

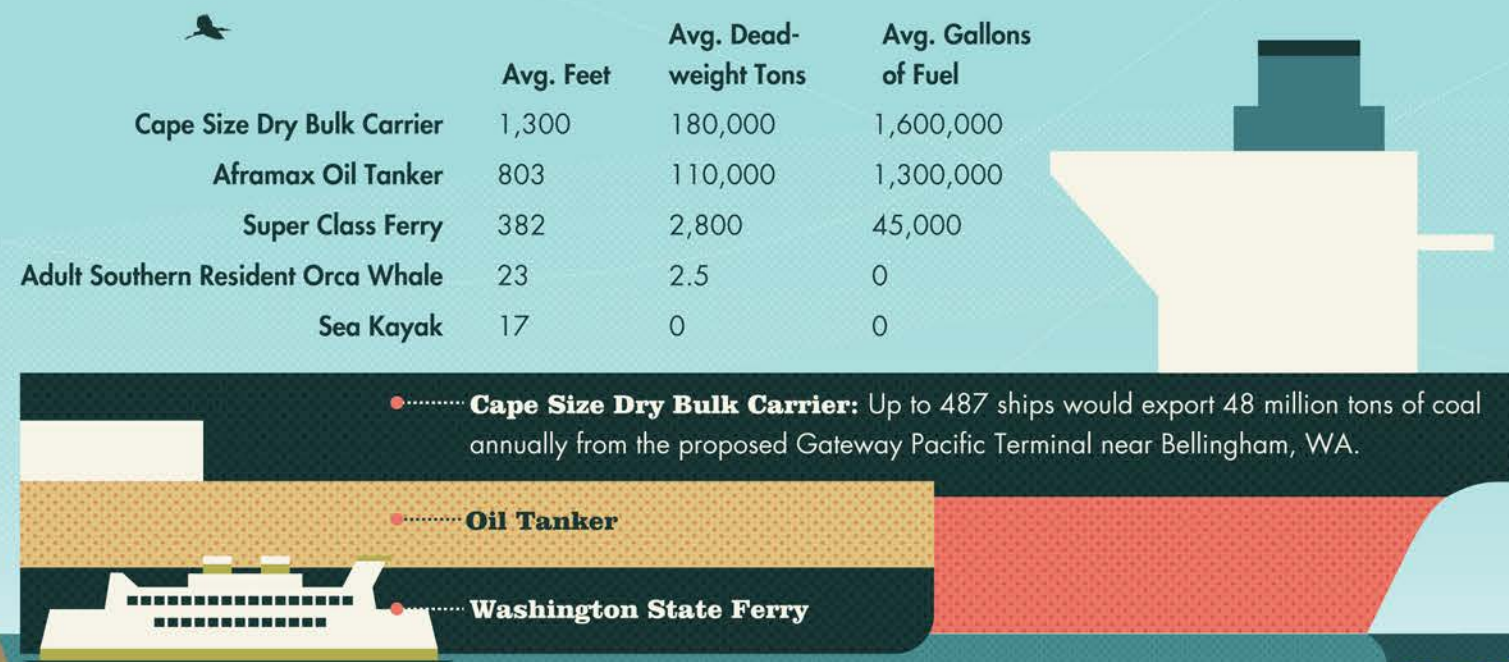
The Salish Sea: In Danger

The Salish Sea is one of the world's largest and biologically rich inland seas. This international water body includes Washington State's Puget Sound, the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the San Juan Islands as well as British Columbia's Gulf Islands and the Strait of Georgia. The name honors the first inhabitants of the region, the Coast Salish. Take a look at the interconnectivity of the Salish Sea and see how increased traffic and a major spill could devastate our environment and our economy.

A Rich, But Vulnerable Sea

37 mammals
172 birds
Nearly **300** fish
More than **3,000** macroinvertebrates

113 of these have been listed as either threatened, endangered, of concern, or candidates for listing on the US Endangered Species Act or Canada's Species at Risk Act



The Risk of Increased Ship Traffic

10,000 Large ships transited through the Salish Sea in 2012

+2,000 Proposed large ships to transit through the Salish Sea

Increased underwater noise, threat of an oil spill, risk of accidents and interference with wildlife

The ships are getting bigger; a single spill from one of these massive ships could devastate the Salish Sea

An Interconnected Ecosystem

Chinook salmon rely on herring as a food source



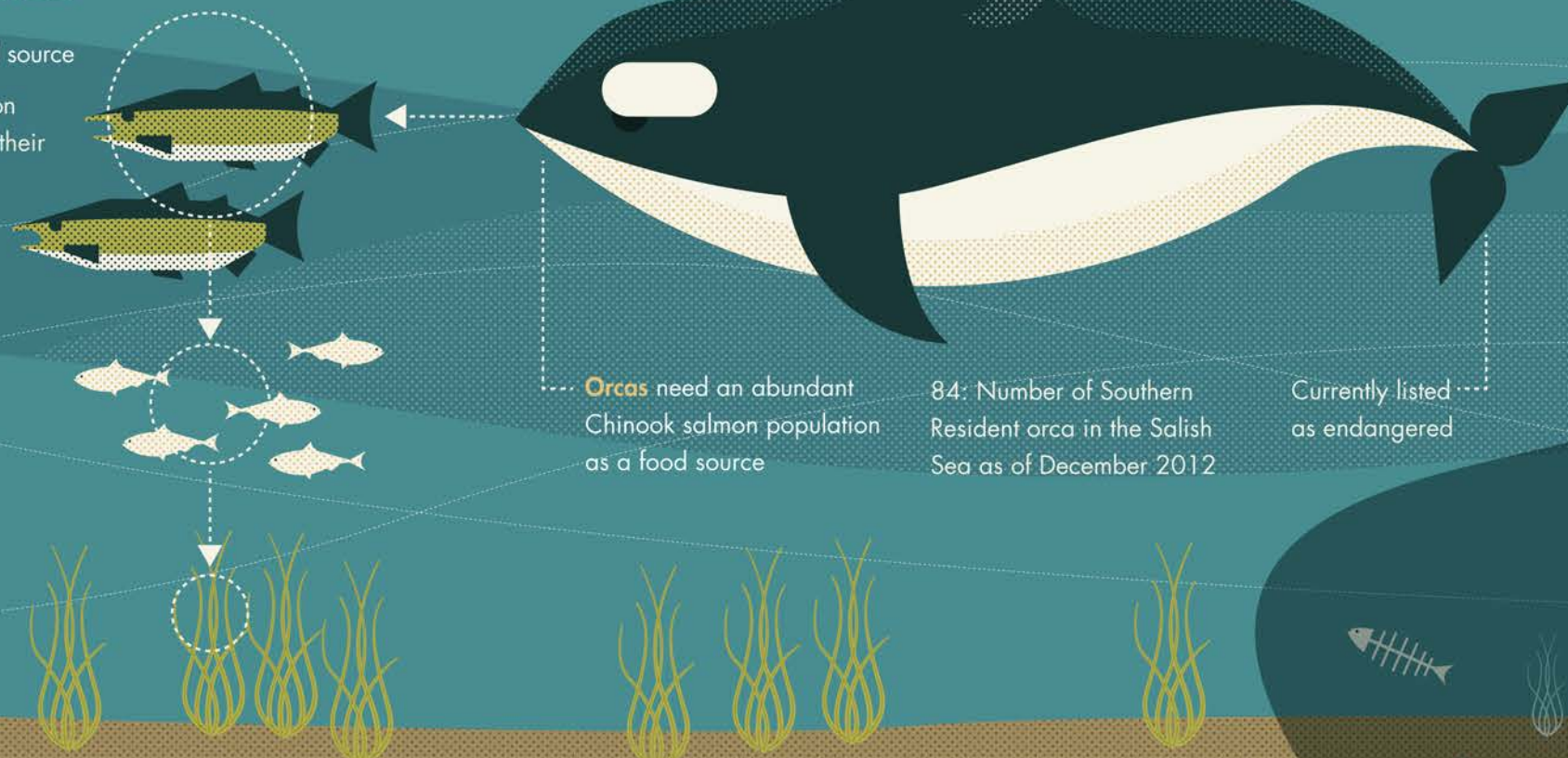
Herring spawn on eelgrass

Herring populations at Cherry Point have decreased 94% since the construction of the Westshore coal terminal and the Cherry Point oil refinery

94% decrease

Eelgrass provides habitat for herring

New terminals and shipping piers will block sunlight from reaching eelgrass



Orcas need an abundant Chinook salmon population as a food source

84: Number of Southern Resident orca in the Salish Sea as of December 2012

Currently listed as endangered

A Fragile Economy

\$3.8 billion: Yearly economic benefit generated by Washington State's commercial fishing industry

60,250: Yearly jobs provided by the fishing industry alone

Washington State Tourism is also at risk

\$1.1 billion: Boost to the economy from recreational fishing

\$1.5 billion: Economic benefit of wildlife viewing

\$158 million: Annual income to San Juan County from 750,000 tourists