

June is Orca Awareness Month

**Who are these whales,
and why should we care?**



Governor Gregoire has officially proclaimed June 2008 as Orca Awareness Month

**The Southern Resident orcas (J, K & L pods) were listed as Endangered
in November 2005 under the Endangered Species Act,
yet we have only begun to learn about
this species' intelligence and social capabilities.**

**Major factors in the decline of their population include
captures for marine parks in the 1960s and 70s,
declining salmon runs, toxic pollution, loss of habitat,
and increasing vessel traffic and noise levels in Puget Sound and the ocean.**

**During the month of June, Orca Network and other organizations
businesses, and individuals will join together to educate the public
and focus attention on the plight of the fragile Southern Resident orcas,
to honor their presence in our waters, take action to improve conditions
for their survival, and speed up efforts to recover the population.**

Contact Orca Network to learn how you can participate in Orca Month!

**Orca Month Webpage: www.orcanetwork.org/news/orcaawarenessmonth.html
info@orcanetwork.org 1-866-ORCANET www.orcanetwork.org**