



# Stu News Laguna

Stu Saffer's Laguna Beach News and Community Forum



## Laguna Beach Community Foundation's March Luncheon Speaker Series with Oceana's Geoffrey Shester on March 19

Geoffrey Shester, Ph.D., Campaign Director for Oceana, is the guest speaker at Laguna Beach Community Foundation's luncheon speaker series on Thursday, March 19 with lunch sponsored by Davis Law.



**Geoffrey Shester, Ph.D.**

Dr. Shester will discuss the topics of reducing by catch of iconic ocean life in one of the nation's dirtiest fisheries and drowning marine mammals and turtles snagged in gillnets - a challenge nagging ocean conservationists and the California swordfish industry. The international conservation organization Oceana has recently identified the California swordfish drift gillnet fishery as among the dirtiest "bycatch" fisheries in the nation.

According to some estimates, this fishery kills more dolphins and whales annually than all other west coast and Alaska fisheries combined, as well as large numbers of iconic sharks and other fish species.

The presentation will include the discussion on efforts to promote legal harpoon gear and further exploring experimental deep-set buoy gear as part of a multi-faceted conservation campaign. Geoff will discuss these issues, as well as new emerging concerns with whale entanglements in fishing gear off the west coast, while identifying opportunities for ocean conservationists and enthusiasts to further engage in west coast fishery management.

The complimentary event will be held from 12:15 – 1 p.m. at Laguna Beach

Community Foundation headquarters located at 303 Broadway, Suite 212 in Laguna Beach. As seating is very limited, RSVP is required by e-mailing [info@lagunabeachcf.org](mailto:info@lagunabeachcf.org) or calling 949.715.8223.