

Position: Soundwatch Boater Education Program Coordinator. Year-round FT employment includes health care benefits. <http://www.whalemuseum.org/programs/soundwatch/soundwatch.html>

Location: Friday Harbor, San Juan Island, Washington, USA

Established in 1979 as the first U.S. museum dedicated to whales living in the wild, The Whale Museum promotes stewardship of whales and the Salish Sea ecosystem through education and research. The Soundwatch Boater Education Program was initiated in 1993 by The Whale Museum to reduce disturbances to marine wildlife caused by irresponsible boater behaviors. This innovative program educates boaters on guidelines and regulations for marine wildlife through shore-based education, reinforces the learning experience through on-the-water educational patrols, monitors vessel activities to characterize vessel trends, and evaluate existing guidelines and laws. The main focus of our work is the endangered Southern Resident killer whales (SRKWs) but there are other marine mammal species of importance in our region, including Transient killer whales, Minke whales, Humpback whales, Fin whales, Harbor porpoise, Dall's porpoise, Harbor seals, Steller sea lions, and many other cetacean and pinniped species.

The Program Coordinator is expected to oversee all aspects of the Soundwatch Program including, but not limited to: coordination of seasonal field operations; small vessel operations/maintenance, *Be Whale Wise* education/outreach on marine stewardship; maintenance of the program long-term data sets and database; preparation of program reports; training, mentoring and coordination of volunteers, interns and seasonal contract employees; assistance with grant writing/fund raising; collaborate with partner monitoring programs, the whale watch industry and federal and state marine mammal management and enforcement teams. The successful candidate should understand and have experience with U.S. and Canadian recovery priorities related to the endangered SRKWs. The Program Coordinator reports to the Museum Executive Director and must work cooperatively with other museum staff. This position is classed as year-round, full-time Management/Administrative with field work responsibilities.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree plus 7 years' experience in a relevant field, specifically marine mammal research in the wild
- Experienced boat operator with expertise in boat maintenance
- Strong knowledge of marine ecosystems, marine mammal biology and natural history, specifically the endangered SRKWs and the Salish Sea.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills necessary for public interaction, conflict resolution, department planning, grant writing and project management experience
- Team player with excellent interpersonal skills, able to interact effectively with staff & board, interns/volunteers, visitors, members, and the public.
- Ability to multi-task and work flexible schedule, specifically some weekends and evenings.
- Ability to collect and synthesize information; effective problem solving skills.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail.
- Ability to lift 40 lbs. or more and to stand for long periods of time
- Excellent computer/technological skills (i.e., database management, ArcGIS, Microsoft Office)

Soundwatch Program Coordinator should plan to be in place by March 2, 2020 (start date may be negotiable). Active review of submitted applications will begin January 2nd 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