

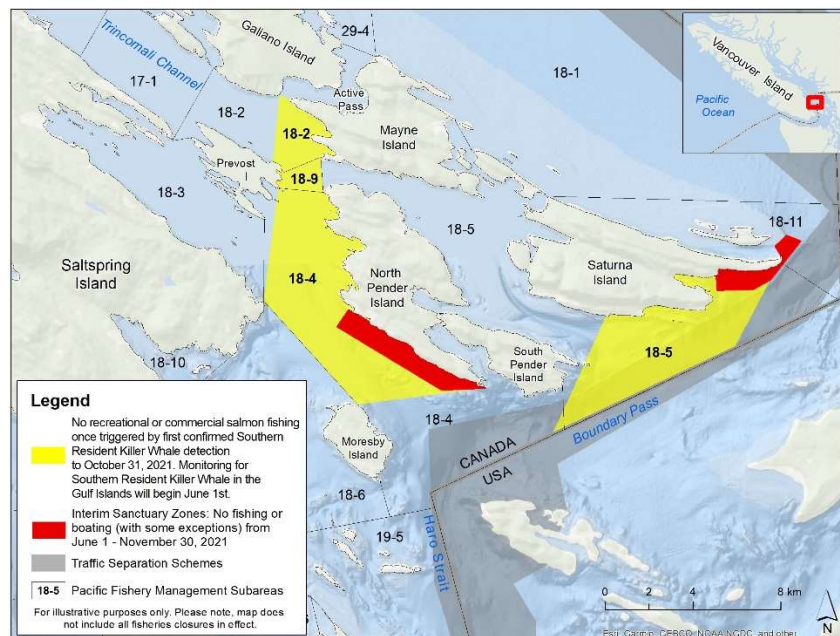


Triggered Start Date for Salmon Fishing Closures in the Gulf Islands based on Southern Resident Killer Whale Presence

As part of the [Southern Resident Killer Whale suite of management measures for 2021](#), Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is piloting a new fishing closure protocol for the southern Gulf Islands recreational and commercial salmon fisheries. Fishery closures will be triggered to close based on the first confirmed presence of Southern Resident Killer Whales in the area.

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Enhancing Cetacean and Observation (ECHO) Program, working closely with its local partners, and the DFO Whale Tracking Network began monitoring the area starting June 1, 2021, and once a Southern Resident Killer Whale detection is confirmed, fishery closures will be triggered and will remain in place until October 31, 2021.

This closure protocol is applicable to Subarea 18-9 and portions of Subareas 18-2, 18-4 and 18-5 in the southern Gulf Islands.



2021 Gulf Islands management measures



Reduced prey availability (primarily Chinook salmon) is one of the primary threats to the recovery of Southern Resident Killer Whales. This pilot allows the areas to stay open to commercial and recreational salmon fisheries until Southern Resident Killer Whales have returned for the summer season to the key foraging areas.

If you have any questions about the Southern Resident Killer Whale management measures, please contact DFO.SRKW-ERS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca