2026 IMCC8 Schedule Edinburgh, Scotland

Friday 13th, November

Edinburgh Training & Conference Venue, 16 St Mary's Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SU

8:00 - 12:00	Workshop 27	Workshop 30	Workshop 55	Focus Group 20	Focus Group 22	Focus Group 26	Focus Group 41 (Invite only)	Short Course 31	Short Course 57
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch	Workshop 35	Focus Group 21	Lunch	Focus Group 23	Lunch		Focus Group 60	Short Course 33
13:00 - 16:00	Workshop 27 Continued			Focus Group 20 Continued		Focus Group 26 Continued	Focus Group 41 Continued (Invite only)		Focus Group 28
16:00 - 18:00	Registration at Edinburgh International Convention Center (EICC)								
18:00 - 20:30	Welcome Reception at EICC								

Saturday 14th, November

	Exhibit Hall	Pentland Suite	Pentland Auditorium	Sidlaw Auditorium	Fintry Auditorium	Kilsyth Suite	Moorfoot Suite	Tinto Suite	Carrick Suite	Harris Suite	Ochil Suite
8:30 - 10:30		Plenary									
10:30 - 11:00	Break										
11:00 - 12:45			Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Open Symposium	Open Symposium
12:45 - 14:15	Lunch				Panel	Workshop 65	Workshop 58		Workshop 59	Workshop 43	
14:15 - 15:45			Panel	Panel	Panel	Panel	Community Program	Themed Session	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium
15:45 - 16:15	Break										
16:15 - 18:00			Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Curated Symposium	Curated Symposium	Curated Symposium	Curated Symposium	Speed Talks
19:00 - 21:30	Film Night										

Sunday 15th, November

	Exhibit Hall	Pentland Suite	Pentland Auditorium	Sidlaw Auditorium	Fintry Auditorium	Kilsyth Suite	Moorfoot Suite	Tinto Suite	Carrick Suite	Harris Suite	Ochil Suite
8:30 - 10:30		Plenary									
10:30 - 11:00	Break										
11:00 - 12:45			Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium
12:45 - 14:15	Lunch					Workshop 24	Focus Group 29		Workshop 12	Workshop 18	
14:15 - 16:00			Panel	Panel	Panel	Curated Symposium	Community Program	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium
15:45 - 16:15	Break										
16:15 - 18:00			Curated Symposium	Curated Symposium	Curated Symposium	Themed Session	Speed Talk	Speed Talk	Speed Talk	Focus Group	Focus Group
TBD	Posters										

Monday 16th, November

	Exhibit Hall	Pentland Suite	Pentland Auditorium	Sidlaw Auditorium	Fintry Auditorium	Kilsyth Suite	Moorfoot Suite	Tinto Suite	Carrick Suite	Harris Suite	Ochil Suite
8:30 - 10:30		Plenary									
10:30 - 11:00	Break										
11:00 - 12:30			Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Open Symposium	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Speed Talk	Speed Talk
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch										
13:30 - 15:00			Panel	Panel	Panel	Panel	Community Program	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session
15:00 - 15:30	Break										
15:30- 16:30			Curated Symposium	Curated Symposium	Curated Symposium	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session	Themed Session
16:30- 16:45	Break: Transition to Closing Plenary										
16:45- 18:15	Formal Closing and Reflections Plenary : What Matters Most for Our Oceans Today?										
19:00	Closing Dinner and Entertainment										

IMCC8 Session Legend Edinburgh, Scotland

Friday 13th, November

Workshops			
30	The Ocean Highways Initiative - integrating multifaceted data to guide conservation management between protected areas	4 Hours	Michael Williamson
35	How to Assess Expected Effectiveness of Marine OECMs for Biodiversity Conservation: The User Manual for The Marine OECM Guide	4 Hours	Jenna Sullivan-Stack
55	Data-informed decision making for better conservation and restoration: spatial data wrangling and spatial prioritisation	4 Hours	Alvise Dabala
27	Boats from space! An open datajam to monitor the high seas	Full Day	Aimee Komugabe-Dixson
Focus Groups			
28	Co-developing Ocean Literacy for the UN Ocean Decade and beyond	2 Hours	Emma McKinley
21	How deep is your protection? Exploring best practices for marine conservation and vertical zonation	4 Hours	Estradivari
22	Applying the Blue Park Standard and The MPA Guide to the high seas: informing and evaluating effective MPAs under the BBNJ Agreement	4 Hours	Lance Morgan
23	Addressing Cross-Taxa Threats in the Ocean: Policy Pathways for Conservation	4 Hours	Coralie Palmer
20	Unchartered waters: how to navigate to marine human wildlife coexistence	4 Hours	Claire Collins
26	From Commitments to Implementation: Advancing Seamount Protection as the Backbone of Conservation in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction	Full Day	Lissette Victorero
41	Advancing marine conservation through Nature Bonds: a knowledge exchange (Invite only)	Full Day	Joanna Smith
60	Release the Kraken in the Aquarium:. Revisiting the questions that need to be answered to advance marine conservation.	Full Day	John Cigliano
Short Courses			
33	Contribute to MPAtlas: Evaluating MPA Quality to Build Meaningful Metrics	2 Hours	Beth Pike
57	Introduction to Photovoice: A Tool for Empowering Coastal Communities	4 Hours	Rocio Lopez De La Lama
31	Sailing Together: Designing Impactful Marine Education for Ocean Conservation	Full Day	Yolanda Sanchez

Saturday 14th, November

Workshops			
59	Core Career Skills Development Workshops	1.5 Hours	Allison Besch
43	The Big Blue Puzzle: Putting UK Marine Management Pieces Together	1.5 Hours	Claire Colegrove
58	Just one joke: Crafting levity in marine conservation	1.5 Hours	Sofia Castello
65	Turning Towards the Ocean Kraal: Listening for the Many Voices of the Sea	1.5 Hours	Joanne Peers

Sunday 15th, November

Workshops			
24	Revealing the Human Footprint on the Oceans: Intro to Global Fishing Watch Data and Tools	1.5 Hours	Andrea Sanchez-Tapia
18	Storytelling for Conservation: An Introduction to Building Impactful Conservation Stories	1.5 Hours	Christina Hoenow
12	Addressing social justice through environmental education - problem-based lesson development	1.5 Hours	Sean Tracy
Focus Groups			
29	Building a North-East Atlantic Monitoring Community – Coordinating baited remote underwater video (BRUVS) methods to address large-scale ecological questions in the North-East Atlantic	1.5 Hours	Owen Exeter