



Washington State Ferries



# Washington State Ferries Weekly Update



May 1, 2015

## This week:

- Port Townsend/Coupeville route closed May 2-3
- Peak season fares take effect today
- San Juan Islands reservation system update
- *Samish* heads north to Anacortes
- *Puyallup* search-and-rescue operation

### Port Townsend/Coupeville route closed May 2-3

If you're planning to travel to or from the Olympic Peninsula or Whidbey Island this weekend, remember there is no service on the Port Townsend/Coupeville route on Saturday and Sunday. Service is scheduled to resume at 6:30 a.m. on Monday, May 4. During the [closure](#), crews will replace a worn out, 28,000-pound hinge; and a 21-foot-long, 15-foot-wide moveable bridge used to connect the ferries to the terminal. This work permanently replaces temporary repairs that we made to the transfer span hinge last fall.

On Sunday, May 3, we will add a third ferry to the Edmonds/Kingston route, providing [11 more sailings](#) to help ease traffic during the Port Townsend/Coupeville closure. Even though that route is closed, you may see activity at the Port Townsend terminal and out on the water on Saturday. Local, state and federal agencies will conduct a day-long training exercise that will involve helicopters, fire trucks, ambulances and EMS personnel at the dock and on the ferry *Kennewick*.

### Peak season fares take effect today

Beginning today and continuing through Sept. 30, the peak season surcharge is in effect for vehicles and drivers paying full fare. Multi-ride products are not affected by this seasonal increase. See the [fares brochure](#) for more information.

### San Juan Islands reservation system update

After the challenges we experienced with our reservation system two weeks ago, I am pleased to report that things have been working smoothly. Thursday was our first big test as we opened reservations for July 1-15, including the busy Fourth of July weekend. Customers made 7,400 reservations yesterday, including nearly 6,500 for the San Juan Islands routes. To avoid surges of too many attempting to access the system at once, WSF is releasing the first 30 percent of summer spaces to and from the San Juan Islands in [smaller segments](#). This will help shorten wait times online and over the phone. Currently, San Juan Islands reservations are available through July 15 and those for the Anacortes/Sidney, BC and Port Townsend/Coupeville routes are available for all of summer schedule (June 14 – Sept. 19). To make a reservation, go [online](#) or call WSF Customer Information at 1-888-808-7977.

### *Samish* heads north to Anacortes

Crew training and sea trials are underway for our new Olympic Class ferry *Samish*. If you're headed to the San Juan Islands, keep your eye out. Starting today, the vessel will be at the Anacortes terminal performing daily training drills. *Samish* will enter service on the Anacortes/San Juan Islands route with the start of summer schedule on June 14.

### *Puyallup* search-and-rescue operation

On Sunday evening, April 26, the *Puyallup* received a report of a life ring in the water while on the way from Seattle to Bainbridge Island. Over the course of the next several hours, WSF worked with the U.S. Coast Guard, Washington State Patrol and local agencies to conduct a full scale search for a possible person in the water. Our crews performed beautifully and really demonstrated how their extensive safety training is put into practice at a moment's notice. The *Puyallup* launched its rescue boat and the *Kaleetan* was rerouted from the Seattle/Bremerton route to assist. Kudos to the crews from both vessels for their swift action. All routes returned to full service late Sunday evening. Thank you to our customers for your patience during this response and to our terminal staff for helping ensure customers were kept informed.

Elizabeth Kosa  
Chief of Staff, WSDOT/Ferries Division

Hyperlinks in this email:

Port Townsend/Coupeville closure news release: [http://wsdot.wa.gov/News/2015/04/28\\_WSF.htm](http://wsdot.wa.gov/News/2015/04/28_WSF.htm)

Edmonds/Kingston extra service schedule for May 3: [http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/pdf/20150503\\_EdKing.pdf](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/pdf/20150503_EdKing.pdf)

Fares brochure: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/pdf/CurrentFares.pdf>

Summer reservations news release: [http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/News/2015/04/20\\_WSF.htm](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/News/2015/04/20_WSF.htm)

Reservations home page: <https://secureapps.wsdot.wa.gov/Ferries/Reservations/Vehicle/default.aspx>

Weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly).

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