



March 20, 2009

This Week

- Applause for WSF vessel crews
- WSF Captain Ty Anderson
- Tacoma Propeller Club
- WSF federal stimulus projects
- House and Senate Transportation Committee meetings

Applause for WSF vessel crews

In the past two weeks our vessel crews have performed three separate rescues of boaters in distress. On Saturday, March 7, around noon, the crew of the Steilacoom II launched its rescue boat and pulled two kayakers from the water amid high winds and heavy seas. On Saturday, March 14, the crew of the Kittitas launched its rescue boat to assist the Mukilteo Fire Department in removing an injured person from a sailboat in distress just offshore at Mukilteo. On Monday evening, March 16, the crew of the Issaquah rescued a kayaker in distress near the Fauntleroy terminal. The crew of the rescue boat also went back to retrieve the kayak after the boater was delivered safely to emergency medical personnel. I want to thank all involved in these rescues for their courage, professionalism and dedication.

WSF Captain Ty Anderson

Captain Ty Anderson was featured in the *Seattle Times* on Thursday. He answered questions about what it takes to pilot one of WSF's largest vessels on the busiest route in the system. You can read the article online:

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/outdoors/2008883097_nwwferries19.html

Tacoma Propeller Club

I enjoyed speaking to the Tacoma Propeller Club on Tuesday night. The Club is a nonprofit organization with members from many different marine industries. I talked about the milestones for WSF during the last year, including: issuing a draft long-range plan through 2030, the culmination of the ferry financing legislated work; improving the maintenance practices for the fleet; moving new vessels towards construction; and improving communications with ferry-served communities. I also outlined my priorities for 2009, which are: continue to work hand-in-hand with Todd Shipyards on delivery of the 64-auto ferry; finalize the long-range plan following the 2009 session and begin to implement adaptive management strategies from the plan; and ensure top-quality customer service.

WSF federal stimulus projects

WSF has preservation projects receiving federal stimulus dollars, including seismic retrofit of some terminals, replacing timbers and resurfacing at Vashon Terminal and topside painting of vessels. I encourage you to learn more about the projects online:

www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/Ferries/VesselPreservation/

www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/Ferries/VashonTerminal/

www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/Ferries/SeismicRetrofit/

House and Senate Transportation Committee Meetings

On Thursday, I attended the House and Senate Transportation Committee meetings. I provided testimony at the Senate Committee. At the House Committee, I listened to proponents of Ferry

Plan C provide testimony. There are several issues related to WSF's long-range plan and budget under consideration with legislative session to wrap up at the end of April.

Next Week:

- Meeting with Homeland Security
- WSF spring sailing schedule starts March 29

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division Web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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