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**THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026
4:00 PM**

Fisheries Sciences Building, Room 102

IS THIS THE ROAD TO **OZ** OR **MORDOR?**

**The future of West Coast fisheries policy
and management in a climate of
environmental and political change**

Scott Rumsey

*Retired NOAA Fisheries (Former Deputy Regional
Administrator, West Coast Region)*

Amidst dramatic staff attrition, shifting agency priorities, and substantial funding uncertainty, NOAA Fisheries is navigating a period of profound institutional change. Scott will share his perspective on how these stressors are altering the agency's mission and shaping the future of fisheries and protected-species management. He will also offer advice on how the next generation of scientists can navigate this evolving landscape to support sustainable fisheries and resilient marine ecosystems.

Scott served 24 years with NOAA Fisheries, including as the Deputy Regional Administrator and Acting Regional Administrator for the West Coast Region. In these roles he oversaw all regional regulatory programs and personnel, and led the development and execution of a \$190 million annual budget. Scott has a BS in Biology with a Marine Emphasis from UCLA, and a PhD in Biological Oceanography from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography where he studied the impacts of oceanographic features on euphausiid recruitment dynamics.

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