



Washington State Ferries



Washington State Ferries Weekly Update



July 31, 2015

This week:

- Vashon terminal construction begins
- *Walla Walla* to the rescue
- Visit from Passenger Vessel Association review panel
- Doe Bay Fest brings crowds to Anacortes/Orcas Island ferries
- “Rave” for Mukilteo terminal employee
- Happy Seafair!

Vashon terminal construction begins

Keep your eye out for operational changes at the Vashon terminal. This morning, we started construction on the terminal to enhance safety and reliability in the event of an earthquake. As the picture below shows, the timber piling under the Vashon trestle needs to be replaced. The work, which will continue through July 2016, requires us to temporarily change the way vehicles and pedestrians access the terminal. Learn more on the project [website](#).



Walla Walla to the rescue

On Monday, the *Walla Walla* was all set to depart on the 11:10 a.m. sailing from Kingston to Edmonds when crews spotted a small capsized vessel nearby. Able Bodied Seamen Lorenzo Ortega and Adriano Mapanao jumped into action, shuttling a high-speed rescue boat to the scene. Another assist vessel had begun the process of transferring the victims in the water to shore. When our crews tried to bring the capsized vessel to shore at the Kingston marina it started to fill with water again so they stopped towing, removed the tow-line and returned to the *Walla Walla*. The capsized vessel was later brought to shore by another party. This is the 15th lifesaving event total and fourth vessel rescue on the Edmonds/Kingston route this year.

Visit from Passenger Vessel Association review panel

This week, a group of experts from transit agencies and the passenger vessel industry participated in a series of meetings with WSF staff as part of the ongoing Passenger Vessel Association review. This is the second visit from the PVA review panel, which is evaluating at our dispatch system, passenger counting and vessel maintenance. They will return for at least one more visit and then submit a final report, including recommendations for improvements in these three areas. We'll share the final report later this year.



Doe Bay Fest brings crowds to Anacortes/Orcas Island ferries

Next week, from Aug. 6 to 10, the annual [Doe Bay Fest](#) will bring throngs of music lovers to Orcas Island. We expect heavy traffic traveling between Anacortes and Orcas that weekend and limited reservation availability. Please plan ahead. We are running extra sailings from Anacortes to Orcas at 8:45 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 6, and Friday, Aug. 7, to help people get to the festival. We will also operate an additional return trip on Sunday, Aug. 9, from Orcas to Anacortes at 10:30 p.m. If you're traveling to the event, have a wonderful time!

“Rave” for Mukilteo terminal employee

Last week, the Seattle Times published a “rave” for Suzy Shinkoskey, one of our Mukilteo terminal employees, in their [“Rant & Rave”](#) column. It's especially meaningful when one of our customers is so touched by an employee's excellent customer service that they take the time to submit kudos to the newspaper. WSF's North Region Terminal Manager Deborah Young had this to say: “Suzy loves and truly cares about her customers. She answers questions, ensures vital information is communicated, gets to know her daily commuters and always, always has a smile on her face.”

Happy Seafair!

Many folks in Seattle are gearing up for Seafair this weekend. It promises to be a beautiful weekend so enjoy the festivities! Our crews had a close-up view of the Seafair ships arriving on Wednesday, as the parade of ships made its way into Elliott Bay. Captain Jamie Pelland snapped the pictures below from the wheelhouse of the *Puyallup*.



Lynne Griffith
Assistant Secretary WSDOT/Ferries Division

Hyperlinks within this email:

Vashon project website: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr160/vashontrestle/>

Doe Bay Fest: <http://doebayfest.com/>

Seattle Times Rant & Rave column: <http://www.seattletimes.com/life/rant-rave-cheerful-ferry-worker-makes-our-day/>

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

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