



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 in reality and lead to more effective communication that will ultimately support SRKW recovery.

How can you participate?

WDFW and the ORCA Group are hosting two online workshops—you are welcome to join one or both:

- **Workshop 1: Anticipating 2025 Vessel Regulations.** Thursday, June 20, 2024, from 9:30am – 11:00am, Pacific Time. Vessel regulations being implemented in 2025 may raise many questions for boaters. Join this workshop to learn about the upcoming regulations and actions you can take this boating season to prepare for the change, and to share your concerns and communication suggestions through small-group discussions. [REGISTER HERE](#) for Workshop 1. For the agenda and more information, visit the [ORCA GROUP WEBSITE](#).
- **Workshop 2: 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 plans related to the 2025 vessel regulations to ensure WDFW and the ORCA Group efforts are effective. More information about this workshop will be forthcoming later this summer. [REGISTER HERE](#) for Workshop 2. For the agenda and more information, visit the [ORCA GROUP WEBSITE](#).

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.

Questions? Contact us!

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