



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration**  
*National Marine Fisheries Service*  
*P.O. Box 21668*  
*Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668*

May 10, 2017

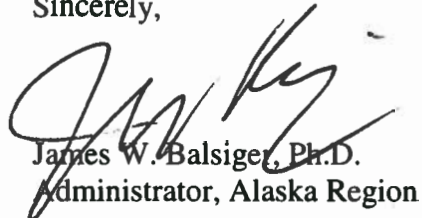
Mr. Chris Oliver  
Executive Director  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 West 4th Avenue, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2252

Dear Chris:

We recommend that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council appoint John V. Olson to the Scallop Plan Team to replace Peggy Murphy. Ms. Murphy has retired from NMFS. Mr. Olson has relevant expertise and his in-depth knowledge of habitat issues will provide a valuable perspective to the Scallop Plan Team.

I have attached Mr. Olson's resume for your consideration.

Sincerely,



James W. Balsiger, Ph.D.  
Administrator, Alaska Region

Enclosure



**John V. Olson**

Work: NMFS, Alaska Regional Office  
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john.v.olson@noaa.gov

**Education**

M.S coursework. Oregon State University, College of Oceanic & Atmospheric Sciences - Marine Resource Management, 1996-1998  
B.S. Oregon State University, Fisheries, 1994

**Employment**

2000 - present. Marine Habitat Resource Specialist, Habitat Conservation Division - Alaska Regional Office. Member of the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) team. Responsibilities include advancing EFH species descriptions and analyzing effects of fishing activities.

My current position as a fishery biologist and GIS specialist at the NMFS Alaska Regional office involves ensuring the Alaska Region is complying with EFH provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. This includes a mandatory 5-year review of EFH components. The 2017 review was recently completed and focused on the development of model-based species descriptions and the effects of fishing activities on EFH. Collaborations with the Alaska Fisheries Science Center and Alaska Pacific University on issues regarding habitat and fishing impacts has led to significant changes in both the methods used to describe EFH for egg, larval, juvenile, and adult life stages as well as the development of a time-discrete VMS-enabled fishing effects model. This model allows the spatially- and temporally-explicit analysis of the effects of commercial fishing activities on essential fish habitat.

I have been involved in EFH-related management and research since 2000 and have been responsible for developing methods to describe EFH and designing closures in the Aleutians, Gulf of Alaska, and Bering Sea as a result of precautionary actions taken by the NPFMC in 2005. My expertise with the use of fishery-dependent observer data has enabled me to work with the AFSC, industry, and academia on projects ranging from yearly contributions to the SAFE report, gear modifications and fishing effects modeling.

I currently have three funded proposal through the HEPR/EFH program on which I am a co-PI; two Norton Sound effects of mining on crab projects and one to ground-truth the Fishing Effects model utilizing drop camera imagery.

**Publications**

Sigler, M.F., M.P. Eagleton, T.E. Helser, J.V. Olson, J.L. Pirtle, C.N. Rooper, S.C. Simpson, and R.P. Stone. 2017. Alaska Essential Fish Habitat Research Plan: A Research Plan for the National Marine Fisheries Service's Alaska Fisheries Science Center and Alaska Regional Office. AFSC Processed Rep. 2015-05, 22p. Alaska Fish. Sci. Cent., NOAA, Natl. Mar. Fish. Serv., 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle WA 98115.

Rooper, C.N., Etnoyer, P.J., Stierhoff, K.L., Olson, J.V. 2016. Effects of fishing gear on deep-sea corals and sponges in U.S. waters. In: Hourigan TF, Etnoyer PJ, Cairns SD(eds) Chapter 4 in State of Deep-Sea Coral and Sponge Ecosystems of the United States. NOAA Technical Memorandum, Silver Spring, MD. pp. 4-1 - 4-19

Olson, J.V., 2012-2016. Areas Closed to Bottom Trawling in EBS/ AI and GOA and Observed Fishing Effort in the EBS, AI, and GOA. In Zador, S., and Siddon, E., 2016. Ecosystem Considerations 2016: Status of the Eastern Bering Sea Marine Ecosystem, Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W 4th Ave, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501

McDermott, S.F., L. Buh-Mortensen, G. Dahle, D. Hart, A.C. Haynie, T. Johannessen, E. Moksness, E. Moland, E. Olsen, J.V. Olson, P. D. Spencer, and W. Stockhausen. In Press. Lessons on Marine Protected Area Management in Northern Boreal Regions from the United States and Norway.

McConnaughey, R.A., J.V. Olson, and M.F. Sigler. 2009. Alaska Fisheries Science Center Essential Fish Habitat data inventory. AFSC Processed Rep. 2009-01, 40 p. Alaska Fish. Sci. Cent., NOAA, Natl. Mar. Fish. Serv., 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle WA 98115.

Good, James W., John W. Weber, James W. Charland, John V. Olson, and Kelly A. Chapin. 1998. National Coastal Zone Management Effectiveness Study: Protecting Estuaries and Coastal Wetlands. Final Report to the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resources Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Oregon Sea Grant Special Report PI-98-001. Corvallis, OR.