouth and earned an MS in Fisheries Biology from Auburn University. He received the Massachusetts Pride in Performance Award, as well as the Massachusetts Lobsterman's Association "Ralph W. Maling" Award of Excellence for dedicated service on behalf of the Commonwealth's lobster industry.

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Nichola Meserve

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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Salem MA 01970

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Nichola Meserve is a fisheries policy analyst for the MA DMF, assisting the Director in making policy and regulatory decisions for state-managed marine resources. She joined the Division in 2010, following four years at ASMFC as a Fishery Management Plan Coordinator. She also serves on several Commission plan development teams and plan review teams. Nichola was appointed Dan's ongoing proxy in 2024.

Nichola received a Master's in Environmental Management from Duke University and a Bachelor's degree in Biology from Hamilton College.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Bob Glenn

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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New Bedford, MA 02744

508.742.9746

Robert.Glenn@mass.gov



Appointed Board-specific proxy for northern shrimp in September 2024

Bob Glenn is a Deputy Director for MA DMF, assisting the Director in making policy and regulatory decisions for state-managed marine resources. He focuses on fixed gear fisheries, invertebrate fisheries, protected species, and habitat restoration. Bob joined the Division in 1995 and served as a member of the ASMFC American Lobster Technical Committee from 1997 to 2017, and the Northern Shrimp Technical Committee from 2001 to 2009.

Bob received the Commission's Annual Award of Excellence for Scientific Contribution in 2006 and in 2016 for his work on the American Lobster Technical Committee. Bob has a Master's

degree in Marine Biology from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth and a Bachelor's degree in Marine Biology from the University of New England.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Melanie N. Griffin

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

836 S. Rodney French Blvd.

New Bedford, MA 02744 978.853.1196

Melanie.Griffin@mass.gov

Appointed Board-specific proxy for Atlantic herring in July 2024

Melanie Griffin is a fishery policy analyst for MA DMF. She has been the Division's designee on the New England Fishery Management Council since 2010 and the lead DMF representative on the Groundfish, Herring and Atlantic Sea Scallop Committees. She now serves as the state's principal representative for all full Council meetings and has served on the Council's Executive Committee since 2020. Melanie has led DMF's federal groundfish disaster aid programs and is the Policy Director for the Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Institute. In earlier years, she served as DMF's proxy on the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council and coordinated the division's work on state and federal legislative issues.



Melanie has an MS in Marine Science and Technology from the University of Massachusetts-Boston and a BA in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, coupled with a minor in Marine Biology, from Cornell University.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Representative Jennifer Armini

State House
24 Beacon Street, Room 21
Boston, MA 02133
617.645.0166

Jennifer.Armini@mahouse.gov

Jenny Armini is the State Representative for the Massachusetts 8th Essex District, representing the communities of Marblehead, Swampscott, and Lynn.

Now entering her second term, Jenny serves as Vice Chair of the House Committee on Human Resources and Employee Engagement. She is also a member of three key joint committees: Environment and Natural Resources, Transportation, and State Administration and Regulatory Affairs.

Jenny's professional path has been defined by hills: Capitol Hill and Beacon Hill. She began her public service career as a legislative aide to two members of Congress before holding a similar role with the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Prior to her election in 2022, she was active in Democratic politics, co-founding ElectBlue, a grassroots political group that raised funds for US House and Senate Democratic candidates in 2018.

Representative Armini holds a Bachelor's degree in Government from the University of Virginia and a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University, where she was named both a Public Service Fellow and a Littauer Fellow.



ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Sarah Peake

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Provincetown, MA 02657
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Rep.sarahpeake@gmail.com



In 2006, Sarah Peake was elected to represent the 4th Barnstable District on Cape Cod to the Massachusetts House of Representatives. During her nine terms in the legislature, Sarah served in a variety of roles that included chairing the Tourism, Arts, and Cultural Development Committee and the Municipalities and Regional Government Committee. She served in House leadership positions for over ten years.

Over nearly two decades of serving in the Massachusetts House, Sarah worked on myriad issues including civil rights, environmental, fisheries, and transportation. From 2009-2024, Sarah served as the Commonwealth's Legislative Commissioner to the ASMFC and, since September 2025, serves as Jennifer's ongoing proxy.

In September 2024, Sarah left her legislative seat to join the Governor Healey's administration as a Senior Advisor for Intergovernmental Affairs. Sarah retired from state service in the fall of 2025.

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Raymond Kane

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Chatham, MA 02633
508.367.1693
Ray@capecodfishermen.org



Ray Kane has been an active and successful Cape Cod fisherman for nearly 40 years. He is owner-operator of his own vessel, F/V Frenzy, and has caught a variety of species including lobsters, bluefin tuna, black sea bass, and groundfish such as cod, haddock, and pollock. He currently serves as an outreach spokesperson and fishery advocate for the Fishermen's Alliance. He is a voting member of the Massachusetts Fisheries Advisory Commission and actively attended all ASMFC Board meetings prior to his appointment as the Governor's Appointee Commissioner in November 2016.

In addition to his fishing interests, Ray was employed for four years with Severson Environmental Services as captain of the boats involved in the cleanup of PCBs from the Acushnet River to ameliorate the pollution of New Bedford Harbor, one of the EPA's largest ongoing Superfund cleanup sites.

RHODE ISLAND

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Dr. Jason McNamee

**Deputy Director, RI Department of Environmental
Management, Bureau of Natural Resources**

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Providence, RI 02908

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Jason.McNamee@dem.ri.gov



Jason McNamee oversees administration of the Department of Environmental Management's Bureau of Natural Resources, which has the marine fisheries science and management programs and staff, including its technical projects, scientific research, and outreach activities, within it. He works closely with other states, federal agencies, industry representatives, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders to develop interstate regional plans for the conservation and management of marine fisheries resources. He was appointed Administrative Commissioner in January 2018.

Jason has worked in the field of environmental and fisheries science for over two decades. Jason was appointed in 2013 to the New England Fishery Management Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee and has served on several ASMFC technical committees. Jason received the Captain David H. Hart Award in 2022.

Jason graduated from the University of Rhode Island in 1996 with a BS in Zoology. His graduate work began at the University of Connecticut, where he graduated in 2006 with an MS in Biological Oceanography. He completed his PhD in Biological Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography where he focused on multispecies stock assessment modeling.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Nicole Lengyel Costa

Rhode Island Division of Marine Fisheries

3 Fort Wetherill Road

Jamestown, RI 02835

401.423.1920

Nicole.Costa@dem.ri.gov

Appointed Board-specific proxy for Atlantic herring, Atlantic menhaden, horseshoe crab, and winter flounder in August 2024



Nicole Lengyel Costa is an Environmental Policy Analyst II for the Division of Marine Fisheries and has worked on marine fisheries policy and management since 2009. She is an active member on many ASMFC and ACCSP committees including the striped bass and bluefish technical committees. Nicole has also served as the Principal Investigator for the Narragansett Bay Menhaden Management Program and Age and Growth Study for Rhode Island.

Nicole completed her BS in Biological Sciences from the University of Rhode Island (URI) in 2005 and her MS in Oceanography from the URI Graduate School of Oceanography in 2013. She is currently a PhD candidate in the Marine Affairs Program at URI with an anticipated graduation in 2026.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Phillip Edwards

Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife

277 Great Neck Road

West Kingston, RI 02892

401.789.0281

Phillip.Edwards@dem.ri.gov

Appointed Board-specific proxy for shad & river herring, American eel, and Atlantic sturgeon in January 2018



Phil Edwards is a Supervising Fisheries Biologist for the Division of Fish and Wildlife where he is responsible for the freshwater and diadromous fisheries sections and oversees biologists, hatchery, development, and seasonal staff engaged with fisheries programs and the operation and maintenance of state fish hatcheries, fish passage facilities, boat ramps and fishing access areas statewide. As a supervising fisheries biologist and the Division's fish passage coordinator, Phil works with many partners to promote and improve fish passage and river connectivity throughout the state. Phil has worked for the Division since 1998 and has served on numerous ASMFC committees throughout the years.

Phil graduated from the University of Rhode Island with an MS in Fisheries Science.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Senator Susan Sosnowski

State House Room 221

Providence, RI 02903

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Sen-Sosnowski@rilin.state.ri.us



Susan Sosnowski was first elected to the Rhode Island Senate on November 5, 1996, and was appointed in August 2013 as the Legislative Commissioner. She currently serves as the Chairwoman of the Senate Environment and Agriculture Committee, Vice-Chair of the Senate Commerce Committee and a member of the Senate Committee on Finance. She served on the Clean Water Finance Agency and the Coastal Resources Management Council; the South Kingstown Democratic Town Committee; and served on the Agricultural Advisory Committee to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management. She was moderator for Richmond Voting District 1 in 1984; a member of the South Kingstown Planning Board from 1993-1996; and served on the Governor's Advisory Council on the Environment in 1997.

Susan attended the Ocean State Business Institute. She is a self-employed farmer at Sosnowski Farms.

ONGOING LEGISLATIVE PROXY

Eric Reid

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North Kingstown, RI 02852
401.440.1885
EricReidri@gmail.com



Eric Reid, as an industry member, has devoted countless hours to the fisheries management process at the ASMFC, New England Fishery Management Council, and in various roles on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council as well. Eric was appointed as Susan's ongoing proxy in 2015 and always brings an important perspective to actions taken by these different management bodies. He also has a knack for being objective and always looks for a creative solution to allow for compromise among differing sides when possible.

Eric's expertise in the fishing industry allows him to offer insights that traditional fisheries managers cannot. He also understands the fisheries management system very well and has been able to find ways to move management forward on these important topics.

Eric's networks across the coast and abroad make him an invaluable member of the Rhode Island delegation. Eric is always able to connect with state partners up and down the coast on important topics to let them know where RI stands on issues. He can determine the important aspects of these issues for the other states, which he brings back to the RI team for consideration. This allows Eric to synthesize information directly from industry members in various states, as well as glean perspectives from our partner state and federal agencies.

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

David V.D. Borden

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Adamsville, RI 02801
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Lizzy.2@charter.net



David Borden has been involved in marine fisheries management since 1992, beginning his career as a Senior Marine Fisheries Biologist for the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife. Showing innovation

and creativity, David designed and implemented a computerized catch reporting program for one of the most important Atlantic coastal fisheries – American lobster. He soon became Rhode Island’s Principal Marine Fishery Biologist, administering the mandates of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (now known as the Magnuson-Stevens Act).

In 1987, David was promoted to Deputy Chief of Marine Fisheries, coordinating activities between and among various programs to assure compatibility with marine management and enforcement at both the state and federal level. From 1992 to 1994, David served as Chief of the Rhode Island Division of Fish, Wildlife and Estuarine Resources, and was appointed as Rhode Island’s Administrative Commissioner to the Commission, where he served as Vice-Chair and Chair. As Vice-Chair, David was instrumental in the development of the Commission’s first five-year strategic plan and presided over the implementation of the first Action Plan during his chairmanship. As Chair, David made tremendous strides to increase efficiency in the way the Commission conducts its business.

David received the Captain David H. Hart Award in 2002 and was appointed Governor’s Appointee Commissioner in June 2014.

CONNECTICUT

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Dr. Justin Davis

**Chief, Connecticut Department of Energy and
Environmental Protection (DEEP), Bureau of Natural
Resources**

PO Box 719

333 Ferry Road

Old Lyme, CT 06371

860.424.3467

Justin.Davis@ct.gov



Justin Davis oversees the CT DEEP Fisheries, Forestry and Wildlife Divisions as the Bureau Chief of Natural Resources. Prior to assuming the Bureau Chief role in 2024, Justin had worked for the DEEP Fisheries Division since 2007 in several different capacities, including Head of Marine Fisheries from 2018-2024. He was appointed Administrative Commissioner in January 2019.

Justin holds a BS in Marine and Freshwater Biology from University of New Hampshire (1999), and an MS in Natural Resource Management (2004) and PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (2016) from University of Connecticut. He is a past President of the Southern New England Chapter and the Northeastern Division of the American Fisheries Society.

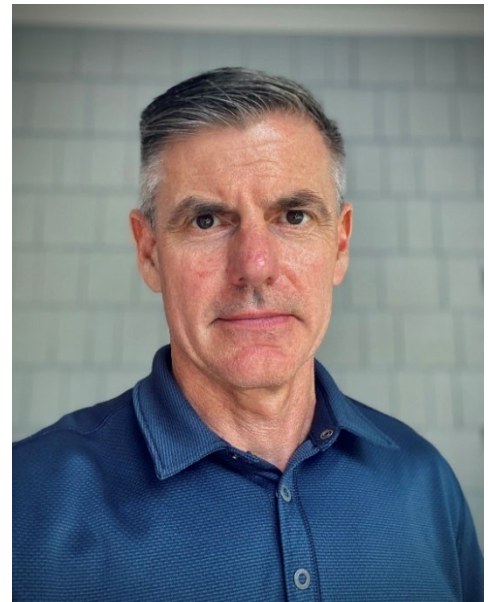
Justin grew up on the shore of Long Island Sound, where he still lives, and is a lifelong avid saltwater angler.

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Matthew Gates

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Natural Resources

PO Box 719
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860.447.4326
Matthew.Gates@ct.gov



Matthew Gates has been with Connecticut's Marine Fisheries Program since 2000. He is the supervising fisheries biologist of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (CT DEEP), Fishery Statistics and Management Project. He has served on several ACCSP committees, ASMFC technical committees, is Connecticut's alternate designee on the New England Fisheries Management Council and is the current Monkfish Committee chairman. He was appointed Justin's ongoing proxy in February 2019. Matt is currently the acting head of CT DEEP's Marine Fisheries Program.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Greg Wojcik

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Natural Resources

PO Box 719
333 Ferry Road
Old Lyme, CT 06371
860.447.4305
Greg.Wojcik@ct.gov



Appointed Board-specific proxy for ACCSP Coordinating Council in October 2020

Greg Wojcik is a Senior Marine Fisheries Biologist with the CT DEEP, where he currently leads the Commercial Fisheries Statistics Project. Since joining the agency in 1998, Greg has served on numerous Commission committees and plan development teams, contributing to the

advancement of regional fisheries management. He has chaired the Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Technical Committee and the ACCSP Recreational Technical Committee.

Greg holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from Eastern Connecticut State University.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Representative Joseph Gresko

Legislative Office Building

Room 3201

Hartford, CT 06106-1591

860.240.0363

Joseph.Gresko@cga.ct.gov



Joe Gresko, first elected in 2016, proudly serves the 121st House Assembly District in Stratford. As a Deputy Speaker of the House, former House Environment Committee Chair, and a member of the Energy & Technology Committee, the Executive & Legislative Nominations Committee, and the Joint Committee on Legislative Management, Joe is deeply committed to his legislative roles. Joe was appointed Legislative Commissioner in February 2023.

Joe volunteers at the CT Food Bank and annually at the Housatonic River clean-up. He is a member of Protect Your Environment, the Stratford Rotary, the Lordship Fathers Club and the Stratford Oldtimers Athletic Association. Joe received the Legislator of the Year Award from the Bridgeport Regional Business Council in 2019.

Born and raised in Stratford, Joe obtained a BS in Environmental Science from Central Connecticut State University. He worked as a weather forecaster at Western Connecticut State University and Techni-Weather before beginning a career in radio news. He had a successful career as a radio news reporter/anchor at WICC/WEBE, winning many Associated Press awards and twice the Ellen Abrams award for best radio reporter in the state.

Craig Miner

Craig Miner represented the 30th District in the State Senate of Connecticut in 2016 and had previously served six terms representing the 66th District. He served as Connecticut's Legislative Commissioner to the ASMFC from 2009-2023 and was appointed Joe's ongoing proxy in February 2023.



William A. Hyatt

Bill Hyatt was appointed to the Commission in 2018 following a long career with the CT DEEP where he served in a variety of positions including ten years as Chief of the Bureau of Natural Resources overseeing the Fisheries, Wildlife and Forestry Divisions.



He is a former President of both the Northeast Division and Southern New England Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, a former Chair of the CT River Atlantic Salmon Commission, and a former Board member of the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation. Bill has also been active in invasive species issues serving on the Federal Invasive Species Advisory Committee, and as Chair of the Invasive Species Committee for the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies.

He did his graduate research at the Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, NY, leading to an MS in Fisheries from the University of Connecticut.

ONGOING GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE PROXY

Robert LaFrance

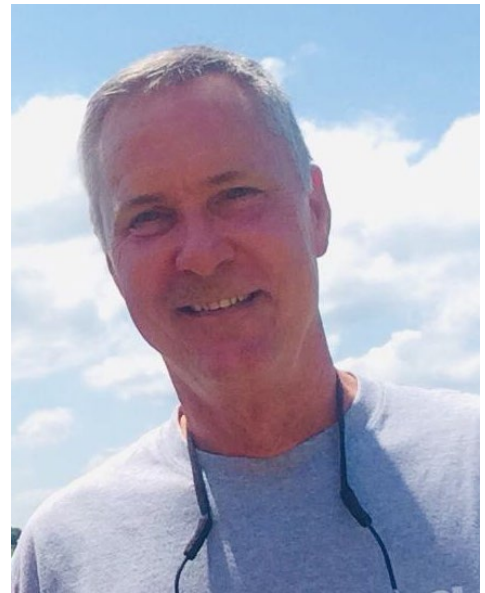
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Robert.LaFrance@quinnipiac.edu

Robert LaFrance serves as Policy Director for Audubon Connecticut, advocating for conservation priorities, and working to identify positive policy recommendations to combat climate change, protect water quality and coastal areas, and improve forest resiliency. He was appointed Bill's ongoing proxy in June 2020.



Rob spent much of his career at the Connecticut State Capitol serving Commissioners Gina McCarthy, Dan Esty and Rob Klee as the Director of Governmental Affairs for the CT DEEP, and then he served as DEEP's Director of Law and Policy for Environmental Conservation.

Robert holds a BA in Economics and Ecology from the University of Arizona (Tucson) and a JD from Quinnipiac School of Law where he is also an Adjunct Professor of Environmental Law. When he's not working, he is an avid golfer who also enjoys swimming, tennis, bird watching, and hiking.

NEW YORK

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Marty Gary

**Director, New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC),
Division of Marine Resources**

123 Kings Park Boulevard

Kings Park, NY 11754

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Martin.Gary@dec.ny.gov



Marty Gary was appointed Director for Marine Resources for NYS DEC in the fall of 2023, at which time he also became the Administrative Commissioner. He has been involved in fisheries management along the Atlantic coast since he first joined the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR) back in the mid-1980s. He worked for MD DNR for 27 years, serving as Fisheries Service Program Manager for at least the last decade. He was Executive Secretary for the Potomac River Fisheries Commission from 2013-2023.

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

John Maniscalco

**New York State Department of Environmental
Conservation, Division of Marine Resources**

123 Kings Park Boulevard

Kings Park, NY 11754

631.444.0437

John.Maniscalco@dec.ny.gov



John Maniscalco is the Bureau Chief of Marine Fisheries for NYS DEC Division of Marine Resources. He oversees monitoring and management of marine fisheries in the state. He joined the Division in 2006, sampling catch on commercial lobster vessels and counting spawning horseshoe crabs. From 2010-2016, he focused on recreational summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass fisheries before assuming his current role. Prior to becoming the Administrative Proxy, he served on several

technical committees, stock assessment working groups, and plan development teams. He regularly sits on several species management boards (American lobster, winter flounder, American shad and river herring, coastal sharks). John was appointed Marty's ongoing proxy in October 2023.

John received a Master's degree in Biological Oceanography from Stony Brook University and a Bachelor's degree in Ecology from Dartmouth College.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Jesse Hornstein

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Marine Resources

123 Kings Park Boulevard

Kings Park, NY 11754

631.444.0714

Jesse.Hornstein@dec.ny.gov



Appointed Board-specific proxy for American eel, coastal pelagics, horseshoe crab, spiny dogfish, tautog, and weakfish in September 2024

Jesse Hornstein is a marine biologist for the NYS DEC, managing commercial fishing quotas and fishery-dependent sampling programs. He joined the DEC in 2010 and led New York's juvenile striped bass seine survey in western Long Island Sound, and NY's juvenile American eel survey in the Carman's River, prior to his current role. Jesse has been a member of Commission technical committees, plan development teams, and plan review teams.

Jesse received a Master's degree in Marine Science and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from Stony Brook University.

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Emerson C. Hasbrouck

Cornell Cooperative Extension Marine Program

423 Griffing Avenue, #100

Riverhead, NY 11901-3071

631-727-7850 extension 319

Ech12@cornell.edu



Emerson Hasbrouck is a Senior Natural Resources Specialist, and former Marine Program Director, with Cornell University Cooperative Extension's Marine Program based at the Cornell Cooperative Extension offices of Suffolk County, Riverhead, NY. No stranger to the fisheries management arena he has worked with New York's fishing industry for over 40 years. The Marine Program is known and respected nationally and internationally for its mission to protect the waters and marine resources of Long Island. Emerson has been with the Marine Program for more than three decades and previously worked for the National Marine Fisheries Service. He was appointed as the Governor's Appointee Commissioner in March 2014.

Emerson plans, develops and implements extension programs related to the effective conservation and utilization of New York's marine and natural resources. These include fisheries data, fisheries management, and fisheries economic development for New York's commercial and recreational fishing industries as well as the businesses that support these industries. He conducts applied cooperative research programs and demonstration projects that help address critical fisheries and natural resource issues for the Mid-Atlantic/Southern New England areas and works with fishermen from Massachusetts to New Jersey. Over the past decade Emerson has been focusing on conservation engineering gear technology in cooperation with the fishing industry to develop gear modifications and fishing practices that reduce the bycatch of species of concern while allowing important viable fisheries to continue at a sustained level.

Emerson received his MS in Marine Science/Fisheries Management from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and his BS in Marine Science from Southampton College of Long Island University.

ONGOING GOVERNOR’S APPOINTEE PROXY

Scott Curatolo-Wagemann

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Marine Program

423 Griffing Avenue, #100

Riverhead, NY 11901-3071

631.727.7850 extension 318

Sw224@cornell.edu



Scott Curatolo-Wagemann joined the CCE Marine Program in 1999, where his career was focused on water quality and stormwater management. In 2016, he began focusing on fisheries projects for CCE, eventually becoming the lead of the fisheries team in 2020. Scott was appointed Emerson’s ongoing proxy in 2024.

He received his MS in Marine Science/Fisheries Management from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and his BS in Marine Science from Southampton College of Long Island University.

NEW JERSEY

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Joseph Cimino

Administrator, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Marine Resources Administration

PO Box 418

Port Republic, NJ 08241

609.748.2063

Joseph.Cimino@dep.nj.gov



Elected Chair in 2023

Joe Cimino is the Administrator of the NJ Marine Resources Administration, which includes both the Marine Fisheries, Marine Habitat and Shellfisheries Bureaus. He represents the Department at various inter- and intra-state meetings, including the New Jersey Marine Fisheries and Shellfisheries Councils, ASMFC and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council. He was appointed Administrative Commissioner in April 2018.

Joe directs the research and monitoring programs of the Administration to ensure that activities conducted provide the necessary information for the sound management of the marine and shellfish resources. Joe started his marine fisheries career as a seasonal technician for NYS DEC's Hudson River Fisheries Unit; he then spent two years with the NC Division of Marine Fisheries in the Elizabeth City office. He spent nearly 14 years with the VA Marine Resources Commission in various roles, ultimately finishing his time there as the Deputy Chief of Fisheries.

Joe has degrees from SUNY Cobleskill and Plattsburgh, in Fisheries & Wildlife Technology and Environmental Science, respectively.

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Jeffrey Brust

**New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection,
Marine Resources Administration**

PO Box 418

Port Republic, NJ 08241

609.748.2020

Jeffrey.Brust@dep.nj.gov



Jeff Brust is Chief of the NJ Bureau of Marine Fisheries, overseeing daily research and administrative operations and assisting in the development and implementation of policy and regulatory decisions for state-managed marine resources. He joined the Marine Fisheries Administration in 2004 as a stock assessment biologist, following nearly six years as a member of the ASMFC Science and Research team. Jeff currently serves on the Management and Science Committee and the Atlantic Menhaden Technical Committee and Stock Assessment Subcommittee. He was appointed Joe's ongoing proxy in 2024.

Jeff received a Master's degree in Fisheries Science from the College of William and Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, and a Bachelor's degree in Marine Biology from the University of Miami.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Heather Corbett

**New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection,
Marine Resources Administration**

PO Box 418

Port Republic, NJ 08241

609.748.2020

Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.us



Appointed Board-specific proxy for American eel, Atlantic sturgeon, shad & river herring, and the ACCSP Coordinating Council in May 2022

Heather Corbett has worked with the New Jersey DEP Fish and Wildlife since 1994, currently serving as a Supervising Fisheries Biologist with the Bureau of Marine Fisheries. She has been responsible for several of NJ DEP's field surveys including striped bass tagging and river herring monitoring. Heather has been a member of many ASMFC committees, most recently including the Atlantic Striped Bass and Atlantic Sturgeon Technical Committees.

Heather has a BS in Marine Science from Stockton University.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Senator Vin Gopal

New Jersey State Senate

802 West Park Avenue, Suite 302

Ocean Township, NJ 07712

732.695.3371

SenGopal@njleg.org



Vin Gopal Chairs the Senate Education Committee and serves as Senate Majority Conference Leader. He is the youngest member of the New Jersey State Senate and the first South-Asian American to be elected to the Senate in New Jersey history. He is also Vice-Chair of the Senate Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee, and a member of the Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee. He was appointed Legislative Commissioner in November 2022.

A dedicated volunteer who works with many nonprofit organizations to assist people in need, Vin is also the Founder and President of the Vin Gopal Civic Association, a 501c(3) organization dedicated to helping Monmouth County charities and individuals in need. His community contributions as a volunteer include serving as a past Board of Trustees Member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth County, a first responder and EMT. He is also a former Adjunct Professor at Monmouth University and is currently the co-chair of the Monmouth University School of Civil Discourse.

Born in Neptune Township and raised in Monmouth County, Senator Gopal holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from Rutgers University and a Bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University.

ONGOING LEGISLATIVE PROXY

Adam Nowalsky

40 Pomona Avenue
Port Republic, NJ 08241-9746
609.618.0366
CaptAdamnj@gmail.com



Adam Nowalsky is a USCG licensed for-hire operator. He is in his third decade of running fishing charters out of southern New Jersey. Adam has served as legislative proxy for multiple New Jersey state legislative commissioners since 2010. He has chaired multiple species boards and ad-hoc committees. Adam served three consecutive terms representing NJ on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and was awarded the Council's Ricks E. Savage Award for his service in 2024.

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Jeff Kaelin

997 Ocean Drive
Cape May, NJ 08204
207.266.0440
JKaelin@lundsfish.com



In 2011, Jeff Kaelin joined Lund's Fisheries, Inc., a family owned, vertically integrated fishing company, which operates a seafood processing plant in Cape May, NJ with freezing capabilities and more than a dozen company-owned vessels. In his position, he is responsible for handling government relations for the Cape May facility and the East Coast fisheries utilized by the company. Jeff was appointed Governor's Appointee Commissioner in June 2023.

Jeff is the past chair of the Industry Advisory Board (IAB) for the Science Center for Marine Fisheries (SCMFIS) www.scemfis.org, a National Science Foundation Industry/University Cooperative Research Center that uses academic, recreational, and commercial fisheries resources to address urgent scientific problems limiting sustainable fisheries. The IAB advises the Center's management on all aspects, from research project selection, and evaluation, to strategic planning.

PENNSYLVANIA

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Dr. Tim Schaeffer

Executive Director, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC)

PO Box 67000

1601 Elmerton Avenue

Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000

717.705.7801

TiSchaeffe@pa.gov



Tim Schaeffer previously served as PFBC Director of Policy and Planning from 2008-2017. Prior to his appointment as Executive Director, he was the Deputy Secretary for the Office of Water Programs for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Tim was appointed Administrative Commissioner in November 2018.

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Kristopher M. Kuhn

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

595 East Rolling Ridge Drive

Bellefonte, PA 16823

814.359.5115

KKuhn@pa.gov



Kris Kuhn is the Director of the Bureau of Fisheries for the PFBC, which includes the Divisions of Fisheries Management, Environmental Services, Habitat Management, and Aquatic Species Restoration. He joined the agency in 2006 after working for various other state and federal natural resource agencies and has been in his current role as director since 2019. Kris was appointed Tim's ongoing proxy in 2020.

Kris received a Master's in Fisheries Science from the University of Wyoming and Bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science, as well as Labor and Industrial Relations from the Pennsylvania State University.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Representative Anita Astorino Kulik

PO Box 202045
101 Irvis Office Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2045
717.783.3780
Ajulik@pahouse.net



Representative Anita Astorino Kulik serves as the state representative for the 45th Legislative District and is Majority Chair of the House Game & Fisheries Committee, where she focuses on representing the interests of PA sportsmen and women as she has since she began serving on the committee in 2019. Anita was appointed Legislative Commissioner in May 2023.

She has been active with many community organizations, including conducting various fundraising activities for her local fire department and various youth organizations. Anita continues to be an active member of St. Malachy Parish and the Parkway West Rotary Club. Anita received her BA and JD degrees from Duquesne University.

ONGOING LEGISLATIVE PROXY

Fran Torres

7104 Torresdale Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19135
215.333.9760
FTorres@PAHouse.net

Fran Torres has been with the Pennsylvania House of Representatives as a constituent service advisor since 2021. He started fishing at a young age and has years of experience on the water to inform his participation with the Commission.



GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Loren W. Lustig

795 Stone Jug Road

Biglerville, PA 17307-9790

717.677.4927

Senseofwonder@pa.net



Loren Lustig has worked full-time as a wildlife biologist, resource manager and environmental educator in Maryland since 1971. He has also served leadership positions in the conservation field, including Commissioner with the PA State Conservation Commission, former President of the Association of Nature Center Administrators, and Chair of the Boating Advisory Board, PA Fish and Boat Commission. He has taught college courses in conservation for 10 years as an adjunct instructor at Frederick Community College in Maryland.

Loren was appointed Governor's Appointee in June 2009. He received his BS degrees in Biology and History from Wheaton College (PA); his MS in Nature Interpretation from the University of Maryland, and he has an Advanced Graduate Specialist Certificate in Environmental Education from the University of Maryland.

Loren has a lifelong interest in nature, conservation and wildlife, and enjoys fishing, hunting, hiking, boating and camping. He also served 34 years in the US Coast Guard Reserve.

DELAWARE

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

John Clark

Fisheries Section Administrator, Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife

89 Kings Highway

Dover, DE 19901-7305

302.739. 9108

John.Clark@state.de.us



John Clark is the Fisheries Administrator for the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife, where he has worked since 1989. Before becoming the Fisheries Administrator, John conducted many surveys and studies for the Division and oversaw Delaware’s compliance monitoring for American eel and Atlantic striped bass. He also served on several ASMFC technical committees. He was appointed Administrative Commissioner in September 2021 and served as ongoing administrative proxy from 2012-2021.

John received a BS in Biology from SUNY Stony Brook in 1979 and a Master’s degree in Fisheries Science from Texas A&M University in 1986.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Richard Wong

Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife

Little Creek Office

3002 Bayside Drive

Dover, DE 19901

302.735.2975

Richard.Wong@delaware.gov

Appointed Board-specific proxy for tautog and sciaenids in April 2025



Rich Wong is a Program Manager for the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife. He has served on several ASMFC technical committees including summer flounder/scup/black seabass, horseshoe crab, tautog and bluefish, and chaired the peer review panel for the Jonah benchmark crab stock assessment.

Rich received a BS in Natural Resources Management/Fisheries Science from Rutgers University and a Master's degree in Marine Biology/Biochemistry from University of Delaware. Rich is currently a Doctoral Candidate at the University of Delaware in Marine Biology.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Edna Stetzar

Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife

3002 Bayside Drive

Dover, DE 19901

302.735.8654

Edna.Stetzar@delaware.gov

Appointed Board-specific proxy for American eel and shad & river herring in June 2025



Edna Stetzar is a Fisheries Section Program Manager for Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife, managing freshwater and anadromous species staff and associated grant research projects. She joined the Division in 1992, and currently serves on several fish passage work groups, and is Delaware's representative on the Northeast Fisheries Administrator Association and Northeast Fish Health Committees.

Edna received a Master's degree in Biology at Delaware State University, and a Bachelor's in Natural Resources from Ohio State University.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Representative William J. Carson

Delaware General Assembly

411 Legislative Avenue

Dover, DE 19901

302.744.4113

William.Carson@state.de.us



William J. Carson Jr. is a member of the Delaware House of Representatives for the 28th District, which includes portions of Smyrna, Leipsic, Little Creek and Dover. He is a lifelong resident of Smyrna and was elected to represent the 28th District in 2007. He chairs the Transportation, Land Use & Infrastructure Committee and is Vice-Chair of the Manufactured Housing Committee. He is also a member of the Agriculture, Corrections, Judiciary, Natural Resources, Public Safety & Homeland Security, and Veterans Affairs committees. He was appointed Legislative Commissioner in January 2015.

William is a veteran of the Delaware Air National Guard and an Honorary Commander of the Dover Air Force Base. He is a member of the American Legion Post No. 14, where he previously served on the Board of Directors; a member of the American Legion 40/8, the Delaware Veterans Post No. 2 and the Delaware Veterans Coalition; and a charter member of the Smyrna-Clayton Moose Lodge; past master of the Harmony Lodge No. 13 A.F. & A.M. He is also a life member, former President and former Chief of the Smyrna Fire Company, where he also previously served on the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees. William is a life member emeritus of the Smyrna-Clayton Little League, for which he previously served as a coach for 22 years and on the Board of Directors; a member of the Board of Directors of the Mamie A. Warren Senior Center, the Modern Maturity Center and Friends of Belmont Hall; a member of the Smyrna Downtown Renaissance Committee; and a member of the NRA.

ONGOING LEGISLATIVE PROXY

Craig D. Pugh

168 Main Street

Leipsic, DE 19901

302.222.4026 / 302.674.0499

Crabman31@aol.com

Craig Pugh was born and raised in the tiny riverfront town of Leipsic, Delaware, where he has served as Mayor for more than a decade as well as being a commercial crabber. Conditions permitting, Craig works the water every day of the season, maintaining a balance between harvesting enough crabs to meet demand and taking no more than the market can handle. Craig was appointed William's ongoing proxy in February 2015.



GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Roy Miller

31421 Melloy Court

Lewes, Delaware 19958-3863

302.645.7103

Fishmaster70@comcast.net

Roy Miller retired as the Administrator of the Fisheries Section of the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife in 2009. He had been with the Division since 1975 where he worked for 34 years as Biologist Supervisor, Program Manager, and lastly as Administrator. Prior to that, he was a fishery biologist for five years with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. After retiring from the State, he worked part-time as Policy Coordinator for the DE Center for the Inland Bays until 2017. He was appointed Governor's Appointee Commissioner in June 2009.



Roy is an American Fisheries Society-Certified Fisheries Scientist. He was a charter member of the ASMFC Atlantic Striped Bass, Shad and River Herring, and American Eel Technical Committees. In 2009, Roy received the Commission's Annual Award of Excellence in management and policy and the Captain David H. Hart Award in 2018. He is an avid sport fisherman, fly caster and fly tier. Roy graduated with honors in biology from Lafayette College and has a MS in Fishery Biology from Cornell University.

MARYLAND

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Lynn Waller Fegley

Director, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR), Fishing and Boating Services

580 Taylor Avenue B2

Annapolis, MD 21401-2352

410.260.8285

Lynn.Fegley@maryland.gov



Lynn Fegley is the Director of the Fishing and Boating Services. Over the years, she has enjoyed working with a team of immensely talented individuals on a diverse array of species and an ever-challenging suite of fisheries issues. Lynn was appointed Administrative Commissioner in October 2022.

Lynn graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1990 with a BA in Zoology. After graduating from college, she worked as a cook, a musician and a collegiate sailing coach, and finally as a seasonal biologist for New Hampshire Fish and Game. In 1993, Lynn headed south to graduate school at North Carolina State University where she earned a MS in Zoology with a focus on fisheries stock assessment and statistics. Lynn's first job at Maryland Department of Natural Resources in 1996 was as a field biologist and statistician with the striped bass stock assessment program, and she still enjoys getting out and tagging stripers.

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Michael Luisi

Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Division

580 Taylor Avenue B2

Annapolis, MD 21401-2352

410.260.8341

Michael.Luisi@maryland.gov



Michael Luisi has been with MD DNR since 2000, where he has held a wide variety of positions focused on the sustainable management of Maryland's local and shared fishery resources along the Atlantic coast. Positions included management of the State's commercial striped bass fishery, overseeing the Coastal Fisheries Program and directing Maryland's Tidal Monitoring and Assessment Division. Mike currently is the state's branch director for Tidal and Coastal Management and Science and has served as Maryland's State Official Designee to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council since 2010. Mike has participated on various ASMFC Boards for over 15 years and was appointed Lynn's ongoing proxy in October 2022.

Mike graduated with a BS from Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg Virginia in 1997. His career in fisheries began at the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries while working as a technician on the Statewide Stream Survey Project. After a little more than a year, he entered the graduate program at Tennessee Technological University and earned an MS in 2000 while studying the growth and survival characteristics of brown and rainbow trout

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Carrie Kennedy

Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Division

580 Taylor Avenue B2

Annapolis, MD 21401-2352

410.279.7234

Carrie.Kennedy@maryland.gov

Appointed board-specific proxy for ACCSP Coordinating Council, American eel, and shad & river herring in April 2023 and horseshoe crab in October 2024



Carrie Kennedy is the Division Director of Monitoring and Assessment for MD DNR's Fishing and Boating Services. In her current position, she provides oversight to all the finfish programs conducting surveys and assessments in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay and Coastal Atlantic waters. Her previous experience includes managing the Data and Quota Monitoring Program, managing the Coastal Fisheries Program, and administering the commercial striped bass fishery.

Carrie received a Bachelor's degree in Biology from St. Mary's College of Maryland.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Delegate Dana Stein

Maryland State Representative

House Office Building, Room 251

6 Bladen Street

Annapolis, MD 21401

410.841.3527

Dana.Stein@house.state.md.us



Delegate Dana Stein was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 2006 and serves on the Environmental Matters Committee. He was appointed Legislative Commissioner in April 2019.

Dana has been a leader in community and Democratic activities for many years. He has been chairman of the Baltimore County Democratic Central Committee, and in 2002 he was appointed to the House of Delegates to fill a vacancy in District 11. He has served as president of the Liberty Road Community Council and GrassRoots Recycling, chairman of the social action committee of Temple Oheb Shalom, and vice president of Sudbrook Park, Inc. Currently, Dana is a board member of the American Jewish Congress—Maryland Chapter.

Dana practiced law for several years at Squire, Sanders & Dempsey in Washington, DC, working on antitrust, banking, international trade and pro-bono matters. In 1991, he returned to Baltimore to found Civic Works, a nationally recognized “urban Peace Corps” that transforms the lives of young adults through community service. Participants work to rehab homes, build parks and gardens, tutor and mentor students, and teach disaster preparedness. Dana serves as president and executive director of Civic Works.

Dana has a BA in Government from Harvard College, a law degree from Columbia Law School, and a Master’s degree in Public Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University.

ONGOING LEGISLATIVE PROXY

David Sikorski

PO Box 309
Annapolis, MD 21404
443.621.9186
David@ccamd.org

David Sikorski is a native Marylander, a lifelong sportsman, and a current resident of Baltimore. As the Executive Director of Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) Maryland, David oversees the day-to-day operations of the state chapter and leads its habitat, education, and conservation programs. David was appointed Dana's ongoing proxy in January 2021.



Before joining CCA Maryland in 2017, David worked in residential construction, real estate, and property management. He served on the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission from 2009 to 2024 and currently serves on Maryland's Oyster Advisory Commission and Blue Catfish Advisory Group. Additionally, David has participated in the Commission's Atlantic Striped Bass and Atlantic Menhaden Advisory Panels.

David is also a member of the Steering Committee for the Marine Resources Education Program, where he collaborated with program leadership to develop recreational fishing-focused modules for the Mid-Atlantic region and continues to support efforts that connect stakeholders to fisheries management processes.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Dr. Allison Colden

Chesapeake Bay Foundation
6 Herndon Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21403
410.268.8816
AColden@cbf.org

Appointed Board-specific proxy for Atlantic menhaden and shad & river herring in January 2018



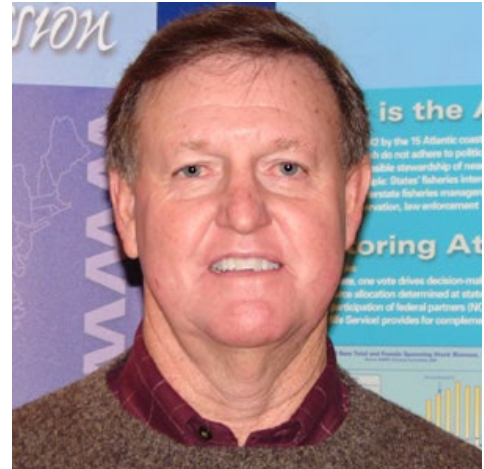
Allison Colden is the Maryland Executive Director for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation where she provides scientific expertise and technical support for the organization's fisheries policy and restoration programs.

Allison holds a Bachelor's degree in Biology with a concentration in Ecological and Biological Conservation from the University of Virginia and a PhD in Fisheries Science from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

H. Russell Dize

PO Box 165
5423 Rude Avenue
Tilghman, MD 21671
410.886.2249
Maryjdize@gmail.com



Russell Dize began working the waters of Talbot County and the Chesapeake Bay in 1959 at the age of 18. In 1962, he became a partner in Tidewater Clam Company, employing 75-100 workers who packed shucked clams.

He formed R.D.S. Seafood in 1972 and bought and sold seafood and owned William F. Howeth Hardware and Lumber for 18 years. Russell was also the owner and Captain of the skipjack *Kathryn*, harvesting oysters for many years. Now a certified Coast Guard Captain with a 100-ton license, Russell owns and operates the charter boat "*Riley Kat*". Russell is active in several organizations and is a founding member of the Maryland Waterman's Association. He was appointed Governor's Appointee Commissioner in August 2019.

ONGOING GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE PROXY

Robert T. Brown, Sr.

Maryland Watermen's Association, Inc.

1805A Virginia Street

Annapolis, MD 21401

240.925.1596

RBbrown@marylandwatermen.com



Robert T. Brown, Sr. grew up in St. Mary's County, MD. just across St. Patrick Creek from where he lives and runs his seafood business today. In 1964, Brown started haul seining in the summer with his brother, Tucker on the Potomac River. Robert started working on his own in 1966 when he bought a 16-foot "Dele" V-bottom boat, powered by a 50 H.P. Mercury outboard engine that he used to oyster after school.

Right out of high school, Robert had a boat builder, the late Garner Gibson, build him a 42-foot "box stern dory" that he named Nancy B. The dory is one of three deadrise boats that Robert uses to haul seine and work pound nets for finfish and oysters.

He joined the St. Mary's County Watermen's Association and Maryland Watermen's Association (MWA), where he was elected president in 2013 and continues to serve in that capacity today.

Robert has served as Chair of the Potomac River Fin-fish Advisory Commission; a member of the Tidal Fish Advisory Commission for the State of Maryland; a member of the Oyster Advisory Commission; as well as on many work groups such as the Atlantic Striped Bass Workgroup and the Penalty Work Group. Robert was appointed Russell's ongoing proxy in June 2018.

VIRGINIA

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Jamie Green

**Commissioner, Virginia Marine Resources Commission
(VMRC)**

380 Fenwick Road

Fort Monroe, VA 23651-1064

757.247.2200

Jamie.Green@mrc.virginia.gov



Jamie Green joined the VMRC in 2005 as a law enforcement officer. Within a few years, he became a 1st Sergeant and two years later became Captain of the Middle Area. During his tenure as Captain, he graduated from the Southern Police Institute at University of Louisville, as well as Saint Leo University. Jamie was instrumental in securing and executing several federal grants and managed the Joint Enforcement Agreement with National Marine Fisheries Service. Jamie was appointed VMRC Commissioner in June 2022 becoming Administrative Commissioner at that time.

In his free time, he enjoys fishing, hunting, and golfing. Jamie also dedicates time to the community coaching youth football, baseball and basketball.

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Joe Grist

Virginia Marine Resources Commission

380 Fenwick Road

Fort Monroe, VA 23651-1064

757.247.8193

Joseph.Grist@mrc.virginia.gov



Joseph Grist serves as Deputy Commissioner overseeing VMRC's three Natural Resource Management Divisions (Fisheries, Shellfish and Habitat), advises the Commissioner in policy and marine resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and serves

as the Program Director for the Commissioner’s Waterman Apprentice Program. Joe was appointed Jamie’s ongoing proxy in May 2025.

Joe’s career includes employment as a fisheries stock assessment scientist or manager with NCDMF, ASMFC and VMRC, along with stints with the City of Newport News as its Environmental Administrator, and with Virginia’s Department of Environmental Quality as its Water Withdrawal Permitting Program Manager. Joe currently serves as the Commissioner’s delegate to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and has served on various committees for ASMFC and the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council in the past.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Senator Danny Diggs

PO Box 1

Yorktown, VA 23690

757.888.7524

SenatorDiggs@senate.virginia.gov

J. D. “Danny” Diggs was sworn in as a Virginia State Senator serving the 24th District in January 2024. In the Senate, he is assigned to the following Committees: Transportation, Local Government, and Privileges & Elections. He was appointed Legislative Commissioner in July 2024.



Before being elected to the Virginia Senate, Danny was the Sheriff of York County and the City of Poquoson. In 1999, he was elected Sheriff of York and Poquoson, assumed office on January 1, 2000, and was elected five additional times, retiring on January 1, 2023, to run for the Senate after serving 23 years as the Sheriff. Danny was a member of the Virginia Sheriffs’ Association, the National Sheriffs’ Association, the FBI National Academy Associates, the Police Benevolent Association, the Fraternal Order of Police, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Danny has been chosen to serve in several leadership roles by the National Sheriffs’ Association and serves on their CJIS/Technology Committee and the Legislative Affairs Committee.

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

James “JJ” Minor

900 North 35th Street

Richmond, VA 23223

804.677.7103

Alorah1675@icloud.com

James “JJ” Minor is a Management Analyst for the City of Richmond, President of Richmond Virginia Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and board member of the Help Me Help You Foundation. An avid recreational angler, JJ served two terms on the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, where he chaired the Commercial Fishing Advisory Board. He was appointed Governor’s Appointee Commissioner in July 2024.



NORTH CAROLINA

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Kathy Rawls

**Director, North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries
(NC DMF)**

PO Box 769

3441 Arendell Street

Morehead City, NC 28557

252.808.8013

Kathy.Rawls@deq.nc.gov



Kathy Rawls, a 30-year Division member, was appointed Director of the NC DMF in May 2021 becoming Administrative Commissioner at that time. Kathy began her career with the Division in 1990 as a River Herring Technician and worked her way up to Biologist Supervisor, a position she held for eight years until May 2011, when she was promoted to Manager of the Division's Northern District, based in Elizabeth City. She became Fisheries Management Section Chief in April 2014.

Kathy earned a Bachelor's degree in Marine Biology from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 1989.

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Chris Batsavage

North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries

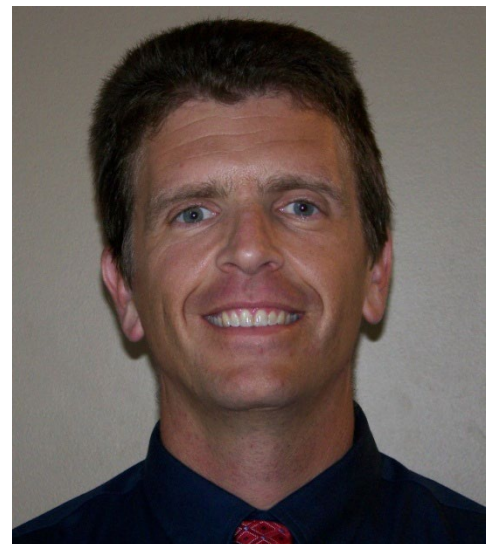
PO Box 769

3441 Arendell Street

Morehead City, NC 28557-0769

252.241.2995

Chris.Batsavage@deq.nc.gov



Chris Batsavage serves as the Special Assistant for Councils and the Protected Resources Section Chief for NC DMF and has held several positions for the Division since 1998. He was appointed Kathy's ongoing proxy in May 2021.

Chris received his BS in Forestry and Wildlife from Virginia Tech and his MS in Biology from East Carolina University.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Brandi Salmon

North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries

PO Box 769

3441 Arendell Street

Morehead City, NC 28557

252.725.9202

Brandi.Salmon@deq.nc.gov

Appointed Board-specific proxy for ACCSP Coordinating Council in May 2021

Brandi Salmon is Section Chief of the License and Statistics Section at the DMF, where she leads licensing and data programs that support sustainable, science-based fisheries management. She holds dual BS degrees in Marine Biology and Environmental Studies from UNC Wilmington. Brandi began her career conducting recreational creel surveys in Florida and North Carolina, later advancing through roles within the Section to become Chief. She also serves on multiple federal and state committees and work groups, contributing her expertise to collaborative fisheries policy and data initiatives.



LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Representative Brian Turner

1 Amherst Road

Asheville, NC 28803

828.582.4414

Brian.Turner@ncleg.gov

Brian Turner is a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives, representing the 116th district (including constituents in western Buncombe County) from 2015 to 2023 and again since 2025, at which time he became the Legislative Commissioner.



Brian currently serves as Vice-Chair for the Wildlife Resources Committee and is a member of several committees including the Appropriations Committee (covering general issues; agriculture, natural and economic resources; and information technology), Education, Environment, Marine Resources & Aquaculture, and Homeland Security, Military & Veterans Affairs Committees. Before his election to public office, Brian worked as a television producer at MTV, as an executive at his family's manufacturing company, and as Vice-Chancellor at the University of North Carolina at Asheville. He currently works as a commercial real estate agent. Brian has a BA in Economics from Northwestern University in 1996 and an MBA from the Babcock Graduate School of Management at Wake Forest University in 2010.

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Michael Wray

220 Daive Street
Gaston, NC 27832
252.536.8013

MichaelhWray406@gmail.com



Michael Wray was appointed to serve as the Governor Appointee in May 2025. He was previously the state's Legislative Commissioner, having served his community and state for over 34 years, including ten terms as a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives, representing the counties of Halifax, Northampton, and Warren. During his tenure as a state legislator, Michael played significant roles, including Deputy Minority Leader and Minority Whip. His legislative service included leadership on committees such as Appropriations, Finance, Rules, Natural and Economic Resources, Insurance, Small Business, and Wildlife Resources, underlining his diverse interests and commitment to public service.

Michael's dedication to community service began early in his life. His political journey started in 1991 when he was elected Town Commissioner for Gaston, a position he held until 1995. He later served on the North Carolina Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners and the State Economic Development Board.

An active member of various organizations, Michael has been involved with Rotary International, the Gaston Lions Club, the Northeastern Action Wildlife Club, Ducks Unlimited, and the National Wild Turkey Federation, among others.

SOUTH CAROLINA

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Blaik Keppler

**Marine Resources Deputy Director, South Carolina
Department of Natural Resources
(SC DNR)**

217 Fort Johnson Road
Charleston, SC 29412
843.953.9024

kepplerb@dnr.sc.gov



Blaik Keppler became the Marine Resources Deputy Director for SC DNR in November 2021 becoming the Administrative Commissioner at that time. She has been with the DNR since 2007, serving as the Director of the Coastal Reserves and Outreach Section and the ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve Manager.

Blaik received a Master's degree in Environmental Studies from the College of Charleston and a BS in Coastal and Marine Resources from North Carolina State University.

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Ben Dyar

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

217 Ft. Johnson Road
Charleston, SC 29412
843.953.9841

DyarB@dnr.sc.gov



Ben Dyar is the Director of the Office of Fisheries Management (OFM) for the SC DNR Marine Resources Division. OFM coordinates federal, interjurisdictional, and state marine fisheries management, fisheries-dependent data collection, as well as artificial reef and oyster reef habitat restoration. He joined the Department in 2004. Ben was appointed Blaik Keppler's ongoing proxy in 2023.

Ben holds a dual Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science and Environmental Engineering from Auburn University.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Ross L. Self

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

PO Box 167

Columbia, SC 29202-0167

803.734.3808

SelfR@dnr.sc.gov

Appointed Board-specific proxy for American eel, Atlantic sturgeon, and shad & river herring in January 2024



Ross Self is the Chief of the Freshwater Fisheries Section of SC DNR. The Section is responsible for the survey and management of South Carolina's freshwater aquatic resources, including diadromous species, and the operation of the State's freshwater fish hatchery program.

Ross started his career with SC DNR as an Assistant District Biologist in 1985. He received a BS and an MS in Fisheries Management from Auburn University.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Senator Ronnie W. Cromer

South Carolina Legislature

1101 Pendleton Street, Box 142

Columbia, SC 29201-3711

803.212.6330

Cromer@scsenate.gov

Ronnie Cromer serves as South Carolina's State Senator for District 18. He was first elected to the seat in a special election on April 15, 2003, and has risen through the ranks of the Senate Republican Caucus and is currently the Chair of the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee. He also serves on four other Senate committees:



Fish, Game and Forestry, Finance, Joint Bond Review, and Rules. He was appointed as the Legislative Commissioner in December 2012.

A life-long resident of Newberry County, Ronnie has given more than 30 years of his life to public service in the professional and political service arenas. Ronnie is fully engaged in the Newberry Community as a business owner (Lorex Drugs), a member of many civic organizations, past president of the Newberry Civitan Club and the Newberry Pilots' Association. He is also a member of several conservation organizations including Ducks Unlimited, Quail Unlimited, the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Prosperity Wildlife Association. A 30-year member of the South Carolina Army Reserve National Guard, Ronnie served in the first Persian Gulf War and in Operation Desert Shield/Storm receiving several distinguished service honors and retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. Ronnie is proud to be counted among the men and women who volunteer to defend our country and protect the freedoms and liberties that have been gained through the sacrifice of so many.

ONGOING LEGISLATIVE PROXY

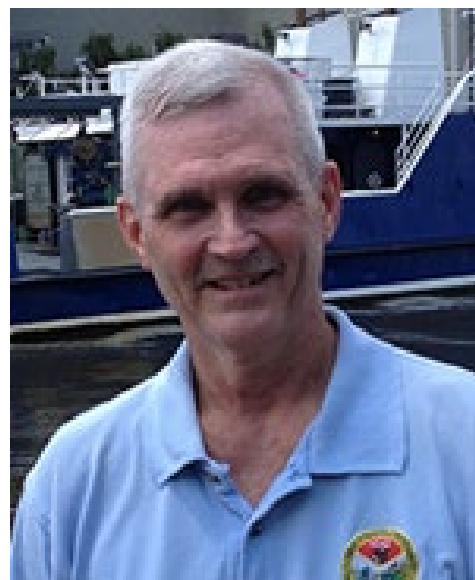
Mel Bell

1060 Northbridge Drive
Charleston, SC 29407
843.442.4851

Captmbell@yahoo.com

Mel Bell formerly served as the Director of the Office of Fisheries Management within SC DNR's Marine Resources Division, where he was responsible for the leadership of the DNR's efforts to oversee and manage the state's varied commercial and recreational marine fisheries and related resources. Mel worked for the SC DNR for over 40 years in several capacities before retiring in 2024. Mel served on the SAFMC for 12 years, and as Chairman from 2020-2022. He was appointed Ronnie's ongoing proxy in April 2025.

Mel has a BS in Marine Biology from the University of West Florida and an MS in Biological Oceanography from Old Dominion University. Beginning in 1977, he served thirty years as an active duty and reserve officer in the US Navy.



GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Dr. Malcolm Rhodes

450 McLeod Road

Charleston, SC 29414

843.209.4145

Mmrhodesmd@gmail.com



Malcolm Rhodes was a practicing

Pediatrician at Parkwood Pediatric Group. He retired from his practice in 2022 after 35 years of private practice.

For 2 decades he and his wife ran The Charleston Angler in Charleston and Mount Pleasant, full-service bait, tackle and supply shops catering to the inshore, offshore, and fly fisherman. He was appointed Governor's Appointee Commissioner in October 2005.

Malcolm graduated from Duke University and received an MD from the Medical University of South Carolina. He completed a pediatric residency at the Medical College of Georgia and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Malcolm has served on and continues to serve on numerous hospital, forestry, conservation and angling boards. After retirement from medicine Malcolm has been able to focus on his 5 grandchildren, timberland management and several eleemosynary organizations.

GEORGIA

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Doug Haymans

**Director, Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR),
Coastal Resources Division (CRD)**

One Conservation Way, Suite 300

Brunswick, GA 31520-8686

912.264.7218

Doug_Haymans@coastal.dnr.ga.gov



Doug Haymans has been with Georgia CRD since 2000. Prior to becoming the CRD Director in 2018, at which time he became the Administrative Commissioner, he served as coordinator for policy, outreach and communications and represented Georgia on the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. Earlier in his career, he supervised boating/fishing access and habitat development, served as commercial fishing liaison, and coordinated special projects such as the Peach State Reds Initiative. Doug was initially a fisheries biologist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Doug holds a BS in Biology from the University of Georgia and is a graduate of the Institute of Georgia Environmental Leadership.

Based in Brunswick, CRD administers the Game and Fish Code, Coastal Marshlands Protection Act and Shore Protection Act; manages shellfish harvest areas; conducts research, management and development activities associated with recreational and commercial fishery resources; and builds boat ramps, artificial reefs, and fishing piers.

BOARD-SPECIFIC PROXY

Kathy Knowlton

Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division

One Conservation Way

Brunswick, GA 31520

912.262.3122

Kathy.Knowlton@dnr.ga.gov

Appointed Board-specific proxy for ACCSP Coordinating Council in January 2019

Kathy Knowlton provides Fisheries Management and Programmatic Support within the Marine Fisheries Section of the Coastal Resources Division. She has been with GA DNR for over 20 years.

For most of that time, she led the Fishery Statistics Unit, overseeing the recreational, for-hire and commercial marine fisheries data collection programs. She has served on numerous ACCSP committees, Soth Atlantic Fishery Management Council stock assessments and work groups, as well as National Marine Fisheries Service Marine Recreational Information Program committees and projects.

Kathy received her Bachelor's in degree Biology from the University of Virginia and her Master's degree in Zoology from the University of Georgia.



LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONER

Representative Trey Rhodes

228-A State Capitol

Atlanta, GA 30334

404.656.5099

Trey.Rhodes@house.ga.gov

Trey Rhodes' grandfather, father, and mother all served on his hometown city council. In addition, his grandfather and father were both elected Mayor. This led Trey to run for city council,



a position he held for over nine years before running for the Georgia House of Representatives. He was elected to represent District 120 in 2015 and currently serves as Chair of the House Game, Fish, and Parks Committee. He was appointed Legislative Commissioner in July 2019.

A lifelong citizen of Greene County, Georgia, Trey played baseball for Brevard Community College in Melbourne, Florida before transferring to the University of Georgia.

ONGOING LEGISLATIVE PROXY

Dr. Carolyn Belcher

Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division

One Conservation Way

Brunswick, GA 31520

912.264.7218

Carolyn.Belcher@dnr.ga.gov



Carolyn Belcher is the Marine Fisheries Section Chief for GA DNR Coastal Resources Division. She has 29 years in fisheries, 23 years of which have been with CRD. Carolyn serves as Trey’s ongoing proxy and has previous ASMFC experience on the Assessment Science Committee, Coastal Sharks Technical Committee and on stock assessment subcommittees for Red Drum and Shad and River Herring.

Carolyn has a PhD in Forestry and Natural Resources from University of Georgia and an MS and BS in Statistical Science from the University of Rhode Island.

GOVERNOR APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Spud Woodward

860 Buck Swamp Road

Brunswick, GA 31523

912.258.8970

SWoodward1957@gmail.com



Spud Woodward is the owner of a fish and wildlife management consulting and communications business. He was appointed Governor's Appointee Commissioner immediately after his retirement in January 2018, after 34 years with GA DNR.

While with GA DNR, Spud served in various roles as wildlife technician, marine biologist, Chief of Marine Fisheries and CRD Director. He was Georgia's Administrative Commissioner to ASMFC for 16 years and agency representative on the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council for three years. He maintained state peace officer certification as a conservation ranger for 20 years.

Spud is a certified SCUBA diver and a USCG-licensed vessel operator. He was a marine industry-sponsored saltwater competitive angler from 1988 through 2000 participating in tournaments throughout the South Atlantic and Gulf. He has contributed over 200 articles about fishing, hunting, and conservation to various print and digital publications. Spud is a member of the Boards of the Georgia Wildlife Federation and Keep Golden Isles Beautiful.

Spud received a BS in Aquatic Biology from Augusta College in 1980 and an MS in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from the University of Tennessee in 1987.

FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONER

Jessica R. McCawley

**Director, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
Commission, Division of Marine Fisheries Management**

620 South Meridian Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399

850.487.0554

Jessica.McCawley@myfwc.com



Jessica McCawley is the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries Management, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, which protects Florida's marine resources for present and future generations. Jessica's experience includes ecology of artificial reef communities, reef fish, predator prey relationships in fish populations, and human dimensions of fisheries management. Jessica was appointed Administrative Commissioner in November 2012.

Jessica received a BS in Marine Biology from Spring Hill College and an MS in Marine Science from the University of Alabama. Her graduate work investigated the role of artificial reefs in the life history of red snapper.

ONGOING ADMINISTRATIVE PROXY

Erika Burgess

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission,
Division of Marine Fisheries Management**

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Tallahassee, FL 32399

850.487.0554

Erika.Burgess@myfwc.com



Erika Burgess is a Section Lead for the Division of Marine Fisheries Management, leading the team for rule and policy development for state-managed marine fisheries. She joined Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in 2014 after having worked as a contractor for the Department of

Defense and as a Fishery Management Plan Coordinator for ASMFC. Appointed Jessica's ongoing proxy in 2021, Erika represents Florida on multiple management boards.

Erika received an Master's degree in Environmental Management from Duke University and a Bachelor's degree in Biology from Pepperdine University.

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE COMMISSIONER

Gary Jennings

American Sportfishing Association, Keep Florida Fishing

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Windermere, FL 34786

407.719.2970

GJennings@asafishing.org



Gary Jennings is the Director of Keep Florida Fishing, an initiative of the American Sportfishing Association. The mission of Keep Florida Fishing is to ensure that Floridians and those visiting the state have clean waters, abundant fisheries and access to both. He was appointed by Florida Governor Ron DeSantis as an ASMFC Governor's Appointee Commissioner in May 2022.

Gary graduated from Florida State University with BS degrees in Human Resource Management and Hospitality Administration. He spent fourteen years working with the Walt Disney World Company and Hilton Hotels before he began working in the recreational fishing industry. His first stop was as a Regional Director for CCA Florida, then as publisher of *Fly Fishing in Saltwaters* magazine and finally as general manager of Hell's Bay Boatworks before he began working with the American Sportfishing Association in 2015. His varied experience gives him the ability to understand how fisheries management decisions impact a wide cross section of stakeholders.

Throughout his industry work experience, Gary has focused on engaging the recreational fishing community to actively participate in fisheries management. He believes a cooperative management approach with industry involvement promotes positive outcomes for sustainable fishing and access. Gary actively participates in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council as the alternate recreational fishing representative, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission Aquatic Plant Management Technical Advisory Group, the Florida DEP's Southeast

Coral Reef Initiative as a recreational representative and was a member of the University of Florida/Florida Department of Environmental Protection Coral Reef Fishing Stakeholder Group.

In his free time, Gary enjoys fishing, turkey hunting and flying his 1945 Piper J3 Cub floatplane.