

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

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Sept 5, 2019
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**Run with the Chums
5K Fun Run/Walk & 1K Smolt Sprint
"Healthy Water, Healthy People"**

A Whatcom Water Week Event
Saturday September 14, 2019 at 10 am
BP Highlands, Birch Bay WA

Off of Grandview Road, between Jackson Road & Pt. Whitehorn Road

Run with the Chums is a fun and free event for all ages to celebrate healthy water and healthy people. Run or walk on a scenic loop through the highlands above Cherry Point Aquatic Reserve and Point Whitehorn, and learn more about watershed health while taking care of your own health! The 5K route explores forested trails, opens up to coastal views, and finishes through agricultural land, celebrating the wide variety of resources that we have here in Whatcom County. A kids-only 1K Smolt Sprint features a salmon-themed obstacle course and will start at 10 am; all racers will receive a ribbon.

This year's Run with the Chums will have an additional focus on Orca recovery. Puget Sound's Southern Resident killer whales are critically endangered. The single biggest threat is a lack of their primary food source, salmon! Join local partners that are working in habitat recovery efforts to learn what we can all do to protect and recover this iconic species of the Pacific Northwest.

Registration is free and the first 300 participants will receive a free event t-shirt! From the mountains to the sea, we all rely on clean, fresh water for drinking, productive farmland, healthy fisheries, outdoor recreation and safe shellfish harvesting. Let's celebrate clean water and get healthy in the process!

Festivities before and after the race include refreshments, children's activities, and hands-on exhibits. Be sure to stay for the generous raffle following the 5K! Exhibitors include: Whatcom Conservation District, Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association, Birch Bay Watershed & Aquatic Resources Management District, Blaine Birch Bay Parks and Rec District 2, and more.

To register in advance, please visit www.whatcomcd.org/run-with-the-chums. Race day registration will also be available. For additional information or questions, please contact Aneka Sweeney at (360) 526-2381 x 103 or asweeney@whatcomcd.org.

[Whatcom Water Week](#) is an annual week-long event that celebrates local water resources. Between September 14-21, businesses, non-profit organizations and community groups will celebrate the importance of water. Participants will share information about the state of the resource, offer stewardship opportunities, and expand awareness and appreciation of our marine and freshwater resources and the vital role water plays in our lives. Water – it's everybody's business. Let's celebrate it!