The Latest News from Maritime Blue

Accelerating Washington's blue economy means leaning into every opportunity for innovation. From hydrogen powered vessels to groundbreaking energy projects, we’re proud to support game-changing companies and build powerful partnerships between future-focused businesses and organizations. Keep reading to learn more about our latest work and ways to get involved.

Joint Innovation Projects

DOE released the FOA for the Hydrogen Hubs. We’ve been supporting our members and partners in responding to the PNWH Association’s RFI. Jennifer States serves on the advisory board representing ports and maritime for PNWH Association to respond to the concept paper deadline by Nov 7th.

The Fast Foil Ferry is concluding the feasibility phase of the project which is funded through FTA AIM, completing final business model report. We supported application of DOT Ferry grants for upcoming project phases of vessel prototyping, shoreside infrastructure design, and detailed design.

In September we convened the first meeting of our new JIP committee. The JIP Committee will support the JIP team in an advisory role, providing additional capacity to enable staff to perform JIP project identification, selection, and execution. Click here to learn more about our projects.
- We opened applications for the **Fourth Wave of the Maritime Blue Innovation Accelerator**. It's the first time Maritime Blue will be adding investment as part of the acceptance into the program. [Learn more + apply here.](#)
- Qualified companies not seeking venture-scale investment may be invited to the newly formed **Seattle Maritime Innovation Incubator** which will be housed in the [Blue Hub](#) and supported by our full ecosystem.

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**QUIET SOUND**

On October 24, 2022, the Quiet Sound Program will launch its first voluntary, seasonal ship slowdown in Admiralty Inlet and north Puget Sound to protect endangered southern resident killer whales.

Similar initiatives in Canada have reduced underwater sound intensity by up to 55% in key foraging areas within southern resident killer whale critical habitat.

You can find out more about the slowdown at [https://quietsound.org/trial-slowdown](https://quietsound.org/trial-slowdown)

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**YOUTH MARITIME COLLABORATIVE**

- The **Youth Maritime Accelerator Project (YMAP)** summer internship was a success. We enrolled 10 youth from the South King County area and placed them with maritime employers including Boatsetter, Allosense, and Blue Dot Kitchen.
- School has started and outreach for the **Expanded Maritime Collab (EMC)** programs are underway. We have 6 youth starting their fall program with the Center for Wooden Boats. Youth will be learning basic sailing skills with the opportunity to continue private lessons free of charge after the 6 weeks of programming.
New Partners - We are on our way to lasting relationships with other youth serving organizations that are interested in Maritime. M.U.S.T. (Mentoring Urban Students & Teens) works with young black men to achieve success in school, life, and career through mentorship and experiential events. They are excited to work with Maritime Blue and the YMC in hopes to get more youth on a path to maritime.

Read more at the YMC’s newly launched website.

Upcoming Events

- **46th Annual Interferry Conference** - Hosted by FRS Clipper and Washington State Ferries. October 1-5, Bell Harbor International Conference Center
- **Washington State Ferries Industry Day** - To encourage collaboration among existing and future Washington maritime firms, WSF will co-host an Industry Day with Washington Maritime Blue on Thursday, October 6, in downtown Seattle from 9 AM to noon in advance of the release of the RFP.
- **Tacoma Coffee with Cofounders**. This meetup is focused on meeting other entrepreneurs in the Tacoma area and talking about the challenges we all face when tarting a business.
- **Blue Drinks is Back!** Come eat, drink, and connect with us at the Blue Hub on Tuesday, October 18, 5 PM - 8 PM. NO RSVP required. Just show up and enjoy Happy Hour with our team!
- **Ocean Research and Its Application for the Sustainable Society** - November 1, more details to come
- **Pacific Marine Expo 2022** - November 17-19, Lumen Field Event Center

New Members
As a [Washington Maritime Blue Member or Sponsor](#), you and your company will have access to member benefits including business development services, member-only events, and opportunities that will help you grow and innovate.

Interested in becoming a Maritime Blue member? Let us know by filling out [this form](#).

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Washington Maritime Blue is a non-profit, strategic alliance formed to accelerate innovation and sustainability in support of an inclusive blue economy. We are a partnership between industry, public sector, research & training institutions, and community organizations. Maritime Blue works to create a world-class, thriving, equitable and sustainable maritime and ocean industry through knowledge sharing, joint innovation, entrepreneurship, commercialization, business and workforce development.

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