

MESSAGE FROM OUR CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

WELCOME TO THE 2009 STATE OF THE SALMON CONFERENCE,
'BRINGING THE FUTURE INTO FOCUS'!

With the help of our many sponsors, State of the Salmon is delighted to be hosting this international event in the magnificent province of British Columbia. What better locale for such a gathering than here in the heart of North Pacific wild salmon and steelhead production?

We're honored to have among us the most distinguished scientists, policymakers, agency managers, fishers and advocates in the North Pacific. We have great expectations for this three-day gathering as we reach across disciplines and jurisdictions to work toward a future that includes abundant and biologically diverse populations of wild Pacific salmon.

It has been four years since our last conference in Anchorage, and we face both persisting and new challenges. Global climate change impacts and dramatic landscape changes aren't decades away — they're occurring now. Decision-makers are facing new challenges that call for new tools and approaches. The urgency and pervasiveness of rapid environmental change make the time ripe for this pan-Pacific conference to share knowledge, explore positive solutions to shared problems, and galvanize enthusiasm for collaboration across national borders. The 2009 State of the Salmon Conference will provide a rare opportunity to explore how we move from conservation principles to action — so that salmon might continue their amazing and successful evolutionary course of survival around the North Pacific.

No matter what our field of interest or country of origin, we share a deep and abiding interest in robust salmon populations, for our economies and for our environment. We see opportunity in that shared interest, as we bring together your good work and great minds to advance stewardship of Pacific salmon.

As Conference Co-Chairs, thank you for coming; we look forward to working and socializing with you this week and into the future!



Rich Lincoln, Director
State of the Salmon



Brian Riddell, Executive Director
Pacific Salmon Foundation