



## Regional Underwater Science Symposium Agenda

*(as part of the PNW DSO Meeting)*

**January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

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

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**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#

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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 <i>Sam Strauss</i>
9:20 AM	Interim report on a Sunflower star release at Eagle Point, San Juan island <i>Willem Weertman &amp; Lab</i>
9:40 AM	Urchin removal and Kelp response pilot study <i>Taylor Frierson</i>
10:00 AM	Sea Cucumber spawn timing in Puget Sound, A co-manager collaboration <i>Gianna Pantaleo and Annie Raymond</i>
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