

From: [Ralph Townsend](#)
To: [SSC.Applicants](#)
Subject: Application for SSC
Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 6:31:59 PM
Attachments: [Council conflict form.pdf](#)
[Townsend CV 2023.docx](#)

To the Gulf of Mexico Council,

I have submitted my name to be considered for the vacant economist position on the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee. I have attached to this email my CV and the completed conflict of interest form.

I have had a wide variety of experiences in fisheries economics and fisheries management, both in the US and internationally. A highlight of my career was service as the chief economist for the New Zealand Ministry of Fisheries. During that service, I launched an effort to restart a national recreational fishing survey which (after my service ended) resulted in substantially improved data on recreational fishing and catches. For 25 years, I was an academic economist at the University of Maine, with a research specialty in fisheries economics and fisheries management. I served on the Social Science Advisory Committee of the New England Council, and I have been involved in research and policy advice in fisheries in New England, the Gulf of Mexico, Alaska, and Hawaii. I have recently retired from paid employment, but I continue to be engaged in research and fisheries policy. Service on the Gulf of Mexico Scientific and Statistical Committee is an opportunity to continue my contributions to fisheries policy that would complement my on-going research activities.

Ralph

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