

## Scott Raborn

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**From:** Michael Link <michael@bbsri.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 9, 2023 2:45 PM  
**To:** Scott Raborn  
**Cc:** Jordan Head  
**Subject:** Preseason Update, PMTF 2023, first day of fishing tomorrow, June 10  
**Attachments:** Preseason update PMTF2023.pdf

### Port Moller Test Fishery 2023. Preseason Update, June 9, 2023

#### First day fishing is June 10

Greetings Everyone,

We are about to begin 2023 Port Moller Test Fishery right on time. The *R/V Ocean Cat* (OC) is back for its 5<sup>th</sup> season and is currently off the South Peninsula enroute to Port Moller; it will likely start fishing at Station 2 on June 11<sup>th</sup>. The second vessel is the *F/V Miss Leona* (ML), an 86' foot trawler owned and operated by Chris Allison. The Miss Leona left Akutan this morning and should be fishing at Station 12 by mid-morning tomorrow, June 10, and will fish north. If all goes well, the two boats will be working toward each other on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

The genetics lab (8'x16' Connex) has been mounted on the Miss Leona and, like last year, the lab will provide all the genotyping service without bringing tissues ashore. Personnel on the ML will email genotype data to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Gene Conservation Laboratory, which will produce the stock composition estimates, as has been done for close to 20 years.

I (Michael) will have less involvement in the day-to-day management of this year's PMTF, but we have an excellent project team in place for 2023. I have taken a position with BBSRI's parent company, the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation (BBEDC). I have not gone far and care as much about this project as ever so I will be helping the rest of the team this season, time permitting. **Jordan Head**, who many of you will know from ADF&G, is BBSRI's new Executive Director and he will have the senior project management role for PMTF 2023. **Dr. Scott Raborn** will lead the daily catch updates and analyses, as he's done for 15 years. **Jeff Regnart** is back to oversee the vessel operations and assist in all aspects of project management. Jeff is on the *Miss Leona* now through the point they have dialed in all aspects of the test fishing protocols. All the 2023 BBSRI technicians are experienced on PMTF, and we are more ready than we've ever been for the 2023 run! Thank you to PMTF on vessel staff Natura Richardson, Hayden Ulbrich, Eden Evans, Will Wrigley, and Sam Harris.

#### In Memory of Greg Buck

This spring we unexpectedly lost a wonderful friend and colleague. Greg Buck was a fishery professional with a long history in the Bristol Bay salmon fishery, including years with the Port Moller Test Fishery. After serving as a captain in the Marine Corp, Greg attended the University of Washington and in the late 1990s did graduate work examining the utility of scale pattern analysis for characterizing stock composition at PMTF. Greg worked for BBSRI for 5 years beginning in 2003 where he managed the PMTF and numerous other assessment projects. Greg was ahead of his time in many ways, having begun at-sea scale aging on the PMTF vessel in 2006; something we perfected in 2022. While with BBSRI, Greg pioneered the Fisheries Database Management System (FDMS)

software to effectively handle biological sampling data from salmon – an application now widely used in ADF&G and BBSRI. Greg rounded out his career with 14 years at ADF&G where he continued his pioneering and no-nonsense approach to applied salmon research. After he retired from ADF&G we began scheming with Greg to lead some of BBSRI's R&D initiatives. We will all miss Greg.

### **Greg Buck Memorial Research Fund**

Last month, Greg's parents Andrea and Bruce Buck reached out to us at BBSRI and asked if we would take donations on behalf of Greg as a way for people to honor him and his legacy in salmon fisheries research. We created the **Greg Buck Memorial Research Fund**, which will support the development of technology and research methods to manage and understand salmon populations in Bristol Bay, something that Greg was so very passionate about. If you would like to read more and/or make a donation, you can at: <https://www.bbsri.org/gregbuckmemorialfund> or click on the button below.

Donate with 

### **Financial Contributions to Support the Port Moller Test Fishery in 2023**

Funding for PMTF 2023 is provided by ADF&G, BBSRI, BBRSDA, and salmon processors. Every year we receive monetary contributions (via check) from individual drift and setnet fishermen, and others in the fishery. Thank all of you; *every penny* of these contributions by individuals have been used for conducting (and improving) the project. While setting up a method for contributing to Greg's Memorial Fund via the web, we added to the pull-down menu a place for people to make contributions to PMTF operations; it can be accessed with the link above.

Michael Link

June 9, 2023

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