



Jan. 15, 2010

This Week

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- Regular Schedule on Monday, January 18
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- Final Vehicle Reservations Predesign Study Available
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- Secretary Hammond's State of Transportation Presentation
- Meeting with Area Maritime Security Council
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Sealth Returns to Service Today

Repairs and sea trials have been completed on the *Sealth* and the vessel returned to service this afternoon. The Evergreen State will replace the *Hiyu* on the inter-island route early this evening. This service disruption was a hardship to our San Juan Islands customers for the past two weeks and I appreciate your patience. Thank you to our staff who worked hard to return the vessel to service prior to the holiday weekend.

Regular Schedule on Monday, January 18

On Martin Luther King Day Monday, January 18, WSF will be operating on a regular schedule. You may check the schedule online at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/schedule.

Progress on the 64-car Chetzemoka

I would like to share with you a webcam from Nichols Brothers, a subcontractor to Todd Pacific Shipyards, that shows the *Chetzemoka* pilot house on a barge leaving Nichols Brothers and making its way to Todd Pacific Shipyards at <http://www2.whidbey.net/nichols/image003.jpg>. It refreshes every hour and will no longer show the barge once it has departed, however, you may view photos of the construction at www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/ferries/64carferries/

Final Vehicle Reservations Predesign Study Available.

The final Vehicle Reservations Predesign Study was submitted to the Legislature on Monday, January 11. We anticipate discussions on the study this session and look forward to legislative direction on how to proceed. The study is available at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/planning/vehiclereservations.htm

Briefing with U.S. Senator Patty Murray's staff and THUD

On Tuesday afternoon, I met with staff from Senator Murray's office and staff from the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee's Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee to provide an update on the ferry system. We discussed the new vessel program, the long-range plan, funding, and safety and security at our facilities.

Secretary Hammond's State of Transportation Presentation

I attended Secretary Hammond's presentation on the state of transportation to both the House and Senate Transportation Committees. I appreciated the state-wide perspective and I am honored in my role to maintain the state's 200 miles of marine highways.

Meeting with Area Maritime Security Council

On Thursday, I attended a meeting of the Area Maritime Security Council led by U.S. Coast Guard Captain Englebert. Various Puget Sound organizations were in attendance, including the Army National Guard, U.S. Maritime Administration, Washington State Patrol, and other members of the marine community. The purpose of

the meeting was to introduce members of the Security Council and discuss their respective roles and responsibilities.

Senate and House Transportation Committee Meetings

On Thursday afternoon, Washington State Transportation Commissioner Dick Ford and I presented to the Senate Transportation Committee on the fuel cost mitigation plan. The joint report is available at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/service/surcharge. Shortly thereafter, I testified to the House Transportation Committee in favor of house bill 2271, which would increase the current cap from \$60,000 to \$120,000 to authorize state forces to perform work on ferry vessels or terminals.

New Vessel Classification Name

We are pleased to announce the vessel class name for the 64-car ferries being constructed, Kwa-di Tabil Class Ferries. Kwa-di Tabil, (pronounced kwah DEE tah-bale) means "little boat" in the Quileute language. WSF conducted a contest to name the new vessel classification with fourth-grade students from Chimacum, Port Townsend and Whidbey Island, who are studying Washington state history. A panel of five local and state officials selected the winning entry, submitted by students from Blue Heron Middle School in Port Townsend.

Next Week:

- WSDOT HQ Senior Managers Meeting
- Transportation Budget Meeting
- Washington State Transportation Commission Meeting

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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