

**The Oceans: A rich source for investigative stories  
2014 IRE Conference, June 26**

**(Panel: Carolyn Whetzel, Bloomberg BNA moderator; Lauren Sommer, KQED Radio; Jeff Burnside  
KOMO-TV Seattle; David Helvarg, journalist/advocate; Kristy Kroeker, researcher University of  
California, Davis Bodega Marine Lab)**

**Tipsheet**

**(Updated post-conference 6/27/14)**

**Resources**

**Ocean acidification primer:**

<http://www.whoi.edu/OCB-OA/FAQs>

**A primer on how pH works:**

<http://pmel.noaa.gov/co2/story/A+primer+on+pH>

**Fisheries- Sustainable Seafood**

Status of fisheries health around the US:

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/fisheries\\_eco/status\\_of\\_fisheries/](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/fisheries_eco/status_of_fisheries/)

Basics about the catch share fishery system (link is from advocacy group):

<http://catchshares.edf.org/catch-share-basics>

Sustainable seafood index - Monterey Bay Aquarium:

<http://www.seafoodwatch.org/cr/seafoodwatch.aspx>

Marine Stewardship Council – seafood certification

<http://www.msc.org/>

Oceana – Seafood mislabeling research

<http://oceana.org/en/our-work/promote-responsible-fishing/seafood-fraud/overview>

GAO 2009 report on seafood fraud

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-09-258>

**Government Resources**

National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration

<http://www.noaa.gov/>

<http://research.noaa.gov/LabsPrograms/OARPrograms.aspx>

NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory

<http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/index.shtml>

<http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/co2/story/Ocean+Acidification>

NOAA's Sea Grant Program

<http://seagrant.noaa.gov/>

National Marine Fisheries Service

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/>

U.S. Geological Survey

<http://www.usgs.gov>

Environmental Protection Agency

<http://water.epa.gov/type/oceb/index.cfm>

U.S. Coast Guard

<http://www.uscg.mil/top/about/>

California Coastal Commission

<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/>

### **Other Agencies**

International Marine Organization

<http://www.imo.org/OurWork/Environment/Pages/Default.aspx>

### **Research Facilities/Institutes**

Scripps Institution of Oceanography, U.C. San Diego

<https://scripps.ucsd.edu/>

<https://scripps.ucsd.edu/about/leadership>

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

<http://www.whoi.edu/>

Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute

<http://www.mbari.org/>

### UC Santa Barbara

Marine Science Institute

<http://msi.ucsb.edu/>

Sustainable Fisheries Group

<http://sfg.msi.ucsb.edu/>

Bren School of Environmental Science and Management

<http://www.bren.ucsb.edu/>

Steven Gaines, Dean of Bren School of Environmental Science and Management

[http://www.bren.ucsb.edu/people/Faculty/steven\\_gaines.htm](http://www.bren.ucsb.edu/people/Faculty/steven_gaines.htm)

### UC Davis

Bodega Marine Laboratory

<http://bml.ucdavis.edu/>

### Stanford University

Woods Institute for the Environment

<https://woods.stanford.edu/about/woods-faculty/stephen-palumbi>

Hopkins Marine Station

Steve Palumbi, Director (Marine Species/Sciences)

<https://woods.stanford.edu/about/woods-faculty/stephen-palumbi>

### University of Southern Mississippi

Gulf Coast Research Laboratory

<http://www.usm.edu/gcrl/>

### Florida Institute of Oceanography

University of South Florida

<http://www.fio.usf.edu/>

University of Miami

Rosensteil School of Marine and Atmospheric Science

<http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/>

The Center for Ocean Solutions

<http://www.centerforoceansolutions.org>

Meg Caldwell, Executive Director

Oceana

<http://www.oceana.org>

Natural Resources Defense Council

<http://www.nrdc.org/oceans/default.asp>

The Safina Center (formerly Blue Ocean Institute)

<http://www.safinacenter.org>

Sea Shepard Conservation Society

<http://www.seashepard.org>

Ocean Conservancy

<http://www.oceanconservancy.org/>

Greenpeace

<http://www.greenpeace.org/usa/en/campaigns/oceans/>

Deep Sea Conservation

<http://www.savethehighseas.org/>

Blue Frontier Campaign

<http://www.bluefront.org/files/about.php>

Wild Oceans

<http://wildoceans.org/>

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

<http://www.psmfc.org/>

### **Journalists Training Opportunities**

Metcalf Institute for Marine and Environmental Sciences

<http://metcalfinstitute.org/about/>

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

Journalism Fellowships

<http://www.whoi.edu/osj/>

Society of Environmental Journalists

<http://www.sej.org>

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Investigative Stories

Seattle Times – Award winning “Sea Change: The Pacific’s Perilous Turn” by Craig Welch & Steven Ringman

<http://apps.seattletimes.com/reports/sea-change/2013/sep/11/pacific-ocean-perilous-turn-overview/>

<http://apps.seattletimes.com/sea-change/about-project/>

NPR investigative series on sustainable seafood certification

<http://www.npr.org/series/171717418/the-meaning-of-sustainable-labeled-seafood>

Los Angeles Times – Altered Oceans (2006 award-winning, five-part series) by Kenneth Weiss, Usha McFarling, Rick Loomis

#### Panelists

David Helvarg

Blue Frontier Campaign

<http://www.bluefront.org/files/about.php>

<http://www.bluefront.org/files/staff.php>

Kristy Kroeker, UC Davis Bodega Marine Lab (now professor at UC Santa Cruz)

<http://www-marine.stanford.edu/profiles/acid.htm>

[http://www.nature.com/nclimate/journal/v3/n2/fig\\_tab/nclimate1680\\_ft.html](http://www.nature.com/nclimate/journal/v3/n2/fig_tab/nclimate1680_ft.html)

<http://www.dailyclimate.org/tdc-newsroom/2013/07/future-acidic-oceans>

<http://www.esajournals.org/doi/abs/10.1890/110240>

Lauren Sommer, KQED Radio

<http://www.kqed.org/radio/about/staff/lauren-sommer.jsp>

Jeff Burnside, Investigative Reporter, KOMO-TV (ABC), Seattle

<http://www.komonews.com/tv/people/189107931.html>

Burnside's tipsheet

OCEAN RESOURCES AND VALUED CONTACTS

#### EAST COAST

##### *Treasure Trove of stories:*

University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science:

<http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/>

Diana Udell

**Communications Director**

**University of Miami, Rosenstiel School**

[dianau@rsmas.miami.edu](mailto:dianau@rsmas.miami.edu)

Phone: 305.421.4704

\*Rose Mann, Assistant Dean for Donor Relations:

305.421.4002

##### *Coral:*

Andrew Baker

305.421.4642

[abaker@rsmas.miami.edu](mailto:abaker@rsmas.miami.edu)

### *Aquaculture:*

Daniel Benetti, Aquaculture:

Among the most advanced aquaculture researchers in the world. He is nearing 'the Holy Grail' of aquaculture – the tuna.

<http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/people/faculty-index/?p=daniel-benetti>

305.421.4889

[dbenetti@rsmas.miami.edu](mailto:dbenetti@rsmas.miami.edu)

### *FAU's Gulf Stream turbine project:*

Sue Skemp, director of the Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center at FAU.

Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center 777 Glades Rd. Boca Raton, FL 33431 (561) 297 0956 - See more at: <http://snmrec.fau.edu/contact#sthash.hyrCd6nW.dpuf>

### *Still the Gold Standard of Ocean-related stories:*

Woods Hole Oceanographic

<http://www.whoi.edu/>

(508) 289-3340

[media@whoi.edu](mailto:media@whoi.edu)

### *Sharks:*

Dr. Neil Hammerschlag makes aggressive use of video and social media, making him very media friendly. He runs shark tagging expeditions for regular people, and is adept at bringing shark conservation to the public. He's a respected researcher and not fearful of advocating loudly.

<http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/people/faculty-index/?p=neil-hammerschlag>

305.421.4356

[nhammerschlag@rsmas.miami.edu](mailto:nhammerschlag@rsmas.miami.edu)

Dr. Ellen Pikitch

Moniker is "Dr. Fish" – she's deeply involved in policy at UN and Washington DC. Very media friendly.

<http://somas.stonybrook.edu/people/pikitch.html>

[ellen.pikitch@stonybrook.edu](mailto:ellen.pikitch@stonybrook.edu)

Shark Lab, Bimini Island:

One of the biggest data bases on sharks anywhere. They've been researching sharks in this rich region for decades. Media friendly but sometimes ask for cost of housing reporters.

<http://www.biminisharklab.com/>

### *Overfishing:*

Daniel Pauly, University of British Columbia

One of the most respected academics in fisheries, and not afraid to speak bluntly and advocate. Able to put critical and complex issues in context. Always seems to know “the next story.”

[d.pauly@fisheries.ubc.ca](mailto:d.pauly@fisheries.ubc.ca)

<http://www.fisheries.ubc.ca/faculty-staff/daniel-pauly>

### *All Marine and Conservation Science:*

Nancy Baron, COMPASS

Can put any journalist in touch with just the right researcher and has an amazing network of scientists with important papers in the pipeline.

[nbaron@compassonline.org](mailto:nbaron@compassonline.org)

<http://www.compassonline.org/>

### PACIFIC NORTHWEST

### *SeaDoc Society:*

<http://www.seadocsociety.org/>

This group based in Washington State’s San Juan Islands does an interesting job of bringing average citizens into the world of science and wildlife. They also hold a series of compelling public lectures. Gets funding through individual donations, big hitters, foundations and others including US Davis’ Wildlife Health Center <http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/whc/>

### *Orca:*

- Center for Whale Research, Ken Balcomb. Can be difficult to reach on deadline.  
<http://www.whaleresearch.com/>  
Cell (360) 378-5835
- NOAA Friday Harbor research center  
Brad Hansen  
[http://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/contact/display\\_staffprofile.cfm?staffid=1107](http://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/contact/display_staffprofile.cfm?staffid=1107)
- Michael Harris, Orca Conservancy; cell (206) 465-6692, [michael@babywildfilms.com](mailto:michael@babywildfilms.com)  
<http://www.orcaconservancy.org/>
- Orca Network, Howard Garrett:  
<http://www.orcanetwork.org/Main/>

### *Ocean Acidification:*

NOAA scientist Richard Feely:

I’ve heard him called the “Father of Ocean Acidification.” He’s among the leading experts on tracing isotopes in the ocean water and linking them directly to anthropogenic fossil fuel combustion.

[richard.a.feely@noaa.gov](mailto:richard.a.feely@noaa.gov)

(425) 773-7776 cell

Taylor Shellfish, Puget Sound, WA

The largest shellfish aquaculture company in the nation and is at the very forefront of society's discussion on ocean acidification. Certainly, their business depends on finding solutions. But they've taken on an interesting role as a company advocating on this issue far beyond their specific needs and concerns.

Bill Dewey leads the company and is as well-versed as most scientists. Media friendly.

[billd@taylorshellfish.com](mailto:billd@taylorshellfish.com)

<http://www.taylorshellfishfarms.com/>