

## PATRICK J. COTTER

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### PROFILE

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- More than 31 years of U.S. Government experience working with international conventions and domestic laws governing environmental protection, management of marine protected areas, and conservation of biodiversity.
- Leadership, teamwork, and high-quality technical expertise in international negotiations, environmental assessments, integrated coastal watershed protection, marine and coastal resource management, dredging projects, wastewater discharge permits, contaminant effects, monitoring programs, environmental management of ports, control of land-based and ocean-based sources of pollution, and emergency response operations.
- Experience with marine ecosystems and diving operations in California, Texas, and the Caribbean.

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### EDUCATION

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**McGill University**, Montreal, Canada; Master of Science in Oceanography, 1984  
**University of Texas**, Austin, TX; Bachelor of Science in Biology, Marine Option, 1976

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### CAREER SUMMARY

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**Middlebury Institute of International Studies, Center for the Blue Economy**, Monterey, CA; Adjunct Faculty, 2015.

**“C” Otter Ocean & Land (COOL) Environmental Consulting**, Pacific Grove, CA; Environmental Scientist, 2014 to Present.

**Friends of Camp SEA Lab Executive Board**, Seaside, CA; Vice President, 2014 to Present.

**U.S. EPA Office of International and Tribal Affairs**, Washington, DC; International Environmental Program Specialist, 2000 to 2013.

**U.S. DOC/NOAA Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary**, Monterey, CA; Environmental Scientist/Unit Diving Supervisor, 1993 to 2000 (1993 to 1996 on detail from EPA Region IX).

**California Coastal Commission, Central Coast District**, Santa Cruz, CA; Environmental Scientist/Marine Sanctuary Liaison, 1993 to 1996 (1993 to 1996 on detail from EPA Region IX).

**U.S. EPA Region IX Office**, San Francisco, CA; Environmental Scientist, 1984 to 1996.

**PADI Project AWARE Foundation**, Santa Ana, CA; Honorary Board of Governors, 1989 to Present

**PADI**, Santa Ana, CA; Master Scuba Diver Trainer (retired), 24 years.

**McGill University, Department of Biology**, Montreal, Canada; Graduate Teaching Assistant, 1.5 years.

**McGill University, Bellairs Research Institute and Barbados Ministry of Health**, Barbados, West Indies; Graduate Research/Marine Biology Consultant, 1 year.

**U.S. Peace Corps**, Barbados, West Indies; Peace Corps Volunteer/Marine Biologist, 2 years.

**U.S. Geological Survey**, Corpus Christi, TX; Research Biologist, 1 year.

**University of Texas Marine Science Institute**, Port Aransas, TX; Research Scientist Assistant, 1.5 years.

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### CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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#### **U.S. EPA Office of International and Tribal Affairs**

- Provided technical leadership on U.S. delegations to negotiate positions and plan international projects to protect human health, coastal watersheds, and marine resources for: the Cartagena

Convention and the Land-Based Sources Protocol for the Wider Caribbean Region, the London Convention and London Protocol on management of global ocean dumping activities, and the Biodiversity Conservation Working Group of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation under the North American Free Trade Agreement.

- Promoted EPA's international contributions to the formulation of the National Ocean Policy under the Obama Administration and the National Ocean Plan under the Bush Administration, and EPA staff representative on the National Security Council's Interagency Subcommittee on Oceans Policy dealing with U.S. policies and interests related to international ocean issues.
- Developed U.S. implementing legislation to support ratification of Anti-Fouling Systems Convention and member of U.S. interagency team that developed revisions to MARPOL Annex V – Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Garbage from Ships.
- Led or consulted on marine pollution policy challenges on all seven continents and all five oceans.
- Maintained a U.S. Government security clearance from 2002 to 2013.

#### **U.S. DOC/NOAA Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and California Coastal Commission**

- Managed Sanctuary environmental activities for Federal and State of California wastewater discharge permits, dredging projects in central California harbors, assessment of the U.S. Army Fort Ord Superfund site, and other complex environmental projects in coastal watersheds and marine areas of central California.
- Developed a pioneering data evaluation and watershed monitoring program for Elkhorn Slough, CA while on an Intergovernmental Personnel Act assignment with the California Coastal Commission in Santa Cruz, CA.
- Served as lead staff for oil spill events, emergency responses, and natural disaster responses in central California, including coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA offices, and California agencies.

#### **U.S. EPA Region IX Office**

- Served as Senior Ocean Dumping Program Coordinator and lead regional staff in the development of national ocean dumping program with EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers experts, including the development of the national 1992 "Green Book" for ocean dumping evaluation; and enforced the U.S. Ocean Dumping Act and EPA's ocean dumping regulations.
- Developed solutions and assessed impacts for large-scale dredging operations, including reviews of environmental impact statements for dredging projects and analysis of contaminated sediment impacts for projects in Oakland/Alameda, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Long Beach, San Diego, and Hawaii, and U.S. Navy installations.

#### **U.S. Peace Corps**

- Established and managed the Folkestone Underwater Park, also known as the Barbados Marine Reserve, including: (a) designation of the island's first marine protected area, (b) development of educational activities and displays for the Barbados Marine Museum at park headquarters, and (c) supervision of park naturalists and administrative staff.
- The Park is still open today and functions as the centerpiece of Barbados' marine conservation program.

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### **US GOVERNMENT GROUP HONOR AWARDS**

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- 2010 **Silver Medal for Superior Service**, U.S. EPA, Office of International and Tribal Affairs, for outstanding contributions and sustained leadership during the ratification process for the Land-Based Sources Protocol and/or the Anti-Fouling System Convention.

- 2008 **Bronze Medal for Commendable Service**, U.S. EPA Office of Water, spearheading the Administration's effort to develop a comprehensive legislative proposal to ratify and implement an important new treaty on ocean dumping (1996 Protocol to the 1972 London Convention).
- 2007 **Gold Medal for Exceptional Service**, U.S. EPA, Office of International Affairs, for outstanding contributions and sustained leadership over 22 years resulting in a global ban on ocean dumping of all radioactive wastes under the London Convention.
- 2004 **Bronze Medal for Commendable Service**, U.S. EPA Atlanta Regional Office, for exceptional efforts in the issuance of the Piney Point Phosphates, Inc. emergency ocean dumping permit and coordination with Mexico on ocean pollution.
- 2004 **Meritorious Honor Award**, U.S. Department of State, for sustained outstanding performance on the White Water to Blue Water partnership initiative for the Wider Caribbean Region and the kickoff conference held in Miami, FL.
- 2003 **Bronze Medal for Commendable Service**, U.S. EPA Office of International Affairs, for extraordinary efforts representing EPA on the Commission for Environmental Cooperation's issues.
- 2002 **Bronze Medal for Commendable Service**, U.S. EPA Office of International Affairs, for outstanding leadership and extraordinary efforts in representing EPA and the U.S. on marine issues for the World Summit on Sustainable Development.
- 1987 **Bronze Medal for Commendable Service**, U.S. EPA San Francisco Regional Office, for outstanding leadership and initiative in the development of marine sediment testing procedures for San Francisco Bay.

References and examples of written work will be provided upon request

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