

**Rich Innes**  
**Senior Fellow**

**Meridian Institute**



Rich Innes is a Senior Fellow at Meridian Institute where he helps lead the work of the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative to catalyze ocean policy reform at the national, regional, state and local levels. With Rich's guidance, JOCI is particularly focused on the ocean/climate nexus.

Rich also helps direct the work of the Association of National Estuary Programs, and advises the State of Washington on climate, salmon and wolf recovery and natural resource issues. Rich also assists the National Environmental Education Foundation and the Garden Club of America in developing and implementing environmental policies.

Rich previously worked for eight years as a senior staff member of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works for Chairman John Chafee, helping lead committee efforts on solid waste, pollution and clean water issues. Rich served in the Office of Policy at the Environmental Protection Agency where he earned a bronze medal for commendable service. He also worked at Browning Ferris Industries as Director of Government Affairs for then CEO Bill Ruckelshaus;

Rich earned a Masters of Public Administration at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and is a returned Peace Corps Volunteer serving three years in Kenya, and has led Habitat for Humanity builds in Guatemala.