

PCC Spring Conference – April 20 – 22, 2026, Emeryville, CA
Draft Conference Program

"From Vision to Victory: Revitalizing the Modern Marina"

Monday, April 20

9:00 to Noon	Board Meeting
Noon to 1:00 pm	Conference Registration
1:00 to 1:30 pm	Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Business Meeting with Elections Announcement Facilitator – Scott Grindy
1:30 to 2:15 pm	Sponsors & Exhibitor Introductions & Demonstrations
2:15 to 2:45 pm	Sustaining Members Welcome and Introductions
2:45 to 3:00 pm	Networking Break
3:00 to 3:30 pm	Session 1: "Changing Lives Through Sailing: Blue Water Foundation" Empowering Bay Area youth one voyage at a time! Capt. Scott Barnes, Blue Water Foundation Since 1992, the Blue Water Foundation has taken over 35,000 at-risk and underrepresented youth onto San Francisco Bay, transforming lives through the power of sailing. This all-volunteer organization provides incarcerated students, juvenile probation participants, and community groups with experiences in teamwork, leadership, and self-confidence—often for young people who have never set foot on a boat. Attendees will learn how marinas and waterfront facilities play a vital role in supporting youth development programs that give children a chance to see life through a different lens.
3:30 to 4:30 pm	Session 2: "Plug In, Cast Off: Electric Work Boats and the Future of Marina Operations" Zero emissions, full performance — how electric propulsion is transforming the working waterfront.* Tanguy de Lamotte, Chief Revenue Officer, VITA North America This session will explore how high-performance electric work boats with fast DC charging and propulsion systems, like VITA's fully electric commercial RIBs, are becoming an operational reality at marinas and harbors. Attendees will hear real-world accounts of electric work boat deployment, learn about the operational and financial benefits of transitioning a working fleet, and get a candid look at the infrastructure and regulatory landscape driving the shift to clean marine operations.
4:30 to 6:00 pm	Welcome Reception

Tuesday, April 21

7:30 to 8:30 am	Breakfast & Registration
8:30 to 9:00 am	Announcements and Business – Elections 2nd Call
9:00 to 10:15 am	Session 3: "Anchored in Stewardship: Navigating Clean Marina Certification" A practical path to protecting the waters your community depends on. Eric Kretsch, AMI, and Ken Brown, Director of Health and Safety at Safe Harbors Clean Marina certification has become a nationally recognized mark of environmental leadership for marinas, boatyards, and port facilities. Through voluntary adoption of Best Management Practices — covering stormwater runoff, petroleum control, sewage

End

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handling, waste management, aquatic invasive species, and more — certified marinas demonstrate a measurable commitment to protecting the waterways their businesses depend on. While program specifics vary by state, they share a common framework rooted in environmental stewardship and continuous improvement. This session will walk attendees through what Clean Marina certification looks like and the practical steps any marina can take to begin the certification journey, from initial self-assessment and staff training to maintaining certification over time.

10:15 to 10:30 am

Networking Break

10:30 to Noon

Call of the Ports – Facilitators – Mike (Turk) Turkington

Noon to 1:00 pm

Lunch

1:00 to 2:00 pm

**Session 4: "When Nature Strikes: Harbor Resilience from Tsunamis to Snowstorms"
Real-world lessons from Crescent City's tsunamis and Juneau's historic snowfall**

Mike Redemaker, Harbor Master, Crescent City Harbor District

Angela Thrower, Harbor Operations Supervisor, City and Borough of Juneau
Alaska.

This session presents two case studies from 2025 demonstrating how Pacific Coast harbors managed unprecedented natural disasters and the critical lessons learned. Together, these presentations offer harbor managers actionable strategies for disaster preparedness, infrastructure decisions, and operational resilience.

The first presentation examines Crescent City Harbor's response to two major tsunami events—the catastrophic 2011 Tōhoku tsunami that caused \$50 million in damage and the 2025 Kamchatka earthquake tsunami. Learn how Crescent City rebuilt with tsunami-resistant infrastructure and implemented tsunami-resistant engineering and emergency protocols to have a better outcome following the second tsunami.

The second presentation details Juneau's historic December 2025 snowfall—over 80 inches in one month. Harbor operations coordinated vessel rescues, environmental response, and maintained port functionality under extreme conditions. Discover strategies for snow load management, emergency response, and operational continuity during extended weather events.

2:00 to 3:00 pm

Session 5: "Keeping Your Docks Shipshape: Essential Maintenance & Beyond"

Keith Korthuis, PNW, AK, HI Project Development Manager, Bellingham Marine
Industries

From routine inspections to major infrastructure overhauls, dock maintenance is the foundation of safe, efficient marina operations. This session explores essential preventive maintenance strategies, common failure points that demand immediate attention, and the critical balance between day-to-day upkeep and long-term capital planning. You'll gain practical insights into extending asset life, prioritizing repairs within budget constraints, and recognizing when maintenance crosses into replacement. Join us for an honest discussion about the challenges of keeping waterfront infrastructure operational, compliant, and safe for the boating public.

3:00 to 3:15 pm

Networking Break

3:15 to 4:30 pm

Call of the Ports Continued

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Wednesday, April 22

7:30 to 8:30 am

Breakfast

8:30 to 9:00 am

PCC Business - Elections

9:00 to 9:45 am

Session 6: “Beyond the Breakers: Next-Gen Marina Power”

Sanad Aridah, Co-Founder & CTO, VoltSafe, Inc.

Trevor Burgess, Co-Founder & CEO, VoltSafe, Inc.

This presentation will cover the concepts of an efficient, economical, and safe marina electrical system and provide a better understanding of the 2023 updates to NEC Article 555 and NFPA 303, including new ground fault protection and testing requirements. Through real-world examples and interactive discussion, the presenters will break down what these changes mean in practice, why traditional solutions are falling short, and how innovative approaches to shore power infrastructure can help you meet safety requirements without costly overhauls. This session offers practical, code-informed guidance to help you make smarter, safer infrastructure decisions, without compromising your bottom line.

9:45 to 10:00 am

Networking Break

10:00 to 11:00 am

Session 7: “Data, Docks & Digital Innovation: Navigating Industry Change with AI”

Brent Wierson, Vice President of Sales and Services, Storable Marine Division

Shifting economic conditions, changing boater demographics, and rising customer expectations are reshaping how waterfront businesses operate and compete. This session will first explore the data behind today’s trends and what they mean for marinas, boat rental operations, and service yards.

Next, whether you’re exploring AI for the first time or already experimenting with digital tools, learn more about how artificial intelligence can help your team:

- Improve customer communication without increasing workload
- Streamline operations and reduce unnecessary costs
- Turn everyday operational data into clearer, faster decisions
- Elevate the guest experience from first inquiry to long-term loyalty

11:00 to 11:10 am

Networking Break

11:10 to Noon

Session 8: “Emery Cove Yacht Harbor Redevelopment” – From Concept to Ribbon-Cutting

Diane Isley, Harbormaster, Emery Cove Yacht Harbor

To set the backdrop for this afternoon’s tour, attendees in this session will be taken through the full arc of Emery Cove Yacht Harbor’s comprehensive redevelopment project — from the initial planning decisions made by the marina’s membership and board, through construction, and on to its successful completion. The project encompassed 80 new floating docks with lpe hardwood decking, a new wave attenuator, updated power infrastructure, and service improvements designed to meet both present and future needs of the marina’s 430-slip facility. The renovation was completed in 2020, delivering an entirely new dock system while keeping the marina operational throughout — a logistical achievement that offers valuable lessons for any harbor considering major capital redevelopment.

Noon to 1:00 pm

Lunch

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- 1:00 to 2:00 pm **Walking Tour – Emery Cove Yacht Harbor**
- 2:00 to 4:00 pm **San Francisco Bay Boat Tour – Aboard the 1951 Fireboat (retired) GUARDIAN**
- 5:00 to 8:00 pm **Closing Reception, Gala Dinner, and Entertainment**