Whale Fall Website

Learn about Whale Carcasses!

The plan

My website will be about whale falls. When whales die and their carcasses fall to the bottom of the ocean it's a massive event for the sea creatures that scavenge for food on the bottom of the ocean which is very nutrient scarce. Decomposition of a whale can take upwards of 50 years and the bones left behind go on to support reefs for much longer. My website will take readers through the 4 stages of whale falls and introduce the creatures that thrive on these deep sea carcasses. It will include images as well as links to footage of these under sea buffets!

Whale Falls

Stage 1

Stage 2

Stage 3

Stage 4

Image of a whale

What happens when I die?

Text about whale falls, what it is, length, importance on ecosystem

Link 1: Youtube link to a video of a whale fall

Mobile Scavenger Stage

Stage 1

Stage 2

Stage 3

Stage 4

Image of a whale in this stage

Lasts 5-18 months

Image and text about Hagfish

Image and text about sharks

Text about this stage, the creatures it supports and what happens to the whale

Enrichment Opportunist Stage

Stage 1

Stage 2

Stage 3

Stage 4

Image of a whale in this stage

Lasts months - 5 years

Image and text about Crabs

Image and text about Octopus

Text about this stage, the creatures it supports and what happens to the whale

Sulphophilic Stage

- Stage 1
- Stage 2
- Stage 3
- Stage 4

Image of a whale in this stage

Lasts up to 50 years

Image and text about Osedax Worms

Image and text about Bacteria

Text about this stage, the creatures it supports and what happens to the whale

Reef Stage

- Stage 1
- Stage 2
- Stage 3
- Stage 4

Image of a whale in this stage

Lasts… unknown

Image and text about Sponges

Marine snow these creatures would feed on

Least observed stage as the sulpholphilic stage lasts so long, believed the nutrient stripped bones become the home for suspension feeders

RESEARCH

https://sharkresearch.earth.miami.edu/whale-funeral-underwater-decomposition-of-large-carcasses/

https://marinesanctuary.org/blog/whale-fall-101/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QxSUsn8H2zs- Whale Fall

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOJrFmc-e9I - Suspension Feeders