



Washington State Ferries Weekly Update



Nov. 14, 2014

This week:

- Tacoma repair status
- Island travels – meeting with San Juan County Council
- Vessel moves
- New traffic cams in the works for Bainbridge terminal customers
- Plan ahead for Thanksgiving holiday traffic
- Customer compliment

Tacoma repair status

On Wednesday, we released the findings of the *Tacoma* investigations following her loss of power on July 29 while traveling from Seattle to Bainbridge. Independent reports confirm that the cause of the *Tacoma*'s breakdown was an electrical failure inside the engine control room. This was not caused by the way we operate the vessel or a maintenance issue. While WSF did not design the vessel, we will make a minor modification on all [Jumbo Mark II](#) vessels so this will not happen again. The *Tacoma* will remain at our Eagle Harbor Maintenance Facility on Bainbridge Island for repairs until spring 2015. Repairs are taking longer than originally anticipated because of parts availability. The reports are available [online](#).

Island travels – meeting with San Juan County Council

I accompanied Secretary of Transportation Lynn Peterson to the San Juan County Council meeting on Monday. It was an opportunity to introduce myself to the Council and hear their thoughts on service, terminal needs and the upcoming vehicle reservations system. Starting Dec. 2, 2014, customers can book a [vehicle reservation](#) for travel in the San Juan Islands on or after Jan. 5. I had the pleasure of riding the *Yakima* during my travels. Below are photos of my trip aboard the *Yakima* with Captain Jon Tegnell (pictured right), AB Luther Power, AB Jessica Christian, Secretary Peterson, AB Brian Hrutfiord, and OS Edward Smith (pictured left), and one stowaway seagull (center).



Vessel moves

On Saturday, Nov. 15, there will be vessel moves affecting two routes.

- The 124-vehicle *Kitsap* will replace the 90-vehicle *Sealth* on the Seattle/Bremerton route; restoring normal capacity. Please note that the galley on the *Kitsap* is scheduled to open late Saturday morning with a limited menu.

- The 90-vehicle *Sealth* will replace the 87-vehicle *Evergreen State* on the Fauntleroy/Southworth/Vashon route. The *Evergreen State* will return to standby status at our Eagle Harbor facility. The galley on the *Sealth* is scheduled to open Saturday at noon.

For more information on service changes, visit us [online](#).

New traffic cams in the works for Bainbridge terminal customers

Good news Bainbridge terminal patrons! New traffic cameras will be installed on SR 305 at two locations: Winslow Way and High School Road. The cameras have arrived at the WSDOT Olympic Region and the cable line will be installed on Dec. 3 with activation shortly thereafter. Once activated, we will publicize the availability of the new cameras online and in my weekly email.

Plan ahead for Thanksgiving holiday traffic

Please plan ahead for heavy ferry traffic Thanksgiving weekend. The longest lines are expected westbound Wednesday afternoon and evening, Nov. 26, and eastbound Friday morning, Nov. 28. Some routes will be on a holiday schedule on Thursday, Nov. 27. Please check the WSF [website](#) for details and wait times.

Customer compliment

I want to share this compliment that I received from an Anacortes resident regarding the outstanding rescue performed by the *Yakima* crew on Nov. 6.

A huge congratulations to the two WSF Yakima ferry employees who risked their lives to rescue the ..sailboat in Anacortes. We watched the whole thing from our house. Kudos for a job well done in 30+ mph wind gusts and whitewater.

Lynne Griffith
Assistant Secretary WSDOT/Ferries Division

Hyperlinks within the email:

Vessels by Class: www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/vesselwatch/Vessels.aspx

Tacoma investigations: www.wsdot.wa.gov/Ferries/Planning/planspublications.htm

Vehicle reservations: www.takeaferry.com

WSF website: www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/

Weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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