



PSMFC 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

SPEAKER BIOS

(organized by speaker order)

Chuck Bonham, Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Charlton “Chuck” Bonham was appointed as Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, effective September 6, 2011. Prior to his appointment as Director of Fish and Wildlife, Mr. Bonham served in several roles for Trout Unlimited over ten years, including since 2004 as the organization’s California director. Mr. Bonham received his J.D. and Environmental and Natural Resources Law Certificate from the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College, in Portland, Oregon. Before Trout Unlimited, he was a Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal, West Africa, and an instructor and guide at the Nantahala Outdoor Center, in Bryson City, N.C.

Barry Thom, Executive Director, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC)

Barry joined PSMFC in April 2022. He was previously the West Coast Regional Administrator for NOAA Fisheries. Barry began his career as a research biologist with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and moved to NOAA Fisheries in 2001.

Jennifer Quan, Regional Administrator, NOAA Fisheries

Ms. Quan is the Regional Administrator for NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region. She began her NOAA career as a supervisory fish biologist in the West Coast Region leading the South Puget Sound Branch of the Oregon/Washington Coastal Office. Ms. Quan has extensive experience in natural resource management on the U.S. West Coast and benefits from diverse perspectives gained during her time with state and federal governments.

Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Doug spent his 34-year public service career at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game before accepting the position of commissioner in January 2019. A scientist with a focus on fulfilling the department's mission, Vincent-Lang began work at the department as a fisheries research and management biologist for the Division of Sport Fish in 1981. He held the positions of regional management and research coordinator and assistant director for 28 years in the Division of Sport Fish. He holds a B.S. degree in biology/population dynamics from the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay and a M.S. degree in Biological Oceanography from the University of Alaska – Fairbanks.

Jim Fredericks, Director, Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Jim is currently the director of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. He was raised in northern Idaho where he grew up engaged in a range of outdoor pursuits. He attended the University of

Idaho for his undergraduate education, earning a B.A. in psychology in 1988. After working in a psychiatric hospital for a year, he changed course and returned to the University of Idaho and earned an M.S. in Fishery Resources in 1994. Since that time, he's worked for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, serving the agency as a Fishery Biologist, Regional Fishery Manager, Chief of the Fisheries Bureau, Deputy Director. He has served in leadership roles with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and the American Fisheries Society.

Nate Pamplin, Director of External Affairs, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Nate Pamplin serves as the Director of External Affairs and manages the Communications and Public Engagement team, and positions associated with Southern Resident killer whale recovery, social science, and natural resource economics. He represents the Director on several intergovernmental forums and is the lead on marine mammal conservation and tribal hunting policy issues. He has been with the agency since 2006, and previously served for six years as the Program Director of the Wildlife Program as well as worked in policy positions in the Department's Licensing Division and the Director's Office. Nate has a bachelor's degree in Zoology and a master's degree in wildlife science, both from Oregon State University. Prior to joining WDFW, Nate worked as a wildlife biologist for the San Carlos Apache Tribe in Arizona and as a marine mammal biologist for the Makah Tribe.

Mike Harrington, Fish Division Administrator, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Mike began his career with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2008. He has held various biologist roles in the Bend and Klamath areas, has managed all fish and wildlife programs for various watersheds and acted as the ODFW East Region Manager before being asked to lead the Fish Division. He has a BS in Fisheries and Wildlife Management from the University of Wyoming and a MS from the University of Vermont, where he researched the use of sex pheromones in sea lamprey management. In 2015, Mike was recruited into ODFW's leadership development program where he managed fish and wildlife field programs in the John Day watershed and then acted as the Deputy Director. Mike is also a member of the 2022 Leadership Oregon cohort.

Sebastian O'Kelly, Consultant, Robertson, Monagle & Eastaugh

Sebastian O'Kelly has over thirty-five years of experience in Washington, DC, serving in both the executive and legislative branches, as well as working in government relations. His background covers a broad range of issues, with a particular expertise in natural resources, appropriations, maritime, fisheries, transportation, energy and space issues.

O'Kelly is partner and co-owner of Robertson, Monagle & Eastaugh LLC, providing advocacy services and counsel to the firm's maritime, fisheries, and local government clients. Previously, he served for two years as ombudsman to the Secretary of Commerce, providing independent views on high profile natural resource and marine fisheries issues. O'Kelly's legislative experience spanned nearly a decade as professional staff on the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs serving Senator John Glenn. During the latter part of his tenure, he served as the Senator's primary advisor on space and technology issues. O'Kelly graduated from Duke University with a bachelor's degree in economics.

Bob Pagliuco, Marine Habitat Resource Specialist, NOAA Restoration Center, Office of Habitat Conservation

Bob has a BS in forestry and geology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. In 2001, he started his career in fisheries in Northern CA with the AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards Program, operating a full channel fish trapping weir and collecting spawning and migration data on salmon and steelhead. For the next decade he continued monitoring salmon populations for the state of CA, Humboldt State University and NGOS in Northern CA when he turned his focus to restoring habitat. Bob began working for the NOAA Restoration Center in 2009 and has developed statewide programmatic [permits](#) to increase the efficiency of restoration projects, co-founded the NOAA-CCC Veterans Corps [Program](#), represents NMFS on the [CA Fish Passage Forum](#) steering Committee, sits on 12 restoration funding committees and was one of the lead authors of the Klamath Reservoir Reach Restoration [Plan](#) that is guiding restoration from Iron Gate Dam to Link River Dam.

Leif K. Rasmuson, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife:

Leif runs the Marine Fisheries Research Project in the Marine Resources Program at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. He is also the co-chair of the Oregon Coordinating Council on Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia. Leif received his Ph.D. in Marine Biology in 2015 from the University of Oregon studying Dungeness crabs and how we can use oceanography to predict fisheries. He then held a postdoctoral position at NOAA in Miami studying Bluefin tuna ecology and fisheries management. Leif has wide ranging experiences that include things like being a treaty shellfish biologist in Puget Sound, developing many types of numerical models, bringing the first NOAA ship into Havana Cuba and numerous crazy research projects involving rockfishes. He uses all these experiences to help guide an extremely talented team of scientists that conduct research that supports sustainable fisheries management.

Kate Sherman, GIS Analyst, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

Kate Sherman specializes in marine and coastal spatial data compilation, management, and analysis. She has over 15 years of experience executing spatial analysis projects, including stakeholder outreach and interviews, fieldwork, literature reviews, data compilation and standardization, data analysis, report writing, and cartography. Her ability to engage with stakeholders and partners, as well as clearly communicate project results, helps her effectively achieve project goals.

Kate is currently part of the GIS team at Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, where she is the data steward for the Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership (PMEP) and the National Fish Habitat Partnership project tracking database. She also supports other programs such as the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program and PTAGIS. While at PSMFC she has created [West Coast wide datasets on eelgrass distribution dataset, tidally restored areas](#) and [nearshore habitats](#), a HUB for data on [barriers to tidal connectivity](#), and a database highlighting observations of [European Green Crab observations](#) on the West Coast. Kate has a B.S. from Skidmore College in Environmental Science and Business Management, an M.S. in Marine Resource Management with a certificate in GIS and Remote Sensing from Oregon State University and is a PADI-certified Divemaster.

Rietta Hohman, Kelp Restoration Project Manager, Greater Farallones Association

Rietta is the Kelp Restoration Project Manager for the Greater Farallones Association and Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries. In 2019, Rietta Hohman led the

development of the Sonoma-Mendocino Bull Kelp Restoration Plan for the Greater Farallones Association.

Scott Hamilton, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, San Jose State University

Scott's research focuses on the ecology of coastal marine fish, their role in nearshore ecosystems, and the response of these ecosystems to environmental change and human impacts. Using a combination of field experiments and observations, along with laboratory analyses, his lab focuses on research questions that range from early life stages of fish to whole ecosystems, including: (1) examination of early life history dynamics such as recruitment, selective mortality, and population linkages via larval dispersal; (2) investigation of the causes and consequences of demographic and life history variation among fish populations; and (3) evaluation of changes in the structure and function of kelp forest and coral reef communities associated with marine protection. We are motivated by a desire to provide fundamental insights to aid fisheries management and conservation efforts.

Stephen Phillips, Senior Program Manager, PSMFC

Stephen Phillips is a senior program manager at the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (located in Portland Oregon) where he has worked for over 32 years. For the last 25 years, his main responsibility has been management of PSMFC's Aquatic Nuisance Species Program. Mr. Phillips received his Bachelor's in Biology from Baldwin Wallace College (Berea, Ohio) and a Master's of Fisheries Science from Oregon State University. He served in the Peace Corps in Guatemala from 1980-1982.

Kevin Werner, Science and Research Director, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Werner is the Science and Research Director for the Northwest Fisheries Science Center. He has held various positions with NOAA for almost two decades, winning multiple awards for his leadership and administrative accomplishments. Prior to being named Director of the Northwest Center, he served as the Director of the NOAA's National Weather Service's Office of Organizational Excellence. There he led and managed activities enabling the Weather Service to become the agile and effective organization required for building a Weather-Ready Nation. Prior to that, Kevin was the Regional Climate Service Director in NOAA's Western Region. In that role he coordinated and advised on NOAA's climate services investments in an eight-state region in the Western U.S., including activities and programs from NOAA Weather, NOAA Research, the National Climatic Data Center and NOAA Fisheries. Kevin received his Doctorate in Political Science in 2015 from the University of Utah; a Master of Public Administration in 2009 from University of Utah; a Master of Science in Atmospheric Sciences in 1999 from the University of Washington; and a Bachelor of Science in Atmospheric Sciences and Mathematics in 1996 from the University of Washington.

Kristen Koch, Director, NOAA Fisheries Southwest Fisheries Science Center

Kristen oversees 300+ science and support staff at laboratories in La Jolla, Santa Cruz and Monterey. As Director, she will continue the Center's strong multidisciplinary research programs on living marine resources, the development and application of ecosystem-based approaches to management, and on the impacts of changing ocean conditions on marine ecosystems, fisheries and protected species. Prior to being named Director, she served as the Deputy Science and Research Director of the SWFSC (since 2009). In this position she oversaw all internal program planning and operations of the Center. Prior to that, Ms. Koch held positions in NOAA Headquarters, most recently as the NOAA Ecosystems Goal Team Deputy Director (2007-2009).

In this role she managed planning for NOAA's >\$1B Ecosystems portfolio. Previously, she developed science programs for the NOAA Fisheries Directorate, including NOAA's concept for integrated ecosystem assessments (2006-2007).

Robert Foy, Science and Research Director, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries

Bob joined NOAA Fisheries in 2007 as the Director of the Center's Kodiak Laboratory and Program Manager for the Shellfish Assessment Program. He led the program on assessment, biological, and ecological research of commercial crab species in Alaska. Bob earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Michigan, a master's in science in Fisheries and Ph.D. in Oceanography from the University of Alaska.

Ryan Wulff, Assistant Regional Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Ryan Wulff has responsibility for the Sustainable Fisheries Division at NOAA, Fisheries West Coast Region. Ryan is also the United States Deputy Commissioner to the International Whaling Commission and an alternate United States Commissioner to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. Prior to his current role, Ryan served as the California Delta Policy and Restoration Branch Chief for the West Coast Region and prior to that as the Senior Policy Advisor to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere on domestic and international protected resource and fisheries issues. Wulff has a B.A. from Brown University and an M.A.S. from Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

Clayton Wraith, Executive Director of the Westcoast Fishboat Owners Association

Clayton Wraith is the Executive Director for the Western Fish Boat Owner's Association (WFOA) and currently serves as the Commercial Troll Representative on the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) for the Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC). Raised in Southern Oregon in a commercial fishing family, Clayton's early years were spent on the Pacific Ocean, harvesting albacore, Salmon, shrimp, swordfish, and Dungeness Crab. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Oregon and earned his Juris Doctorate at the University of San Francisco School of Law where he served on the Maritime Law Journal. He has extensive experience as an attorney, corporate executive, and non-profit board advocate. Fostering a deep connection to the industry, Clayton engages with diverse stakeholders across the commercial fishing spectrum, ensuring the interests of all fishers are well represented in the conversations and decisions that are impacting the future of the fleet. With a unique blend of personal and professional experience, Clayton is committed to stewardship and ensuring a future for West Coast fishing families.

Josh Madeira, Director of Policy & Stakeholder Engagement, Monterey Bay Aquarium

In this role, Josh leads the Aquarium's advocacy to improve global ocean conservation, with a focus on fisheries and aquaculture. He directs external engagement with a range of stakeholders - including government, industry and other experts - that support Seafood Watch and the Aquarium's global conservation initiatives. Josh came to the Aquarium from Washington, D.C., where he worked as a Senior Government Relations Officer at the Pew Charitable Trusts and oversaw strategic planning and government outreach for Pew's domestic oceans campaigns. Previously, he worked as a fellow on the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources. Josh holds a B.A. in Government and Environmental Studies from Bowdoin College and a Master of Environmental Science and Management from U.C. Santa Barbara.

Chugey Sepulveda, Director of Research and Education, Pflieger Institute of Environmental Research (PIER)

PIER is a non-profit research institute dedicated to the advancement of sustainable fisheries management through applied field research and public education. At PIER, Sepulveda has concentrated on addressing important questions related to the sustainable management of several marine fish species. In particular, he is focused on the use of pelagic fish movements and physiology to design and develop alternative gear options for pelagic species. Sepulveda has a long history working collaboratively with fishermen, researchers and managers to address bycatch issues in current day fisheries. He is an advocate of sustainable fishing operations and enjoys the ocean on many levels.

Rick E. Marks, Principal, Robertson, Monagle & Eastaugh.

Rick joined ROMEA in 1997 to handle the Firm's nationwide natural resource portfolio. Rick has a B.S. in Biology from Lynchburg College, and a M.S. in Marine Environmental Science with emphasis in Coastal Fish Ecology from Stony Brook University. He has authored several peer-reviewed scientific journal articles, worked as a supervisory marine fishery biologist for the State of North Carolina, and as a recreational fishery reporting specialist and benthic field technician for the National Marine Fishery Service. In 1997 Rick was appointed to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) by the Secretary of Commerce, and currently serves on four Marine Mammal Protection Act-mandated Take Reduction Teams (TRTs). He has testified before Congress on several occasions regarding national marine resource issues. Rick earned a Udall Certificate in Environmental Collaboration from the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution in 2012.