



## Update on the ECHO Program's voluntary initiatives

Good morning,

As we approach the end of the season, we sincerely thank everyone who has made the effort to participate in the ECHO Program's voluntary initiatives this year.

As a reminder, the Strait of Juan de Fuca lateral displacement and Swiftsure Bank slowdown both have static end dates of **October 31**, while the Haro Strait & Boundary Pass slowdown's end date is dependent on southern resident killer whale presence, potentially lasting as long as **November 30**.

We encourage all vessel operators to help us finish the season off strong by participating whenever it is safe and feasible to do so for the remaining weeks of our underwater noise reduction initiatives.

### Swiftsure Bank slowdown

Participation rates (within 1 knot of speed through water target) by ship type			
Ship type	Week 17 (Sept 18 – 24)	Week 18 (Sept 25 – Oct 1)	Overall cumulative (June 1 – Oct 1)
Bulk Carrier	88%	84%	76%
Car Carrier	100%	60%	76%
Container	88%	88%	85%
Passenger	75%	86%	83%
Tanker	100%	84%	85%
Other	100%	90%	79%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>80%</b>

The Swiftsure Bank outbound slowdown has been active for four months and the cumulative participation rate has increased to **80%**. The slowdown will continue until Sunday, October 31 at 23:59. Thank you to all those who have helped increase the overall participation rate in recent weeks.

### Haro Strait & Boundary Pass slowdown

Pilot-reported participation by ship type			
Ship type	Week 13 (Sept 25 – Oct 1)	Week 14 (Oct 2 – 8)	Overall cumulative (July 2 – Oct 8)
Bulk Carrier	86%	89%	91%
Car Carrier	100%	88%	92%
Container	86%	96%	93%
Passenger	-	-	-
Tanker	100%	80%	92%
Other	100%	100%	93%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>92%</b>

The cumulative participation rate in the Haro Strait & Boundary Pass slowdown over the last 14 weeks is **92%**. The slowdown will continue until at least October 31, with two-week extensions to no later than November 30, depending on southern resident killer whale presence. If the slowdown is extended, you will be notified via this email newsletter, as well as a navigational warning from the Canadian Coast Guard.

## Strait of Juan de Fuca lateral displacement

For the last six weeks, tug operators have achieved 100% participation in the Strait of Juan de Fuca lateral displacement, increasing the cumulative participation rate to **89%**. We extend our sincere thanks to all tug operators who have made the effort to move south away from the whales and spend more than half of their time in either the inshore lateral displacement zone or outbound shipping lane.

## ECHO Program featured in National Wildlife Federation magazine



Earlier this year, the port authority's environmental programs director Carrie Brown spoke with

National Wildlife Federation magazine about the ECHO Program's underwater noise reduction initiatives for at-risk whales along British Columbia's southern coast.

The newly published article, *Unquiet Seas*, highlights the ECHO Program alongside commentary from various academics, community members, and environmental groups, including ECHO Program advisory group member, Michael Jasny.

**Read the article:** [National Wildlife Federation: \*Unquiet Seas\*](#)

## 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](mailto:echo@portvancouver.com).

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