

## Thor Lassen Bio Brief

Founding Director and current President of Ocean Trust, a nonprofit education and research foundation established in 1992 with a focus on fisheries research, wildlife restoration and habitat enhancement, and a record of developing partnerships between government, industry and local conservation interests throughout the US and Mexico.

Thor Lassen led a partnership between Ocean Trust and the NOAA Community based restoration program organizing coastal restoration projects for shellfish, wetland and streambed enhancement and has worked with the fishing industry and conservation groups on Kemp's ridley and vaquita marina restoration projects. These initiatives have generated several awards for Ocean Trust and Thor Lassen such as the EPA Gulf Guardian Award for the Bahia Grande Restoration Partnership 2007, US Fish & Wildlife Service National Wetlands Conservation Award 2006, Coastal America Award for Bahia Grande Restoration Partnership 2006, US Department of Interior Cooperative Conservation Award 2005, US Department of Commerce NOAA Environmental Hero Award 2004, and *Seafood Business* magazine Person of the Year 2000.

Past professional experience includes several positions with fishery associations, state and federal fishery management organizations, and a year as a Knauss Sea Grant Congressional Fellow in the U.S. House of Representatives, Merchant Marine & Fisheries Committee.

Formal education was received at University of Virginia, B.A. Environmental Science 1974; and William & Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, M.A. Marine & Fisheries Science 1983. Contact information: Ocean Trust, 11921 Freedom Dr. Ste. 550, Reston, VA 20190 (703) 450-9852 Fax (703) 450-9853 E: [tjlassen@oceantrust.org](mailto:tjlassen@oceantrust.org)