



Protecting Southern Resident Killer Whales 2025 Washington Vessel Regulations

We need your help!

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and its [Orca Regulations Communications Advisory \(ORCA\) Group](#) seeks input from the Salish Sea recreational boater community to inform its education, outreach, and communications work related to Southern Resident killer whales (SRKW) and related vessel regulations (as directed by the Washington State Legislature in the [2023-24 Senate Bill 5371](#)). Your perspectives will ground this important work and lead to more effective communication that will ultimately support SRKW recovery.

2025 Washington Vessel Regulations At-A-Glance

- Vessels will observe a 1,000-yard setback from SRKW.
- If within 1,000 yards, a vessel will move away from SRKW at a speed of 7 knots or less.
- If within 400 yards, a vessel operator will disengage the vessel's transmission.

How can you participate?

WDFW and the ORCA Group are hosting an online workshop to help prepare the boating community to comply with upcoming 1,000-yard setback and other SRKW-related vessel regulations:

Boater Engagement Workshop: Shaping 2025 Education, Outreach, and Communication Efforts.
Thursday, September 12, 2024, from 9:30am – 11:00am, Pacific Time.

In this workshop, we will collect feedback on initial education, outreach, and/or communication planning related to the 2025 vessel regulations as well as on draft messages and outreach methods to help boaters comply with the upcoming regulations.

[REGISTER HERE](#) for the workshop .

For the agenda and more information, visit the [ORCA GROUP WEBSITE](#).

Questions? Contact us!

- WDFW Killer Whale Policy and Communications Team: killerwhales@dfw.wa.gov
- Workshop and ORCA Group Facilitation Team: Alec Ege, aege@rossstrategie.com