

MAGNIFICENT MOLLUSKS



Oyster Reefs with Melanie Bishop

Tuesday, March 23rd 6:30 pm <u>Please RSVP for reminders & Zoom links</u>

Oysters once formed extensive reefs in temperate and sub-tropical estuaries and coastal environments globally, but less than 15% of reefs remain. As awareness of the plight of oyster reefs has grown, so too has interest in restoring their populations. In this talk I will overview some of the key environmental benefits of restoring oyster reefs, including their important roles in supporting fisheries productivity, maintaining clean water and protecting shorelines and associated biodiversity from the effects of climate change. I will also overview some of the innovative methods increasingly being used to restore oyster habitats in highly degraded urban settings.



A/Prof Melanie Bishop is an estuarine and coastal ecologist with over 15 years of experience researching temperate near-shore systems. She leads a team at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, that is addressing how coastal ecosystems operate and respond to changes in climate, human stressors, and shifts in management regimes. Her present research has a particular focus on the development and evaluation of engineering interventions that create habitat and conserve native biodiversity in degraded seascapes. Her research leadership and impact has been recognized with a 2010 New South Wales Scientist of the

Year Award, the 2012 Brian Robinson Fellowship from the Banksia Environmental Foundation, and the 2017 Jim Piper Award for Research Leadership from Macquarie University.

MAGNIFICIENT MOLLUSKS Speaker Series: This is the last in the five part series.

Making up nearly a quarter of all marine species, molluscs are diverse, dynamic and delightful. This year's winter speaker series will take you on a deep dive into their remarkable world. From their economic value as food and jewelry as far back as we can look, to their use in large-scale efforts to renew and recreate healthy ecosystems now and into the future, mollusks play an important role in countless aspects of our day to day lives. Join us to learn more in a remarkable series of talks featuring leading researchers from around the world!