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Bruce C. Coull was born in New York, New York and grew up in northern New Jersey. He was educated at Moravian College (B.S., 1964) and Lehigh University (M.S., 1966; Ph.D., 1968). He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Duke University Marine Lab in Beaufort NC and an Assistant Professor at Clark University, Massachusetts before joining the University of South Carolina faculty in 1973. He was Chairman of Marine Sciences at USC from 1982-1994. He was a senior Fulbright fellow at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand in 1981 and a visiting professor in Marine Sciences at the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia in 1994. He is the author of 124 scientific papers and editor of 4 books on marine ecology. He holds the title of Carolina Distinguished Professor and was appointed Dean of USC's newly formed School of the Environment in 1996. USC's School of the Environment approaches environmental issues through multidisciplinary research, education and community outreach. He heads the South Carolina Sustainable Universities Initiative, a multi-university project educating about frugal use of earth's limited resources and is the leader of USC's environmental efforts in the Ukraine related to the Chernobyl nuclear accident of 1986.