

# The Whale Museum's Summer Lecture Series

## What happens after you scoop the poop?

What the science of whale scat is telling us about Southern Resident killer whales



Photo credit: Melanie Connor

Presented by **Jessica Lundin**

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**The Whale Museum 7:00pm Tuesday, August 19, 2014**

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The Orca Scat Team has been collecting scat samples from the Southern Resident killer whales since 2006 with the help of Tucker and other Conservation Canines. These scat samples are being analyzed for toxins, hormones and DNA to help us better understand toxin loads, stress and nutritional condition, and pregnancy status across seasons and years. These important measurements can help us evaluate how different stressors affect this endangered population and help guide population recovery efforts.

Jessica Lundin is a graduate student in the Center for Conservation Biology at the University of Washington with a focus in environmental toxicology. Jessica's research dissertation project is to monitor and evaluate contamination in the Puget Sound ecosystem by using scat from the endangered Southern Resident killer whales.

### **The August 19th lecture is free and open to the public.**

The Whale Museum's Lecture Series is dedicated to providing our local community and visiting public with knowledge and wonder of the natural world. The lectures are given by local or visiting experts in their field. Join us as they share their recent research projects, stories, and experiences. Each lecture is free but donations are greatly appreciated.

For more information, call **378-4710 ext. 30** or visit **[www.whalemuseum.org](http://www.whalemuseum.org)**