

The Regional Aquaculture Association (“RAA”) that represents the Norton Sound/Bering Strait Region invites its member organizations and communities to submit nominations for those board seats representing community districts on the RAA.

Selected RAA board members will play an important role in salmon enhancement. The RAA appoints half of the six-member Regional Planning Team (RPT) for the region. RPTs prepare regional comprehensive salmon plans to rehabilitate salmon stocks and supplement salmon production, and are responsible for reviewing hatchery management plans and making recommendations on hatchery permits.

The RAA was recognized by Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) as a Regional Aquaculture Association under AS 16.10.380 in 1997 and has recently had this recognition reconfirmed by the State. The RAA was originally incorporated under the name of the Norton Sound/Bering Strait Regional Aquaculture Association. Due to filings using the State of Alaska online system that were not authorized by this organization, the RAA is reorganizing we will be reincorporating under a new name when all required board seats have been filled.

The RAA’s governance structure provides representation to all Norton Sound communities (which are grouped into districts) and salmon user groups. In accordance with the bylaws, the board is comprised of the following seats, which are filled by the voting members of the RAA:

1. Island District, selected by Gambell and Savoonga;
2. Bering Strait District Seat, selected by Diomede, Wales, Brevig Mission, and Teller;
3. Nome District, selected by Nome, King Island Native Community, Nome Eskimo Community, Solomon, and Council;
4. Northeast Norton Sound District, selected by White Mountain, Golovin, Elim, and Koyuk;
5. Eastern Norton Sound District, selected by Shaktoolik and Unalakleet;
6. Southern Norton Sound District, selected by St. Michael and Stebbins;
7. Holders of Norton Sound or Port Clarence Limited Entry Salmon Permits, selected by the permit holders;
8. Kawerak, Inc., selected by Kawerak;
9. Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation, selected by NSEDC;
10. Sport Fishermen in the Region, elected by the RAA Board;
11. Processors with Shoreside Offices in the Region, selected by NSEDC as the sole in-region processor; and
12. Subsistence Fishermen in the Region, elected by the RAA Board.

Terms must be staggered so that the entire board does not come up for election each year: the term for Class 1 seats (Island District, Nome District, NSEDC, and Sport Fishermen) will end August 2013; the term for Class 2 seats (Bering Strait District, Eastern Norton Sound District, Kawerak, and Processors) will end August 2014; and the term for Class 3 seats (North Eastern Norton Sound, Southern Norton Sound, Permit Holders, and Subsistence Fishermen will end August 2015. After these initial terms, terms will be three years for all seats.

To be qualified to represent a District, a person must maintain a mailing address and permanent domicile within the District and be eligible to receive an Alaska Permanent Fund dividend at that address for the entire term of office as director.

A copy of the nomination form is enclosed. Petitions are being accepted for the board seats that represent the interest groups (permit holders, sport fishermen, and subsistence) and forms for those petitions are available at www.nsedc.com. Please make copies if you wish to submit more than one name as a nominee. **Completed forms should be returned by February 29, 2012 to Charlie Lean, RAA Director, P.O. Box 358, Nome AK 99762.**

After the nomination period closes, the RAA will send a list of qualified nominees to all of the city offices and/or entities in that district for ranking. The nominee with the highest rankings will be the director that represents the district on the RAA and the second highest shall be the alternate. Ties shall be broken by drawing lots.

**Regional Aquaculture Association
Board of Director Selection
Board of Director to represent a Community District
Nomination Form**

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Person or Entity making the Nomination: _____

Nomination is for representation of the following Community District (check one):

- Island District, selected by Gambell and Savoonga
- Bering Strait District Seat, selected by Diomede, Wales, Brevig Mission, and Teller
- Nome District, selected by Nome, King Island Native Community, Nome Eskimo Community, Solomon, and Council
- Northeast Norton Sound District, selected by White Mountain, Golovin, Elim, and Koyuk
- Eastern Norton Sound District, selected by Shaktoolik and Unalakleet
- Southern Norton Sound District, selected by St. Michael and Stebbins

To be qualified to represent the communities as a board member, a person must maintain a mailing address and permanent domicile within the District and be eligible to receive an Alaska Permanent Fund dividend at that address for the entire term of office as director.

By signing below, you are making this nomination and you are stating that to the best of your knowledge the nominee meets these qualifications.

Nominator Signature and Title (if applicable) Date

Return completed forms by February 29, 2012 to:
Charlie Lean, P.O. Box 358, Nome Alaska 99762