

BRIAN RIDDELL

CONFERENCE CHAIR

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Brian Riddell is President and CEO of the Pacific Salmon Foundation. He has a PhD from McGill University and is former Division Head, Salmon and Freshwater Ecosystems, Science Branch, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Pacific Biological Station based in Nanaimo, BC. Brian is one of Canada's most respected and decorated salmon researchers and managers.



Conference Opening

* Transcribed

"Thank you much for attending and thank you very much for the organizers to ask me to facilitate this meeting for you. I'm not sure why I volunteer to do these things at times but I'm looking forward to this one.

My name is Brian Riddell. I think in past years you would have known me within the Department of Fisheries and Oceans but I've left that role and I'm now the CEO and president of the Pacific Salmon Foundation. In my bio it talked about a decorated salmon researcher. I'm not sure what that is. I think it refers to when I dressed up as Dr. Laura Richards to do a conference introduction and I have yet to live that down unfortunately.

It's with great pleasure that we begin this meeting. I'd have to say that, although we spend an awful lot of time in the department focused on the Fraser River, many of us have a real interest in the Skeena. The diversity of salmon, the habitat quality that you have here. So it's a real interest that we get together and really talk about Skeena habitat.

I think that the organizers have three themes that really follow nicely from each other. We have a good cross section of speakers. So I think we should really start moving forward. We have a series of brief introductions and then before we actually start the first section I am going to put up a slide that Richard and I discussed. Basically the three themes and an outcome that we can discuss as we go through the two days."

Skeena Salmon Habitat Conference – September 15 & 16, 2009

