

JEFFERSON MRC

MARINE SCIENCE AND STEWARDSHIP STAGE AT THE PORT TOWNSEND WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

PURPOSES

The Marine Science Stage, at the 3-day Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival is an education and outreach hub for the MRC and partners.

PARTNERS

Northwest Maritime Center

(tables and chairs, promotion of the Stage through social media and website)

Port Townsend Marine Science Center (PTMSC)

(staff and volunteer time, microscopes, kelp banners, podium, materials and equipment)

PRESENTERS:

Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe

NASA

Orca Network

Pacific Mammal Research

Pacific Whale Watch Association

Port Townsend Marine Science Center

Puget Sound Restoration Fund

(& light trap)

University of Hawaii

WA Dept of Health (& Science Alley)

WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife

(& Science Alley)

WA Sea Grant

WA Dept of Natural Resources

World Puffin Congress

TIME FRAME

Event: Sept 5-7, 2025;
extensive committed planning

BUDGET

Annual costs: \$4200

One-time costs: \$4200

MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Planning, coordination, and facilitation of 19 marine science presentations
- Planning, coordination, and facilitation of 6 hands-on microscope stations
- Coordination of project partners to create a ‘Marine Science Alley’
- Development of “MRC Promo” video, screened between presentations
- MRC information tent staffed by volunteer members

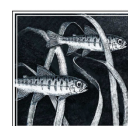
THE MARINE SCIENCE & STEWARDSHIP STAGE WAS FIRST HELD IN 2024. THE STAGE WAS SO WELL RECEIVED THE MRC DOUBLED THE TENT SIZE IN 2025, COUNTING 1,404 VISITORS.



THE MARINE SCIENCE AND STEWARDSHIP STAGE. PHOTO: BETSY CARLSON

PROJECT LEAD

Betsy Carlson,
betsycarlson24@gmail.com



Jefferson County
**Marine
Resources
Committee**



GROWTH AND LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

Over 10,000 people attend the Wooden Boat Festival each year. This project provides a marine science element novel to the festival. It requires planning and communication starting 9 months in advance, and is reliant on 7+ MRC and partner volunteers per day to set-up, tear-down, and staff the 3-day event. This year to further develop the idea of a “marine science hub,” the project lead initiated the idea of a Marine Science Alley in collaboration with DOH, WDFW, PTMSC and MRC whose booths created an “alley” leading to the presentation stage, linked by decorative elements to provide visual unity.

DELIVERABLES

- **19 speakers**
- **19 presentations**
- **1404 visitors throughout the weekend, average of 74 people per presentation**
 - **Friday – 515 visitors for 7 presentations**
 - **Saturday – 595 visitors for 7 presentations**
 - **Sunday – 294 visitors for 5 presentations**
- **11 local and state partners**
- **34 comments and feedback responses**

OUTCOMES

- Cultivate enthusiasm and curiosity for the marine environment, as well as increased consideration of human and boating impacts on the marine environment at an individual level
- Foster a more informed and dedicated community of marine stewards across East Jefferson County, the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and Puget Sound
- Increase public familiarity with WA state organizations, tribes, and agencies and their role in marine stewardship and conservation in Washington State
- Increase public familiarity with marine resources and regulations related to public health, fish and wildlife, and Washington State law
- Raise awareness of the Jefferson Marine Resources Committee and the Northwest Straits Commission, and the work that we do in the area
- Offer an opportunity for networking amongst visitors and presenters
- Support collaboration between partner organizations by giving them a common focus (the Science Alley and Stage) and the opportunity to get to know each other



PTMSC VOLUNTEER BECCA MAHAN HELPS A VISITOR ID PLANKTON UNDER THE MICROSCOPE.
PHOTO CREDIT: BETSY CARLSON



POST PRESENTATION DISCUSSION CIRCLE.
PHOTO CREDIT: BETSY CARLSON