

Dear NSA Members,

**Strength lies in differences, not similarities.** (Stephen Covey)

The Executive Committee of the National Shellfisheries Association (NSA) does not condone systemic racism affecting so many people across the country. As one of the oldest scientific societies in the United States, the very roots of the NSA and its actions throughout its history are founded in embracing diversity. The NSA has always been, and will always be, an open, welcoming, and inclusive society to those interested in shellfisheries and science. We stand united in our firm belief that diversity enhances and strengthens science and society. Currently, NSA has several efforts promoting and encouraging minority participation in shellfisheries science and promises to continue our efforts to increase diversity in our membership, leadership, and our thinking.

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