



Biographies for the 2018 Classic Roundtable on Fisheries

Chris Oliver is the Assistant Administrator for NOAA Fisheries, the federal agency responsible for commercial and recreational fisheries that contribute more than \$200 billion to the nation's economy and support two million jobs. In addition to managing productive and sustainable domestic fisheries, including some aspects of marine aquaculture, the agency works to recover and conserve protected resources such as whales, sea turtles, and corals. NOAA Fisheries has offices in 15 states and U.S. territories, including five regional offices, six science centers, and 24 labs and fish stations. Prior to his appointment last year as AA for NOAA Fisheries, Oliver worked for 27 years at the North Pacific Fishery Management Council—first as a fisheries biologist, later as deputy director, and finally as executive director for 16 years. Through his long-time participation in the Council Coordination Committee and various international fishery management organizations, Oliver gained extensive knowledge of national and international fisheries issues. A Texas native, Oliver also worked on Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery management issues prior to moving to Alaska in 1990.

Ricky Gease is executive director of Kenai River Sportfishing Association and has served on numerous nonprofit and fishery boards and commissions, including the Morris Deal Commission on Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Management. He is an Alaska Salmon Fellow working to improve the way Alaskans think and talk about salmon fisheries. Gease serves on the Southcentral Regional Advisory Council of the Federal Subsistence Board, the Kenai River Special Management Area Advisory Board, and the Resource Development Council. He holds BS and MS degrees in biology from Stanford University and has a certificate in Non-Profit Management from the Foraker Group through the University of Alaska Anchorage. He and his wife live in Kenai.

Dr. Meagan Krupa works on the Data Task Force Team at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis at the University of California Santa Barbara. She is affiliated with the State of Alaska Salmon and People (SASAP) Project, Nautilus Impact Investing and is an Alaska Salmon Fellow. Arriving in Alaska with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2001, she spent her first year dodging bears and devil's club to assess anadromous fish passage in remote areas. Her Master's degree identified and ranked over 100 dams blocking anadromous fish passage in Alaska, and she spent the next five years working with local communities to remove the worst offenders. After

receiving a Fulbright Grant to study salmon farms off the coast of Southern Chile and a four-year scholarship from the National Science Foundation, she returned to school in 2005 and earned a quintuple PhD in Natural Resource Economics, Political Science, Stream Ecology, Fish Ecology, and Complex Systems Theory. She then worked as an Associate Professor at Alaska Pacific University and a Research Associate at the University of Alaska. Most importantly, she lives in Eagle River with her engineer husband and two little girls who always fish in muddy tutus.

Dr. Pete Rand is a research ecologist at the Prince William Sound Science Center (PWSSC) in Valdez, where he is leading studies of interactions between wild and hatchery Pacific salmon, effects of climate and at-sea competition on Alaska salmon, and conducting acoustic surveys of Pacific herring. His work in a variety of freshwater, estuarine and marine environments has helped advance conservation and fisheries management. He holds a PhD in ecology and has focused most of his career on studies of salmon biology and life history. He attended Colgate University, and received his graduate degrees from State University of New York and was a postdoc at University of British Columbia. He served on the faculty at North Carolina State University and was the Conservation Biologist at the Wild Salmon Center in Oregon. Through fellowships (Fulbright and Japan Society for the Promotion of Science) and international grants, Dr. Rand has been leading studies of salmonids endemic to Asia, including taimen and masu salmon, in Japan, Russia and China. He volunteers as the Chair of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Salmonid Specialist Group, a small, international group focused on advancing conservation and management, and increasing public awareness, of threatened fishes in the salmon family across the world.

Dr. Krista Oke is a SASAP funded postdoctoral researcher based at the University of California Santa Cruz and currently works remotely from Juneau. This month she starts a new position as a Centennial Postdoctoral Fellow at University of Alaska Fairbanks in the lab of Dr. Peter Westley. Dr. Oke is originally from St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, where she completed her Honors degree at Memorial University, working on hybridization between wild brown trout and genetically modified Atlantic salmon. She received her PhD in 2017 from McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, where her research focused on the predictability of evolution in fishes, especially stickleback, sockeye salmon, and pink salmon. She was hooked by Alaska during an intensive fieldwork season in the summer of 2013, and is excited be living in Alaska, building a research program that brings evolutionary approaches to challenges facing salmon.

Mary Sattler Peltola is the executive director of the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, a consortium of 33 federally recognized tribes, and is an Alaskan Salmon Fellow. She is Yupik Eskimo and was raised on the Kuskokwim River in Kwethluk, Tuntutuliak, Platinum and Bethel. Peltola spent summers commercial fishing, tendering and subsistence fishing for all five salmon species. She served five terms (1999-2009) in the Alaska State House of Representatives, serving the Bethel area (and Bristol Bay/Nushagak villages from 1999-2003). She is married to Gene Peltola, Jr. and together they have seven children.

Ben Stevens is the director of the Hunting and Fishing Task Force for the Tanana Chiefs Conference, and prior to that served as the executive director of the Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments. He has worked extensively in natural resources as a policy analyst, project coordinator in natural resources. Stevens currently serves as an advisory panel member on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and is an Alaska Salmon Fellow. He holds a BA in Business Administration from Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado and a certificate in Non-Profit Management from Foraker Group through the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Stevens grew up spending summers at his family's fish camp 30 miles upriver from Stevens Village on the Upper Yukon. He helped with the entire operation from setting nets to hauling smoked and dried bales of salmon to the boat; learning values of caring for family and community, self-sufficiency, hard work, and sharing. He and his wife live in Fairbanks with their children.

Senator Peter Micciche (Republican) is a member of the Alaska State Senate, representing District O (central and eastern Kenai Peninsula.) He was first elected in 2012 and currently serves as the Senate majority leader. His committee assignments include finance, health and social services, rules and legislative council. Peter was previously the mayor of Soldotna, and a member of its city council. He earned a BA in Business Management from Alaska Pacific University, and recently retired as the Superintendent of the ConocoPhillips Kenai LNG Facility. He also fishes in the Upper Cook Inlet drift gillnet salmon fishery and is an avid salt and freshwater sport angler. He and his wife Erin live in Soldotna and have four children who together enjoy Alaska's great outdoors.

Ken Coleman is a 46-year commercial fisherman in the Upper Cook Inlet eastside set net salmon fisheries. Coleman is the president of the Eastside Consolidation Association, a salmon association working on a voluntary fleet reduction program for the eastside set net fishery. He has served in numerous leadership capacities in the commercial fishing industry, including the Kenai Peninsula Fisherman's Association (past president, current vice president) and the Board of Fisheries Upper Cook Inlet king salmon task force. Coleman retired as the principal executive officer and business manager of the statewide Teamsters Local 959. He and his wife live in Kenai.

Andy Mezirow serves on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council as Alaska's recreational representative and was recently reappointed to the Council for a second term. He has been an advocate for the guided sportfishing sector and has built consensus within the Council process for the concept of the Recreational Quota Entity. Owner-operator of Gray Light Sportfishing in Seward, Mezirow is one of Alaska's most well-known saltwater fishing guides and has guided his guests to more than two dozen IGFA World Records and has won numerous tournaments.