

NEWS

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GENE DUVERNOY JOINS BOARD OF MCBI

August 6, 2009—Bellevue WA. Gene Duvernoy, President of the Cascade Land Conservancy has joined the Board of Directors of Marine Conservation Biology Institute (MCBI). MCBI is the only nationally and internationally focused conservation organization headquartered in Washington.

Mr. Duvernoy, who has devoted more than 25 years to land conservation throughout the Puget Sound region, is expanding his very beneficial impact on the biosphere to include the oceans, which constitute 71% of the Earth's surface.

Under his leadership, the Cascade Land Conservancy has risen to national prominence by developing bold, innovative and successful conservation strategies. Gene took land conservation to a higher level in 2005 by helping to found The Cascade Agenda, a 100-year regional vision for conserving more than one million acres of land and making communities more vibrant and livable.

But oceans figure into Gene's global vision as well, "The health of our communities across the Northwest—in fact the very sustainability of our planet—can only be assured if we recover the health of our oceans. MCBI's work is foundational to our regional efforts with The Cascade Agenda to create communities that can flourish alongside nature. I look forward to contributing in any way I may be able to work with this exceptional organization with its fundamentally important mission."

The oceans are essential life support systems for humankind, providing a sixth of our animal protein and nearly half of our oxygen. They are crucial for slowing global warming. Yet they receive a tiny fraction of the attention they deserve from policy makers, funders and advocates.

MCBI's President, Dr. Elliott A. Norse, adds, "We are delighted that Gene is joining MCBI's Board of Directors. With his extraordinary wisdom, experience and stature in the Pacific Northwest and MCBI's understanding of fisheries, marine spatial planning and ocean acidification, we will be even more effective in bringing new ideas to the national and international policy making arenas."

MCBI is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the science of marine conservation biology and securing protection for the world's marine ecosystems. Founded in 1996, MCBI is headquartered in Bellevue WA, and has offices in Honolulu HI, Glen Ellen CA and Washington DC.

Marine Conservation Biology Institute

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