



**Chair Laura Anderson** is from a multi-generational commercial fishing family, the founder of Local Ocean Seafoods, an Independent Systems Seafood Consultant, and a leader in Oregon's sustainable fishery movement. She has an M.S. in Marine Resource Management from Oregon State University. Laura served two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines, where she helped a village start to restore its coral reef fishery. After returning to the United States, Anderson earned an M.S. in Marine Resource Management from Oregon State University in 2000 and became a consultant to nonprofits trying to improve the coastal fish industry

through ecological restoration, salmon marketing and community-based fisheries management. In Port Orford, Oregon, Anderson spearheaded a highly visible effort that sought to give local fishermen a greater voice and more responsibility in figuring out how to restore depleted fish stocks. Laura and a colleague launched Local Ocean Seafoods in 2002. In 2022, Laura sold Local Ocean Seafoods sold into a special type of ownership called a Perpetual Purpose Trust. Local Ocean's new owner - the Local Ocean Stewardship Trust - ensures that the company will forever continue to source direct from local fishermen and showcase local species, continually strive for sustainable business practices, advocate for Oregon's fisheries, and ensure that Local Ocean is operating for the benefit of its employees, fishers, and the local community.



**Dr. Karina J. Nielsen** is the director of the Oregon Sea Grant and a Professor of Practice in Integrative Biology at Oregon State University. Oregon Sea Grant is one of 34 university-based state programs within the Sea Grant college program, a network connecting NOAA and university resources to support the health of coastal communities and ecosystems through research, extension, and education. Dr. Nielsen earned her Ph.D. in Zoology from Oregon State University in 1998 and a B.S in Biology from Brooklyn College, City University of New York in 1992. She was a National Science Foundation International Postdoctoral Fellow at Estación Costera

de Investigaciones Marinas, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile from 1998-2000. Her research focuses on coastal fringe ecosystems, including rocky shores, sandy beaches, and estuaries, and emphasizes interdisciplinary themes of biodiversity, climate change, ocean acidification and hypoxia, and stewardship of coastal ecosystems. Previously she was the executive director of the Estuary & Ocean Science Center at San Francisco State University, and Professor of Biology at Sonoma State and San Francisco State universities. Karina serves as an ex-officio member of Oregon's Ocean Policy Advisory Council executive committee and chairs its science & technical advisory committee, and as a member of the Oregon Ocean Acidification & Hypoxia Council. She is also a member of the California Ocean Science Trust and the Oregon Ocean Science Trust, and a fellow of the California Academy of Sciences.



**Dr. Keith Wolf** has managed diverse environmental programs and divisions for over thirty years. He has developed and led multiple government, academic and private industry research and monitoring programs in the US and Canada. Recently, he co-led a global ESG, Climate, and Sustainability Task Force across the Asia Pacific and Americas. At present, he holds a specialized Endangered Species Act contract position with the US Department of Commerce/NOAA Fisheries, where he is a member of the West Coast Climate Team and NOAA's

Marine Carbon Dioxide Reduction working group. He holds a bachelor's of science degree in Natural Resources Management, with certificates in Geographical Information Systems, Climate Scenario Planning, and Project Management from Sheppard University, Bellevue College, Pacific Lutheran University and Western Washington University. Later, he received a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering with distinction where he innovated new technology and decision-support systems for environmental remote sensing systems. Dr. Wolf served three terms (12 years) as President of the American Fisheries Society's International Chapter in British Columbia, Canada, and Washington State. He also served as President of the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, and was a Board Member of The International Imaging and Geospatial Information Society. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and is an appointed member of the IUCN-Shark Specialist Group. He is also developing a course-of-study program to support college and university matriculation as a NOAA Ambassador, and is supporting NOAA Sea Grant and the Administration's Climate-Ready-Workforce program funded by the landmark Inflation Reduction Act legislation.

He is also in pre-production on a 7-part series titled "Oceans, A Climate Crisis" which documents the effects of climate change on various oceanic and nearshore environments from the Caribbean Sea to Jakarta, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Sumatra, Belize, the Coral Sea, Florida Keys, and the US East and West Coasts. Additionally, he is in development of a 6-part series focused on emerging and future climate change technology solutions. Keith has been involved in nature and investigative documentary film, writing, and production for over 30 years.



**Dr. Theodore DeWitt** has 36 years of experience conducting marine and estuarine research with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Research and Development, Oregon State University, Smithsonian Institution, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and the National Institute for Water and Atmosphere (New Zealand). Ted is now retired but recently served as the Chief of the Pacific Coastal Ecology Branch of US EPA's Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment. He has conducted research on many aspects of coastal ecosystems, including population and community ecology of

invertebrates in tide flat, coral reef, and seagrass habitats, biogeochemical cycling of carbon and nutrients in tidal flats and salt marshes, estuarine food web modeling, environmental toxicology of contaminated sediments, and (most recently) identifying, quantifying, and modeling coastal ecosystem services. As a strong proponent of science education, Ted led the development of a science fair program in Newport (OR) that spread from one elementary school to all elementary and middle schools in the city within five years; he has also mentored over 50 undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral students, many working in his laboratory. Ted has served on the governing boards of the Coast and Estuarine Research Federation, the Pacific Estuarine Research Society (including as president), and the Pacific Northwest Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (including as president). Ted also enjoys woodworking, diving, gardening, dogs, and pickleball. He received a bachelor's degree in biology from New College of Florida and PhD in ecology and evolution from Stony Brook University.



**Cristen Don** Cristen Don brings over 20 years of experience working in ocean science, conservation, and management. She is committed to advancing knowledge and stewardship of ocean resources through equitable and inclusive approaches that benefit people and nature. Her work in Oregon has spanned a variety of topics ranging from wave energy, to fisheries management, to the planning and implementation of marine protected areas (MPAs). For 12 years she led the Marine Reserves Program at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) where she oversaw an interdisciplinary team that brought together marine science, human

dimensions (social and economic) science, communications, public policy, and resource management to implement Oregon's five reserve sites – areas in the ocean reserved for conservation and research.

Cristen has an M.A. from the School of Marine and Environmental Affairs at the University of Washington and a B.A. in Marine Biology from the University of California Santa Cruz. She lives on the beautiful central Oregon coast. As an avid surfer, you can find her out in the water at her home surf break or anywhere between Baja and British Columbia. She loves to travel, hike, mountain bike, ski, and read fiction novels.



**David Gomberg** represents House District 10 in the Oregon Legislature. David serves as co-vice chair of the Ways and Means budgeting committee and co-chair of Transportation and Economic Development. He is a member of the Governor's Commission on Senior Services, the Oregon Innovation Council, the Seismic Safety Commission, and the Ocean Science Trust. His most recent legislative efforts have focused on economic development, wildfire recovery, and emergency response. In the past two years, David brought home funding for ports, parks, water systems, and fire stations across the district totaling over \$70 million. David describes

himself as a professional kite flier. His company designed and manufactured kites, produced large show kites, and operated web pages and retail stores. He has performed for Walt Disney, the Super Bowl, the London Millennium Celebration, and in 40 different countries. In 2005, he was inducted into the Kite Hall of Fame. David is a graduate of Oregon State University where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, served as student body president, and earned a Master's in Political Science, Economics, and History. He then earned his MBA at Willamette University.



**Dick Anderson** was elected to the Senate in 2020. He is the former Mayor of Lincoln City on the Oregon Coast and serves on the North Lincoln Health District Board as well as the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Board. While Mayor, Anderson served on the Lincoln County Foundation and the Oregon Coastal Zone Management Executive Committee. Senator Anderson was raised in Wallowa County and has lived in the Northwest in several areas during his career before retiring. He worked for 35 years in the financial industry where he honed his collaborative approach to issues before moving to the Oregon coast. Dick and his

wife, Sue have been married for 50 years and have two children and 5 grandchildren. They purchased their home on the Oregon coast to retire but state and local government have become part of that equation. Locally, Senator Anderson has also been active with the North Lincoln County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), B'nail B'rith Camp and Family Promise of Lincoln County as a volunteer, Lincoln City Chamber of Commerce and is an avid golfer.