



February 24, 2014

Governor Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

The Council for Sustainable Fishing is a South Carolina-based nonprofit advocacy group for commercial and recreational fishermen, seafood dealers and wholesalers, restaurateurs, and chefs in the South Atlantic region. Our mission is to optimize and sustain fishing opportunities for commercial and recreational fishermen to aid the coastal economy of the region and ensure stable seafood availability to consumers.

We write to urge you to nominate Mark Brown for appointment to the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council as your **preferred** nominee. Without doubt, Mark is the most qualified and has by far the most experience as to participation in South Atlantic fisheries and the federal fishery management council process.

Mark has over 40 years of experience as a working South Atlantic fisherman. He is a respected leader in recreational and for-hire fishing, who has worked tirelessly to affect fishery management policy for the good of fishermen and the resource.

As a former SAFMC member, I have witnessed the tremendous amount of time and effort Mark has committed to fishery management policy. He has participated for years on SAFMC advisory panels, workgroups and stock assessment panels, and regularly attends SAFMC public hearings and council meetings.

The federal fishery management council process is predicated on stakeholders serving as council members. Mark is the most qualified and experienced stakeholder that could be nominated to serve as a South Carolina representative on the SAFMC.

Again, we urge you to nominate Mark Brown as your **preferred** nominee for appointment to the SAFMC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Tom Swatzel
Executive Director

OPTIMIZATION AND SUSTAINABILITY
FOR THE RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL FISHING INDUSTRY