Boating around killer whales – 2024

Map of south coast of Vancouver Island, British Columbia



Report any violations or incidents involving marine mammals (such as injuries, entanglements or dead animals) that you observed or were involved in to Fisheries and Oceans Canada's 24/7 Observe, Record, Report line:

1-800-465-4336

DFO.ORR-ONS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

For more information on the 2024 measures, visit:



Be Whale Wise:



Stay 400m away from killer whales and do not position a vessel in the path of killer whales in all southern B.C. coastal waters between Campbell River and just north of Ucluelet.

In effect until May 31, 2025.

Vessels with a purple authorized vessel (AV) flag are authorized to be closer to non-Southern Resident killer whales. Do not follow them.

Voluntary Speed Reduction Zone from June 1 to November 30.

Vessels are encouraged to stay under 10 knots in this area when safe

Two mandatory Speed Restricted Zones (SRZ) from June 1 to

Vessels must not go more than 10 knots in these areas, with some exceptions.

For a list of exceptions, please visit the 2024 management measures webpage or via the QR code below.

Do not enter Interim Sanctuary Zones (ISZ) from June 1 to November 30. No boating. No fishing.

Human-powered vessels (kayaks, canoes, stand up paddle boards etc.) may use a 20m transit corridor along the shoreline.

For a list of exceptions, please visit the 2024 management measures webpage or via the QR code below.

No recreational and commercial salmon fishing in area-based fishery closures:

- Swiftsure Bank in effect July 15 to October 31.
- Juan de Fuca Strait in effect August 1 to October 31.
- Gulf Islands in effect following the first confirmed presence of Southern Resident killer whales until November 30. Monitoring for confirmed presence of Southern Resident killer whales begins May 1.
- Mouth of the Fraser River in effect from August 1 to September 30.

Be Whale Wise

- Stop fishing (do not haul gear) when within 1,000m of killer whales.
- Reduce speed to less than 7 knots when within 1,000m of the nearest marine mammal.
- When safe to do so, turn off fish finders and echo sounders.
- If you are too close, place engine in neutral idle and allow animals to pass.

Shipping lanes

