



FOR ORCAS AND FOR ISLANDERS

**PLEASE REPORT LOCAL WHALE SIGHTINGS
ASAP TO**

206-463-9041

SUPPORT VASHON-MAURY ISLAND WHALE RESEARCH

THE VASHON HYDROPHONE PROJECT (VHP)

**Orca Annie Stateler & Mark Sears
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About Us: For 30+ years, researcher Mark Sears has been the first responder to fall/winter orca (killer whale) sightings in Central Puget Sound. Mark and "Orca Annie" Stateler, the VHP Coordinator, have collaborated since 1994 to verify whale sightings and document orca travel, births, and behavior in local waters.

The VHP is a non-profit whale research project, sponsored by Island donors, The Whale Museum, NOAA Fisheries, and the American Cetacean Society's Puget Sound Chapter. Our hydrophone (underwater microphone) is the first one in lower Puget Sound dedicated to orca recovery and conservation.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION is vital to the success of the VHP!

Learn more about the project at www.acspugetsound.org.

Research shows that boat noise and disturbance are threats to the welfare of Puget Sound's orcas, J, K, and L Pods. These killer whales, also called the Southern Residents, are listed as "Endangered" under the Endangered Species Act. To protect our vulnerable orcas and preserve the quality of shore-based whale watching on Vashon-Maury, the VHP does not disclose sightings to whale watch boats.

Questions about the VHP or the marine mammals you see in Vashon-Maury waters?

Contact Orca Annie at Vashonorcas@aol.com or 206-463-9041

Read Orca Annie's column about local whale activity and other whale issues in *The Vashon Loop*.

First Nations killer whale logo courtesy of Odin Lonning, Tlingit artist, www.OdinLonning.com