

2022 FIRST QUARTER A FRESH START



SEATTLE FISH CO.
& GOURMET PROVISIONS

Welcome to Sea Pact's first quarterly update of 2022. The start of the year brings renewed optimism with Sea Pact members who are excited to continue funding projects and taking collective action to support their strategic priorities around sustainable seafood.

SEA PACT ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

Sea Pact welcomed a new board chair, vice chair, and executive director in January:



Stephanie Pazzaglia, Chair ([J.J. McDonnell](#))

Stephanie's passion and interest in the seafood industry began with her involvement in her father's wholesale and retail seafood company located in Pennsylvania. After completing her degree in Marine Biology from Stockton University she continued as a research technician at the Stockton University Marine Facility and then for NJDEP Bureau of Shellfisheries. Stephanie joined the J.J. McDonnell team in 2016 with a shared interest in sourcing responsibly caught and harvested seafood and now serves as Business Development Manager. Stephanie has represented J.J. McDonnell as a board member for Sea Pact since 2019.

John V. Young, Vice Chair ([Euclid Fish](#))

John has grown up around seafood and has learned the industry through working with his grandfather and father and saw the passion and commitment they put forth to innovate and educate in the marketplace. John started by making boxes and pushing a broom, to driving delivery truck, to sales and now Director of Purchasing, Sustainability, and Food Safety. Euclid Fish Company is a fourth-generation family owned and operated company and understands the importance of responsible sourcing and sustainable practices are essential to see the next generations through. John has been with the company since 2014 and has been a board member of Sea Pact since 2018.



Sam Grimley, Executive Director

Prior to joining Sea Pact, Sam worked for Sustainable Fisheries Partnership where he engaged major seafood buyers on their responsible sourcing efforts and facilitated seafood suppliers in collaborative sustainability improvement efforts. He also served as an environmental advisor to Sea Pact since the organization's inception. Learn more about his views on Sea Pact's evolution and strategic priorities in this recent [IntraFish interview](#).

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FUNDED PROJECTS & COLLABORATIONS

Here is the latest round of Sea Pact funded projects and collaborations:

[Reef Fish Conservation and Education Foundation](#) - This project aims to 1) build communication bridges between the commercial wild harvest and aquaculture industries that will lead to a bolstered and more unified domestic seafood industry, 2) inform the Gulf Aquaculture Opportunity Areas (AOA) discussion to ensure an effective and sustainable Gulf AOA, and 3) solidify a stakeholder-driven and collaborative education process that can be replicated for forthcoming AOAs in other regions of the U.S.

"Stakeholder conflicts, rooted in distrust and misunderstanding, are best resolved through engagement. Sometimes it takes bringing people together, so they understand each other's concerns, surface misunderstandings, and build out solutions together. This project is designed to do just that within the context of a broader national framework." - Logan Kock, Chief Sustainability Officer, Santa Monica Seafood

[Seafood and Gender Equality \(SAGE\)](#) - The goal of this project is to create the foundation of the Gender Dialogues. Phase I objectives are: 1) conduct outreach to and engage seafood industry leadership and secure their support of the implementation of the Gender Dialogues; 2) prepare the foundation of the Gender Dialogues, including a budget and fundraising/sponsorship plan; and 3) create a facilitation plan to ensure the dialogues are productive and beneficial to the participants and the industry.

"Recently, Seafood and Gender Equality (SAGE) turned 1 year old, and already I have learned so much about how gender plays a significant role in our industry. I'm excited that Sea Pact decided to support SAGE's Gender Dialogues project, and I cannot wait to see what this budding organization accomplishes next. If you haven't already, be sure to check out SAGE's podcast, The Conch Podcast." - Stacy Schultz, Director of Marketing & Sustainability, Fortune Fish & Gourmet

[Sustainable Eel Group \(SEG\)](#) - This project will develop and pilot a first version of the SEG Sustainable Eel Group sustainability standard for the American Eel, in a subsample of the supply chain in the United States by adapting the standard for the European Eel to be suitable for the American Eel.

"As we try to improve the sustainability of the seafood that we eat in North America, there are many species where we understand the issues, and we have a clear path for improvement. Eel is an important fish in the US and Eel and Unagi production remains entirely reliant on wild-caught juveniles. Eel populations all over the World have been threatened for a long time due to overfishing, damming of rivers and damage to wetlands. There are good catch controls in some states, but there was no holistic plan for improving the overall sustainability of Eel caught on the Atlantic coast of the US. The Sustainable Eel Group have had success setting sustainability standards in Europe and coordinating efforts across countries and watersheds, and they have seen significant increases in eel numbers as a result. This project was an exciting opportunity to bring the lessons learned in Europe and try to build the same success in the US and give us confidence in a sustainable resource for years to come." - Hamish Walker, COO, Seattle Fish Company

As a reminder, Sea Pact accepts Letters of Interest on an open basis, and you can learn more about [Sea Pact Grant Funding here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

[World Ocean Summit Virtual Week](#), March 1-4

[Seafood Expo North America \(SENA\)](#), March 12-14 – Sea Pact will be attending SENA this year and look forward to seeing many of our peers in person.



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