



Update on the ECHO Program's voluntary initiatives

Good afternoon,

Thank you to all who have participated in the ECHO Program's seasonal initiatives over the past four months. We are grateful for your ongoing support and engagement throughout this season. Please find below 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 15 (Sept 4 – 10)	Week 16 (Sept 11 – 17)	Overall cumulative (June 1 – Sept 17)
Bulk Carrier	70%	80%	74%
Car Carrier	43%	78%	74%
Container	86%	82%	85%
Passenger	89%	57%	83%
Tanker	86%	78%	84%
Other	80%	67%	76%
TOTAL	76%	77%	79%

The Swiftsure Bank outbound slowdown has been active for four months and the cumulative participation rate to date is **79%**. The slowdown will continue until Sunday, October 31 at 23:59. We ask that all vessels participate whenever it is safe and feasible to do so for the remaining month of the Swiftsure Bank outbound slowdown.

Haro Strait & Boundary Pass slowdown

Pilot-reported participation by ship type			
Ship type	Week 11 (Sept 11 – 17)	Week 12 (Sept 18 – 24)	Overall cumulative (July 2 – Sept 24)
Bulk Carrier	88%	94%	92%
Car Carrier	91%	86%	92%
Container	90%	88%	93%
Passenger	-	-	-
Tanker	100%	89%	92%
Other	80%	100%	92%
TOTAL	88%	92%	92%

The cumulative participation rate in the Haro Strait & Boundary Pass slowdown over the last 12 weeks is **92%**.

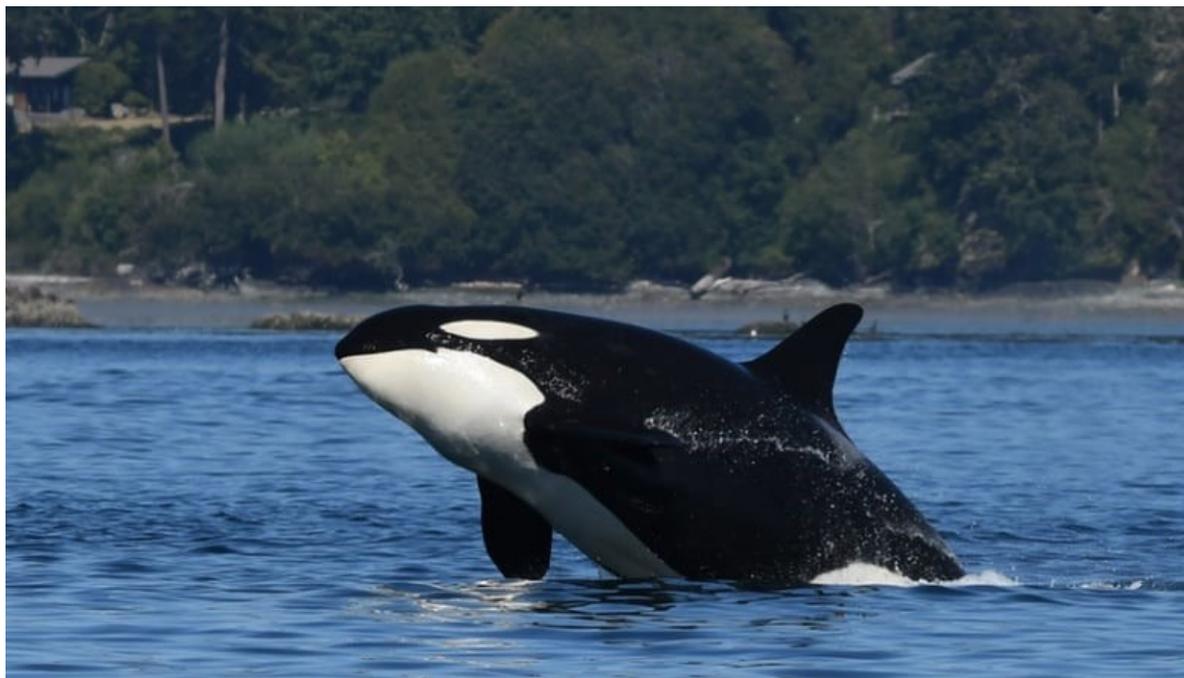
The slowdown in Haro Strait and Boundary Pass will continue until at least October 31, with two-week extensions to no later than November 30 if southern resident killer whale presence is confirmed in the slowdown area.

If the slowdown is extended, you will be notified via this email newsletter, as well as a navigational warning from the Canadian Coast Guard. Thank you for continuing to participate whenever it is safe and feasible to do for the remaining weeks of the slowdown.

Strait of Juan de Fuca lateral displacement

For the last four weeks, tug operators have achieved 100% participation in the Strait of Juan de Fuca lateral displacement, bringing the cumulative participation rate up to **88%**. We extend a big thank you to all tug operators who have made an effort to move south from the whales and by spending more than half of their time in either the inshore lateral displacement zone or outbound shipping lane.

Update on the Southern Resident Killer Whales



L47 pictured in 2020. Credit: Centre for Whale Research

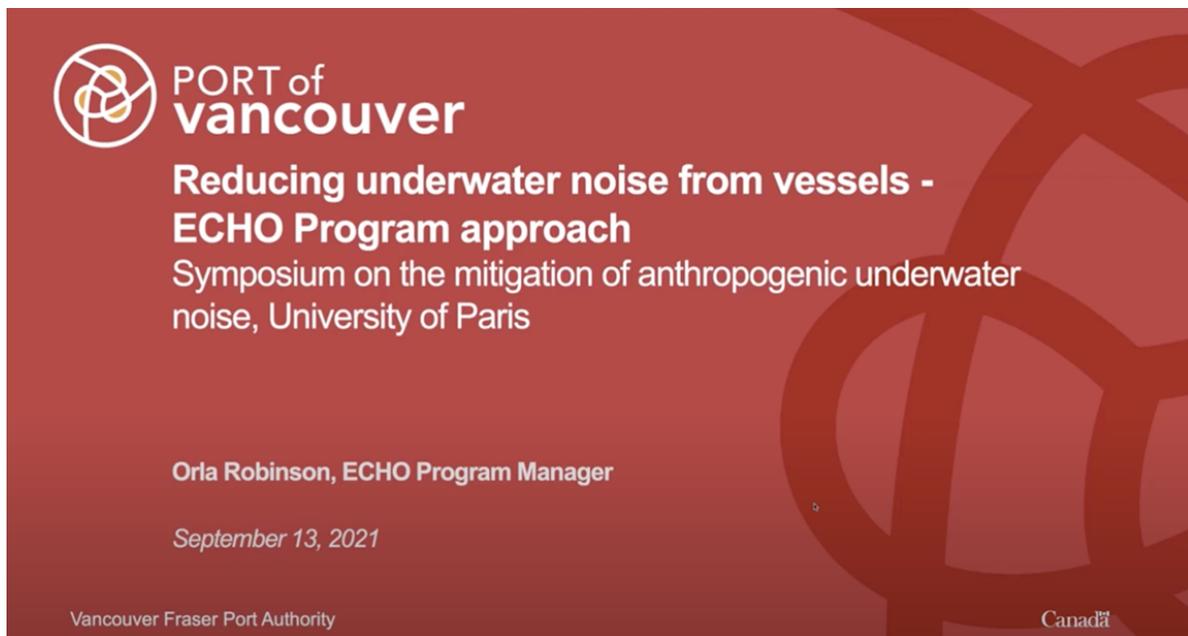
Last week, the Center for Whale Research released a **statement** declaring that the 47-year-old L-Pod matriarch L47 is “missing and likely deceased” after having not been seen with her matriline for nearly seven months.

Born in 1974, L47 was among the most prolific southern resident females. Over her lifespan, she gave birth to seven calves that survived long enough to be given an alpha-numeric designation – the most of any southern resident female.

The Centre has warned that the mortality risk for L47's offspring and grand-offspring is now three to six times higher, and this risk could increase if salmon abundance is lower than historical averages over the next few years.

As always, be on the lookout for southern resident killer whales, who have been sighted several times in in the Salish Sea over the last two weeks. Other marine mammals have also been seen throughout the region, including many transient killer whales and a rare sea otter sighting in Haro Strait.

Watch: ECHO Program presents at international symposium on underwater noise



Earlier this month, ECHO Program Manager Orla Robinson presented at the University of Paris' virtual symposium on underwater noise, a day-long exploration of global research projects investigating underwater noise and its impacts on marine life.

To watch Orla's presentation and learn more about many other fascinating research projects being carried out by others around the world, including some ECHO Program advisors, visit the **Ocean Ambassador's webpage**.

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.

If you were forwarded this email and would like to subscribe, click [here](#). For questions, comments, or concerns, please contact the ECHO Program team at echo@portvancouver.com.

This message is issued by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority to keep subscribers up-to-date on events and activities. To stop receiving these emails click "Unsubscribe" below at anytime. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

[Edit your subscription](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

VANCOUVER FRASER
PORT AUTHORITY
100 The Pointe
999 Canada Place
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3T4
Telephone: 604.665.9000