

## **Director Rob Stewart**

Rob Stewart, born in Toronto, Canada, is an award-winning wildlife photographer and the director of *Sharkwater*.

Stewart began photographing underwater when he was 13. He became a certified scuba instructor trainer at age 18, and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of Western Ontario, and has studied Marine Biology and Zoology at universities in Kenya and Jamaica.

Stewart spent four years traveling the world as the chief photographer for the Canadian Wildlife Federation magazines, and has logged thousands of hours underwater, using the latest in rebreather and camera technologies.

His work underwater and on land has appeared in nearly every media form worldwide, from BBC Wildlife, Asian Diver, Outpost and GEO magazines to the Discovery Channels, ABC, BBC, night clubs and feature films.

## **Captain Paul Watson**

Paul Watson is the founder of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society—an organization dedicated to research, investigation and enforcement of laws, treaties, resolutions and regulations established to protect marine wildlife worldwide.

Over the years, Paul Watson has exhibited a remarkable diversity in his activism including:

- Co-founder of Greenpeace in 1972 and Greenpeace International, 1979
- Founder of Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, 1977
- Field Correspondent for Defenders of Wildlife, 1976 to 1980
- Field representative for the Fund for Animals between 1978 to 1981
- Representative for the Royal Society for the Protection of Animals, 1979
- Co-founder of Friends of the Wolf, 1984
- Co-founder Earthforce Environmental Society, 1977.
- Director, National Board of the Sierra Club USA, 2003 to present

Watson majored in communications and linguistics at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia. He has lectured extensively at universities around the world, and was a professor of Ecology at Pasadena College of Design from 1990 to 1994. He was also an instructor in UCLA's Honors Program in 1998 and 1999. Currently, Watson is a registered speaker with the Jodi Solomon Speakers Bureau of Boston, and regularly gives presentations at colleges and universities in the United States and at special events throughout world.

In 2000, Watson was chosen by *Time Magazine* as one of the environmental heroes of the 20th Century.

## **Dr. Erich K. Ritter**

Erich Ritter has a Ph.D. from Zurich University in "Behavioral Ecology" and is the only professional applied shark-human interaction specialist. Ritter's main expertise is the body language of sharks, with a major interest in shark attacks and their causes. Many of the old theories of why sharks attack have been erased through his experiments, and new ideas proposed. He is the only shark attack expert to recreate many of the typical attack scenarios with the respective species. His understanding of potential reasons for shark attacks opened new doors in this field of research.

Ritter is the senior scientist of Green Marine. His research group focuses on conditioning, agonistic display and subordinate hierarchies. Most of these projects are conducted by master and doctoral students from different universities. He is also an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Hofstra University.

Ritter is co-editor of SHARK INFO, a shark information service, located in Switzerland, serving more than 500 news stations in German-speaking Europe. Many of his mainstream articles on shark behavior have been translated in English. Ritter is co-founder of the "Hai-Stiftung" in Switzerland, and "Shark Foundation" in the USA whose main focus is the protection of sharks through better understanding. The foundation is currently sponsoring several projects.

Ritter developed the first interaction system for swimmers, divers and snorkelers (ADORE-SANE) that allows safe swimming and interaction with any potentially dangerous sharks under different conditions. He has spent the last eight years collecting data from around the world. Besides some reef species, his primary focus is on bull sharks, lemon sharks and great whites. Ritter has been extensively interviewed in magazines and on TV shows promoting and explaining his ways of shark-human interaction, and explanations of shark attacks. Ritter holds workshops in the Bahamas, South Africa and the Maldives on a regular basis.

## **Boris Worm**

Boris Worm is a marine biologist and an Assistant Professor in Marine Conservation Biology at Dalhousie University in Halifax. His research focuses on the causes and consequences of changes in marine life, and its conservation on a global scale.

The open ocean is by far the largest place on Earth, covering more than 70 per cent of the planet by area and an even larger percentage by volume. Humans now dominate many aspects of ocean life through the combined effects of overfishing, habitat destruction, pollution and climate change. Many species, particularly large predators such as some tuna and billfishes, sharks and turtles are being driven to dangerously low levels.

Apart from looming species extinction, there is some wider ecosystem concerns. Large predators can play an important role in maintaining aquatic diversity and ecosystem health, and the elimination of some large predators and herbivores from inshore areas has triggered cascading ecosystem effects. These ecological chain reactions contributed the collapse of some coastal ecosystems. If similar changes occur in the open ocean they are bound to be massive in scale, and probably difficult to reverse.

This is why Boris Worm tries to assess changes in marine biodiversity, to understand the consequences of these changes and how to halt or reverse deleterious trends.

**Carlos Pérez Cembrero**

Carlos Cembrero was born in Madrid, Spain. His family was very concerned about their kids growing up in a big city with no contact with nature and wildlife. He spent his teenage years studying in the country near the beautiful Alberche River surrounded by trees and hills. There, he learned the value of the animals, plants and friendship.

Cembrero then enrolled in Biology Sciences at the Complutense University of Madrid. He reached a professional profile as a Zoologist, sailing instructor and crew officer in the Spanish Coast Guard patrol boats.

During this period Cembrero joined the environmental fight building maritime educational programs and developing the First Actions Team for Greenpeace Spain. Cembrero left the organization in 2001, along with 10 colleagues, to protest the direction of Greenpeace Spain.

Trying to recapture the feeling of the true environmental activist, Cembrero joined the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, volunteering on the *Farley Mowat* during a six-month campaign, highlighted by environmental front-line activism.

After the *Farley Mowat* campaign in 2002, he joined a project in Costa Rica named MarViva—a fleet that patrols and surveys the maritime protected areas in cooperation with the government authorities in Central America.

Currently, Cembrero is the Director of Operations for Oceana in Europe. Oceana is a foundation focused in the research, protection and documentation of marine habitats in the world's ocean.

## **Patrick Moore, Ph.D.**

Dr. Patrick Moore has been a leader in the international environmental field for over 30 years. He is a co-founder of Greenpeace and served for nine years as President of Greenpeace Canada and seven years as a Director of Greenpeace International. As the leader of many campaigns, Dr. Moore was a driving force shaping policy and direction while Greenpeace became the world's largest environmental activist organization.

In recent years, Dr. Moore has been focused on the promotion of sustainability and consensus building among competing concerns. He was a member of the British Columbia government-appointed Round Table on the Environment and Economy from 1990 - 1994. In 1990, Dr. Moore founded and chaired the BC Carbon Project, a group that worked to develop a common understanding of climate change.

Dr. Moore served for four years as Vice President, Environment for Waterfurnace International, a manufacturer of geothermal heat pumps for residential heating and cooling with renewable earth energy. He is now a Director of NextEnergy Solutions, the largest distributor of geothermal systems in Canada.

As Chair of the Sustainable Forestry Committee of the Forest Alliance of BC from 1991 - 2002, he led the process of developing the "Principles of Sustainable Forestry" which were adopted by a majority of the industry.

In 2000, Dr. Moore published *Green Spirit – Trees are the Answer*, a photo-book that provides a new insight into how forests work and how they can play a powerful role in solving many of our current environmental problems.

Dr. Moore currently serves as Chair and Chief Scientist of Greenspirit Strategies, a consultancy focusing on environmental policy and communications in forestry, agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, mining, biodiversity, energy and climate change.

- **Honorary Doctorate of Science**, North Carolina State University, 2005
- **Ph.D. in Ecology**, Institute of Resource Ecology, University of British Columbia, 1974
- **Ford Foundation Fellowship**, 1969-1972
- **Honours B.Sc. in Forest Biology**, University of British Columbia