



Restoring Our Oceans with Hands-On Conservation

---

## Selected Speech Topics – Dr. David E. Guggenheim

### **Lessons from the DEEP: What the Oceans are Telling Us and Why it Matters**

From the hallways of Washington, DC to thousands of feet below the sea, get a unique perspective on our oceans including their threats and what is being done to reverse their decline. Learn how our perspectives on the oceans have changed over the past 50 years and, despite our species' journey into space, how little we actually know about the salt-water-covered portion of our own planet.

**Beneath the Deadliest Catch: The View from 2,000 Feet Below the Bering Sea.** Take a ride in the DeepWorker submersible and learn how to pilot this amazing little sub. Dr. Guggenheim provides a brief history of ocean exploration, some other notable submarines, and then takes the audience on a journey to Alaska's Bering Sea to explore deepwater corals living at 2,000 feet -- the oldest animals living today. Dr. Guggenheim piloted the first manned submersible dive into the largest underwater canyons in the world: Pribolof Canyon and Zhemchug Canyon, both in the Bering Sea. Dr. Guggenheim will discuss how important deep sea ecosystems and corals are, how they are being destroyed by the ton and why exploration of the deep, dark waters of the world holds the key to their survival.

**A Living Time Machine: Cuba's Spectacular Ocean Ecosystems and the Hope they Offer the World.** Guggenheim directs Cuba Conservancy — an Ocean Doctor Program, and is in his 13th year leading research and conservation efforts in Cuba focused on coral reefs, a joint effort with the University of Havana. His work was recently featured on *60 Minutes* with Anderson Cooper, on the PBS *Nature* series and on NPR. In a world of corals dead and dying, Cuba's marine ecosystems are spectacularly healthy, a Jurassic Park-like experience teeming with endangered species seldom seen elsewhere in the Caribbean, including bountiful sharks and grouper. We visit Gardens of the Queen, named by Christopher Columbus 500 years ago to honor Queen Isabel -- truly a living time machine -- and explore why this area is so healthy and what the implications are for ocean ecosystems around the world.

### **Disaster at Nightingale: How Tragedy Found the World's Remotest Island:**

In 2011, Dr. Guggenheim was a lecturer aboard the MS Prince Albert II, transiting from tip of South America to the tip of South Africa, and witnessed the worst environmental disaster of his life. A soybean bulk carrier slammed into Nightingale Island, part of the most remote inhabited island group in the world, Tristan da Cunha. He produced a 25-minute documentary, *Disaster at Nightingale*, which premiered in 2013, detailing this disaster and how it killed thousands of endangered Northern

Rockhopper penguins. The film has started an important conversation in Washington, DC and elsewhere about the risks to remote places around the world that harbor some of the planet's most treasured wildlife. Dr. Guggenheim will present the film, discuss its production and ongoing efforts to save penguins in the South Atlantic and around the world.

**Climate Change & Our Oceans: What's at Stake.** The world is warming rapidly. What is in store for our oceans and what does it mean for us? Equally serious yet getting very little attention is climate change's "evil twin" – acid oceans – and why the end could be near for most of the coral reefs on earth this century. The presentation includes excerpts from Dr. Guggenheim's testimony before the Scottish Parliament. It also examines reasons for hope in Cuba and learn how we all can work together to solve the problems caused by these terrible twins.

**Lessons from the Gulf: The BP Deepwater Horizon Disaster**

What have we learned from the BP disaster? See the events of the disaster unfold through the lens of the conservation community, working to prevent a major international incident with Cuba, organizing the scientific community against the use of chemical dispersants, and working to help communities in the Gulf recover. Are we ready for another blowout? And what about the Arctic? Dr. Guggenheim's work in the Gulf has been featured on *Good Morning America*, MSNBC and PBS *Newshour*.

**Which Fish Should I Eat? The Future of Fish, Our Health and Our Oceans.**

Industrial fishing is one of the most destructive forces impacting the oceans today. By shifting their consumption to sustainably-caught or sustainably-farmed fish, consumers have the power to make a difference. But choosing the right fish to eat is difficult for the consumer, either from a conservation or a health perspective. We hear eating fish is good for you, but eating too much can be harmful due to mercury and other contaminants. Dr. Guggenheim simplifies these complex issues, provides easy-to-follow guidance and gives a peek at the future of fish: land-based, high-tech sustainable fish farms.

6/17/2013