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Spokespeople

JIM MORIARTY

CEO, Surfrider Foundation

Three events in Jim Moriarty's life frame him as an innovative leader in the environmental and action sports communities. The first was a series of annual trips to Rhode Island where he and his family spent their summers living on an unspoiled bay overlooking the Atlantic. The second took place in the 70s when Moriarty bought his first skateboard, beginning a life-long love of board sports. The third took place while participating on teams from the software giant SAP and the chipmaker Intel. It was on these teams that Moriarty helped architect the early days of e-commerce and begin his twenty-year obsession of building companies around notable and world-altering ideas.

Moriarty's job as CEO of Surfrider Foundation draws upon these three vectors of his life. He brings to the position a love of environmental awareness and action sports, along with a wealth of fundraising and team-building experiences and innovative business approaches that translate to leading the Surfrider Foundation into the future. His vision at Surfrider Foundation is clear: create a global movement of coastal environmental awareness and action.

Moriarty holds a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems from The Ohio State University, and has participated in speaking engagements in the US, Europe, Australia and Latin America. He lives with his wife, Andrea, and their two children in Solana Beach, CA, with his home break at Cardiff Reef. When he is not surfing, Moriarty is actively involved with his church, leading and mentoring high school and college students.

Jim's Blog: <http://www.oceanswavesbeaches.surfrider.org>

Jim's Podcast: http://www.surfrider.org/podcasts/SF_podcasts.xml

CHAD NELSEN

Environmental Director, Surfrider Foundation

Chad Nelsen is the Environmental Director at the Surfrider Foundation where he has worked since 1998. Prior to joining Surfrider, Chad was a NOAA Coastal Zone Management Fellow working with Oregon's state coastal zone management program. He is an alumni of Brown University and Duke's Nicholas School of the Environment and is currently pursuing his Doctorate at UCLA in the Environmental Science and Engineering program. Chad is an avid surfer, swimmer, and beach enthusiast who lives in Laguna Beach with his wife and twin boys.

[MATT MCCLAIN](#)

Marketing & Communications Director, Surfrider Foundation

Matt McClain, Marketing & Communications Director, is a 20-year veteran of the action sports industry. After starting out in the mid 1980s as a buyer for skate retail giant CCS, Matt spent much of the next decade leading sales and marketing efforts for two of the most prestigious ski areas in the country; Mammoth Mountain in California and Telluride in Colorado. Matt holds a bachelor's degree in English and a minor in linguistics from California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo. He is a freelance writer and has contributed to several magazines, including Thrasher, Blunt, Transworld Surf, Happy Magazine and Beach House. Matt also sits on the board of directors for Protect Our Winters, a non-profit that is the environmental center point of the winter sports community, united toward a common goal of reducing climate change's effects on winter sports and local mountain communities.

[ALEXIS HENRY](#)

Communications Manager, Surfrider Foundation

Alexis Henry, Communications Manager, earned her BA in Sociology from Occidental College where she was a member of the women's volleyball team and her Public Relations Certificate from UCLA. Before joining Surfrider, Alexis was a music publicist for Epitaph Records and I/D Public Relations, working with a wide variety of musicians and bands. As Communications Manager, she works to manage Surfrider Foundation's day-to-day media/public relations, assist the chapter and affiliate networks in developing and executing media strategies, and draft overall communications campaigns for the Foundation. Born and raised in Southern California, Alexis grew up at the beach and has always been at home near the coast.