



PCSGA & NSA - PCS

80TH

ANNUAL SHELLFISH CONFERENCE & TRADESHOW

SEPTEMBER 14 - 17, 2026
SEMIAHMOO RESORT - BLAINE, WA

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

MONDAY - SEPT. 14TH

- Pacific Shellfish Aquaculture Network (PSAN)
- PCSGA Annual General Membership Meeting
- Pearls of Wisdom Networking Event

TUESDAY - SEPT. 15TH

- MORNING: Plenary Session
- Legends of Shellfish Speakers - Steve Semour & Betsy Peabody
- LUNCHEON SPEAKER: Virginia Shaffer
- AFTERNOON: Concurrent Sessions
- Schley Golf Scramble
- Tradeshow Reception

WEDNESDAY - SEPT. 16TH

- MORNING: Concurrent Sessions
- NSA Annual Meeting and Luncheon
- LUNCH PROVIDED
- AFTERNOON: Concurrent Sessions
- Cast Off Fishing Tournament
- 80s Themed Beach Party/NSA Fundraiser

THURSDAY - SEPT. 17TH

- MORNING: Concurrent Sessions
- AWARDS LUNCHEON: Celebrating Student and Industry Accomplishments

VENUE & HOTEL INFORMATION

HOTEL: Semiahmoo Resort - Blaine, Washington
BOOKING LINK: [Semiahmoo Resort - Guestrooms](#)

Book before August 14th to secure a room under the block rate.
Rates - \$274 (fees included) for two queens or single king

[REGISTER AT PCSGA.ORG](https://www.pcs.ga.org)

PCSGA and NSA-PCS 80th Annual Shellfish Conference and Tradeshow

For eight decades, the Shellfish Conference and Tradeshow has been more than a meeting; it's been a homecoming. Researchers, regulators, and shellfish growers arriving from up and down the coast, bringing the latest science, the hardest questions, and the kind of candid conversation that only happens when you're among people who truly understand this work.

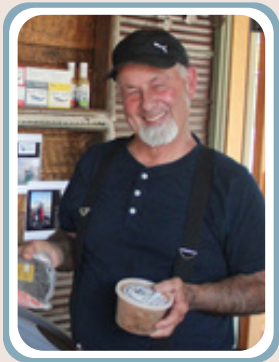
Over the years, we have celebrated breakthroughs and navigated crises. We have welcomed new faces into the industry and said goodbye to giants who shaped it. Through it all, including two years when we gathered virtually, this conference has remained the heartbeat of the Pacific Coast shellfish community.

This year, we return to the water's edge at the beautiful Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, WA. This stunning location on Drayton Harbor gives us the opportunity to highlight an effort widely regarded as a model for community-led water quality recovery. Celebrating our 80th conference alongside Drayton Harbor Shellfish Farm's 100th anniversary also seems appropriate as it offers proof that when regulators, growers, farmers, local governments, and residents work together around a shared goal, even decades of degradation can be reversed.

Like previous conferences, we expect to provide the latest developments in science and technology aimed at addressing farming challenges. There will be a variety of interactive sessions to learn from each other and multiple venues to engage in scientific and policy discussions. Of course, there will also be plenty of opportunities to network and collaborate and have some fun.

Please join us in celebrating 80 years of shellfish!

FEATURED SPEAKERS



STEVE SEYMOUR & BETSY PEABODY

LEGENDS IN SHELLFISH SPEAKERS

In 2001, the Puget Sound Restoration Fund partnered with legendary shellfish farmer Geoff Menzies to launch the Drayton Harbor Community Oyster Farm, rallying businesses, tribes, volunteers, and agencies alike to find and fix pollution sources. By 2016, over 810 acres of shellfish ground had been restored to approved for harvest status, bringing recreational, tribal, and commercial shellfish production back to the harbor for the first time in two decades. Steve Seymour and Betsy Peabody will tell the story of how collaboration re-opened the bay to shellfish and how Drayton Harbor Oyster Co. carries that legacy today.

VIRGINIA SHAFFER

LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Part culinary adventure, part personal awakening—one woman's growing oyster obsession leads her into a coastal subculture that few outsiders ever see—and toward a life reclaimed. Virginia Shaffer is a food writer, oyster sommelier, and the founder of Lady Oyster Tours & Tastings, Maine's first oyster culinary tour company, which was globally awarded "Best Rural Culinary Heritage Experience" in 2025 by the World Food Travel Association.

Virginia is the author of a new book, *Oyster Society*.



SPECIAL SESSIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

O.H.! – (ONLY HATCHERY!)

Our revered hatchery dudes - Nate Tsao and Brian Koval - are up to something different this year! Stepping away from the crowds and those who pay the bills, this session is reserved ONLY for HATCHERY folk. Don't worry, "how to support growers" will be a topic of discussion! Proof of the ability to use a microscope to count larvae required! Pre-registration required.

SHELLFISH HAVE A STORY - LET'S TELL IT!

From oral histories of Washington's working waterfronts to classroom lessons that turn kids into bivalve believers, this session explores how shellfish farmers are shaping their own story — through family farm legacies, economic data, and lessons learned from a shellfish-focused trip to New Zealand. Hear directly from growers, educators, and researchers working to make sure the industry's story is told well and told often.

TECH TIME WITH DOCTORS DAVIS AND DAVIS

Join Brothers Joth and Chris Davis for Tech Time, a fast-paced look at the technology reshaping shellfish aquaculture including bivalves that double as biosensors to tidal power keeping farms running. Discover how sensors, smart monitoring, remote vehicles, and renewable energy are giving growers a real-time pulse on their operations and their environment.

DECODING MORTALITY EVENTS ON THE PACIFIC COAST

Unexplained mortality events are intensifying across the Pacific Coast. So much so that 'killing millions of shellfish' seems to be the marker of a Bonafide shellfish grower. This session examines the latest science on causes, early detection, and adaptive strategies growers and researchers are deploying to build resilience against an increasingly unpredictable ocean.

POLICY, HABITAT, AND THE VALUE OF SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE

Get up to speed on the shifting federal and state regulatory landscape, then dig into the science quantifying what shellfish aquaculture actually contributes to estuarine ecosystems. — from biodiversity credits to global meta-analyses on oyster habitat value. This session bridges policy and proof, equipping growers and regulators alike with the tools to engage, measure, and make the case for shellfish farming's ecological role.

BEYOND THE OYSTER: RESEARCH ACROSS WEST COAST SPECIES

This session ranges far beyond the oyster, covering new research on Pismo clams, Dungeness crab, spot prawn, and an unexpected newcomer — redclaw crayfish — alongside restoration efforts for native Olympia oysters and eelgrass. Whether you're tracking population models, microplastic impacts, or community-based restoration, this lineup offers a wide-angle view of where West Coast aquaculture science is headed.

CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS AND PANELS

ASK THE ARS - THE PACIFIC SHELLFISH RESEARCH UNIT (PSRU) OFFICE HOUR

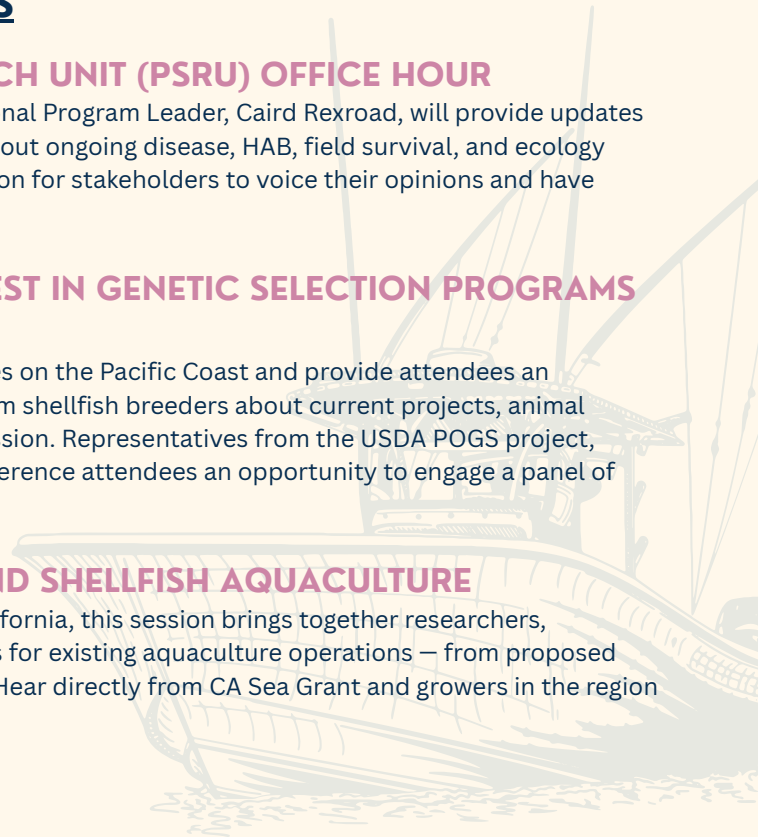
In this workshop the PSRU scientists and the ARS Aquaculture National Program Leader, Caird Rexroad, will provide updates on the latest research and developments of the unit. Come learn about ongoing disease, HAB, field survival, and ecology studies of the PSRU. ARS scientists will host a 30 min panel discussion for stakeholders to voice their opinions and have questions answered.

PACIFIC COAST SHELLFISH BREEDING; THE LATEST IN GENETIC SELECTION PROGRAMS IN THE WESTERN U.S.

This workshop will present the current status of breeding enterprises on the Pacific Coast and provide attendees an opportunity to ask questions to a panel of breeders. Come learn from shellfish breeders about current projects, animal availability and future plans. A 30-minute panel Q+A will end the session. Representatives from the USDA POGS project, Pacific Hybreed, and Taylor Shellfish will participate, providing conference attendees an opportunity to engage a panel of shellfish breeders simultaneously.

CHARTING COEXISTENCE: OFFSHORE WIND AND SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE

As offshore wind development moves forward in Humboldt Bay California, this session brings together researchers, regulators, and shellfish growers to examine what the project means for existing aquaculture operations — from proposed infrastructure and dredging to long-term coexistence on the water. Hear directly from CA Sea Grant and growers in the region about efforts to navigate these changes.



PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

PCSGA ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday September 14 | San Juan Ballroom | 3:00 - 5:00 PM

All grower-members of PCSGA are welcome to learn how PCSGA is working on issues impacting your farm. This is an excellent opportunity to inform PCSGA staff and leadership about things that are important to you and your business and help direct how PCSGA spends its time and resources.

PACIFIC SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE NETWORK (PSAN)

Monday September 14 | San Juan Ballroom | 11:30 - 2:30 PM

Members of the PSAN community will have their fourth meeting to further efforts to provide consistent and collaborative shellfish research, communication, and engagement. RSVP to christy.deykes@oregonstate.edu



PEARLS OF WISDOM NETWORKING EVENT

Monday September 14 | Tent Pavilion | 7:00 - 9:00 PM

\$25 fee - includes light appetizers showcasing PCSGA-member shellfish and a no-host bar.

Pre-registration is required.

Get ready for an evening of fast-paced connections and collaborative energy! We're once again bringing together shellfish growers, students, tradeshow vendors, and industry champions to share pearls of wisdom and grow together. This is part happy hour and part round-robin introduction session, designed to spark meaningful conversations, build lasting connections, and strengthen our shellfish community. This is your chance to make meaningful connections — one shell at a time!

CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES – FOR ALL TO ENJOY!

SCHLEY GOLF SCRAMBLE

Co-Sponsored by Northern Oyster & Plauché and Carr, LLC

Tuesday September 15 | Loomis Trail Golf Club | Tee times start at 3:00 PM

\$70/player — includes 9-holes of golf, cart, bucket of range balls, and one beverage of your choice.

Spots fill quickly. Pre-register before August 25th.

Dust off those clubs and join the shellfish community for our annual Schley Golf Scramble, honoring Ralph Schley — founder of Norplex Inc. and all-around legend. We'll tee off at Loomis Trail Golf Club, a Graham Cooke-designed course ranked #5 in Washington and the state's only entry on the nation's Top 100 list.

Whether you're here for the game, the laughs, or the networking, this scramble is a casual, low-stress way to connect and hear what's really happening on the farm. **All skill levels welcome** and prizes awarded!

THE OYSTER BOOK CLUB

Tuesday September 15 & Wednesday September 16 | Afternoon (time TBD)

Led by Erin Byers Murray, author of *Shucked*, and Virginia Shaffer author of *Oyster Society*, these casual, 1-hour conversations will delve into some of our favorite oyster-focused books. Participants will take a literary dive into a collection of shellfish-related works through questions for the group and a discussion of other favorite oyster-related reads. Refreshments will be served. Open to all attendees, even if you haven't read the books! Come ready to listen and share. You're sure to leave with a list of book recommendations.

SHOT TO SHELL: HOW TO TELL YOUR OYSTER STORY IN PICTURES

Tuesday September 15 & Wednesday September 16 | Afternoon (time TBD)

\$10/person - Registration Required - Bring Your Phone! (24 max attendees per session)

This session is for growers, marketers, media members, and anyone else interested in exploring photo and video as tools for telling oyster stories. Adrienne Anderson is a professional marketer and food media producer with over 20 years experience. This workshop includes a 60-minute presentation with hands-on demos and 30-minute Q&A. Focus will be on identifying your audience, gathering research, refining your message, and developing your style. You'll leave with technical skills to help get your story out into the world!

WATERCOLOR POSTCARDS WITH JAIME WRIGHT & RACHEL WOLD

Tuesday September 15 | Afternoon (time TBD)

\$10/person - Participation limited to 24

Join us for a relaxing and creative shellfish-themed watercolor postcard class led by shellfish conference regulars, Jamie Wright and Rachel Wold. No experience needed and all supplies are provided!

CAST OFF: THE FIRST-EVER PCSGA FISHING TOURNAMENT

Wednesday September 16 | 3 - 6 PM

\$30/person - Registration & Fishing License Required - Boat space limited to 24 participants

We are thrilled to announce the inaugural PCSGA Fishing Tournament. It turns out that the people who spend their lives farming the sea are also enthusiastic about fishing in it. This is your chance to compete for an amazing hand-made prize, made by fishing legend and hatchery wizard Nate Tsao, and bragging rights among some of the most ocean-savvy people you'll ever meet. Details on format and species are still being finalized but start stretching your casting arm and developing your story about "the one that got away". This is one event you won't want to miss. First ever. Hopefully not the last. Fishing licenses available at Pacific Building Center in Blaine.

Note: A land-based, free tournament, coordinated by the 2025 Under the Bridge Fishing Champ and hatchery phenom Brian Koval, is also in the works. Fishers will track their catch during program breaks.

1980'S THEMED BEACH PARTY

Wednesday September 16 | Evening

Totally Tubular Alert! Shellfish Dudes and Dudettes, we are going "80s Beach Party" for the night! Grab dinner from some totally rad, no-host pop-up stations, hit the bar, and dress the part! Neon, leg warmers, and mullets all welcome. It's going to be gnarly!

DOWN ON THE FARM - BIG SCREEN EDITION

In eighty years of conferences, we have never done this before. This year, we are bringing the farms to you - literally. Head to the on-site movie theater for a curated compilation of farm videos from up and down the Pacific Coast, offering a rare window into the places and people that make this industry what it is. Whether you grow shellfish yourself or support those who do, there is something special about seeing these operations come to life on the big screen. Grab a snack, take a seat, and let the farms come to you.

SHELLFISH CONFERENCE TIME MACHINE TRIVIA

Eighty shellfish conferences. Decades of history. How much do you really know? Join us for Time Machine Trivia and demonstrate your knowledge of the people, the moments, and the silly antics that shaped these conferences over the years. Teams welcome, competitive spirit encouraged, and exceptional memory recall strongly advised. Nominal fee collected at event which will go towards prizes.

NORPLEX HOSPITALITY SUITE

Loud, late, and full of stories that may or may not be repeated in the morning. The Hospitality Suite is the legendary after-hours hub where the real networking happens. Generously donated by Norplex, this is a shellfish conference attendee favorite!

PICKELBALL, SHELLFISH SISTERHOOD, AND MUCH, MUCH, MORE!

NSA MEETING & FUNDRAISER

2026 NSA-PCS MEMBERS BUSINESS LUNCHEON

All NSA members are highly encouraged to participate in the NSA-PCS annual business luncheon. Please join us to learn about upcoming NSA-PCS activities for the year ahead. This year's luncheon will be held on September 16, 2026, and will be served buffet style.

NSA FUNDRAISER - WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Join us Wednesday evening during the 80's Beach Party and get inky! Create nautical-themed pieces of d'art while supporting a great cause. No experience needed—just bring your creativity and enjoy the fun!



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION RATES

PCSGA OR NSA MEMBER ADMISSION: \$680*

NON-MEMBER ADMISSION: \$880*

ONE DAY ONLY ADMISSION: \$380

\$100 DISCOUNT IF REGISTERED BY 7/20/26

***REGISTRATIONS AFTER 8/14/26 INCREASE BY \$100**

Registration includes all conference sessions, daily lunch and refreshment breaks, and the evening Tradeshow Reception. Conference add-ons are non-refundable.

CONFERENCE ADD-ONS

SHOT TO SHELL: \$10

WATERCOLOR POSTCARD CLASS: \$10

ADDITIONAL GUEST MEAL PASS: \$200

SCHLEY GOLF SCRAMBLE: \$70

PEARLS OF WISDOM - NETWORKING EVENT: \$25

FISHING TOURNAMENT: \$30

TRADESHOW REGISTRATION

PCSGA ALLIED MEMBER - ASSOCIATE: \$500

PCSGA ALLIED MEMBER - SUSTAINING, CORPORATE OR PATRON: INCLUDED IN MEMBERSHIP

Registration includes 6ft table, box drape linen, chair and wastebasket

The Tradeshow is a great opportunity to engage with potential clients in a casual setting. PCSGA encourages you to showcase your products and services, and learn about trends which will help your business grow. Conference attendees are eager to explore your business, socialize with you, and interact with your product!

Non-Members, please reach out to Alicia at aliciaburns@pcsga.org to check booth availability.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PEARLS OF SUPPORT SPONSORSHIP - \$10,000

SHELLFISH INDUSTRY PARTNER SPONSORSHIP - \$5,000

BEVERAGE SPONSORSHIP - \$1,500

PEARLS OF WISDOM SPONSORSHIP - \$2,000

SHELLFISH SISTERHOOD SESSION SPONSORSHIP - \$1,000

COFFEE BREAK SPONSOR - \$500

SPEAKER SPONSOR - \$500

STUDENT SPONSOR - \$400

ACTIVITIES SPONSOR - \$600

Sign up online at www.pcsga.org or reach out to Alicia at aliciaburns@pcsga.org

REQUEST FOR SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS!

PROCEEDS FROM THE AUCTION SUPPORT:

- PCSGA GROWER ENRICHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND
- PCSGA LEGENDS IN SHELLFISH SPEAKER SERIES
- NSA-PCS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Please bring your auction items to the conference registration desk when you arrive.

Auction closes Wednesday Evening.