Help protect salmon, orca, and the beautiful San Juan Islands by anchoring out of sensitive eelgrass.

The San Juan Islands are an internationally acclaimed boating destination. Stunning landscapes and a rich marine environment provide extensive recreational opportunities such as wildlife viewing, fishing and crabbing.

Sensitive eelgrass habitats are nurseries for juvenile Chinook salmon as well as spawning areas for Pacific herring, small schooling fish that support seabirds, big fish, and marine mammals.

Eelgrass damaged by boat anchors can take years to recover. To help salmon and the Southern Resident orcas, anchor out in waters deeper than the eelgrass or use a mooring buoy.

Use the information in this boater guide to plan ahead and ensure your boating experience in the San Juan Islands is safe and enjoyable for people and nature!

Ways for boaters to protect eelgrass and support marine food webs:

- Anchor out of eelgrass.
- Place mooring buoys out of eelgrass or use eelgrass-friendly buoy designs.
- Use a marina or mooring buoys instead of building a new dock.
- If you have an existing dock, make sure you have light penetrable grating for dock and avoid toxic treated wood.
- Keep your boat in good working order and quickly clean even small oil spills.
- Share this information with friends, family, and visitors.

Resources for boaters

BOATERS

Use the map inside to protect sensitive eelgrass habitats in the San Juans

San Juan Islands

Stuart Island State Park/Reid Harbor
(360) 378-2044

San Juan Island
Roche Harbor
(360) 378-9816

Friday Harbor Marina
(360) 378-2688

Lopez Island
Islands Marine Center
(360) 468-3377

Orcas Island
Rosario Resort
(360) 376-2152 ext 700

West Beach Resort
(360) 376-2240

West Sound Marina
(360) 376-2314

Shaw Island
Shaw General Store
(360) 468-2288

Resources for boaters

ANCHOR OUT

OF EELGRASS

TO PROTECT HERRING,
SALMON, AND ORCA

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BE WHALE WISE!

Current U.S. regulations as of 2019

- Stay 200 yards from Transient orcas
- Stay 300 yards from Southern Resident orcas
- Go slow (<7 knots) when within ½ mile of Southern Resident orcas
- Turn off engine if whales appear within 300 yards
- Turn off fish finders and echo sounders when not in use

DERELICT GEAR

To report derelict fishing gear please call (855) 542-3935

OIL SPILL RESPONSE

For oil spills please call 1 (800) OILS 911

'article 3

To report a dead, injured or stranded marine mammal, please call (866) 767-6114

For law enforcement, harassments, and other violations, please call (800) 853-1964

For entangled marine mammals, please call (877) 767-9425 or hail the U.S. Coast Guard on VHF Ch. 16

Funding support generously provided by the Burning Foundation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

www.sanjuans.org
(360) 378-2319

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** WHEN IN DOUBT, ANCHOR OUT! **

** Friends of the San Juans **

** PUMPOUT STATIONS **

** STUART ISLAND **
Stuart Island State Park/Reid Harbor  
(360) 378-2044

** SAN JUAN ISLAND **
Roche Harbor  
(360) 378-9816
Friday Harbor Marina  
(360) 378-2688

** LOPEZ ISLAND **
Islands Marine Center  
(360) 468-3377

** ORCAS ISLAND **
Rosario Resort  
(360) 378-2152 ext 700
West Beach Resort  
(360) 378-2240
West Sound Marina  
(360) 376-2314
Deer Harbor Marina  
(360) 376-3037

** SHAW ISLAND **
Shaw General Store  
(360) 468-2288

** MOORING BUOYS **

Public mooring buoys are available at many state marine parks and shoreline county parks in the San Juan Islands. For more information please visit the Washington State Parks and San Juan County websites.

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** MARINE MAMMAL REPORTING HOTLINES **

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** OIL SPILL RESPONSE **

Call 1 (800) OILS 911

- Stay on scene
- Safety first
- Don’t add dish soap!
- Contain and absorb

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** DERELICT GEAR **

To report derelict fishing gear
Please call (855) 542-3935

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** EELGRASS PROTECTION ZONE **

Help protect salmon, orca, and the beautiful San Juans Islands by anchoring out of sensitive eelgrass.

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** PUMPOUT STATIONS **

** ORCAS ISLAND **
Rosario Resort  
(360) 378-2152 ext 700
West Beach Resort  
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West Sound Marina  
(360) 376-2314
Deer Harbor Marina  
(360) 376-3037

** SHAW ISLAND **
Shaw General Store  
(360) 468-2288

** SAFETY & SALMON **

For information on whale watching, please visit the San Juan Islands visitor services websites:

- sanjuanislands.org
- (360) 378-2319

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** EELGRASS PROTECTION ZONE **

Help protect salmon, orca, and the beautiful San Juans Islands by anchoring out of sensitive eelgrass.
Help recover salmon and orca by avoiding sensitive eelgrass and herring spawning habitats when boating in the San Juan Islands.

**ANCHOR OUT OF EELGRASS**

- **Herring Spawning Habitat**: Anchor out of eelgrass or use mooring buoys to protect herring spawning grounds.
- **Shallow Eelgrass Habitat**: Anchor deeper than 15 feet (at low tide) to avoid eelgrass in these areas.
- **Eelgrass Habitat**: Anchor deeper than 25 feet (at low tide) to avoid eelgrass in these areas.

*This map not intended for navigational purposes*