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Vancouver Fraser
Port Authority



ECHO Program's first report on participation in voluntary initiatives



Good morning,

Three weeks into the ECHO Program's 2022 season, we are pleased to provide our first report on participation rates in each of the program's voluntary underwater noise reduction measures. The season is off to a strong start, with more than 85% of all ship transits having slowed down or stayed distanced from southern resident killer whale critical habitat since June 1.

We are especially pleased to see strong early participation rates in our new inbound slowdown trial at Swiftsure Bank, with 77% of all ship transits slowing down to within one knot of the target speed. Thank you to everyone who has supported the launch, and strong beginning, of this new measure within a key foraging area for southern resident killer whales.

As many whales continue to be sighted in the area – including southern resident killer whales, seen today in Haro Strait – your collective efforts to reduce underwater noise are important. We thank

you for your work to create a quieter underwater environment for the whales to hunt, navigate, and communicate in, especially as the J and K pods tend to their new calves.

Below, please find participation rates for the first two weeks in each of our voluntary initiatives. Each table breaks down the percentage of participating ship transits, as well as the number of ship transits that participated out of all ship transits, in brackets.

Swiftsure Bank inbound and outbound slowdown trial

Ship type	Inbound participation rates <i>(Within 1-knot of speed-through-water target speed)</i>		
	Week 1: June 1 - June 3	Week 2: June 4 - June 10	Cumulative
Inbound Bulk Carrier	78% (7 of 9)	76% (28 of 37)	76%
Inbound Car Carrier	50% (1 of 2)	75% (6 of 8)	70%
Inbound Container	82% (9 of 11)	88% (21 of 24)	86%
Inbound Passenger	83% (5 of 6)	61% (11 of 18)	67%
Inbound Tanker	100% (1 of 1)	78% (14 of 18)	79%
Inbound Other	50% (1 of 2)	77% (10 of 13)	73%
TOTAL			77% (114 of 149)

Ship type	Outbound participation rates <i>(Within 1-knot of speed-through-water target speed)</i>		
	Week 1: June 1 - June 3	Week 2: June 4 - June 10	Cumulative
Outbound Bulk Carrier	75% (12 of 16)	89% (24 of 27)	84%
Outbound Car Carrier	50% (1 of 2)	43% (3 of 7)	44%
Outbound Container	78% (7 of 9)	86% (24 of 28)	84%
Outbound Passenger	0% (0 of 2)	67% (10 of 15)	59%
Outbound Tanker	75% (3 of 4)	83% (10 of 12)	81%
Outbound Other	75% (3 of 4)	77% (17 of 22)	77%
TOTAL			77% (114 of 148)

Ship type	Combined (inbound and outbound) participation rates <i>(Within 1-knot of speed-through-water target speed)</i>		
	Week 1: June 1 - June 3	Week 2: June 4 - June 10	Cumulative
Combined Bulk Carrier	76% (19 of 25)	81% (52 of 64)	80%
Combined Car Carrier	50% (2 of 4)	60% (9 of 15)	58%
Combined Container	80% (16 of 20)	87% (45 of 52)	85%
Combined Passenger	63% (5 of 8)	64% (21 of 33)	63%
Combined Tanker	80% (4 of 5)	80% (24 of 30)	80%
Combined Other	67% (4 of 6)	77% (27 of 35)	76%
TOTAL			77% (228 of 297)

So far, the cumulative participation rate in the inbound and outbound ship slowdown trial at Swiftsure Bank is 77%. As this is the first-ever coordinated ship slowdown in the inbound lane at Swiftsure Bank, we are glad to see such strong early participation rates. Let's keep up this impressive start!

We want to thank all those who have supported the implementation of this new trial initiative, including the Canadian and U.S. Coast Guards, the Canadian and U.S. pilots, as well as the Makah Tribe and the Pacheedaht First Nations.

Haro Strait and Boundary Pass slowdown

Pilot-reported participation by ship type			
Ship type	Week 1: June 1 - June 3	Week 2: June 4 - June 10	Cumulative
Bulk Carrier	83% (10 of 12)	90% (57 of 63)	89%
Car Carrier	no transits	88% (7 of 8)	87%
Container	100% (14 of 14)	85% (23 of 27)	90%
Passenger	no transits	100% (4 of 4)	100%
Tanker	100% (2 of 2)	63% (5 of 8)	70%
Other	100% (1 of 1)	100% (3 of 3)	100%
TOTAL			89% (126 of 142)

This year, due to the presence of southern resident killer whales in the area, the Haro Strait and Boundary Pass slowdown began on June 1 – the earliest start date ever for the slowdown. Since then, the overall participation rate is **89%** – another strong start to the season thanks to the efforts of the marine transportation industry, in collaboration with the BC Coast Pilots.

Lateral displacement in the Strait of Juan de Fuca

So far, the overall participation rate in the Strait of Juan de Fuca lateral displacement is **100%**! We greatly appreciate tugboat operators' efforts to achieve this impressive participation rate – thank you for laterally displacing to either the inshore lateral displacement zone or outbound shipping lane.

Whale sighting update



*J-Pod and the L12 subgroup, together about 35 whales,
spent the day in Haro Strait on June 22, 2022
Photo: Jeanne Hyde*

Stay up to date on the ECHO Program

Throughout the season, we will continue to share bi-weekly newsletter updates on participation rates in the ECHO Program' voluntary initiatives, and other relevant news. If you were forwarded this email and would like to subscribe, click [here](#).

If you have any questions about the ECHO Program and its 2022 voluntary initiatives, please email us at echo@portvancouver.com.

Best regards,

The ECHO Program

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