



Regional Underwater Science Symposium Agenda

(as part of the PNW DSO Meeting)

January 15th, 2026

Office Building 2, Auditorium, 1310 Jefferson St SE, Olympia WA

Note: This is mainly an in person event, but we will have a limited virtual attendance option present through Microsoft Teams - [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 246 124 888 387 94 **Passcode:** Co65Et7t

Dial in by phone +1 564-999-2000,,934844663# **United States, Olympia**

Phone conference ID: 934 844 663#

8:30 - 9:00 *Check-in + coffee, tea & pastries, upload slides if needed*

Session A

- 9:00 AM Here comes the Sun (star): first attempts at Pycnopodia restoration
Sam Strauss
- 9:20 AM Interim report on a Sunflower star release at Eagle Point, San Juan island
Willem Weertman & Lab
- 9:40 AM Urchin removal and Kelp response pilot study
Taylor Frierson
- 10:00 AM Sea Cucumber spawn timing in Puget Sound, A co-manager collaboration
Gianna Pantaleo and Annie Raymond
- 10:20 AM BREAK - 20 minutes (stick to it folks!)

10:40 AM Session B

10:40 AM Timelapse camera use to explore geoduck show factor variability with tide cycles

Bethany Stevick

11:00 AM More than 15 Years of sub-tidal SCUBA-based surveys reveal the connections between river and ocean after a dam removal at Elwha, Strait of Juan de Fuca, Washington State

Ian Miller

11:20 AM Saving Snails with Scuba: Endangered abalone restoration in Washington State

Darby Flanagan & Emily Loose

11:40 AM Snorkels for Salmon: SCUBA & Snorkel surveys at the Seattle Seawall

Bob Oxborrow

12:00 PM LUNCH – 1 hour – 🥪 Sandwiches catered by Meconi's Subs 🥪

1:00 PM Session C

1:00 PM 45 Years of subtidal kelp forest monitoring condensed into 15 minutes

Ken Collins

1:20 PM Everything the Light Touches: How understory algae limit Bull Kelp

Ande Fieber

1:40 PM Community structure and seasonal dynamics of fishes in Oregon's Kelp Forests

Wave Moretto

2:00 PM Spatial and temporal variation in Kelp communities across the Salish Sea

Jackie Selbitschka

2:20 PM Conclusive remarks and end of science symposium