

NATIONAL  
**Aquaculture**  
ASSOCIATION

April 5, 2016

David Hoskins – Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Co-Chair  
Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: FAC  
Falls Church, VA 22041  
Email: [David.Hoskins@fws.gov](mailto:David.Hoskins@fws.gov)

Jennifer Lukens – Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Co-Chair  
Director, Office of Policy  
NOAA Fisheries  
1315 East West Highway  
SSMC3, Rm. 14552  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Email: [Jennifer.Lukens@noaa.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lukens@noaa.gov)

Dear Mr. Hoskins and Ms. Lukens:

Please accept this letter of request from the National Aquaculture Association (NAA) to become an ex-officio member of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF). The NAA is the largest non-profit trade association for U.S. aquaculture. The NAA was formed in 1991 to be representative of the major species and production systems in U.S. aquaculture. The NAA is committed to providing a unified national voice for aquaculture, ensuring its sustainability, protecting its profitability, and encouraging development in an environmentally responsible manner.

The ANSTF and the NAA share the common goals of preventing the introduction of invasive aquatic species that may be harmful to the nation's environment, economic activities or human health; utilizing science-based information and analysis to identify, prevent introduction, manage or eradicate these species; and communicating with stakeholders information concerning species, regulations, policies and programs.

The NAA membership with the ANSTF will provide an opportunity for the aquaculture community to partner with the federal and ex officio members to achieve these beneficial and valuable goals, share farmer experiences in culturing aquatic species, and improve the effectiveness of federal regulatory, policy, and programmatic efforts.

We recommend the following NAA members to the ANSTF:

Primary  
Paul Zajicek  
Executive Director

Alternate  
Craig Watson  
Chair, Nonindigenous Species Committee

We thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. We look forward to a very productive and constructive relationship as an ANSTF member.

Sincerely,



Mike Freeze  
President