

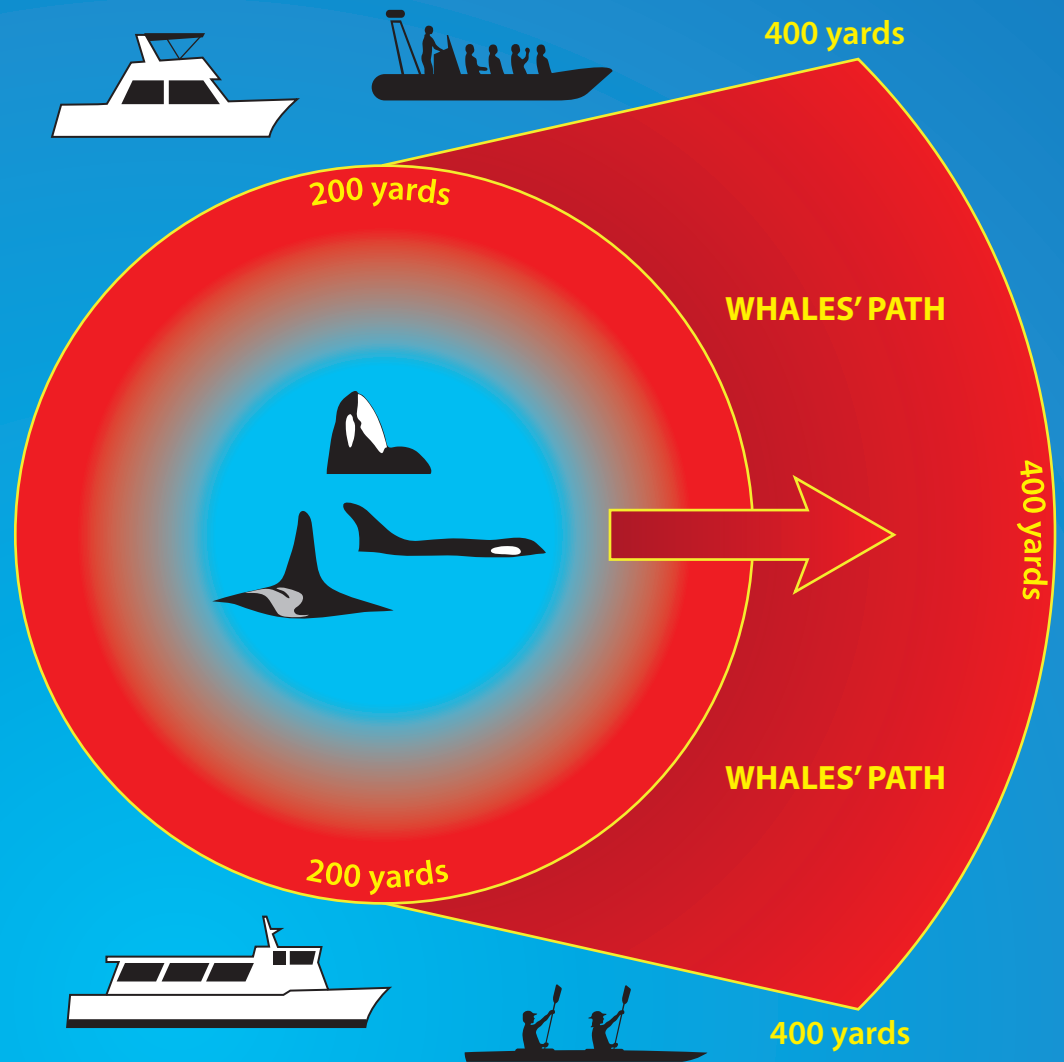
# Be Whale Wise



and Follow the Law It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

In 2011, NOAA Fisheries Service adopted new regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act to protect **all killer whales**.

1. The **ONE** place not to be is in the path of whales. Don't position your vessel in the path of oncoming whales within 400 yards of a whale.
2. Stay at least **TWO** hundred yards away from any killer whale (200 yards = the distance of two football fields or about 200 meters).
3. Remember these **THREE** ways to Be Whale Wise: follow the guidelines for viewing all wildlife, check for local protected areas and restrictions, and always be safe.



**WHO** do the new rules apply to? All motorized and non-motorized vessels (including kayaks), with exceptions to maintain safe navigation and for certain types of vessels- government vessels in the course of official duties, ships in the shipping lanes, research vessels under permit, and vessels lawfully engaged in commercial or treaty Indian fishing that are actively setting, retrieving, or closely tending fishing gear.

**WHAT** do the new rules say? Except for specific exemptions, it is unlawful for any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to:

- I. Cause a vessel to approach, in any manner, within 200 yards (182.9 m) of any killer whale.
- II. Position a vessel to be in the path of any killer whale at any point located within 400 yards (365.8 m) of the whale.

**WHEN** do the new rules go into effect? May 16, 2011

**WHERE** do the new rules apply? In inland waters of Washington State- east of the entrance to the Strait of Juan de Fuca and south of the U.S./Canada international boundary.

**WHY** did NOAA adopt new regulations? Southern Resident killer whales were listed as endangered in 2005. Vessel impacts were identified as one of the threats. These new regulations implement an action in the recovery plan and are designed to protect all killer whales by reducing impacts from vessels. Additional background information on the rationale and analyses to support the regulations is available at [www.nwr.noaa.gov](http://www.nwr.noaa.gov).



Visit [www.bewhalewise.org](http://www.bewhalewise.org) to learn more, download the laws, regulations, and guidelines, and to report violations.



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