Principal Investigators

Brian Riddell

Riddell earned a Bachelor's of Science in Marine Biology from the University of Guelph in 1974 and completed his doctoral studies in salmon biology and genetics at McGill University in 1979. Dr. Riddell is currently the President and CEO of the Pacific Salmon Foundation, an independent, non-governmental organization dedicated to creating a sustainable future for wild Pacific salmon and their habitat. Riddell is an internationally recognized fisheries scientist who after 30 years in Science Branch, Department of Fisheries and Oceans has extensive experience in fisheries management and environmental policy development. Riddell is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Pacific Salmon Forum and for 10 years was also a member of the Independent Scientific Advisory Board of the US National Research Council, responsible for scientific review of all federally sponsored research programs related to salmon recovery in the Pacific Northwest. He is a contributing author to two books on Pacific salmon and was a primary author on Canada's Policy for the Conservation of Wild Pacific Salmon (2005).

His fields of research focus on salmon population biology and genetics, international fisheries management and formulation of science-based policy for conservation and utilization of salmon. He is a sought-after speaker for national and international conferences and is frequently contacted by news media for comment on salmon and water management issues. He is currently a lecturer at Vancouver Island University, where he teaches a fourth-year course in fisheries science.

Kristi Miller

Dr. Miller holds a PhD from Stanford University and has been a research scientist at Fisheries and Oceans Canada for 20 years. The overarching goal of her program is the development and application of molecular genetics tools and information that can be applied towards sustainable fisheries management and aquaculture development of aquatic species. Early years of her program focused on population genetic studies of a variety of marine fish and shellfish species to support the delineation of management units and the development of genetic stock identification methods and databases that are now widely applied to regulate salmon fisheries. Eight years ago, Miller shifted her program to genomics research aimed at the elucidation of factors that may be undermining the performance of wild salmon. Key signatures resolved in the functional genomics studies on wild migrating salmon have revealed the potential importance of infectious diseases, leading to the development of a new genomics program focused on salmon health.