

Progress, Challenges, and Opportunities in Global Shark Conservation

Environmental Law Institute, Washington DC
Thursday, May 2, 3:00-5:00pm EST

Panelist & Moderator Biographies



Laura Cimo, Policy Advisor, Office of International Affairs, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries

Laura Fritel Cimo currently works as a Policy Advisor in the NOAA Fisheries Office of International Affairs. She has been coordinating NOAA's activities related to the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) since 2009 and assists the office with Congressional and legislative affairs. Laura was previously responsible for coordinating NOAA's actions to address illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and bycatch of protected species under the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act. She has also worked in the NOAA Fisheries Office of Policy on a range of issues. Before joining NOAA, Laura worked for Senator Boxer, Congressman Kildee, and Congressman Kind. Laura holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in Fisheries Science, with a concentration in Fisheries Policy, from Michigan State University.



Jeffrey Pike, Chief Executive Officer, Pike Associates

Jeffrey Pike, founder and CEO of Pike Associates, manages the firm's bi-partisan government relations practice. During his more than 14 years in the private sector Jeffrey has provided government relations services to domestic and international corporations, small businesses, trade associations, organized labor, state and federal government agencies and non-governmental organizations. His work for these clients has involved a variety of fields including fisheries, maritime, transportation, trade, energy, environment and natural resource management. Prior to joining the private sector, Jeffrey worked for the U.S. House of Representatives. In his last assignment as Chief of Staff of the House of Representatives Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, he was deeply involved in virtually every maritime, fisheries, oceans and environment bill considered by the House. He is also known in Washington for his work to promote animal welfare and conservation. As a former commercial fisherman from Cape Cod, Jeffrey is a recognized expert in domestic and international fisheries and oceans issues.



Elizabeth Wilson, Manager, Global Shark Conservation, The Pew Charitable Trusts

Elizabeth Wilson is a manager on Pew's Global Shark Conservation campaign, where she assists in overseeing a team of regional and country-based organizers around the world. She joined Pew in 2011. Wilson leads the development of the campaign's policy positions and day to day operations related to international forums including CITES and the regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs). Before joining Pew, Wilson worked on science and policy issues related to marine wildlife, including sharks, at Oceana. This work included developing policy positions and advocating for improved conservation of marine wildlife at national, regional and international levels. She also worked for the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission where she coordinated the efforts of the committees responsible for protected species and socioeconomics, among others. Wilson holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Loyola College and a master's degree in Environmental Management, with a concentration in Coastal Environmental Management, from Duke University.



Jordan Diamond, Deputy Director, Ocean Program, Environmental Law Institute

Jordan Diamond is a Staff Attorney and the Deputy Director of the Ocean Program at the Environmental Law Institute (ELI). Since joining ELI in 2008, she has focused on identifying ways to improve domestic and international ocean and coastal law and policy, with an emphasis on integrated and comprehensive approaches to marine management. For the past several years her work has included efforts to strengthen Alaska Native voices in marine resource management processes in the U.S. Arctic, supporting community engagement in Gulf of Mexico restoration and recovery following the Deepwater Horizon oil disaster, and analyzing regional frameworks for offshore energy development in the Mid-Atlantic, among other things. She holds a J.D. with a Certificate of Specialization in Environmental Law from the UC Berkeley School of Law, and a bachelor's degree in Earth and Environmental Sciences with a Certificate in Environmental Studies from Wesleyan University.