



# PACIFIC FISHERIES TECHNOLOGISTS CONFERENCE 2026

*Charting the Future: Innovation and Collaboration for Tomorrow's Fisheries*

## **SUNDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2026**

- 3:00 - 5:00 pm      **Registration** – Galletti Room
- 5:00 - 6:00 pm      **PFT Executive Meeting** – Madeo Room
- 6:00 - 8:00 pm      **PFT President's Reception** – Plaza area (outside Madeo Room)
- 8:00 pm - Midnight      **Cards and Social Hour** – Hospitality Suite
- 

## **MONDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

- 8:00 - 11:00 am      **Registration** – Galletti Room
- 8:00 - 9:00 am      **Breakfast** – Madeo Room

### **SESSION 1 – Keynote, Abalone & Seaweed** – Madeo Room

*Moderator – Christina DeWitt, Oregon State University*

- 9:00 - 9:10 am      **Opening Remarks** - Rosalee Hellberg, PFT President
- 9:10 - 9:40 am      **A Personalized History of the US West Coast Tuna Industry** – Jon Bell (NOAA), *Keynote Speaker*
- 9:40 - 10:10 am      **California's Abalone Fishery and Kelp Forest Restoration** – Heather Burdick (The Bay Foundation), *Invited Speaker*
- 10:10 - 10:35 am      **New Seaweed Food Safety Guidance** – Michael Ciaramella (New York Sea Grant, Cornell Cooperative Extension), *Invited Speaker*
- 10:35 - 10:45 am      **Coffee Break**

### **SESSION 2 – Fish Oil** – Madeo Room

*Moderator – Jesús Enrique Chan Higuera, University of Sonora*

- 10:45 - 11:10 am      **Shrimp Oil Recovery from Wastewater: A Sustainable Path to Value-Added Applications** - Angee Hunt (Oregon State University), *Invited Speaker*
- 11:10 - 11:35 am      **Fish Oil Quality Control: Standards and Science** - Zhengfei Lu (Herbalife), *Invited Speaker*



# PACIFIC FISHERIES TECHNOLOGISTS CONFERENCE 2026

*Charting the Future: Innovation and Collaboration for Tomorrow's Fisheries*

11:35 - 12:00 pm      **Labeling Guidance for Fish Oil** - Senya Joerss (REJIMUS), *Invited Speaker (Virtual)*

12:00 - 1:00 pm      **Lunch** – Madeo Room

## **SESSION 3 – Seafood Authentication and Conservation** – Madeo Room

*Moderator – John Burrows, Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute*

1:00-1:20 pm      **AI-guided selection of mitochondrial markers and development of a portable qPCR assay GadiChip-qPCR) for rapid gadiform species authentication in surimi seafood** – Si Hong Park (Oregon State University), *Technical Presentation*

1:20-1:40 pm      **Comparison of DNA Barcoding Approaches to Identify Rockfish (*Sebastes* spp.) on the Commercial Market** – Celina Garcia (Chapman University), *Student Presentation*

1:40-2:00 pm      **Aquaculture Work and Our Partnerships within the White Abalone Captive Breeding Program and the Pycnopodia (Sunflower Star) Conservation Programs** – Jose Bacallao (Cabrillo Aquarium), *Invited Speaker*

## **SESSION 3 – Tour**

2:15 pm      **Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Tour** (3720 Stephen M White Dr, San Pedro, CA 90731) – (15 min walk)

## **SESSION 4 – Poster Session & Appetizers** – Madeo Room

3:30 - 5:00 pm, *Moderator – Angee Hunt, Oregon State University*

*Poster Presentations*

**Optimization of DNA Extraction for Tuna Species Identification** - Grace Cho and Adriana Ten Cate (Chapman University), *Student Presentation*

**UVC Inactivation of *Listeria monocytogenes* in Salmon Juice on Food Contact Surfaces** - Gary Maloncon (Chapman University), *Student Presentation*

**White shrimp carotenoids (*peneaus vannamei*) and docetaxel enhance apoptosis through the extrinsic and intrinsic pathways in human prostate cancer cells** - Carmen Maria López Saiz (University of Sonora)



# PACIFIC FISHERIES TECHNOLOGISTS CONFERENCE 2026

## *Charting the Future: Innovation and Collaboration for Tomorrow's Fisheries*

**Valorization of Cannonball Jellyfish (*Stomolophus meleagris*) Proteins through Enzymatic Hydrolysis and Antioxidant Assessment** - Jesús Enrique Chan Higuera (University of Sonora)

*Poster Presentations (cont'd)*

**Artificial Intelligence (AI)-Based Automated Classification of Commercially Important Ark Shell Species** - Seung-Min Yang (Kyung-Hee University)

**Effect of ultrasound treatment prior to enzymatic hydrolysis of collagen and its antioxidant activity in common octopus (*Octopus vulgaris*)** - Angel E. Tapia-Vasquez (University of Sonora)

*DINNER ON YOUR OWN*

8:00 - 10:00 pm      **Cards and Social Hour** – Hospitality Suite

---

## **TUESDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2026**

7:30 - 11:00 am      **Registration** – Galletti Room

7:30 - 8:30 am      **Breakfast** – Madeo Room

### **SESSION 5 – AltaSea at the Port of Los Angeles**

AltaSea is dedicated to accelerating scientific collaboration, advancing an emerging blue economy through business innovation and job creation, and inspiring the next generation, all for a more sustainable, just and equitable world.

8:30 - 8:50 am      **Travel to AltaSea (2451 Signal St, San Pedro, CA)**  
Options: Walk (about 20 min)  
Shuttle (10 Min)

9:00 - 10:00 am      **AltaSea Blue Economy Intro & Tour** – Terry Tamminen (AltaSea President and Chief Executive Officer), *Invited Speaker*

10:00 - 10:45 am      **The Status of Kelp Breeding in the USA** – Sergey Nuzhdin (Kelp Ark located at AltaSea), *Invited Speaker*

10:45 - 11:00 am      **Break**



## PACIFIC FISHERIES TECHNOLOGISTS CONFERENCE 2026

*Charting the Future: Innovation and Collaboration for Tomorrow's Fisheries*

11:00 - 11:50 am **Pacific Fish Technologists Conference Feb 2026 California's Marine Pelagic Fisheries Monitoring** – Michelle Horeczko (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, located at AltaSea), *Invited Speaker*

11:50 am - 12:10 pm **Travel back to the Doubletree**  
Options: Walk (about 20 min) or Shuttle

12:15 - 1:15 pm **Lunch** – Madeo Room

**SESSION 6 – Seafood Innovation for Health and Sustainability** – Madeo Room  
*Moderator – Carmen Maria Lopez-Saiz, Universidad de Sonora*

1:20 - 1:35 pm **Preserving Heritage, Creating Opportunity: Value-Added Seafood and Market Innovation in Louisiana** – Evelyn Watts (Louisiana State University AgCenter and Louisiana Sea Grant), *Invited Speaker*

1:35 - 1:55 pm **Enhancement of the antiproliferative effect of docetaxel by carotenoids from the by-products of the white shrimp (*Penaeus vannamei*) in prostate cancer cells** – Hector Trujillo Ruiz (University of Sonora), *Student Presentation*

1:55 - 2:15 pm **Influence of Cannonball Jellyfish (*Stomolophus meleagris*) Addition on the Physicochemical and Sensory Attributes of Dried Durum Wheat Spaghetti** – Jesús Enrique Chan Higuera (University of Sonora), *Technical Presentation*

2:15 - 2:35 pm **Bioactivity and in Silico Insights of Collagen-Derived Peptides from Jellyfish (*Stomolophus* sp. 2)** – Laura Hernández-Aguirre (University of Sonora), *Technical Presentation (Virtual)*

2:35 - 3:00 pm **Translating Pacific Dulse (*Devaleraea mollis*) into a Sustainable Functional Food for Metabolic Health** – Jung Kwon (Oregon State University), *Invited Speaker*

3:00 - 3:10 pm **Coffee Break**

**SESSION 7 – Seafood Systems: Safety, Quality, and Social Context** - Madeo Room  
*Moderator – Ann He, Seafood Products Association*

3:10 - 3:35 pm **Food Safety Culture and its Impact on Pest Management** – John Boyce (Cultivate SA), *Invited Speaker*

3:35 - 4:00 pm **Identification of pH-Sensitive Frequency Bands in Multifrequency Bioimpedance Phase Measurements of Pacific Halibut Muscle**  
Christina DeWitt (Oregon State University), *Invited Speaker*



# **PACIFIC FISHERIES TECHNOLOGISTS CONFERENCE 2026**

## *Charting the Future: Innovation and Collaboration for Tomorrow's Fisheries*

- 4:00 - 4:30 pm      **'The Smell of Money' Documentary Presented by the Port of Los Angeles** – Video
- 4:30 - 5:00 pm      **PFT General Meeting** – Madeo Room
- 5:00 - 6:00 pm      **Cocktail Hour** – Madeo Room
- 6:00 - 8:00 pm      **PFT Banquet & Student Awards** – Madeo Room
- 8:00 - 10:00 pm    **Cards and Social Hour** – Hospitality Suite
- 

### **WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2026**

- 8:00 - 9:30 am      **Registration** – Madeo Room
- 8:00 - 9:00 am      **Continental Breakfast** – Madeo Room

#### **SESSION 8 – Regulatory Updates** – Madeo Room *Moderator – Virginia Ng, Washington State Department of Agriculture*

- 9:00 - 9:30 am      **Aquaculture Opportunity Areas in California** – Celia Barroso and James Morris (NOAA), *Invited Speaker*
- 9:30 - 10:00 am    **SIMP impact on CBP, challenges related to tariffs, common seafood compliance issues seen at the border** – Clinton Allison (Supervisory Import Specialist, CBP), *Invited Speaker*
- 10:00 - 10:15 am    **Coffee Break**
- 10:15 - 10:45 am    **Traceability Rule, progress in FISH Act and other government initiatives** – Jon Woody (National Fisheries Institute), *Invited Speaker*
- 10:45 - 11:15 am    **Seafood Initiative of the White House, updates to the Office of Seafood, summary and updates to the Traceability Rule** – Karen Swajian (FDA Division of Seafood Safety | Seafood Processing and Technology Policy Branch Team), *Invited Speaker*
- 11:15 - 11:45 am    **2027 PFT** – Angee Hunt
- 11:45 - 12:00pm    **Closing Remarks** – Rosalee Hellberg