

## William Gibbons-Fly



William (Bill) Gibbons-Fly is the Executive Director of the American Tunaboat Association (ATA), representing the owners and operators of the U.S. Pacific tuna purse seine fleet, the last true “distant water fishing fleet” operating under U.S. flag. In addition, Mr. Gibbons-Fly currently serves as a Board Member of the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) and the Annapolis-based Oyster Recovery Partnership (ORP). He also serves on the U.S. Federal Advisory Committees for both the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC).

Previously, Mr. Gibbons-Fly spent 30 years with the U.S. Department of State where, from 2004 to 2017, he was Director of the State Department’s Office of Marine Conservation. In this capacity, he led the development and implementation of U.S. policy for the conservation and management of living marine resources at the international level, including as the lead negotiator for the United States on a wide range of international treaties, agreements, and arrangements on oceans and fisheries related matters.

Mr. Gibbons-Fly is a former Chairman of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization’s (UNFAO) Committee on Fisheries, the largest and most prominent body guiding policy and technical developments for the fisheries and aquaculture sector worldwide. He is a past Chairman of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, the Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission, and numerous other international fisheries management bodies. From 2011-2016 he Chaired the Preparatory Conference leading to the establishment of the North Pacific Fisheries Commission. He is a former member of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council in Honolulu, and a former Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the Law of the Sea Institute at the University of California Berkeley School of Law.

Mr. Gibbons-Fly holds an M.A. in International Affairs from the George Washington University and a B.A. (with honors) from the University of California at Santa Barbara. An avid boater, he lives in Annapolis, MD.