

# Common Puget Sound Scyphomedusae (big jellyfish)

These are the bigger jellyfish you'll be most likely to catch. If you catch of any large jellyfish:

- 1) Wear gloves, especially for *Cyanea* and *Phacellophora*. Even their detached tentacles can sting.
- 2) Rinse the plankton off of the jellyfish, back into the sample.
- 3) ID the jellyfish, or take a picture if you can't.
- 4) Measure the diameter of the bell.
- 5) Record info on field datasheet.
- 6) Toss it back.

***Aurelia labiata*** (Moon Jelly): Translucent white with 4 horseshoe-shaped stomach pouches on top of bell. Tentacles are short. Bell up to 40 cm in diameter.



***Phacellophora camtschatica*** (Fried Egg jellyfish): Center is yellow, with rest of bell clear, whitish, or very pale yellow. Looks like a raw egg! Bell up to 60 cm in diameter, and has 16 lobes.

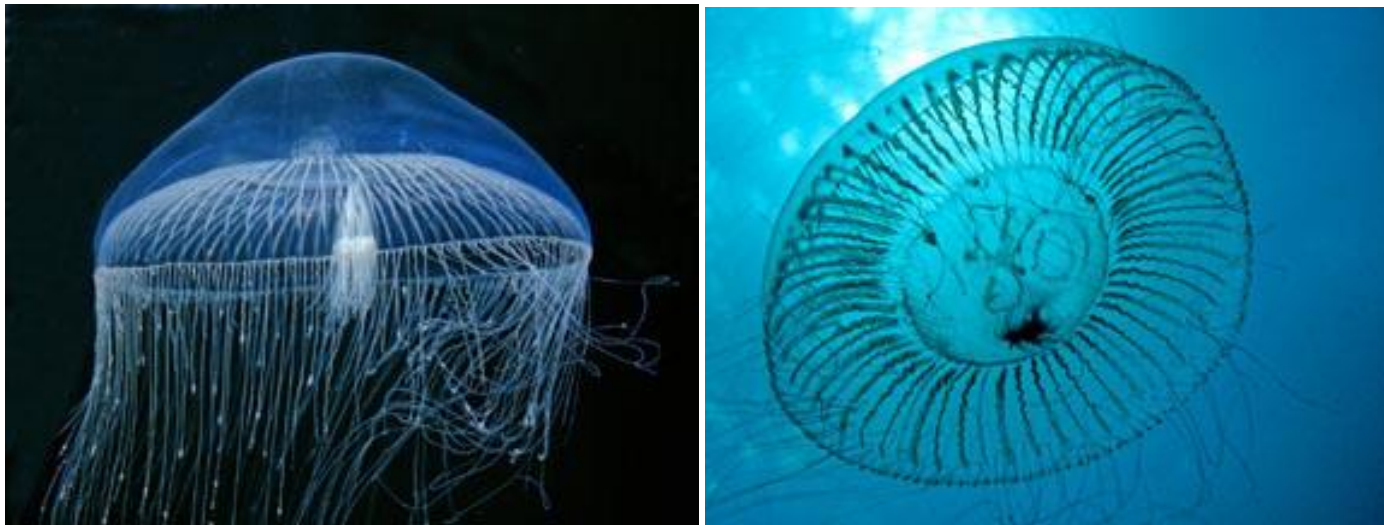


***Cyanea capillata*** (Lion's Mane Jellyfish): Deep brick red to purplish. Younger ones can be yellowish-brown. Bell up to 2m in diameter. You will probably only see it up to 30-40cm. The bell has 8 distinct lobes (different from *Phacellophora*). Looks like an 8-pointed star at end of power stroke.



**Also, a hydromedusa you may find in abundance. Leave these in the sample if there aren't too many to reasonably save:**

***Aequorea victoria*** (Crystal or Water Jelly): Fairly translucent. You can see a circle in the center with many radial canals. You will probably only see these up to 8cm in diameter, but usually less.



References:

Jellieszone.com

Wrobel, D. and C. Mills. 1998. Pacific Coast Pelagic Invertebrates: A Guide to the Common Gelatinous Animals. Sea Challengers and Monterey Bay.

(And some random photos from the internet).