

Position Soundwatch Seasonal Vessel Driver/Educator. Seasonal Contract position, June -September

Location: The Whale Museum, Friday Harbor, San Juan Island, Washington State, US

The Soundwatch Boater Education Program Mission: Promote responsible stewardship of the Salish Sea through the development, distribution and implementation of *Be Whale Wise*, best practice guidelines & regulations for marine wildlife viewing by residents, visitors and commercial users. **Program goal:** Reduce disturbances to marine wildlife by irresponsible boater behavior.

Program objectives: Educate boaters on best practices for viewing marine wildlife before they leave the shore; reinforce the learning experience in the actual context where disturbances take place; develop and evaluate community-based voluntary guidelines; and provide a scientific platform to monitor vessel activities around marine mammals.

Soundwatch Seasonal Vessel Driver/Educator Tasks: Assist with all aspects of The Whale Museum's Soundwatch Boater Education Program, including but not limited to the following:

- **Seasonal field operations:** Conduct full- or half-day on-the-water educational patrols and monitoring of whale watch activities June-September. Maintain daily boat patrol protocols and data collection procedures on whale watching and marine wildlife viewing trends, guideline compliance measurements and educational materials distribution. Prevent wildlife disturbance by intercepting boaters before they reach wildlife areas. Monitor activities within San Juan County Marine Stewardship Area including recreational and fishing pressure in reserve areas, including National Wildlife Refuge Areas and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Biological Preserve Areas. Maintain equipment and collection materials. Work with Soundwatch volunteers and interns. Maintain communications with whale research and commercial whale-watch community. Report marine mammal strandings to the San Juan County Marine Mammal Stranding Network.
- **Small Vessel operations:** Vessel driver, perform routine maintenance and minor boat/engine repair, maintain vessel/engine/operation and safety equipment, communicate with coordinator and/or mechanic for trouble shooting advice, provide vessel operation briefing to interns and volunteers.
- **Education/Outreach on marine stewardship:** Distribution of educational materials on-the-water, regional boating facilities and organizations.
- **Soundwatch field data-entry:** Assist with field season data entry. Assist with the update of annual commercial whale watch industry information and ID book.
- **Assist with the coordination of volunteers and interns:** Assist with training and scheduling of volunteers and interns. Keep track of volunteer activities for future reporting.

The successful candidate should understand and have experience with recovery priorities related to the endangered SRKWs. The Vessel Driver/Educator reports to the Soundwatch Program Coordinator and must work cooperatively with other museum staff, program interns and volunteers. This position is classed as Seasonal Field Work Contractor, May-September.

Soundwatch Vessel Driver/Educator should plan to be in place by May 14, 2020. (Start date may be negotiable.) Active review of submitted applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Note: International applicants required to have approved Visa and documentation to work in the U.S. at the time of submission.

Application package should include: a cover letter, resume and up to five references (reference letter or contact information for each reference). Electronic submissions are encouraged in the form of a PDF compiled with the requested information.

Please send to: Jenny L. Atkinson, Executive Director, The Whale Museum, P. O. Box 945, Friday Harbor, WA 98250 or Email: jenny@whalemuseum.org