

ALLISON
BRAMBLETT

WASTE IS A CONSTRUCT

TRANSFORMING DERELICT VESSELS INTO ART AND FUNCTIONAL PIECES

AFFILIATIONS

University of Washington Museology
The Center for Wooden Boats
Walrus Boat Recycling



PURPOSE & IMPACT

Purpose:

To create a community centered exhibit that highlights environmental and social concerns surrounding marine debris, specifically boat reuse/demolition.

Impact:

A more widespread understanding of marine debris and potential for reuse in emerging and creative manners.

REFLECTION

Marine Debris is often discarded without second thought; exhibits like Waste is a Construct can help create innovating and creative solutions to problems such as these.

It can also create a community of like minded individuals passionate about helping the environment

DELIVERABLE

Waste is a Construct will be installed based on my exhibit plan details including layout, graphics, and label text. It will open on June 20th, 2025 at the Center for Wooden Boats (CWB).

INTRODUCTION

Since 2002, the Washington State DNR had removed over 1,205 derelict vessels (Recovering Derelict Vessels | WA - DNR, n.d.), which is just a fraction of the vessels that are still polluting the states waterways. Waste is a Construct uses pieces of these derelict vessels and transforms them into art and functional pieces. Using art to explore the environmental and social impact that waste has on our planet and its inhabitants, it will begin to shed much needed light on the issues surrounding marine debris, reuse, and re-creation.

PROCESS

Concept Planning:

 March - November 2024

Worked with CWB and Walrus to come up with a concept for the exhibit. Literature review and initial stages of planning.

Material Sourcing:

 November 2024 - February 2025

Some of the material was sourced from CWB and some was sourced from Walrus through another partner, Gonzo boat recycling.

Artist Call:

 February 2025 - April 2025

Put out an artist call in February 2025 and advertised the call as much as possible.

Material Pickup:

 March 2025

Twelve artists picked up their materials so they could begin their pieces.

Exhibit Layout & Text Creation:

 March - May 2025

Worked to create text and a layout that complements the pieces. Created three distinct themes around the art pieces to tie in with the overall theme of derelict boats and marine waste. The themes are waste, reuse and re-creation.

Installation & Exhibit Brief Creation:

 May - June 2025

Drafted an exhibit brief including all text, pieces, labels, and layout. Also includes a detailed description of label printing instructions, color themes, and installation details.

Opening:

 June 20, 2025

RELATED LITERATURE

Simon, Nina. *The Participatory Museum*. Santa Cruz: Museum 2.0, 2010
Benetua et al. *Community Issue Exhibition Toolkit. how to make an exhibition with your community*, Santa Cruz: Museum 2.0, 2018
Linden et al. *Improving Public Engagement With Climate Change: Five "Best Practice" Insights From Psychological Science*, 2015
Recovering Derelict Vessels | WA - DNR. (n.d.). [www.dnr.wa.gov](https://www.dnr.wa.gov/derelict-vessels).
<https://www.dnr.wa.gov/derelict-vessels>

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