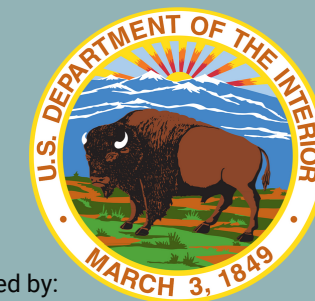


AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES IN COMMERCE

DEVELOPING STRATEGIES TO MITIGATE RISK

THE SUMMIT SPEAKER LINEUP



This project supported by:



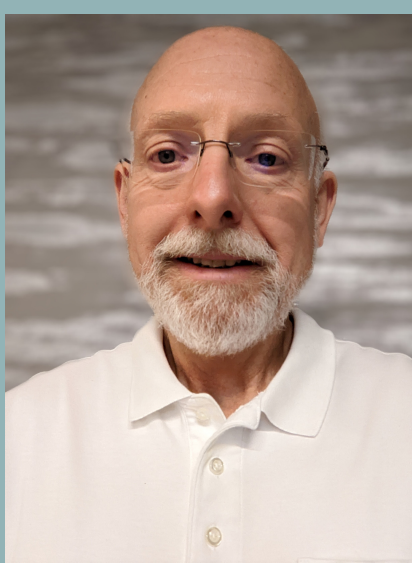
Dr. Linda Walters
U Central Florida Professor

Dr. Linda Walters is a Pegasus Professor in the Department of Biology at the University of Central Florida, where she has been on the faculty for 26 years. Her marine conservation and restoration research is focused on Florida's coasts and estuaries and includes publications on invasive species, climate change, anthropogenic losses of foundational species, algal blooms, and plastic-free coastal restoration methods. In addition to research, Walters and her students are very active in the community through restoration projects, sharing marine biology at events, and writing children's books. To date, Walters has led the production of 10 book titles on marine conservation; all are shared at no cost for families and educators. To date, over 99,000 copies have been printed and distributed, including two books focused on reducing aquarium releases. Digital copies are available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/ceelabbooks/>. Walters has her BS in Biology from Bates College, and a MS and PhD in Biology from the University of South Carolina.

Christine has been the CEO of PIJAC since 2020. The Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council of Canada (PIJAC) provides leadership and communication between all sectors of the pet industry through resources, training, and advocacy to promote the highest level of pet care. Since joining PIJAC Canada in mid 2020, Christine has successfully raised the profile and understanding of the pet sector with all levels of government. PIJAC has over 1,700 members and as part of the International Pet Advocacy Council (IPAC), Christine collaborates with over 20 other pet associations around the world to support responsible pet businesses in Canada and abroad. She also joined the Board of Directors of the Canadian Council on Invasive Species in 2022.



Christine Carriere
CEO - Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council of Canada



Gary Fish
Maine State Horticulturist

Gary Fish is the Maine State Horticulturist. He has a B.S. degree in Forest and Wildlife Management from the University of Maine, College of Forest Resources in 1982. Gary has been the State Horticulturist since 2015. He also served as Manager, Pesticide Programs for Board of Pesticides Control for 28 years. He has practiced off and on as a Licensed Professional Forester since 1985 at Kents Hill Forestry Services. Gary is the Former chair of the Arborist Board and worked as horticulturist for ChemLawn Services Corporation for 5 years, 1983 - 1988. Gary grew up in Farmington, Maine. He was an entomologist from birth and was inspired to love plants by his mother who always grew beautiful roses and rock gardens. Gary is a landscape and nature photographer. (Phish Photography on Etsy) <https://www.etsy.com/shop/phishphotography>

Stephanie received a B.A. in History from Penn State University and a joint J.D./Masters of Studies in Environmental Law from Vermont Law School. She is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and Mississippi. Stephanie has served as the Director of the NSGLC for more than 10 years and engages in a variety of legal research, education, and outreach activities related to ocean, coastal, and natural resources issues. Her research on natural resources, marine, and environmental law issues has been published in a variety of publications. Stephanie has conducted extensive research on marine and freshwater invasive species. Recent relevant publications include "U.S. Regulatory Framework for Genetic Biocontrol of Invasive Fish" in the journal *Biological Invasions* (September 2012); "Legislative and Regulatory Efforts to Minimize Expansion of Invasive Mussels through Watercraft Movements" in the *Arizona Journal of Environmental Law and Policy* (Summer 2013).



Stephanie Otts
National Sea Grant Law Center Director



Tim Campbell
Wisconsin Sea Grant AIS Program Manager

Tim Campbell is the aquatic invasive species program manager for the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute and the National AIS Liaison for the NOAA Sea Grant Program and the USFWS. He supports AIS prevention outreach, communications, and program evaluation, and works to apply university and Sea Grant resources to AIS issues.

Dr. Michael Tlusty is an Associate Professor of Sustainability and Food Solutions at the University of Massachusetts Boston. He uses technological solutions to end the illegal wildlife trade, as well as to improve food production. He was part of the grand prize-winning team for the 2016 Wildlife Crime Tech Challenge and is currently funded to create disease sensors for aquaculture.



Michael Tlusty, PhD
University of Massachusetts - Boston



Kerry Wixted
Amphibian, Reptile, and Invasive Species Program Manager
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Kerry Wixted is the Amphibian, Reptile, and Invasive Species Program Manager for the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Joe Hiduke is the Sales Manager at 5D Tropical and has been there for 15 years. 5D is one of the largest distributors of tropical fish in the country. 5D is a producer of ornamental fish, as well as an importer from all over the world, and supplies pet store chains, distributors, and independent retailers throughout the US. Prior to working in the ornamental fish trade Joe was the general manager of one of the largest reptile farms in the US. He is a graduate of the University of Florida in Animal Science and spent some time at the UF College of Veterinary Medicine in Pathobiology studying Cryptosporidium. Joe is currently serving on the Florida Fish & Wildlife Non-Native Fish and Wildlife Technical Assistance Group representing hobbyists/terrestrial pets a representative of the United States Association of Reptile Keepers, Florida. He has also participated in the Pet Advisory Network (formerly PIJAC) Aquatics Committee. He was a contributing author to the National Reptile Improvement Plan, a proposal that came about due to the discovery of ticks known to be *Cowdria* vectors on imported reptiles.



Joe Hiduke
5D Tropical Sales Manager