



Update on the ECHO Program's voluntary initiatives

Good morning,

Thank you to all who have participated in the ECHO Program's seasonal initiatives so far. Below, please find an update on participation rates in the Swiftsure Bank slowdown, Haro Strait & Boundary Pass slowdown, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca lateral displacement.

Swiftsure Bank slowdown

Participation rates (within 1 knot of speed through water target) by ship type			
Ship type	Week 13 (Aug 21 - 27)	Week 14 (Aug 28 - Sept 3)	Overall cumulative (June 1 – Sept 3)
Bulk Carrier	63%	70%	74%
Car Carrier	67%	50%	76%
Container	88%	82%	85%
Passenger	57%	67%	85%
Tanker	100%	78%	84%
Other	78%	82%	77%
TOTAL	80%	73%	79%

Over the last fourteen weeks of the Swiftsure Bank outbound slowdown, the cumulative participation rate is 79%. We are grateful for all of the vessel operators that continue to participate at such high rates.

Haro Strait & Boundary Pass slowdown

Pilot-reported participation by ship type			
Ship type	Week 9 (Aug 28 – Sept 3)	Week 10 (Sept 4 – 10)	Overall cumulative (July 2 – Sept 10)
Bulk Carrier	95%	94%	92%
Car Carrier	88%	100%	93%
Container	90%	100%	94%
Passenger	-	-	-
Tanker	83%	100%	92%
Other	80%	100%	93%
TOTAL	92%	96%	93%

Since the slowdown's start on July 1, the cumulative participation rate in the Haro Strait & Boundary Pass slowdown is **93%**. We thank all vessel operators for maintaining such strong participation rates.

Strait of Juan de Fuca lateral displacement

Since our last newsletter update, the cumulative participation rate for the Strait of Juan de Fuca lateral displacement has increased to **86%**. A big thank-you to all tug operators who have participated by spending more than half of their time in either the inshore lateral displacement zone or outbound shipping lane.

Update on the SRKWs



J-Pod transiting Haro Strait at sunset on September 12

Photo credit: Jeanne Hyde

Three late-stage pregnancies have been **reported** within the J-Pod. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife designated pregnant whales J36, J37, and J19 as “vulnerable” **earlier this week**.

In light of this news, mariners are encouraged to use extra caution when transiting through all areas of the Salish Sea and follow the best practices outlined in the **BeWhaleWise guidelines**. This includes **staying a minimum of 400m away from killer whales** and **reducing vessel speed** when it is safe to do so.

Members of all three SRKW pods (J, K, and L) have been sighted throughout the Salish Sea over the last two weeks, including in the Haro Strait and Boundary Pass slowdown area. We appreciate your continued efforts to help reduce underwater noise by slowing down.

Questions or feedback

Thank you for your participation in this collaborative effort to support the recovery of the southern resident killer whales. Your efforts are making a difference.

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