

# National Association of State Aquaculture Coordinators

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## (NASAC)

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### Board of Directors

#### Northeast:

March 29, 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

#### South:

Jennifer Lukens – Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Co-Chair  
NOAA Fisheries  
Director, Office of Policy  
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Dear Mr. Hoskins and Ms. Lukens,

#### West:

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The National Association of State Aquaculture Coordinators (NASAC) has proudly served as an Ex-Officio member of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF) since its inception. Our representatives, over the years, have been very active members participating in meetings, serving on committees and reviewing management plans to minimize the harmful effects of aquatic nuisance species (ANS) by acting as a liaison between the task force and stakeholders of the aquaculture industry. NASAC has provided to the ANSTF expertise on the functionality of fish farming and has contributed to better understanding of how farmers manage their operations to reduce ANS risks.

The State Aquaculture Coordinators are responsible for coordinating aquaculture programs at the State or territorial level. Over the past few years NASAC's membership has decreased, due in large part, to shrinking state budgets and members taking on responsibilities with other livestock commodities. This letter is to inform you that NASAC will no longer be able to fulfill its responsibilities as an Ex-Officio member of the ANSTF effective at the spring 2016 meeting. We have thoughtfully deliberated this decision and believe our role can best be fulfilled by recommending that the National Aquaculture Association (NAA) become the Ex-Officio member to represent U.S. aquaculture in our current position. NAA is the largest national non-profit trade association created by fish

farmers in 1991. In the future as issues and programs develop we are willing to contribute and provide expertise as part of the public process.  
Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Debra Sloan  
President NASAC

Cc

Todd Low, Vice President NASAC

Angela Caporelli, Sec/Tres NASAC

Susan Pasko, Executive Secretary ANSTF

Betsy Hart, Executive Director, National Aquaculture Association

Ron Johnson