

Co-Chairs

The Honorable
William Ruckelshaus

November 24, 2015

The Honorable
Norman Mineta

Dear Bill,

Members

Frances Beinecke

As your friends and colleagues serving under your steady guidance, along with Norm Mineta, on the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative Leadership Council, we write to congratulate you on an extremely well-deserved recognition: being awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Donald Boesch, Ph.D.

Lillian Borrone

The Honorable
Norman Dicks

Your dedication and commitment to bringing a new management approach to restoring our oceans and coasts is but the latest in a remarkable career of public and private service to the nation: spearheading efforts to restore the Puget Sound and protect salmon in the Pacific Northwest, serving with distinction alongside Admiral James Watkins on the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, co-chairing a blue ribbon panel in Washington State on ocean acidification, and working tirelessly to bring collaborative approaches to difficult natural resource issues through the two institutions that bear your name. These are just a few of the notable accomplishments that influenced your selection as a recipient of our nation's highest civilian honor.

Quenton Dokken, Ph.D.

Vice Admiral
Paul Gaffney, U.S. Navy
(Retired)

Robert Gagorian, Ph.D.

Sherri Goodman

Scott Gudes

Vice Admiral
Conrad Lautenbacher, Ph.D.
U.S. Navy (Retired)

Your unflinching integrity in the face of adversity, your wisdom and central role in establishing a science-based and transparent system of environmental protections for the country, your contributions to the international community in proposing and developing the principles of sustainable development as a part of the Brundtland Commission, and your continued leadership of the Joint Initiative Leadership Council have all left an indelible and positive mark on our world.

Margaret Leinen, Ph.D.

Christopher Lischewski

The Honorable
Jane Lubchenco, Ph.D.

Julie Packard

The Joint Ocean Commission Initiative now has the distinct honor of being led by two recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

The Honorable
Leon Panetta

Our heartfelt congratulations on this honor, Bill. We are all inspired and elevated by your example.

John Pappalardo

The Honorable
Pietro Parravano

Diane Regas

Randy Repass

Andrew Rosenberg, Ph.D.

The Honorable
Christine Todd Whitman

Joint Initiative Leadership Council Members

Frances Beinecke | Don Boesch | Lillian Borrone | The Honorable Norm Dicks
Quenton Dokken | Vice Admiral Paul Gaffney | Robert Gagorian | Sherri
Goodman | Scott Gudes | The Honorable Conrad Lautenbacher | Margaret
Leinen | Christopher Lischewski | The Honorable Jane Lubchenco | Julie Packard
The Honorable Leon Panetta | John Pappalardo | The Honorable Pietro Parravano
Diane Regas | Randy Repass | Andrew Rosenberg | The Honorable Christine
Todd Whitman