

The Eugene Natural History Society

Presents a Free Program (with free snacks!)



Anne Thompson, ocean sampling. Kelly Sutherland

The Invisible Forest: Life and Death of the Ocean's Superabundant Microorganisms

Anne Thompson

Department of Biology and Center for Life in Extreme Environments
Portland State University

Friday, 20 March 2026, 7:00 pm

Every drop of water in the Earth's open oceans is teeming with microbial life that plays a large part in the energy and nutrient cycles of our planet. Particularly numerous in this system are the picocyanobacteria, including *Prochlorococcus* and *Synechococcus*, the most numerous photosynthetic cells on Earth. Anne will describe what has been learned about these cells in the last 40 years since their discovery and the opportunities that exist to learn more from these immensely successful organisms.

This month's meeting will be a hybrid of in person and real-time Zoom. The in-person lecture will be held at 7:00 in 221 Allen Hall, University of Oregon campus. **Snacks provided!** The Zoom lecture link is <https://zoom.us/j/97499095971?pwd=eE9sdG9hSHMvOHhIUeJuU21wT20rdz09> or see our website at <https://eugenenaturalhistorysociety.org/>