



# *New England Fishery Management Council*

## *News Release*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 10, 2006**

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### ***Qualified Individuals Encouraged to Apply for NE Fishery Council Membership***

The process is now underway to fill five seats that will be vacant on the New England Council beginning in early August 2006. NOAA Fisheries, on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce, has formally asked the governors of the coastal New England states to solicit and submit nominations.

As the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act states: *Council members must be individuals, who, by reason of their occupational or other experience, scientific expertise, or training, are knowledgeable regarding the conservation and management, or the commercial or recreational harvest, of the fishery resources of the geographical area concerned.*

A total of four obligatory seats, one each from Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut must be filled by residents of those particular states. Any New England state may nominate a qualified individual to fill the only at-large seat that will be left vacant in August.

Anyone interested in seeking nomination to the Council should contact his or her state fisheries agency:

- ME Department of Marine Resources in Augusta, ME - 207/624-6553
- NH Fish and Game Department in Durham, NH - 603/868-1096
- Division of Marine Fisheries in Boston, MA - 617/626-1530
- RI Department of Environmental Management in Providence, RI - 401/222-2771
- CT Department of Environmental Protection, Marine Fisheries Division in Old Lyme, CT - 860/434-6043

Heads up! The governors' nomination packages must be submitted to NOAA Fisheries by March 15. It is necessary to act well in advance of that deadline in order to be considered.

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