
North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NPAFC PRESENTS INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR SALMON AND STEELHEAD CONSERVATION TO DR. KATHERINE MYERS

Portland, Oregon, USA (May 16, 2014)—Dr. Katherine Myers, retired scientist from University of Washington was presented with the 2014 North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) Award at the Commission's 22nd Annual Meeting.

“I want to thank the Commission and those who nominated and recommended me for this award,” Myers said. “I feel privileged to have been a small part of the Commission's work since the outset (in 1993) and to have worked closely with so many great people, past and present, committed to the Commission's international cooperative efforts to conserve Pacific salmon and steelhead. I think the NPAFC Award is really about all of our collective and cooperative efforts, and I am deeply honored to be the 2014 recipient”.

Myers said the most important and challenging task ahead for the Commission is “finding a way for salmon-producing nations to cooperatively address the effects of human activities, such as industrial fishing, climate change, ocean acidification, hatcheries, and marine pollution, on salmon and steelhead migrating in international waters”.

“NPAFC provides the necessary framework for international cooperation to address these issues,” Myers said. “Nevertheless the changing foci and needs of national fishery research and management programs and increasing costs have resulted in the loss of long-term field-based scientific research programs investigating salmon and steelhead migrating in international waters”.

“Scientists participating in the NPAFC forum, myself included, need to do better at communicating with resource managers, policy makers, and the public about the importance of establishing and maintaining a long-term field-based international cooperative research and monitoring program for salmon and steelhead migrating in NPAFC Convention waters,” Myers said.

Dr. Myers is internationally recognized for her long-term leadership in scientific research and conservation through her extensive body of published work on Pacific salmon and steelhead, and for her commitment to fostering international cooperation among NPAFC researchers. Her scientific specialties include salmon and steelhead ocean distribution and migration patterns, age and growth research, and marine food habits studies of salmon. In addition, her service to the field of salmon science includes substantial contributions to studies of Prince William Sound pink salmon and her continuing scientific advisory work on Columbia River and Yukon River salmon.

Established in 2011, the NPAFC Award is given to recognize an individual or group whose sustained and significant contributions in scientific research, enforcement, international cooperation, or management have helped improve the conservation of anadromous salmon and steelhead stocks in the North Pacific Ocean.



Dr. Katherine W. Myers (University of Washington, retired) is the recipient of the 2014 NPAFC Award.

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About NPAFC

The NPAFC is an international organization that promotes the conservation of salmon (chum, coho, pink, sockeye, Chinook, and cherry salmon) and steelhead trout in the North Pacific and its adjacent seas, and serves as a venue for cooperation in and coordination of scientific research and enforcement activities. The NPAFC Convention Area is located in international waters north of 33°N latitude in the North Pacific, Bering Sea, and the Sea of Okhotsk. NPAFC member countries include Canada, Japan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, and United States of America.
