



## ORCAS

## *need* SALMON

## *need* FORAGE FISH

## *need* HEALTHY SHORELINES

## *need* YOU!

PROBLEM

The 76 remaining Southern Resident orcas are critically endangered. Daily threats to their survival include toxins, limited salmon to eat, and underwater noise. Efforts to save these whales could be pointless if just one oil spill contaminates their home waters.

Chinook salmon are the primary food source for Southern Resident orcas. These important fish make up nearly 80% of their diet. Chinook populations in the Salish Sea are at 10% of their historic numbers.

Forage fish are the staples in the diets of salmon, lingcod, seabirds, and Minke whales. Their survival is especially vulnerable to changes on the shoreline such as bulkheads, which make beaches less resilient to sea level rise.

Shoreline modifications such as armoring and vegetation removal harm natural beaches and limit their ability to provide resources for juvenile salmon and forage fish.

SOLUTION

*Friends' Safe Shipping program works with a broad range of partners to protect our coasts, communities, and orcas from the amplified threat of an oil spill.*

*Young chinook salmon from across the region eat, rest, and grow in the San Juan Islands on their way to the Pacific Ocean. Friends work to preserve and restore natural beaches and coastal wetlands nurtures juvenile salmon and their prey.*

*Through research and outreach, Friends helps individuals and decision makers stay informed about the latest sea level rise science for our region, local vulnerability mapping and adaptation strategies, and how to protect shorelines and forage fish habitat while building community resilience.*

*Through technical assistance with public and private landowners as well as providing continuing education for shoreline contractors, Friends helps community members protect their waterfront property and maintain important ecological services such as water quality and wildlife habitat.*

*50% of the income to support Friends' policy, restoration, education, and protection work comes from people like you (the other half comes from public and private grant sources). Thank you!*

top photo by Chris Teren