

MICHAEL SUTTON

Executive Director, Audubon California

Vice President, Pacific Flyway

Carmel Valley, California

Work:

Michael Sutton serves as Executive Director of Audubon California and Vice President, Pacific Flyway for the National Audubon Society. He oversees conservation programs and staff in California, Washington, and Alaska, and serves as a member of Audubon's National Leadership Team.



Background:

In 2007 and again in 2009, Governor Schwarzenegger appointed Mike as a member of the California Fish and Game Commission. Mike also serves as summer faculty at the Vermont Law School, where he teaches ocean & coastal law. He recently co-authored a book, "Ocean and Coastal Law and Policy," published by the American Bar Association. He has lectured at graduate seminars on conservation issues at Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Stanford, Tufts, George Washington University, and the University of Rhode Island.

Previously, Mike served for eight years as Vice President of the Monterey Bay Aquarium where he founded the Center for the Future of the Oceans, the Aquarium's conservation advocacy arm. Before that, Mike helped establish ocean conservation programs at the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the World Wildlife Fund, where he founded the Marine Stewardship Council. He currently serves as Chairman of the Wild Salmon Center in Portland, Oregon and a Board member of Ocean Champions and the Sea Change Investment Fund.

Before joining the WWF staff, Mike spent a decade in government service, where he served as a special agent with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and as a park ranger with the National Park Service in Yosemite, Yellowstone, Biscayne, and Virgin Islands National Parks and Death Valley National Monument.

Education:

Mike received a bachelor's degree in wildlife biology from Utah State University in 1978 and pursued graduate studies in marine biology at the University of Sydney, Australia. In 1992, he received a law degree in international and natural resources law from George Washington University's National Law Center in Washington, D.C.